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THE WOLE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. NO. 288.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OBJECTS: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Victory in Denmark.

There remains now only the final and formal stage which will give women the vote in Denmark and render them eligible as candidates for Parliament. The new Constitution was passed on April 23 and has to be ratified by the new Rigsdag to be elected next month, but it is expected that the King will sign it on June 5, the anniversary of the establishment of the first constitution in 1849. Scandanavia sets an example to the rest of Europe, and every victory helps those still in the fighting line. Our heartiest congratulations to Denmark!

Press Brutality.

In commenting on the brutal murder of poor little Maggie Nally, a weekly paper adds her name to the list of undiscovered crimes which have baffled the police. Some ten murders are cited, which include Maggie Nally and Willie Starchfield, and of these ten seven are murders of women and girls. We have often pointed out in these columns the appalling frequency with which women are murdered. The overwhelming majority of victims are women and girls, and the overwhelming majority of the murderers are men. In the present terrible orgy of bloodshed which is absorbing public attention, the continued steady tide of murdered women passes without notice. Yet there is no weekly passes without notice. Yet there is no weekly paper that does not at frequent intervals show that war or no war, the woman-slayer is still among us in his numbers. In most cases his crime is leniently classed, by Courts and juries of his own sex, as "manslaughter," and punished by a few weeks' or a few months' imprisonment; it being, as a police official once informed the writer, "Quite natural, you know; women are the weakest." Yet in spite of this wall actablished position. of this well-established position, a journalistic organ that makes a special feature of chronicling these tragedies and publishing details of the cases to sell its issues, is now lifting its hands to high Heaven, and raising its shricking voice in abusive squeals, because women are daring interest in a case where the lives of six women were interest in a case where the lives of six women were interest in a case where the lives of six women were because women are daring to show an involved. It demands in the name of all the decen-es—save those which it openly and shamelessly bees itself to flout—that this "scandal" shall stopped and that the Courts shall be closed to

women. "Peers of the realm, baronets, dramatists and actors may have their reasons," we read, "for attending the prosecution of a man who, the police say, has murdered three women. But what reason can there be for the presence of women and girls?" What, indeed? except that the dead were women and girls, and that there are said to be three other women who believed themselves to be wives.

Women Officials Needed.

If such cases be not cases to interest women and concern them, we do not know in what, indeed, they may interest themselves at all! To prove that their presence in Courts, both as "the public" and as officials—as police, as jury, as legal advisers, as magistrates and judges—is desperately needed we have only to read the newspapers. We do not believe that Courts with a proper proportion of women would have twice sentenced Mrs. Johnson for an offence she had no possible motive for committing. Neither do we believe women would have made the same egregious mistake, and involved themselves in the absurd maternity muddle of the Morse-Powell case. Matters intimately concerning women should and must be dealt with by women.

Significant.

The following extracts have appeared in the daily Press during the last few days:—

The Glasgow Tramway Committee has decided to engage nearly 400 women as tramcar conductors. The wages will be 27s. weekly, with uniforms. Already a dozen women are employed on the trams. The Glasgow Tramways have sent 1,000 men to the forces.

Cardiff tramwaymen yesterday protested against the employment of women in the corporation tramways, passing a resolution pledging the men to refuse to work with the women.

resolution pieus, refuse to work with women.

The protest was especially directed against the employment of married women whose husbands were in regular work.

It will be remembered that Edinburgh set the example which Cardiff has followed; the drivers refused to work if women were employed as conductors—and won the day. In Glasgow a deputation of the Women's Freedom League had a straight talk with the Tramways Committee about the employment of women and equal pay for equal work—with good results.

Women's Freedom League. Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams-"Tactics, London." Telephone
Colours-Green, White and Gold. Telephone-6146 CITY, Colours—Green, White and Gold.

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Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD. President-Mrs. C. DESPARD.

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

Discussion Meeting.

This (Friday) evening Mr. W. L. George will open a discussion at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, Piccadilly, W., on "Woman and the Arts," the chair being taken by Miss Anna Munro at 8 p.m. Tickets can be obtained at the door-reserved and numbered 1s., unreserved 6d.

Our "Wednesdays,"

Next Wednesday afternoon we shall have the pleasure of listening to Mrs. M. W. Nevinson on "Women and Brute Force." Mrs. Tanner will also speak, and the chair will be taken by Mrs. E. M. N. Clark at 3.30 p.m. We hope to see a good rally of our members and friends. The following Wednesday the speakers will be Mrs. Ackroyd, on "Russia and her People," and Miss Anna Munro.

Florence Nightingale Commemoration Meeting.

Every Suffragist should come to our meeting at ESSEX HALL, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 12, when we intend to pay honour to a great Englishwoman and a convinced Suffragist. We are inviting the co-operation of and speakers from other societies, and hope to insert the full list of them in The Vote next week. Among them will be Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Strickland and Miss Nina Boyle. The chair will be taken by Miss Anna Munro at 8 o'clock, the doors being open Freedom League.

Our Newest Branch.

We are delighted with the progress made by our Branch at Aberdovey, and warmly congratulate the hon. secretary, Mrs. Frances Lewis, on the success of her work. In less than a month forty members have been enrolled and a successful public meeting held, the account of which occupied two columns in the principal local paper, the speeches of Miss Anna Munro and Miss Eunice Murray being reported almost verbatim. The chair was taken by Miss A. M. Clark, who also did good service in Vote selling in the streets of Aberdovey last Saturday evening, thirty copies being disposed of in a short time.

F. A. Underwood.

MEN'S MILITANT METHODS.

The flood of emotionalism which has submerged the people of this country has had some odd results, but none odder than the effect upon quite a number of Suffragists. It is amazing to note how experienced workers, and even societies, in the the Movement have allowed themselves to be overtaken by the belief that Women's Suffrage is almost as good as won; that by her "service" woman has obtained or will obtain the full recognition of her citizenship; that the Government will suddenly find itself converted to justice and will walk in the paths of righteousness; and that our attention may, therefore, be safely diverted from Suffrage and poured into other channels

The Women's Freedom League makes a point of neither censuring nor criticising other organisations or workers, but it is, I think, allowable to combat a point of view likely to prejudice the future of the

Movement. It was natural and pardonable in the first few weeks of the war that we should hope for a change of heart and hug ourselves in the delightful illusion that at long last virtue would meet its reward; but it is difficult to understand how, and why, the illusion should last. The writer of these lines was herself for a brief period the victim of this vision of Arcadia, but holding the view that you cannot judge of the possibilities of the future except by studying the actualities of the present. it was not very long before the vision faded.

Let us examine these actualities and see to what they point. Do they indicate a softening of the Government heart or an earnest desire on the part of the male people to atone for past injustice? will take two definite positions which indicate the mind of the Government and the male people. There has been no promise and no suggestion of a promise on the part of the Government in calling on the women of the country to give war service, of protection for the women who volunteer from underpayment or of facilities for securing the better paid grades of work. Not one disability imposed on women in Government employment has been removed, nor one improved position thrown open to them; while, among the male people, we find a constant threat of a general strike in one skilled trade after another at the suggestion of the introduction of female labour. (It is useless to suggest, as is always done in extenuation, that this is to protect skilled workers from undercutting. If that were the reason, it would be just as easy to demand proper terms for the women as to demand their total exclusion.) So what portents there are, are of evil augury for Women's Suffrage.

Who "Delivers the Goods"?

At the Board of Trade Conference; and at the subsequent conference of women on the subject of at 7.30. Admission is free, but there will be a war service, some startling statements were made, special collection in aid of the work of the Women's publicly, about the conditions under which women were working in the armaments factories. There were said to be 12-hour shifts, night shifts, and Sunday shifts; and women and girls working 84 hours a week for beggarly wages. Mr. Runciman knew nothing of this; he has issued no contradiction of it; neither have the armament companies. had already heard of girls-of 14, 15 and 16working at the production of hospital necessaries from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. In the armaments works it was enough to say to them "It's for your lads in the trenches"; in the hospitals works "It's for those poor chaps in the hospitals"; there was no question then but that the extra hours would be worked out, no matter how many were added to the shift. What has been the acknowledgment of this devoted service? Who is it that have been thanked for promising to "deliver the goods." The men who threatened strike after strike and asked for increase after increase, or the women who would work till they dropped without claim or complaint to keep their men at the front safe?

The following correspondence from the Women's Freedom League has been addressed to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for War: -

1, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C. The Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith, K.C., M.P.,

The Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith, K.C., M.P.,

10, Downing-st., Whitehall, S.W.

Dear Sir,—I see in the Daily Mail that on Wednesday you are due to visit the Elswick Works of Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co. to see for yourself the men engaged in making the munitions of war. Will you also make it your duty to see the women engaged by this firm, without whose co-operation the men could not carry out their share of the business, and will you exert yourself to see that their pay, conditions and general treatment are made the subject of strict inquiry?—Yours faithfully,

C. NINA BOYLE, Head of Political and Militant Department, and to the Secretary of State for War :-

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915.

My Lord,—It is announced in the Press that you are going up to Tyneside to give your personal thanks to the skilled workmen who have promised to "deliver the goods" of which the Government and the country are in need. May I call your attention to the fact that there are many thousands of women employed in the Armaments Works, without whose co-operation these men could neither make without whose co-operation these men could neither make nor keep the promise they have given you. The conditions under which these women work are beyond words dreadful, but they have neither complained, nor made claims, nor given any sort of trouble whatsoever, neither have the charges of impeding and hindering the work through intemperance been laid against them by any of their employers

At the Conference called by the Board of Trade on Tuesday, April 13, it was definitely stated that these women were working 12-hour shifts, Sundays and night shifts. Their pay is on a scale calculated to balance, from the point of view of the employer, the high wages paid to the skilled men.

May I ask that when you make your acknowledgements to the men, you will make an opportunity for also giving special acknowledgment to these devoted and patriotic women, who are sparing neither health nor strength to give their best services to their country's need; and it would also be a graceful act if you would use your influence with their employers to secure for them better conditions of work and pay. Under the circumstances, considering the heavy demands now being made upon them, I feel that an eight or at most a ten-hour shift, and at the very least 15s. a week, would not be an extravagant demand.—I have the honour to be, your Lordship's obedient servant, C. Nina Boyle.

Head of Political and Militant Department.

Head of Political and Militant Department.

From the response-none-you might imagine that there were no women at all concerned in the work of equipping the nation for war; yet it is many a long day since Mr. Cameron Grant told us that over 40 per cent. of the employees in the engineering trades were women!

Keep Your Powder Dry!

The question is, if only those who employ threat and strike and clamour get noticed, rewarded and thanked, what chance is there now, any more than there has been at other times, of obtaining recognition for woman's gentler demand and patient service? Let Suffragists use their common-sense and not allow themselves to be deluded with vain imaginings; and let them remember that it is their duty to the Cause they have espoused and to the nation they fain would serve to keep their loins girded and their lamps burning, against the day when they will be once more called upon to take united action for the enfranchisement of their sex. C. NINA BOYLE.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

No less than one hundred and eighty women of Great Britain and Ireland had arranged to attend The Women's Congress at The Hague this week, some as individuals and some representing women's societies. For six weeks the Government had been aware of their intention and the necessary passports and permits requested. A week ago the British Committee received the information that no permits would be granted. They protested strongly, and, after repeated interviews with Mr. McKenna, were told that permits would be given "to twenty discreet women." These were chosen by the Home Secretary. In the meantime all sailings to Holland were cancelled. Some of the delegates might have caught the last boat that sailed, but they did not receive their permits in time.

Mr. McKenna's reply in the House of Commons on April 27 to Mr. King's question on the subject was that "the Foreign Office considered it very undesirable that so large a number from this country should attend a conference at a place so near the seat of war, and where it was ence at a place so near the seat of war, and where it was known that agents of the enemy were making great efforts to obtain fragments of intelligence as to the movements of our ships and armies." He added that permits were issued to twenty-four women chosen officially as representing "various organisations and sections of thought," but that no one had used them as "communication between this country and Holland has been stopped."



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THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, April 30th, 1915.

THE VOTE.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET. ADELPHI. W.C.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only.

Articles, paragraphs or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad 6/6 per annum, post free.
"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents
and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

THE PROBLEM OF THE ILLEGITIMATE CHILD.

Just now the minds of all thinking people are much exercised at the large number of illegitimate children, known as "war babies," which it is believed are shortly to be born. No doubt, the numbers are grossly exaggerated; such unscientific statistics do not diminish in the counting, and we note with satisfaction that the enquiry conducted by the Manchester Guardian amongst the camps of Lancashire shows there is apparently no abnormal increase in the illegitimate birthrate in that district.

The strange thing is that many people hardly seem aware that this problem is ever with us, and it would be a miracle if a status belli did not send up the figures. Large bodies of men do not come together without the lustful and licentious amongst them, and they naturally attract the women of light virtue and girls who have already lost their character. With human nature what it is, with whole towns and villages turned into camps, with parting and death and tragedy all around, no wonder young men and maids have lost their moral balance. For many a young soldier the long dark evenings in hut or billet have brought the dangerous leisure of loneliness and depression; he has missed his friends, his family, his occupations, and the fear, which sometimes haunts the bravest of our citizen recruits
—"the fear of being afraid"—has made him seek
eagerly the distraction of girls society; the intimacy with one special friend has grown and not ended innocently, and the woman has to pay. There is, doubtless, much sorrow and shame in many a strict living English home to-day, but there will be few harsh judgments; even the most censorious will understand and pardon.

Perhaps, on the whole, the danger is on the other side, and our national morality and the higher respect for womanhood is in peril of being permanently lowered. To suggest that all these children should be legitimatised is quite impracticable. How can a child be legitimatised whose father cannot be traced, or one whose father refuses to accept paternity and against whom no corroborative evidence can be brought? As it is, far more children already have probably been put down to the army than it is responsible for. On the other hand, it would be well if men should accept responsibility for their children as far as practicable; there are many honourable men amongst them, some of them would be willing to take their share of the burden, and even in some rare cases marriages might be arranged. We see with approval that Mr. Dundas White is to bring forward shortly in the House of

Commons a resolution to legitimatise children by the subsequent marriage of their parents. We wish him better luck than his predecessor at the Council of Merton in 1236, when the great Barons rose and refused the reform: nolumus leges Angliae mutare, we will not change the laws of England.

We desire very earnestly that the laws we do ossess should be enforced. If the Notification of Births' Act, which requires that the birth of every child should be notified within 36 hours after the event, were to be made compulsory instead of merely adoptive many infant lives at this crisis might be saved. Another valuable reform—the Affidavit Orders Act, 31st July, 1914-which proviles that "an officer of the Court shall be appointed to act as collector to receive the payments of affiliation orders as may be directed to be made to him by the justices, and he is to pay them forthwith to the mother of the child "-is practically already a dead letter. Few Courts have appointed such an officer, few even seem to have heard of the order, and we understand that a committee of magistrates in London is declining to administer the Act as "too difficult." If the police Court authorities find the recovering of the moneys ordered by themselves "too difficult," one can understand how much more difficult it must be for the unfortunate woman to obtain anything at all.

Everyone will want to do the best they can to lighten the burden of life for these helpless innocents, to keep them if possible from the loneliness of a Poor Law education, to give them something of a home and a family, but we want no panic legisla-tion, no wholesale "endowment of promiscuity," no orgy of sentiment. To those of us who, in spite of the failure of monogamy as at present understood, and our many hypocrises, still regard Christian marriage as a higher ideal for women than the harem, it is startling to hear men gravely discussing polygamy, and approving the action of the lunatic patriot, who is sending round notices asking women to produce "one well-conditioned child to the community" and quoting, as lunatics do, texts of scripture which have little or nothing to do with the

The sympathy of every Suffragist will go out to the Rev. Gordon Coe, of Blackburn, and we shall all cordially endorse the resolution of a neighbourvestry. He evidently did his best to help a soldier to do the right thing and put human needs above ecclesiastical red tape, as the following extract from the Manchester Guardian will show:

In reference to the removal of the Rev. Gordon Coe, vicar of St. Matthew's, Blackburn, from the office of surrogate for granting a certificate of marriage to a reservist without the previous publication of the banns, the vestry meeting of Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Friday, passed the following resolution: -

following resolution:—

"That this vestry extends its sympathy to the Rev. Gordon Coe in the verdict given against him by the Chancellor of the diocese. We think that any other action than that taken by Mr. Coe might have been considered as absolutely unworthy under the circumstances. The Rev. Gordon Coe has been a faithful and energetic minister of the Gospel for over thirty years, and while we are prepared to acknowledge the authority of the Church, we are of opinion that the error might have been visited with a little more charity and common sense. We hope, however, that the verdict will sit lightly upon the shoulders of Mr. Coe."

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

TO GOOD TO MISS.

Miss Alix. M. Clark has began again to make her famous Mayonnaise Sauce in aid of the Birthday Fund, and solicits orders until the end of July. Miss Clark will be glad to have weekly orders, which will be despatched promptly. All letters will receive immediate attention. Price 9d. per pot, post free 1s. Address:—11, Severn-street, Newtown, Montgomery Boroughs, North Wales.

*THE WAR, WOMEN AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

One main cause why public opinion is so careless of the sufferings of wage-earning women is that few persons realise the extent to which the women and girls of a family contribute to the family income. It is quite untrue, as is commonly held by men of all ranks and by many women of the comfortable classes, that women workers have only themselves to support.

It is common knowledge that many daughters contribute to the support of aged or infirm parents, that mothers support in part or wholly their children. Few people realise that when large numbers of women are out of work it means a great increase of poverty in working-class homes, as well as misery and suffering to the women themselves.

A careful inquiry made by the Fabian Women's Group has shown that about half the women wageearners had others to support besides themselves. Among women who have received a University education 43 per cent. were helping to keep others. In fact, about 3,000,000 of the 7,000,000 wage-earning women are responsible for the maintenance of others as well as of themselves.

It is frequently urged that the Government or the local authorities should open workshops and set unemployed women to produce garments and other goods for sale. This only diverts trade from its ordinary channels, and throws other workers idle. The Central Unemployed Body for London sells the garments made in its three permanent workrooms, but it is good to note that this body has seen its error, and in the eight workrooms opened since the war it has arranged that the goods made shall be given to those who, unable to buy, would otherwise have to go without. Men have seen to it that the work of unemployed men shall not come on to the market to compete with their work, and we must insist that the same rule shall be applied to unemployed women's work.

Much criticism has been levelled at the Queen's Work for Women Fund Committee because they do not pay more than 11s. 6d. per week of forty hours, in their workrooms. This sum is not wages, and should not be called by that name. maintenance during training, and is paid for the support of the woman herself. If the woman has dependants, these receive money per scale from the Prince of Wales' Fund. Whilst the woman is at the training centre her travelling expenses are paid and dinner and tea at a very low charge are supplied. These maintenance rates are very low, but unfortunately there are hundreds of thousands of women whose wages are less than 10s. per weekas the nation has, with shame, to confess.

Unemployed women and girls have a right to, and it is only justice to give them, real training so that they may either take up their old calling with more complete equipment for following it, or a new

The war, we all so much deplore, is providing many new openings for women, and we Suffragists must insist that women shall have full training, with adequate maintenance until competent for the work and that then, when women do the same work as men, they shall be paid at the same rate.

Mr. Lloyd George promised that in Government work the sexes should be paid at the same rate for piece work. Let Suffragists make their voices heard n the usual way, if this is not scrupulously carried

*" War, Women and Unemployment." By the Women's Group Executive. Price 2d. Fabian Women's Group.

out. Political and economic power are so closely interwoven that the one cannot readily be separated from the other, but we believe that the latter follows the former, and therefore all who would see women have fair play in the wage earning field must demand the political enfranchisement of our sex.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.

This Corps has done excellent work; it has relieved many a case of temporary distress and, chiefly through the generosity of our friends overseas, has provided countless women and children with warm and comfortable clothing women and children with warm and comfortable clothing throughout the winter. By means of its workrooms and the toymaking room at Hackney it has bridged many women over a time of great difficutly. Its object was not to provide women and girls with permanent employment, but with temporary work at a living wage on the understanding that they could leave this work at any time to take up something more suitable and profitable. This object has been realised, and we have been able to close down these workrooms with the knowledge that women's work is now in greater demand than usual, and that women have far more opportunities of securing variety of work and fair play than was hitherto possible. Should the need arise, we may re-open our workrooms next winter: work and fair play than was hitherto possible. Should the need arise, we may re-open our workrooms next winter; in the meantime we think it only right that women should take every advantage of the work that is offered them outside the workroom. Our interest is as keen as ever in our Settlement at Nine Elms, where Mrs. Tippett and her devoted colleagues are still providing about two hundred nourishing meals a day to eager purchasers, and are making strenuous efforts to open the children's Guest House within the next week or two. The children's play club is, of course, in full swing, and schemes are being considered in the district for turning some of the girls into Girl or course, in full swing, and schemes are being considered in the district for turning some of the girls into Girl Guides and the boys into Boy Scouts. Mrs. Harvey's hospital at Brackenhill has done and is doing wonderful work for women and children, and has the heartiest support of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps.

Smoking Concert.

Smoking Concert.

The Corps is greatly indebted to Mrs. Corner for the excellent programme she arranged for the smoking concert on April 16. The enthusiasm of those present testified to their appreciation of it. Our warmest thanks are due to Mrs. Corner, and to the artists, Miss Bryer, Miss Kathleen Boutall, Miss Dorothy Price, Miss Ann Squire, Miss Clara Reed, Miss Violet Clark, Mr. T. A. Beck, Mr. W. A. Jacob, Mr. Charles Corner, and Mr. Hugh Williams. A short speech was given by Mrs. Tanner on the work of the Aid Corps, and was much applauded.

Nine Elms Restaurant.

The restaurant was re-opened last week after the Easter holidays, to the evident satisfaction of customers. Mrs. Tippett acknowledges with hearty thanks the gift of a bath tub from Miss Crombie and primroses from Miss Woodall. She will be most grateful if any friends will send her a sack of rhubarb and a supply of candied peel.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB. 9, GRAFTON STREET, PICCADILLY, W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN. SUBSCRIPTIONS:

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Entrance Fee .

Country Members Ireland and Scotland) per annum 10s. 6d. No

Entrance Fee).

Foreign Members (Resident abroad), per ann. 10s. 6d. (No Entrance Fee Wednesday, May 5th, 3.30-6 p.m. Club Tea (Lecture 4.30), Mrs. Kineton-Parkes. W.E.C. Hostess: Mrs. Conybeare. Yaiusble Lending and Reference Library for Members. English and Foreign Books dealing with every aspect of the Women's Movement. Non-members enrolled as Associates by paying 5/6 per ann. Luncheons, 1/- and 1/6. Dinners. 1/- and 1/9.

All particulars—Secretary. Tel.: 3932 Mayfair.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, St. James Sq., S.W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

During the War there will be no Entrance Fee, and Subscription reduced to One Guinea per annum. Bedrooms and Board (for Lady Members only) on exceptionally economical terms.

MEETINGS.

MEETINGS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30th, 8 p.m. Mr. W. L, George (W.F.L.)

MONDAY, MAY 3rd, 3.30. Mrs. Merivale Mayer (A. & N.Z.W. V. Assn.)

TUESDAY, MAY 4th, 8 p.m. Miss Muriel Matters (for Int, Suff. Shop)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5th, 3.30. Mrs. Nevinson (W.F.L.)

All Particulars Secretary.

The Tariff at this Club instead of rising with the War, is being lowered. Note the present 1/- Lunch—Soup, Joint, two Vegetables, Bread, Sweet or Cheese.

Test it as the

BEST SHILLING LUNCH IN LONDON.

OUR "WEDNESDAYS."

OUR "WEDNESDAYS."

Our President and Miss A. B. Jack were warmly welcomed as the speakers at our weekly gathering on April 21 at the Suffrage Club. Mrs. Despard dealt with the Women's Conference at The Hague, and showed that their demands were not for peace at any price but just the same as the Prime Minister and other statesmen had already put forward; but she insisted that in the settlement women's voice must be heard; the democracy of men and women must stand together in matters of life and death. There will always be fighting in the world against evil, but it is the killing that must be ended. Miss Jack amused her hearers by telling how The Vote was at first refused a place in the reading-room at a Soldiers' Rest in Scotland because nothing "militant" could be allowed, but after a fortnight the men militants capitulated! She gave significant figures of low wages paid to Scottish women and the long hours they worked, showing how necessary safeguards were to prevent exploitation. She urged women to be virile and no longer to admire weakness; they should work for their country on an equality with men, not only in an emergency as at the moment; women are a nation work for their country on an equality with men, not only in an emergency as at the moment; women are a nation without frontiers; their sufferings are the same the world over. Miss Boyle presided, and drew attention to some cases of serious injustice to soldiers' wives under present

WELL DONE, YOUNG MIDDLESBROUGH.

WELL DONE, YOUNG MIDDLESBROUGH.

Falconhurst, Windsor-rd., Middlesbrough.

Dear Editor,—This is just to tell you of the big success of our bazaar on Saturday. The Arcade looked the brightest spot in Middlesbrough, with its streams of gay pennons and flags, cartoons and posters. The Arcade was a scene of wonder and excitement all day. Owing to Miss Jones's absence through illness, Miss Edith Calvert opened the bazaar with a delightful speech, which made us feel very happy and eager to sell the many beautiful things with which the stalls were laden. We wish to thank Prof. Saturneo for his great kindness in acting as our palmist; he was kept very busy. Perhaps the most exciting moment of the evening was when a very poor child won the beautiful big doll's bed, so kindly given us by Mrs. Cattermole; we all clubbed together to put a baby doll in it. Miss Hawkins, as usual, was our faithful friend in serving the refreshments. To those who sent us the beautiful and Miss Hawkins, as usual, was our faithful friend in serving the refreshments. To those who sent us the beautiful and much appreciated gifts; to those who helped with the decorations and refreshments; to those who looked after the stalls and moneys; to Miss Alix. M. Clark, who sent us a big parcel of surprises, we give our sincere and very grateful thanks. The profits were £12 15s., which we give to our treasurer to pay some of those awful worrying bills.—Yours very sincerely, Myra Hayton and Nora Mahony.

"THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN.

Miss Ella Woodall, member of our Chester Branch, sends the following useful information on this subject:—
"I heartily endorse your recent leading article regarding employment of child labour on farms. In my duties as school-nurse for a large portion of Cheshire I have found boys and girls from 10 years of age are kept from school and required to work from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for 1s. or 1s. 6d. per day. It is argued that all available women are employed and that the work—that is the kind being done just now: "dropping" or "setting" potatoes—is not hard.

In my opinion, if children are allowed to be thus em-

In my opinion, if children are allowed to be thus employed, even temporarily, there should be adequate inspection of conditions, whether the children have good food, plenty of sleep, and good clothes and boots.

I am collecting figures, etc., to call the attention of the County Medical Officer to the facts. In one school on April 15 about 40 boys and girls—more than half the scholars—were absent, and in two neighbouring schools about one-fifth, chiefly boys, were absent working on farms. In rural districts sub-committees for school attendance are composed mainly of farmers, who thus have in their own hands this cheap method of getting work done, and the danger is that they will enedavour to ensure the continuance of this state of affairs when the present crisis is past."

To Suffragists and Others!—Do not fail to visit the Women's Exhibition, Caxton Hall, May 10, 11 and 12, 3 to 10 p.m., and see what Suffragists have done to help in the national crisis. Among those who will speak are:—Miss M. A. Bell, the Rev. W. T. Roberts, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Anna Munro, Mr. Laurence Housman, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Strickland, Miss Anna Martin, B.A., Mrs. Davies, Miss Seddon, Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky, Miss Georgina Brackenbury, Mr. George Lansbury, Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Schlette, also representatives from Forward Cymric Suffrage Union and Women Teachers' Franchise Union.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. and Mrs. Goodyear on the birth of a son. Mrs. Goodyear is the hon, secretary of our Southampton Branch, and has done excellent work for Mr. Goodyear is also a staunch supporter of the Cause. Mr. C Votes for Women.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS. Friday, April 30.—Discussion Meet-ns, The Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., kt. James's, 8 p.m. Mr. W. L., George, on "Woman and the Arts."



FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1915.

St. James's, 8 p.m. Mr. W. L. George, on "Woman and the Arts." Admission by ticket, 1s. (numbered and reserved). Also a few 6d. tickets. Chair: Miss Anna Munro.

Wednesday, May 5.—Public Meeting, Suffrage Club, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A., "Women and Brute Force," and Mrs. Tanner. Chair: Mrs. E. M. N. Clark. Kensington Branch Social, at Miss Boyle's Flat, 98, St. Martin's-lane, W.C., 7.30.

Thursday, May 6.—Bowes Park Deawing-Room Meeting at Mrs. Schonfeld's, "Ulrum," 8, The Lodge Drive, Palmer's Green, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner.

Friday, May 7.—Mid-London Branch Annual Meeting, 1. Robertst., 7 p.m.

er's Green, 7.30 p.m. Spearer Miss.
Friday, May 7.—Min-London Branch Annual Meeting,
1, Robert-st., 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 8.—Croydon, Whist Drive, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, May 12.—Public Meeting, Suffrage Club,
3.30. Mrs. Ackroyd, "Russia and her People," and others.

3.30. Mrs. Ackroyd, "Russia and her People," and others. Wednesday, May 12. Florence Nightingale Commemoration Meeting, Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, 8 p.m. Speakers—Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Marion Holmes Miss Townsend and others. Chair: Miss Anna Munro. Admission Free Collection.

Wednesday, May 19.—Public Meeting, Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., St. James's, S.W., 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mr. Geo. Lansbury and Miss Munro. Chair: Mrs. Tanner.

Friday, May 21.—Croydon, Competition tea and sale of home made cakes etc.

home-made cakes, etc.
"Despard Arms," 50, Cumberland Market, Albany-st.,
N.W., open every day 4 to 10 p.m. Nine Elms Vegetarian
Restaurant, 1, Everett-st., open every day at noon.

PROVINCES.

Thursday, April 29.—Liverpool, "At Home," Admiral Hall, Admiral-st., 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Ada Broughton. Chair: Mrs. Campbell. Reading Branch Meeting, Committee Room, Palmer Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Sacret, on "The Government's Appeal to Women." Chair: Mrs.

Eveness.

Wednesday, May 5.—Southsea, Sewing Meeting, 89,
Festing-grove, 3 p.m. Hostess: Mrs. Whetton. Cardiff,
Whist Drive, at Mrs. Mathews', 1, Gordon-rd., 7.30 p.m.
prompt. Tickets, 1s. 3d.

Friday, May 7.—Cardiff, Branch meeting, Welsh Industries Hall, Queen-st., 8 p.m.

Monday, May 10.—Middlessbrough, Public Meeting, The
Suffrage Centre, 8 p.m.; speaker: Madame Malmberg,
"Women in Finland."

Wednesday. May 12.—Liverpool. Mrs. Despard, Par-

Wednesday, May 12.-LIVERPOOL. Mrs. Despard. Par-

ticulars later.

Thursday, May 13.—Reading, meeting for members and friends, Council Room, Palmer Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker:

Miss F. A. Underwood.

SCOTLAND.

Thursday, May 6.—Glasgow, Monthly Branch Meeting, b, St. George's-rd., 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Eunice

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Monday, May 3.—Home Workers' League, 341, Cambridge-rd., Bethnal Green, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle, on "Women Police."

Monday and Tuesday, May 10 and 11.—East London Federation Joint Exhibition, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Women's Freedom League speakers: Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Anna Munro. 5 and 8.30 p.m.

WHAT WE ARE DOING.

At the members' meeting at Headquarters on April 19, the story of the work of the League proved very interesting and showed how varied are its activities. Miss A. A. Smith told how the "Despard Arms" came into being at 50, Cumberland Market, Albany-street, N.W., and laid at ou, Cumberland Market, Albany-street, N.W., and laid stress on the fact that it is a public-house for the public; everyone is free to go there for refreshment and recreation, and some men and women are already making it their club. Social evenings with music, games, and dancing are ar-

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ranged, and the Morris dancers of the Esperance Club give ranged, and the Morris dancers of the Esparance Citie give displays from time to time. An appeal was made for helpers, also for gramophone records, popular songs and dance music, and Miss Smith said that the ambition of the North London Branches of the League, through whose efforts "Mrs. Despard's dream" had begun to take

dance music, and the North London Branches of the League, through which the North London Branches of the League, through which the North London Branches of the League, through the material shape, is to outgrow the present premises and secure a corner site in a busy thoroughfare.

Miss Boyle, who followed, had a warm reception on her return to work after her recent illness. She gave an account of the recent Conferences she had attended in London as a delegate of the Women's Freedom League, and warned members that when Suffragists were diverted from Suffrage work the whole Movement was in danger. Suffragists must stand first to their principles.

Miss A. B. Jack gave a fine account of the work done

Suffragists must stand first to their principles.

Miss A. B. Jack gave a fine account of the work done by the Edinburgh Branch in National Aid work. Since last September £321 17s. 10d. had been collected for their workroom, the Belgians and other activities. Comforts had been sent to the Scottish regiments, warm clothing to mine sweepers in the North Sea, and clothing to Belgians in Rotterdam and London. Miss Jack also gave an account of the working of the Scottish Council, and an animated discussion took place on the possibilities of the London Branches Council working on similar lines. The next Members' Meeting will be held at 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, Monday, May 17, at 7.30 p.m.

WOMEN'S WORK IN AGRICULTURE.

An important conference on women's work on the land, arranged by the Agriculturists' and Horticulturists' Advisory Committee of the Lyceum Club, will take place on Thursday, April 6, at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, at 8 p.m., during the week (May 1 to 7) of the "Women and Their Work" Exhibition, organised by the Daily Express. The chair will be taken at the conference by Miss Binnie Clark, the pioneer woman farmer in Canada and author of "Wheat and Women," and various aspects of women's work on the land will be dealt with by experienced women—Miss Helen Colt (member of the Women's of women's work on the land will be dealt with by experienced women—Miss Helen Colt (member of the Women's Freedom League), Miss C. M. Dixon, Miss J. S. Turner, and others. Dr. Lilias Hamilton, of Studely College, will also lecture on the same subject at the same place on May 5 at 3.30 p.m. Admission to the exhibition, 1s.

WOMEN'S EXHIBITION

in the CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, May 10th, 11th & 12th, 3 to 10 p.m.

Arranged by Dr. Tchaykovsky.

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Arranged by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.

Food Prices Exhibit
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International Suffrage Exhibit
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BRANCH NOTES.

Cardiff.

Cardiff.

A most successful Branch meeting was held on April 23 at the Welsh Industries, Queen-street. The finance business was satisfactorily settled. It was also decided to organise a Whist Drive to help the funds of the Cardiff Branch. Branch meetings will be held on the first Friday in every month during the summer. Will members please keep this date free as far as possible? The next will be on Friday, May 7, when Miss Eunice Murray's visit to Cardiff will be discussed and future work arranged. An executive committee was formed to deal with emergency work, and Miss Dorothy Barrs was nominated secretary pro tem. owing to the resignation of Mrs. Whale through ill-health. Will members and friends please note that the Whist Drive will be held at 1, Gordon-road, by kind permission of Mrs. Matthews, on Wednesday, May 5, at 7.30 prompt? A "refreshment and prize fund" has been started; cakes, donations, etc., will be gratefully received for above fund. Tickets are 1s. 3d. each, and can be obtained from Miss Barrs, 1, Gordon-road.

Chester.

A very successful afternoon meeting was held at Miss Woodall's house on April 24, when a good number of the Chester "scattered members," for whom Miss Woodall very kindly holds herself responsible, came to hear Miss Trott speak. Mrs. Crosland Taylor was in the chair, and the Branch is much indebted to Miss Woodall (who has offered her house the last Saturday in each month) for this opportunity of keeping in touch with members who are too far away to be looked up in the ordinary course of affairs. The Mayor of Chester asked us to help in the supply of field kitchens for the Belgian Army, and has publicly acknowledged the service we have been able to render.

Croyden-Offices 32a, The Arcade, High Street.

During the summer months it is considered advisable to hold the social for soliders and sailors' wives once a

month instead of every week. Our afternoon meeting on April 23 was very well attended. Mrs. E. G. Gaskell's address aroused great interest and a good discussion.

Wanted—Parcels of goods for our coming Jumble Sale; they may be sent to the office or to the Secretary's house. Material for children's frocks and underclothing. We shall be glad to receive all "tested cookery recipes" by May 1.

Glasgow.

We had two very successful meetings last week, one at Springburn, where Miss Eunice Murray was the speaker, assisted by Miss Baird and Miss Bowsie, and the other at Clydebank. At both places Miss Murray had on excellent hearing, and The Vote and other literature sold well.

Hackney.

The Branch held a public meeting at the Hackney Baths on April 23, at which Mrs. Despard spoke on her recent visit to France. The audience was keenly interested, and showed a strong desire to gain a more intimate knowledge of the French people. Miss Boyle, who presided, gave a stirring account of the work of the League. A good collection and several applications for membership followed Mrs. Stebbing's appeal. The Vote sold well.

At our usual Branch meeting on April 23 Mrs. Bell presided, and Miss Shennan gave a splendid address on War Service for women, and the principle of equal pay for equal work. Solos were rendered by the Misses Anderson and Kinnaird, which were greatly appreciated.

Reading.

On April 15 a Branch meeting was held in the Committee Room, Palmer Hall. Mrs. Bardsley, who presided, gave a short straight Suffrage talk, dealing with the need for keeping Woman Suffrage in the forefront, and making known the work of Suffragists during the last six months. Mr. and Mrs. Justins afterwards gave a delightfully humourous dualogue, which afforded much entertainment to their audience. Members are looking forward to Mrs. Sacret's address on "The Government's Appeal to Women" at our next meeting.

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE hold PUBLIC MEETINGS at THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, Jermyn Street, Piccadilly, every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers: April 28, Miss Margaret Douglas: "The Real Issue," and Miss Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman.

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Monday, May 17, at 7.30 p.m.
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