

THE VOTE
July 30, 1915
ONE PENNY

PREACHING AND PRACTICE. E. C. MURRAY.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, JULY 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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THE GREAT BARRIER TO REFORM.

It is not too much to say that the able article in THE VOTE of July 9, on "Cradles and Coffins," is at the very root of the Woman Movement, of prostitution, of that part of our capitalistic system which firmly clings to the underpayment of women, unequal pay for equal work. Who that has any mentality, what woman that can truly advance the claim *homo sum*, that she too is a "creature of large regard looking before and after," can avoid reaching the irresistible conclusion that pressure of population is the most powerful instrument the capitalist and the ground landlord of Great Britain possess to prevent that readjustment of society, that more equal distribution of wealth, which all social reformers ardently desire and work for? It is not too much to say that the continuance of the British Empire must eventually rest on a juster, on a fairer distribution of wealth. We are not permitted to say this in our capitalistic press; *c'est defendu; verboten*. That we can say it in our women's papers is the reason for their existence. It justifies the great efforts that are made at the present moment to keep them going, to increase their circulation, to maintain a few oases of truth, of sound sense, fair criticism of Coalition and other Governments which ever since the war, even to-day, have naturalised and are naturalising Germans, whilst refusing to acknowledge the political existence of patriotic English women. The London Stock Exchange has been pretty well overrun with Germans; five or six years ago one of our chief London evening papers acutely observed that the Germans had got London by the throat. It is almost self-evident that a society which permits huge gambles in the surplus product of labour, depresses labour, exalts, enriches, thrusts into place and power men who are *not* useful, who are far from essential to the community.

What is the nexus between exploited labour, Stock Exchange operations, cradles and coffins? Simply this: labour must be cheap, plentiful, quiescent,

accept in meekness all the conditions. Whenever a class, or section of the community is observant enough to take stock of the situation, to correlate cause and effect, the birth-rate falls in that class. A few moralists who fail to grasp the essentials, and a vast number of employers who thoroughly understand their own advantage, do then raise a great outcry, not that the coffins are filled, but that the cradles are empty. Labour becomes dear when it is scarce, and even when it is scarcer. Above all things, employers like youthful labour, because it is cheap and more addicted to easy pleasures than to the hunting out of causes and effects. And despite that home theory which is invariably advanced when there is a demand to raise women's pay, to give equal pay for equal work, they like women's work and attract it to factories and workshops. I have myself heard manufacturers give the real reason: besides being cheaper than men's labour, it is more docile.

Woman is the Cinderella of labour. The Government, all governments so far, one after another, thrust her into this position and keep her there by main force. Nothing but the formal enfranchisement of women will free her, naught will avail save the acknowledgment of her citizenship. That will be the first blow in the striking off of women's shackles. Is there anything more laughable at the present moment than the appeals of the Government to women's patriotism? Where is the Government's own patriotism that it does not enfranchise immediately the women who are householders and who possess the lodger franchise? We were told *ad nauseam* when the Liberal Party was in power that women could not be enfranchised because it was not a Party measure: it cut right through Party lines and had adherents, adherents that constituted a considerable majority, in every Party. We now have a Coalition Government in power, All-the-Talents, the very unlooked-for condition that should

give women enfranchisement. Then why not give us the measure now instead of the usual bunkum? We women should immediately present another petition that Now is the Accepted Time; a deputation should carry it.

One of the greatest historians of the latter half of the nineteenth century pointed out the real reason why the reform movement proceeds so slowly, so haltingly, in Great Britain. Our legislators are largely employers of labour. Until they cannot help it, they do not legislate for reform at all. Look at the Education Act of 1902, the judgment of the House of Lords against Trade Unionism. Often a pretty good Act is passed, like the Town Planning Act; but it is made optional, *i.e.*, void and of none effect save where reformers are insistent.

The Great Barrier across the path of reform at the present moment is the refusal to acknowledge the citizenship of women. Sweep it away, and the floods of reform will carry our legislators on at a pace they would rather not feel and to a goal where they would prefer never to arrive. The cry at the moment is "In Heaven's name, nothing controver-

sial, or we are a lost nation." Yet, when the French were surrounded by foes from 1790 onwards (*we* are surrounded by Allies), the Legislative Assembly and the Convention proceeded with the necessary work of reform. They swept hoary privilege, unjust taxation, rights that were inimical to the public weal, off the Statute Book. Their legislators were not paid to work. They proceeded, because the will of the people screwed up their courage. Once a cannon-ball flew through the wall and scattered masonry, plaster and a few alarmed legislators. "We are in permanence," said a self-possessed member. Seats were resumed, and the business continued. Our business has scarcely begun. During the life of the Long Parliament men were not permitted to hold commissions in the Army and at the same time to sit in Parliament. The one exception was the Lord General of the Armies of the Commonwealth. One wonders why they should do both now. On the face of it, it seems extraordinarily undesirable. Let the shoemaker stick to his last.

C. S. BREMNER.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—MUSEUM 1429
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.
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Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOW.
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

"Vote" Sales.

Miss Alix. M. Clark has very kindly promised to undertake THE VOTE sales in London during August. Will volunteers please send their names in at once to her at this Office? We want to treble our sales in August, and this can easily be done if Miss Clark has helpers.

Kingsway Hall Meeting.

The Women's Freedom League National Service Organisation has arranged to hold a public meeting on Tuesday evening, September 14, at Kingsway Hall. Among the speakers will be Mrs. Despard and the Earl of Derby. Tickets can be obtained from this Office at 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. each. Please apply for them early, as we hope to make this meeting a great success.

Green, White and Gold Fair.

The Social Committee has all arrangements in hand for this Fancy Fair, to be held at Caxton Hall on November 26 and 27, and Mrs. Fisher will be glad to receive promises of contributions to its stalls. Will readers kindly reply direct to her at this Office?

Holidays.

Our offices at 144, High Holborn, including THE VOTE and the Women's Freedom League National Service Organisation, will be closed from Friday evening, July 30, till Tuesday morning, August 3.

TO ALL MEMBERS:

Wear your Badge. Never go out without it!

THINGS TO BE REMEMBERED.

Women's Freedom League National Service Organisation Public Meeting, Kingsway Hall, Tuesday, September 14th, 1915, 8 p.m.
W.F.L. Conference, Saturday, October 16th.
W.F.L. Fancy Fair at Caxton Hall, Friday and Saturday, November 26th and 27th.

WE rely on YOUR help to make these a SUCCESS!

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. National Service Organisation.

We have had several applications from business firms for workers. Amongst others, one from a chemical firm. Our readers should note that there is now a demand for women chemists.

Our problem of the moment is the holiday worker, because the work of town and country workers is seldom exchangeable, and temporary work is nearly always difficult to find. The country work that offers at the moment is mostly the picking and collecting of fruit and vegetables. Country members who desire this work should apply to the local Labour Exchanges. Demands for helpers from the growers are generally sudden and unexpected, and help has to be forthcoming at short notice; there is no time to arrange by correspondence.

It is also necessary to point out that it is difficult to find farm work for untrained workers. The young and strong are not easily convinced that they cannot do this work, but the farmer has to be reckoned with, and he will not consider the matter of housing, feeding, paying and directing the inexperienced worker; on the contrary, *he* wants to be paid for his trouble.

We propose now to start a correspondence column in connection with our service. We shall answer questions, give information and advice about work, prospects of work, training, etc. We think, too, that members, by getting into touch through our column, may be useful to one another.

Letters for this column should be addressed to The Secretary, National Service Correspondence, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

FRANCES M. PARKER.
ETHEL MOORHEAD.

WHY WOMEN NEED THE VOTE NOW!

The able article from the pen of Miss Bremner, which appears in our front page, deserves careful study and consideration from our readers, and her plea for a renewed petition for votes for women without delay is as sound politically as it is ethically. No barrier should be admitted at this time between the people and the service of the nation; and unenfranchised women outside the Suffrage Movement should be learning now, painfully and with every circumstance of humiliation and shame, what it means to be without political power or constitutional rights in the land of one's birth. Not only for the protection of women's wages or the improvement of their material conditions is the vote needed, but to keep them from the bitter shame of being handed over by the decree of men to the mercy of alien nationalities.

The plight of the British-born wives of alien enemies would alone justify the cry of Votes for Women; for it would be inconceivable, had women been enfranchised, that the Nationalisation Act fathered by Mr. Harcourt — an "Imperial" measure, forsooth — could ever have become law, still less at a time when *the Government knew* war to be imminent. The base, cold-blooded cruelty and callousness which thrust British women anew from the shelter of their birthright at a time like this is not understood by women; we cannot imagine for one moment the possibility of our so dealing by our fellow men had the power been ours, not theirs. And this cool assumption that the patriotism of women has no roots, and can be plucked up at will is strangely at variance with the constant appeals made to that patriotism by the men who deny its rights and only want to enforce its sacrifices. Recently a gallant colonel, while recruiting, said that it rested with the women to save their country; the late Lord Roberts never hesitated to blame the mothers for the want of patriotism of their sons. Government advertisements urge girls to "send" their sweethearts, mothers their sons, to the defence of their country; yet none of these authorities allow that the patriotism they appeal to deserves to be recognised by citizenship.

In our last issue, a sketch from the well known pen of G. Colmore told us of alien wives that "no country owns us, only our husbands," and in that bitter indictment the British woman married to the German and the German woman married to the Briton are sisters in sorrow and undeserved shame. Von Bissing, the Heligolander, accused of being an alien, is to be allowed to test his rights of being British because born a British subject (though of German blood!) before the cessation of Heligoland to Germany. But the two British women whose alien husbands have been interned are given hard labour for going and living *with their parents* without police permission! We demand votes for women to save ourselves from these tyrannies and indignities, and claim that a British woman has every bit as much right to have a German husband as a British man has to have a German wife.
C. NINA BOYLE.

THE WATER PICNIC.

Those who braved the frowning elements in London and betook themselves to Hampton Court last Saturday afternoon found that the river had never looked more lovely, and the storm had not approached the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Bell. Their kindness was unbounded, and the picnic proved most enjoyable. It was declared to be an experiment well worth repeating.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S PROTEST.

"Thirty women, graduates of American colleges, wearing the academic cap and gown and yellow Votes for Women sashes, sat silently in the Naturalisation branch of the United States District Court, New York, on June 8, while foreign-born men were given full citizenship," says *The Woman Voter*. New York is a "Campaign State," and will vote on Woman Suffrage on November 2 next.

"The demonstration was led by Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany, of the Collegiate Equal Suffrage League. With her were business women, professional women and home-makers, some having been in college classes of a number of years ago, others having been graduated recently from Wellesley, Barnard, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Radcliffe and the Universities of Chicago, Boston and New York. The protest, as the woman viewed it, was not against the fact that comparatively uneducated men of foreign birth should be permitted the rights of American citizenship, but that women, no matter what their station in life, were excluded.

"We women are standing here to-day for complete democracy," said Mrs. Tiffany, before entering the court. "We come to protest by our presence against the exclusion of the 1,000,000 native-born women of this State from the franchise." The fifty-two applicants included Austrians, Germans, Italians, Frenchmen, Jews, Englishmen, Britons, and Scandinavians. Thirty-six out of fifty-two applicants were granted their citizenship papers, and thirty-three of these became voters. It took a little more than two hours to put the fifty-two applicants through the test and weed out the unfit.

"Recalling the fact that women's campaign for citizenship has been in progress for the last sixty-eight years, one woman remarked after the demonstration, 'Less than three minutes to make a citizen, and he a foreigner, while we women, whose fathers fought and bled and died for the United States, work years in vain and must plead to this foreigner to grant us a voice in our own country. Could anything be more desperately unfair and humiliating?'"

"One of the naturalised men, an Austrian, at first did not understand what the black-gowned women were doing. When it was explained to him he nodded: 'Ja, Ja,' he said, 'I vote now, I help the Suffrages all I can.'

"The women's silent protest was not only impressive, but seems to have been oppressive to some of the men present. 'That gets on my nerves,' remarked Fred Taylor, one of the court attendants. 'I feel as if I wanted to go out in the street and shout. I never believed in suffrage before, but the contrast here has won me.'

"At the end of the session, the women rose as silently as they had entered and left the court-room. 'No more convincing argument for Votes for Women could be devised,' remarked the *New York Sun* editorially on the following morning, 'than those which were presented in Judge Augustus N. Hand's court by thirty advocates of the extension of the suffrage.'"

IN THE PARKS.

Hyde Park.

Miss Boyle, as speaker at the Hyde Park meeting last Sunday morning, attracted a large and interested audience. Mrs. Watson presided; Miss Barrow and the Misses Hayward, of the Tufnell Park Branch, made the arrangements.

Clapham Common.

Notwithstanding the threatening weather, Miss Nina Boyle addressed a big crowd on Clapham Common last Sunday evening. Numerous questions were asked and answered. Copies of THE VOTE were sold, and a good collection taken. Miss Meredith very kindly acted as chairman.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, July 30th, 1915.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
To the Editor—on all editorial matters.
To the Advertisement Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including Vote
orders, printing and merchandise, etc.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
Telephone MUSEUM 1429.

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.

PREACHING AND PRACTICE.

One politician tells us one thing, another another; we are forced to ponder on the text "If the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself for the battle?" (1 Cor., xiv, 8.). A nation that cannot trust its leaders to act in concert, wisely and well, even in times of peace, is in a bad way, but in time of national danger this want of cohesion, this trumpet which gives forth an uncertain sound, spells ruin. Not many days ago we had in the House of Lords a debate upon National Economy. Lord Ribblesdale asked the Government what they meant to do to inaugurate the reign of thrift. He was glad they were waking up to the general position, financial and otherwise, and he hoped that now public economy and private thrift would be the order of the day. He also earnestly hoped that the new committee formed to deal with this subject would not simply lead the nation into fresh expenses through having to pay large salaries to new officials. In reply the Marquis of Lansdowne said he understood that the Government would make it their business to institute a careful scrutiny of the actions of all departments concerned in our public expenditure. . . . He also understood that in certain cases they would set up special machinery to investigate the expenditure of those branches of the spending departments in which the absence of sufficient control had made itself felt. The Government could, however, only deal with civil expenditure. The Earl of Cromer was pleased to think that a change was coming over public opinion, and that in future more attention would be paid to public expenditure; but he was not personally sanguine, thrift was not a British national characteristic, and if it were to be effective the example must be set by Parliament itself, and notably by the House of Commons. Lord St. Davids recommended that a committee should be set up to consider public suggestions of economy.

So much for the House of Lords. In the Lower House we know that they have already formed a Parliamentary War Savings Committee with its headquarters at 12, Downing-street. Before us, we have one of their leaflets; in it we are not only besought but commanded to save. "Every pound's worth of food wasted, every pound's worth of tobacco or any other article, which we could do without at a pinch, means a pound more in the bill against us." "Gold is vital to the war." "Silver bullets will win the war," and so on, we are besought to save to help the nation. As we read, we

feel we must give up some luxury or necessity, for our country comes before pleasure or even comfort. We need not wonder how to carry out the command for the thoughtful Parliamentarians have provided us with advice on "How to Save." Here it is:—

1. Eat less meat.
2. Be careful with your bread.
3. Waste nothing. To waste food is as bad as to waste munitions.
4. Save specially in all things which come from abroad, such as food, drink, tobacco, etc.
5. Use home products when possible, and use them sparingly.
6. Before you spend anything, think whether it is absolutely necessary to do so.

Brave words, and when we read the last line of all "Now is your time to help your country," we make up our minds that, cost what it may, some pet luxury must go.

Having so determined, we feel justified in turning our attention to our rulers to see what they are doing. When Sir Arthur Markham proposed that within the House a few hours should be set aside to discuss whether members would like to forego their salaries or not—these salaries which they had voted for themselves—we were told that the Prime Minister, "white with anger, declared, amidst cheers, that this was not a subject in which the members had shown any interest, and they would not waste time in discussing it." This is edifying to the onlooker. But we can assure the Prime Minister, whatever the sentiments may be within the House of Representatives, outside feeling would welcome a self-denying ordinance on the part of these gentlemen who have voted themselves £400 a year, and who are begging the man in the street to deny himself everything. Let these gentlemen who are asking everyone to eat less now ask themselves seriously how they can save.

On July 22 another Bill was passed voting away much more public money. Only one part roused any controversy, and that was the part about the salaries and fees of the Law officers of the Crown. The debate was animated but the subject was allowed to drop, for had it been continued some official might have had his salary reduced. An unthinkable proposition. The Government had an opportunity of putting into practice their own precepts of economy, but, being the Government, they naturally preferred words to deeds. It is easier for Mr. McKenna to advise women to save even a lump of sugar, than to suggest that a legal luminary or a Cabinet Minister should forego a few paltry thousands sterling. To teach others to economise is certainly more pleasant than to practice thrift oneself. So the earnings of the two principal Law officers of the Crown are not to be interfered with. Last year the Attorney General and the Solicitor General between them netted the handsome sum of £35,000. Mr. Pringle and Sir H. Dalziel seemed to think in the mind of the prophet Jeremiah "that they would be ashamed of their revenues," and they proposed that these Officers of State should be placed on a fixed and inclusive salary of about £10,000 a year. Sir F. E. Smith, the present Solicitor General, combated this idea, and thought £10,000 a paltry sum. He declared that the best lawyers at the Bar could make from £15,000 to £20,000 a year, and, therefore, to give them only £10,000 would be unjust. By the best lawyer he presumably means the one with the best practice. A man may be a great pleader and a brilliant orator, and it by no means follows that he is the soundest adviser or best lawyer. Moreover, the man who gets these great legal plums gets them, not so much as a reward for legal

services rendered to his country, but as a reward for great legal services rendered to his political party. And many people may doubt whether legal and political capacity invariably go hand-in-hand. However, Sir F. E. Smith's eloquence prevailed, and his salary and that of his colleagues is safe.

Where, then, are economies to be practised? Not in the House, only in the home, are these admirable qualities of thrift to be encouraged. Not in the camp, or military hospitals, not in Parliamentary circles, not in the War Office or in the Admiralty. If sufficient women do without meat and men without tobacco and children without sweets, great savings can be effected. Why let us trouble about big things if we can be cheese-paring in small ones?

The day of reckoning must, however, come. If the leaders of the people are incapable of showing an example they should at least share with the people. Economy must be practised from the head of the State downwards, or woe betide the people in the hour of peril. To the enemy we must present an unbroken front, and amongst ourselves we must husband our resources. "Example is better than precepts." We must show that from our trumpet no uncertain sound is heard, or truly the tide of battle will turn against us.

EUNICE G. MURRAY.

A WOMAN PROPHET OF A CENTURY AGO.

In the multitude of prophecies being unearthed whose fulfilment is said to be taking place to-day attention is now called to the predictions of Joanna Southcott, who lived a century ago, and claimed that she was taught by the Spirit of Truth. She was the daughter of a farmer, and was born in the parish of Ottery St. Mary, near Exeter, in 1750. Bishops and clergy, with a few notable exceptions, refused to believe her. She left them, however, a box of her writings, which was to be opened by twenty-four bishops "suddenly and unaware in time of national danger." It has not been opened yet, but some of her devoted followers are urging that the time has come to do so. They call attention to the fact that the word "Imposter" has been removed from her portrait in the National Gallery and the word "Prophetess" substituted—a significant change.

Among her prophecies are the following:—
Our foes (the French) to become our friends.
The EAGLE is the foe we have to fear.
Two monarchs to plan a great war (one said to be Prussia).
"Daily presents to England will flow."
The French would never suffer a Monarchy over them.
(Foretold at the height Napoleon's power.)
LAND will prove to be the best investment during the troublesome times.
The earthquake at Messina. (The Express II, p. 12.)
England to possess Egypt.
Only one nation to be lost to Europe and that is Turkey, because of the power Satan has in men's hearts there.
"The Germans they are in your land."
The War to end in Turkey.
London's judgments to begin overhead. (This was published from MSS. in 1912.)
England promised to be delivered from the foreign enemy according to Joanna's prayer: but the sound of war will be heard in our land.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

Women's Wages for Munition Work.

From last Sunday's *Weekly Dispatch* we take the following, given on the authority of Mr. Blatchford:—
"An educated young woman went to a Labour Exchange and volunteered for war work in a shell factory. She worked the first day from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. On subsequent days she worked from 2.30 p.m. till 10.30 p.m. In all she made twenty hours in her first three days. When pay night came she was paid for her four hours the sum of ninepence. Some women who had worked ten hours were paid 1s. 9d. The rate of pay was 2½d. an hour. These women were doing men's work, and doing

it well. For the same kind of work the men would be paid 6½d. an hour."
Boys, who are a scarce commodity in the City, are taken on at 22s. 6d. a week at Woolwich, and with overtime and Sunday work can earn £2 2s. and more. They start as unskilled.

Women Chefs' Holiday Work.

Two hundred women domestic economy instructors under the London County Council have volunteered in their holidays to teach 3,000 soldiers how to cook. The courses began last Monday. By arrangement with the War Office two courses are to be held at the Council's domestic economy centres in London. Each will last ten days, and will be attended by 1,500 men. Each instructor will have a class of fifteen. The course of lessons has been approved by the War Office.

Why, we ask, is not the more practical step taken of teaching at the camps, with the material and facilities available, not in London with gas stoves and every other requirement? Note that women are willing to give up their holidays to do this service without compulsion.

The Crying Need.

A soldier's story of the waste of food at the camps is given in the *Weekly Dispatch* last Sunday as follows:—

"A shocking thing," he said. "When a chap has lived at home as a married man and knows economy and the price of things it really makes him feel bad to see good grub kicked about like dirt. If my wife had seen it—I'll tell you what, sir, the proper way to stop the waste of food in camps is to send women inspectors. Government officials are no more good than curates, and officer boys and green corporals don't know anything. What's wanted is a few working men's wives to look round. My wife—she'd be worth three hundred a year. Well, sir, just imagine a lot of rookies chucking away good bread and butter and filling their bellies with strawberries and cream. It's a fact. Strawberries and cream. And I've been in places where men would almost commit homicide for a hunk of dry bread."

It is long since the Women's Freedom League voiced the need for women to manage the huge organisation of feeding the armies in training. Questions in Parliament elicit the answer that rations are now only to be issued for the number of men to be fed! O wise rulers!

Women's University Settlement.

In connection with the developments of the work of Toynbee Hall, it is proposed to establish a Women's Settlement in Poplar in close co-operation with the Men's Settlement. Although no Settlement has hitherto attempted this experiment in England, it has been found very successful in America, notably in Hull House, Chicago, of which, as our readers are well aware, Miss Jane Addams is inspirer and director. In this work especially it has been said of her: "The best man in America is a woman, Jane Addams."

Toynbee Hall is determined not to rest on its laurels, but to move forward to meet new times and new needs. Part of the moving forward is that the warden and residents will vacate the famous building and its picturesque Quad, and establish themselves in some small houses in Poplar with the object of living amongst the people they serve. The Secretary will remain in Whitechapel—so transformed since the days when Canon Barnett began the first University Settlement there, naming it after the dreamer enthusiast, Arnold Toynbee, who did not live to see his dream fulfilled. The extension of the work is to bring light and knowledge, and the personal association of learning and labour, to Poplar, too. Writing of it, the Warden observes:—

"This new Toynbee Hall will be a community in which men and women will work in close co-operation. There will be women from the Universities living and working with us. We shall form friendships with families as a whole, not fathers apart from mothers and babies, nor boys apart from girls. This close co-operation of men and women will be to us one of the cardinal articles of our faith; it will stand as an outward sign of something inward, an expression of our belief that 'the city which is to be' can only be built by the united labours of men and of women."

We welcome this co-operation, the spirit in which it is initiated, and the object in view. It has our heartiest sympathy.

Another Recognition of Women's Claims.

The *British Weekly*, too, is moving on. After a period of unprogressive views with regard to women and their work, its issue last week contained a strong front page article on "The Claims and Rights of Women," in which the gospel of Votes for Women is preached at long length. It is a Suffrage sermon of high order, and welcoming its appearance in the *British Weekly*, we congratulate our contemporary on its wisdom.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

*** Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

AGAINST REGISTRATION.

DEAR MADAM,—May I thank you for the letter re Registration of Women in your issue of July 23? This forced registration of unenfranchised women, extracted from them by threats of heavy penalties and for unknown purposes, is both an insult and a very grave danger to all women. We have no means of knowing whether we may be exploited to put money into the pockets of parliamentary gentlemen, or big capitalists, or for political party purposes, or for the still further lowering of our present status. Whatever the purposes to which our work may be applied, we have neither remedy nor redress—nothing but the old hopeless round of appeal, demonstration, and fines or imprisonment for protest. It is clear that the Government does not require women for actual services, as it is openly stated that out of 80,000 or 90,000 volunteers only about 2,000 have been engaged. Mr. Long's sorry jest that women were included "because they asked to be," must be to all thinking women only another proof of how the British Government regards the womanhood of the country as its chief butt and laughing stock. Surely, some of the big centres could lead the way for a protest similar to our census protest. No doubt we should be sneered at as unpatriotic, but we have been for so long accustomed to hard words as Suffragists that we can stand a few more yet. Every sane woman would work with all her might to save her country, and many of us have already offered service, but if no further protest can be made, I, at least, as an unenfranchised taxpayer, householder, and landowner, shall publicly refuse voluntary service on an enforced register. With no large organised protest, isolated protests would be of little or no use, but at least women can abstain from putting themselves still more absolutely under the heel of a Government which refuses them enfranchisement, by refusing voluntary service on what, for us, otherwise becomes a mere register of slaves. A. BALL.

Ashleigh-road, Barnstaple. July 23, 1915.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.

Nine Elms Restaurant and Guest House.

The Restaurant and Guest House closed last week until October; all who know the untiring and enthusiastic way in which Mrs. Tippett and her helpers have carried on this splendid service for nearly a year, in spite of many difficulties, will wish them a good holiday and renewed vigour for the work of the coming autumn and winter. Nine Elms will not be forgotten, however, in holiday time, for Mrs. Tippett is arranging—

A JUMBLE SALE ON AUGUST 12. She hopes to raise the next year's rent for the Restaurant while she is on holiday, and everyone who can contribute to the Jumble Sale will help her to attain this necessary object. It is an easy way to help an urgent need, and Mrs. Tippett's appeal is sure to bring a ready response. All parcels should be dispatched as soon as possible, and addressed to her at Rosemary Cottage, Wetherden, Suffolk.

Mrs. Tippett acknowledges with grateful thanks:—10s. from Two little South African girls, Gwenyth and Wyn-don Buckley-Jones, of East London West. Miss Harriet Newcomb, when sending the donation, wrote: "These little girls are very fond of babies; they are like little mothers themselves, although they are only 9 and 10 years old. The money is part of their birthday money, which they sent to me with love to all the little babies."

The Overseas Dominions have given most valuable help in clothing and in money, for which Mrs. Tippett thanks them again very warmly and trusts that in the coming winter she may receive further sympathetic and practical assistance from them. The acknowledgment in our issue of June 18 of £1 10s. from a girls' school in New Zealand was not quite correctly stated. It should have been 10s. from Tasmania and £1 from New Zealand. It will be remembered that a donation of £5 was sent to the Guest House from the Southlands Girls' High School (Head-mistress, Miss Jobson), Invercargill, New Zealand, and £2 10s. from Miss Overell's school, Wahroonga, Hobart, Tasmania. These schools are also contributing £1 and 10s. a month for some months for milk for the children. Grateful thanks also to Miss Riggoll for 10s.

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Staffordshire Ware Dinner Set, and Chelsea Spray, 67 Pieces, £2 18 6. 52 Pieces, £1 18 6.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

 Sunday, August 8.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 15.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 22.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 29.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.
Monday, September 6.—CLAPHAM BRANCH MEETING, 15, Clapham Mansions, 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 14.—NATIONAL SERVICE ORGANISATION, Public Meeting, Kingsway Hall, 8 p.m.

DARE TO BE FREE

PROVINCES.

Friday, July 30.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Open-air Meeting, Borough-road Corner, 8 p.m. Speakers: The Rev. T. C. Gobat and Miss Goddard.

WALES.

Friday, August 6.—CARDIFF, Branch Meeting, Welsh Industries, Queen-street, 7.30 p.m. Paper by Mrs. Stevenson Howell, on "Woman and Evolution."
Wednesday, August 11.—CARDIFF, Concert, Ruskin Institute, St. Mary-street (in aid of the Birthday Fund), 7.30 p.m. prompt.

OUR TREASURY,

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged: October, 1907 to December, 1914, £25,135 5s. 7d.

Amount previously acknowledged	£	s.	d.
Special Emergency War Fund.—	671	1	1
A Friend	3	2	6
Mrs. Knight	2	0	0
Mrs. Walter Carey	1	0	0
W. R. Snow, Esq.	1	0	0
Miss L. G. Fuller	10	0	0
Miss E. Gore Browne	5	0	0
Miss F. M. Stephen	2	6	0
Miss Hurry	2	0	0
Mrs. Mallalue	2	0	0
Miss E. A. Wells	2	0	0
Mrs. Angold	1	6	0
Miss Coleman	1	6	0
Mrs. Clanchy	1	0	0
Miss C. E. Price	1	0	0
Bowes Park Branch	6	0	0
Clapham Branch	3	0	0
East London Branch	15	8	0
Hackney Branch	1	19	0
Herne Hill Branch	4	0	0
Highbury Branch	10	0	0
Hornsey Branch	1	2	0
Tottenham Branch	2	0	0
Tufnell Park Branch	6	0	0

Field Hospital Protest.—
Mrs. Holt Gerlach ... 1 1 0
Miss Louie Bull ... 1 0 0

For the Removal.—
Miss Emily Reid ... 2 0 0
Miss Abbott ... 1 10 0
Miss H. C. Newcomb ... 10 0 0
Dr. Patch ... 10 0 0
Mrs. Mallalue ... 5 0 0
Mrs. Dawson Clark ... 2 6 0
Mrs. Imlach ... 2 6 0

For New Typewriter.—
Miss Abbott ... 1 10 0
Miss Eunice Murray ... 1 10 0
Dr. Knight ... 1 0 0
Mrs. Juson Kerr ... 5 0 0
Mrs. Tritton ... 5 0 0

Miss Eunice Murray ... 4 10 0
Miss Boyle (Hyde Park Meetings) ... 2 10 0
Mrs. Schofield Coates ... 1 19 0
Miss F. E. Barclay ... 5 0 0
Mrs. F. Fox ... 5 0 0
Mrs. Howcroft (per Mrs. S. Coates) ... 5 0 0
Miss M. Ballard Dawson ... 2 6 0

Miss A. Dunkley	1	0
Miss N. Ferguson	1	0
Miss Muriel Lomax	1	0
House Warming	2	7 6
Tickets	2	8 0
Collections	1	0 4
Office Sales	6	1 0
Profit on THE VOTE (per Miss Barrs)	6	0
Branches.—		
Scottish Council	4	0 0
Chester	1	10 0
Dundee	10	0
Manchester	10	0
Middlesbrough	7	6
Capitation Fees.—		
Bournemouth	1	0
Brynmawr	3	0
Chester	7	6
Liverpool	7	6
Regent's Park	1	0
Scottish Scattered Members	1	0 0
Branch Funds, January to June.—		
Aintree	5	19 8
Bowes Park	8	2
Brighton	1	1 8
Brynmawr	3	0
Croydon	25	12 10
Hackney	6	13 8
Herne Hill	1	1 0
Kensington	5	6
Liverpool	24	18 7
Mid-London	4	3 6
Portsmouth	7	9 10
Regent's Park	19	3
Sheffield	3	1 4
Southampton	4	16 4
West Hartlepool	1	0 7

87 14 11

£807 14 4

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League and crossed "London and South-Western Bank, Limited."

BRANCH NOTES.

Cardiff.

Will members please note that the next Branch meeting will be held on Friday, August 6, at the Welsh Industries, and make a special effort to attend, as there will be important business to discuss? Also we have to elect officials to carry on the work of the League during the winter. The meeting will be an open one, and all members are asked to bring a friend with them, as we shall have the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Stevenson Howells on "Woman and Evolution." On August 11 a grand concert will be held at the Ruskin Institute in aid of the Birthday Fund. We have been fortunate in securing the services of the Cathays Juvenile Choir, conducted by Madame Ben Davies, and also of Miss Ethel Earl. Will members please do all they possibly can to make the concert a great success by buying up all the tickets for themselves and friends? Tickets 6d. and 9d.; children 3d., to be obtained from Miss Barrs, 1, Gordon-road, and Mrs. Davies, 9, Brithdir-street.

Edinburgh. Suffrage Shop.—90, Lothian Road.

The session's work has now been brought to a close, and the shop will be shut (except for THE VOTE on Fridays) during August. Both sales were very successful, that in the shop realising over £22, and the jumble sale

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. FOR MEN & WOMEN.

No Entrance Fee during the War. Subscription: One Guinea per annum from date of Entrance (Ireland, Scotland & Foreign Members, 10/6). NOTICE.—The Club is closed for Cleaning from July 31 to Aug. 22 incl. Hospitality is offered to Members at the Emerson Club from August 3 to 21 incl. VALUABLE FEMINIST LIBRARY Free to Members.

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FRIDAY,
JULY 30,
1915

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

over £10. The committee wish to thank all those responsible for those results. A syllabus sub-committee is now at work, and it is hoped that a very interesting series of meetings will be arranged for the Autumn session.

Middlesbrough. W.F.L. Rooms—231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road.

On July 22 a very friendly reception was accorded to Miss Normanton at a meeting held in the W.F.L. Rooms, presided over by Miss W. M. Jones. A very successful out-of-door meeting was held later in the evening at Borough-road Corner. Miss Goddard presided, and a very large and attentive crowd listened to Miss Normanton's eloquent address. Many signatures were obtained for her petition. The *Daily Gazette* published a friendly announcement of Miss Normanton's visit and the petition, also of Miss Frances Parker's visit in connection with the Women's Freedom League National Service Organisation.

West Hartlepool.

On July 21 Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., gave an address on Belgium, in the Tipperary Rooms, the Mayoress being in the chair. She very much interested everyone in her account of Belgium and its relation to the International system of Europe. This led on to an account of the Women's Petition to the Queen of Holland. Promises of local support were given. On July 24 an open-air meeting was held in Church-square, when a large number of people gathered to hear Miss Goddard, who spoke on the present economic position of women and the value of arbitration in settling international disputes. Our thanks are due to Mr. Wickens for so ably presiding at the meeting.

NATIONAL REGISTER DAY.

Trafalgar Square Demonstration.

A demonstration in Trafalgar-square on Sunday, August 15, at 5 p.m., is being organised by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, which has always taken a practical interest in the question of women's work and wages. The special

object of the demonstration is to demand no register without safeguards, no sweating, but equal pay for equal work for men and women, wages and prices to rise together, and votes for women. The following resolutions will be moved:—

That this meeting declares that the safeguards against undue exploitation of the workers, and especially of the working women, by private employers, which are contained in the Munitions Act, are wholly inadequate to justify the degree of coercion which may already be applied to the workers under the Munitions Act and the National Register Act, to say nothing of a more general and extended form of compulsory service; and that the Munitions Act does not bear out the promise made that armament manufacturers should not make increased war profits; and demands:—

(1) That women employed on war service shall receive the same rates of pay, whether by time or piece, as the men whom they may replace, and that they shall in no case be employed on Government work, however unskilled, at a lower rate than 5d. an hour.

(2) That Government action shall be taken to keep down the cost of living and that Government departments and Arbitration Courts shall take the cost of living into consideration in fixing rates of wages.

(3) That women need the vote to protect their homes and wages.

That in view of the deputation of bankers and others to the Prime Minister, putting forward various dangerously reactionary proposals, and in view of the composition of the Government committee on economy, which largely consists of those who formed part of that deputation—

This meeting protests:—

(1) Against any attempt to tax wages.

(2) Against any further taxation of the necessaries of life.

(3) Against any attempt to reduce expenditure in old age pensions, public health work, nursing, or educational activities, and calls upon the Government to turn instead to the great landed and capitalist monopolies, and to take control of the national mineral and other resources of the country and thus obviate the need for further taxation of the people.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

TO LET, Furnished COTTAGE, in quiet country surroundings; six rooms, three bedrooms; low rent for September; suitable for ladies or artists.—Miss C., Post Office, Upper Green, Landley, via Newport, Essex.

WANTED, in October, a Voluntary Helper for Nine Elms, to live with Mrs. Tippet and give her time to the work of the Restaurant and Guest House.

DEVONSHIRE CREAM.

Absolutely pure, very nourishing, much appreciated by wounded at the "London" Netley and on battle-ships; supplied three times weekly to the Duchess of Marlborough, the Countesses of Leven, Lonsdale, Dundonald, Viscountess Ridley, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. D. A. Thomas, and the Officers of H.M.S. *Tiger*. Sells well at bazaars. Business (sole source of income) seriously crippled by the war. ½-lb. 1/6; 1-lb. 2/6; post free.—Mrs. V. Conyers, Bridestowe, Devon.

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