

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. No. 294

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 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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## HOMAGE TO THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY! MAGNA CARTA CELEBRATION.

On every member of the Women's Freedom League, who can possibly go to the Caxton Hall on June 18, rests the moral obligation of being present. We are meeting at a time when liberties are being swept away wholesale. A great war fought for the sake of Liberty is being made an excuse to tamper with our Constitution almost continually. From last August to March we lived under unqualified Martial Law. Now we live under modified Martial Law. As far as this hinders Germany's aims, we willingly acquiesce. As far as it is a menace to post-war conditions, it is our bounden duty and service to be ever vigilant. The demand for Martial Law for men and women is being made, heedless of the fact that a burden barely tolerable by enfranchised men may be intolerable to disfranchised women. At such a time we of the Women's Freedom League cannot too emphatically place upon record our conviction of the sacred duty of upholding and maintaining whatever there is in our Constitution which makes for justice.

Political freedom is as a beautiful garden, in which we hope some day to labour and rejoice in the fruits of our labour. We will not see the garden wantonly trampled upon, although we have not yet the key wherewith to unlock its gate. The

first great tree which grew in that garden of Liberty in England was Magna Carta. It sprang from the soil of old English customary law and feudal law. Its planters were the baronage and Church. Peeresses, as well as peers; abbesses, as well as abbots, helped in the planting. The noble tree grew and grew until people of later days got into the habit of representing nearly all good things in our law as due to Magna Carta. Perhaps they exaggerated sometimes, but, be that as it may, Magna Carta is one of the great glories of England. Women and men had their part in obtaining it from the Angevin despot. Its clauses are the truest legal foundation that exists for the enfranchisement of English women. None of us may reasonably expect to see another anniversary of its granting; so all should seize the opportunity of testifying by their presence at our Magna Carta celebration the homage their spirits eagerly pay to the spirit of Liberty.

### Let All Women Pay Homage

TO THE

### SPIRIT OF LIBERTY

at the Magna Carta Celebration

CAXTON HALL,

JUNE 18th, 1915, at 7.45 p.m.

"To none will we refuse, to none will we deny or delay right or justice."

—MAGNA CARTA.

Not only did women help to obtain Magna Carta; they benefited greatly by it. For instance, if widowed English women to-day were as well off as English widows were under the Great Charter, we might congratulate ourselves. But they are not. Privileges and rights have been filched little by



little from women. Any meeting held about Magna Carta now is bound to be in essence partly a meeting of protest against the gradual degradation of women under English law. "To none will we refuse to none will we deny or delay right or justice." What a scathing rebuke do those noble words administer to our prevaricating and procrastinating politicians of the last decade!

But, protest though we justly may, the theme of our song is bound to be exultation. We rejoice to belong to the race that led Europe from the desert of despotism towards the garden of Liberty. We are proud of our forefathers—aye, and of our foremothers, too. Amidst the desolating horrors of the greatest war of all time we still can rejoice that our dear land would no more bow before the cruel Angevin seven centuries ago than she will bow to the fierce Prussianism of to-day—and that without her magnificent refusal then we should now be as enslaved in spirit as the Central Europeans are to-day.

Reference was made a few lines back to the continual tampering with our Constitution by the Government. Only last week a fresh instance arose. It is now proposed that Ministers appointed to office should not seek re-election, as they have been obliged to do ever since 1707. This means, if it passes, that the Government may re-constitute itself as it pleases, quite regardless of the wishes of the electorate. It is somewhat illuminating in this connection to consider the various causes that may unseat a Member of Parliament: they are insanity, becoming an alien or peer, taking holy orders, conviction for corrupt practices and certain crimes, *of profit*. Leaving out peerage and holy orders, the

bankruptcy for six months and acceptance of offices list is obviously protective against the electorate being represented by an idiot, a briber, a felon, a bankrupt, or a man holding profitable office against the wishes of the electors; so the law to be abolished is obviously rooted in good sense. However, if Cabinet Ministers are saved the trouble of expense of what would be just now a mere formality, they will have gained relief from a wholesome ordeal when the war is over, unless democrats insist upon the restoration of this part of the Constitution. How convenient such a law would have been to Mr. Masterman! We should have been powerless to make him pay the price of his treachery to Woman Suffrage as we did by his electoral defeats at Bethnal Green and Ipswich.

Similarly we can take it for granted that no alteration to the Constitution is likely to be beneficial to women unless by a side chance; with the one exception of the grant of the franchise. Therefore we should range ourselves on the side of the Constitution as it now is; or was—in those cases where the past excelled the present. We need to remind our rulers constantly that the tradition of this country has always been towards freedom. "Every presumption is to be made in favour of Liberty" (Encyclopaedia of the Laws of England, vol. vi).

Hence, we should neglect to celebrate and honour the granting of Magna Carta at our peril. Rather will be observe and keep it in a spirit of joy chastened by sorrow, and of regret finely tempered with a larger hope irradiating the unknown future.

HELENA NORMANTON.

## SPECIAL INTERESTS OF THE CELEBRATION,

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, Friday, June 18, 7.45 p.m.

In the Chair — Mrs. DESPARD, President of the Women's Freedom League.

### SPEAKERS:—

M. EMILE VANDERVELDE, Belgian Minister of State, on "In Defence of the Right of Belgium to Liberty and Independence."

MISS HELENA NORMANTON, B.A., First Class Honours, History, University of London, Diplômée, University of Dijon, on "Magna Carta: Peerage, Church and the Free State."

### MAGNA CARTA EXHIBITION,

Facsimile of the Great Charter, Interests of the period, etc., etc.

### FLOWER SELLING,

The Rose of England, and other flowers and plants.

### SPECIAL CONCERT,

at which the following celebrated Belgian Artistes will appear:—

Monsieur YSAYE, Violinist, Madame MARIE ANNE WEBER-DELACRE, Vocalist,  
Madame BOIN-KUFFERATH, 'Cellist, Monsieur JONGEN, Composer & Pianist.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets: Numbered and reserved, 5s. and 2s. 6d.; unreserved 1s.; may be obtained from the Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. The profits will be equally shared by the Society for British gifts of clothing and comforts for Belgian soldiers, of which M. Vandervelde is the President, and the Women's Freedom League.

## Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—6146 CITY.  
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.  
President—Mrs. C. DESPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT  
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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.

#### Wednesday Afternoon Meetings.

Next Wednesday afternoon the speakers at the Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill-street, Westminster, will be Mrs. Despard and Miss Nina Boyle, and we hope to see a good rally of members and friends. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Huntsman at 3.30. The following Wednesday afternoon we shall have the pleasure of listening to the Rev. C. Ord Warlow, Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury (our old friend Mr. Baumgarten), who will speak on "The Spiritual Significance of the War."

#### Magna Carta Celebration.

Full particulars of this will be found on pages 637 and 638, but we make an appeal to all our friends who have gardens to send us flowers to sell in Caxton Hall at the Celebration on Friday evening, June 18. Roses will be specially acceptable. They should be addressed to Mrs. Fisher or Mrs. Huntsman, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C., and should reach this Office Thursday night or Friday morning.

#### Miss Boyle's Scottish Tour.

Miss Boyle has had a busy fortnight with our Scottish Branches, speaking at Branch meetings, drawing-room meetings, public and open-air meetings at Edinburgh, Dundee, Paisley, Dunfermline, and Glasgow. This week she is visiting some of our English Branches and speaking at meetings arranged at Chester, Liverpool and Manchester.

#### Fancy Fair.

We would again remind our readers that our Fancy Fair will take place at Caxton Hall, Westminster, Friday and Saturday, November 26 and 27, and if they have not already begun to work for it, we appeal to them to do so at once and to get their friends to promise contributions for the various stalls.

#### Notice of Removal.

After June 24 the address of the Women's Freedom League will be 144, High Holborn, W.C., near the British Museum. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

### WOMAN SUFFRAGE VICTORY IN DENMARK.

The Women's Freedom League sent the following message of congratulation to the women of Denmark on their final triumph:—

*Heartiest congratulations to the women of Denmark on Suffrage victory gaining equal political and civil rights with men.*

On the sixty-sixth anniversary of constitutional government in Denmark the new Danish Constitutional law received the final sanction of Parliament and the Royal assent. Henceforth in Denmark (says the *Chronicle* Copenhagen correspondent) all the electorate privileges of sex, money and land are abolished. Women will have exactly the same right to vote members of and to be voted members themselves of both Chambers as men have. The Act will come into force a year hence.

In celebration of this great triumph the women of Denmark, led by the women students of the University, marched at noon in a long procession to the Amalienborg Palace to thank the King, and afterwards to the Rigsdag to thank both Houses of Parliament for the sympathy and understanding with which the interests of women have been asserted.

*Dainty Summer*  
**BLOUSES**

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**BLOUSE**, as sketch, in rich heavy quality Japanese Silk, square yoke put in with fine piping cord, softly pleated fronts from yoke, collar, cuffs and buttons hand embroidered

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### A LOST OPPORTUNITY.

No woman's name appears in the long list of Birthday Honours, although, as the *Times* remarks, the services honoured "are not limited to the battlefield," but include valuable help given at home. An excellent opportunity for showing His Majesty's pleasure to women for their splendid service to the nation has again been missed. Even King Edward's example in bestowing—very late in her life—the Order of Merit on Florence Nightingale has been forgotten; no woman in the medical or nursing service has been remembered. The Government of India sets a better example to the Imperial Government by awarding the Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal "for public service" to four women. We note the Prime Minister's indignation in the House of Commons over the pooling of salaries by some Cabinet Ministers, and his angry repudiation of inquisitorial questions as to how he or other officials spend their money. It was a different story when such inquisitorial questions were addressed to the wives of soldiers and sailors.

### THE MOVING. £100 WANTED.

Dear Members & Friends,

On June 24th the League will bid farewell to the quiet of the Adelphi and set up housekeeping at 144, High Holborn, the most conspicuous corner premises in London.

A great deal of thought has been given to the New Headquarters and you will be very pleased with the result.

Please come to our help with the amount needed to cover the unavoidable expense for decoration of the offices we are leaving, for the removal, and for necessary alterations and additions to our new home; the general funds must not be called upon for this special expenditure.

E. KNIGHT.



**THE VOTE.**

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd.,  
2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.  
FRIDAY, June 11th, 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: 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.

**NATIONAL SERVICE FOR WOMEN.**

In our last issue, endeavouring to deal with the crying needs of the time, we called upon the Government to recruit the women. We feel that we have had enough of words and that the time has come for practical action. Appeal has actually been made to organised women to take the lead and to set going agencies through which the vast work of discovering and applying the immense reserves of head and hand labour in the country such as women can supply may be carried on.

We are ready to respond. There can indeed be no doubt that Suffrage work, in all its many aspects, has accustomed women to co-operation and made them stronger than ever before to help the country. One of the results of their increased strength can be seen in the different treatment of soldiers' and sailors' families, and of soldiers and sailors themselves, from that meted out to them during and after the Boer war.

The first step in the new departure must be a readjustment of woman's work. Much has been done in this direction, but the old-fashioned male idea still holds good amongst many that sewing, knitting, teaching and nursing are her particular sphere. Making of clothing for the army and navy and manufacturing munitions of war are now added to the things that she can properly do. But we assert that this does not go nearly far enough. Women are educated and trained; in many cases they are good writers and clever linguists. Why should not they be given posts in the Foreign Office which, no doubt, is sending men to the front? There are departments in the War Office whose business it is to answer enquiries, often from anxious relatives, to organise the distribution of allowances and to allot pensions. These departments could be managed entirely by women. In the same way the Home Office might be largely served by them; and we believe that, if the Government made this departure, it would be followed by private employers.

Further, women, in many cases, have been trained in applied science—electricity, chemistry, optics. Surely, at such a time as this, their work would be of the highest value.

We are glad to know that in one firm for the manufacturing of war munitions, women are already being employed as chemists. In contrast, we may quote the case of a lady who took the highest place in an examination in optics and, applying for a post to which her scientific attainments entitled her, was told that such posts were only given to men. She is now in a bank. And another: a lady thoroughly conversant with the various languages of the Balkan Peninsula found, on offering her services, that no post was open to her. Nor has the offer of capable women to set free members of Parliament for the fighting line by doing their work

at Westminster been eagerly accepted!

In the course of one of the great Suffrage debates in the House of Commons, Mr. Asquith said that, when he was Home Secretary, he had supported and provided for the employment of women as factory inspectors. He said later that there ought to be more of them, and indeed, the advance is extraordinarily slow when we consider how many women are qualified by education for these and similar posts.

Feeling it necessary to go beyond academical discussion and into practical action, the Women's Freedom League have in furtherance a scheme for organising and registering women according to their capacity and striving to open doors into new employment for educated women. It will be a department of the League and will be called the "Women's Freedom League Register of Women for National Service."

We wish it to be understood that the object of this new department will be not only to register women and to find them employment, but to demonstrate to the Government and to make it perfectly clear to the nation that an immense reserve of practically untouched resources is at the present moment at their command.

To send a woman who is a linguist, writer, or trained scientist to the Labour Exchange, there to be told that nothing is to be had in her line, but that if she likes she can be put on to a farm to harvest, feed the pigs and poultry, and milk the cows, is sheer folly. It is something like using a razor to hew wood.

Let it never be forgotten that, while we have in the field an army of whose great achievements we are naturally proud, we have another army, no less valourous and worthy of admiration, composed not of men alone but of women also, without whose indispensable services the army in the field would be useless. That, at this critical moment, the rich resources of the nation in training in enthusiasm, in industry and skill should, through lack of knowledge on the part of the Government and of such organisation as has been given to our military and naval forces, be allowed to run to waste would be nothing short of a disaster.

We can only hope that this latest effort that is being made by the Women's Freedom League to open the eyes of those in power will be successful, and that a host of women, as well as a host of men, all moved by the same desire will be called to the colours. Women already have given more valuable service to the nation than is generally known. They ask for further and for full recognition of their quality and their capacity.

We would have it clearly understood. There must be no drilling—no compulsion. With these comes suspicion. Workers, for instance, both men and women, will obey, as the units of Kitchener's army have obeyed, the country's call; but they will not be driven, nor will they, to make big profits for their employers, undersell their labour. It is easy for letter writers in the *Times* and *Daily Mail* and for brilliant and clever members of the Cabinet to talk of forced labour and possible martial law to enforce discipline. Lord Manvers, we believe, went so far as to say that in strike areas ringleaders should be shot. That is all panic-mongering of the worst kind. To every individual of both sexes and of every class the appeal should be made, and we feel perfectly certain what the response would be. "Last autumn," says a writer in the *Nation*, "the Government could have made anything of the nation. . . . But the workers were so handled as to create suspicion and anger. . . . The spell was broken."

It is just possible that the Coalition Ministry will be wiser than its predecessors. Maybe it will realise that the secret of organisation lies in making the best use of the nation's resources and in remov-

**THE FEMINIST MOVEMENT IN ITALY.**

The pioneer of the Women's Movement in Italy was Anna Maria Mozzoni (Contessa Malatesta Cova) who has been styled the Susan B. Anthony of Italy, and who in 1881 appealed to Parliament for better laws for women especially with regard to marriage and divorce, and also demanded the political vote. This was the beginning of the Woman Suffrage Movement in Italy. The same demand was made by the leaders of the Movement in 1907, when Giolitti promised to appoint a committee to investigate the question. Already in 1883 Zanardelli had recognised the justice of the measure but not its expediency, and at the present day many members are in favour, and their number is increasing, although the vote, political and municipal, is not yet gained. Italian Socialists are keen supporters of the rights of women as equal workers with men, and have helped them to form Unions (such as the Weavers', the Rice Workers' Union, etc.). Notably the Socialists stood by the women workers in the northern rice fields in their strike against the frightful conditions of work and pay, and the *risaiuole* won.

There have been many reforms in laws relating to women during the last few years, and various professions admit them generously. A woman occupies the Zoological chair at the University of Sassari; a qualified woman engineer lectures at Turin; the position of Dr. Maria Montessori in Rome is well known, and Signorina Labriola lectures on law, although she is not allowed to practise it. There are many women doctors, and women are employed in postal, telegraphic and clerical services. Women workers in Socialist organisations are numbered at 85,000.

Of the two principal women's unions the Roman "*Per la Donna*" is under more aristocratic auspices. Established in Rome (1907), its founders were among the pioneers of the Woman Suffrage Movement, and its numerous Branch societies are all Suffragist. In 1911 its first National Congress was held in Rome, and a whole day was devoted to the question of the Vote.

In Milan the *Unione Femminile* (founded 1900) also has Suffrage on its programme, and has become a vast organisation for furthering and protecting women in every department of work. It looks after education, theoretical and practical, the care of mothers and infants, all kinds of charitable and social work, collects statistics, works for such reforms as abolition of the White Slave Traffic and improved prison regulations, etc. In short, the *Unione Femminile* has an enormous sphere of activity, with Branches throughout Italy, providing for the peculiar needs of each district. Such are the evening or holiday schools among the scattered population in the country about Rome, otherwise deprived of education. And in Milan a special school of design has been set up for the benefit of milliners' and dressmakers' apprentices. Head of the *Unione Femminile* is Ersilia Maino, of Milan, and foremost among Lombardian Suffragists we note Linda Malnati. Among literary women Suffragists are Ada Negri (the poetess), Grazia Deledda, Bruno Sperani, and many others.

MARY HARGRAVE.

**THINGS TO BE REMEMBERED.**

Magna Carta Celebration at Carlton Hall, Friday, June 18, at 7.45 p.m.  
Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party at Carlton Hall, Thursday, July 8, at 8 p.m.  
Fancy Fair at Carlton Hall, Friday and Saturdays, November 26 and 27.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MAKE THESE A SUCCESS?

ing all cause for suspicion from the workers. "Make the employer the servant of the State," especially where it concerns the equipment of our forces and the overstrain to work at high pressure. There is all the difference in the world between working to make the army and navy effective and to maintain the health and comfort of our people at home and working to pile up profits for an employer.

It is the earnest desire of thousands of women to be called to the service of the country and through this, our latest, departure we hope to give public notice of their wish.

The details of the scheme and the names of those who have generously undertaken to set it going will be published with the least possible delay, for we are well aware that the business is urgent. It is our hope that when we move into our new offices in Holborn it will be well started. And we feel perfectly sure that the readers of THE VOTE and our members generally will support us as they have done before. The banner of the League, the green, white and gold, which has always been our ensign, will, we hope, be carried into the fields of service, giving to many anxious and troubled women the hope and confidence which it has afforded us.

C. DESPARD.

**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.

**WOMEN AND THE NATIONAL CABINET.**

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

DEAR MADAM,—On the front page of THE VOTE of May 28 attention is drawn to the fact that the Government has again ignored the claims of women by not giving "one of them a position of national responsibility." This is, of course, as the writer points out, "a lost opportunity of strengthening its appeal to women." But, may I suggest, that there are very strong reasons against the advisability of having the name of even one woman included in the new Cabinet. Time only can show what its deliberation will bring forth, and, be the result what it will, each member of that Cabinet will, in a measure, be responsible. The influence of one woman would have very little opportunity of making itself felt, and the only apparent consequence would be that the Woman's Movement, through the presence of that one representative, would be giving its countenance to conscription or any other such measure that was adopted. Personally, I think we are far better out of it. Consistent and united action is the only safeguard, and—to hold aloof from what might be a stumbling block to many—the only way. That this is so is evidently felt by the Irish party, and some, I know, wish heartily that the Labour party could have seen things in the same light, and begin to fear already that their not having done so may be a means of weakening that party.—I am, madam, yours faithfully,

MARIAN OLIVER.

**£500 WANTED FOR THE VOTE.**

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	259	9	6
Mrs. Walter Carey (monthly)	3	0	0
" " (extra donation)	2	0	0
Miss Tennant (two months)	1	0	0
Miss E. S. Rogers (monthly)	5	0	0
Mrs. Tritton (monthly)	5	0	0
Miss E. Gore Brown	2	0	0
Miss M. Gange (monthly)	2	0	0
Mrs. Taylor Brown (monthly)	1	0	0
Miss E. M. Evans (monthly)	1	0	0
Per Miss Eunice Murray:—			
The Misses Scrymgeour (monthly)	5	0	0
Mrs. Murray (monthly)	5	0	0
Miss Eunice Murray (monthly)	5	0	0
Miss A. A. Smith (monthly)	5	0	0
Miss Dickie (monthly)	4	0	0
Miss Johnstone (monthly)	1	0	0
	£267	10	6

**"DESPARD ARMS."**

Will all helpers and friends make a special effort to attend a meeting at the "Despard Arms" on Monday, June 14, at 8 p.m., for important business?



## TO ALL MEMBERS:

Wear your Badge. Never go out without it!

## OUR "WEDNESDAYS."

Mrs. Fenwick Miller, our old friend and stalwart champion of the Woman's Cause, received a most hearty welcome when she spoke at our Wednesday gathering on June 2. Miss Underwood, who presided, gave an outline of the splendid service Mrs. Fenwick Miller has rendered and still renders to the community—men as well as women—in many capacities, among them her editorship of *The Woman's Signal*, and her work on the London School Board. The address she gave on "Women and Economising" was full of characteristic wisdom and humour. She considered that the war would make for the progress of the Woman's Movement. Men were calling upon women to do things hitherto alleged to be out of their province. One thing expected from women was to economise. It was said that the nation must be economical, but care was taken to lay particular stress upon the need for economy in the household; the fact that men, in war and homelife, were the extravagant sex being quite overlooked. She instanced the tobacco smoking habit, which was mischievous as well as wasteful. Instead of economising in that direction there were appeals to provide more smoking material for the troops. Women were always called upon to practise the virtues requiring strength of character and self-denial—the "gritty virtues"; and men should be called upon to practise what they preached to women. Women, she declared, were not sufficiently prepared for housekeeping, an art which needs special study and education, and all women were not fitted to be good housekeepers; their talents lay in other directions. Men should not set the standard for women's work, but women should prepare themselves well for the work they undertook, and be entitled to their reward. In the existing state of the law they could not demand it, for the financial saving effected by their economy belonged to their husbands. This was a time when the Suffrage banner must be kept flying and women must stand together and demand the power of the vote, which will enable them to get unjust laws altered.

Mrs. Mustard, speaking on women and war work, pointed out that in the attempt to form a National Government the women had again been completely left out. The Government had appealed to women for war service; 80,000 had registered, but only for 1,440 had places been found. A report of a Relief Committee in her own neighbourhood had just been issued, and though the women had worked and were working magnificently no mention of their service was made in the report.

## IN THE PARKS.

## Hyde Park.

The first meeting in Hyde Park this season was held last Sunday. These meetings are now being organised by the London Branches Council and the Branches taking it in turn to be present. Mrs. Aaron took the chair, and we were very fortunate to have our President, Mrs. Despard, as speaker. In spite of a big recruiting meeting being held at the same time, near our pitch, Mrs. Despard spoke for over an hour to a large and interested crowd.

## Clapham Common.

Last Sunday afternoon we had a fine meeting; the chair was taken by Miss E. J. Read and Mrs. Tippet, as speaker, gave a graphic account of the work done at Nine Elms since the beginning of the war. A good collection was taken, and *THE VOTE* sold. Next Sunday afternoon the speaker will be Mrs. Tanner, and Miss J. Gibson will take the chair.

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY has graciously accepted a copy of Elizabeth Blackwell's book "Pioneer Work for Women," with an introduction by Mrs. Fawcett. It is a volume in the "Everywoman's Library," and is a remarkable autobiography of the woman who opened the medical profession to her sex after a hard fight in England, in the United States and in Paris.

## TOO GOOD TO MISS.

Miss Alix M. Clark has begun 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. Letters will receive immediate attention. Price 9d. per lb, post free 1s. Address:—11, Severn-street, Newtown, Montgomery Boroughs, North Wales.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.  
LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, June 11.—CROYDON, Public Meeting, 32a, The Arcade, High-st., 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Nevinson. CROYDON BRANCH, Committee Meeting, 5 p.m.

CLAPHAM BRANCH, Conversazione, in aid of Birthday Fund, 15, Clapham Mansions, Nightingale-lane, S.W., 8. Short address by Mrs. Despard. Music; Cards; Refreshments. Tickets 1s. each. HACKNEY, Public Meeting, at the Baths. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard.

DARE TO BE  
FREE

Sunday, June 13.—BROCKWELL PARK, 11.30 a.m. HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Chair: Miss Le Croisette. CLAPHAM COMMON, 3.15 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner. Chair: Miss J. Gibson.

Monday, June 14.—HELPERS' MEETING at the "Despard Arms," 50, Cumberland Market, N.W., 8 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15.—HORNSEY BRANCH, Monthly Meeting, 59, Coleridge-rd., Crouch End, N., 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 16.—PUBLIC MEETING, The Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill-st., Westminster, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman.

Thursday, June 17.—CROYDON, Open-air Meeting, Katharine-st., 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle.

Friday, June 18.—Magna Carta Commemoration Meeting, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 7.45 p.m. Speakers: Monsieur Emile Vandervelde; "In Defence of our Liberties," and Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., "Magna Carta, Peasage, Church and the Free State" Chairman: Mrs. Despard. Cellist: Madame Boin-Kufferath. Tickets from the W.F.L. Office; Reserved and Numbered. 5/- & 2/6; Unreserved, 1/- Doors open at 7.15 p.m.

Saturday, June 19.—HAMPSTEAD BRANCH, Garden Party, in aid of the President's Birthday Fund, at Oak Tree House, Branch Hill, Hampstead Heath, by kind permission of Henry Holiday, Esq., 3.30 to 6.30 p.m. Tickets 1s. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson and Mr. Holiday.

Sunday, June 20.—BROCKWELL PARK, 11.30 a.m. HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. CLAPHAM COMMON, 3.15 p.m.

Tuesday, June 22.—W.S.N.A.C., General Council Meeting, 1, Robert-st., 3 p.m.

Wednesday, June 23.—PUBLIC MEETING, The Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill-st., Westminster. Speakers: The Rev. C. Ord Warlow and others.

Friday, June 25.—CROYDON, Public Meeting, 32a, The Arcade, High-street, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. E. M. N. Clark.

Sunday, June 27.—BROCKWELL PARK, 11.30 a.m. HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch), noon. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 3.15 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Miss Eggett.

Tuesday, June 29.—BOHEMIAN EVENING (arranged by the Mid-London Branch), 150, Finchley-road, N.W. (by kind permission of Miss Julie Huntsman), 7.30 p.m. Music; Refreshments, etc.

Wednesday, June 30.—PUBLIC MEETING, Fabian Hall, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and others.

Thursday, July 8.—MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 7.30 p.m. Tickets 1s each, including refreshments and music.

"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 4.30 p.m.

## PROVINCES.

Friday, June 11.—LIVERPOOL, Drawing-room Meeting, at Mrs. Gibson's, Brookside, Maiden-lane, Clubmoor. 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Evans.

Saturday, June 12.—MANCHESTER, Open-air Demonstration, Plattfields Park, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Boyle, Prof. Frank Merrick and others. SIDNEY STREET, 8 p.m. Speakers: Miss Boyle and others.

Sunday, June 13.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Mr. Crow, on "Evolution and Evolution," 6.45 p.m. MANCHESTER, Open-air Meeting, Boggart Hole Clough, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Boyle, Mr. D. E. Oliver and others.

Monday, June 14.—BLACKLEY, Women's Co-operative Guild, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle, on "Women's Work in War Time." CARDIFF, Open-air Meeting, at Llanishen, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, June 17.—READING, Members' Meeting Committee-room, Palmer's Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mlle. Elise de Kestre, on "Belgian Democracy." Chair: Mrs. H. Sauret. SOUTH SALFORD, Women's Co-operative Guild. Speaker: Miss Ada Broughton. SUNDERLAND, Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Goddard.

Friday, June 18.—LIVERPOOL, Open-air Meeting, Clayton-square, 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 19.—AINTREE, a Cake and Candy Sale, 15, Chatsworth-avenue, 3 to 6 p.m. Tea 6d. each.

Wednesday, July 7.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Surprise Party in aid of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund.

## SCOTLAND.

Saturday, June 12.—EDINBURGH, Jumble Sale.

## WALES.

Monday, June 14.—CARDIFF, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Keating Hill and Miss Barrs.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

Tuesday, June 15.—HORNSEY, Co-operative Guild. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, June 16.—INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB, Meeting, 9, Grafton-st., W., 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle.

## BRANCH NOTES.

## Cardiff.

On June 4 a very successful Branch meeting was held at the Welsh Industries, and a considerable amount of business was satisfactorily settled. It was decided to give the proceeds of the coming whist drive up to £2 to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund, and that the Branch should concentrate individually on the new scheme for collecting money towards the upkeep of *THE VOTE*. Will members who were not present please do their best with the collecting forms? Papers are to be read at the next two Branch meetings, one by Mrs. Gibson on "Mental Deficiency," and another by Mrs. Stevenson Howells on "Woman and Evolution." Business meeting to commence at 7.30 p.m., both meeting will be open ones. Open-air meetings are to be held as far as possible in the surrounding districts. The next one will be held at Llanishen on Monday, June 14, at 7.30 p.m. Now the summer is here, more helpers are needed to sell *THE VOTE* in the streets. Will those who are able to give an hour or so please give in their names?

## Clapham

To-night (Friday), at 8 p.m., a conversazione has kindly been arranged by Mrs. Corner at 15, Clapham Mansions. We shall have a brief speech from Mrs. Despard, and the entire proceeds of the conversazione will go to our President's Birthday Fund.

## Croydon—Offices 32a, The Arcade, High Street.

Tested Cookery Recipes.—We hope that many more members of the various Branches of the Women's Freedom League will send in recipes before the end of this month. A contribution of threepence is required from all contributors.

Meetings.—Two indoor meetings are arranged for this month. On June 11, at 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Nevinson will be the speaker, and on June 25, at 3.30 p.m., Mrs. E. M. N. Clark has promised to speak on "The Serbian Question." On June 17 Miss Nina Boyle will speak at our outdoor meeting in Katharine-street.

Wanted.—Goods for the jumble sale, which is fixed for Monday, June 21, at 3 p.m., at the office.

## Dunfermline

Following a members' meeting held in the I.L.P. Hall, a very successful open-air meeting was held on June 4, when a large and appreciative crowd accorded a most attentive hearing to the splendid address delivered by Miss Boyle. Miss MacCallum chaired; a good collection was taken, and a new member enrolled. The Branch is very grateful to Miss Boyle for this visit, and only regrets that she could not stay longer.

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Meeting:—Wednesday, June 16th, 8 p.m. "The Population Question & the War." Dr. C. V. DRYSDALE. Chair: Mr. L. HOUSMAN.

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ONE  
PENNY

# THE VOTE

WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

## Hampstead

Will all members and friends do their utmost to make our Garden Party on June 19, 3.30 to 6.30 p.m., at Oak Tree House, by kind permission of Mr. Holiday, a great success by selling tickets 1s. each? Mrs. Despard will be present, and there will be an excellent programme including Russian music by celebrated artistes.

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

On May 31 Miss Goddard gave an address at the W.F.L. Rooms: she created much interest by her description of the "Despard Arms," the vegetarian restaurant at Nine Elms and other relief activities of the League in London. She pointed out the extreme danger of women accepting a lower rate of wages than men in the new positions now opening for them, and gave figures showing that this is happening in many cases, and emphasised the need for keeping Suffrage principles well to the fore. "For now is women's opportunity; they must put aside all ideas of inferiority, and demand the right to a share in the governing of their country." A very interesting discussion followed, and another member was added to the Branch. Madam Belle Richardson presided.

## Paisley.

We held an excellent open-air evening meeting in Abbey Close on June 1. Miss Murray presided, and Miss Boyle addressed a very interested crowd. THE VOTE and other literature sold well. At the close of the meeting Miss

Boyle met the members, in the class-room, Central Halls, and explained the work being done by the League.

## Swansea

At the last committee meeting it was announced that the entertainment given on May 18 for the Servian Red Cross funds had realised £20 after expenses had been paid. A vote of thanks was passed to Miss Hutton and the performers. It was also announced that the bed given by the Branch to the new Free Church Hostel (Alexandra-road, Swansea) had been received in time for the opening of the hostel. Members are specially urged to volunteer for VOTE selling near the market on Saturday mornings. If a good number will offer to take one turn, much might be done.

## ECONOMY AND VALUE.

One form of economy, and a very practical one too, which is being practised by many women this year is greater consideration of the cleaners' and dyers' aid. Most VOTE readers are familiar with the efficient service offered by Messrs. Achille Serre, Ltd., of Hackney Wick, London, and its reputation for thoroughness and quickness at very reasonable prices. The charge for cleaning, pressing and "refinishing" a plain woollen costume, including the removal of all spots and stains, is only 4s. 9d. Write for their illustrated price list, and please let them know that you are a reader of THE VOTE—it helps.

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## SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES MEETINGS.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE hold PUBLIC MEETINGS at The Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill-st., Westminster (near St. James's Park Station). Wednesday afternoon, June 16. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

A THEENIC UNDERWEAR is made from the best materials, guaranteed unshrinkable, and gives lasting wear.—Write for Free Book, and buy direct at first cost, Dept. 30, Atheenic Mills, Hawick, Scotland.

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Will Ladies apply to the above for Companions, Lady Helps, Housekeepers, Teachers, etc.? Many waiting for posts. Booking fee 6d.—32a, The Arcade, High-st., Croydon.

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