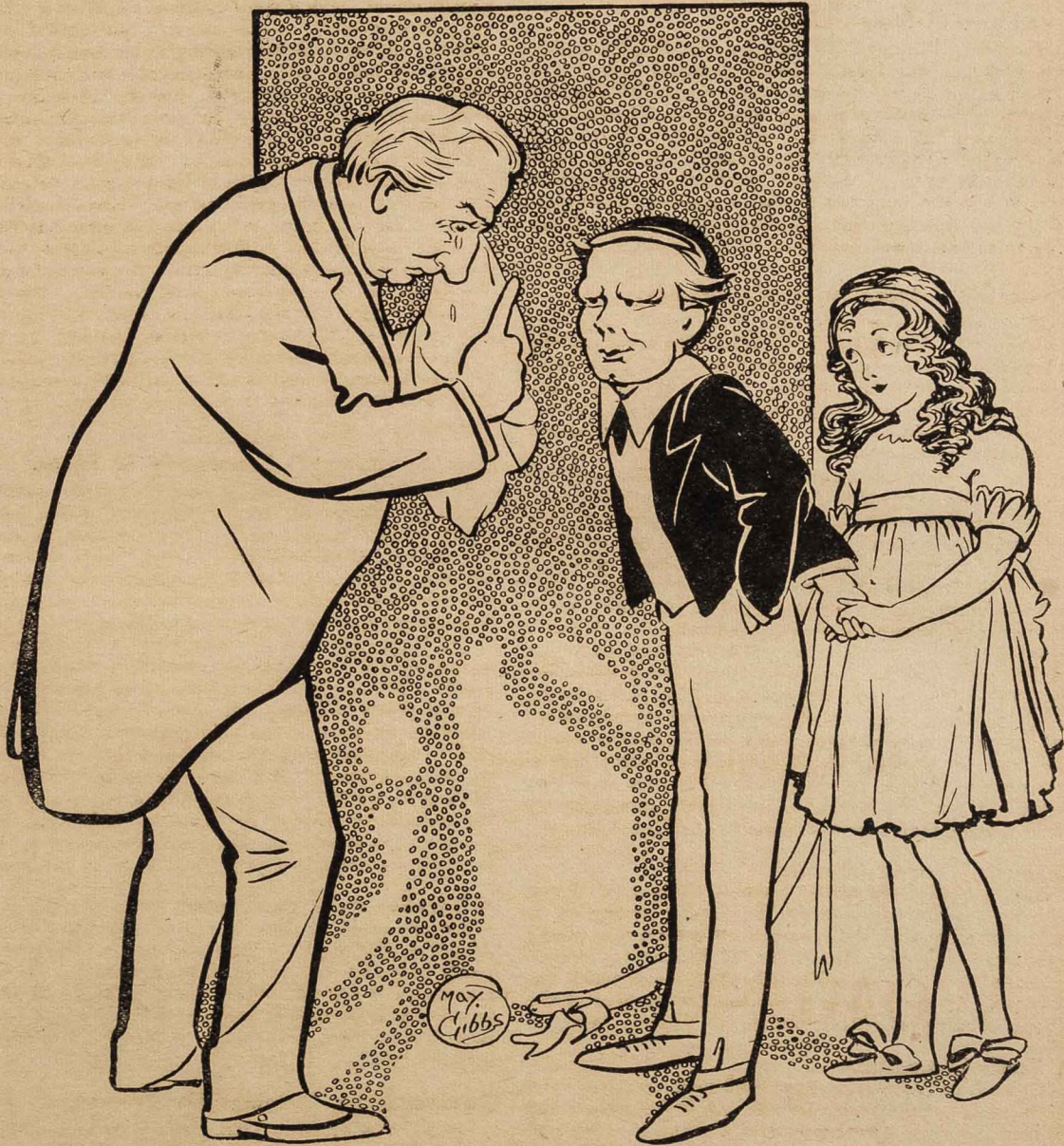


MRS. FAWCETT ON THE PROCESSION
The Common Cause,
The Organ of the National Union of
Women's Suffrage
Societies.

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MAY 4, 1911.

ONE PENNY.



YOUTHFUL ERRORS.

MASTER WINSTON (caught playing with Miss Reffa Rendum):—"I don't really care a bit about her, sir, for myself. I only thought she might be useful to drive away the other girls."
GRANDPAPA A . . . H :—"Ah, Winsty, better leave her alone. You don't know how difficult it is to shake off these 'youthful errors' later!"

Notes and Comments.

A Lucky Coincidence.

A correspondent has pointed out that May 5th, the date of the Second Reading of Sir George Kemp's Bill, is the anniversary of Garibaldi's embarkation (in 1860) from Genoa with his thousand volunteers. May the anniversary bring Sir George luck! Another link between the National Union and the liberation of Italy is that red, white and green are our colours, chosen, as a matter of fact, with no reference to the coincidence.

A Glut of Suffrage Bills.

Women's Suffrage Bills are pouring in. We now have a Bill put forward by Mr. Dickinson to enfranchise wives on their husband's qualification and the papers report that an Adult Suffrage Bill is also being presented. Meanwhile the I.L.P. supports the Conciliation Bill and even Mrs. F. D. Acland, in a letter to the "Daily News" on April 28th, thinks "democratic Suffragists" need not vote against it.

The Hours of Shop Girls.

The Shop Hours Bill was before a Standing Committee last week, and Sir John Rolleston proposed to confine to "women or young persons" the clause limiting the number of shop hours to sixty a week. Mr. Churchill in opposing the amendment said that if the hours of female shop assistants only were limited, the effect would probably be to throw increased work on the male assistants and in the long run to discourage the employment of females in an occupation peculiarly suited to them. The amendment was negated without a division.

Proportional Representation a Remedy.

A very interesting and thoughtful letter by Lord Courtney in "The Times" of April 28th speaks of the "brutalizing of our political machinery." The rebuke is a welcome one. The hard mechanical action of party, the growth of the art and science of obstruction and the consequent reprisal of the closure have all degraded our so-called representative institutions until even such epoch-making proposals as those now before Parliament are shorn of their vitality, because we know beforehand everything that everybody will say and how everybody will vote, and there is no real debate and no real exchange of views. The fact is free institutions will only work with men who are free,—free of the bondage of prejudice and passion and loving freedom in others, solely desirous of understanding each other and the problems to be confronted. No reform bills, no referendum, no reconstruction of the procedure of the House will make good the blindness and the brutalizing of partizanship. Lord Courtney believes that proportional representation will bring forward another and a better class of politician and by breaking down the present party system introduce something more rational. It does seem certainly as if Gulliver would find our modern developments more difficult than ever to explain to the Houyhnhnms.

League of Young Liberals.

At the Conference of the National League of Young Liberals at Northampton on the 23rd a resolution in favour of extending the franchise to women was passed by a large majority; Mr. Millar, of Egremont, proposed an amendment to enfranchise only adult males which was defeated. In many parts of the country we hear of the Young Liberals admitting women on friendly terms.

A Fresh Complaint.

At an Anti-Suffrage meeting in Manchester last week there were a considerable number of Suffragists in the audience who asked some pertinent questions. One was "Why the N.U.T. exacted a levy of 2s. from each of their members for Parliamentary representation if such representation was of no value?" In reply Mr. Carey said the teachers were sensible enough to realize that, as things were at present, representation in Parliament was the only way to get grievances redressed; to which the Suffragists replied "Exactly, so are we!" Miss Cordelia

Moir, who appears to be almost the only anti-suffrage woman who will speak up for her sex in the whole district, launched out into a line rather new to us. She said if Suffragists would demand the vote for themselves alone she would have no quarrel with them, but when they claimed the suffrage for women who did not want it, they were going beyond their rights. All the Antis we have heard before expressed horror at the notion of the bold bad Suffragists voting and lamented that Anti-Suffragists would be unwillingly compelled to use the vote in order to confound the knavish tricks of the Suffragists. It is plain that Miss Moir is in the right and the other ladies in the wrong for, according to the Antis, so few women are Suffragists that the Antis have only to sit tight and refuse to vote, for the women's vote to be a negligible affair.

Sensation at All Costs.

Some of the newspapers last week were guilty of a most unworthy sensational device and we are sorry to say that the "Westminster Gazette" was among the number. It was in connection with the painful and horrible case of cruelty at Worcester and several papers seemed to think that it would make a spicy heading to call it a "Suffragette cruelty case." We ask any fair-minded person, whether suffragist or anti-suffragist, to consider whether this is not indeed a flagrant case of "hitting below the belt." The "Westminster," in a theoretical way, professes even to be friendly to the enfranchisement of women. Can we imagine its sub-editor printing "Liberal pickpocket arrested"? Why did he not ascertain and publish the politics of the two male defendants? The heading was not even correct. The female defendant in this case is not and never has been a suffragist, and the importation of the suggestion was a piece of sensationalism calculated to injure the suffragist cause. We have our own press now and the ear of the public and such tricks will not injure us; they will injure the reputation of the papers which indulge in them. "The Manchester Evening News" stated that Mrs. Wilesmith was "religious and a suffragette enthusiast." This is untrue and had it been true it would have been irrelevant.

The "Spectator's" Conception of Facts.

It would be interesting to hear what is the distinction which the Editor of the "Spectator" makes between "facts" and "opinions." He is willing, it appears (see our article on p. 57), to publish "facts" correcting the statements made by anti-suffragist canvassers, but not "matters of opinion disguised as corrections." Now in Southampton and in Cambridge, paid men were employed to mark the canvass sheets themselves and they secured, as we should have expected, excellent results for the Antis. Is not the labourer worthy of his hire? They wanted Antis and they got them. But to our cooler judgment the cross of the paid canvasser appears at best only to represent an "opinion" and that the opinion of the paid canvasser. Yet the Editor of the "Spectator" declines to publish any portion of a letter shewing up the methods of some of the Anti-Suffragists and we are forced to the conclusion that his conception of a "fact" excludes any facts that prove him to be in the wrong.

A Speaker from the States.

We are asked to state that Mrs. Bewick Colby, an American Suffragist, is now staying in England and would be glad to take speaking engagements. Travelling expenses and a fee by arrangement. She would arrange to stay for some time in one district and would particularly like to visit Scotland. Address, 13, Brunswick Square, London, W.C.

Conference on Lodgings for Women.

On Wednesday, May 17th, there is to be a conference on "Lodging House Accommodation for Women" at the Guildhall and the Lord Mayor will open it at 10.30 a.m. It is to be hoped that the conference will be well attended, for the subject is one of the highest social importance. Enquiries should be directed to Edward E. Hayward, M.A., 21, Briardale Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

The A. B. C. of Women's Suffrage.

During the last few months there have been a great many meetings called by the Suffragists to demand facilities for the passage into law of the

CONCILIATION BILL THIS SESSION.

It comes up for discussion in Parliament on May 5, having been introduced by Sir George Kemp (Member for North-West Manchester), and it is expected that it will then pass its second reading. A Bill very like it passed its second reading in the last Parliament (July, 1910), but it had to be abandoned because the Government would not find time for its further discussion.

WHAT IS THE CONCILIATION BILL?

It is a Bill to give the Parliamentary Vote to WOMEN HOUSEHOLDERS—that is, to nearly all women who already have THE MUNICIPAL VOTE. Any woman who inhabits a dwelling-house, or part of a house over which she has full control, even if it is only one room, and however low its value, will be able to vote for a Member of Parliament if this Bill becomes law.

THIS BILL IS A DEMOCRATIC BILL.

Some of its opponents say it is not; but we maintain that a democratic bill is one that will give the vote to all classes IN FAIR PROPORTIONS, and this is what the Conciliation Bill does. It is

FAIR TO THE WORKING CLASSES,

or else you would not find the Labour Members supporting it. Last year 32 Labour members voted for it and only 2 against; and from 73 per cent. (Carnarvon's figures) to 89 per cent. (Dundee) of those enfranchised would be working-women, about 11 per cent. being women of independent means. More than half would be widows. It is a Bill to provide for the

REPRESENTATION OF THE FAMILY

instead of the representation of men only. Whether the "family" consists of a widow with children, or only of one single woman, or a wife whose husband is away and so is unable to vote, its interests could, if this Bill became law, be represented by one voting member.

A MARRIED WOMAN COULD VOTE

if the house were taken in her name, so long as her husband was not qualified for the same property. That is, a woman whose husband was a sailor or soldier, or who had some similar occupation that kept him away from home at election times, could have the vote for that family; and you have only to know of the disastrous laws governing seamen's wages, etc., to see what a good thing this would be for them. (See "Common Cause," March 2, 1911.)

The Conciliation Bill is not all the Suffragists asked for. They asked for the vote for women

ON THE SAME TERMS

as men have or may have it; but they think that half a loaf is better than no bread, and they support this Bill because it is the compromise most likely to become law. They see the urgent need women in the industrial world have for the protection of

THE VOTE NOW;

and they know that by this Bill sufficient working-women would be enfranchised to give them some political power. It also removes the indignity of a woman's being disfranchised simply because she is a woman.

During all this delay, the

INJUSTICE IS INCREASING.

The Government now proposes to provide, in this session, for the payment of Members of Parliament. This money will come out of the taxes—that is, whereas before women have been without representatives in Parliament, now they are to be made to pay for the

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEN.

They are to pay the piper although they may not call the tune, and this however unpleasant the tune may be to them. Therefore NOW IS THE TIME to say that this injustice has lasted already too long, and shall last no longer.

THIS WEEK'S STORY.

When the Constitutional Suffragists collected Voters' Signatures to a petition for Women's Suffrage at the door of the polling-booths during the election of January, 1910, this significant incident happened, among others. At Poplar a departing voter was pursued with the usual question, "Will you sign our Women's Suffrage petition?" when, turning, he disclosed the face of a negro, showing his teeth in a patronising grin. To the wet and weary canvasser this seemed the last straw. It brought the full humiliation of the women's position home to her, to think that the alien man might acquire the rights of citizenship that are withheld from the women who are strangers in their own land. If you, Reader, realise this humiliation, help to enforce its removal. Let your Member know that you will be ashamed of a Government which does not allow the Conciliation Bill to pass this session.

THIS WEEK'S MOTTO.

In modern politics so many interests have to be consulted that we are compelled to do, not what is best, but what is possible. For the possible is the practical and the best under the circumstances.

Benjamin Jowett.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday. THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in Britain or abroad for the following prepaid payments:—

3 MONTHS	...	1 9
6 MONTHS	...	3 3
12 MONTHS	...	6 6

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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The Appeal to "Dim Feeling."

We are on the eve of another Second Reading debate and we have no doubt whatever about the result of the division. To admit any doubt would be to accuse Members of Parliament of a breach of faith as silly as it would be despicable and we are really sorry for those journalists who think so ill of their fellow-men as to admit the possibility of such a breach. A women's suffrage bill has passed its second reading no less than six times and there has been a second reading once every year for the past three years; last year there was for two days a full-dress debate on a bill very closely resembling this bill; so closely indeed that the difference will appear important only at the committee stage. It will not be surprising then, if the Second Reading of the Bill arouses no very great interest. The vote is a foregone conclusion; the bill has already been fully debated last year and the "principle" . . . ? Well, the principle has been admitted in the House of Commons ever since 1886! If it were not for the tremendous energy of the women outside the House, the question would almost be stale-mate within the House. There can really be nothing new to say against the measure, although fresh evidence continues to be piled up in support of it. We are secure of the vote of Mr. Lloyd George who, last year, was our most formidable opponent. He gave as his reason for opposing last year's Bill that he would not vote for a Bill which could not be amended in Committee and now that the title of the Bill has been changed, so that it can be amended in Committee, Mr. George will vote for the Second Reading. This would, however, be a very empty concession if nothing else followed; for even Mr. George could not prevent last year's Bill from passing its Second Reading by a majority of 110. If the Committee stage is never to be reached, it would have been farcical to make such a point of it. So we must anticipate that Mr. George will do more than merely vote for the Bill (which every private Member can do) and that he will

* We believe we have Mr. Comyns Carr to thank for this truly illuminating phrase.

use his influence in the Cabinet to secure fair play for our measure, by allowing the House to express its will on all the necessary stages.

We have always felt that the opposition would give way in some odd and unexpected manner, because, for years past it has been so invertebrate. We do not deny that there is still a sort of "dim feeling" against women's suffrage, even among those who are intellectually convinced that it must come and morally convinced that it is right. These are the men who give academic support, but are pained and surprised when we express a little impatience that the support should remain academic. These are the men who say, more in sorrow than in anger, "I have been a supporter all my life. What more do you want? You can't expect a man to put it first! It is a woman's question! You ladies must get it for yourselves." And when we ask him "How?" replies, vaguely "Oh you must hold meetings and educate, educate." We point out to him that we hold more meetings than any other body of reformers and that out of our poverty and weakness we have poured forth money and service such as no body of men ever did to secure their own enfranchisement and he replies that we must "convert the women." We ask him if he has ever attended suffrage meetings and compared the proportions of women to men and he generally falls back upon the statement, "Well, my wife doesn't want it." We are, of course, tempted to adjure him to "be a man and take wider views!" but we don't, for fear of being thought sarcastic. We merely point out that after all there are only 670 Members of Parliament and if their 670 wives (if they had them) were every one anti-suffragist it would only prove that the wives of Members of Parliament are a class very much apart from their sisters and we ask him to turn on the other hand to the spectacle of 538 medical women suffragists out of a total of 553 and to the absolute unanimity of the Association of Headmistresses and other bodies of women too numerous to cite here, but of whom we gave some notion in our issue of last week.

Of course there are many wives of Members of Parliament who are keen suffragists and most helpful to the cause, but it is perfectly obvious to anyone that there are difficulties in the way of the free political development of the wife of a politician, and very many wives (either from tact or from taste) only take part in politics to the extent of helping their husbands. We are not venturing to say that this is not perfectly right and becoming, but we do say that it is a reason for not relying entirely upon domestic sources of information. We are not likely to see a great development of "Mrs. Chilvers."

Now there are one or two points which our opponents are sure to make and which the man with a "dim feeling" will perhaps be unwilling or unable to answer. It is one of the tremendous disadvantages of being disfranchised that representatives in Parliament do not feel bound to give their best attention to us and to our demand so that they are very easily flogged by a specious plea. We understand that there were actually men in the House who described the speeches of Mr. F. E. Smith and Mr. Churchill last year as "brilliant!" No woman Suffragist could have been so easily taken in. There will, perhaps, be men in the House who will believe it when they are told that the Anti-Suffrage Canvass shews that women don't want the vote; that the defeat of the two Suffrage candidates proves that men don't want women to have the vote; that the use of militant methods shews that women don't believe in their own arguments and lastly that women will all clamour for a General Election at once if this Bill becomes law.

To take the last first. This bogey arises mainly from the fact that some people will not listen to what suffragists have to say for themselves but prefer to invent it. They argue that because suffragists are saying "We want facilities this year, not next year," they will insist on a dissolution in order that they may use their vote this year. But we are insisting upon facilities this year because we are sick of promises. Never to get further than the Second Reading is to remain, like Moses, for ever only in sight of the Promised Land.

We want security. We are the most patient of mortals, but we don't see the fun of working as we do simply to pile up a mountain of second readings. We have never heard of a suffragist who was not willing to wait to use her vote until there should be a General Election in the course of events. This delay was carried out quite easily in Norway and we appeal to Members of Parliament not to be the slavish followers of purely British precedent in this matter.

We will not say more concerning the plea that the militants have abandoned reason than merely to point out (1) that "militant" women are only a very small section of all women; (2) that even "militant" women do a vast amount of educational work; (3) that they do not admit that they have given up belief in reason but they maintain that the Government has. It is needless for us to point out that we do not agree with them on this last point and that we believe the men of the country could and would in time bring to reason even the most unreasonable Government that ever was born.

With regard to the defeat of the Suffrage Candidates run by the National Union, we think that politicians who can really maintain that the results of Camlachie and E. St. Pancras shew that the electors are against women's suffrage are saying what they must know to be false. It is not possible to believe in the honesty of a man familiar with party politics and the way elections are run, who tries to persuade others more ignorant than himself that, because the voters would not vote against their party and risk throwing away their votes altogether for the sake of women's suffrage, therefore they were opposed to women's suffrage. We have stated already that we regard these two elections as having shewn "how not to do it"; but the contention that men do not want women to be enfranchised is absolutely met by the fact that in Glasgow, where Mr. Mirrlees was defeated, the City Council has joined all the other great Councils in supporting the Conciliation Bill.

Lastly with regard to the Anti-Suffrage canvasses. The "Anti-Suffrage Review" has so poor an array of meetings or other work to record that it is thrown back upon repeating every month the figures of its discredited canvasses. Last month it actually reprinted the Cambridge figures in spite of Lord Cromer's admission that they were not reliable. We do not ourselves think that canvassing, whether for or against a measure, ever proves very much; but most emphatically we say that in a very large number of instances our testing of the Anti-Suffrage canvasses has proved them to be absolutely without statistical value. Southampton, Bristol, Cambridge, Manchester, Liverpool, Camberley, Witley, Haslemere, Hampstead and Reading have all been shewn either to have been canvassed by totally unscientific methods or have given a result to Suffrage canvass the reverse of the Anti-Suffrage canvass.

We hope our friends will remember these facts, when those who remain away from the Parliamentary Golf Handicap in order to hold the fort for the Antis in the House adduce their favourite "arguments." And we hope they will ask also why, when the Antis do hold meetings they are so very rarely open to the public; and why on those rare occasions they so often do not put a resolution to the vote; and how it is they have found out that debates are such bad business for them (see "Anti-Suffrage Review" for March) that they are advised to hold no more of them. Such extreme shyness in testing public opinion in the acknowledged ways makes us suspect their new-found enthusiasm for the Referendum.

Facts Not Opinions.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SPECTATOR."

Mrs. Dixon, of Witley, sends us the following, which was declined by the Editor. We have slightly shortened it:—

Sir,—In a leading article in the "Spectator" of February 18th, 1911, on the subject of "the New Parliament and Women's Suffrage," you quote the numbers of the Hawkhurst Canvass among men and women with a

view of ascertaining their opinions on Women's Suffrage, and you say, "It passes our understanding how people who have had such figures placed before them can continue to say that there is a strong feeling in the country for Woman Suffrage." You also say, "If we have unintentionally said anything contrary to the fact, and it were pointed out to us, we should be glad to correct it, but no letters in which matters of opinion are disguised as corrections can be published."

I wish to bring before your notice some facts (not opinions) which will show you why many people who have had these figures before them can continue to say that there is a strong demand for Women's Suffrage in this country.

First I will point out what we Suffragists have discovered in the course of our work and the methods of the Anti-Suffrage Societies of collecting signatures and statistics. Secondly, I will give you the results of a few canvasses on the other side, which are chosen at random from all over the country, and may be taken as typical of our results.

I do not suggest that all the anti-suffrage canvasses are collected in these ways—I have set down the experiences of myself and other Suffragist workers—but they are enough to make any thinking person distrust such results.

SOUTHAMPTON ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

A list of women municipal voters was prepared and an old man who was out of work was paid to take the paper round from door to door to obtain crosses. There were three headings on each paper, "for," "against," and "indifferent." No signatures were required; any persons could fill crosses in where they chose. The old man brought the paper back with crosses against most of the names. What was there to prevent him sitting under a hedge and filling them in himself? Would you believe figures collected in that irresponsible way by an uneducated old man who was paid to do the job? One lady hesitated in making her cross, saying she wanted to wait till her son came in. She afterwards found a cross had been put against her as "indifferent." No space was allowed for absence, illness or refusal to sign (many people, I find, refused to sign although they are in favour of women having the vote)—all were lumped as "indifferent."

Vouched for by Mrs. H. (A grocer's wife; she does not wish her name to appear, but I have it for reference.)

CAMBRIDGE ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

Cambridge has been singled out as a place where their canvass is "singularly complete," and they published these figures in several local papers, saying "they had addressed a reply-paid postcard to every woman on the municipal register."

Total electorate	2145
Anti Suffragists	1168
Suffragists	590
Neutral	271
No reply	116

The members of the Cambridge Suffrage Association made enquiries into the conduct of this canvass. They found, first: Not a single postcard had been used.

Second: A paid messenger had been employed, not to obtain signatures, but to record in a book his view of their views. In many instances the question asked related to approval or disapproval of "militancy and Suffragette tactics." Those who disapproved of these were noted down as 'Antis.' (Far more than half of the Suffragists in England disapprove of militant tactics.)

Third: In every part of Cambridge in which enquiries were made numbers of women voters were found who had not been canvassed at all.

Fourth: A systematic canvass was then made in one district of Cambridge, which yielded a majority in favour of the Suffrage of 70 per cent.

Let me add that Lord Cromer has publicly admitted the unreliability of the Anti-Suffrage Cambridge canvass, and has said that "Too much should not be made of such canvasses."

CAMBERLEY ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

They claim that "They made a complete canvass of this district amongst all permanently resident women of 21 years of age and upwards." "This" district consisted of Frimley, Camberley, Mytchett, Yorktown, and St. Pauls, which have, according to Norman's directory, a population of 14,332.

For the Vote	197
Against the Vote	1263
Neutral	390
Total	1850

Is it possible, Sir, in a population of 14,332 souls there are only 1,850 adult women residents? For it claims to be a complete canvass of all the resident women, not municipal voters only.

It has come to the knowledge of Maud Bassett, Chairman, and Evelyn Atkinson, Hon. Sec. of the Camberley Suffrage Society, that nearly 20 members of their branch had not been canvassed at all. Out of these, two had resided in the district over 40 years, two over 30, others for 12 years. In what sense were these not included as "permanently resident."

(Signed), *Maud Bassett.*
Evelyn M. Atkinson.

To test this canvass the Suffragists chose three or four streets at random, which gave 46 houses inhabited by women householders. Of these 21 were Suffragists, 7 Anti-Suffragists, 19 indifferent, away, etc. Total, 47.

Compare this with your figures in the "Spectator" of February 18th.

WITLEY ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

In collecting signatures for a petition to Parliament in favour of the Conciliation Bill last October I found that the Anti-Suffragists had been round the village previously also collecting signatures. One lady, a well-known Suffragist, was asked if she was in favour of adult suffrage, and when she said "No," she was told she might sign their petition. She did so, believing it to be a petition against adult suffrage. Another woman was asked "Do you want to take the vote away from the men?" and on her answering "Certainly not" was hailed as an Anti, and told to sign the paper. She also did so, but both signed their names again on our Suffrage petition. So much for the value of signatures! Another woman had been asked if she wanted to see "these shrieking Suffragettes" in Parliament; and this was the way her assent to the Anti-Suffrage petition was obtained.

(Signed), *Agnes M. Dixon.*

MANCHESTER ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

Six wards were canvassed by them, and the following figures brought out and published as a result:—

Anti Suffragists	682
Suffragists (including "half sympathizers")	192
Indifferent	585
Not seen	716

Total 2175

These figures were tested afterwards by two Suffragists in two wards out of the six, chosen at random, viz., Withington and All-Saints; with these results:—

402 Suffragists in two wards alone. These all signed a declaration.

(Signed), *Rona Robinson.*
Margaret Robertson.

HASLEMERE & DISTRICT ANTI-SUFFRAGE

CANVASS of Rate-paying Women.

Anti-Suffragists	107
Suffragists	70
Ill, indifferent, removed	80
Total	260

(This is their addition, not mine.)

This canvass was questioned and partly tested by Suffrage workers, and the following facts elicited:—

M. A. Marshall, a voter, had not been approached in any way, and enquired of 20 other voters at Shottermill,

and found that none of them had been polled either. Mrs. Beveredge, the Hon. Sec. of the Shottermill Anti-Suffrage League, who had compiled the Anti-Suffrage figures for Haslemere district, of which Shottermill is a part, then admitted in a letter to the paper on July 16th, 1910, that "something had been assumed" as to the opinions of the ratepayers, and that she had counted as Anti-Suffragists (without asking them) those who had ever been known to have signed an Anti-Suffrage petition, or had expressed Anti-Suffrage opinions.

Now, sir, opinions we know change, and in the course of many years of active Suffragist propaganda, have changed very materially. What right has Mrs. Beveredge to conclude that opinion does not change in Shottermill, and how can canvasses made up by "assumption" carry any conviction to anyone, or serve any useful purpose?

Secondly I give some statistics of Suffragist canvasses, conducted always by unpaid workers.

GODALMING.—Suffrage Canvass for signatures to petition to Parliament in favour of Conciliation Bill. (1910.)

Total number of women canvassed, both voters and non-voters	1108
Suffragists (all signed petition)	826
Anti-Suffragists	83
Refused to sign, but in favour	199

GODALMING AND DISTRICT ditto. (1910.)

Total number on Municipal register	266
Suffragists (all signed petition)	211

Altogether 55 refused to sign, but all were not Antis, but many did not like "to sign a paper." 79 per cent. were in favour.

WITLEY SUFFRAGE CANVASS. (1910.)

Total number of women on register	60
Suffragists (all signed petition)	26
Anti-Suffragists	2
Neutral, or would not sign	17
Not seen, ill, or away	15

GLASGOW. All the women on municipal register were visited, but could not all be got at.

Suffragists	1462
Anti-Suffragists	176
Neutral, indifferent, etc.	442

(Instituted by Mr. Cameron Corbett, M.P.)

READING. On the municipal register are 1,730 women. Of these 1,575 were personally visited and asked for signatures to a petition to Parliament in favour of the Conciliation Bill.

Suffragists (all signed petition)	1047
Anti-Suffragists	60
Refused to sign, though many were in favour	467

(Signed, Secretary of Reading Society.)

LIVERPOOL. A Suffrage canvass completed in six wards only—Granby, Prince's Park, Netherfield, West Derby, Derby (Brook), Stanley (Bootle).

Total number of women on municipal register	2428
Suffragists (all signed petition)	1229
Anti-Suffragists	391
Not seen, ill, removed, etc.	808

(Signed, Eleanor Rathbone.)

BIRMINGHAM. A canvass carried out among women householders as far back as 1886, when the demand for the franchise was nothing like as keen as it is now, resulted in the signatures of 4,707 women to a petition to Parliament in favour of the Parliamentary franchise, being more than half the total number on the municipal register. This petition was presented by Mr. George Dixon, M.P., on March 22nd, 1887.

Agnes M. Dixon.

A Letter from Mr. Snowden.

THE WOMEN'S FRANCHISE BILL.

Madam,—Certain paragraphs which have gone the round of the press about the activity of the Adult Suffragists appear to convey the impression that those who favour the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to adult men and women are hostile to the Bill which is down for Second Reading this week. This is not the case. Every organised body of Adult Suffragists in the country supported the Conciliation Bill last year, and there has been no expressed hostility to the amended Bill, which, in its new form, is likely to secure the approval of some individual adultists who were unable to vote for last year's Bill. In this connection I would like to draw attention to an incident which happened at the recent I.L.P. Conference at Birmingham. The I.L.P. is in favour of Adult Suffrage, but it has always favoured any measure which would remove the sex disqualification. There has in former years always been a strong and assertive minority opposed to what they called a "limited" Bill. This year, however, the Resolution in favour of the extension of the franchise to women "on the same terms as men" was passed with practical unanimity against an amendment of a wider character. The Conference then expressed its approval of Adult Suffrage as the aim of the party. When the most democratic political organisation in the country so heartily approves the Conciliation Bill, more timid Radicals need have no fears about the democratic character and effect of the Bill.

PHILIP SNOWDEN.

Deputation to Mr. Lloyd George

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 25th April, received at the Treasury a deputation from Welsh Women's Liberal Unions.

Among those present were Mrs. Kate Freeman, who introduced the deputation, Mrs. Lester Jones (Cardiff), Mrs. Aeron Thomas (Gower), Mrs. Glen Wade (Cardiff), Principal Edwards (Cardiff), Mrs. Marks (Llandudno), Mrs. D. M. Richards (Aberdare), Mrs. Walter Lloyd (Aberdare), Mrs. Miles (Aberdare), Mrs. David Salmon (Swansea), Miss Gertrude Dyer (Newport), Miss Rathbone (N. Wales). They were joined by Mrs. Lloyd George.

The "S. Wales Daily News" gave the following account of what passed:—

The Right Hon. D. Ll. George, M.P., received the deputation most cordially, and an exchange of views took place for an hour and three-quarters. The ladies appointed as spokeswomen having laid their views before the Chancellor.

The right hon. gentleman said the deputation was of greater magnitude than he had ever before received of Welsh Liberal women on the Suffrage question. He promised to vote for the Bill on the 5th of May, and he approved the action the progressive Liberal women had taken in Cardiff. The women deserved the greater respect for their hard work in Cardiff. He declared that Sir Clarendon Hyde had not been his nominee, and he was also said to have agreed that Cardiff Liberal women had been unjustly treated.

Mrs. Glen Wade afterwards introduced the same deputation to Mr. Ellis Griffith, the chairman of the Welsh party, who also gave the ladies a cordial welcome. He promised to continue his ardent support of the Conciliation Bill, and was sincere in saying he hoped very much the Bill would go through without amendment, which it was agreed would be fatal. The deputation was entertained at luncheon at the Trocadero by Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Lloyd George being also present.

We hear also from Mrs. Glen Wade that Mr. Lloyd George alluded to the industrial Insurance Bill, and said he had found from secretaries of Friendly Societies that it was so often the women who paid the insurance money even when they only received very little from their husbands.

Text of the Bill.

On Friday, May 5th, Sir George Kemp will move the second reading of the Woman Suffrage Bill promoted by the Conciliation Committee. Its text is as follows:

A BILL TO CONFER THE PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE ON WOMEN.

Be it enacted, etc.:

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884) shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the County or Borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
2. For the purposes of this Act, a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be registered as voters in the same Parliamentary Borough or County Division.
3. This Act may be cited as The Representation of the People Act, 1911.

In Parliament.

THE PARLIAMENT BILL.

The debate on the 24th turned upon whether Home Rule had been before the electors at the December general election. Amendments designed to exclude a measure of Home Rule and Franchise Bills were both lost, Mr. Churchill giving as one of his reasons for opposing the latter, that "it might stand in the way of granting votes to women."

On the 27th on a discussion on the Referendum, Mr. Samuel opposed it on behalf of the Government. Later on Mr. Asquith said with regard to the Referendum, "I have already admitted in the fullest and frankest way youthful errors of my own, when I thought, now many years ago, that we might find in some qualified adoption of that principle a solution of our constitutional difficulties."

THE POOR LAW COMMISSION.

On the 27th there was a discussion on the Poor Law in connection with the Civil Service Estimates. Mr. Burns described the condition of the poor under his beneficent rule in glowing colours and referred to the Majority Report as "archaic" and the Minority Report as "somewhat obsolete." Pauperism was largely a result of sickness and "the Government hoped to deal with this in an infinitely more statesmanlike and bold way than was dreamed of by either the majority or the minority of the Royal Commissioners."

Mr. Robert Harcourt criticized Mr. Burns severely, saying that if the Government continued to regard what had been done in the past as a satisfactory solution, and upheld the *status quo* as against the recommendations of the Poor Law Commission, the result, he believed, would be death, disaster, and something worse for the Liberal party.

THE HOME OFFICE AND DRESSMAKERS.

In reply to questions by Mr. Chiozza Money and others as to the draft Home Office Order varying the hours of dressmakers and milliners during May and June,

Mr. Churchill (Home Secretary) said: I have received a report of the deputation which waited upon my hon. friend the Under-Secretary (Mr. Masterman), and also the results of a special investigation of the subject which I ordered to be made by the lady inspectors of the Factory Department. Both reports demonstrate that whilst a certain number of firms and their employees would prefer the extra hour of work at the end of the day to an hour at the beginning, the great majority of the women and girls would rather desire the additional employment in the early morning, and a large proportion of the firms which might be affected did not propose to make use of the Order. In these circumstances I do not propose to make the Order.

IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

On April 28th Mr. Hugh Law's Bill to make women eligible for County Councils in Ireland passed its Second Reading.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. D. COURTNEY. **President:** MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. **Hon. Treasurer:** MRS. AUERBACH.
Hon. Press Secretary: MISS EMILY M. LEAF.
Secretary: MISS T. G. WHITEHEAD, M.A. **Telephone:** 1960 Victoria.
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London."
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Mrs. Fawcett's Opinion of the Procession on June 17th.

To the Editor of "The Common Cause."

Dear Madam,—I have been asked to express in your paper my personal opinion on the desirability of the co-operation of the National Union in the procession organised by the Women's Social and Political Union for June 17th. I am heartily in favour of this co-operation.

Occasions have frequently arisen when the National Union was bound to express its strong disapproval of certain methods adopted by the Women's Social and Political Union; but this seems to me no reason for refusing to co-operate with them when they are acting on lines which we heartily approve. We are all asking for the same thing, and it seems to me a source of strength to our movement that we should co-operate when we can do so without any departure from the general principles for which the National Union stands.

I hope no one will think that this indicates any weakening in my belief that force is no argument. We shall win, I believe, through steadfast courage and persistent work in proving to men and women all over the country that what we are asking for is reasonable, and would promote the well-being of the nation. The courage to go on undaunted through years of misrepresentation and neglect is no mean kind of courage. What we win on these lines is of unmixed and permanent value. I am absolutely unshaken in my faith that these are the lines on which the National Union ought to continue to work, for I believe that the political insight and sagacity of Oliver Cromwell was never better demonstrated than when he said "Things obtained by force, though never so good in themselves, would be both less in their honour and less likely to last" than concessions made to argument and reason. He emphasised the same point when he also said "What we gain in a free way is better than twice as much in a forced, and will be more truly ours and our posterity's."

But our belief in our own policy is surely no reason for refusing co-operation with the Social and Political Union when they find themselves able to act on our lines.—Believe me, dear Madam, yours faithfully,

MILLCENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

May 1, 1911.

From Headquarters.

The organization of the Press Department, the negotiations for more rooms, more furniture and an increased office staff have all come together with the Easter holidays to make the work of preparing for the Convention on the 3rd and for the Procession in June very difficult. But of course all these developments are most encouraging, for they shew the tremendously rapid growth of the Union. The demands in the country and the needs of societies multiply much faster than we can cope with them.

We are most grateful to those volunteers who came to help last week, and should be very glad of more offers of help. It would of course be especially valuable if helpers could arrange to come for a few hours every day for a week, or once a week on a regular day. There is always plenty to do, and the Procession will involve an enormous amount of additional work. It is hoped that Mrs. Abbott (Miss Lamond) may help in organizing this.

Miss Ida O'Malley has very kindly undertaken to act as Hon. Secretary of the Literature Department of the

N.U. The Committee has appointed Miss Lewin to succeed Miss Tiner as Secretary and Saleswoman, and she will have the advantage of being in the office for several weeks before Miss Tiner has to leave us.

K. D. COURTNEY.

Deputation to Mr. Birrell.

Mr. Birrell received, at the Chief Secretary's Office on Wednesday morning, a deputation of Suffragists from his own constituency. The Bristol ladies were accompanied by delegates from the N.U.W.S.S., and the united deputation was introduced by Mrs. Fawcett. It was agreed that the interview should be kept private.

EDITH PALLISER.

Treasurer's Notes.

The news of Mrs. Alfred Illingworth's magnificent gift of five hundred guineas has now spread throughout the Union, and has been most gratefully received. It is difficult to say how greatly we are cheered and encouraged by the knowledge of all that this timely generosity will enable us to achieve, but I am sure it will be the wish of every member that I should make some attempt, however inadequate, to express in these columns the heartfelt thanks of the whole National Union.

The pages of "The Common Cause" will be full of accounts of all that is going on throughout the country and of all the many developments contemplated. But even so, I doubt whether many of our readers can have any adequate conception of the enormous mass of work that has to be dealt with in our central office as an essential complement to the great activity throughout the Union. To everyone in the office it seems indeed as if each succeeding week established a fresh record of pressure, stress and work. We cannot even afford the time to take stock of the increase in every department nor yet to enjoy the satisfaction that comes from the certainty of constant progress. What we are chiefly conscious of is the certainty that in order to meet this ever-growing pressure of work we must face a permanent increase of staff, and we know also that this will necessitate increased office accommodation, for already we are more than overcrowded. While I know that each individual member of our staff would uncomplainingly continue to sacrifice her own personal comfort and convenience rather than leave the work undone, yet I very much fear that unless we are enabled to provide more comfortable conditions for our staff than they enjoy at present it will be impossible to deal efficiently with the vital work of the Union, and as a result the cause must inevitably suffer. We are therefore face to face with the unavoidable necessity of increasing our fixed charges and expenditure, and we should not have the courage to make this plunge were it not that we are confident that the necessary financial support will be forthcoming. We know that the Union is determined to allow no opportunity for promoting our great purpose to slip by for want of funds, and that every one of us is prepared to go on, straining every fibre and putting forth greater and greater efforts in order to achieve the victory of our cause. Help us, then, with all your might and with all your strength, for although our harvest increases, so also does the cost of our labour as we plough our furrow deeper and deeper and sow the ineradicable seeds of Women's Liberty.

HELENA AUERBACH.

FOR SPECIAL WORK IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCILIATION BILL.

APRIL, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	877	7	4
Lady Scott-Moncrieff	5	0	0
Mrs. Hartland	5	0	0
Miss J. P. Strachey	5	0	0
Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild	3	0	0
Mrs. J. E. Hardie	2	0	0
Mrs. A. Gordon Pollock	2	0	0
Mrs. Pelham Lane	1	0	0
Miss S. M. Fry	1	0	0
Miss Fenwick	1	0	0
Sidmouth W.S.S.	10	0	0
Miss Finke	0	5	0
Miss Finke (collected)	0	5	0
Mrs. Finke	0	5	0
Mrs. Edward Kelly	0	5	0
Miss Edith Monk-Mason	0	5	0
Miss Isabel Rattray	0	5	0
Miss Joyce Hatten	0	2	6
Miss L. A. Wilks	0	2	0
Miss Durham	0	1	0
"Smut" Edwards, per Miss Dorothy Edwards (a thank-offering for his recovery)	0	1	0
	£906	8	10

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GENERAL FUND.

April 20th to April 27th, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st	655	15	3½
Subscriptions—			
Mrs. J. A. Price	0	10	0
Donations—			
Miss Ellen Wackrill, profit on two lectures	2	0	0
Hon. Mrs. Wilkinson, for Press work	1	0	0
Affiliation Fees—			
Kendal W.S.S.	1	0	0
Manchester W.S.S.	7	10	0
Clitheroe W.S.S., 1st instalment	0	5	0
Middleton W.S.S.	0	5	0
	£668	5	3½

Press Department.

News is coming in well from the Societies of the National Union, and we hope soon to complete our record of provincial papers from the information furnished to us by the Federation Secretaries. We specially urge the necessity of keeping Women's Suffrage well in view in the local papers during by-elections, and in those constituencies where the genuine support of the member is not assured.

The attitude of the London press has shown improvement during the past week, and good articles appeared on April 24th in the "Daily News," the "Daily Graphic," and the "Daily Chronicle."

We have great pleasure in announcing the ready response to the appeal made in the last number of "The Common Cause." The generous gift of an Empire typewriter has reached us from Mrs. Hecht, of Dorking. No present could be more welcome, and we can now begin full work at once.

EMILY M. LEAF.
(Hon. Press Secretary).

Important Notice to Secretaries.

POLITICAL CLUBS AND THE BILL.

The Executive decided, in response to a suggestion from Mr. Brailsford, to supply a copy of last week's "Common Cause" to every political club. The number contains the leaflet issued by the Conciliation Committee and several other articles full of facts and figures bearing upon the situation in the country with regard to Women's Suffrage, and it is a most valuable number for purposes of propaganda. Secretaries of Societies are urged to send at once to the office of "The Common Cause," stating how many copies they can place in the clubs in their localities and the copies will be dispatched immediately, free of charge and carriage paid. It would be best for a member of the Suffrage Society to see the club secretary and get his promise to put "The Common Cause" in the reading room, where the club members will see it.

Common Cause Week in Bristol.

BRISTOL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Office and Shop: 111a, Whiteladies' Road.
 Hon. Secretaries: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross.
 Miss Tanner.

The Bristol Society is making a special effort for the Common Cause this week. They have had a good response from newsagents, and a band of workers will sell and distribute copies during the week. The Bristol Society ranks in age next to Manchester, London, and Edinburgh. It was formed in 1868 at a meeting convened by Professor Francis Newman, its first Hon. Sec., at the house of Mr. Commissioner Davenport Hill. In those days speedy success was hoped for and expected, and the pioneers started buoyant and enthusiastic, little thinking that a whole generation would pass in the struggle. Miss Beddoe and Miss Davenport Hill, who are still members, were at this early meeting, and they were soon joined by the Misses Priestman, Mrs. Ashworth Hallett then Miss Liliash Ashworth, the late Miss Emily Sturge the first woman to sit on the Bristol School Board, the late Rev. Urigh Thomas always a valiant champion of the cause, and many others, whose pioneer work is gratefully remembered.

The Bishop of Hereford, while headmaster of Clifton College, always ungrudgingly gave his help and support to the movement and remains a Vice-President. The Society was in those days almost a federation in itself, having for its area Bristol and the West of England. In 1880 a special fund of £1,000 was raised by Miss Priestman, and splendid propaganda work was done in the district with the late Miss Helen Blackburn as secretary, and Miss M. Colby as organizer.

The Society, now belonging to the West of England Federation, has its shop and offices at 111a, Whiteladies' Road, Bristol. It numbers 500 paying members and 500 Associates. Its Hon. Secretaries are Mrs. W. C. H. Cross and Miss Tanner; Treasurer, Miss L. D. Gunter; Financial Hon. Sec., Mrs. R. Talbot; Secretary, Mrs. H. T. Willis. The shop attracts much attention, and is the centre of many activities. Its success depends largely on voluntary help from members, and many more workers would be welcome, especially to keep up the sale of "The Common Cause," which, it is hoped, will be much stimulated this week.

Reception at the Portman Rooms.

On Wednesday, May 10th, Mrs. Spencer Graves will preside over the reception and the speakers will be Lady Stout, Miss Sterling and Miss Palliser.

By-elections.

EAST LOTHIAN (HADDINGTONSHIRE).

The total number of electors' signatures to the letter asking Lord Haldane to support the Conciliation Bill in the Cabinet is 2,044. Certain sheets of names arrived late, making a considerable addition to the figures given in last week's issue. The total number who polled was 6,836, out of an electorate of 8,184.

ALICE CROMPTON.

CHELTENHAM.

The result of the poll was as follows:—
 Mr. J. T. Agg-Gardner (C.) 4,043
 Major Mathias (L.) 4,039

Conservative majority 4

This is eminently satisfactory to us for Mr. Agg-Gardner put Women's Suffrage into his election address and promised to vote for the Conciliation Bill and press for facilities. Major Mathias on the other hand would not undertake to support the bill through all its stages nor did he deem the question of sufficient importance to merit a place in his election address. Therefore our support was given to Mr. Agg-Gardner.

Mrs. Lucan-Davies, M.A., came down and organised the whole campaign, and Miss T. Mills, the local secretary, actively helped during the whole time. A shop was secured in a good position, and this was well stocked with literature and posters. From this centre active propaganda was carried on.

The great feature of our campaign was the number of successful open-air meetings held, there being generally two

a day, large crowds collecting around our motor-car, from which Mrs. Lucan-Davies addressed them.

Though the crowds were large, and party feeling was running high, doubtless due to the special circumstances which made this by-election necessary, Mrs. Lucan-Davies, by her abilities as a speaker, and her experience in open-air work, gained an effective hearing. In fact, the speaker often motored away amid the cheers of the crowd. An excellent discussion usually followed each meeting, and questions were freely asked, and many objections removed.

Two very successful drawing-room meetings were also held, and eight new members joined the Society, while many more gave in their names as interested in the movement.

On Saturday, April 22nd, Mrs. Lucan-Davies took the opportunity of going over to Winchcomb and holding a public meeting in the Assembly Rooms. There was an excellent attendance, and a resolution was carried in favour of the Conciliation Bill with only two dissentients. In proposing the resolution, Mrs. Lucan-Davies raised her audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and as she made her points, the cheering was loud and prolonged, and for several moments the speaker could not proceed for the applause.

At the close of the address an appeal was made for members to form a new branch of the National Union. As a consequence, many gave in their names, and steps are being taken to form a local Society at Winchcomb immediately.

BARNSTAPLE.

Candidates:—C. Sandbach Parker, Esq. (Unionist).
Sir Godfrey Baring, Bart. (Liberal).

Polling Day:—May 6th.

As polling day in this Division is not until May 6th neither candidate can be in the House of Commons to vote for our Bill at its second reading, but both have promised their support, and one of them will be able to make good that promise at committee and third reading stages.

The election addresses of both candidates were published before I came into the constituency, but in reply to other questions Mr. Parker refused to answer them seriatim, but said he would be prepared to go as far as Mr. Balfour had gone in the past, and if returned to the House he would press (so far as a private member can do) that the Government should give facilities for the further stages of the Bill. He entirely approves of the household franchise being given to women.

Sir Godfrey Baring is prepared to support our Bill now that it is open to amendment, or to vote for a Bill simply removing the political disability of sex, but he would not pledge himself to oppose any further extension of the franchise to men that did not include women.

M. NORMA-SMITH.

London Society.

DEPUTATIONS TO DR. MACNAMARA AND MR. RICHARDSON.

A small deputation of North Camberwell Electors and members of the local Committee waited upon Dr. Macnamara, M.P. for the division, and Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, on April 26 in order to learn his intentions in regard to the Conciliation Bill.

The Deputation was composed as follows:—Rev. H. A. Veazey, Vicar of St. Mark's, Mr. Walter Brady, Mr. Middleton, Miss Dawson (Org. Sec.), Miss Lockwood (Sec.), Miss Ward (President).

Mr. Veazey, in introducing the deputation, thanked Dr. Macnamara for what he had done in the past, and pointed out that on this occasion it was hoped that he would not only vote for the second reading of Sir George Kemp's Bill but "go one better" and give all possible support to those who would press for further facilities.

Mr. Brady touched on the point that under the Bill a household whose male head was often away from home (as in the case of a sailor) could still secure representation.

Mr. Middleton emphasised the democratic character of the Bill, and declared that it would be good for the Liberals of Camberwell for it to pass into law.

Miss Dawson spoke strongly on the claims of women who worked hard and had sacrificed health and strength in the cause of Women's Suffrage, and declared that the time for delay had passed.

Miss Lockwood also emphasised the needs of women who earn their daily bread.

Miss Ward pointed out the great injury done to Women's Suffrage when those who professed a belief in votes for all men and all women refused to support a moderate measure which, in the present state of public opinion, has alone a chance of passing into law.

Dr. Macnamara replied at some length, and freely discussed the present position of the question. It is not possible to state his views, as he requested that they should not be published in the Press from notes of that interview.

Mr. Veazey concluded by thanking Dr. Macnamara for his courtesy in receiving the deputation.

PRECKHAM.—On April 28 a deputation of electors waited upon Mr. Richardson, M.P. for the division, to learn his intentions in regard to the Conciliation Bill. It was composed as follows:—Councillor W. O'Boiger (introducer), Mr. Dawson (seconder), Mr. Thomas Gautrey, L.C.C. (former

Parliamentary Candidate in the division), Rev. J. Hibbert (Waverley Park United Methodist Church), Councillor J. Nelson, and Miss Helen Ward (President Camberwell Branch). Mr. Richardson discussed the situation at some length but would not commit himself to any precise statement in regard to his intentions.

Federation Notes.

West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales.

CAMPAIGN IN NORTH WALES.

One of the most satisfactory results of the campaign during March in Carnarvonshire and Anglesea has been that in each place visited the Urban District Council has since passed a Suffrage resolution—viz., Holyhead, Penmaenmawr, Llanfairfechan, and Bethesda. Holyhead, Penmaenmawr, and Bethesda have also started Suffrage Societies, and the Llanfairfechan people have become a branch of the Bangor Society. Bethesda will be the first Society in North Wales that is composed entirely of Welsh people, and it is hoped that this progressive little quarry town will prove a centre from which the movement will spread to other quarry villages hidden away among the hills. Dolgelly, where I spent the week April 6-13, is of an entirely different character, and I had only ventured to take a small hall for a public meeting. However, it was crowded to the doors, and the audience gave a most attentive hearing to speeches both in English and in Welsh. Here, as in other places, the success of the meeting was very largely due to the kind co-operation of well-known local men. A memorial to the member, Mr. Haydn Jones, is being signed with readiness by many people likely to be known to him in Dolgelly and in other centres in the constituency.

It is most encouraging to find in these small Welsh towns keen Suffragists, who have in many cases been in touch either with the Bangor or Cardiff Society. The chairman of the Urban District Council has promised to move a resolution at the next Council meeting, and as I obtained promises of support from most of the Councillors, I think it will be carried.

I was very glad while in Dolgelly to have the help of Miss Jones (from Bethesda), who spoke in Welsh at the meeting, and visited some of the women ratepayers in the town to explain the Conciliation Bill.

After an interval I am now (April 27th) again in Wales, this time in Eirion (South Carnarvonshire), making Portmadoc my headquarters. The difficulty in this country is not that of opposition but that of converting the passive acquiescence, which is the usual attitude, into an active enthusiasm. Still, I have received so much real help and such invariable courtesy everywhere that the work has been pleasant and helpful. I should not be giving any idea of the situation as I have found it without saying that nine out of every ten people who have expressed agreement with our aims would not have even listened to me for a minute had I not first explained I was "non-militant."

EDITH ESKRIGGE.

DEPUTATION TO MR. HAROLD SMITH.

A deputation of Warrington Suffragists waited on Mr. Harold Smith on Saturday, April 29th. The interview was not a lengthy one. Mr. Harold Smith refused to argue the merits of the Suffrage question. He said the people of the country did not want Women's Suffrage, that he had spoken at twenty-eight meetings outside Warrington at different parts of the country at election times, and had never been asked a question on the subject. He said that if women voted at the next election he felt sure they would vastly increase his majority, but that consideration for his own position in the town would not influence him. He admitted at the end that if he thought the electors of Warrington wanted Women's Suffrage he would be influenced by the fact. He regards petitions as worthless, but questions at meetings evidently to the point. He will vote against the Bill.

FORMATION OF NEW SOCIETIES AT NEWTON AND CHESTER.

Work in Newton culminated in a Woman's Suffrage meeting at the Town Hall on Friday, April 21st. Mary, Lady Gerard, was in the chair; Mrs. Allan Bright, Miss Truda Crosfield and Miss Lucy Broadbent spoke. A resolution in favour of a Women's Suffrage Bill on the lines of the Conciliation Bill was carried unanimously. Lady Gerard has promised to be president of the new Newton-le-Willows Society, while Viscount Wolmer, M.P., Miss E. Pilkington, and the Rev. Allat have consented to be vice-presidents. Miss Watkins, to whose efforts the formation of a new Society is chiefly due, is to be the hon. secretary.

Ten days' work in Chester has resulted in the starting of a Women's Suffrage Society, which has now 55 members. On Friday, April 28th, the new Society had its first meeting at the Newgate Assembly Rooms. Alderman Churton was in the chair. Miss Royden was the chief speaker, and her resolution calling upon the Government to give facilities for the Conciliation Bill of May 5th, and requesting Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., to be in his place in Parliament on that day, was seconded by Miss Waring and carried with one or two dissentients. Although the meeting was in the afternoon, the room was almost full, and it was obvious that the audi-

ence was deeply interested. Questions were asked which led to animated discussion. The collection amounted to £2 10s. 10d. The success of the meeting was largely due to the excellent work of the hon. secretary of the new Society, Miss Adams, who has been backed by an exceptionally enthusiastic committee.

West of England.

BRISTOL.

On the 22nd a very successful performance of "How the Vote was Won" was given by a caste of amateur players, whose plucky effort deserves great praise. Under the able and untiring management of Miss Alice Walters they gave a most spirited interpretation of the play to a crowded audience, many of whom had only standing room. Bishopsworth is a country village three miles from Bristol, and a great deal had to be improvised by way of stage and properties. This work fell chiefly to Mrs. Pobjoy, whose indefatigable work contributed greatly to the success of the evening.

Songs and character sketches were given in the first part of the entertainment, and during the interval Miss Tanner gave an address, introducing the play and appealing for new members. Speaking of the objections to Women's Suffrage, she said they were all founded on unreasonable fears, like old superstitions. It was time to put away such fears in these days when we talk of trust in the people, when we should learn to trust each other, and, above all, to trust in the principle of good over evil. Several new members promised to join.

During May our programme is very full—a working-party every week in preparation for a Christmas entertainment, and a debate and lecture alternately every week. The lectures, for which 6d. admission is charged, are in aid of the West of England Federation, and the debates are to give our members practice in speaking.

In addition we have our Common Cause week, and much work to prepare for a resolution in the Town Council, which is to be proposed on the 9th of May. We have also been invited to a debate at Bishopston on the 10th May, and we shall be busy in the Thornbury Division, where work is sorely needed.

South-Western.

The first meeting of the Federation was held at Plymouth on Wednesday, April 26th, and was attended by Miss Willcocks, Mrs. Vine and Miss Baly (Exeter), Miss Williams (Liskeard), Mrs. Hole (Newton Abbot), Dr. Mabel Ramsay, Mrs. Daymond and Miss Slater (Plymouth), and Miss Norma Smith (organiser). Dr. Ramsay took the chair, and the following officers were elected:—President, Mrs. Knight Bruce (Newton Abbot); hon. secretaries, Miss Willcocks and

Mrs. Penry (Exeter); hon. treasurer, Mrs. Ross (Exeter); committee, Lady Lockyer (Sidmouth), Mrs. Hermon and Miss Caunter (Liskeard), Mrs. Robins Bolitho (Penzance), Mrs. Fletcher (Exeter), Dr. Mabel Ramsay and Miss Maud Slater (Plymouth), Miss Wild (Newton Abbot). It was agreed that Miss Frances Sterling should be asked to represent the Federation on the Executive.

The rules of the Federation were then thoroughly discussed and passed. The financial report shows a balance in hand of £3 19s. 5d. Arrangements for the procession on June 17th were discussed, and it is hoped that some special railway facilities may be secured. Miss Willcocks gave a brief account of the work that had already been done in the Federation, and urged that the larger and stronger Societies should organise the small towns in their neighbourhood; there should be at least one branch in each constituency, for this the great need is more speakers; each branch should have its speakers' class; when the organiser had spent a week in a new place and was ready to arrange a public meeting, she ought to be able to draw upon the nearest town for speakers, then in the following week she would probably be able to form a branch. It was announced that Exeter was forming a class. By-election policy was the next subject, and it was thought unlikely that the Federation would be able to initiate by-election work on its own responsibility, but that one of the city constituencies might do so. Miss Slater suggested that the work of Miss Abadam could be followed up by approaching the Vigilance Society in each town; they might be asked to call a meeting of their own members, and if these men could be shown the close connection between Women's Suffrage and public morality, we might get some supporters who would do something more than give a mild approval to the cause. Tax resistance was also discussed, but it was considered that the Federation was too newly formed to formulate a policy. It was decided to hold the next Federation meeting again in Plymouth, this being the most central town for the two counties.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

DEPUTATION TO MR. SALTER, M.P.

On April 25th a small deputation waited on Mr. C. Salter, K.C., Member for N. Hants, at his chambers in the Temple. The Rev. A. H. G. Creed (representing the Crookham and Crondall Society) briefly introduced the deputation, which consisted of Mrs. Auerbach (N.U.W.S.S.), Mrs. West (Basingstoke), Miss Boyle (Fleet), Mr. Edmonds (Fleet member of Men's League), and Miss Dorothy Edwards (Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation).

Mrs. Auerbach spoke about our policy, organisation, and "labour exchange" of Suffrage party workers; Miss Edwards followed with a message from her Federation, showing the unfairness of putting Women's Suffrage to a referendum; Miss Boyle spoke from an Imperial point of view, and expressed her pleasure at finding such strong enthusiasm for Women's Suffrage in Mr. Salter's constituency. She presented a petition from the Fleet women municipal voters in favour of the Bill; while Mrs. West presented not only a similar one from Basingstoke, but a letter signed by many prominent Parliamentary electors in that locality. She pleaded our cause from the standpoint of a social worker. Mr. Edmonds presented a letter signed by thirty well-known men in Fleet, and asked Mr. Salter to support the Bill because women had shown themselves so useful in public work and were worthy of the responsibility of the vote. Mr. Creed spoke of the sacrifices made by Suffragists of all Societies, and asked if, on the assumption that the Bill passed its second reading, Mr. Salter would press for further facilities.

Mr. Salter replied at considerable length, expressed his great pleasure at having had the opportunity of listening to such excellent speeches, and reiterated his opinion that sex should not disqualify for the Parliamentary vote. He deplored the fact that our Bill was to be before the House now, and expressed his dislike to our election policy and the tactics of the militants. Though considerably pressed by influential Anti-Suffragists in his constituency to vote against the Bill, he intended to vote for the second reading, but was opposed to sending it "upstairs." After further discussion he promised to press with the best of his ability for further facilities if the Bill was referred to a Committee of the whole House, but on the understanding that discussion on our Bill did not preclude discussion on a Home Rule Bill if such was also before a Committee of the whole House.

Mr. Creed expressed the thanks of the deputation for this promise, and also for Mr. Salter's kindness in receiving their deputation.

DEPUTATION TO MR. CAMPION, M.P.

On Friday, April 28th, Mr. Campion, M.P. for Mid-Sussex, received a deputation from the Lewes and Worthing Women's Suffrage Societies. Lewes was represented by Mrs. Stewart-Jones, Mrs. Vallance, Dr. Vallance and the Rev. H. Anson. Councillor Ellen Chapman, Mrs. Millbank-Smith, Mr. Hollis, Mr. Gummer and Mr. King went from Worthing.

The Rev. H. Anson introduced the deputation, saying that the ladies he brought with him were all well known for the keen interest they took in the religious and patriotic affairs of the day. They represented the National Union of Women's



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Chiffon Canvas Wrap
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Suffrage Societies, which advocated a Constitutional agitation, and was rapidly gaining the sympathy of the electors.

Mrs. Stewart-Jones, president of the Lewes W.S.S., spoke of the injustice of women ratepayers being denied the vote in these days of education.

Mrs. Chapman, president of the Worthing W.S.S., said the feeling that women should exercise the franchise was spreading rapidly in Worthing. She appealed to Mr. Campion to refrain from voting against the Bill if he were unable to give it his support on May 5th.

Mr. Gummer, Mr. Hollis, and Mr. King, speaking as voters, emphasised the justice of the women's claim.

Mr. Campion thanked the deputation for coming to him and for their expression of moderate views. He said he was open to conviction, but was at present unable to see any particular reason to alter his views. Much as he valued women's advice he felt that it was for men to make decisions. He doubted very much if much benefit would accrue to the State generally by giving women a vote. In conclusion he said: "If I get a strong proof that there is a real majority of women in favour of this movement I will reconsider my views. The Government is so beset with Bills that go to the very root of the Constitution, that questions of more importance must be dealt with first."

The Rev. H. Anson proposed a vote of thanks, but said he feared Mr. Campion had not considered the justice of the case. Mr. Gummer seconded, and regretted the decision arrived at.

Scottish.

FORMATION OF A NEW SOCIETY.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Miss Alice Low have recently addressed meetings in Bridge of Allan, and as a result of these, a Bridge of Allan and Stirlingshire Branch of the National Union has been formed. Mrs. Edmund Pullar, Coneyhill House, Bridge of Allan, has been elected president of the new Society.

Miss K. W. Lindsay, secretary of the Glasgow Society, desires that all communications should be sent to her at the new address, 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ORGANISER.

Mrs. Merevale Mayer is now working for us in Malton and the neighbourhood. The Thirsk and Malton Division is new ground. Mrs. Mayer held a splendid open-air meeting in

the Market Place at Malton on Saturday, April 22nd, when the resolution was carried without a dissentient. About 500 were present. On the 26th April she held another meeting at Welburn, Castle Howard, where the chair was taken by Mr. Simkin Jennings. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Manchester and District.

HYDE DIVISION OF CHESHIRE.

The member for Hyde, Mr. Francis Neilson, who has hitherto declined to give a pledge with regard to the Conciliation Bill, now writes to our local secretary: "I have gone thoroughly into the provisions of the Kemp Bill and have come to the conclusion that I can support the measure because it enfranchises on a residential qualification only. The prospect of an early settlement of the plural voting question makes it easier for men, who desire democratic electoral reform, to support this Bill," and he promises if he cannot be present at the second reading to pair in support of the Bill.

DEATH OF MRS. ROSE HYLAND.

We regret very greatly the sudden death on April 30th of Mrs. Rose Hyland who was all her life an ardent worker for social betterment and a most generous supporter of the suffrage movement. She was for many years a member of the Manchester Board of Guardians and was deeply interested in the unemployed and in rescue work. As a Catholic she laboured in the interests of her co-religionists. She died beloved and honoured by her fellows and valued for her good works in the midst of which she left us.

Work in E. Herts.

Organising work has been carried on by Mrs. Nairne in East Herts during the last four weeks, which resulted in two most successful meetings and the formation of an East Herts Women's Suffrage Society. A meeting was held at the Unionist Working Men's Club on Thursday evening, 20th April. About eighty members were present. Mrs. Nairne's address on the Conciliation Bill was listened to with great attention, and approval of the Bill was freely expressed.

An afternoon meeting was held on the 21st April at the Corn Exchange, Hertford. The hall, which holds over 400, was filled with an influential and representative audience, including Lady Rolleston, wife of the present member Sir John Rolleston, Mrs. Abel Smith, Mrs. Leslie, Miss Robertson, Mrs. Gore, Mr. and Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Durrant, Mrs.

Concentrate on 1911. Concentrate on these next days.

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Name _____ Address _____

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THE CONCILIATION BILL

As revised 1911.

A Bill to ~~extend~~ confer ~~the Parliamentary Franchise to Women Occupiers~~ ON the Parliamentary Franchise to Women Occupiers.

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification, or of a ~~ten pound occupation qualification~~, within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884), shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered, to vote for the County or Borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
2. For the purposes of this Act a woman shall not be disqualified for marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be ~~qualified in respect of the same property~~ registered as voters in the same Parliamentary Borough or County Division.

The alterations shown above have been made to allow of free amendment in Committees, and to overcome the objection that the Bill as it originally stood rendered the creation of faggot votes possible.

SEND TO-DAY TO—

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PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Graveson, Mr. and Miss Cozens, Mr. and Mrs. Dunn. The Hon. Mrs. Abel Smith took the chair, and met with a most cordial greeting. Lady Betty Balfour's able speech, in the course of which she replied to Lord Cromer's Anti-Suffrage arguments, was listened to with marked interest and appreciation.

Mrs. Heitland brought out in her speech many of the practical points of the Women's Suffrage question. Mrs. Nairne represented the N.U.W.S.S., and spoke of its aim being to educate and convince on constitutional and non-party lines.

Mr. Dunn, The Grove, Hertford, has kindly consented to act as secretary and treasurer of the new Society. Members have joined from all parts of the Division of East Herts, and there is every prospect of it becoming a very successful Society.

By request an evening meeting is already being planned to be held early in the autumn.

Conciliation Committee's Leaflet.

The Conciliation Committee's leaflet which we published in full last week can be obtained from Messrs. Baines and Scarsbrook, 75, Fairfax Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W., at the following prices:—1/3 for 50; 2/- for 100; 12/6 for 1,000.

Local Councils and the Bill.

Coventry Town Council on April 25th passed a resolution, with one dissentient, asking for facilities for the Conciliation Bill.

Bridlington Town Council on April 26th passed a resolution by a large majority asking for facilities for the Conciliation Bill.

Wick, Bonnyrigg and Kirriemuir Town Councils have passed a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage, and are petitioning their respective members of Parliament.

Urnston Urban District Council has passed a resolution asking for facilities for the full discussion of Sir George Kemp's Bill, without expressing its opinion upon the general question of Women's Suffrage.

Willesden Urban District Council has passed unanimously a resolution asking for facilities for Sir George Kemp's Bill.

Stegenape Urban District Council passed a resolution on April 24th asking for facilities for Sir George Kemp's Bill. Nine out of the eleven councillors were present at the discussion; five voted for the resolution and only one against. The three who abstained from voting are in favour of the principle of Women's Suffrage, but did not think such a political matter should be discussed by the Council.

Eltham Parish Council has passed a resolution asking for facilities for Sir George Kemp's Bill.

Ormskirk Urban District Council passed, on April 21st, a resolution urging the Government to give facilities for the passing of Sir George Kemp's Bill into law. The resolution was proposed by Mr. Draper, seconded by Mr. Latham, and carried unanimously. The ground had been prepared by a canvass of women ratepayers and of the Councillors themselves.

Wellingborough Urban District Council on April 25th passed a resolution, by eleven votes to five, asking the Government to give full facilities for Sir George Kemp's Bill. Most of the opposition was opposition to such a question being discussed by the Council, not opposition to the Bill itself.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage

Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

Friday, May 5th, will be observed as a day of intercession, when the Royal Chapel of the Savoy will be open all day for private prayer, and addresses will be given at 11 and 3 by Rev. C. Hinscliff, and at 6.30 by the Chaplain, Rev. Hugh B. Chapman.

On May 14th special intercessions will be made for the League and its objects by the clergy of many London and provincial churches. Meetings during the week will be held as follows:—

Monday, May 15th.—Bushey, Herts., Parish Hall, 3. Rev. C. Hinscliff, Hon. Mrs. Henley.
Kew, 4, Priory Road, 8 p.m. Miss H. A. Packer, Rev. C. Hinscliff.

Tuesday, May 16th.—Bromley, Kent, Parish Room, 5 to 6.30. Rev. C. Hinscliff, Miss Frances Sterling, Mrs. Lewis Lewis, Mrs. Mann.

Caxton Hall, Westminster, public meeting, 8 p.m. Canon J. M. Wilson, Ven. Archdeacon Wirgman, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Mr. George Lansbury, M.P.

Wednesday, May 17th.—Bush Hill Park, Middlesex, 3 p.m. Rev. Edward Forbes, Rev. C. Hinscliff, Miss Gadsdon.

Caxton Hall, members' meeting, 8.30. Rev. C. Baumgarten, Miss A. Maude Royden.

Thursday, May 18th.—Within Bishopsgate, E.C., St. Ethelburga's Vestry, 1 p.m. Rev. Dr. Cobb, Mr. Reginald Pott.

Hove, Sussex, Imperial Club, 3 p.m. Rev. O. Hinscliff.

Hendon, N.W., Council Offices, 8 p.m. Rev. F. Urch, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Mr. Reginald Pott.

Camberwell, S.E., St. Mark's Hall, Coburg Road, 8.30 p.m. Rev. H. G. Veazey, Rev. C. Hinscliff, Hon. Mrs. Henley, Councillor J. Nelson.

Friday, May 19th.—Hampstead, N.W., 50, The Pryors, Hampstead Heath, 3.30. Mrs. Lucy Henderson, Rev. C. Hinscliff, Mrs. Wynne Nevinson.

Regent's Park, N.W., 36, Regent's Park Road, 8.30. Rev. Maurice F. Bell, Dr. Letitia Fairfield.

Free Church League for Women's Suffrage

Hon. Organising Sec.: Rev. Ed. Clark, 1, Burns Road, Harlesden, N.W.

Hon. Corresponding Sec.: Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

The business meeting of the League will be held on May 31st. Particulars will be announced later.

There is to be a joint meeting of the Church League and the Free Church League at Mrs. McEwan's, Culloden Road, Enfield, on May 12th, at 3 p.m. Principal speaker, Mrs. Sambrook.

Names of those who will take part in the procession on June 17th are requested.

Among those who have lately consented to be made vice-presidents are Lady Spicer, Rev. J. Phillips, B.A., and Sir James Yoxall, M.P.

The Bristol Society of Friends and Women's Suffrage.

At the Bristol quarterly meeting of the Society of Friends, held in Bristol last week, a paper was read by Miss Elizabeth Fox Howard on "Woman's Place in the Church and in Life," and an interesting discussion followed, in which the feeling in favour of Women's Suffrage was almost unanimous, resulting in the decision that a Minute should be forwarded to the yearly meeting of the Society in London, with the object of stirring up Friends all over the country to take an active part in forwarding the cause of women's enfranchisement. Many members of the Society are already doing this in connection with the Friends' Council for promoting Women's Suffrage, which has now been working for some time.

Actresses Franchise League.

The play department of the Actresses' Franchise League gave a performance of three new plays at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden Lane, on Tuesday, April 25th. The last one on the programme, entitled "Trimnings," was perhaps the most successful; for though it touched more indirectly on the question of Women's Suffrage than the other two plays, it was none the less dramatic for not being so entirely written with a purpose. The character of the woman who regards herself only as a trimming to man is in effective contrast to her suffragist friend, who has been down into the depths, and, knowing the dangers of extreme misery, feels that she has the courage to die "sane and clean" rather than to live with a lower standard of ideals. The two principal parts were delightfully played by Miss Adeline Bourne and Miss Mary Deverell. This piece would be within the compass of amateurs, and would, with the second play performed on Tuesday—"The Eclectics Club," by J. Maurice Hunter,—be suitable for a Suffrage meeting; though in the one case the tragic note might be considered a drawback, and in the other it might be necessary to adapt a few of the lines.

The subject of "The Eclectics Club" was a debate between eight University men on Women's Suffrage. The various types were carefully studied, and there was a well-arranged scene of tumult at the end, but the play as a whole was a little lacking in dramatic feeling. The same criticism might be made of the first piece, "An Allegory," by Vera Wentworth, but probably it would have been more effective on a larger stage. It is modelled on the lines of "The Pilgrim's Progress," and consisted of an excellent, if somewhat obvious, statement of the ideas underlying the agitation for the vote. The "Slave-Woman" is left at the end, a pathetic figure with outstretched arms, dimly comprehending the work that her stronger sister is doing for her. This was the most effective moment in the piece.

The acting throughout the afternoon was in the capable hands of members of the Actresses' Franchise League. Mr. Athol Stewart kindly stepped into the breach in the unexpected absence of Mr. Stanley Turnbull, and made his part tell in spite of the fact that he was reading it.

ROSAMOND SMITH.

Fanny's First Play.

Miss Lillah McCarthy's season at the Little Theatre has opened with a most entertaining as well as heart-searching play to which we recommend people who don't mind being forced to think. In accordance with what is now the tradition of the theatre, the name of the author of a new play is not announced, and the critics have the fun of guessing.

author; one, however, found in the play "assumptions, prejudices, limitations, and a point of view all patently feminine," and there are rumours of a collaboration. The question of authorship is complicated by the fact that whoever wrote the play (which is a play within a play) intended that play number two (or the chief play) should seem to have been written by a woman; while if a woman wrote it her object undoubtedly was to suggest that Mr. Shaw was the author. There is a set purpose of mystification which is enhanced by the fact that the woman named by some as at least the part author acts most sympathetically and exquisitely in the most difficult character. Whether or no Miss Cicely Hamilton had any part in the actual writing of the play, it would take a profound psychologist indeed to say how much she owes to Mr. Shaw and how much he owes to her of passion and insight.

The induction and epilogue with their caricatures of dramatic critics are excellent fooling. The play itself carries over real profundities of thought and feeling. Unlike the average play, where terrible things happen and nothing matters, in this play ridiculous things happen and they matter very much. Two young people engaged to one another and with parents of unimpeachable respectability (do not pictures by Landseer and Fred Morgan adorn their walls?) suddenly break out and are severally and separately run in and committed for "fourteen days." Margaret Knox (played with much spirit by Miss Lillah McCarthy) had found a revivalist meeting so tremendously stirring that she had to work off her excitement; an adventure at a music-hall and a dancing saloon with a charming French naval lieutenant brought her into conflict with the police and landed her in Holloway. The scene with her mother, when she tries to find words for her state of mind and describe how she has somehow won freedom because she really has "been in Hell," is a first-rate piece of psychology; it expressed the burning desire that there is in an active-minded, warm-blooded young woman for reality, experience, action, responsibility. Margaret is so purely ardent that all the squalor and brutality of her experience only leaves her free and eager to be in the thick of action.

Miss Cicely Hamilton's rendering of the part of Mrs. Knox was a marvel of delicacy; the stillness of deep peace even in the worst distress was perfectly suggested by her economy and dignity of gesture and the incomparable beauty and intensity of her expression. The elderly, puritan woman, with none of her austerity gone, but with her vision clarified by impersonal love, is a character which, if it was not conceived by Miss Hamilton, was at any rate embodied to perfection by her. It was an extraordinary feat to pull off such a performance in the middle of so much that was wild farce.

All the accepted conventions of the theatre and of "men's fiction" are overthrown—the two mothers are not in the least shocked by Dora Delaney, the "daughter of joy," and treat her as the obviously right match for the gay dog "Bobby" who had been engaged to Margaret. The companion of Margaret's escapade, the French lieutenant, turns out to be married and quite innocent and chivalrous, and he makes a long speech in praise of English life which is the most rollicking topsy-turvy fun. So we have all the familiar devices of a Shavian play (even down to the manservant who is not a servant) to shew how new he can be with all the old puppets and yet the question remains,—was it Shaw imitating a woman writing a play which should imitate Shaw? Frankly, we don't much care. The play's the thing.

The Pioneer Players.

Miss Ellen Terry makes her first appearance in London, since her return from America, on Monday, May 8th, at 2-30, at the Kingsway Theatre, in a new one-act play, "The First Actress," by Christopher St. John. This is the first of the subscription performances to be given by the Pioneer Players. The bill includes also two other new one-act plays, "In the Workhouse," by Margaret Wynne Newinson, and "Jack and Jill and a Friend," by Cicely Hamilton (who will also take part in one of the plays). Among the artists who will appear are Misses Lena Ashwell, Lily Brayton, Nancy Price, Decima Moore, Auriol Lee, Dorothy Minto, Clara Greet, Margaret Halstan, Saba Raleigh, Suzanne Sheldon, Agnes Thomas, Christine Silver, Athene Seyler, Olive Terry, Messrs. Tom Heslewood, Harcourt Williams, Ben Webster, Frederick Lloyd, W. B. Abingdon, and Edmund Gwenn. The second performance, which will take place on Sunday, June 11th, will be the lecture by Miss Ellen Terry on "Shakespeare's Women," which has proved such an enormous success in America. Those wishing to have the unique opportunity of hearing Miss Terry's lecture are advised to make early application for seats, as there has already been a great demand. All particulars can be had from the Secretary, 2, Adelphi Terrace House, Strand, W.O.

West Heath School, HAMPSTEAD.

For Boys and Girls between the ages of six and eighteen.

[ESTABLISHED 1897.]

The school is happily situated, and attention should be drawn to its special advantages in this respect. It is no doubt considered ideal for a school to be in the country, but in the part of Hampstead where West Heath School stands, many advantages of the country are present, while those of the town, which can be turned to good use for children, are at hand.

The school has a large playing field; good well-treed gardens; is near to a quiet part of the heath, and itself faces across open country towards the Harrow Weald. It thus finds a freedom which many schools actually in the country cannot compass in these days of golf, motor-cars, and game-preserving. At the same time, the advantages of having the British Museum, the Zoological Gardens, the Natural History Museum, historical buildings, beautiful pictures and sculpture (to mention only part of what is available), within easy access for the visits of a class, are of incalculable value in the education of the children.

Particulars from the Principal.

Reference is allowed to THE REV. CANON SCOTT-HOLLAND, D.D., 1, AMEN COURT, ST. PAUL'S, E.C.; and DR. JANE WALKER, 122, HARLEY STREET, W.

MOTHERS!

Please send the children's old white clothes to us
AT ONCE for a

White Sale in Ancoats

(the proceeds to help working women to go up to
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In the famous WHIT-WEEK PROCESSIONS IN
MANCHESTER

Every Child is Dressed in White

If you send little frocks, big frocks, blouses, skirts,
petticoats, drawers, stockings, suits, you will

(1) help to make happy children and proud
mothers on Whit-Sunday;

(2) help to swell the great procession on
June 17th.

JANET BARNES.

MARGARET ROBERTSON.

Please send parcels to Miss Ellen Walshe, Ancoats
Hall, Manchester.

Foreign News.

UNITED STATES.

A Bill legalising an eight-hours working day for women has just become law in Washington and California, which are the first States to pass such a Bill. It is interesting to note that the women of Washington have the vote, and the California Legislature recently voted by 33 to 5 in the Senate the constitutional amendment granting full Suffrage to women.

The States of Arkansas and Maine, where it has been most difficult to create any enthusiasm for the question of Women's Suffrage, have recently reported most favourably on the subject. The Illinois Senate has passed the Women's Suffrage Bill, with a referendum, by a vote of 31 to 10.

A more extensive sewerage system has been sanctioned for the seaside resort of Wilmington; and as a result of this, an Act has been passed by the North Carolina Legislature providing that every woman owning property on the beach shall have a vote at the elections. This is in spite of the fact that North Carolina has no suffrage association.

At a recent mass meeting in College Mound, Mo., which nominated candidates for the Town Board, women were allowed to vote for the first time. Needless to say, they attended in large numbers.

FRANCE.

At the general meeting of the French Union for Women's Suffrage it was reported that there are now 5,000 members, although the union is but two years old; it has branches all over Paris and in the provinces, from which interesting reports were read. Monsieur Louis Marin, the staunch friend of the French Suffragists, indicated in what manner it would be best to approach Parliament on the question. The matter of finance was also gone into, and the treasurer announced that the receipts amounted to 3,000 francs.

The "Congrès Permanent du Féminisme International" held its annual meeting in March, with Madame Marya Chéliga, the president, in the chair. The situation of women in the colonies was the principal subject under discussion; and the desirability of founding girls' schools of various grades was suggested as a remedy for improving their moral, economic, and social conditions. The Congress also decided to send a congratulatory message to Madame Reinschmidt Knesalska, one of the pioneers in Poland, whose excellent work for her countrywomen is to be acknowledged at a meeting to be held in her honour at Warsaw in May.

Frenchmen in favour of Women's Suffrage, having felt the need for a society of their own, have formed themselves into the "League of Electors for Women's Suffrage." The deputy, Monsieur Ferdinand Buisson, is the president, and Monsieur Chenevière the general secretary.

ICELAND.

Two plans for the revision of the constitution have lately been before the Althing. According to the first plan, full suffrage and eligibility are to be granted to all men over 21 years of age, who are in full possession of their mental powers, who are not notorious bad characters, and who have lived in their constituency for at least one year. A special law may grant the suffrage to all women, married or single, under the same conditions as those imposed upon men. The second plan is to give full suffrage and eligibility to all men and women over 21 years of age, who have a good reputation, who have not been supported by public charity during the last two years preceding the election, and who have lived in the constituency for the last year. Both these proposals were sent to a joint committee of nine members, who accepted the second one, with the addition that married women shall have the same rights as their husbands.

Shelters for Women.

A homeless man with fourpence in his pocket may in almost any town in England get a good shelter, comfortable bed, and decent lavatory accommodation. A woman for the same money, unless she runs a gauntlet of questioning, can find nothing better than a dirty bed with no washing accommodation, no privacy and sanitary arrangements that are a disgrace to civilization. Why?

This question was the keynote of a meeting of the National Council of Public Morals in London on April 26. The Duchess of Marlborough, who was unable to be present, in a letter commended the Councils of Glasgow and Manchester in having already met this need, and urged that London should lead the way for other cities by building for women houses after the plan of the Rowton Houses which were proving such a boon to men.

Mrs. Archibald Mackirdy (Olive Christian Malvery) in her strong, sweet, persuasive fashion, spoke of the building paid for by the sale of her books soon to be opened under the auspices of the Salvation Army, and pleaded for £1,000 more—all that was needed to ensure a second house under the care of the Church Army. "Think," she said, "of a baby 2½ years old working with its mother at making match boxes and that woman even working 14 hours a day being able to make only 5d. a day!" "Those nights on the Embankment," she said, "do you think I spent time telling those people of the love of God? No, indeed, I was too

desperate. How could I? We must first give them something to show them we are the servants of God." She thought working for such shelters better work than working for a vote. The vote might not bring all they wanted. As soon as they got it they were sure to want something else.

The Rev. James Marchant, the chairman, said, in the eyes of the Council of Public Morals, women had quite as much right to a clean, comfortable lodging for the price they could pay, as had men, and that, too, without having to answer any insolent personal questions as part of the price.

Reviews.

THE MAGAZINES.

In *The Nineteenth Century* for April is a very interesting article by H. M. Wallis entitled "The Case of Gwendoline Casson, Misdemeanant," dealing with the difficult case of a contumacious but not vicious workhouse girl through her many experiences, and showing how inadequate existing laws are when applied to such an instance.

In the April *Fortnightly Review*, Lawrence Irving writes on "The Plight of the Serious Drama," appealing for earnestness in the pursuit of dramatic art, and showing that public taste may be influenced and raised unawares by the persistent efforts of great individual actors and dramatists. The writer instances Miss Horniman's theatre as a brilliant example of what may be done in this direction, and foresees the future elevation of the drama by means of the founding of really excellent stock companies all over the country.

In the same issue, Justin McCarthy in "Lady John Russell" reviews Desmond MacCarthy and Agatha Russell's book on that distinguished lady, and shows how deeply and understandingly she entered into the political life of her time. Francis Gribble, in this issue, deals with "Rachel's Sentimental Life," dealing chiefly with his subject at the time of her highest social splendour.

In the April *Contemporary Review*, H. Stanley Jevons deals with the problem of "Insurance and Training for the Unemployed," and emphasises the importance of the Minority Report of the Poor Law Commission, esteeming its proposed subsidising of trade unions above the Government plan of direct insurance as expounded by Mr. Winston Churchill.

Letters to the Editor.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only.

MRS. STOPES AND THE ATHENÆUM.

I have heard privately that some important men have asserted that the facts concerning Women's Suffrage in Mrs. Stopes' "British Freewomen" and "Sphere of Man" are incorrect, and that many who take it for granted that men are always in the right rather than women have accepted their uncorroborated statements to the disadvantage of the cause. It reassures me to find how easily she deals with a man's *ipse dixit*, when she has a fair chance of reply. In last week's "Athenæum" a favourable review appeared of her latest book, "William Hunnis and the Revels of the Chapel Royal." The writer says: "Mrs. Stopes' personal views may perhaps be traced in her statement that Mary was 'made Princess of Wales,' which is not correct; also in her remark about the Great Charter of Womanhood (1 Mary S., 3 Cap.I.). Her reply appears in this week's issue. She writes: 'As the suggestion is made that I allow my personal views to colour my statements of facts, and as this suggestion has appeared before in your columns, I think you must allow me emphatically to contradict it. I never form my opinions until after I have found my facts on which to build them. You assert that Mary was not made Princess of Wales. A cursory study of the printed Calendar of 'Letters and Papers of Henry VIII.' at the Record Office will show that she was entitled thus; and if the search is carried through M.S. sources much cumulative evidence may be found. It is true that she had no patent granted to that office. Her father apparently exercised his autocratic Royal prerogative and nominated her to the dignity, as he disgraced her by the same despotic power on his divorce. But if she had no patent, her officials had. There is no need to multiply examples, but take for instance 'Patent 25th May, 18, Henry VIII., p. 1, M. 10' to Walter Devereux, Lord Ferrers of Chartley, to be Seneschal Steward, Chancellor, etc., to our most dear first-born Mary, Princess of Wales, for life. (This was voluntarily surrendered to Mary herself in the first year of her reign.) Also the patent to John Russel (Chancery Warrants 2,575, June 16th) as 'Secretary and Clerk of the Signet to the Princess in her Principality of Wales,' etc. There she kept her Royal State, and held her Courts. Lord Ferrers wrote to a nobleman: 'When you were admitted President to the Prince's Council in the Marches of Wales,' etc., about the privilege that all Welsh cases should be heard in Wales, not in Westminster. Neither had I any 'preconceived views' about the Statute of Mary referred to. Mary knew that Stephen and John had usurped the place

of the rightful heirs only because they were women, and she hastened to set it on the Statute Book that sex, in itself, was no ground for political disabilities; and that a Queen should enjoy all privileges granted to a King. The Statute may be read anywhere."

I think, therefore, that all Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists should read that Statute and learn its true bearing on the constitutional cause we have so much at heart. AGE.

MARRIED WOMEN AND THE FRANCHISE.

As an argument in favour of the vote for married women, in addition to those brought forward by Mrs. Kiteat in "The Common Cause" of 20th April, may I suggest the unfortunate impression made upon the minds of growing boys and girls if they have to discover that marriage is something which deprives their mothers of voting qualifications. Great numbers of men and women who have the highest ideals of marriage find they cannot but deplore the slurs which are put upon it by political and other arrangements which enforce sex inequalities. ALICE M. WACKRILL.

3, Archery Road, Leamington, 21st April, 1911.
[The Conciliation Bill does remove the disqualification of marriage.—Ed. "C.C."]

VOTES OR SHELTERS OR BOTH?

When at the National Council of Public Morals in Holborn last week Mrs. Archibald Mackirdy pleaded with all the force of a strong and attractive personality for a second night shelter for girls. Did she strengthen her cause by assuring her audience that this charity was of more importance than votes for women because "if we had the vote we should find it would not do everything and we should immediately want something else?" Has any similar argument been used in advocating the Rowton Houses for men? Does any backwoodsman need to be told that when once he has got his axe the very next thing to do is to swing it against some particular tree marked to come down? What is the vote for either men or women but a constitutional means of securing a constitutional measure? Would Mrs. Mackirdy ever suggest to any meeting of disfranchised men that it was a more laudable work to beg for money to build cheap lodging-houses than to work to secure a voice with other men in making such laws as would help them secure a living wage and so enable them to pay to an independent lodging-house keeper prices on which he, too, could make both ends meet? Her quoting of her dearly loved and lost husband, who after a painful encounter on the streets one night, "wished he could give every woman a husband" brought tears to some eyes. But are the women who have only fourpence for a night's lodging all dreamers of telling an audience of men from whom she wanted money for a shelter for their poorer brothers that "the best thing in all the world is a wife!" Men have cried (and the world has rung with their praise) "Give me liberty or give me death!" Must the cry for women, even in Great Britain, where they number a million more than men, still be "Give me a husband or give me charity?" CHRISTIAN RICHARDSON.
44, Doughty Street, Russell Square, London, April 27, 1911.

THE PROCESSION: IRISH CONTINGENT.

Will you kindly permit me to appeal to your numerous readers, if they know of any Irish men or women residents in or near London who would follow our Irish flag on June 17th, to communicate with me at an early date?
A. M. HASLAM, Hon. Sec.
125, Leinster Road, Dublin.

SOLDIERS AND AFFILIATION ORDERS.

I should be glad if any of your readers could inform me if the military authorities have the power to override a magistrate's affiliation order and reduce the amount per week a soldier has been ordered to pay for the maintenance of a child.
A young woman brought her case to my notice yesterday. The father of her child was ordered to pay 2s. 6d. per week, but she has been paid at the rate of 3d. per day (1s. 9d. per

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Telegraphic Address:—"THACKERAY, LONDON."

week), and when she protested she was informed it was what the authorities considered he could pay, and that 8s. a month was all she could have. Even this is not always sent, and I saw the paper yesterday, which was enclosed with 7s. 6d., stating it was thirty days' pay at 3d. per day. N. O'SHEA.

AN ARMOURY OF FACTS.

Miss Bertha Mason points out two errors in the leaflet quoted by us last week. (1) The textile workers' petitions were petitions from women, not men. (2) The membership of the National British Women's Temperance Association, according to the latest returns, is 140,000, not 110,000.

Our Advertisers.

Our advertisements this week have two very interesting features. One is the large number of Suffrage fixtures and announcements, proving that the Societies in the National Union are experiencing the truth of our contention that it is both cheap and effective to advertise in the organ of the National Union, rather than to send out endless circulars to their members. The other interesting feature is the presence of so many Bristol advertisements. This is the Bristol Week, and the local people who have taken space in this issue will be sure, benefit from the great interest in the paper which is being aroused. We notice as a particularly good sign that the "Clifton Chronicle," very well known in its own locality as an indispensable advertising medium, has thought it worth while to advertise this week in "The Common Cause."

Work of Societies in the Union.

LONDON SOCIETY.

HAMPSTEAD.—A successful debate was held at the Hampstead Library on April 26th, Mr. J. S. Fletcher, M.P., in the chair. Mr. R. F. Cholmeley proposed a resolution asking for facilities for the Bill. He recommended the Conciliation Bill, as it followed the lines of the Act of 1867 which gave household suffrage, which was accepted by all parties. He quoted the number of Town Councils which had passed resolutions in its favour. Mr. George Calderon, who had passed resolutions in its favour, and was in favour of women having as much influence as possible in public affairs, but not the vote. The Army, Navy, shipping industries, and administration of justice have been organized by men and were worked by them, and women should not be able to interfere with these vital functions. Morality, temperance, and the feeding of children, etc., required the help of women, but they should organize their own functions and not interfere with men's. The resolution was carried by 55 votes to 24.

LAMBETH NORTH.—On April 21st Miss Emily Hill debated with Mr. Samuel (National Society for Opposing Women's Suffrage) before the Liberal and Radical Association. On April 27th Miss J. H. Thomson, B.A., spoke at the Moffat Institute.

MUSWELL HILL.—On April 1st an open-air meeting, organized by Mrs. Rogers, was held in Muswell Hill. Speakers, Miss Bisset Smith and Mrs. Rogers. Two members joined the Muswell Hill branch.

ST. PANCRAS EAST.—Open-air meetings were held on March 25th and April 8th. Speakers, Miss D. Brown, Miss Bisset Smith, Miss Rinder, and Mrs. Rogers (who had arranged the meetings).

WINDSOR.—A meeting was held in the reception room of the Guildhall on March 27th. Councillor W. Bressey was in the chair, and was supported by Mrs. Gibb, hon. secretary. An address was delivered by the Rev. Llewellyn Smith, who took the place of Mr. Baillie Weaver; the latter being unable to attend owing to illness. A vote of thanks was proposed to the speakers by Miss Street. On April 24th Miss Ward addressed a small meeting at the Guildhall; Mrs. Gibb in the chair. Mrs. Nagel proposed a vote of thanks, seconded by Mrs. Buckley.

FULHAM.—On April 26th Mrs. Davies, 12, Fairholme Road, gave a drawing-room meeting. Miss Keeling, P.L.G., spoke, and Mrs. Bertram was in the chair. There was a small but very attentive audience, and much discussion followed Miss Keeling's very interesting address. Three new subscribers were obtained, and several present promised to ask electors to write to their members of Parliament, urging them to support the Conciliation Bill and to press for further facilities.

"COMMON CAUSE."—In the four weeks ending April 12th between 600 and 700 copies were sold from headquarters, much the largest seller again being Mrs. Fyffe.

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EAST ST. PANCRAS.—On April 22nd a splendid open-air meeting was held at Pratt Street. Speakers, Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. McRae; Mr. Malcolm Mitchell and Mr. Simpson of the Men's League, supported by Mr. Gugenheim, Mr. Manson, and Mr. Rogers, of the Men's League. Keen and intelligent discussion followed the speeches.

Other Societies.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The next "At Home" held by the Actresses' Franchise League, on Friday, May 5th, at 3 o'clock, in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, will be of exceptional interest. Speakers: The Hon. Mrs. Henley; Miss Margaret Farquharson, M.A., of the National Political Reform League; Mr. Joseph Clayton, secretary of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage; and Sir Francis Vane, Bart., of Hutton. Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox will be the Guest of Honour of the League, and her song, "The Awakening," will be sung by Miss Muriel Terry, and accompanied by the composer, Madame Teresa del Riego. Chair: Miss Adeline Bourne. Hostess: Madame Beatrice Langley. Admission free. All are cordially invited.

IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY. LONDONDERRY BRANCH.

On April 25th an enthusiastic meeting was held in the Union Hall under the auspices of the above Society. Miss Fielden, of Leeds, was the chief speaker, and gave a most interesting and eloquent address, tracing the gradual development of women from the time Mary Astell first advocated their education in 1694. Mr. John Greenhill presided, and the proceedings began with the singing of "The Awakening" by Miss McCay. The resolution urging the Government to grant facilities for the passing into law of the Women's Suffrage Bill this session was passed unanimously. Many new members were enrolled at the close of the meeting.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Office: 8, Park Mansions Arcade, S.W. (opposite Knightsbridge Tube Station).
Good meetings have been held at Baintree and Maldon, in Essex. Mr. Cecil Chapman was the principal speaker at Baintree; and Mr. Reginald Pott very kindly spoke at the Maldon meetings, and contributed greatly to its success. A hastily organised meeting was also held at Witham, with most encouraging results. After Easter, a meeting will be held in Hythe on April 27, at which Mr. Cecil Chapman will speak.

The dinner announced last week has had to be postponed.
Office "AT HOMES."—On Tuesday, April 4th, Miss Bathurst spoke, and from her personal experience as an inspector of schools, emphasised the need for the Parliamentary vote in order to secure the proper influence of women in education. On April 25th, Mr. Reginald Pott will speak on the Conciliation Bill, and Mrs. Hicks will be hostess.

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

The Kensington branch held a crowded and enthusiastic meeting at 35, Onslow Gardens, by kind permission of Mrs. Boyd Carpenter, on Wednesday, April 26th, when Lady Robert Cecil took the chair and Lady Betty Balfour and Mr. Cameron Grant were the chief speakers. Lady Betty, in moving the resolution urging the Government to grant facilities for the passing of the Conciliation Bill this session, pointed out that public opinion now demanded this reform. This was shown first, by the large majority, composed of both parties, for the second reading last year. Second, by the very large number of City Councils, including those of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, and Dublin, which had passed resolutions in favour of the Bill. Third, by the large and enthusiastic meetings held daily in its support all over the country. Mr. Cameron Grant, in an able speech, dealt with the economic aspect of the question; and there were short speeches by Mrs. Boyd Carpenter, Miss Chadwick, and Lady Craggs.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- MAY 4.
Cambridge—Guildhall—Sir J. Cockburn, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mr. G. Lansbury, M.P., Mrs. Nevinson.
Croydon—Large Public Hall—Mass Meeting of Suffrage Societies. 8.0
Leamington—Birch's Music Room—Franchise Club. 8.0
Gateshead—Bewick Hall—Miss I. O. Ford. 7.30
Hexham—Café—Miss Alice Low. 5.30
Salford—Oldfield Hall—Members' Meeting. 7.30
MAY 5.
Sunderland—Edward Hall—Miss I. O. Ford, Mr. Mirrlees, Councillor J. S. Nicholson (chair). 8.0
Sutton Coldfield—"Orotava," Station Road—Monthly Meeting—Mrs. A. D. Matthews. 8.0
Cardiff—Cory Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden. 3.30
Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 8.0
MAY 6.
Newcastle—Barras Bridge Assembly Rooms—Mr. Mirrlees, Miss A. Maude Royden, and others. 3.30
Scarborough—Open-air Meeting on the Front—Mrs. Merivale Mayer. 5.0
MAY 8.
Tynemouth—Mrs. Nisbet's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Alice Low. 3.30
Scarborough—St. Nicholas' House—Mrs. Merivale Mayer. 8.15
Manchester—Victoria Park—Mrs. Schuster's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss M. Robertson, B.A. 4.30
MAY 9.
Bradford—Mechanics' Institute—"How the Vote Was Won," "Change of Tenant"—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford. 7.15
Tunbridge Wells—Opera House—Actresses' Franchise League. 3.0
Nottingham—Circus Street Hall—Councillor M. Ashton, M. Mitchell, Esq., Miss Horniman (chair). 8.0
Bristol—111a, Whiteladies Road—Debate—Miss Chate, Mrs. Senington. 7.30

Wakefield—Mrs. Atcherley's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Cowmeadow. 3.30
 Manchester—Bury Old Road—Miss Heywood's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A. 3.30
 MAY 10.
 Camberley—Portesbery Hill—"White Elephant" Tea—Address by Mrs. Renton. 3.30-6.0
 Manchester—Memorial Hall—Debate on Tax Resistance—Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Ayres Purdie. 7.30
 Bristol—Co-operative Hall, Bishopston—Debate—Mrs. Hicks, B.A., Miss Price. 8.0
 Bristol—8, All Saints' Road, Clifton—Working Party. 3.0
 Handsworth—Mrs. Whiten's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Ring. 4.0
 MAY 11.
 Manchester—Hulme Town Hall—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A. 3.30
 Dublin—35, Molesworth Street—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting. 11.30
 Salford—Oldfield Hall—Members' Meeting. 7.30
 MAY 12.
 Manchester—Social Club—Miss Ashton's Sale of Books. 3.30-5.30
 Rugby—Benn Buildings—"Twelve Years' Experience in Co-education"—J. H. Badley, Esq., M.A.; L. Cumming, Esq., M.A. (chair). 8.0
 Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Speakers' Class. 5.0
 MAY 15.
 Chester-le-Street—Mechanics' Hall—Miss Gladys Fenwick, Miss C. M. Gordon. Chair, Mrs. Black. 7.30
 MAY 16.
 Worthing—St. James's Hall—The Lady Betty Balfour, I. Zangwill, Esq., and others. Chairman, The Lady Maud Parry. Evening
 Bristol—111A, Whiteladies Road—Lecture, "An Hour with Browning"—Admission 6d. 5.0
 MAY 17.
 Bristol—1, The Paragon, Clifton—Working Party. 3.0
 Normanton—Mrs. Johnson's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Cowmeadow. 3.30

LONDON.
 May 4: Wandsworth, Mrs. Badcock's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Sheepshanks. 3.30
 Esher and E. Molesey, The Fountain, Open-air Meeting, Miss C. Corbett. 8.0
 May 5: Kingston, Market Place, Open-air Meeting, Mr. Gugenheim. 8.0
 Muswell Hill, Mrs. Fox's Drawing-room Meeting, C. A. Tyler, Esq., Rev. A. R. Hancock, Miss Wilkie. 7.30
 May 6: Highgate and N. St. Pancras, Stabington Street, Camden Town, Open-air Meeting, Mrs. Stanbury. 7.30
 Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Emily Green. 8.0
 May 8: Stoke Newington, Raleigh Memorial Young Women's Guild, Debate, Miss Ransom. 8.0
 May 10: Wimbledon, St. Mark's Hall, Mrs. P. Snowden, J. C. Minchin, Esq. (chair). 8.30
 Portman Rooms, Baker Street, "At Home," Lady Stout, Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves (chair). 3.30
 May 11: Esher and E. Molesey, The Fountain, Open-air Meeting, Mr. Kennedy. 8.0
 May 12: Enfield, Mrs. McLwan's Drawing-room Meeting, "The Religious Aspect of Women's Suffrage," Mrs. Sambrook, Rev. Ed. Clark. Afternoon
 May 13: E. St. Pancras, Crowndale Road, Open-air Meeting, Miss H. D. Cockle, Mrs. Rogers. 7.30
 May 14: Epsom, Lecture Hall, Station Road, Men's Brotherhood, Mrs. Rackham. 3.0
 May 17: Enfield, Mrs. Sequira's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Gadsden, Rev. C. Hinsliff. 3.0-4.0
 N. Lambeth, Waterloo Chapel, Mrs. Rogers. 3.0-4.0
 Portman Rooms, Baker Street, "At Home," Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, Councillor E. Rathbone, Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Auerbach (chair). 3.30
 May 18: Esher and E. Molesey, The Fountain, Open-air Meeting, Miss Helen Ward. 8.0



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SCOTLAND.
 May 6: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, "The Vote in New Zealand," Mrs. Napier. 4.30
 May 12: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, "At Home." 4.30
 May 13: Edinburgh, Buccleuch Street Hall, Jumble Sale. 2.30
 May 19: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, "At Home." 4.30
 SCOTTISH FEDERATION.
 CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCILIATION BILL.
 Date. Place. Speakers. Organisers.
 May 6: Arbroath. Miss Abadam. Miss Kirby.
 May 6: Anstruther. Miss Nina Boyle. Miss Crompton.
 May 8: St. Andrews. Miss Nina Boyle. Miss Crompton and St. Andrews Society.
 May 8: Cupar. Miss Abadam. Cupar Society.
 May 9: Dundee—Miss Abadam and Miss Boyle—Dundee Society.
 May 10: Kirkcaldy. Miss Abadam. Miss Crompton.
 May 10: Craill. Miss Crompton.
 May 10-12: Glasgow Campaign—Miss Nina Boyle—Glasgow Society.
 May 11: Leven. Miss Abadam. Miss Younger.
 May 12: Dunfermline. Miss Abadam. Dunfermline Society.
 May 13: Hawick. Miss Abadam. Misses Smith and Barber.
 May 15: Melrose. Miss Abadam. Do. and Melrose Society.
 May 16: Galashiels. Miss Abadam. Do. and Galashiels Society.
 May 17: Thornhill. Miss Abadam. Miss Wright.
 May 18: Port Glasgow. Miss Abadam. Port Glasgow Society.
 May 19: Kilmarnock. Miss Abadam. Kilmarnock Society.
 May 20: Motherwell. Miss Abadam. Miss Kirby.
 May 22: Innerleithen. Miss Abadam. Miss Beauchamp.
 May 23: Selkirk. Miss Abadam. Miss Beauchamp.

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THE NEW CONCILIATION BILL.
 Amended to meet objections, will be introduced on May 5th. To counteract MISREPRESENTATION, Suffragists and the general public should be made acquainted with its provisions and effect. Broadcast distribution of the two-colour explanatory leaflet just drawn up by Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., is the best means of doing so. To be had only from **THE WILLIAM MORRIS PRESS, 42, ALBERT STREET, MANCHESTER,** at the prices following:—250 3s. 6d., 500 5s., 1,000 9s., 2,000 17s., 3,000 24s., 5,000 37s. 6d., all carriage paid.

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 Speakers:
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 As a vote will be taken on this Policy, only the members of the Federation will be admitted.

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