

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

VOL. II., No. 36.

NOVEMBER 12, 1908.

Price 1d. Weekly. (Post Free.)
1d.

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Articles and news contributed for insertion in "Votes for Women" should be sent to the Editors at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

Subscriptions to the paper should be sent to The Publisher, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

The terms are 6s. 6d. annual subscription, 1s. 8d. for one quarter, post free, payable in advance.

The paper can be obtained from all newsagents and bookstalls.

For quotations for advertisements, apply to the Advertisement Manager, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

The order for the release of Mrs. Drummond from Holloway Gaol came just as we were going to press last week. We are glad to be able to present to our readers on another page an account specially written by Mrs. Drummond of her experiences there, from which they will be able to appreciate the stirring courage and fierce determination of the women who are in the front of the fight against this recalcitrant Government.

Mrs. Pankhurst Punished.

Our readers will learn with anger of the punishment which is being meted out to the founder of the Women's Social and Political Union for her refusal to abide by the petty and inhuman regulations of Holloway Gaol. We are quite certain that the authorities will be unable to crush the spirit of Mrs. Pankhurst, and that before very long she will win the victory, not merely for herself, but for all women prisoners. An idea seems to have pervaded the prison authorities hitherto that the right treatment for prisoners is to brutalise and dehumanise them. Acting upon this assumption, all human intercourse and all friendly relationship have been prohibited. And, as a result, prison discipline has invariably deteriorated its victims. The Suffragettes who have gone to prison have shown up this

abominable system, and when women have won the vote, they will bring about a complete change.

Release of the Prisoners.

Before this paper is published, three of the women sent to prison for the proceedings on October 13 will have been released. On Friday, November 13, a further number will have regained freedom, and arrangements are being made on an extensive scale to have a procession through the streets, and a welcoming breakfast at the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn, at nine o'clock. We feel sure that all those who are able will join to make this a thoroughly successful function.

The Trial of Mrs. Baines.

The trial of Mrs. Baines, who was arrested in Leeds in connection with a meeting in the street on the occasion of Mr. Asquith's appearance at the Coliseum on October 10, will probably take place one day this week. The Crown prosecution, who originally charged Mrs. Baines with disorderly conduct, extended the charge at the police-court to unlawful assembly, and in framing the indictment against her, have now still further increased it to "incitement to riot" and "riot." Mrs. Baines has summoned the Prime Minister and Home Secretary as witnesses, and the trial is exciting considerable interest throughout the country. We shall hope to be in a position next week to give our readers a full account of the proceedings. In the meanwhile, we are printing a verbatim report of the speech of the judge in charging the Grand Jury. This will be found on page 110 of the present issue. The Grand Jury, after hearing the charge and considering the matter, returned a "true bill"; that is to say, they decided that there was sufficient *prima facie* evidence on behalf of the prosecution to allow the case to go to trial.

A New Suffrage Association.

We are glad to see that the principles of Woman Suffrage are spreading through every party in the country, and we welcome the formation of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, which has been formed as the first society of Conservative women pledged to work only for Votes for Women. The association was formed on Friday last. Lady Knightley, of Fawsley, who was one of the leading officials of the Primrose League, has been chosen as the first president. Miss Balfour, sister of the ex Premier, Lady Betty Balfour, Lady Robert Cecil, and many other well-known ladies have been appointed vice-presidents. Meanwhile, the revolt among the Liberal women is going on apace. We notice that the hon. secretary of the Redhill Women's Liberal Association has resigned her position, owing to the failure of the Government to act in the matter of Woman Suffrage, and throughout the rank and file of the Liberal Party there is the same movement. The Chichester W.L.A. have passed a resolution protesting against the treatment of Mrs. Pankhurst.

Other Interesting Events.

Women have made effective protests during the week at the meetings of the following:—Mr. Runciman at Cambridge, Mr. Haldane at Glasgow, Mr. Birrell at Brighton, and Lord Crewe at Surbiton. A most successful demonstration was held outside Holloway Gaol on Saturday afternoon, when about 5,000 people assembled to do honour to the prisoners. We are glad to be able to congratulate Mrs. Garrett Anderson, who has been elected as the first Lady Mayor in the country—for Aldeburgh. Miss Dove has been voted down in High Wycombe, but as no other candidate is forthcoming, the exact position is uncertain. Once again the Government have proved how little consideration is given to women's questions in Parliament while women are voteless, by the refusal to allow further progress to be made with Mr. Toulmin's Bill for dealing with the sweating system by the appointment of a wages board. Particulars of the appeal of the Scottish Women graduates before the House of Lords are given on page 111.

N.W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Miss Shallard, Miss Coates, and Miss Brown, the newly released prisoners, will be at the At Home at the Portman Rooms to-night. This At Home is being held in the large Portman Rooms, owing to the large number of friends expected.

To-morrow morning we welcome at Holloway Gaol at eight o'clock a further number of our prisoners, who have served a month's term of imprisonment, and it is hoped that a large number of friends will be there in order to make the arrangements thoroughly successful. The names of the women who are to be released are as follows:—Miss Wright, Miss Clara Codd, Miss Selina Martin, Miss Mabel Capper, and Miss Lamb. From Holloway Gaol there will be a procession to the Inns of Court Hotel, where at nine o'clock, a breakfast will be held, when the prisoners released on Wednesday and Friday will speak. The price for the tickets is 2s. each, and these can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. The procession will be entirely a carriage procession, and there will be a band at the head of the procession. Brake tickets are to be obtained, price 6d. each.

On Saturday, November 21, will be released from Holloway Gaol Mrs. Brindley, Mrs. Williams, Miss Boutelle, Miss Lettice Floyd, Miss Winifred Bray, Miss Billing, Mrs. Aldham, Miss Ellen Smith, Mrs. Jane Grey, Miss Ada Flatman, Miss Llewellyn, Miss Dunlop, and Miss G. M. Ansell, at eight o'clock in the morning. The arrangements for welcoming them at the gates of the prison will be the same as to-morrow. There will on this occasion also be a procession to the Inns of Court Hotel, where breakfast will be served at 2s., and tickets for this, and also for the brakes at 6d. each, can be obtained of the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Exhibition at the Princes Skating Rink.

In the third week in May, 1909, from Monday, the 17th, to Saturday, the 22nd, the Women's Social and Political Union will hold a special exhibition in the Princes Skating Rink, Knightsbridge. Articles in the colours of the Union will be exhibited. There will also be a sale of work in aid of the funds of the Union, and it is expected that a large number of outside firms will rent stalls. Further particulars will be given later.

The Queen's Hall Meeting.

A great meeting will be held in the large Queen's Hall on Thursday evening, December 17. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and the other speakers will be Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Gladice Keevil, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence. Tickets are in great demand, and should be applied for at once, prices 2s. 6d., 1s., and 5d., from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

At Homes in the Queen's Hall.

Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN are reminded that a public At Home is held every Monday afternoon in the Queen's Hall from 3 to 5, women being specially invited. Previous to the meeting there is an organ recital by Mrs. Layton, F.R.C.O., who has kindly undertaken the position of honorary organist to the N.W.S.P.U. Next Monday Mrs. Lawrence will make a special point of explaining the position of the N.W.S.P.U. to newcomers.

The Woman's Press.

The new pamphlet, "The Trial of the Suffragette Leaders," which is illustrated and gives a full account of the trial at Bow-street, is now ready, and is on sale at all bookstalls and stationers. The price is one penny each. Members and friends are invited to take a large number of copies, and distribute them to their acquaintances. Orders should be sent in at once.

The pamphlet by Christabel Pankhurst on the Militant Tactics, price 1d., is already having a large sale. Copies should be sent for at once. The Shelley Calendar, arranged by Miss Kerr, for 1909 is now ready, and can be obtained for 1s. The Christmas cards reproducing the beautiful banner by Laurence Housman are also ready, the price is 6d. each for single copies, larger quantities:—25 for 10s. 6d.; 50 for £1; 100 for £1 17s. 6d. The penny Christmas card will also be issued in the course of about a fortnight.

"Votes for Women" Bound Volume.

The bound volume of the first year of VOTES FOR WOMEN is now ready, and can be obtained from the Publisher, 4, Clements Inn, price 10s. (post free, 10s. 6d.). The volume includes the seven monthly and 22 weekly numbers, portraits of Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and also a specially prepared index. The binding is in the colours of the Union, and on the outside cover is a special design by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. Readers who have copies of the threepenny issues to spare are asked to send them to the Publisher to make up sets for binding.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Up to November 21 (as far as at present arranged).

Nov. 12	Chelsa, Sloane Square Coventry, Factory Meeting Wood Green, Small Unity Hall Coventry, At Home, Baths Assembly Rooms Wandsworth, East Hill London, Bioscope, West End Theatre, Edgware Road Coventry, Gosford Street De- bating Society Bristol, Cotham Grove Baptist Church Wolverhampton, At Home, Baths Assembly Rooms London, At Home, Portman Rooms, Baker Street Maidenhead, Small Town Hall Holloway Gaol Inns of Court Hotel Chelsea, Sloane Square Coventry, Factory Meeting Glasgow, Drawing-room, Meet- ing, Keveland Terrace Coventry, Drawing-room Meet- ing, Mrs. Collington Walsend, Women's Meeting, L.L.P. Room, Chesnut Street London, Bioscope, West End Theatre, Edgware Road Lewisham, Lantern Lecture, New Cross Hall Woolwich, Carmel Chapel Clifton, Hannah More Hall Fulham, Effie Road Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate Chelsea, Open-air Meeting Kensington, Jubilee Sale, Taber- nacle Hall, St. James' Square Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath St. London, Bioscope, West End Theatre, Edgware Road Newcastle, Haymarket	Miss Haig Miss Keevil Bowes Park W.S.P.U. Miss Bradburn, Miss Bracken- bury Miss Douglas Smith Miss Naylor Miss Keevil Miss Annie Kenney Mrs. Kerwood Miss Ogston, Miss Jessie Kenney Release of Prisoners Breakfast Miss Naylor Miss Keevil Miss Conolan Miss Keevil Miss New, Miss Robinson, and others Miss Jessie Stephenson Miss Higgins, Miss Gye Miss Mary Neal, Miss Douglas Smith Miss Annie Kenney Miss Canning, Miss A. Cameron Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mrs. Mar. el, Miss Mabel Capper Miss Naylor Miss Conolan Miss Jessie Stephenson Miss New, Mrs. Atkinson, and others Miss Mary Gawthorpe	12 a.m. 1.30 p.m. 2.45-4.15 3.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 7.30 and 9.30 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. 12 a.m. 1.30 p.m. 2.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 7 p.m. 7.30 and 9.30 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8-10 12 a.m. 3.30 p.m. 7.30 and 9.30 8 p.m. 2.30 p.m. 3 p.m. 3 p.m. 6.30 p.m. 1.30 p.m. 3-5 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8.15 p.m. 3.15 p.m. 8 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 4-6 8 p.m. 2.45-4.15 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m. 8-10 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m.
Sat. 13	Manchester, Lower Moseley Street Sunday School Blackheath Glasgow, Jewish Literary and Social Society Peckham Rye Demonstration Rochdale, Pioneers' Hall Coventry, Factory Meeting London, At Home, Queen's Hall Bristol, Victoria Rooms, At Home Chelsea, Town Hall Brentford, near County Court Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios Coventry, Surchley Institute Battersea Rise, St. Andrew's Pres. Church Lecture Hall Hornsey, 62, Crouch Hill Coventry, Baths Assembly- rooms Birmingham, At Home, 14, Ethel Street Merion, Men's Own Union Chapel London School of Economics, Clare Market Kensington, At Home Horsham, Lantern Lecture Sunderland, Men's Meeting Birmingham, Assembly Rooms, Edgbaston Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate Battersea, Town Hall, Mayor in the chair	Miss Mary Gawthorpe Miss Bouvier, and others Miss Conolan Mrs. Drummond, Miss Jessie Kenney, Miss Higgins, and others Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Williamson, Dr. Fairfield Miss Keevil Miss Annie Kenney Mrs. Drummond Mrs. Cullen, Miss D. Coombs Committee Chelsea W.S.P.U. Miss Keevil, Dr. Helen Jones, Miss Hazel Miss Douglas Smith Miss Vera Wentworth, Miss Humby Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Keevil, Dr. Helen Jones Miss Hazel, Miss Redfern Miss Mary Gawthorpe Miss Evelyn Sharp Committee Kensington W.S.P.U. Miss New Miss Keevil, Mrs. Massy Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Hol- brook Jackson, E. q. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mrs. Drummond Miss Amie Law, Mrs. Massy Miss Keevil Reception on Release of Miss Clara Codd Miss Conolan Miss Seymour	2.30 p.m. 3 p.m. 3 p.m. 6.30 p.m. 1.30 p.m. 3-5 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8.15 p.m. 3.15 p.m. 8 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 4-6 8 p.m. 2.45-4.15 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m. 8-10 3.30 p.m. 8 p.m.
Sun. 14	Manchester, Free Trade Hall London, Queen's Hall Prince's Skating Rink	Nov. 25 Dec. 17 May (1909)	

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

Manchester, Free Trade Hall	Nov. 25
London, Queen's Hall	Dec. 17
Prince's Skating Rink	May (1909)

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Readers of "VOTES FOR WOMEN" buy your Presents for Christmas at the Offices of the N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Bags, Belts, Brooches, Ties, Motor Scarves, Calendars, and Cards can be obtained in the Colours.

THE HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By SYLVIA PANKHURST. XXXIV.—The Present Government Comes into Power.

As soon as the demonstration which had been arranged for the opening of the new Parliament, in February, 1906, was over, Mrs. Pankhurst and the other members of the W.S.P.U. in London decided that a larger committee must be formed there.

Mrs. Pankhurst had met Mrs. Pethick Lawrence a day or two before the Caxton Hall meeting, and she now asked her to become hon. treasurer of the London committee. Immediately upon its formation the committee issued the following manifesto:—

The new movement for the political enfranchisement of women, initiated by the Women's Social and Political Union, is a people's movement, and is not confined to any section of the community.

The members of the Union believe that the time has come for vigorous and determined propaganda, and for the adoption of new methods of agitation, in the place of the old methods, which have produced so little result for the past 40 years.

All who work for political and social reform know by experience that members of Parliament, however sympathetic, are powerless to urge legislation, unless a strong, persistent, and united pressure of public opinion is brought to bear upon the Government. It is the business of this Union to arouse and concentrate public opinion.

The Prime Minister and the majority of the members of the House of Commons, irrespective of party, have declared themselves personally in favour of removing the disabilities of women, and throughout the country there can scarcely be found an individual who is prepared to defend seriously in public the continued exclusion of women from the ranks of voters. Therefore! The time for argument is past. The time for action is come!

The London W. S. and P. Unions adopt the policy, initiated in Manchester, and intend to carry on in London a determined and persistent campaign. Since the adoption of this new policy great progress has already been made. The working women of London are aroused. The end of the long struggle for political existence is in view.

All true lovers of justice must now combine in serious united effort to remove this obstacle of sex disability out of the path which leads to the whole-hearted co-operation of men and women in the work of further social reform. Social reform can never be satisfactory as long as only one-half of the nation is represented.

We confidently appeal to the women of London to join our ranks, enrol their names at once, and to become active workers in a movement for getting the vote for women. Working men have found out that political action is needed to supplement trade unionism, and so they have formed a Labour party. Women trade unionists and social reformers now realise that the possession of the vote is the most effective way of securing better social and industrial conditions, better wages, shorter hours, healthier homes, and an honourable position in the State which will enable women as well as men to render that citizen-service so necessary to the development of a truly free nation.

The W.S.P.U. now felt that it was highly important to secure an interview with the Prime Minister. With this object, therefore, Miss Kenney, Mrs. Drummond, and five other women called upon Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman at his official residence, No. 10, Downing-street, on March 2, 1906. They were told that Sir Henry could see no one, as he had been ill, and was still confined to his room. They therefore asked to see the Prime Minister's Secretary, but this also was refused, and the door was shut. Then, making up their minds to wait until they were attended to, they sat themselves down upon the steps, and held up a little white "Votes for Women" banner. Seeing that the women were still waiting, the hall keeper opened the door again, and begged them to go, but when they announced their intention of remaining all day, if need be, he asked two of them to come inside, where they were received by Mr. Ponsonby, and told that the Prime Minister would receive their message. They were also advised to write.

On the same evening the W.S.P.U. wrote, saying that they wanted a definite statement from the Government as to its intentions in regard to Votes for Women, and asking the Prime Minister to give them an opportunity of laying their case before him.

In response to this letter, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman returned an evasive reply, in which he stated that any representations that the Union wished to make to him must be put in writing. Upon this, it was decided that another attempt should be made to interview the Prime Minister, and, having waited until he had made a complete recovery, a deputation of about thirty women made its way to Downing-street about 10 o'clock on the morning of March 9. On arriving at No. 10, they asked to see the Prime Minister, and an attendant promised to convey their message to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's secretary. Then the door was closed, and the women waited quietly for three-quarters of an hour. At the end of this time two men came out, and ordered them to go away. The women explained that they were waiting for a reply, but were told that there was no answer, and they thereupon declared their intention of remaining where they were

until they had seen the Premier, but the door was rudely shut in their faces. At this the women became angry, and Miss Irene Miller seized the knocker, and rapped sharply at the door. A moment afterwards the two men came out again, and one of them called to a policeman on the other side of the road, "Take this woman in charge." The policeman at once obeyed the order, and Miss Irene Miller was marched away.

No sooner had this happened than Mrs. Drummond, exclaiming that nothing should prevent her from seeing the Prime Minister, started forward, and pulled at a little knob in the middle of the door. This little knob, instead of being a bell, as she had imagined, turned out to be something very different, for as she touched it the door opened widely. Mrs. Drummond rushed in without more ado, and headed straight for the Cabinet Council Chamber, but before she could get there she was caught, and taken in custody to the police-station. Annie Kenney also was arrested.

The three women were now taken to Cannon-row Police-station, and kept there for an hour. At the end of this time a remarkable thing happened, for a police inspector informed them that he had received a message from the Prime Minister that they were to be set at liberty, and that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman wished them to be informed that he would receive a deputation from the Women's Social and Political Union, either individually or in conjunction with other women's societies.

Shortly after this it was formally announced that the Prime Minister would receive a joint deputation from all the organised bodies of women in the country that were in favour of Women's Suffrage.

Meanwhile, Mr. Keir Hardie had secured a place for a resolution on Woman Suffrage on April 25. This was only a second place, so that there was reason to fear that it might be talked out. The resolution which was to come before it was one moved by Mr. Arnold Lupton in support of anti-vivisection. In the end a compromise was arrived at between the anti-vivisectionists and the Government, and they agreed to withdraw their resolution early.

The members of the Women's Social and Political Union were in full force in the Ladies' Gallery.

Mr. Keir Hardie's resolution was "that, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that sex should cease to be a bar to the exercise of the Parliamentary franchise." Mr. Hardie moved the resolution in a very short speech, as he did not wish to waste any time, and so help the opponents in their scheme of talking the resolution out. Mr. Wason, the seconder of the resolution, followed this wise example, and then Mr. Cremer rose to speak. His speech has generally been recognised as one of the most disgraceful ever delivered in the House of Commons. It was grossly insulting to women, and altogether unworthy of a member of the people's House of Representatives. During the course of his speech there were subdued exclamations from the Ladies' Gallery, and the Speaker gave orders for the police to be in readiness to turn the women out if this should continue, but for some time there was no further demonstration. After this a number of members spoke for and against, among them Mr. Herbert Gladstone, who said that the Government would take no action upon this occasion, and would leave the question to the free and unbiased judgment of the House. Finally, at ten minutes to eleven Mr. (now Sir Samuel) Evans rose to talk the resolution out. The women in the gallery knew that if the debate could be prolonged until eleven o'clock no vote could be taken upon the resolution. They began to murmur and whisper amongst themselves. Some of them wanted to cry out loudly against the obstructive tactics of their opponents, but Mrs. Pankhurst held them back, urging them to be patient, and to wait. At last someone looked round and saw that the police were already in the gallery, and the women realised that they were to be taken away, and that the resolution would be talked out without their having an opportunity to protest, so they began to call out fiercely, "Divide, divide; we refuse to have our resolution talked out," and "Why don't you vote?" At the same time a small white banner, bearing the words "Votes for Women" was thrust through the historic grille.

(To be continued.)

THE STORY OF MY THIRD IMPRISONMENT.

By "GENERAL" DRUMMOND.

The news of my release from my third imprisonment surprised no one more than myself. For the last few days I have been asking: "Is it really myself?" What has become of the three long months I thought I was going to spend in a prison cell? I half expect even now to hear the wardress calling: "Come along, H. 3!"

However, here I am in the organisers' room at Clements Inn, with my helpers round me making me feel like a mother who has come back to her children after a rest cure. My nine days in Holloway have not hurt me a bit; I feel very well and ready for any amount of work. My only regret is that it is I and not Mrs. Pankhurst who am free. She is the one who ought to be released. The close confinement is telling on her. Notwithstanding her cheery words, I know too well that she is feeling it terribly.

Upon our arrival at Holloway Prison, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and I were put in the second division. The next morning I found that I could not eat the food, and the doctor ordered me into hospital. I have never been in hospital in my life before. Some who read this may know what the interior of a prison hospital is like. You are put in a cell, just as in the other part of the prison, but you have a real bed instead of a plank. I have no complaints to make about the treatment in hospital. The kindness I received was very great. But I found that while my body was rested and refreshed by the better food, my mind was being starved. The solitary confinement was enough to drive one out of one's senses. The days were long and dreary. You have no work to do, not even cleaning your cell. Oh, how I longed for some work to break the terrible monotony of the day! We were allowed, however, to have books from the prison library, and whilst I was there I read two books. One was "The Scottish Chiefs," by Miss Jane Porter, and the other "Life and Labour," by Smiles. I read all about our two great Scottish heroes Bruce and Wallace in the first, and how Lady Wallace and Helen, cousin to Andrew Murray, had helped in the fight for freedom long ago. The second was all about famous people, and I was sorry to see that they only mentioned one woman, Mrs. Somerville—a famous scientist—who wrote a great book on astronomy whilst looking after the babies in the nursery. Having no work to do made the days seem unutterably long, and I felt weary before the morning was over.

What I suffered from most was the stuffiness of my cell. The tiny window placed near the ceiling would not open, and the only ventilation comes through an iron grating in the wall.

A Mutiny in Holloway.

On Sunday morning (November 1) Mrs. Pankhurst and I were to be taken to the exercise yard where the other Suffragettes were. It happened, however, that by some means I was left behind. I rang a bell; no one came. Presently I heard a great cheering going on outside. I dragged the bed to the window, and climbed up. I saw women running in all directions. I heard no more, and later, when I went out into the corridor, all was quiet. I asked one of the wardresses what had happened, but got no answer. No one ever knows anything in Holloway!

I have since heard from Mrs. Pankhurst that there had been a mutiny in the yard. She had attempted to communicate with her daughter Christabel; the wardress had objected in a particularly unpleasant manner, and the other women had rallied round Mrs. Pankhurst and cheered her. Their cheering was good to hear; it rang through the whole of that gloomy building, and did one's heart good, but the result for them was solitary confinement. They were absent from chapel that day, but no one could tell me anything about them. Detention from chapel is a curious way of punishing people, I think!

It was on the same evening that I felt so ill from the stuffiness of my cell that I must have fainted, for I was found by the wardress lying on the floor. She got me to bed. Then the doctor arrived, and they did all they possibly could for me. I told them that the door must be opened. Looking round my cell, I had discovered that there were two doors, an inner and an outer; the outer was a grating of ironwork. Both doors were barred. There was no outlet for exhausted air,

and I therefore asked to have the inner door opened. This was granted, and I heard the door of Mrs. Pankhurst's cell open, too.

By the doctor's order I remained in bed all day on Monday, and on Tuesday (November 3) the governor and the matron came and told me that the Home Secretary had ordered my release, and asked how I would like to go home. For the moment I thought we were all free, and I replied: "We will all go in a taxi to Clements Inn."

"Oh, no," they said, "you know you have not been very well," and the doctor added that what I needed was fresh air and exercise! Needless to say, I quite agreed. Then they asked me to sign a paper for my release. I explained what that meant to a Suffragette, and said that, so far as I was concerned, I should never sign anything which bound me to cease my agitation for the vote.

"Of course," I added, "if the Home Secretary wants me to go, I am more than delighted, because there is any amount of work waiting for me to do outside."

When the wardress had left me I jumped out of bed, rushed to the grating, and shouted to Mrs. Pankhurst:

"The Home Secretary has ordered me out!"

She cheered. "I am glad," she said, "because now you will be able to carry on the work."

To me the wardress said, "You ought not to have told her." I replied, "I was not going to leave this building without telling Mrs. Pankhurst." When I heard that I was the only one released, I at first refused to leave unless Mrs. Pankhurst left with me. This, however, was not to be. When I got outside I found a carriage waiting. The wardress had instructions to take me to my own home. They asked for my address; the gates opened, and I left the Castle in state.

I drove through the park, and was at my own home about four o'clock. My mother greeted me with, "Where have you come from?" She would hardly believe that it was really myself. Then the wardress left us, telling my mother that I was "anything but well," and that I needed to be taken care of.

The first thing I did was to read the current number of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and what I saw in its pages, especially the leading article from the *Daily Telegraph* quoted on page 75, made going to Holloway quite worth while.

Anyone who has been in "The Castle" knows that it is a very nice place to be out of! And I do not deny that I am glad—very glad—to be once more outside the walls of Holloway, and able to devote myself again to the great work of winning freedom for my sex.

The ground on which I was discharged was that of ill-health. Well, the remedy for that I have always found is hard work, and plenty of it. With our leaders in prison, we cannot afford to waste a single moment. We must work now as if their lives and our own depended upon it. I want to make an earnest appeal for more helpers. We need speakers, organisers, paper sellers, bill distributors, and a host of other workers who are prepared to give their time, their energy, and their devotion to the furtherance of this agitation. Let no one stand out of this great fight, for let us ask ourselves why Mrs. Pankhurst is in prison while we are at liberty to enjoy life and freedom. Is it Mrs. Pankhurst's business more than ours to win freedom for our sex? Is there any reason why she should give her life while other women should withhold theirs or consider that their time is their own to devote to their own interest or their own pleasure? Surely there are no women worthy of the name who will refuse to take up this great burden which falls to-day upon the shoulders of our dauntless leaders and our splendid staff of devoted workers.

We want women who will offer to set aside one hour every evening to sell papers to the queues waiting to go into the London theatres, and our organisers in Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, and Bradford want women in their locality to take up the same service. My duty is in London, and I therefore call upon London women to come forward and offer themselves for at least one night in the week. Will you send in your name to me, volunteering to do this work? On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings I want a number of sellers for the paper who can turn up at the office at 4, Clements Inn, at ten o'clock, and I will give them their districts and tell them how they have to go to work. On Monday morning we want volunteers who will go through the shopping districts of London in private motor-cars and private carriages decorated with the colours and with the announcement of the Queen's Hall meeting which is held every Monday afternoon at three o'clock. I want women to come forward to be trained as speakers; they

can go out with others more experienced than themselves until they have learnt how to put the women's cause in such a way as to win the comprehension and the sympathy of the people in the streets.

I want women to hold themselves ready to answer at any moment a call to by-election work. This is, perhaps, of all the things the most important. The Women's Social and Political Union has set itself to this task, above all, to prevent the return of any single Liberal candidate to Parliament at by-elections. We have to be ready. There are many rumours afloat, and we do not know how soon we may be called to this work. The Government fear by-elections more than anything else, and will stave them off if possible. If they are bound to come, they will make the fight as short and as sharp as they can, and give us as small an opportunity as possible for putting our case before the electors. Therefore, everybody who can speak, everybody who can work, everybody who has a moment of leisure to lend a hand, must be prepared to put every engagement on one side and regard every interest of secondary importance when they hear the call to battle. I want women to show, by coming forward and giving their best, that they realise that this fight is the greatest that the world has ever seen.

A PROTEST OUTSIDE HOLLOWAY.

On Saturday one of the most impressive demonstrations ever organised by the N.W.S.P.U. was carried out. During the day twelve of the women who have undergone various terms of imprisonment for the part they have taken in the agitation for the vote, put on prison dress and drove through some of the principal streets of the West-End to advertise the fact that a procession would march from Kingsway to Holloway at six o'clock. The dress worn was the winter prison garb of green serge, decorated with the broad arrow in white, a check apron, a small white linen cap, and a cardboard number.

The object of the procession was to enter a protest against the Government's action in imprisoning Mrs. Pankhurst, Christabel Pankhurst, and other women now in the second division, and the route decided upon was up Kingsway, along Oxford-street, Tottenham Court-road, Hampstead-road, Mornington-crescent, and Camden-road, and, on reaching Holloway, to march round the prison by way of Dalmeny-avenue, Parkhurst-road, and Crayford-road, returning by the same route to Clements Inn.

On the stroke of half-past five in the afternoon the procession began to form up near Aldwych, in Kingsway, where a large crowd had assembled to watch the proceedings. Following a brass band came a wagonette containing Mrs. Drummond, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and others, and the brake containing the women in prison dress, among whom were the Misses Brackenbury and Miss Florence Haig. Behind the brake marched the rank and file of the women in lines of four, followed by a second brass band. Last came the Press cart, driven by Miss Douglas Smith, from whom the sellers along the route obtained their supplies of the current number of VOTES FOR WOMEN. About 500 copies were disposed of to people along the route.

Along the route big crowds gathered, and from the tops of 'buses and from many windows handkerchiefs were waved and cheers raised. The bands played the Women's Marseillaise and other popular airs, and as the cohorts swept down Tottenham Court-road Saturday shoppers and men with their half-holiday hanging heavily on their hands joined in and took up the choruses. At the Temperance Hospital the nurses crowded the balconies and windows and waved and cheered. From the side streets, where the Saturday evening market had begun, buyers left the stalls and joined in, so that by the time Holloway was reached the procession was about half-a-mile in length, and many thousands strong. Two "Black Marias" that passed it on the way were greeted with ironical cheers, and everywhere the traffic had to be temporarily diverted. An enormous crowd had gathered outside Holloway, and a cordon of mounted police had taken up a position in front of the main entrance.

The procession, accompanied by these thousands of men and women, circled twice round the prison, the bands playing and the crowds cheering. On passing the hospital part of the building a shadow fell across the window, and on the word being passed round that it was here that Mrs. Pankhurst was incarcerated, renewed cheers went up from the crowd, who called enthusiastically for "Three cheers for Mrs. Pankhurst," and "Votes for Women."

It was decided not to attempt to hold a meeting; even had the horses not begun to show signs of restiveness, the enormous size of the crowd would have made it impossible. Only for a moment did Mrs. Drummond speak, and then it was to say, "Let us raise our voices in indignation against the treatment of our friends inside those walls."

Then a "Good-night cheer" was given to the prisoners inside the building, and the procession, accompanied by the crowd, returned to Clements Inn.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

In the House of Commons on Wed. (Nov. 4), Mr. Beaumont asked Mr. Asquith if he would afford facilities for discussing during the present session a motion relating to woman's suffrage, on which a notice now stood on the order paper.

Mr. Asquith: No, sir. As I have already stated, time cannot be found for the discussion of contentious matters.

Mr. K. Hardie asked Mr. Gladstone whether his attention had been drawn to the application made at Bow-street Police-court on Monday to have certain women political prisoners transferred from the second to the first division; whether he was aware that the magistrate stated that the Home Secretary was the proper person to apply to; and whether he would now exercise the powers he possessed, known as the prerogative of mercy, to have the ladies referred to treated as first-class misdemeanants.

Mr. H. Samuel replied: My right hon. friend has seen a newspaper report of the application made to the Court on behalf of these ladies. As he stated on a former occasion, it would be, in his opinion, unconstitutional to override, in regard to any class of prisoners, the discretion expressly given to the Court by statute. In certain cases, where no order was made, he has drawn the attention of the committing magistrate to the matter, and asked him to consider it, and, as the result, the magistrate has directed the prisoner's removal to a higher division. My right hon. friend was advised by the late Attorney-General (Sir J. Lawson Walton) that the magistrate had power to give such a direction subsequent to the prisoner's committal to prison. In regard to the three ladies mentioned in the question, my right hon. friend has been advised that the remainder of Mrs. Drummond's sentence should be remitted on medical grounds, and she has been discharged from prison. As to the other ladies in the second division, he sees no reason to justify him in communicating with the learned magistrate.

Mr. Rees: Is equality before the law not the bedrock principle of democratic rule?

Mr. Hardie: May I ask whether equality before the law implied first-class treatment for Dr. Jameson?

Mr. Samuel: As I have explained more than once, the Jameson case was before the Act of 1898, which completely altered the situation by vesting the discretion of this matter in the Court.

Mr. Lupton: Has not the Home Secretary complete discretion to discharge all these Suffragist prisoners at once?

Mr. Samuel, replying to Mr. Alden, said the windows of the cells at Holloway Prison were not made to open, but there was a direct entry of fresh air by a separate inlet for each cell, and the ventilation was satisfactory. Some of the cells were floored with wood blocks, some with concrete, and some with tiles. The floors were not damp, nor was the bedding placed upon the floor, but upon a shelf when not in use.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. Macneil asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether the ladies now undergoing imprisonment for offences arising out of the Suffragist agitation are only allowed each one towel, which has to serve for daily use and the weekly bath for a whole week, and one handkerchief for a whole week; whether they are only allowed a small tin basin for washing, and that in the early morning, and are not allowed to wash their hands again during the day; and whether, regard being had to the fact that such restrictions are calculated to be injurious to the health of the prisoners, and are of a humiliating character, there will be any, and, if so, what modification in their enforcement?

Mr. Gladstone replied: These prisoners are allowed one towel for cell use and one for bathing. The normal allowance of handkerchiefs in the second division was one a week, but additional ones are issued on application, and have been issued in several instances to these prisoners. They are allowed to wash their hands as often as they like, and at 8 p.m. a bucket of hot water is supplied. These regulations cannot be regarded as either insanitary or humiliating.

In the House of Commons on Monday Mr. O'Grady asked the Prime Minister whether, whilst visiting Leeds, he declined to receive a deputation from the National Women's Suffrage Societies, representing many working women who had always adopted constitutional methods in their reform movement, the bona fides of which deputation was guaranteed by the presence on the deputation of the hon. members for Central and South Leeds and five leaders of local Liberalism; and whether he was now prepared to reconsider his refusal to see the deputation.

Mr. Asquith: I was unable to see the deputation in question during my visit to Leeds, and I see no advantage at present in receiving any more deputations on this subject.

The Arrests for Distributing Handbills.

In the House of Commons on Wed. (Nov. 4) Mr. G. Greenwood asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to the case of two ladies, Mrs. Penn Gaskell and Miss Smith, who, on October 19 last, were summarily arrested in Regent-street while distributing handbills announcing a public meeting, and taken to the Vine-street police station, and thence to Great Marlborough-street Police-court, where they were imprisoned in a small, cell-like room, together with a woman charged with being a prostitute, for some two hours, although they were at all times ready and willing to give their names and addresses, and might have been proceeded against by summons; whether these ladies complained of having been subjected to many other indignities while awaiting trial on the charge of having caused an obstruction to the highway, and were ultimately released upon an order to enter into recognisances with which they were not required actually to comply; and whether he would direct a full inquiry to be made into all the circumstances of the case, and take such steps as may be necessary to secure that women charged by the police under such circumstances should not in future be subjected to such treatment, and should not be forcibly arrested in the public streets in cases where procedure by summons was sufficient.

Mr. H. Samuel said that Mrs. Penn Gaskell and Miss Smith were subjected to no indignities while in custody on October 19. They were, in fact, treated with special consideration. At the police-court they were detained, not in a cell, but in a waiting-room 18 feet square, with another woman, whom the police report they had no reason to believe was of the class specified by the hon. member. The door of the room was not locked, and the matron was in attendance. Mrs. Gaskell and Miss Smith were apprehended only when they were causing actual obstruction to traffic when they had shown a determination not to obey the police warning to move away, and when their removal from the street had become necessary in order to put an end to the obstruction.

Mr. Greenwood wanted to know whether the hon. gentleman approved of women being forcibly arrested in the public streets in cases where procedure by summons was sufficient.

The Speaker: That point is a matter of opinion.

THE TRIAL OF MRS. BAINES.

TEXT OF THE INDICTMENT AND THE JUDGE'S CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY.

Yorkshire West Riding to wit.

The Jurors for our Lord the King upon their oath present that Jennie Baines on the 10th day of October in the year of our Lord 1908 together with divers other persons to the number of three or more to the Jurors aforesaid unknown in a certain public place to wit in Cookridge Street in the City of Leeds, unlawfully did assemble and gather together for a common purpose to wit the purpose of effecting an entry into a certain building there situate and called the Coliseum and intervening the Prime Minister who was then therein, and in such a manner as to endanger the public peace and to the terror and grave disturbance of the liege subjects of our Lord the King then and there being and in contempt of our Lord the King and his laws, to the evil example of all others in the like case offending and against the Peace of our Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.

Second Count.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that the said Jennie Baines afterwards to wit on the day and in the year aforesaid, and at the place aforesaid, unlawfully and wickedly, contriving and intending the peace of our Lord the King and of the liege subjects of our Lord the King to disquiet and disturb and to incite and move great numbers of the liege subjects of our Lord the King to riots tumults and breaches of the peace, in the presence and hearing of a number of persons then gathered together to the number of ten and more to the Jurors unknown, did openly and publicly in a loud voice speak and publish the words following: "If these tyrants (meaning the Prime Minister and his colleagues) refuse to listen to us, break down the barriers, break down the doors (meaning the barriers and doors at the Coliseum aforesaid) and compel a hearing"; and by such words did incite and move such persons as aforesaid to the number of ten and more unlawfully to behave in a riotous manner and to rush riotously and routously towards the said Coliseum and the police stationed there in an attempt to force an entry, to terror and great disturbance of the liege subjects of our Lord the King then and there being, in contempt of our Lord the King and his laws and against the peace of our Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.

Third Count.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that afterwards to wit on the day and in the year aforesaid the said Jennie Baines being in the public place aforesaid with great numbers of other persons to the number of 100 and more assembled and met together, wickedly maliciously and seditiously contriving and intending the peace of our Lord the King and of his realm and of the liege subjects of our Lord the King to disquiet and disturb and the liege subjects of our Lord the King to incite and move to contempt hatred and dislike of the Government established by law within this realm, so loudly openly and publicly did in a certain speech then addressed by her to the said liege subjects so then assembled together as aforesaid publish utter and declare the wicked seditious and inflammatory words following, that is to say:—"If these tyrants (meaning the Prime Minister and his colleagues) refuse to listen, break down the barriers, break down the doors (meaning the barriers and doors of the Coliseum aforesaid) and compel a hearing" (meaning compel the said Prime Minister and his colleagues to listen to the arguments of the said Jennie Baines demanding the granting of the suffrage to women): against the Peace of our Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.

Fourth Count.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that afterwards to wit on the day and in the year aforesaid the said Jennie Baines together with other persons to the number of three and more to the Jurors aforesaid unknown did unlawfully riotously and routously assemble and gather together to the terror and disturbance of the liege subjects of our Lord the King, in contempt of our Lord the King and his laws and against the Peace of our Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.

Fifth Count.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that afterwards to wit on the day and in the year aforesaid the said Jennie Baines being in the public place aforesaid along with divers other persons of the number of three and more whose names are to the Jurors unknown did continue with such divers other persons or the common purpose of effecting an entry into the Coliseum aforesaid and enforcing an interview with the Prime Minister who was then therein, in such a manner and under such circumstances of violence tumult and numbers as were calculated to create terror and alarm amongst the liege subjects of our Lord the King then and there being, and did in part execute such common purpose by rushing violent and tumultuously with such other persons as aforesaid towards the Coliseum aforesaid and upon the police stationed at the said Coliseum in an attempt to effect such entry as aforesaid; against the Peace of our Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.

The Judge's Remarks.

In his charge to the grand jury, Mr. Justice Pickford remarked:

There is a case which, so far as I can see from the newspapers, has created a considerable amount of interest in the neighbourhood, and it is one that presents no difficulties in point of law that need trouble you. It is an indictment which charges two persons, namely, Jennie Baines and Alfred Kitson, with unlawfully assembling and with riot and inciting to riot by inflammatory speeches. I suppose the interest created by the case arises from

the position of the two defendants. One of them was at that time, I don't know whether permanently or not, a leader, presiding over a meeting of the unemployed, and the other, Mrs. Baines, was presiding over a meeting of the supporters of the women's suffrage. Both of these subjects have been greatly discussed. As to unemployment, people of all shades of opinion seem to be agreed that some measures should be taken to alleviate it, but no doubt they differ as to the means that should be taken. As to women's suffrage, people are not very unanimous. Some think it is a gross injustice that women should not have the vote, and others think the present state of affairs the better. People are entitled to hold their opinion either way. They are also entitled to hold meetings to give vent to their opinions, and they are entitled to do so as energetically and as strongly as they like with the one qualification—they must not do anything calculated to create a breach of the peace, and they must not use such inflammatory language as would tend to incite their hearers to proceed to acts of violence. If they do so they are guilty, in the first place, of unlawfully assembling, and if in consequence of these speeches violence does result they are the cause of it, and if they take part in it they are guilty of the offence of riot. The question is whether there is a *prima facie* case against one, or the other, or both, of the defendants of doing so.

It does not matter whether they are assembled in the first instance for a lawful or an unlawful purpose. If the object be lawful, still, if they proceed to use language which incites to violence, they are responsible if violence results. So far as I understand this case, Kitson was presiding over a meeting in one part of the city, and Mrs. Baines was presiding over a meeting in another part of the city. There does not appear to be anything showing that they were acting in concert, but Kitson at his meeting said that if they were not received by the Prime Minister they would go and join the Suffragettes. The evidence is that the two meetings did join, and that the defendants both used language inciting those whom they were addressing to go by force to the place where the Prime Minister was, and to force an interview upon him. If the language they used incited their followers to commit a breach of the peace in order to obtain access to the Prime Minister they would come within the law as to unlawful assembly. If the defendants headed the rush they would be guilty of riot. The defendants say they did not do it. They say they said, "We will go there and insist upon having an interview with the Prime Minister, but we had no intention of committing a breach of the peace." The question is, did these persons, or either of them, in holding these meetings, act or speak in such a way as to incite a breach of the peace? If so, the assembly they were holding would be an unlawful assembly, and if they proceeded further, and in conjunction with others, proceeded to commit a breach of the peace, they would be guilty of riot.

Application for a Date.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, who has undertaken to defend Mrs. Baines, on Monday made an application before Mr. Justice Pickford to fix a day for the trial.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence said the writ of subpoena had been served upon Mr. Asquith and Mr. Herbert Gladstone, and they had been asked to name a day to suit their convenience to attend, but no response had been received.

His Lordship: You had better renew the application when you do hear from them.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence said he was going to suggest Saturday as a suitable day, but his lordship again replied that the application must be renewed when Mr. Asquith and Mr. Herbert Gladstone had replied to the demand made upon them.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR AYRTON.

It is with a sense of deep and irreparable loss that this Union places upon record its profound regret and sorrow at the death of Professor Ayrton, the eminent scientist, which took place on Sunday last. His appreciation of and practical sympathy with, the work for woman suffrage was at all times freely demonstrated, and the loyal support and hearty encouragement which was his unfailing attitude towards the leaders of the W.S.P.U., whose personal friend he was, will be sadly missed by them. The world will be the poorer, the cause of humanity, with which the women's movement is indissolubly bound up, immeasurably the loser, by the death of the great and good man whose loss we deplore so sincerely and truly to-day.

THE SCOTTISH GRADUATES' CASE.

The appeal of the Scottish women graduates to vote in Scottish universities elections of a Parliamentary representative was called at the House of Lords on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, when Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Miss Simson appeared at the Bar to plead the case in person. Other Scottish graduates were seated in the pew reserved for appellants. The Court consisted of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Robertson, Lord Ashbourne, and Lord Collins.

Miss Macmillan opened the case with a statement of the technical bases on which the claim of the women graduates is founded, quoting the principal sections of the Acts of Parliament dealing with universities elections in Scotland, pointing out that they were entirely different from any other franchise Acts. She then proceeded to give a history of this particular litigation.

Miss Macmillan supported the right of a woman appellant to be heard in person by mentioning the case of a Miss Shaddon, who, in 1867, addressed the House of Lords on her own behalf for 23 days, and was followed by her father, another appellant. A smile was raised by Miss Macmillan's comparison of the action of the Registrar in refusing to issue voting papers, with the hypothetical possibility of the policeman at the door of the House of Lords refusing her admittance as he considered she had not a good case.

It is of interest to remark that the only two cases on record in which women have pled their cause in person before the House of Lords were Scottish appeals.

Shortly before four o'clock the hearing of the case was adjourned until Thursday, at 10.30 a.m.

WOMEN CONSERVATIVES FORM A SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

The first society of Conservative women only, pledged to work for votes for women, has just come into existence with a distinguished membership. This is the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

Lady Knightley, of Fawsley, who was one of the leading officials of the Primrose League, has been chosen as the first president. Miss Balfour, sister of the ex-Premier, is a vice-president, and other prominent women of the party who have accepted this office are the Countess of Meath, Lady Edward Spencer Churchill, Viscountess Middleton, Lady Betty Balfour, Lady Robert Cecil, Lady Rayleigh, Lady Strachey, Lady Lockyer, Miss Constance Jones, Principal of Girton College, and Miss Tuke, Bedford College. Mrs. Percy Boulnois is the chairman, and Mrs. Gilbert Samuel the hon. treasurer.

The new Association intends to employ only educative and constitutional methods, and to try to convince, not to coerce. Its propaganda takes a threefold form.

1. To convince members of the party of the desirability of extending the suffrage to duly qualified women.
2. To work by educative and constitutional methods so as to assist those women who may in the near future have to exercise the vote.
3. To hold meetings and provide literature.

MADAME MELBA AND VOTES FOR WOMEN.

In Madame Melba, the famous singer, the woman suffrage movement has gained a new and notable adherent.

She considers that it is a question of humanity. She has just been touring in some of the great industrial centres, where the extreme poverty of the women workers has touched her sympathies. She is, she says, forced to believe that their condition would be bettered if the influence of women could be used in the selection of parliamentary representatives.

She also urges the political justice of the demand, her strong faith in the wisdom of the law makers in her native Australia where the parliamentary vote has been given to women, and the familiar claim that a woman should not be denied a power which is given to men.

THE FIRST WOMAN MAYOR.

The election of Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., as Mayor of Aldeburgh, her native place, recalls the fact that Mrs. Anderson, the pioneer woman doctor, has been a lifelong advocate of woman suffrage; her interest in social questions is well known, and as long ago as 1870 she sat on the London School Board. On assuming the red robes of office and the mayoral chain, Mrs. Anderson said that while she professed no cut and dried policy,

she regarded the housing problem as of great importance, and she favoured the taking up of land for building purposes.

At High Wycombe, on Monday, at the mayoral election, the opposition, based purely on the grounds of her sex, succeeded in outvoting Miss Dove by 16 to 14. As no other candidate was forthcoming the meeting was adjourned to the following evening.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Questions intended for answer in this column should be addressed to the Editors "Votes for Women," and specially marked "Answers to Correspondents." They must be accompanied by name and address of the sender, and should be questions relating directly to Woman Suffrage or to the policy of the N.W.S.P.U.

39. Is it not a fact that the Government could not introduce such a radical change in the electoral status as granting the franchise to women, without going to the country on the question? If so, is it not rather too much to expect that the Prime Minister should cut his own throat? Why not wait till the end of the term of power and then bring your Bill forward, continuing your propaganda in the country meanwhile?

This "fact," as our questioner calls it, has been disposed of once for all by no less a person than the Prime Minister himself, who declared at an interview of Liberal members of Parliament that it was not necessary to receive a mandate from the country on such a question as this, and that the Liberal Government now in power were quite able to deal with the matter. As one of the Liberal papers in a leading article affirmed very truthfully no mandate can be needed to enable a Liberal Government to carry out its faith that taxation and representation should go together. With regard to the second point. If women were enfranchised this year, they would not be in a position to vote until the year 1910, and by that time, presumably this Government will be nearing its term of office. Unless we get a vote in the early part of next Session, women will not be able to vote till 1911. There is, therefore, no time to be lost, and it is incumbent upon women to pursue both the propaganda in the country, and also to continue the women's agitation at the same time.

40. What will be the status of the million and a-half voters who would be added to the list when the Women's Enfranchisement Bill is passed? Will there be many factory workers, and will some be young, unthinking women?

It is estimated that 80.5 per cent. will be women belonging to the industrial classes, and among these will be a large number of factory workers all, of course, over 21 years of age.

AN ESSAY BY A BRISTOL BOY.

People may think that "Votes for Women" is a new question, but it is not. There are several divisions which go about trying to get "Votes for Women" into power. There is a party on the Durdham Downs this afternoon. The reason why the people of Bristol do not stand up for the Suffragettes is because most of them do not know what it is all about. People have tried before to get the votes into system, but each time have failed to do so because they have interfered with the men. This time they are going to speak for themselves, and no one else. There are meetings on the Durdham Downs every Wednesday and Thursday. They travel all over Bristol to hold these meetings. There are four hundred M.P.'s who say the women have as much rights in Parliament as they have. In London all the people stand up for the Suffragettes, and cheer them when they see them. They are trying to get a home built for the poor children. I must now close my composition as I have said all I need to convince you.

N.W.S.P.U. MEMBERS' PLEDGE CARD.

WOMEN in all parts of the country who are not as yet definitely enrolled as members of the National Women's Social and Political Union are invited to sign the members' pledge card, which they can obtain from the offices, 4, Clements Inn, and apply for membership. The pledge is as follows:—

I endorse the objects and methods of the Women's Social and Political Union, and I hereby undertake not to support the candidate of any political party at Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the Parliamentary vote.

There is an entrance fee of 1s. No definite subscription is fixed, as it is known that all members will give to the full extent of their ability to further the campaign funds of the Union.

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegraphic Address—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone 5550 Holborn.

Mrs. PANKHURST,

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Founder and Hon. Sec.

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. TUKE,

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Organising Sec.

The Women's Social and Political Union are asking for votes for women on the same terms as they are possessed by men.

They are not asking for the vote for every woman, but that a woman shall not be refused a vote simply because she is a woman.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed this Session.

THE ONLY QUESTION.

During the past week disquieting news has reached us as to the treatment of Mrs. Pankhurst in prison. The Home Secretary has refused her application to be treated as a political offender, and has evidently given instructions that the utmost stringency is to be observed in the enforcement to the ultimate letter of the severity of prison discipline.

Perhaps the most cruel part of the whole prison system is the silence rule. The only thing that could justify such a shutting off of the human mind from all interchange and intercourse with fellow-creatures for consecutive weeks and months is the assumption that ordinary criminals are beings of depraved moral character, and that any interchange between them would be a source of danger to themselves morally, or to the safety of prison officials in the maintenance of prison discipline.

The Suffragette prisoners do not mix with the other prisoners. Their hour of exercise is different. They have the exercise yard to themselves. Therefore, to relax the silence rule where they are concerned would entail no breach of necessary prison discipline. Everyone knows that they are not of depraved character. On the contrary, they are known to be women of spotless record, with a high conception of duty, who are engaged in a political agitation which has been singularly free from any form of physical violence. To punish them by forbidding the smallest interchange between them during the hour of the day when they are together is senseless, as well as vindictive and cruel.

Especially is this the case when the strongest instinct in nature has to be repressed, and a mother may not ask of her child how it fares with her health.

So monstrous is the rigid insistence upon this silence rule in the case of the Suffragettes that Mrs. Pankhurst has resolved to make a protest against it. She has announced her intention of speaking to her daughter, not secretly, but openly, if she sees the opportunity of doing so. The result of her protest is that for two or three days she was confined in her cell without exercise or chapel, and that at the end of that time she was taken into the exercise yard to walk alone under the supervision of wardresses.

Widespread concern and sorrow has been felt throughout the ranks of this Union at the news of this attempt to break down the spirit of the noblest woman of our day, the leader whom we love and honour beyond all power of expression. But we may feel quite sure that the Government will fail in this mean attempt. The spirit of that one woman is a match for them all. She will come back to us unshaken in health and nerve, stronger than ever for the conflict yet to be waged before freedom is won, invincible and crowned as for victory. Let no one doubt it. She is upheld and supported by stronger forces than we know, as well as by her own indomitable will.

But the Government that does not know how to observe the traditions of honour which are practised between brave foes will be broken. It is hardly worth any indignation; it merits only contemptuous pity and disgust. The writing of destiny is already upon the wall, and the country is transcribing the epitaph.

We have had shoals of letters during the week from men

and from women, full of expressions of their deeply stirred feeling, and this is my answer to them all. It is our duty to waste not one fraction of our strength in unavailing sympathy or impotent anger. There is no place for sentiment in this agitation or for any sort of emotion that is not immediately transported into energy and action. Weeping and wailing and shaking of the head are utterly out of place. This is no time for commiseration and regret. What are you going to do? That is the only question.

To women individually, as well as to men who have been content hitherto to maintain a passive attitude towards this movement, I say: Are you going once and for all to resist the great temptation to be simply an interested spectator of this drama, a mere member of the audience, who laughs, or cries, or thrills at the great story being acted out upon the stage? Are you going to enter into the fight in all grim earnest, taking your full share of the risk and sacrifice, exchanging hard blows, and setting your teeth in the determination to see wrong worsted and right made triumphant, at any and every cost?

There are many men and women who are shielding themselves at the present time behind their "temperament." They are not "fighters," they say; they are born "spectators" of the game of life—very sympathetic spectators as far as this movement is concerned. They are fascinated at the spectacle of women fighting the so-called strongest Government of modern times for their freedom. "I glory in your pluck," say some who are men. "I give you my heart's deepest gratitude," say others who are women. That is not good enough. Do you think, you men and women who write so kindly that all the people who are actively engaged in this movement are "born fighters"? Do you think there are none to whom this life of ceaseless struggle and strenuous effort is a daily crucifixion? Do you think the temptation never comes to many of us to step aside for a while from the thick of the fray and watch from a serene height of sympathy and approval this great and exciting battle, this glorious pageant, and to realise it for what it is—the acting upon the stage of the 20th century of one of the greatest of the world's great epics? If you imagine that this is not so, you make a great mistake. The artistic temperament is no excuse for being a coward, though many people seem to think it is. I tell you, men and women, to be a coward now is to be a traitor. Whether you are naturally a fighter or not, it behoves you at this crisis to play the man: to play the woman.

If you are angry with a righteous anger, let the world know it. Express it in action. If wrong and injustice are being done, it is your business and concern. It is for you to beset yourself, to see to it that the injustice is exposed, that the wrong is righted. Whether you yourself suffer or not, what does it matter, so long as you live to maintain the right with every faculty of your body and soul?

There is plenty to do. The Government has to be still further discredited in every constituency in the country; the members of Parliament have to be bombarded by public opinion expressed in the shape of letters, personal interviews, deputations from their constituents, and paragraphs in their local newspapers. The popular conscience has everywhere to be arrested, aroused, and organised. Then, fall into line with the plans of campaign given from week to week in this paper. Propaganda has to be spread on all sides, till even the villages and hamlets of the country are reached.

This week the story of the trial of the Pankhursts at Bow-street is published in booklet form, and illustrated, for the price of one penny. Those people who were in the Court on the final day of the trial will never forget how they were shaken to the very foundation of their being by the soul-stirring speech of Mrs. Pankhurst in the dock. I pity anyone, whether man or woman, who can read it without being profoundly moved. Then, let everybody who really cares make it a personal matter to circulate at least one hundred—if possible several hundred—copies of this book.

Let everyone wear the colours of the Union, and take every opportunity in public and in private of testifying to the faith that is in them. In addition to all the ways that can be suggested, let every man and woman and every child who loves country and race and sets store by British honour and British justice, think out for themselves what is their duty and what their privilege to be able to do in order to secure the speedy triumph of our great and just cause.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

THE URGENCY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The vigorous agitation conducted for the last three years by the Women's Social and Political Union has brought Woman Suffrage into the realm of immediate practical politics. It has also diverted opposition from the main issue to the question of method. It is now comparatively rare to hear people declare themselves openly opposed to Woman Suffrage, it is more usually said: "We are in favour of women who pay rates and taxes having the vote, but we are opposed to the violent means by which it is being advocated." Woman Suffrage is bound to come, but it is not possible to have it at once. The Liberal Government have no mandate from the country, and, in any case, there is no immediate urgency.

The intention of these opponents is to delay, and ultimately to wear out the agitation for Woman Suffrage. As a matter of fact, there is at the present time no more urgent question in British politics than that of Woman Suffrage. In consequence of women being denied the vote, there are a great number of social problems growing worse every day. It is only necessary to mention two: the sweating evil and the housing problem.

Further than this, the Government are deliberately planning legislation which will tend to make women's position even more inferior than it is at the present time. Mr. John Burns and Mr. Macnamara are aiming at depriving married women of the right to work. The Government's Education proposals will place upon the father the sole power of determining the kind of education that is to be given to his children. The Government's schemes for unemployment are almost entirely directed to providing employment for men, and Mr. Haldane's proposal to make use of the unemployed in the army will leave their wives and children destitute. The Bill which the Government are at present rapidly carrying through all its stages in Parliament, known as the Children's Bill, aims a great many severe penalties at women, on which women themselves ought to be heard, and the protection which it proposes to offer to children is not along right lines, because the women's point of view is left out.

But not only are these questions which directly affect women being considered by Parliament; there are also the wider issues of Free Trade and Tariff Reform, of the increase of armaments, of temperance reform, and many other vital questions which are wrapped up as intimately with women's life as well as of men, and women are concerned equally with the men in determining how these shall be dealt with. No permanent and lasting solution can be found while only a one-sided point of view is taken, and more often than not the evils which they seek to remedy will be aggravated rather than cured in consequence.

The Political Aspect.

But there is another aspect from which the urgency of the demand of women for enfranchisement must be regarded. The sands of the Liberal Government are running out. Apart from the question of a premature demise brought about by the unpopularity which they are rapidly acquiring in the country, they are approaching within measurable limit of their natural span of life. Governments never live out their full seven years, rarely do they exceed six or even five and a-half years. It may, therefore, be taken as certain that this Parliament will come to an end either in 1910 or 1911. When this Parliament was in its infancy, the Government stated as an excuse for not introducing a Woman Suffrage measure, that it would necessitate a speedy dissolution, for it would be contrary to constitutional practice to carry votes for women and continue to exist as a Parliament unrepresentative of the new electorate.

Women are determined that a new Parliament and a new Government shall not make the same excuse. They are absolutely determined also that at the next General Election women shall take their part as voters. In order that this may be so, it is necessary for a Woman Suffrage measure to be carried without delay. Should the Government have a change of heart, and allow the Woman Suffrage Bill to proceed through all its remaining stages this Session, women will not be put upon the register until the autumn of next year, and as that register does not come into operation till January 1, 1910, they will not be in a position to vote until that year. If, on the other hand, Woman Suffrage is only carried in the Session of

1909 (and, as is usual with Bills of first-rate importance, does not receive the Royal Assent before the beginning of August), then women will not be able to get on the register until the autumn of 1910, because the lists are made up at the beginning of August in each year. And in this case, women will not be able to exercise the vote until after January 1, 1911.

From this it is evident that, under normal methods of procedure, next Session is the very latest during which a Woman Suffrage measure must be carried through the House of Commons in order that women may be enabled to vote at the next General Election, and further, that if the term of office of the Liberal Government comes to an end, as is quite likely, in the year 1910, or even earlier, women will be debarred from voting at that election unless the Bill is carried through during the present Session of Parliament.

As to the objection that the Government have no mandate for carrying this through, this fallacy has been already exploded by no other person than the Prime Minister himself, who stated, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, that he did not acknowledge this theory of mandate at all.

The New Reform Bill.

But if there were no other reason for urgency in the matter of Woman Suffrage, it would be found in the statement already made by Mr. Asquith that it is the intention of the Government before they leave office to carry a new Reform Bill. This Bill, in the form in which it will be introduced by the Government, will not enfranchise women, but will give more votes to men. It is absolutely necessary that the sex barrier shall be swept away before this extension of the male franchise takes place, because unless this order is followed, women are almost certain to be left out in the cold. It has, as we know, been suggested by Mr. Asquith that Woman Suffrage may be included in the general measure of franchise reform. He proposes that the opinion of the House may be taken on the question by means of a private Member's amendment. The objections to this course are manifold. In the first place, a question of prime national importance such as Woman Suffrage cannot be dealt with adequately by a private Member. Secondly, knowing, as we do, the impotence of private Members, it is exceedingly likely that a private Member's amendment will be defeated in the House of Commons, in spite of the fact that a majority of Members are pledged to the principle. Either the private Member's amendment may be framed on too narrow a scale to suit the adherents of the Government, in which case it will be defeated by Liberal "friends," or, on the other hand, it may include Woman Suffrage on some fancy basis, and be defeated by Conservatives, who are merely pledged to support the simple removal of the sex barrier. Thirdly, even if the Woman Suffrage amendment be carried, there are still many pitfalls before Woman Suffrage becomes an accomplished fact, for this simple question will then be bound up with the fate of a highly complicated Bill, into which may enter such controversial subjects as proportional representation, the abolition of plural voting, the payment of Members, the payment of election expenses, alteration of the registration laws, and a very large number of other questions. On the day on which this paper goes to press a deputation of men is waiting on the Prime Minister to urge upon him the introduction of proportional representation and second ballot into this measure. This heterogeneous piece of legislation will find itself opposed by all kinds of interests in the House of Commons, and even if it succeeds in weathering the storms there, it will find contrary winds in the Upper Chamber, where even the Liberal Party will be indifferent to its fate, for, as is well known, it is being put forward, not so much for its own sake as to give to the Liberal Party a weapon against the House of Lords.

Women, knowing these facts, are not content that their cargo should be entrusted to a leaking ship. They are satisfied that if their measure is taken alone, there is such overwhelming support in the country that Members of Parliament will be unable to resist it. They do not intend that delay shall be put forward as a means of thwarting their claim, and they are determined to make the path of the Government an impossible one until they give women their right to be placed among the electorate of the country.

F. W. Pethick Lawrence.

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

Shop and Committee Rooms: 33, Queen's-road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

At Homes.

Mondays, 3 to 5.—Victoria Assembly Rooms, Clifton.
Fridays, 8 p.m.—Hannah More Hall, Clifton.

Important Event.

November 27.—Plymouth Guildhall, 8 p.m.

We are now actively engaged in organising in Plymouth, Torquay, and Bath, as well as Bristol. The arrival of Miss Elsie Howey, to help in organising the West of England, is a great encouragement. She is at present working in Plymouth and Torquay, both of which I hope to visit later. Will anyone who can help write to Miss Howey at Marwell, Lipsom-road, Plymouth?

Miss Joachim was our speaker at the last At Home, when we had a very full room and an enthusiastic audience. Meetings have been held at Barton Hill (Mutual Improvement Society), Fishponds Co-operative Hall (meeting for women), in Mr. Birrell's constituency; at Avonmouth, when so many people wished to be present that the room could not accommodate them all; in Hamilton Rooms, at the Horse Fair, and elsewhere. We have taken part in a debate with the Law Students' Society, where Miss Macaulay, Miss Ida Walters, and myself were the speakers. Although we were asked to speak about the principle of votes for women, our opponents insisted on discussing the militant tactics, so we concluded that they were at least convinced as to the justice of our demands. Miss Macaulay also spoke in the Hamilton Rooms.

The next important event is on Thursday (10th), when Miss Clara Codd will be arriving in Bristol, after her month's imprisonment in Holloway. We shall have a wagonette decorated with the colours, and shall meet her at the railway station and drive to the Clifton Arts Club for tea, and there will be a reception in her honour in the Whartley Hall in the evening. Tickets are 1s. each, and can be obtained from Miss James, 33, Queen's-road, Clifton. All who wish to ride in the wagonette and go to tea at the Arts Club must write to Mrs. Falk, Pembroke-road, Clifton.

I must again appeal for funds to carry on the work in the West of England. If the organisers were freed from the worry of meeting expenses, how much easier their work would be!

We are anxious to have a shop and office combined in Bristol, where we should have more room than we have at present. I have seen the very thing for us, with a room that would accommodate 300 people. I should like to have the rent guaranteed, and I make here a special appeal to all who can help in this way. If we could have it by the time Mrs. Pankhurst comes to us in February I should indeed be proud. We are working trebly hard here, because our leaders are shut away from us for a time, and I want to ask all women who sympathise with our aims to come forward now and help us.

I am able to report this week:—Monday At Home, £5 2s. 1½d.; collection, Barton Hill, 17s.; Women's meeting, Fishponds, 11s. 6d.; Avonmouth, 18s. 10½d.; Hamilton Room, 8s. 6d.; Mrs. Waller (Victoria Room), £1; A Friend, £1.

Annie Kenney.

LANCASHIRE.

Manchester Office, 116, Portland-street.

At Homes.

Fridays, 8 to 10, Onward Buildings, Deansgate.

Wednesday, November 18, 4 to 6, Onward Buildings, Deansgate.

Great Demonstration, Wednesday, November 25, 8 p.m., Free Trade Hall, Mrs. Peaback Lawrence.

The past week was full of energetic preparations for Friday's indignation meeting in the Free Trade Hall. As time was short, special methods for making the meeting known were adopted. Every meeting of note, every concert of size, and all theatre queues were visited, and on Tuesday night quite a sensation was created by our band of Suffragette sandwichwomen, who paraded, as on Wednesday and Thursday, the principal streets. This alone brought in hundreds of applications for tickets. Municipal Day (Monday, November 2) was another good opportunity for reaching large numbers of people, and our bill distributors did not fail to take advantage of it. The result was that on Friday, after less than a week's work, a crowded audience awaited us in the large Free Trade Hall, almost 5,000 being present.

The object of the meeting was explained, and it very soon became apparent how much the great audience was in sympathy with us and with the prisoners, and how indignant it was with the Government. Mrs. Martel spoke excellently, and Miss Helen Ogston made a special point of the absolute need for the tactics and for their continuance. Altogether it was a memorably successful meeting, and when the resolution was put only about a dozen

hands were held against it. As the resolution was an exceedingly drastic one, this was splendid testimony to the public sympathy.

Councillor Margaret Ashton—Manchester's first woman Councillor—sent a telling letter from her point of view as a Constitutional Liberal Suffragist. The collection realised £27 9s. 6d. (not quite covering expenses, as the hall cost 25 guineas, and time was too short to issue tickets in the ordinary way), but I feel that so much was done by it and the goodwill so spontaneous throughout, that I anticipate a great welcome for Christabel Pankhurst if the Government yields to pressure and releases her in time for the 25th; and if not, we will have an indignation meeting on a more impressive scale still. Apply, ticket secretary immediately for tickets. Admission 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d.

I was glad to be able to announce from the chair that we hope to have Miss Elizabeth Robins with us in a few days, and at a special At Home on Wednesday, November 18, Mr. Holbrook Jackson has also promised to speak.

On this Friday, the 13th, we shall welcome the return to Manchester from Holloway of one of our most valuable workers, Mabel Capper. Members should attend in good time in order to give our brave young soldier a rousing welcome.

At Birmingham on Wednesday, where I had the pleasure of assisting Gladice Keevil, in the absence of Christabel Pankhurst, the same joyous spirit of enthusiasm and coming victory was apparent.

Next week Rochdale will hold an indignation meeting, Miss Lilian Williamson, B.A., Dr. Letitia Fairfield, and I being speakers.

The Free Trade Hall collection amounted to £27 9s. 6d.; West Kirby Debating Society, 15s.; Miss S. Holden, 1s. 6d.

Mary E. Gawthorpe.

MIDLANDS.

Shop and Committee Rooms: No. 14, Ethel-street, Birmingham.

At Homes.

Birmingham, No. 14, Ethel-street, Monday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Birmingham, Edgbaston Assembly Rooms, Wednesday, 3.30 to 5 p.m.

Wolverhampton, The Baths Assembly Rooms, Thursday, 3.30 to 5 p.m.

Important Event.

Coventry, Baths Assembly Hall Meeting, November 17.

Last Monday we held our first At Home at the Ethel-street offices. To celebrate the occasion Miss Neale sent us a large, delicious iced cake made by Mrs. Hill; "Votes for Women" was traced in purple and green, round it also was a lucky horseshoe with my favourite motto, "Play the game," inside. We spent a very busy evening making final arrangements for the Town Hall meeting on Wednesday. All day a continuous stream of people came in for tickets and literature. The only people to whom we refused to sell tickets were the University students, who, we had every reason to suppose, only wished to gain admission in order to interrupt. Two hours before the meeting a crowd began to assemble; this grew to very large proportions before the doors were open. The hall was thronged, and many people had to be refused admission. During my opening address, and a part of Miss Gawthorpe's, a group of students in one part of the hall constantly interrupted, and were therefore ejected by our stewards, who were very ably organised by Mr. Hardie. After this quiet reigned, and Miss Gawthorpe spoke to a most appreciative audience. Dr. Helena Jones seconded the resolution moved by Miss Gawthorpe, condemning the Government for their treatment of Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Drummond, Christabel Pankhurst, and the other prisoners. At the close of the proceedings the resolution was carried with scarcely a dozen dissentients. A collection of over £12 was then taken. I appealed to the women to join us, and right loyally they responded. Outside, when the ejected students were marching round the hall, no fewer than ten thousand persons had gathered together. This undoubtedly served to further impress the fact of our presence on the people of Birmingham.

We are very busy at the offices, and need more help if we are to effectively cope with the additional work. Will members who can assist please let me know what definite time they can give? It is very evident that we shall have to engage a larger room for our Tuesday evening At Homes. In connection with this again, I want members to volunteer to assist Mrs. Edwards, who has charge of the literature.

Wolverhampton.

The members in Wolverhampton have now taken complete charge of the work in this neighbourhood, and things are "humming." Tea and all other items are provided by the members. They propose holding an At Home one Thursday evening, to which men will be especially invited. Several more Liberal women have de-

clared their intention of withdrawing their help from the Liberal party until women are enfranchised.

Coventry.

Coventry is to be the scene of great activities for the next two weeks. Miss Lea is arranging mid-day meetings at the factories where women work for me to address. Mrs. Collington has also been kind enough to arrange to give a drawing-room meeting. Invitations to debates in Coventry have been accepted. The climax of our work here will be the large meeting in the Baths Assembly Rooms on Tuesday, November 17. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst will speak, also Dr. Helena Jones. I shall be in the chair. A large number of women are wanted to assist on this evening, and Miss Dawson St. Peter's Vicarage, will be glad to have names of those able to help at once. Tickets, reserved, 2s. 6d. and 1s., unreserved 6d., can be obtained from Miss Lea, 25, Queen's-road, Coventry.

Stirchley and Bournville.

Mrs. Edwards, 27, Beech-road, Bournville, and Miss Stevenson, are organising a large meeting in the Stirchley Institute, for women only, on Monday, 16th. Will every member in this district kindly give all the assistance they possibly can? Miss Hazel will preside on this occasion, and Dr. Helena Jones and myself will speak.

I am forwarding to the treasurer:—Tickets, £36 19s. 9d.; tickets, extra, 7s. 6d.; collection at Town Hall, £12 6s. 4d.; subscriptions: Mr. Knight, Alveny House, Moseley, 5s.; A Working Woman, 6d.; J. Bentley, Esq., Middleton Hall, King's Norton, £1 1s.; Mrs. Ryland, 19, Hermitage-road, Edgbaston, 10s. Donations towards the Midland campaign should be addressed to me at 49, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

Gladice G. Keevil.

YORKSHIRE.

At Home.

Arts Club, Leeds, 8, Blenheim-terrace, Woodhouse-lane.

Mrs. Isaac Smith, jun., was hostess at the At Home given to meet Miss Brackenbury in Somerset Parlour on Monday last. The gathering was a large one, and Miss Brackenbury secured the entire sympathy of the audience.

A protest meeting was held on Tuesday in the Westminster Hall, Leeds. It was well attended, and after Miss Brackenbury and I had spoken the following resolution was carried:—

This meeting condemns the action of the Government in imprisoning women who are political offenders as ordinary offenders, and, further, calls upon the Government to make any imprisonment unnecessary by enfranchising the duly qualified women of the country.

Miss Brackenbury's excellent speech was well received, and the meeting was a very earnest and enthusiastic one. Nine new members were made. On Wednesday evening Miss Brackenbury spoke at the Arts Club At Home, and made many converts.

A splendid meeting was held on Woodhouse Moor (Leeds) on Sunday afternoon, when we sold out our stock of pamphlets and VOTES FOR WOMEN during the first few minutes.

This week we are expecting the visit of Miss Evelyn Sharp to Bradford for two meetings on Monday.

On Thursday we shall have a great demonstration at Armley, with a band and six women in prison dress; this, we hope, will be a great success.

Adela Pankhurst.

NEWCASTLE.

At Homes.

Wednesdays 3 to 5, and 8 to 10.—Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street.

Fridays 7 to 9.—Meeting for Women, I.L.P. Institute, Chestnut-street, Wallsend.

The copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN given by Mrs. Taylor last week have done an immense amount of good, and many thousands more could have been given. The hearty disapproval expressed by the blunt comments of the workmen here show how deeply they begin to feel the disgrace of the parody of justice perpetrated by those responsible for the trial of our leaders. One man said: "It makes me feel fair murderous." Another, "It ain't good enough, lass, that it ain't."

The At Homes on Wednesday were again a great success. Many ladies came for the first time as a result of our new cards. The "Kathleen Brown" Fund of £21—i.e., £1 for every day she spends in prison, has reached the sum of £16 16s. Those who wish to help us to complete it, please send or bring contributions to Crosby's Café next Wednesday. Miss Brown will be released on Wednesday, and we shall have a special reception in her honour when we know when she will be with us again. New members are enrolled at every meeting.

At the evening At Home last week two resolutions were unanimously carried—one of protest, which was duly sent to the Home Secretary, and which has been acknowledged, and one of sympathy with all the prisoners. The subjects for next Wednesday and

Wednesday week are "The Importance of the Vote, (a) in the Home, and (b) in the Industrial and Professional World." Ladies and gentlemen both are cordially invited. An invitation card is not necessary; it is only sent as reminder.

Wallsend.

The meeting on Friday was again a great success. Seven new members were enrolled. The women seem very keen indeed on this subject, and understand very readily how immediate is the need of the vote for women. We again appeal for contributions towards our Friday night entertainment. A tea urn is urgently needed.

I received an invitation to speak at a meeting of the "Ramblers," Wallsend, and the audience was keenly alive to the importance of our cause. A good deal of literature was sold at all meetings during the week.

Whitley Bay

A meeting is to be held on the 10th inst., in the Assembly Rooms at 7.30, admission 6d. Our members in that district have been very active in advertising this event, and success is confidently expected.

Volunteers.

We have three splendid new speakers, but want more. Also help for selling VOTES FOR WOMEN and literature at open-air meetings. Many of our Newcastle and Wallsend members have responded most generously to our appeals, and we wish to thank them all in this way.

Edith New.

SCOTLAND.

Office, 141, Bath-street, Glasgow.

At Homes.

Wednesday, 4 p.m., 24, Shandwick-place, Edinburgh.

Saturday, 3.30 p.m., 141, Bath-street, Glasgow.

This week has shown most encouraging results of the work done by our members in and round Glasgow since the beginning of the autumn. Two or three different literary and debating societies, in the place of their usual gatherings, have held large public meetings, at which, as a representative of the W.S.P.U., I was invited to speak on "Why Women make War on the Government." The audiences were keenly interested and sympathetic, the last one breaking up with ringing cheers—for the women!

The sale of work, cakes, &c., was a great success. I do not quite know the financial result yet, but we expect to have quite £25 profit for our funds. We were glad to welcome some of our new friends and members made through the Paisley meeting, and we should also like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who by their gifts or assistance helped to make the sale a success. The protest made at Glasgow University on the occasion of Mr. Haldane's visit is described on p. 116. The result has been to bring forth increased support and sympathy for our work. Another cause bringing forth the same result has been our increased sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, which last week reached nearly 600.

We want to ask all members and friends to keep December 5 free, as we shall have an announcement to make to them about that date later.

G. M. Conolan.

SONG.

"The time is here and now, we will do and be"
Clear as a trumpet call, the sound fling;
Its challenge to the world; nor fear nor doubt
Muffles the blast. In answer to it, see!

The myriad women come, bearing the sign
Of Freedom bravely fought for, dear as life;
Their path no longer shadowed, with misgiving rife
But stary eyed they tread, in joyous line on line.

From the far glory of the starlit ways
Fling to the silent deeps beneath our feet,
From farthest oceans merge, piercing yet sweet
Comes the glad promise of our greater days.

Mabel Tuke.

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PROTESTS AT CABINET MINISTERS' MEETINGS.

IN LONDON AND THE PROVINCES.

Effective protests have been made during the week at the meetings of Cabinet Ministers in various parts of the country.

At a reception by Mrs. Godfrey Benson on Friday, in honour of the Prime Minister, while Mr. Asquith was standing at the head of the stairs a member of the N.W.S.P.U. was received, and remarked to him: "Can I do anything to persuade you to give votes to women?"

Lord Crewe at Surbiton.

At a meeting addressed by Lord Crewe at Surbiton on Thursday, in connection with Kingston United Liberal Association, an effective protest was made, resulting in a number of ejections by the stewards.

Lord Crewe had not spoken more than a dozen sentences when a Suffragette rose from a front seat and quietly asked, "Why cannot you give the women the vote?"

The chairman asked her to resume her seat, adding that the organisers of the meeting did not wish to have anyone turned out.

Lord Crewe resumed his speech, but she persisted in demanding an answer, and the audience cried out for her removal. Stewards were ordered to lead her to the door.

Mr. Birrell at Brighton.

We made an effective protest at Brighton on Friday. Those women who applied for tickets of admission to the Dome for Mr. Birrell's meeting were informed that none could be bought until five o'clock on Friday afternoon, but on the morning of the same day a notice was posted at the Liberal Committee Rooms to the effect that all tickets for women were sold out.

We reminded him of his reply to Annie Kenney's deputation at Bristol, when he said the Women's Bill might be reintroduced next Session—could he not say would? "I cannot," he replied, "as the Prime Minister and the majority of the Cabinet are against Women's Suffrage."

Miss Joachim asked him if he thought Mrs. and Miss Christabel Pankhurst should be transferred to the first division, and he answered that Mrs. Pankhurst could leave the prison at any time that she liked to be bound over.

K. D. S.

Mr. Runciman at Cambridge.

On Saturday Mr. Walter Runciman presided at a lecture at Cambridge by Mr. Harold Gorst. Mr. Runciman's reticence on that occasion has been commented on by several of the daily papers, and it was very noticeable that he said as little as possible in introducing the lecturer.

As soon as he began: "Ladies and gentlemen—Suffragette No. 1 remarked: "Mr. Runciman, as a member of the Government, you are partly responsible for its tyrannical conduct towards women."

When he again rose a second Suffragette near the platform composedly donned and waved her "Votes for Women" scarf, while quoting Magna Carta to show that justice should not be sold nor refused.

She was followed by a third, who advised Mr. Runciman to give women the vote so that they might assist him in passing a more effective Education Bill. Other women protested also, and as Mr. Runciman hurried off the platform a woman called for three cheers for Votes for Women, which were promptly given.

N. L.

Mr. Haldane at Glasgow University.

On Saturday Mr. Haldane visited Glasgow in order to speak at the University. We had previously written him asking to receive a deputation of professional and working women, but he refused on the plea of want of time.

We should like to make quite clear that we do not hold the students stewarding in the hall really responsible for the occurrence. They have been led by the Press and stewards at Liberal meetings to believe that they would have to deal with some type of wild animal called a "female hoodigan," and they had prepared accordingly.

G. M. C.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

It will be seen that this week we have nearly reached the half-way house towards our new fund. I hope that next week will see us safely arrived there.

E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £50,000 FUND.

Table listing contributions to the £50,000 fund from November 4 to November 10. Includes names like Mrs. Florence Farmer, Miss B. Stephen, Miss Edith C. Paull, etc., with amounts in pounds, shillings, and pence.

MISS ASHTON'S LETTER OF PROTEST.

The following letter from Miss Margaret Ashton was read at the indignation meeting in the Manchester Free Trade Hall on Friday, November 6, described on page

Because I cannot be present to-morrow at the women's indignation meeting, I write a line of sympathy. Women of all sorts and conditions should join in this orderly protest against the unjust treatment of women political offenders.

Press Extracts.

"WESTMINSTER GAZETTE," November 3.

There was no lack of variety in the debate on the question of the employment of barmaids. A few years ago the House of Commons might have treated the question with levity, just as they treated Woman Suffrage.

"EVENING NEWS," November 3.

It is understood that when the public galleries in the House of Commons are reopened special precautions will be taken against a repetition of the late disorders.

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The following penny pamphlets are published or sold by the Woman's Press, 4, Clements Inn, London, W.C. :-

TRIAL OF THE SUFFRAGETTE LEADERS.

- Verbatim Report of Speeches and Examination of Witnesses. 48 pp. Six Illustrations. Price 1d. Prison Faces. By ANNIE KENNEY. A Call to Women. By Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE. One and One are Two. By ISRAEL ZANGWILL. Talked Out. By ISRAEL ZANGWILL. The Commons Debate on Woman Suffrage. By CHRISTABEL PANKHURST. The Importance of the Vote. By Mrs. PANKHURST. The New Crusade. By Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE. The Meaning of the Woman's Movement. By Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE. Votes for Men. By MARY GAWTHORPE. Woman's Suffrage in America. By Mrs. BORRMANN WELLS. Woman's Vote in Australia. By Mrs. MARTEL. The Citizenship of Women. By KEIR HARDIE. Woman's Franchise. By Mrs. WOLSTENHOLME ELMY. Woman's Suffrage. By T. JOHNSTON. The Militant Methods of the N.W.S.P.U. By CHRISTABEL PANKHURST, LL.B.

The Woman's Press also publishes a large number of leaflets on particular questions, samples of which will be sent free on receipt of postage, and which can be obtained in large quantities at specially cheap rates.

From the Woman's Press can also be obtained books on the Woman's Suffrage question, and picture post cards of the leaders of the N.W.S.P.U., and of many of the incidents in the agitation.

BADGES AND COLOURS.

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LOCAL NOTES.

Brighton and Hove W.S.P.U.—We held an open-air meeting on Monday (November 2) when Mrs. Jones-Williams, Mrs. Massy, and myself addressed the crowd. On Wednesday (November 4) we held our usual open-air meeting at the Western Boundary, at 2.30; and on Friday (November 6) the great event was Mr. Birrell's speech at the Dome. The events of the day are described on another page. On Saturday (7th) we had a successful meeting in the Oldfellows' Hall, where Miss Vera Wentworth and Miss Mary Phillips gave us rousing addresses. We sold 105 worth of literature, including many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN. The collection amounted to 18s. 6d. Then on Sunday we held our usual open-air Level meeting, and Miss Vera Wentworth and Miss Mary Phillips again held the interest of a large crowd in the teeth of a biting wind.

I. G. MCKEOWN.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—We have decided to hold a great protest meeting at Chelsea Town Hall on Monday, November 16 at 8.30. Mrs. Drummond and Miss Macaulay will be the speakers, with Miss Navlor in the chair. On Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday we are sending out a procession of ladies with placards and handbills to attract the meeting. All who can help are asked to come to 4, Trafalgar-studios, Manre-a-road, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on all or any of the days. On Saturday and Monday Miss Joachim and Miss Douglas Smith will head the procession on horseback, and on Monday the Misses Mackenzie have kindly promised to drive through the streets in their carriage decorated with the colours and bearing a large placard. Volunteers are also wanted to distribute handbills outside halls, theatres, and at open-air meetings. Last week we needed all our workers in Chelsea to advertise our lantern lecture, but as Miss Brickbury kindly came to our help we were still able to hold the usual weekly open-air meeting at East Hill, Wandsworth. This week the meeting will be on Thursday, at 7.30, when Miss Douglas Smith will be the speaker.

CHARLOTTE BLACKLOCK.

Chiswick W.S.P.U.—We held our second monthly At Home on November 4. The indignation against the Government for their treatment of our leaders was the chief topic of the meeting, and members were called upon to put their best efforts into getting up a big protest meeting in conjunction with Kensington. Brentford is being visited with good results, and a lantern lecture is being arranged for at the Baths Hall. Kew also has given us a good reception at open-air meetings, and an indoor meeting is also being arranged. We are in communication also with Isleworth, where we hope quite soon to announce a drawing-room meeting. A whistle drive has been arranged for December 7 in the Town Hall. A "Gift Stall" was started, several ladies bringing small articles to be sold, at the At Home or later, when opportunity arises. One gentleman promised to make enlargements from photographs, all to bring in funds for this great cause.

C. M. A. COOMBS.

Cardiff W.S.P.U.—At our last meeting a vote of confidence in our Union, and sympathy with our imprisoned leaders, was passed unanimously, a notice of this being sent to our local paper. Interest in Cardiff is growing fast, especially for the militant tactics of the N.W.S.P.U. The people are fast seeing the need for the "fighting policy."

E. J.

Forest Gate and Wanstead W.S.P.U.—Friday, December 4, is the date fixed for our lantern lecture. Miss Douglas Smith is going to speak for us. Tickets will be 6d. each, and we hope all our friends will do their best to fill the Workman's Hall, Romford-road, on this occasion.

Tickets are now on sale for our whist party, which is to be held at Earlham Hall on Saturday, November 28. Price, 1s. 6d. each.

M. E. SLEIGHT.

Hendon W.S.P.U.—The first of a series of drawing-room meetings, to be held on the first Wednesday of every month, took place at Derby House, Hendon, November 4 at Mrs. Wyatt's kind invitation. There were between 30 and 40 ladies present. Mrs. Hicks and Miss Wyatt gave addresses, which were much appreciated, new members being enrolled at the close. An open invitation to these At Homes is given by Mrs. Wyatt to all those in the Hendon district, who would like to know about the subject of women's suffrage. Every week since our leaders were imprisoned we have held open-air meetings, where we have addressed good audiences. We are also holding special meetings for women only, and even the children are not left out. About 30 boys and girls assembled in Mrs. Wyatt's school-room last Saturday afternoon, when Miss Crickmay explained simply the meaning of the words Suffragette, vote, and the significance of our colours.

FRANCES V. CREATON.

Lewisham W.S.P.U.—In spite of a bitterly cold wind we had a very large audience on Sunday, November 8, on Blackheath. The rowdy element made itself felt at times, but there were many sensible "Votes for Women" questions. Thirty-six VOTES FOR WOMEN, a dozen of Miss C. Pankhurst's pamphlets, as well as badges and a tie were sold, the latter to a gentleman who was anxious to show his sympathy with our movement by wearing our colours. We distributed handbills announcing our magic lantern meeting in the New Cross Hall on November 13. This week we shall be very busy advertising this event at street-corner meetings and in various other ways.

J. A. BOUVIER.

Stoke-upon-Trent W.S.P.U.—It is a pleasure to be able to report the very cordial reception accorded to us on the occasion of our second open-air meeting, which was held in the Market Place, Lngton, on Monday evening, November 2. A crowd had already assembled on our arrival, which was estimated numbered some 1600 before the conclusion of the meeting. Miss Whalley again took the chair, and following her very able opening address, I spoke for an hour on the justice and necessity of the vote to women. New members of our local union were made, and the meeting broke up in a very friendly way. Travelling homeward in the car, which was full of people, were four clergymen, and the sight of my regalia led to an interesting conversation with them. They inquired how our movement was progressing, and while one of them deprecated militant action the other three seemed to be decidedly in favour, and on leaving the car wished our movement every success. On Thursday evening we held the usual meeting in Campbell-place, Stoke-upon-Trent. There was a very large attendance. Miss Whalley took the chair, and Mrs. Lawton, of Shelton, and myself were the speakers. We sold more literature at this meeting than we have ever done previously, and have made another influential member.

All inquiries for literature and other information should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, No. 22, Penkville-street, off London-road, Stoke-upon-Trent. (Mrs.) ADELINA REDFERN-WILDE.

Edinburgh W.S.P.U.—We held our weekly At Home at the offices on Wednesday, when Miss K. Scott Moncrieff, B.A., spoke to a deeply interested audience on the Anti-Suffrage manifesto, taking and refuting it point by point. On Thursday evening Miss Milne Chapman gave us an excellent address on the Suffrage question generally, and Dr. Porter afterwards spoke on the restrictions in university education, especially as they affected women medical students, and in comparison to universities abroad.

HELEN M. LOGAN.

Wimbledon W.S.P.U.—Over 1,000 persons gathered on the Common, near Wimbledon Green, in spite of Sunday's bitterly cold wind, to avail themselves of the privilege of listening to Miss Brackenbury's address. Mrs. Lorstignol also spoke, and Mr. F. A. Bather opened the meeting, which was an entirely successful one. The resolution at the close being passed with but three dissentients. Next Sunday, at 3 p.m., Miss Douglas Smith will give an address, and while the weather permits it is hoped that a series of outdoor meetings may be held, and that soon indoor meetings may also be arranged. The initial step towards forming a Wimbledon Committee was taken only about a fortnight ago, when over 50 ladies accepted the invitation of Mrs. Frank Bather to meet in her drawing-room at Fazo, Maryat-road, and discuss the militant methods of Suffragettes. The addresses given by Miss Evelyn Sharp and Miss Louisa Phillips on that occasion were much appreciated.

Should this meet the eye of any residents in Wimbledon or its neighbourhood who would like to become active members of the Wimbledon Committee, they are requested to send their names and addresses to Miss Margaret Grant, Fazo, Maryat-road, Wimbledon.

MARGARET GRANT.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

SIR,—The Government has thrown down a challenge to the militant Suffragists, daring them to continue their agitation. For us there is only one answer. Please accept my name as a volunteer for militant action when and where it may be necessary, and regardless of the consequences it may entail,

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