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**Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.**

Articles containing information on the subject of Women's Suffrage should be addressed to the Editor, who will return those not considered suitable as soon as possible if a stamped addressed envelope is sent with the MS. As the paper is on a voluntary basis, and all profits go to help the cause, no payments are made for contributions.

The General Editor gives the widest possible latitude to each of the Societies represented in this Paper, and is only responsible for unsigned matter occurring in the pages devoted to general items.

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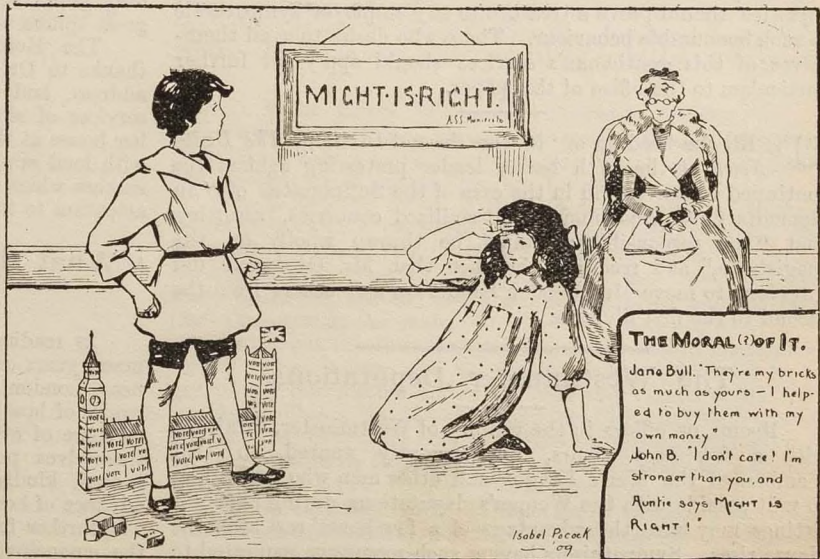
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## Notes.

IF Mr. Asquith were a determined upholder of "Votes for Women," it would be easier to understand the grandiloquent utterances with which he punctuates his appeals to democracy. Sir Edward Grey has recalled a declaration, for instance, made by his chief in 1906, wherein occur these words: "It was infinitely to the advantage of the House of Commons, if it was to be a real reflection and mirror of the national mind, that there should be no strain of opinion honestly entertained by any substantial body of the King's subjects which should not find there representation and speech."

MIXED with the denials which have appeared with regularity in the Liberal press, there now begins to appear a note of doubt. We gladly note the strengthened tone of *The Nation* in reference to the Cleveland by-election: "The opposition of 'the trade,' and also, we suspect, of the *Suffragettes*, now counts for something in all constituencies, artisan and other." Much stronger, in expressing the same truth, is the letter which appeared in *The Times* on July 6th, from its special correspondent at Cleveland, which is already familiar to our readers.

ON Friday last Sir Albert de Rutzen, passing sentence on one whom he himself described as one of "the greatest pests of society," summoned for sending papers, "calculated to deprave the young," through the post, imposed a fine of 40s. with 3*l.* 3*s.* costs! The previous Monday, four ladies charged with "obstructing the police," were sentenced by the same magistrate to three weeks' imprisonment in the second division, in default of payment of 3*l.* 3*s.*

IT will be remembered that among the cases brought up at Bow Street, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, on July 12th, there was a man accused of throwing stones who was discharged after the evidence of a friend. The witness has on this account lost his position as head of the ironmongery department in one of the largest stores in London. He had no connexion with any one of the Suffrage Societies, and was in Whitehall on June 29th as a spectator only. A man who, in the face of a warning that if he is away from work he will lose his place, stands by his friend and absents himself in order to prevent injustice should prove a treasure to any employer sympathetic to such honourable behaviour. Those who desire to avail themselves of this gentleman's services should apply for further particulars to the office of this paper.

UNDER the heading of 'In the Second Division,' *The Daily News* of the 17th had a leader protesting against the continued contravention in the case of the *Suffragettes* of "an elementary usage common to all civilized countries," asserting that "the responsibility cannot be thrown wholly on the magistrate," and recalling the fact that Mr. Gladstone did intervene to move Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and others from the second to the first division.

## The Westminster Deputations.

Rooms or offices in the vicinity of Westminster, furnished with a few easy chairs, are urgently wanted, so that members of the Men's League and other men who are willing to wait outside with the Women's deputations during all night sittings may have the advantage of a few hours' rest after the House rises. Sympathisers having such rooms are requested to communicate at once with the Editor of *Women's Franchise*.

## Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

UNDER the auspices of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association a series of lectures has been held on Wednesdays, at 64, Victoria Street (by kind permission of Mrs. Fabian Ware). The last was delivered on July 14th, by Dr. Mearns Fraser, Medical Officer of Health, Portsmouth, who took as his subject 'Women and Public Health Service.'

In the course of his remarks he said the most flagrant cases of corrupt administration are found in the smaller areas, large towns being less unmindful of the needs of the community. The local authority cannot claim as justification of its inaction that there is little or nothing to be done. As a result of one single investigation into milk supply it was found that 10 per cent of the cows tested were tubercular, while in many cases the conditions under which the milk was produced were unhealthy and unclean. This was one great cause of the appalling mortality among children during their first year. Mr. John Burns had introduced a Milk Bill to regulate the supply, but its provisions were entirely inadequate, as it failed to remove the control of the milk supply from the district council, many of whose members are directly interested in the trade. There are two very serious defects in the present system, one the absolute disregard of their duties shown by some sanitary authorities unless they are kept up to the mark by the Local Government Board. The second is that tenure of appointment depends solely on the officers being agreeable to their local boards. These officers should hold their appointments as long as they fulfil their duties, and should be removable only on an inquiry by the Local Government Board. Women already take a considerable share in public health service. As sanitary inspectors they have done such excellent work that no medical officer of health would care to be again without them. There are many matters which cannot be dealt with effectively by men alone. Such questions include those concerned with midwives, infants, women's employment and the medical inspection of school children. Without actual experience it was difficult to believe that the entrance of women into this department of public affairs could have been productive of so much good, especially through the influence they exercise over other women in connexion with the bringing up of children. Women had far more educative power and greater influence than men. There were three directions in which women's work should expand: they should become public health officers they should exercise their right of appointment and control over the sanitary inspectors in their respective districts, and they should become members of boards controlling sanitation. The only fault the lecturer could find with women's work in this great sphere was that they did not do sufficient.

The Hon. Violet Douglas-Pennant proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Mearns Fraser for his very able and instructive address, and to Mrs. Fabian Ware, for having secured the services of such excellent speakers, and for so kindly placing her house at the disposal of the Association. This was received with loud applause. Mrs. Fabian Ware in reply alluded to the success which had attended the lectures throughout, and drew attention to the further courses projected for next winter.

## "What the Eye does not see the Heart does not Feel."

IN reading the recent biography of a gifted lady, who for many years carried on most successfully a popular girls' school near London, the thought is brought home to any careful reader of how little the fact of the subjectivity of women appeals to some of even the best of women, unless or until it touches themselves personally. This lady was cultured, refined, intellectual, kindly, and in some respects, broad-minded and in advance of her times; but, as one of her pupils writes, "Nothing was further from her thoughts than to lead us in the paths of the emancipated. I can recall every tone of her voice... when she said with the greatest emphasis, 'My dear children,

## Correspondence.

[The Proprietors of 'WOMEN'S FRANCHISE' do not necessarily identify themselves in any way with the opinions expressed by their Correspondents.]

## An Open Letter to Lord Roberts.

DEAR SIR,—Although I am in the most thorough sympathy with the National Service League, I am writing to explain that I am one of a rapidly increasing number of women who are no longer inclined to work for those who will not help us. I do not find your name among men who have declared in favour of Women's Franchise.

Believing as we do that our national prosperity depends quite as much (if not more) upon morals as upon muscles, we are anxious to influence both public and private life; and we are striving to enfranchise the sweated and enslaved mothers of the race, whose economic interests can only be safeguarded through the political power of the vote.

I may add that your coadjutor, Lord Curzon, is an active opponent of the Suffrage.—Yours truly,

LILIAN E. TILLARD.

## Royal Microscopical Society.

St. Bees, Northumberland Road, Leamington.

SIR,—Have you noticed that the Royal Microscopical Society, following the example of the Linnean Society, has decided to admit women to the full privileges of membership or fellowship, as it is usually called.

Being a member of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, I was glad to attend the meeting on June 16th to support this change. Yours, &c., J. ALFRED HILL, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.

## The Press.

SIR,—After taking in *The Weekly Graphic* for many years, a year or so ago I ceased to take it in because of the disagreeable and sneering manner in which it referred to Woman's Suffrage, and I have since taken *The Sphere* instead. I find this in every way an excellent paper, and I always recommend it to my friends. Yours, C. COCHRANE.

Homelea, S. Croydon.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to add to the list of papers favourable to the Suffrage the name of *The Christian Commonwealth*. Its editor, Albert Dawson, a member of the Men's League, is not only favourable but ardent in our cause. The paper costs only a penny a week. Yours faithfully,

D. B. FOSTER.

[We hear that the Croydon Branch of the Women's Freedom League recently offered to place in each of the five libraries in Croydon a copy of *Women's Franchise*, but the Library Committee refused the offer, which refusal led to letters to the press.]

## West Essex Women's Franchise Society.

DEAR SIR,—I have pleasure in stating that, although in West Essex things move slowly, a start has at last been made, and a society for Women's Franchise formed;

The Lady Sybil Smith of Rolls Park gave an "At Home" in the Dickens Hall, Chigwell, on Thursday, July 1st, which was attended by about 200 people, who came from Loughton, Buckhurst Hill, Epping, Theydon Bois, &c. Mrs. Despard made a stirring speech, and she was supported ably by Mrs. Cecil Chapman in the chair.

At present this new society will have to remain unattached to any parent society, and its principal work at first will be to put proper information before the men and women of the surrounding villages, for the quaintest ideas of what *Suffragettes* are and what they want abound. That the meeting was successful is testified to by the fact that the names of fifty-two members were taken.

For information apply to The Lady Sybil Smith, Rolls Park, Chigwell, President, and Miss Zimmerman, Woodberrie Hill, Loughton, Hon. Secretary.

let me never hear of one of you joining the discordant chorus of women shrieking for their rights.' Later, however, when, in one of our ancient cathedrals, an incident occurred which brought to her personal notice the indignities to which women, because of their sex, are liable, even in our national churches (and to those who knew her it seems an outrage that such an insult should have been offered to such a woman) her feelings were voiced in 'an indignant letter addressed to its leading cleric,' from a copy of which I quote the following: 'After this morning service we went round your beautiful cathedral, and soon found ourselves in a chapel at the end of which, against the wall, is a mosaic not easily seen from beyond the red cord stretched in front of it. As we looked towards it, the cord was withdrawn and two gentlemen stepped up to examine the mosaic. Three ladies, of whom I was one, followed; but the clergyman, with a fine tenor voice, who had just been intoning the service, checked us and called us back with the curt warning "We do not allow women in there."'

Her biographer also tells us that this highly successful and prosperous lady was "splendidly indifferent to the latter-day cry for Women's Franchise," yet one of her pupils writes "Never shall I forget her glee when an ill-advised professor had been lecturing on the total submission of woman to her lord, and Miss — replied to his teaching by reading aloud to us, without note or comment, Mrs. Poyser's speech in 'Adam Bede,' 'However, I'm not denying the women are foolish. God Almighty made them to match the men.'"

How are we to account for such inconsistencies in good women; and ought we to be glad or sorry for them? Glad that at least they have some glimmerings into the truly womanly position, or sorry that they fail to grasp in its entirety the fact that (and especially for the less favoured ones) until the position of the whole of womanhood is raised women will always be liable to having indignities and degradations thrust upon them by unenlightened, thoughtless, or selfish people, whether educated or ignorant?

ALICE M. SHILLINGTON.

## The Order Old shall yield to Order New.

SEERS of old, with vision clear, divine,  
Demanded Justice, Freedom, Liberty,  
A triune holy, based on fearless truth.  
Denied they were, but ages heard the cry,  
And bore it onwards, till a mighty throng  
Noble-souled, with lofty purpose, rose,  
Exulting in their hearts with freedom's thrill,  
Undaunted, in their message to the world.  
And barriers of custom, prejudice  
At Time's command dissolve and fade away,  
For order old must yield to order new,  
A fixed law for all eternity.

ALICE E. COLLINGE.

## Old and Young.

THE CRY OF THE OLD.

O, young wings! young untried wings!  
Wherefore so eager to fly?  
O, young things! young untried things!  
Forget not all must die.

REPLY OF THE YOUNG.

O, old one! old, old one!  
Why croakest so loud, so loud?  
O, old one! with life near done,  
Your sun's behind a cloud.

CRY OF THE OLD.

The sun's behind the cloud maybe,  
But the cloud it lies between;  
And life is spent on a weary sea,  
Whose waves are "might have been."

REPLY OF THE YOUNG.

But the sun is there, is there, old man,  
And what is can never die.  
Youth is strong since the world began,  
And wings are given to fly.

## National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

## National Union at Nottingham.

A MASS meeting was held in Nottingham market place on Monday, July 5th, that some of the distinguished women who were coming to the quarterly meetings might address the people. Three platforms were arranged with red and white streamers giving their subjects. There was a huge concourse of people, of whom a very large number were most anxious to hear the speakers. At Platform I. Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Margaret Robertson had a good hearing, Miss Robertson holding the crowd for three-quarters of an hour. At Platform II. Councillor Margaret Ashton made a splendid effort to talk down the hooligan element which began very early to throw missiles, and Mrs. Rackham and Miss Rathbone nobly carried on the attempt. At Platform III. were Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Gardner, and Miss Courtney, who, in spite of insistent pluck, had as difficult a time as at number II., and in the end both platforms went down before 8.30, when the attention of the roughs was turned against Platform I., just as Miss Corbett rose to speak. Happily Mrs. Fawcett was able to leave just before the rush. It was, however, unfortunately necessary to terminate without putting the resolution, and earlier than had been hoped. There were only twelve or fourteen police present in the Market Place, whereas fifty had been the number promised by the city authorities as adequate. In an interview the chief constable said he very much regretted that his written order had not been carried out, and promised that a similar occurrence should certainly not happen again.

There were about 120 delegates from various branches present at the quarterly meetings on July 6th, and of this number a good many remained for the reception given in the evening of the Vice-Presidents and committee of the Notts Branch. The Vice-Presidents (Lady Maud Rolleston and the Hon. Mrs. Handford) received the guests, and there seemed to be but one opinion with regard to the delightful speeches delivered by Mrs. Fawcett and Miss I. O. Ford. Many new members joined, and we hope that a great deal of interest has been roused in the town by the visit of the National Union. We can only apologize to our guests for the shameful behaviour of the roughs and the inadequacy of the police, for which they have taken full responsibility and blame. This, however, is but little comfort for the wrecking of what might have been a splendid meeting, and the more than discomfort, if not actual danger, of the speakers and guests. We think that no one was hurt, though we know how much the speakers, to whom we cannot be grateful enough, had to put up with.

**CHELLENHAM (N.U.W.S.S.).**—A Garden Fair was held in the grounds of Sandford Lawn by kind permission of General and Mrs. Swiney on Saturday, July 17th, from 2.30 to 7.30. The weather was most propitious, being fine and warm, and a large company of members and friends assembled. Two tea stalls and a stall of miscellaneous goods, besides a table of literature, stood in the beautiful garden, which with these, the Cheltenham banner, and other suitable decorations, presented a picturesque appearance. A meeting was held at 3 o'clock, a shady bank being used as platform. Mrs. Frances Swiney took the chair, and was supported by Mrs. MacIlquham and others. Lady Isabel Margesson gave a deeply interesting speech on the general aspects of Women's Suffrage, and then touched upon the recent deputation of the W.S.P.U., explaining its meaning and actual occurrences. Mrs. Stables of Oxford also said a few words.

After this a short concert was held in the drawing-room, at which most of the company were present, threepence admission being charged. An excellent programme was rendered, Madame von Elischer of the Ladies' College, pianist, Miss Una Hadwen of Gloucester, elocutionist, and Miss Edith Williams, pianist, generously giving their great talents for the occasion. Other local ladies also helped. Speaking in the garden followed, Madame Mirovitch giving a short address on the position in Russia. Then tea was served at a charge of sixpence, and there was a second concert. The sale of miscellaneous goods was going on more or less all the time under the

superintendence of various members. A brisk trade was done, cakes and savouries being in especial demand. A butterfly-making competition amused the children, who were further entertained by a bean-hunt, for which prizes were offered. Several persons gave in their names as members or sympathizers during the afternoon. It is hoped that when all the receipts have come in a very satisfactory profit will be realized.

**LONDON.**—Even the weather favoured the London Society's first open-air meeting on Parliament Hill, Saturday, July 17. A good nucleus of Highgate members with two bright banners attracted passers-by to the spot, and the effective speaking kept them there for a good hour and a half, until, indeed, the borrowed platform had to be carried off to its rightful owners. The Men's League did most valuable service, not only by the thoughtful and earnest speeches of its President, Mr. Herbert Jacobs, and of Mr. Yaldwyn, but by being early on the field and contributing a little band of stalwarts, whose presence was doubtless largely responsible for the absence of the irrepressible small boy and for the good order that was maintained throughout. Mr. Miall Smith's address was listened to with much attention, and the audience showed keen interest in Mrs. Stanbury's straight talk and direct appeal to the men. The crowd grew thicker and thicker, and at the close one of the friendly park-keepers wanted to prove his appreciation of the energetic Suffragist by claiming her as a fellow-countrywoman, but obliging as Mrs. Stanbury is, even she could not change her birthplace to please him.

**EALING AND ACTON (L.S.W.S.).**—The Committee of this branch held a largely attended garden meeting on July 14th, at 19, Culmington Road, Ealing (by kind permission of Mrs. Gadsden). Lady Frances Balfour, who was the speaker, gave one of her shrewd addresses, lit by flashes of humour. One argument against the enfranchisement of women, said Lady Frances, was that they could not fight—but could they not? (Laughter.)

The Rev. W. Templeton King, B.D., speaking from the chair, alluded to the removal of the sex barrier as of greatest importance for the country's future. He believed the enfranchisement of women to be a good and sacred cause.

At the conclusion of the meeting several new members were enrolled.

**REDHILL AND REIGATE.**—This last week has been a busy one, and we have held open-air meetings every day in order to make a special effort to rouse the neighbourhood and collect funds. Generous donations have been received, and the members have worked hard at collecting and selling papers; but as the accounts are not yet all in, results are not known yet. Very hearty thanks are due to Miss Abadam, Miss Cicely Corbett, Miss Alison Garland, and Mr. A. J. Kennerly for their kind and effective help during the week. The rain did its best to spoil Miss Abadam's meetings, but her eloquence remained unquenched, and her advice and words of encouragement will be an immense help to the Society, while her enthusiasm inspired us all to fresh efforts. Local speakers, too, gave valuable help, and "special effort week" has done much to discover new talents and possibilities. R. I. PYM.

**WINDSOR AND ETON (L.S.W.S.).**—An interesting meeting took place on July 8th at Ewhurst House, Windsor. Mrs. Harrow-Ryde, the hostess, although she is an Anti-Suffragist, very kindly lent her drawing-room for the purpose. Miss Harriet Cockle spoke ably on Women's Suffrage. Mrs. Everett, in proposing a vote of thanks, to the speakers also made a capital speech, as did Mrs. Nagel, in seconding the vote of thanks. Alderman Bampfyde, J. P., who took the chair, made a strong appeal for the vote. Many questions were asked, and a very animated discussion took place. A lady present who has been a strong Anti-Suffragist in times past, expressed her conversion to the cause in a little speech which was received with hearty applause.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the hostess and the chairman, proposed by the Hon. Secretary of the Society.

## Meetings of the N.U.W.S.S.

JULY  
Thurs. 22. Highgate, Suffrage Debate  
Hostess, Mrs. Rogers  
Opener, Mrs. Holman  
Opposer, Mrs. Southgate

P.M.

3

## VOTES FOR WOMEN.

## Women's Freedom League.

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNRO.

Hon. Treasurer: MRS. WOOD.

President: MRS. DESPARD.

Telephone: 15143 CENTRAL.

NATIONAL OFFICES: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

Hon. Secretary: MRS. HOW MARTYN, B.S.C. A.R.C.S.

Hon. Treasurer: MISS BENNETT.

Hon. Organising Secretary: MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG.

Telegrams: "Tactics, London."

## The Siege of Westminster.

It still continues, this silent siege of Westminster, and at present no one can say when it will end. We follow the movements of the House as the sunflower does the sun. Every day when the House sits we take our stand without the gates. Every night, or more often in the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal," when London for one brief second seems to hold its breath before the first whisper of morning rustles through the air—members turning their backs on the wrangling and jangling of Budget discussion, find our women still on duty. They don't like it. They glance at us with a worried air, for deep down within them there begins to stir a long-dormant chivalry, a reluctant admiration for the endurance and sincerity of the peaceful women watchers. A strong undercurrent of discontent with Mr. Asquith's obstinacy is turning sympathy towards us in the lobbies, and in his Parliamentary Notes in last Thursday's *Daily News* even "P. W. W.," the inveterate opponent of the militant Suffragists, says: "Looking back upon the drama there are many who still say that Mr. Asquith would have been more wisely advised if at an earlier stage he had seen his way to receive a deputation."

Country cousins come and gape at us in their thousands, for we are one of the "lions" of London; foreign visitors look at us in bewilderment, evidently trying to reconcile the spectacle with their preconceived ideas of English liberty. We learn many things standing there watching the moving pageant all around us, and the things we learn serve only to strengthen the faith that is in us. In four days—from Tuesday to Friday—our women have been on duty for 44½ hours. On Wednesday night, while in the House of Law and Order our legislators hurled insults at one another, the "female hooligans" stood peacefully throughout the long hours of the night. Our special thanks and admiration are due to Mrs. Francis, Miss Bennett, Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Hyde, Miss Corben, Miss Burley, Mrs. Pickering, Miss Semple, Miss Irene Tillard, Miss Logan, Miss Vance, Miss Bremner, Miss Forbes, and Miss Vernon, who remained on duty until 9.15 on Thursday morning.

Our members no longer hold the petition that Mr. Asquith has received. The following is a remonstrance and petition sent from the

## CAXTON HALL MEETING

on Monday, the 12th inst. :—

THE RESPECTFUL REMONSTRANCE of the Meeting held under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League at Caxton Hall on July 12th.

To the Right Hon. H. H. ASQUITH, Esq., M.P.

That this meeting desires to place on record its grave remonstrance against your persistent refusal to grant a hearing to a deputation of members of the Women's Freedom League. Further, in view of the increasing urgency of the position and the growing need for the co-operation of women in all departments of legislation which affect their interests, this meeting calls upon you to fix a place and time for receiving a properly elected and representative deputation of that society.

Signed by the Chairman of Meeting,

TERESA BILLINGTON-GREIG.

The number of those who came to the Caxton Hall and passed this remonstrance was so great that the meeting had to

be transferred to the Council Chamber. Mrs. Billington-Greig, speaking for the last time before her temporary withdrawal from active work, said that Mr. Asquith, by accepting our petition from Miss Hicks, had admitted our right of petition. Working on this, we should continue until we had wrested from him an acknowledgment of our further right of audience. Mrs. Francis recounted her impressions as she stood on sentry-go, and "conscience money" was sent up by several members who were unable to join in the vigil outside the House.

One more act in the drama of petitioning has unrolled itself this week, to be followed in the appended correspondence between Mrs. Despard and Mr. Gladstone :—

Home Office, Whitehall, July 12th, 1909.

MADAM,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has laid before the King the petition signed by yourself and other representatives of the Women's Freedom League, in which you ask His Majesty to grant you a personal hearing, in order that you may lay before him your plea in regard to the injustice from which you believe women to suffer by their exclusion from the Parliamentary Franchise.

In reply to the petition Mr. Gladstone has to inform you that he has been unable to advise His Majesty to grant a personal hearing to the proposed deputation, as such a course would not be in accordance with constitutional usage; but he desires me to inform you that if you present a petition setting forth fully the statement which you desire to submit to the King with regard to your alleged grievance, and the plea which you wish to prefer, he will be ready to lay such petition before His Majesty.

I am, Madam, your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. E. TROUP.

Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., July 15th, 1909.

Right Hon. Herbert Gladstone, M.P.

SIR,—Your letter of the 12th July has been considered by myself and my colleagues of the Women's Freedom League. We beg to call your attention to the fact that your refusal to advise His Majesty to receive us is based upon a misconception of our purpose. We desire an audience of His Majesty the King in order to urge upon him the wrong that is at present done to us by the refusal of His Majesty's Prime Minister to receive us. Our statutory right entitles us to a hearing from the King, constitutional custom has transferred the duty of receiving petitioners to the Prime Minister, the most responsible member of the House of Commons. If we are denied a hearing by the latter, to the former we must appeal.

We beg to remind you that this point was made clear when you received our deputation on Thursday, July 8th, and you yourself, after reading the petition we placed in your hands, stated that "it was an argued plea for an audience."

In conclusion we must point out that the issue is being evaded when you, as a member of the Government, use your official position to shield another member of the Government, Mr. Asquith, from discharging a duty which has devolved upon the Prime Minister, since constitutional usage removed it from His Majesty the King. If Mr. Asquith continues to refuse to hear the petitioners, we have no alternative but to go back to our old rights as laid down in the Bill of Rights, clause 5, and appeal to the King to grant us a hearing, and there is no other way out of the difficulty. Yours faithfully,

C. DESPARD.

To this letter of Mrs. Despard's no answer has yet been received.

The jaws of Holloway swallowed four more of our devoted members on Friday. Mrs. McKenzie, Miss Semple, Miss Burley, and Miss Johnson transferred their peaceful picketing to the official residence of the Prime Minister in Downing Street, and immediately found themselves transferred to Bow Street. It seems there was obstruction: though whether the women were obstructed by the police, or whether a van delivering ice for the Premier's garden party was obstructed by the women was not made quite clear. The only point that did emerge from the general atmosphere of haze was that, as usual, it was the women who must pay. Mr. Marsham seemed obsessed by the idea that two documents which referred to the same subject must of necessity be one and the same. Miss Semple ably defended herself and Mrs. Mackenzie, and when, later in the afternoon, Miss Burley and Miss Johnson were brought into court, the clever tongue of the former so wrought on the magistrate that he inflicted only the modest sentence of twenty-one days, and reduced to the same period the sentences of one month passed on the first two prisoners. Though there was no suggestion of disorder, the magistrate refused to recognize the offence as political.

But on Saturday morning we learnt with joy that public opinion is becoming less dull-sighted than Mr. Marsham. *The Daily News*—no bigot where Suffragettes are concerned—published an admirable leader, which must give pause to the party of which this organ is the most faithful supporter. This leader cannot be made too widely known. We give a few extracts below.

#### IN THE SECOND DIVISION.

"The object which the Women's Freedom League has in view is perfectly clear. They are insisting on their right of petition as defined by a statute of Charles II., and to maintain that right they take every possible opportunity by waiting outside the House of Commons and in Downing Street to deliver their petition into Mr. Asquith's hands. Why he refuses to accept it has not been publicly explained, and we will offer no conjecture of our own. . . . With this preface our meaning will be clear when we say that it passes our comprehension to understand how such an "offence" as this can be regarded as dishonourable or criminal, or otherwise than political. The women's tactics may be good or bad. Their reading of the law may be faulty. But they are, at all events, acting with a definite political end—the defence of what they claim to be a constitutional right. As for the "offence" itself, it would be called "picketing" if the offenders were trade unionists, and was in their case expressly legalized by the Trades Disputes Act.

. . . . The inference is that if punishment is necessary—and to say that it is would be to prejudice the whole case as to the right of access to Ministers—it ought not to be a punishment which degrades or carries with it the stamp of criminality. . . . The women, it seems to us, in this and previous cases, have a right to be placed in the first division, and we cannot wonder that they insist on their right. The responsibility cannot be thrown wholly on the magistrate. Mr. Gladstone did intervene to move Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and others from the second to the first division. He has also interfered to move a woman from the third to the second division. He ought to interfere again and finally. One's opinion on the Suffrage or on the methods of the militants is quite irrelevant to this issue. It is simply a case for asserting an elementary usage common to all civilized countries."

M. NELSON.

#### The Guards at Westminster.

"They are like terriers watching a rabbit hole," said a Yorkshireman, as he watched the women outside the House. "Peris at the gate of Paradise," said another visitor. "Sentinels of Freedom" declared a third. Their definitions represent the situation not unfairly, for there is much of humour and much of heroism in this new campaign of patience. Day after day and night after night the women stand; the sun shines or the rain floods the streets, yet they are still there, tired very often, but determined always. At first the members of the House

looked at us jauntily, they then grew serious, now we seem to haunt their consciences, for they run in and out furtively. It no longer avails them to hide behind an army of police once every three months and then to close their ears and shut their eyes to this great woman's movement, which is rapidly spreading through the length and the breadth of the land, permeating every section of society, and finding its way into every home. Here, right at the gates, stands the advance guard of the new and truer democracy, and cannot be overlooked.

Now for the first time the women of England are represented at Westminster. And how? Come down and see. These new representatives of the people do not loll on velvet cushions, drivelling platitudes and hurling insults at each other through the long night sittings. Their voices are not heard in the palace of Westminster, but their presence is felt.

Of course, this duty is making a severe call on the physical endurance of the women. Any one can stand for an hour or two, but when the sittings of the House are excessively prolonged, as on Thursday last, from 3 P.M. to 9 A.M., the strain is great. Therefore, we call for more volunteers. The service asked is so simple, it involves no risk, it is strictly within the spirit and the letter of the law, and it is of incalculable value to the Cause.

We want every one who reads this to come forward; there are few, however busy, who cannot spare an hour or two of the day or night, and no woman can afford to allow others to bear all the burden of this great and striking protest.

B. BORRMANN WELLS.

#### History-Making and Magisterial-Heckling.

WHAT times we are having! It is not so long since that the Archbishop of Canterbury, told the boys at Dover College not to regret that they had not been born in the past ages of England's history, for our own days, he added, are as great and as glorious as any that have gone before.

The men folk of England live, it is true, in days of twentieth-century democratic self-government. But England's womanhood is fighting in a seventeenth-century struggle against despotism, constitutional infringements, and unjust taxation.

One week we are like shadows in a dream of historical retrospect, back in the period of the Interregnum, when William of Orange was seeking to obtain a Married Man's Property Act, by which he might reign over England as joint occupier with Queen Mary, II.

The week after, and the trial of the hundred and eight Suffragettes, corresponds accurately to the trial of the seven bishops. Then we go back to Charles II., and claim the right of 13 Carolus II. to petition, by deputation, the member for East Fife, as subjects of the King's Majesty.

The past week brings us to Charles I., and we find ourselves, like our Puritan forefathers, drawing up the instrument of a remonstrance. Thus in three years has the "greatest Liberal Government of modern times" bridged over the whole period right back to the imprisonment, in James I.'s time, of the last woman political prisoner, Lady Arabella Stuart, whose trial was also a blot upon the reputation of English judicial equity, though King's men then and Asquith's men now have sought "to make the worst appear the better part."

On Friday last fresh precautions for the vindication of the rights and privileges of the paving stones opposite 10, Downing Street became necessary, and Miss Semple and Mrs. Mackenzie were offered up as sacrifices for the pavement's appeasement. Miss Hicks and her three colleagues of the previous week were only arrested when their crowd numbered from 300 to 400. Not so with Miss Semple and Mrs. McKenzie, who were sentenced to one month, and charged with causing thirty people to assemble, not one of whom required arresting, however.

Miss Burley and Miss Johnson of Buffalo, U.S.A., were arrested later.

Miss Johnson's attention was called to the fact that, in endeavouring to do Englishwomen a political service, she was acting in a spirit of universality and good fellowship, and that no immediate or ulterior advantage could accrue to herself personally in the shape of the right to vote for an English M.P.

Miss Burley was talked to like a schoolgirl by his worship Mr. Marsham who (like the inevitable open-air heckler), had managed to get hold of those two "old bogies of the old fogies" the "you 'll-want-women-to-get-into-Parliament" argument, and the "you 'd-be-more-women-than-men-and-that-would-mean-petticoat-government" argument.

On the mere supposition that they might be seen by Mrs. Asquith's expected guests these two harmless women were sentenced to three weeks out of the way in prison. K. M.

#### "A Name to Conjure with"—

MRS. BILLINGTON GREIG.

It would seem sometimes—if we Suffragettes were pessimists—as if the stars in their courses warred against our cause, so many unforeseen blows are dealt us. We besiege Westminster, announce our determination to "rise and set" with the House, until our deputation is received, and straightway all-night sittings become the rule! We have so often found, however, that in what seemed at first dire disaster there lurked golden germs of success or encouragement that we have become confirmed optimists. Any call upon the courage or endurance or loyalty of our members brings always so swift a response that we have got into the way of welcoming difficulties as something to be conquered. It will need all our optimism, however, to meet the latest blow with cheerfulness. Every member of the League knowing, as all must, how its success, its daring, and original plans of attack, its very inception, are due to the unique power and influence of Mrs. Billington-Greig, must feel that the news of her serious illness is a blow indeed. Our organizing secretary must go out of action for a few months; the doctors have announced that an operation is necessary, and so we must perforce resign ourselves to giving up for that time her help and guidance. We hope it will comfort Mrs. Billington-Greig to know that our thoughts and our earnest wishes for her quick recovery will be with her during her hours of sickness. But even more of a tonic than the affection of her colleagues will be the knowledge that this trial has strengthened in every member the determination to work as they have never worked before for the cause, so that when she resumes her duties, she will find that giant strides have been made towards success. We shall keep all the members acquainted with "T. B. G.'s" progress towards recovery, and we hope, too, in a few weeks, to be able to carry to her cheering accounts of victories gained, for Votes for Women. EDITOR.

#### Clyde Campaign.

THIS week meetings have been held in Dunoon, Kilmarnock, Innes, Rothesay, and Greenock. Large and enthusiastic audiences have gathered together to listen to the speeches, and much literature has been sold. The best meetings were those held in Rothesay and Greenock. At Greenock a lady in the crowd was heard to say "I've always laughed at the Suffragettes, but I will never again." That shows that when people understand what we want and why we want it, they respect us and sympathize with us. On Saturday we had the help of Miss Eunice Murray and Miss Wilson. Miss Savage has been helping for some days. MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

#### MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

##### THE KING'S VISIT—PLANS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

THE house in Stretford Road decorated in the League colours, attracted much attention on the occasion of King Edward's visit.

The two large portraits of Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Billington-Greig were the occasion of many questions and kindly inquiries, and after the procession had passed a large crowd gathered outside the railings under the impression that our President was within and would soon come out to address them!

Alas! one of the conditions of our temporary tenancy was that there should be "no speechifying," and we had regretfully to dismiss our audience, some of whom even pursued us indoors in quest of post cards and badges.

Members will be glad to hear that picture post cards of the

house are being prepared and may be had from any of the branch secretaries.

Wednesday last saw the formation of a Swinton and Pendlebury group of workers, who, with Miss Heyes as secretary, will work in close touch with the Manchester Central Branch. The new members carried away with them literature for holiday propaganda work, and made plans for the development of the district in September.

Many of us are now preparing to carry our energies into "fresh fields and pastures new." During my absence and that of Miss Hordern the work of the Central Branch will be conducted by the Press and Literature Secretaries, Miss Neal, 96, Deansgate, and Miss J. Heyes, Newholme, Hazelhurst, Worsley, who will arrange sales of literature and open-air meetings.

E. M. MANNING (Hon. Organizer).

#### Caravan Campaign.

OUR first greeting on arrival at Warminster on Monday was from an Anti-Suffragist, who assured us that we would get no support, as "we are all anti here." Our three days' visit proved otherwise. On Monday a large crowd gathered and accorded us a most courteous hearing. We invited ladies to the van, but none mustered courage the first evening. Our first visitor was a poor woman whose husband was out of work, with a bunch of flowers as a token of her appreciation. Tuesday evening another large meeting was held, for the size of the town, and then an after gathering of women in the van. Our farewell on Wednesday was marred by pouring rain, but a fair crowd having gathered, in spite of the elements, we held an hour's meeting, facing the tops of umbrellas. At the close Rev. H. Pengelly, who has helped us in many ways, moved a vote of thanks for our visit, and a local lady seconded at length in the name of the women of Warminster.

Miss Woolff and I paid a flying visit to Westbury to advertise our coming and secure a pitch for the van. We obtained permission to stand in the Market Place, so for the last three days our life has been rather public, although a very good advertisement for the League. Previous to our first meeting here on Thursday evening we heard vague rumours of rotten eggs and tomatoes. The largest gathering the little town had witnessed for a considerable time came to see the Suffragettes. They gave us an attentive hearing, but were shy of questions. On Saturday, our last meeting, the people came from the neighbouring villages. Miss Woolff presided, and Miss H. B. Thomson spoke at length on the history of our cause. Several questions were asked, and a brisk sale of literature proved the appreciation of the audience and their desire to know more. A very pleasing incident was the handing of a bunch of roses to us by a lady in the audience. We come into a town knowing no one, and sometimes apprehensive, but everywhere have women come forward to show their sympathy and shower gifts of all kinds upon us.

Miss Woolff has left us to-day, to our great regret and that of the people of Westbury. Our next town is Trowbridge, where we stay until the end of the week. ANNA MUNRO.

#### Dumfries Burghs By-Election.

AFTER Cleveland this election is quite restful. It is impossible to hold many meetings, as the distances between the burghs are so great. In order to address two meetings on Friday we travelled over ninety miles!

The burghs comprise Dumfries, Maxwelltown, Annan, Kirkcudbright, Sanquhar and Lochmaben. In all, there are not 4,000 voters—in Cleveland there were almost 18,000!

We have had large and enthusiastic meetings, with Mrs. Sanderson as our principal speaker. She can appeal to the Scotsman as no Englishwoman can, and she is quite at her best on market days, when she lures the farmers and buyers from their investigating of cattle and squealing pigs.

To-morrow we have an indoor meeting, arranged for Mrs. Despard, at the Greyfriars Hall, and another on Tuesday, polling day, at Irving Street Hall, for women.

The two Liberal strongholds are Annan and Sanquhar. Our Saturday meeting at the latter place was truly amusing.

We had chalked a meeting for 2.30 P.M., and men gathered in the vicinity of the place advertised, but round corners and hidden away behind doors. Mrs. Sanderson and I talked for about thirty-five minutes to what looked like a group of houses and twenty men away in the distance with traffic in between. When I asked for questions, however, about seventy men suddenly sprang into sight, and shouted across the road to us, and for quite three-quarters of an hour the funniest sort of questioning and answering kept us almost in convulsions.

Dumfries will be loth to part with the Suffragists. The meetings on the White Sands have become quite an institution, and our arguments have won us a large body of supporters. Our helpers include Mrs. Duval, who keeps the shop, Miss Spencer, who sells badges and pamphlets, and Miss Mahoney, who advertises and chalks till she is stiff. May I again urge our friends to send donations as large as possible, and as speedily as possible, for these by-elections. This work absorbs our funds, and the bills appal us; but it is work that is absolutely necessary and wonderfully effective. ALICE SCHOFIELD (Organizer).

Reception to Men's League.

LACK of space forces us regretfully to withhold an account of this most interesting and delightful meeting, which has still more strongly cemented the bond of friendship between the Men's and Women's Leagues.

"She gives twice who gives quickly."

OUR readers will remember Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett's interesting article on 'The Sweated Housewife—poor Susan,' with its life illustration of the heroic woman who battled through so many vicissitudes. "Poor Susan" had a story that is all too common—a wrecked home, a wastrel husband—but she came through it all with a high and noble courage, and after blows that would have levelled most of us to the ground, finally came to a comparatively safe anchorage. She keeps a house together for herself and her children by "mothering" some Barnardo orphans in a little place in the country. "Poor Susan" has little enough to spare, but she has been self-sacrificing enough to send five shillings in answer to our appeal last week. I append below an extract from her letter to Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett:—

"I enclose 5s. for the League, it's my fare to London. I was going to have a day at my sister's, but if you can do without your trip to Norway, I can do without my day in London."

Those five shillings—with all that they mean behind them—should multiply a thousandfold. None have come to our treasury that we value more, or have greater pleasure in acknowledging. EDITOR.

Correspondence.

Verbum Sat Sapienti.

DEAR MADAM,—The following letter which I have just sent in reply to a formal application from the treasurer of the Hampstead Liberal and Radical Association for a renewal of my subscription may interest others of your readers in various parts of the country who are receiving similar applications from the treasurers of their local Liberal and Radical associations:—

"Dear Sir,—In reply to your third application for a renewal of my subscription to the Hampstead Liberal and Radical Association, I beg to state that I have withdrawn all my subscriptions to political party societies and associations, and have no intention of renewing them until the Liberal (?) Government sees fit to act up to the principle that taxation and representation should go together. In common with many thousands of taxpaying women throughout this country, I refuse, henceforth, to help either by the supply of funds, or by active service, a party which, by means of its Government, throws into gaol and treats as felons women who dare to vindicate the principle that taxation without representation is legalized robbery. I am devoting the money withdrawn from political party associations to the militant section of the Women's Suffrage movement. Yours faithfully, "LOUISA THOMSON-PRICE."

[Owing to lack of space we are obliged to hold over some Correspondence.]

London Council.

An important meeting of the London Council will be held on Wednesday 28th inst., at 32, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C., at 8 P.M. punctually.

Will delegates from all federated branches please make a special effort to be present? M. E. RIDLER.

Hon. Sec. London Council.

Cash Received from June 26th to July 17th.

| £ s. d.   |            | £ s. d.                      |            |
|---|------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Amount previously acknowledged                    | 2,597 17 9 | Brought forward              | 2,739 3 3  |
| Allen, Mrs. ...                                   | 0 1 0      | Marshall, Miss J. M. ...     | 0 10 0     |
| Bache, Miss ...                                   | 5 5 0      | Martley, Mrs. W. G. ...      | 1 1 0      |
| Allwork, Clara, Miss ...                          | 0 5 0      | Matters, Miss Muriel ...     | 2 0 0      |
| Amos, Mrs. ...                                    | 0 1 0      | Meeson Coates, Mrs. ...      | 0 6 0      |
| Anderson, Miss M. ...                             | 0 10 0     | Mocatta, Miss A. ...         | 1 11 0     |
| Arkley, Mrs. ...                                  | 0 5 0      | Mordhurst, Miss G. M. ...    | 0 1 0      |
| Armstrong, Miss J. M. ...                         | 0 1 0      | Newman, Mrs. E. ...          | 0 1 0      |
| Arcliffe Sennett, Mrs. ...                        | 25 0 0     | Nidd, Mrs. H. M. ...         | 1 1 0      |
| Ashby, Miss C. ...                                | 0 1 0      | Norris, Miss K. D. ...       | 0 2 6      |
| Cartar, Mrs. C. F. ...                            | 5 0 0      | Normanton, Miss H. ...       | 0 1 0      |
| Benett, Miss S. ...                               | 13 0 0     | Northern Heights Branch ...  | 1 10 0     |
| Borrmann Wells, Mrs. ...                          | 1 1 0      | Parkes, Mrs. ...             | 0 2 6      |
| Boult, Miss W. L. ...                             | 1 12 0     | Pedley, Mrs. ...             | 0 7 6      |
| Brend, Mrs. M. ...                                | 1 1 0      | Penrose, Miss M. ...         | 0 10 0     |
| Brown, Mrs. ...                                   | 1 1 0      | Popham, Mrs. J. S. ...       | 1 1 0      |
| Budd, Esq. ...                                    | 0 10 0     | Porter, W. ...               | 0 10 0     |
| Budd, Mrs. ...                                    | 0 10 0     | Potter, Miss A. ...          | 0 10 0     |
| Carr-Shaw, Miss ...                               | 3 3 0      | Renny, Mrs. E. M. ...        | 0 5 0      |
| Cartar, Mrs. C. F. ...                            | 1 6 0      | Rocke, Dr. Mary ...          | 2 3 0      |
| Cartar, C. F., per Mrs. ...                       | 1 1 0      | Robertson, Miss E. ...       | 0 2 0      |
| Chapman, Miss ...                                 | 1 0 0      | Rothwell, Mrs. Roy ...       | 1 0 0      |
| Clapperton, Miss J. Hume ...                      | 0 10 0     | Russell, Countess ...        | 1 11 0     |
| C. T. O., per Miss Bean ...                       | 0 10 0     | Sanderson, Mrs. ...          | 0 5 0      |
| Cope, Mrs. J. ...                                 | 1 1 0      | Sanderson, Miss W. ...       | 0 2 0      |
| Corben, Miss ...                                  | 1 1 0      | Saunders, Miss M. I. ...     | 1 0 0      |
| Cross-Buchanan, Miss ...                          | 0 1 0      | Saunders, Miss M. H. ...     | 0 2 6      |
| Cross, Mrs. A. ...                                | 0 5 0      | Sargent-Florence, Mrs. ...   | 8 8 0      |
| Davies, Miss A. ...                               | 0 1 0      | Sherwood, Miss A. ...        | 1 0 0      |
| De Jonge, Miss ...                                | 0 10 0     | Sherwood, Miss C. J. ...     | 1 0 0      |
| Dicks, Mrs. ...                                   | 1 1 0      | Simmons, Miss K. ...         | 0 1 0      |
| Drysdale, Dr. and Mrs. ...                        | 2 12 6     | Smith, Mrs. ...              | 0 2 0      |
| Drysdale, Mrs. ...                                | 1 10 0     | Snow, Mrs. J. E. ...         | 6 5 0      |
| Eastbourne Branch ...                             | 0 8 0      | Snow, Esq., W. R. ...        | 1 1 0      |
| Edwards, Mrs. ...                                 | 5 0 0      | Sproson, Mrs. E. ...         | 0 10 0     |
| Fagan, Mrs. ...                                   | 0 10 3     | Stack, Miss M. M. ...        | 0 1 0      |
| FitzSimons, Miss M. (Hospital Sub. withdrawn) ... | 2 10 0     | Stack, Miss N. ...           | 0 1 0      |
| Gordon, Mrs. ...                                  | 2 0 0      | Stansfield, Mr. and Mrs. ... | 20 0 0     |
| Goehr, Mrs. A. ...                                | 0 10 0     | Steer, Miss E. ...           | 0 1 0      |
| Gugenheim, Mrs. ...                               | 1 1 0      | Steer, Mrs. M. ...           | 0 1 0      |
| Hackney Branch (Jumble Sale) ...                  | 30 0 0     | Steer, Mrs. C. ...           | 0 1 0      |
| Hackney Branch—                                   |            | Stephens, Miss ...           | 0 1 0      |
| Sub. withdrawn ...                                | 2 10 0     | Stewart, Miss G. ...         | 0 1 0      |
| Mustard, Mrs. ...                                 | 24 0 0     | Stokes, Mrs. ...             | 0 1 0      |
| Goodwin, Misses ...                               | 0 10 6     | Taylor, Mrs. L. ...          | 0 0 0      |
| Wilks, Dr. ...                                    | 17 14 6    | Thomas, Mrs. M. ...          | 0 2 6      |
| Harding, Miss J. ...                              | 0 1 0      | Thomas, Mrs. ...             | 2 0 0      |
| Harding, Miss E. ...                              | 0 1 0      | Thompson, Mrs. P. ...        | 100 0 0    |
| Hargrave, Miss M. ...                             | 0 5 0      | Thomson, Mrs. Bobby ...      | 0 4 0      |
| Herrmann, Miss A. ...                             | 0 1 0      | Teacher, Lady Lella ...      | 0 17 6     |
| Hicks, Miss A. (Lecture Fee) ...                  | 0 13 0     | Teacher, Miss E. ...         | 0 2 6      |
| Holmes, Miss A. E. ...                            | 0 10 0     | Tunbridge Wells Branch ...   | 0 5 5      |
| Holmes, per Mrs. (Lecture Fee) ...                | 1 1 0      | Trim, Mrs. ...               | 0 10 0     |
| Hutchings, Mrs. E. ...                            | 0 10 6     | Tritton, Miss E. G. ...      | 0 2 6      |
| Ibbotson, Miss O. M. ...                          | 0 4 3      | Van Dorp, Miss ...           | 0 10 0     |
| Ipswich Branch ...                                | 1 0 0      | Van Raalte, Mrs. J. ...      | 0 1 0      |
| Jacob, B.Sc., Miss G. (from Holiday money) ...    | 2 10 0     | Verran, Miss H. G. ...       | 0 2 6      |
| Jastrow, Miss H. ...                              | 0 10 6     | Wall, Mrs. ...               | 0 5 0      |
| Johnson, Miss D. ...                              | 0 1 0      | Weir, Miss E. ...            | 0 10 0     |
| Johnson, Miss G. ...                              | 0 1 0      | Weir, Mrs. E. ...            | 0 5 0      |
| Johnson, Miss G. ...                              | 0 1 0      | West Sussex Branch ...       | 0 11 6     |
| Keys, Esq. ...                                    | 0 5 0      | Williams, Miss ...           | 0 2 6      |
| Kittel, Miss M. ...                               | 0 1 0      | Woodworth, Mrs. ...          | 0 5 0      |
| Lees, Miss G. ...                                 | 0 3 0      | Wright, Miss Ada ...         | 1 0 0      |
| Logan, Miss I. ...                                | 2 2 0      | Wright, Miss F. N. ...       | 2 0 0      |
| Mannoch, Mrs. C. K. ...                           | 0 5 0      | Zimmern, per Miss ...        | 1 1 0      |
| Margetson, Mrs. ...                               | 0 1 0      | Branch Fees ...              | 3 5 0      |
| Marsh, Mrs. ...                                   | 0 1 0      | Collections ...              | 40 7 4     |
|   |            | Sales ...                    | 27 12 7    |
| Carried forward                                   | £2,739 3 3 | Total                        | £2,978 4 7 |

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

| JULY       | July 22nd to July 31st.                            | P.M.   |
|------------|--|--|
| Thurs. 22. | Highbury Corner                                    | Miss Fleisig and others 7.45                     |
| Fri. 23.   | Chelsea, "At Home"                                 | Miss Muriel Matters and Miss Edith Craig         |
| Sat. 24.   | Petworth, Sussex Eastbourne                        | Mrs. Marion Holmes                               |
| Sun. 25.   | Hyde Park  | Miss Muriel Matters                              |
|            | Wandsworth Common                                  | Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett 12                         |
|            |  | Miss I. Logan, Mrs. Sproson                      |
|            |  | Mr. Duval 11 A.M.                                |
|            |  | Miss Underwood                                   |
|            | Battersea Park                                     | Mrs. Duval 3                                     |
|            | Ravenscourt Park                                   | 3  |
|            | Victoria Park                                      | 3  |
|            | Clapham Common                                     | Mrs. Sproson 6.30                                |
| Wed. 28.   | South Norwood Clock Hampstead Heath, The Flagstaff | Mrs. Toyne 8                                     |
|            |  | Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett                            |
| Sat. 31.   | Holloway Prison Camden Road, N.                    | Mr. Lawrence Housman 7.30                        |
|            |  | Release of Miss Hicks, 8 A.M.                    |
|            |  | M.A., Miss Clunas, Miss E. Cummin, Mrs. McKenzie |
|            | Trafalgar Square                                   | Countess Russell 3 P.M.                          |
|            |  | Mrs. Marion Holmes                               |
|            |  | Released prisoners, and others                   |

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

OFFICE: 40, MUSEUM STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Chairman of Executive Committee: HERBERT JACOBS.  
Hon. Secretary: J. MALCOLM MITCHELL

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

Hon. Treasurers: GOLDFINCH BATE, H. G. CHANCELLOR.  
Hon. Literature Secretary: A. I. G. JAYNE.

Notes and Comments.

Open-air work is the order of the day, and very little is being done at present except at parks and street corners. There, however, our resources are being taxed to the uttermost, and from every quarter we have appreciative reports of good progress achieved. To give any list of speakers would be impossible, but we know of at least two men who are detained by business till about 6 o'clock, and yet have addressed rather more than two meetings a day for a fortnight.

No district is safe! We shall not be surprised to learn that a campaign of "orange-box meetings" is arranged for the electors of St. George, Hanover Square. Even the hallowed precincts of Kensington, where the proprietors stalk unchecked, have been invaded four times within the last fortnight by a single society. Last Friday a meeting was held in King Street, Kensington Square, under the auspices of the London Society (Kensington Branch), the speakers being Mrs. Stanbury, Councillor O'Dell, and Messrs. Gugenheim and Mitchell, the last in the chair. The meeting began at 7, and was still going on vigorously at 9.

The fact is that "Votes for Women" will draw an audience anywhere, and the purport of these disjointed reflections is to urge our silent members to come and help, so that we may multiply our meetings and give our speakers a change. It is a mistake to have the same people in the same place too often. One or two new recruits have joined our ranks, notably Mr. Yaldwyn; but we want a round dozen new men at once.

The Treasurers, Mr. Bate and Mr. Chancellor, are issuing an appeal for funds. The fact is that we are outrunning our resources, and we must get more money or curtail our work. Moreover, we badly need new and larger offices. We do not ask for money from women who have their own societies to support, but we shall be very grateful to any who will induce their male friends to subscribe. Copies of the appeal will be sent to any ladies who are prepared to help in this way.

Reception at Caxton Hall.

A VERY large number of Suffragists attended the reception given to the Men's League by the Women's Freedom League, in the Caxton Hall, on Wednesday, the 14th of July. Between 7 o'clock and 8 the entertainment was of a social character, under cover of which many branch and district secretaries of both Leagues captured unsuspecting speakers for their open-air platforms. We saw two or three well-known orators cornered by a wily spider who was apparently only offering coffee and cakes.

Mrs. How Martyn led the speakers to the platform at 8 o'clock, and gave a brief summary of the work now being done by the Women's Freedom League. To report the speeches is impossible, but special reference should be made to Mrs. Despard's splendid words of encouragement, when she told the story of how her goods were sold to pay her taxes. She described the enthusiasm of those who were present, and how Mr. Luxenbourg subsequently presented to her the goods that had been sold. She then formally presented them to the Women's Freedom League, amid the greatest enthusiasm.

Later in the evening the Countess Russell struck a very humorous note with a number of passages from the Anti-Suffrage paper. By cunning juxtaposition she exposed the

contradictory views which lurk behind the various contentions of Mrs. Humphry Ward's supporters, and kept the guests laughing by a running fire of railery.

On behalf of the Men's League Mr. Laurence Housman gave an eloquent and convincing speech in his usual trenchant style, urging on the idlers to action, and pouring scorn on those who do not bear a part in the struggle. In a different vein Miss Muriel Matters stirred the audience by many beautiful thoughts characteristically clothed in poetic phrase. Mr. J. M. Mitchell briefly thanked the hosts of the evening for their hospitality.

The success of the function was unquestioned, and the view was very generally expressed that such evenings do much to strengthen mutual confidence, and to stimulate inter-League services. Such thoughts augur well for the usefulness and for the success of the International Women's Franchise Club.

Proposed Wirral Branch.

MR. A. R. ALLERTON, of the Liverpool Branch of the League, writes that the organization of a new branch society, for Birkenhead and Wirral Suffragists, is now being undertaken by Mr. Wm. Beaumont, of 7, Lathom Avenue, Liscard, Cheshire (Hon. Sec. Liverpool). Mr. Beaumont, who is known as one of the most energetic and influential Suffragists of the district, is a member of the Executive of the Wirral Liberal Association, and Secretary for the Wallasey Temperance Union. He is also on the Executive of the United Kingdom Alliance (Liverpool Auxiliary). Mr. Beaumont has written to the local papers explaining the objects and methods of the League, and inviting members to join in the formation of a Wirral Branch.

Open-Air Campaign.

HYDE PARK.

Gratifying success attended the Hyde Park meeting, at which Mr. Overy, and afterwards Dr. Macpherson, took the chair.

In his opening speech Mr. Overy gave an admirable summary of the rapidly changing events of the last twelve months. He demonstrated to a sympathetic audience how irresistible has been the advance of public opinion for the immediate removal of the absurd electoral disqualification of women, and showed how urgently this great issue now awaits settlement by the Government of the country. Dr. Macpherson followed with a comparison of the struggle of 1832 for an instalment of electoral freedom with the present similar struggle for justice for women, in which a surprised world received proof after proof of the marvellous intellectual and organizing power, and the power of patient endurance, even under insult, of women. He spoke of the imprisonment, and even solitary confinement, which our women, condemned for their advocacy of a cause which our Parliament declares to be a just one, are undergoing. Miss Ford, of the Leeds Branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, was the next speaker, contributing a statement of the wrongs inflicted by a practically heedless community upon "industrial" women, so searching and convincing as obviously to influence her audience profoundly. Prolonged applause endorsed her conclusion that for the removal of these evils the only way lay through the enfranchisement of women. Mr. Whitby, the next speaker, gave an eloquent address, showing how much the enfranchisement of women will mean for the awakening of the great and beneficent over-mind, the communal consciousness, as yet only latent. Dr. Macpherson afterwards dealt with questions, and the meeting closed with an appeal that every one who

possibly could should visit the Women's Sweated Industries Exhibition at Earl's Court, open all this week, one of the most needed, and most splendid, object lessons London has ever had.

Valuable work was done at this meeting by members of the Women's Freedom League and Women's Social and Political Union present. Six men definitely intimated intention of joining the Men's League, and a much larger number of women and men applied for information and membership application forms of the various societies working for the Suffrage.

A. D. M.

## BROCKWELL PARK.

A most successful meeting was held here last Sunday. The weather being perfect, large crowds gathered round our platform. The chair was taken by Mr. Bowden Smith, who gave a good speech.

Miss Dawson gave a most intellectual and effective speech, and was followed by Mr. Barley. Owing to the non-arrival of one of our speakers, Mrs. Manson kindly addressed the crowd, and gave a spirited speech on the deputation which waited on Mr. Herbert Gladstone at the Home Office. After the meeting was over more than twenty membership forms for the Men's League were applied for.

This alone shows that our meetings are getting more and more popular.

Mrs. Bowden Smith was hemmed in by eager questioners at the end, and was kept busy answering questions till the bell rang at 9 o'clock.

R. H. J.

## FINSBURY PARK.

The speakers at Finsbury Park were Miss Bremner of the W.F.L., with Messrs. Kennedy, Gugenheim, Hammond, and Mitchell. There was a fair audience, but the allurements of the band and the green shade provided counter attractions. Miss Bremner made an admirable speech.

J. M. M.

## PARLIAMENT HILL.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. Jacobs presided over a good meeting on Parliament Hill Fields, at which Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Miall Smith, and Mr. Yaldwyn spoke. The meeting lasted about an hour and a half, during which hardly a member of the audience left. Various questions were asked and answered, and after the meeting closed the audience broke up into two groups, and hotly discussed various aspects of the subject.

## Chivalry: Facts and Fiction.

(Continued.)

In 1808 we have, from the pen of Sidney Smith, a most chivalrous vindication of the right of woman to be educated. He considers her as intelligent as man, but admits her hopeless ignorance. "It is not easy," he says, "to imagine that there can be any just cause why a woman of forty should be more ignorant than a boy of twelve years of age. If there be any good at all in female ignorance this (to use a very colloquial phrase) is surely too much of a good thing." He refers to the stupidity of people who think the idea of the education of women ludicrous. "A century ago," he says with withering sarcasm, "who would have believed that our own country gentlemen could be brought to read and spell with the ease and accuracy which we now so frequently remark—or supposed that they could be carried up even to the elements of ancient and modern history." He sympathizes with unintellectual men who do not like the intellectual woman, but he comforts them thus: "They may rest assured, if the utter extinction of ignorance and folly be the evil they dread, that their interests will be always effectually protected, in spite of every exertion to the contrary." This is the single unchivalrous note in the essay. "We are quite astonished," goes on Sidney, "in hearing men converse on such subjects, to find them attributing such beautiful effects to ignorance. It would appear from the tenor of such objections, that ignorance had been the great civilizer of the world. Women are delicate and refined only because they are ignorant—they manage their households only because they are ignorant—they attend to their children only because

they know no better. Now we must really confess, we have all our lives been so ignorant, as not to know the value of ignorance." Sidney gives as his first reason for believing in the education of women, not the good that it may do the world in general, but the good it may do themselves. This would be an astonishingly chivalrous sentiment even to-day. A hundred years ago it was infinitely more so. "Let any man reflect," he says, "upon the solitary situation in which women are placed—the ill-treatment to which they are sometimes exposed, and which they must endure in silence, and without the power of complaining—and he must feel convinced that the happiness of a woman will be materially increased in proportion as education has given to her the habit and means of drawing her resources from herself. He quotes two familiar phrases: "The true theatre for a woman is the sick chamber"; "Nothing so honourable to a woman as not to be spoken of at all." He describes these mottoes as the "delight of Noddledom." "A scene of distress and anguish," he says, "is an occasion where the finest qualities of the female mind may be displayed, but it is a monstrous exaggeration to tell women that they are only born for scenes of distress and anguish." Concerning the other cant phrase, he says: "After all, it may be an evil for ladies to be talked of; but we really think those ladies who are talked of only as Mrs. Marcel, Mrs. Somerville and Miss Martineau are talked of, may bear their misfortunes with a very great degree of Christian patience."

Then Sidney Smith reverts to the necessity of the education of women as the educators of future men: "they are to form the characters of future men—is that a cause why their own characters are to be broken and frittered down as they now are?... It is of great importance to a country that there should be as many understandings as possible actively employed within it... the number of those who exercise their understanding to any good purpose is exactly in proportion to those who exercise it at all." He instances the absurdity of man addressing nature thus: "We have talents enough in the other half of creation: if you will not stupify and enfeeble the minds of women to our hands, we ourselves must expose them to a narcotic process, and educate away that fatal redundancy with which the world is afflicted, and the order of sublimity things deranged."

About the same time we have some other important utterances on the subject of chivalry. They come from Charles Lamb, and they throw invaluable light on contemporary manners. He refers to the "deferential respect" which men are supposed to pay to women. "I shall believe," he says, "that this principle actuates our conduct... when Dorimant... assists the apple-woman to pick up her wandering fruit, which some unlucky dray has just dissipated. I shall believe in it when the Dorimants in humbler life, who would be thought in their way notable adepts in this refinement, shall act upon it in places where they are not known, or think themselves not observed—when I shall no longer see a woman standing up in the pit of a London theatre till she is sick and faint... with men about her, seated at their ease, and jeering at her distress, till one that seems to have more manners or conscience than the rest, significantly declares 'she should be welcome to his seat if she were a little younger and handsomer.'"

It is interesting to come across a passage which shows that a hundred years ago, before the great woman movement had developed, men were even less courteous to women than they are now. We can imagine men sitting down nowadays while women are standing, but we cannot imagine men jeering at the situation as in the days of Lamb.

Lamb continues: "Lastly, I shall begin to believe that there is some such principle influencing our conduct, when more than one half the drudgery and coarse servitude of the world shall cease to be performed by women."

"Until that day comes, I shall never believe this boasted point to be anything but a conventional fiction."

L. F. WARING.

(To be continued.)

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