

THE VOTE.  
March 7, 1913.  
ONE PENNY.

## WHO ARE THE LAW BREAKERS?

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Vol. VII. No. 176.

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

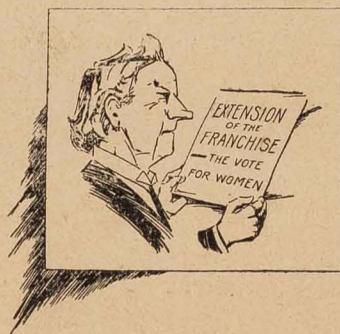
FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1913.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OBJECTS: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

## THE SQUARE MAN & THE SQUARE DEAL.

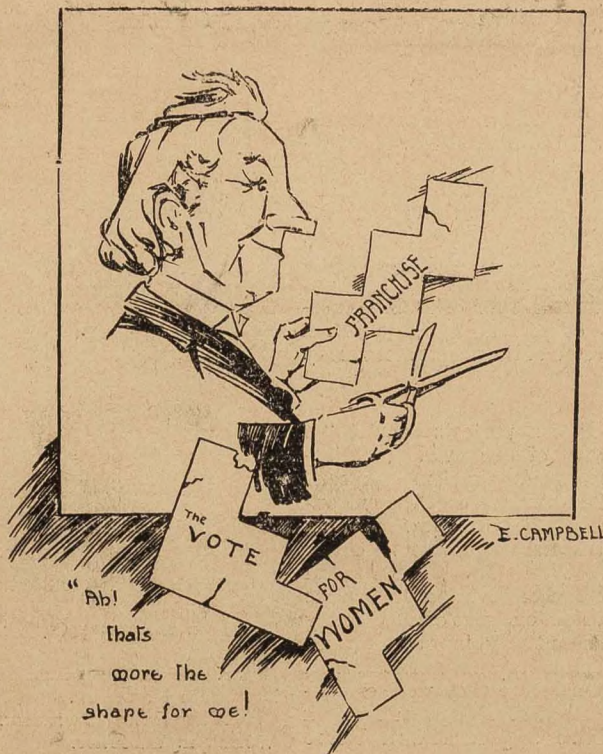
"THE REAL  
ASQUITH."



That's too  
square, I  
don't like  
the shape!

"He was a  
square man, who  
knew nothing in  
politics but the  
square deal."—  
T. P. O'Connor,  
M.P.

Reynolds, Feb. 23, 1913.



"Ab!  
That's  
more the  
shape for me!"

I'll  
cut  
the  
women  
out  
of  
it!

## OUR POINT OF VIEW.

### Patchwork.

Mr. Massingham, we are glad to see, has found that railing against militancy does not help a serious situation, so he has set to work to discover a method of meeting the case without doing damage to the feelings either of Cabinet Ministers or Members of Parliament who find a courageous decision on Woman Suffrage so very hard to make. How much better it would be, he urges, to transfer "the responsibility to the electors themselves." By way of the referendum? By no means. The referendum is really hated by Liberals and "the more energetic half of the Tory Party" alike. "If only we had a federal system," cries Mr. Massingham, "how easy it would be to solve the problem. But why not take a leaf out of the book of the United States and try a piecemeal experiment by means of local option?"

### Via Lancashire.

Driven into a corner by their own bad faith, the way is to be made completely comfortable for politicians, while women, driven to desperation in fighting for freedom, experience every kind of abuse and insult. We recognise that Mr. Massingham desires a settlement of the Woman Suffrage question, but he is very anxious that Parliament, tied up with its red tape and broken pledges, should get out of the difficulty without inconvenience, and sees in the new plan a way by which a divided Government could be courageous enough to do its duty. So a series of experiments is proposed, as our readers will see from the extracts we quote on page 309. One fine morning we are to wake up and find the women of Lancashire enfranchised citizens, while those of the benighted rural South and West of England, in a barbarian stage of understanding, will regard this "elementary matter of justice" as "a strange demand from a foreign world." Lancashire will, no doubt, feel complimented, but probably Mr. Massingham would be astonished at the reception he would get, say, from the Cheltenham or Portsmouth Branch of the Women's Freedom League. Has Mr. Massingham considered the state of mind of a Lancashire woman, recognised as "a great factor in the whole public life of the community," who found herself, by force of circumstances, disfranchised by removal from the progressive North to the backward South? Or has he imagined the terrible problem of overcrowding which would result from an invasion of the North by the women of the South? Builders would certainly be busy, and removing vans block the roads and railways, while the world looked on amused at Great Britain's patchwork Woman Suffrage—an experiment on women because men have failed in courage. We remind Mr. Massingham and those Tories who hail him as a Solomon that 180 and more of those very Town and County Councils which he proposes should work out the machinery of his scheme—representing, too, big industrial centres, educational centres, yes, and even rural parts of the country—have already petitioned Parliament to grant Woman Suffrage, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin exercised his special privilege of presenting the petition in person. Are not these elected of the people sufficiently representative?

### Many Inventions.

The able editor of *The Nation* protests against "a generally distasteful alteration of our whole constitutional practice" to solve one special problem by means of the referendum, "but who ever heard of the enfranchisement of British men in patches, or a law applying to one part of the country and not to another? Ulster is anxious to stand outside Home Rule, but Liberal Ministers, politicians, and Pressmen have spent laborious days in declaring that to leave out one part of the country from the new law would be utterly impractical and impossible. Agricultural labourers were not asked to pass tests in benightedness before they were enfranchised, nor was it considered that Hedge in Norfolk should prove whether he was a good citizen before

Hodge in Herefordshire had the right to vote. Why further complicate our most complicated franchise laws and pile up more anomalies?

### Distinction or Extinction?

In the midst of the welter of arrogant nonsense which the daily Press sees fit to print, we recognise that Mr. Massingham's attempt to deal with the situation is a sign of returning sanity, as also *The Nottingham Guardian's* suggestion that the Government should make itself responsible for a "Conciliation Bill" measure. Force is no remedy for grievances, whether of Ireland or of women. What is wanted is simply courage. Let those men—and women—who have rendered merely lip service to the cause of justice to women take their share in the struggle; let the women of the Liberal Party note the words of Mr. Massingham, one of their ablest journalists, that "it is very doubtful whether the majority in the House of Commons for the principle can ever be consolidated without the use of party machinery into a working majority for an unofficial Bill," and refuse to be party hacks, unrewarded by the vote. And to the Liberal Cabinet, to Parliament, to the Press, eagerly turning its eyes westward, we commend the words of Dr. Woodrow Wilson, just installed as the new President of the United States: "The rarest thing in public life is courage, and the man who has courage is marked for distinction; the man who has it not is marked for extinction and deserves submersion. The people of this country are going to be served by conscience and not by expediency."

### "In Imminent Danger of Death": Mr. McKenna's Admission.

Mr. McKenna may expect a lively time now that Parliament is getting to work again. Time after time he has deliberately declared to the House of Commons that forcible feeding was not injurious. He relied on the evidence of unnamed doctors against that of eminent medical men and women who did not hide their identity. How will he justify his statements in view of the following?

Mr. McKenna, defending himself against the severe criticism of the Richmond magistrates for releasing Miss Lilian Lenton, a remand prisoner charged with arson at Kew, has sent the following letter to a correspondent:—

"Dear Sir,—I am desired by the Home Secretary to say that Lilian Lenton was reported by the medical officer at Holloway Prison last Sunday to be in a state of collapse and in imminent danger of death consequent upon her refusal to take food. Three courses were open:—(1) To leave her to die; (2) to attempt to feed her forcibly, which the medical officer advised would probably entail death in her existing condition; (3) to release her on her undertaking that she would surrender herself for the further hearing of her case. The Home Secretary adopted the last course.

"On the further hearing of her case before the Richmond magistrates on Thursday she was still so seriously ill as to be unable to attend. The magistrates would have had a perfect right to issue a warrant for her arrest. In view of her condition they properly refrained from doing so and contented themselves with comments on the Home Secretary's action. If the necessity should arise, it is always open to the magistrates to issue a fresh warrant, which, it is believed, the police would have no difficulty in executing.—Yours faithfully, F. W. Harris."

Miss Lenton's condition is still very grave, as "forcible feeding took the form of pouring liquid into the lung, with the result that septic pneumonia set up." No fresh warrant for her arrest has been issued.

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## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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### AT HEADQUARTERS.

The National Executive Committee met at 1, Robert-street last Saturday, and dealt with a great deal of work connected with the various departments of the League. The Committee expressed its deep regret at Miss Boyle's temporary absence through illness.

**Organisers.**—Miss Andrews is now taking charge of the League's by-election campaign at Houghton-le-Spring, assisted by Miss K. Trott, of Chester, and our Sunderland Branch. Miss Munro is in Cheltenham, having gone to the rescue of some of our members there, who have been summoned to appear before the authorities on a charge of fly-posting the Women's Freedom League's proclamation in that district. Miss Gibson is remaining in Scotland until the Conference, meetings having been arranged this week for Mrs. Despard in both Edinburgh and Glasgow.

**Weston-super-Mare.**—Miss Alix. M. Clark will take charge of a Women's Freedom League campaign at the Teachers' Conference during Easter week, and as Mrs. Despard is to speak on one of the days, it is hoped that all members of our League who can possibly help us there will send in their names to Miss Clark at an early date.

**Labour Conference at Manchester.**—We are also looking forward to doing some good work in Manchester in Easter week, and shall be pleased to receive at this office names of volunteers for speaking, hand-bill distributing, VOTE selling, &c.

**London Meetings.**—Next Monday evening, at Caxton Hall, Mrs. Despard will give her lecture on "Prometheus Unbound." Miss Marta Cunningham has kindly consented to sing "The Awakening" and other songs. The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock.

Next Wednesday afternoon we shall hold a "King's Speech Meeting" at Caxton Hall, the speakers being Mrs. Despard and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell. The chair will be taken promptly at 3.30 p.m.

**Hyde-park Demonstration.**—Sunday, March 30, at noon, we are arranging a Demonstration in Hyde Park. This will be the day after our Annual Conference, so that we hope that some of our best speakers from Scotland, Wales, and the provinces will take part in the Demonstration. At 3.30 the same afternoon a reception to the delegates will be held at Caxton Hall.

**Circulating Library.**—Mrs. Walter Carey has kindly undertaken the charge of this Library. We make a special appeal to our friends to send us any books they can spare—fiction, history, literature, books on Woman Suffrage, or books of reference will be gratefully acknowledged by Mrs. Carey. By kind permission of Mrs. Julia Wood this library will find a place in the VOTE-sellers' room.

**Hospitality.**—Branch secretaries are reminded that they should make early application for hospitality for those delegates who require it in London for the Conference. We should also be glad to hear from more of our friends in London who can offer hospitality to delegates.

**Easter Holidays.**—This office will be closed for Easter holidays from Thursday afternoon, March 20, until Tuesday morning, March 25.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

THE EVENING OF MUSIC AND DANCES which Mrs. Harvey has kindly promised to give for the benefit of THE VOTE cannot, for a variety of reasons, but not want of will, be arranged until the autumn.

## FROM A MILITANT SUFFRAGIST TO MR. —, LIBERAL M.P. FOR STODGINGTON.

Dear Mr. —,—It was indeed a surprise to find in Mr. —, the Member for Stodgington, our old friend, "the didactic philosopher," comrade in the far-off battles of long ago. From your letter I gather it will be an equal surprise to you to find "Aurora" among those horrid Suffragettes on whom you comment so severely.

First let me thank you for your kind invitation to tea on the Terrace, which I regret I am unable to accept. Just now, I do not find the House of Commons to be a place for a self-respecting woman to frequent.

With the frankness of old times, you enlarge on the impressions which the Militant Suffrage movement has made on you and on your fellow Members. May I claim an equal freedom and endeavour to place before you some impressions which we have formed of you and of your institutions?

You have hurled epithets at us to which it would not be difficult to retort. We will not, however, renew our acquaintance by bandying terms of reproach. Nor will we impugn the many high and shining qualities exhibited by you and your fellow Members—your magnanimity, omniscience, moral strength, love of justice, your broad outlook, your high seriousness and your courage in taking risks which, as your Prime Minister pointed out, a great nation must be prepared to do. We may, however, be allowed to hint that there are two qualities in which you do not excel—those of imagination and practical common-sense.

We understand that you are sent to Westminster to make laws, but we gather that, among the many occupations which fill your time during the session, the making of laws is one which is surrounded by almost insuperable difficulties. You can walk into the party lobby at the order of the party Whip, but, in the words of one of your own colleagues, it requires "very delicate angling" to get any legislation through except, presumably, such legislation as the Government believe to be indisputably in the interest of their party. From the illuminating expositions which reach us, treating of Parliamentary procedure, we gather that in this country law is not the outcome of the well-considered judgments of the representatives of the people, but is the result of angling and accident. Accidental party exigencies make or mar modern legislation by causing Members to vote contrary to their pledges. These "accidental" circumstances may cause Members to vote *for* and *against* the same measure in the course of one year. But the very apotheosis of "accident" is reached by the process of the Parliamentary ballot. Could there be a more ridiculous institution? It is no doubt an interesting survival of the methods of the Early Christians, and we are rather surprised that the ceremony is not preceded by prayer. We note that you do not seem anxious to follow another Early Christian precedent. In particular, we do not recognise any ardent desire on your part to share your possession of political power with your women kind. We have often wondered

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whether the ballot is employed among the machinery of your individual business affairs, and if you ballot as to the investments into which you place your surplus profits. And, if your answer is in the negative, we wonder why what is not good enough for your business is considered good enough for the nation's business. You may be correct in your assertion that we do not appreciate the magnitude of your difficulties, though we try not to nurture the thought that the effete and unprofitable system, of which you complain, is at times not altogether displeasing to you. We have a suspicion that the difficulties of Parliamentary procedure occasionally afford you a scapegoat. Not that we wish to regard your pledges as having been, in George Meredith's words, "taken as a cordial at the bar of benevolent intentions," though Mr. Lulu Harcourt, who ought to know you better than we do, considers they emanated from politeness rather than from conviction. We venture to remind you that the after-effects of such stimulants are apt to be disquieting.

Your methods of discussing and voting on the weightiest national affairs, by means of the closure, the guillotine, and the *Salutum mortale* of the kangaroo, would be considered inappropriate and clumsy by a provincial debating society. They seem to us supremely ridiculous, like the play of children or the efforts at government of primitive people. We women have been accused of hugging our chains, though that is not the complaint which you are urging against us just now. You seem absolutely tied up in your chains, nor do you appear to make any effort to extricate yourselves. You have accustomed yourselves to regard Parliamentary procedure as obstacles in a steeple race or as conventions in a game, in which both skill and luck enter, but in which luck or accident is the preponderating element.

Let us picture the application of the same "accidental" processes in the domestic sphere. Imagine yourself crossing your threshold on a Friday evening,

your appetite stimulated by the processes of that "delicate angling" to which your energies are devoted. You are met by the intelligence that unfortunately there is no dinner, and that, through a fortuitous concurrence of circumstances, there will be no breakfast, but that the guardian of your domestic hearth will be prepared to ballot as to whether she will supply eggs and bacon or devilled kidneys on an unspecified date in the following week, failing which she will be prepared to discuss the matter at full length in the dim and speculative future when the earth's satellite shall be of an azure blue and the angry voices of insistent, argumentative and hungry males shall be stilled to a respectful calm. It is scarcely necessary to point out that domestic muddling is apt to result in domestic infelicity, and that it would be vain to expect a more favourable result from national muddling.

If Parliamentary procedure is like unto the great hippopotamus which "sticks in the door," imprisoning light and thought and enforcing inaction, the other great obstacle to progress—that of party expediency—appears to combine the attributes of the chameleon and the octopus.

Changing his hue to suit each several occasion, he puts forward his horrid feelers in every direction, dragging in victims from different standpoints, making black appear white if only his insatiate maw be appeased. He paralyses the conscience and principles of those he attacks, divesting them of the potentiality of right doing.

While Parliamentary procedure seems to us to be very stupid, party expediency appears wicked, and to be the worst enemy, not only of women, but of Liberalism. We know, as well as you do, that, from a Conservative standpoint, objections can be raised to any and every extension of the franchise, whether to men or women. But you know, quite as well as we do, that there are no objections which can be consistently urged by Liberals against the admission to citizenship of an unrepresented section of the people. The perfecting of representative government is the principle for which your party stands, whether in Ireland or South Africa or Albania. You are out against tyranny and political inequality, and are convicted out of your own mouths when you deny justice to women. You ask why we are so much more bitter against you than we are against our Conservative enemies. To whom much has been given much is expected. We feel you sin against the light, while their refusal of our claims is but in accordance with their traditions.

I should like to have the opportunity of contradicting several very glaring inaccuracies in your letter and hope to be able to do so personally on some future occasion. Do you say "Heaven forbid"? Members of the House of Commons have shown an almost inconceivable ignorance of the aims and motives, as well as of the extent, of the Women's Movement. Is it too much to ask you to give it as careful study as you once devoted to such subjects as housing reform or municipal trams?

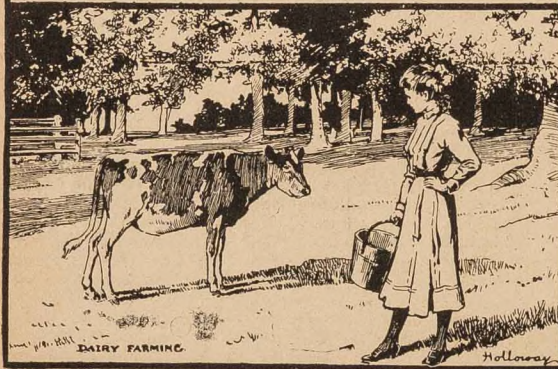
And, in conclusion, let me remind you of the words of one of the most distinguished publicists of our time, who was to us both as a prophet in the days of our old friendship. Though it was not of the Suffrage Movement that he was speaking, the opinion he expressed that "the House of Commons is about the last place for facts and ideas to penetrate" is peculiarly applicable.—In sincerity, your candid friend,

AURORA.

OUR READERS WILL BE GLAD TO KNOW that Miss Boyle is making good progress as a result of complete rest and excellent care. The Political and Militant Department is in good order, and the work will go on as usual in Miss Boyle's necessary, but temporary, absence.

A GENEROUS GIFT to "THE VOTE."—Our most appreciative thanks are given to Mrs. John Russell and Miss Lizzie Langley for their very practical help in making marmalade to be sold for the benefit of THE VOTE. It is already in great demand, and those who wish to secure it (6d. a glass) should apply without delay to Headquarters.

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### POLITICAL NEWS.

#### Mr. Massingham's "Local Option" Suggestion.

In a long "leading" article in this week's *Nation*, Mr. Massingham amplifies the suggestion made a few days ago in *The Pall Mall Gazette* of working towards a settlement of the Woman Suffrage question by way of local option. He recognises that there can be no halting or turning back because the extreme wing of this broad movement has adopted tactics of exasperation. "Parliament has admitted the grievance. It cannot refuse to redress it, because its own delays have goaded some who labour under the grievance into folly. A refusal to legislate while these excesses continue would be far from producing the desired effect. The militants would see in this attitude only a fresh confirmation of their rooted belief that politicians, for all their pledges and professions, do not mean business. The constitutional Suffragists, conscious that they are the main body of the movement, its working force in the constituencies, and in numbers an immense majority, would feel a justifiable anger at a decision which ignored their very existence. To Liberals a more intimate question of honour presents itself."

#### Piecemeal Experiments.

He admits, at last, that the risks to a Private Member's Bill are continuous through all its stages, and that a free vote on the merits of the question "cannot be secured from a coalition led by a divided Cabinet." So he suggests a piecemeal trial, as in the States of America, to fit the more or less advanced state of opinion.

"We must face some innovation, some novelty of procedure. Our proposal is that each constituency should be allowed, in its own good time and by its own choice, to settle this question so soon as local opinion is ripe. The proposal which we venture to put forward might be worked out in detail in several conceivable ways. We would suggest, in the first place, the framing of a simple and intelligible Bill, either on Dickinson or on Conciliation lines. The Government would assume responsibility for this Bill as a general formula of settlement. It would not thereby commit itself to the principle of Woman Suffrage. It would merely adopt what we understand to be the position, at least, of the more moderate anti-Suffragists. It would say, in effect, that women shall vote in any constituency when and if the majority of the electors within it consent to place them on the register. The plan for setting the machinery of local option in motion requires careful thinking out. A Town or County Council might be empowered to set it in motion in the constituencies within its own area. A requisition from a specified number of women who are local government electors would be the natural device, if the local government franchise were itself satisfactory. A requisition from men would test the feeling of the women as well as any other expedient, for only an active Suffrage movement among women could obtain the necessary number of signatures from men. However initiated, the essence of the scheme would be in a last resort a reference to the male electors of the question whether the purely permissive Franchise Act which the Government had placed on the Statute Book should be applied in their locality.

#### Not "On the Ideal Plane of Right."

We do not advance this suggestion as a means of solving the question on the ideal plane of right. A woman's claim to a vote is good or bad in logic and right, even if she stands alone in her demand, and has failed to win the assent of men. But, morally, it is the assent of men which is of vital importance. Without it, the status which women demand might, perhaps, be extorted, but could not be fruitfully enjoyed. Practically, this method, by transferring the responsibility to the electors themselves, escapes the difficulty that the House of Commons lacks the sense of responsibility and the Cabinet the unity which are necessary for action. It would result, in all probability, in a gradual extension of the franchise to women, and the boon would be given only where there was among women an active demand and among men a cheerful assent. Few anti-Suffragists can hope for more than delay. But the delay of a mere refusal must impose on women in the interval long years of fruitless labour, on the State the equally repugnant spectacles of disorder and repression, and on parties continual embarrassments and divisions. The delay which our proposal contemplates would end automatically wherever the pressure for reform was adequate, and end without bitterness or strife. And the measure could be fathered and passed by the direct action of Government even if it were divided on the question of a mandatory Bill.

#### The National Union's Demand.

At the annual Council meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies on January 27, the following resolutions were passed:—

(1) That the N.U.W.S.S. welcomes the resolution of the Labour Party passed at their Conference in London in January, 1913, calling upon the party in Parliament to oppose any Franchise Bill in which women are not included.

(2) That the N.U.W.S.S. does not regard the offer of facilities for a private member's Bill as an equivalent of the Prime Minister's pledges with respect to an amendment to the Franchise Bill, and calls upon the Government to redeem its pledge in the only way now possible, by immediately introducing a Government measure giving votes to women.

(3) That the N.U.W.S.S. believing that a private member's Bill can have little chance of becoming law in the lifetime of this Parliament, resolves while placing no obstacle in the way

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of such a Bill to concentrate on work for a Government measure for Women's Suffrage, and to adopt such a policy as will be most likely to bring an undivided Cabinet in favour of Women's Suffrage into power."

Mrs. Fawcett was presented with a gold and enamel badge set with opals for "steadfastness and courage," and pearls for "the righteousness of the cause," the enamel leaves standing for "undying hope."

#### Mrs. Pankhurst Released on Bail.

Mrs. Pankhurst, who on February 26 was committed by the Epsom magistrates to take her trial at the Assizes in connection with the Walton-on-the-Hill bomb outrage, was released from Holloway Gaol on February 27 on bail fixed in £800, herself in £300, and two sureties of £250 each.

Mr. Marshall, Mrs. Pankhurst's solicitor, has sent the following statement to the Press:—

"The accounts in the Press with regard to Mrs. Pankhurst's bail fail to make clear that she is now giving an undertaking under the terms which her solicitor suggested at the Epsom Police-court.

"When questioned by the Chairman, Mrs. Pankhurst replied that she was willing to give an undertaking not to take part in, or incite to, militancy for a reasonable period of time; and asked if, in view of the Guildford Sessions not taking place until May, it could be arranged that she should be tried elsewhere. Her request was not granted, whereupon she refused to give the undertaking, and was therefore refused bail and committed to Holloway. The next day, in view of its subsequently transpiring that the Guildford Assizes would not take place till the end of June, the authorities consented to transfer the trial to the Central Criminal Court on April 1, and thereby Mrs. Pankhurst was enabled to give the necessary undertaking for a short period and was released on bail.

"Under the terms of the undertaking, Mrs. Pankhurst, while pledging herself not to incite to, or to take part in, any breach of the criminal law pending her trial, is free to attend and address public meetings in the interval."

*The Law Journal*, commenting on the action, says it will probably raise an interesting question as to the evidence necessary to establish such a charge as is made, adding that the point is sure to be taken as to whether it is possible to counsel or procure any person or persons unknown to commit a felony.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED what the strange word, "Phiteesi," means? If not, go to Messrs. Abbott's, Holborn, at the corner of Southampton-row, and you will soon find out that boots may fit like gloves.

### THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION.

One of the commonest objections to women having the vote is that we would want to be in Parliament, and the man in the street sees in his mind's eye hordes of women rushing in to sit there apparently without the ordeal of election.

Another objection frequently heard is that when we are allowed to sit on Municipal Councils we don't do it, and that shows we are apathetic and indifferent to public affairs. Strange that we may not have the vote because too many of us would sit in Parliament, and again we may not have it because not enough of us sit on Municipal Boards.

Men have many faults,  
Women have only two;  
There is nothing right they say,  
And nothing right they do.

As usual, many more of us would stand for election if we could, but the law of man excludes "the noblest of the sex, the married woman." To stand for the County or Town Councils one must be "on the roll of burgesses," and that, of course, excludes most wives. Cases have been known where husbands have obligingly come off the register and given up their electoral rights so that the women might have an opportunity to stand as candidates. But even that sacrifice has frequently been in vain, the Revising Barrister comes round, and on his taste and fancy hangs the fate of the married woman; some permit female names to remain, some strike them off; and against his decision there is no appeal, as I believe our former member, Mrs. Coates-Hansen, found to her cost.

If this strange and illogical disqualification were removed, there would be a large increase of candidates; at present (with rare exceptions) only widows and spinsters are eligible. For all other elections—London Borough Councils, Urban and Rural District Councils, and Boards of Guardians—a twelve months' residential qualification suffices.

There are many things under the County Council on which women's expert opinion would be most valuable—town-planning, midwifery laws, public health, adulteration of food, and above all, education. Slowly and painfully, through bitter experience of ruined lives, insanity and death, we are feeling our way to better things; but when compulsory education was forced down the throat of an unwilling nation forty-three years ago, had the mothers and grandmothers of England been consulted we could have taught our legislators many things; but we had no vote, and no women sat in the Education Office.

Some of us who were school managers or on School Boards a quarter of a century ago remember how we struggled against the evils of the pupil-teacher system, which worked young boys and girls teaching all day and learning all night, with the terror of examinations before them, so that many broke down utterly both in mind and body. Those who survived were picked lives, and nothing was said to hurt them after that ordeal. More teachers break down now, but then, of course, their ranks have not been thinned and the unfit all eliminated at an early stage as used to be the case under that cruel system.

We remember the pitiful baby classes where children of two and three slumbered in awkward attitudes one on the top of the other, being waked up occasionally with a long stick. Babies are not encouraged to go to school so young now.



Are YOU Sure You are not Paying  
**TOO MUCH TAX TO JOHN BULL?**  
We have recovered or saved Large Sums for  
Women Taxpayers.

WHY NOT CONSULT US? IT WILL COST YOU NOTHING  
Women Taxpayer's Agency (Mrs. E. Ayres Purdie)  
Hampden House, Kingsway, W.C. Tel. 6049 Central.

We remember the frantic competitions for the attendance medal; parents and children equally keen on gaining this honour so that frequently the little ones were carried to school in the grip of infectious disease—a peril to themselves and other people. Now in case of sickness the attendances are averaged and not lost.

We remember the little provision there used to be for drying wet clothes and the thousands of little lives that must have been lost or hopelessly blighted through the chill of sitting in soaked garments. The teachers, particularly the married women, were alive to it, but they could do little, though one East London boy, now a well-known painter, always maintains that his head teacher, a strict disciplinarian, caned them if they got wet, meting out the same punishment to them if they stayed away or came late, so that in bad weather very little teaching could be done.

All these things are altered now, but there is much to be done, and the women can do it.

Let the women turn up at the poll for the London County Council election on March 6, and support their sex and give an object-lesson to London that they value their vote. Let those, too, who have leisure go down and canvass for the women candidates, always, of course, with the conviction that they are supporting the right candidate, for a woman in public life, unless capable, hard-working and tactful, is not a good advertisement for our Cause "in that fierce light which beats upon"—a Board.

This is the list of the women candidates for London—most of the names are well-known and justly honoured:

Central Hackney.—Miss N. Adler.  
Chelsea.—Miss K. Wallas.  
Dulwich.—Dr. Sophia Jevons.  
East Marylebone.—Mrs. Miall Smith.  
Hoxton.—Miss Alice Willoughby.  
North Kensington.—Dr. Ethel Bentham.  
Poplar.—Miss Susan Lawrence and Mrs. Eliot.  
Strand.—Miss Pocock.  
West Marylebone.—Miss Evelyn Fox.  
Westminster.—Mrs. St. Clair Stobart.  
Woolwich.—Miss Margaret Bondfield.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, in her appeal on behalf of her Anti-Suffrage Local Government Committee, has delivered one of her finest Suffrage speeches.

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

#### DR. OCTAVIA LEWIN'S HOSPITALITY.

The Mid-London Branch will long remember with pleasure Dr. Octavia Lewin's delightful hospitality to a large gathering of members and friends on March 3, at her house, 25, Wimpole-street. After a short musical programme, in which Miss C. E. Andrews' piano solos and Miss Sydney Keith's songs were much appreciated, Mrs. Nourse briefly introduced the speakers.

Miss Cicely Hamilton gave a most thoughtful address, laying great stress on how much women have gained in breadth of outlook from this Suffrage movement. Mrs. Despard's inspiring speech was full of love of humanity and the desire to serve, which is the motive force of women's claim for political recognition. After thanks to the speakers and the hostess came tea, and the social side of Suffrage comradeship, and an all too speedy ending to a most pleasant afternoon.

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## Tailor-mades for the Spring

The "BURLINGTON," as illustrated below, is one of the newest Models in Tailor-made Suits; it is cut on perfect lines and carried out in Bedford Cords, Striped Suitings, also Black, Navy and Cream Coatings; lined Satin - 5 Gns.



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## THE VOTE.

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Adelphi, W.C.

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FISHER, Miss C. ANDREWS, Mrs. E. SPROSON, Miss F. A.  
UNDERWOOD, Miss C. NINA BOYLE.

FRIDAY, March 7, 1913.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.  
Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

### EDITORIAL

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom .. 6/6 per annum, post free.  
Foreign Countries .. 8/8 .. .. .

"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Book-stalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

## WHO ARE THE LAW-BREAKERS?

The country, so at least journalists tell us, is full of righteous indignation over a phenomenon new, up to this, in women (save a small minority) but known throughout the ages to men. Put briefly, it is breaking the law. The folly, the utter unreason, the ineffectiveness of running counter to the laws of one's country are being eloquently set forth by a host of journalists in our venal capitalistic Press. Over the Home Secretary, and his ineptitude in this respect, that decorous guardian of the morals and interests of respectable persons, *The Standard*, weeps bitter tears. "The working men," we read in a late leader, "and the violent women can do what they like with the Home Secretary." Mr. McKenna is told by this virtuous leader-writer that his first duty is to the public, and that if he cannot bring himself to meet the present emergency with firmness, he must make way for a stronger man. *Shall, then, Mr. McKenna resign?* Some of us would willingly say "yes." But we ask, "What is the present emergency, and who are the persons that to-day are setting the law at defiance? Regarding the duty of the Government to the public, we might go further. We might ask, "By whom is the community, in its vital interests, most deeply wounded—the women-suffragists or those who, daily and deliberately, for their own enrichment, disobey governmental regulations? To do Mr. McKenna justice he has made an effort to check the Suffragists. Those who, appealing from an inept and tricky Government to the men and women of London, on the night when a craven House of Commons accepted the ruling of their autocratic president, held a meeting in Trafalgar-square, were arrested and condemned to fine or imprisonment? Long and harsh sentences have been passed upon the women who, incensed beyond endurance, resorted to severer measures. On what they have done political quack-doctors are building up schemes of concerted violence. We are to have presently lynch law in Britain. Some of these wrathful persons regret the ducking-stool and the stocks. Let the latter, by a rapidly passed Act of Parliament, be revived. Let the leading Suffragists be set on high for the jeers and execration of the public! And if these pleasant preventatives failed—as they certainly would—the gallant male Anti-Suffragist proposes a Siberia in some distant island in the Pacific, to which, in the august name of the law that they have outraged, these contumacious women may be banished.

We, in the meanwhile, ask who are the real law-breakers? There is a law, the majesty of which transcends immeasurably that which has been thrown about the enactments of men-legislators. It is the law binding the human conscience—the moral law—the law of justice; the law of honour, strong in its demands in proportion to the up-training of the human being, his dignity and his responsibility. We maintain that

this law has been broken by our rulers. Pledges were given to our women. Those pledges have not been fulfilled. Strenuous efforts, as we know now, were made to evade them. When there seemed to be danger of these efforts failing, the pledges were deliberately broken. We are not arguing as to the wisdom or unwisdom of the reprisals that have been taken. We are simply stating facts. But we have other and more deadly indictments to bring against our rulers and their supporters. Even as regards the civil law, who are the real law-breakers? The Home Office knows. We, as ordinary persons, might find it difficult to unearth them, for they shelter under a variety of disguises. Many of them have fine incomes, and live in a fine odour of piety. A vicar was asked, in all kindness and respect by a parishioner, well-known to him for her splendid social work, to put off a week-night service at his church on account of a large Suffragist meeting to be held close by. He answered: "Surely you cannot expect us to consider the subject of Votes for Women on an equality with the worship of Almighty God."

John Ruskin, a much greater teacher than this little country vicar, says: "Alas! the true service of God is the doing of justice, and that is just the service which professors of Church religion refuse to give."

In our last issue we referred to the hollow-ware workers and their deadly trade. Regulations imposed by the Home Office (none too soon) for their protection have been ignored. Why is there no public outcry? Under the cloak of respectability, protected by, it may be, money, or political influence, or Church philanthropy, these law-breakers go quietly on their way. No Siberia, or stocks, or ducking-stool, no fines or imprisonment for them. It is only disease, only premature death, only living martyrdom, that follows in their train. The public has been spoken of lately as if it were altogether masculine. Now, it appears, we must make further restrictions. We must shut out the most helpless of the hand-workers. Would even *The Standard* expect that so fine a person as Mr. McKenna could consider that his first duty was to these bitterly-wronged human beings?

The "terrors of the streets" which arise, in no small measure, from unrestricted competition, have been severely commended upon in the Press.

*The Nation*, for instance, is of opinion that efficacious methods for dealing with this great public danger might be adopted. "Certain central districts should," it suggests, "be scheduled for a maximum rate of eight or ten miles." But why is no serious effort made to enforce the present law? "Within a few hundred yards of the Houses of Parliament, where the law was made, in even closer proximity to Scotland Yard" (to which so many Suffragettes have been taken for disobeying police regulations), "the speed-limit of twenty miles is habitually broken," continues *The Nation*, "by streams of motors, bearing legislators home at night and the police, who thickly frequent these thoroughfares, never think of enforcing the law."

Again we ask, Who are the real law-breakers? But still worse than all this is the one-sided manner in which the law is administered. Hooligans and intoxicated persons can do as they like at or outside Suffragist meetings. The militant form of our agitation might never have begun had not two young girls been imprisoned for creating a disturbance *outside* a political meeting. Over and over again women and men-Suffragists have suffered violence at the hands of foolish and ignorant men, and no steps have been taken to punish the offenders.

We hope all our readers have taken note of the quotation in our "Point of View" column of last week. It concerns industry in Ulster. A young girl, having been hurt at the Dromalane Mills received compensation at the rate of six shillings a week from February until July of last year. She was suffering from curvature of the spine. It is scarcely conceivable that the argument used by the respondent could have been accepted by any judge. It was to the effect that from 40 to 50 per

## OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

### Municipal Elections in Stockholm.

In view of the London County Council Election this week the following facts concerning the recent municipal election in Stockholm are of special interest. Out of 346,599 inhabitants—155,298 men, 191,301 women—81,355 men and 25,730 women are municipal voters. Citizens who do not pay their taxes lose their vote; the number of men who have thus forfeited the right is 20,004, or 24.6 per cent.; and of women 917, or 3.6 per cent.; showing says *Rosträtt för Kvinnor* of March 1, our able contemporary of Stockholm, that women are more careful than men in paying their taxes. The vote may be lost through bankruptcy and for this cause seventy-five men and ten women were disfranchised; for other reasons twenty-three men lost their votes, but no women. The percentage of men qualified to vote is thus 73.9, and of women 95.8; the percentage of those who exercised the vote was, men, 49.9; women, 32.9; the figures show an increase of interest, those for 1911 being, men, 44.9; women, 27.2.

Four women were elected to the Council: Mrs. Emilia Broomé, who has already served, is a member of the Public School Council, and takes a great interest in educational questions. She is a member of the Liberal Party. Miss Anna Lindhagen, who has also been re-elected, is a very keen Woman Suffragist, and a prominent worker in the Suffrage movement. She is a Social-Democrat. Miss Alma Hedin, also re-elected, gives all her time to work among the poor. Miss Anna Johansson, a Social Democrat, is very interested in Woman Suffrage, schools and housing, and strongly supports co-operation.

### Woman, 1815—1913: Exhibition in Amsterdam.

A number of Dutch women, who were of opinion that in Amsterdam, the capital of Holland, a special exhibition ought to be held to show the evolution of the social and intellectual position of women since 1813, have organised an exhibition officially called "Woman, 1813-1913," which will be opened from May till October, and will show a comparison between the life and social position of women in 1813 and 1913.

One part of the exhibition, says *The Standard*, will show a middle-class house of a hundred years ago, with all its accessories, with the enormous kitchen, where all the cooking for the house was done and the provisions of the house made and kept. This part of the exhibition will also show what accomplishments women of a hundred years ago possessed in art, music, literature, sports, &c.; what was their special work among the poor and sick, and as guardians of almshouses, orphanages, &c., &c.

To give an idea of the women of the working class, in the country as well as in town, the home industries will be shown, and how women were overworked as seamstresses and as diamond-workers, and how some women trudged in a treadmill like horses. Women's other professions, those of shopgirls, servants, school mistresses, midwives, &c., will also lend their gay or sad note to the whole.

Next to the exhibition building for 1813, another for 1913 will be erected. This will be much more extensive. It will show how woman's field of work outside the house has grown, and how much of her work in the house has been taken away by all the new inventions of machinery. Women architects will demonstrate by different model houses how the factor of hygiene has become important in all classes. Then the exhibition will also demonstrate how the State intervenes now by laws into family life and also in the life of woman-workers, and how, consequently, women ask the same political rights as men. One room will be set apart for Woman Suffrage. Furthermore, the work of women as writers, artists, teachers, sick nurses, &c., will be shown.

The colonial department promises to be of special interest. The extent and the dense population of the Dutch East Indies is hardly sufficiently appreciated in the West. This section will, among other things, show the work done by white women among the natives, and as missionaries. The native women are asking for better education and more culture; it will be interesting to see what is going to be done towards gratifying their wishes.

Part of the grounds of the exhibitions will be reserved for sports and open-air games for women and young girls. The site of the exhibition is on the boards of the Amstel; the 1813 part of the exhibition will be held in an existing old house, surrounded by lovely old trees, and a garden in the style of that time.

During May the exhibition will be visited by representatives of the International Council of Women, under the presidency of Lady Aberdeen. Cinematograph representations will illustrate many fields of work, which could otherwise not be shown in the exhibition.

A NEW HONOUR FOR A WOMAN.—MISS ETHEL SARGANT, who has been appointed President of the Botanical Section for the meeting of the British Association in Birmingham in September, is the first woman to obtain such an honour in all the history of the Association. Miss Sargent is a Fellow of the Linnean Society; she was elected one of the first women members in 1904, and served on the Council of the Society from 1906 to 1910. She is the author, says *The Standard*, of about a dozen pamphlets, all more or less relating to microscopic vegetable anatomy, and in particular that of seedlings, showing the early conditions, and so endeavouring to trace the phylogeny of monocotyledons.

cent. of mill girls suffered in the same way. The curvature was due to insufficient feeding, unhealthy surroundings, and unnatural positions while at work. These arguments secured his acquittal.

Then again, looking below the surface, we are able to see why railway workers threaten to be once more upon the war-path. The companies make certain regulations, sanctioned by the Board of Trade, to guarantee, as far as possible, the safety of the public. For the sake of economy and speeding up these are disregarded, and when a railway-guard stands by the orders given to him by the authorities, rather than those given by his foreman, he is dismissed. And yet one of the orders every servant of the company has to sign when he enters the company's service runs as follows:—

"The safety of the public must, under all circumstances, be the chief care of the servants of the company."

Had the guard, Richardson, by failing to obey his orders, caused an accident—who would have stood by him? When we hear these things, when we know that through evasion and maladministration of the law the helpless are being broken and the strong protected, is it any wonder that our hearts and spirits rebel?

Sometimes the cynical voice of the tempter will whisper, "It is of no use complaining. This that you see is in the nature of things."

Truth for ever on the scaffold  
Wrong for ever on the throne,

Give up the uneven battle."

And so we might, did we not know that behind the shadows, waiting its moment for revelation, dwells eternal justice; that in the silence the wisdom of the ages speaks. Sooner or later the light will break and the real law-breakers will stand out before the people, self-accused and self-condemned.

Therefore we are calm; therefore, in hope and confidence we go forward with our work.

C. DESPARD.

## AGAIN.

Not only once as man to men,  
Unwelcome and unknown,  
God gave Himself, but age by age  
His Godhead still is shown.  
The mighty movements of the world  
Are His perpetual Throne.

Once as a man, despised, reviled,  
He trod the ways of earth:  
Now in the woes of womanhood  
His spirit strives for birth:  
Still is His message, as of old,  
Mocked as of little worth.

Once in a single form He dwelt,  
The body of a man;  
Hundreds of women's forms to-day  
Work out His wisdom's plan;  
And round them flames, with sullen glare,  
Hate that in scorn began.

Oh Master Man! the once despised,  
Acclaimed as Christ to-day!  
Is agony the only speech,  
Is death the only way,  
To give Thy message to a world  
That still would say Thee nay?

Women who stood beside His cross  
To-day will fearless stand,  
Will tread the shadowed valley's depths,  
Bearing of shame the brand,  
And reach a risen womanhood  
Within the promised land.

But some must perish in the strife  
And some be crushed by pain,  
And much of beauty, much of grace,  
And much of trust be slain,  
Ere from the noble face of Truth  
The veil is rent in twain.

And yet what matter? They who pass  
In blackness of the night  
Fight not for self, but win for all,  
Or friend, or foe, the light;  
While He whose spirit strives for birth  
Incarnates in the Right.

G. COLMORE.

### WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

#### Matchbox Makers: 50 per cent. increase in Wages.

Among the working women who are to attend the National Anti-Sweating Demonstration at the Queen's Hall, on Friday, March 7, at which the Bishop of Oxford is to preside, will be representatives of the thousand homeworkers who make matchboxes in East London, and who are somewhat excited by the prospect that in a few weeks their earnings will be substantially increased. For all kinds of boxmaking, the Paper Box Trade Board has fixed a minimum rate of 3d. an hour for women workers, a rate sufficiently high to compel the drastic revision of the payments made at present for matchboxes. Thus the small "minic" matchbox, in which safety matches are usually encased, has hitherto been paid for at rates of 1½d. or 2d. per gross. The Trade Board has fixed for this box a rate of 3d. per gross, thus adding about 50 per cent. to the earnings of many of the women. The women are naturally much delighted, and anxious to aid the object of the Queen's Hall meeting, which is directed to the extension of the Act to other sets of low-paid workers.

#### New Trade Union for Women.

The inaugural meeting of the National Society of Dress-makers, Tailoresses, and Kindred Trades met recently to elect officers and decide on the policy of the Union. It is intended that the Union shall cover the largest possible number of workers, and for that purpose it was ruled that any sympathiser may become a member on payment of 2s. 6d. a year subscription, but is not eligible to hold office.

Mrs. Cheshire (former secretary of the London Society of Tailors and Tailoresses) was elected secretary, Miss Edie Ersler president of the society, and Miss Teresa Clumb treasurer. Their new office will be at 6, Marshall-street, Regent-street. The subscription is fixed at 2d. a week. The only benefit to be reckoned upon in the present early stage will be strike pay. There were several pressing reasons for the formation of this separate Union. The most important one is that the Bill at present before the House of Commons, brought forward by the women of the Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses, to reduce the working hours of women and young persons from sixty a week to forty-nine, and approved by a general meeting on December 10, 1912, has not yet been acted upon by any of the employers, although they have passed resolutions in favour of its adoption.

#### A Pioneer Inventor.

To the deep regret of a wide circle of friends, the death occurred at Guy's Hospital, S.E., recently, of Mrs. Lucy Pitchers, wife of Mr. William Thomas Pitchers, of Godalming. Mrs. Pitchers took a prominent part in the special business with which the name of "Pitchers" has been for so long associated. She was, in fact, the pioneer of much of the knitting work so familiar now in the form of sweaters, knitted coats, and other articles. She invented the celebrated "Cable" pattern of sweater, the trade-mark rights of which were secured in the early nineties for this country and America. Following Mrs. Pitchers' inventions in 1890, Mr. Pitchers opened a factory at Hawes, in North Yorkshire. A few years later Mrs. Pitchers not only invented a little instrument which expedited the making of the knitted garments, but carried out other new and practical methods. Her ideas and principles are now used in the trade all over the world.

#### First to Win.

Miss Alice Smith, an Oldham cardroom worker, is the first to win a twelve months' scholarship at the new Working Women's College, Earl's Court.

#### Women Barristers in New Zealand.

The ex-Premier of New Zealand (Sir Joseph Ward) gave his opinions on women to the members and guests of the Imperial Industries Club assembled on February 14 at dinner in the Criterion Restaurant.

"I come from a country where women have equal rights in the adjustment and settlement of the laws of the country," said Sir Joseph Ward. "I have seen women discharge duties some of which are quite unknown in this country. In New Zealand women are admitted to the Bar. Their clientèle appeared to be in every instance men, not women, and the number of cases they succeeded in winning shows their ability to influence judges and juries. I do not believe that women are inferior to men."

#### THE WOMEN'S POLITICAL DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Women's Political Debating Society held its first meeting at 1, Robert-street, February 27, at 7.45 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson presided. The subject, "Is Trade Unionism Among Women a Success?" was dealt with by Miss F. A. Underwood and Miss E. J. Read, after which a very interesting discussion took place. A resolution in the affirmative was carried. At the close several members were enrolled, and we hope many more will avail themselves of the opportunities the society affords. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 13, at 7.45 p.m., when the debate on "Should a Minimum Wage be Compulsory?" will be opened by Miss E. Rogers and opposed by Mrs. Piggott. —E. J. R.

#### DR. ELSIE MARY CHUBB: A WINNER OF "FIRST PLACES."



Miss E. M. Chubb, M.D.

All members of the Women's Freedom League will join in congratulating their fellow-member and enthusiast for Woman's Suffrage, Dr. Elsie M. Chubb, on her appointment as Assistant Medical School Inspector and Assistant Medical Officer of Health at Acton, London.

Dr. Chubb's career from her school days in South Africa has been one long record of unbroken success; she may well be called a "winner of first places;" her achievements up to the present warrant the conviction that she will be one of "the women who count" in skilled and devoted service to the community. That her career will be an encouragement to others goes without saying, but it is well also that parents of daughters should see in Dr. Chubb an object lesson in the value of giving girls equal educational opportunities with boys, as Mr. and Mrs. Chubb have done; they, too, are reaping their reward, and the nation will be the richer for their wisdom.

Financial prize after prize has been won by Miss Chubb in South Africa, beginning with her first school, the High School for Girls at Grahamstown, and continuing through her career at the Cape University. From the South African College, Cape Town, a college attended by students of both sexes, she took her B.A., and was awarded a scholarship of £200 per annum for three years. Had she been a boy she would, as a matter of course, have been awarded the Jamieson Scholarship that year, value £200 a year for four years. Since then, it appears, this scholarship has, by Act of Parliament, been thrown open to women. Shortly after this she gained the Chalmers Prize of £20 for an essay on "The Rise of the Kaffir and Bantu races."

In September, 1903, she came to England, and entered as a student at the School of Medicine for Women, Hunter-street, London; in May, 1909, passed the final M.B., B.S., examinations; in June, 1911, the M.D. (London), having had valuable experience in the meantime in various responsible positions in hospitals in London and the provinces. She then went to Clapton for eighteen months as assistant to Mrs. Wilks, M.D., during which time she studied for and gained the Diploma of Public Health (D.P.H.). Her old School of Medicine in Hunter-street has awarded her the Helen Pridoux Scholarship of £40, and in fulfilment of its conditions she is now in Berlin, attending lectures and doing practical work at the Königliche Charité. On April 1, she returns to England to take up her new duties at Acton. Very heartily we wish her continued success in her most promising career of service.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Chubb follows Dr. Lilian E. Wilson, who now takes up an important appointment on the medical staff of the Board of Education. Dr. Wilson's service in Acton has been warmly praised, and a presentation was made to her on leaving by the Acton Municipal Officers' Association and the Teachers in the Council's service.

#### BY-ELECTION.

##### Houghton-le-Spring.

Candidates—MR. TOM WING (Lib.)  
ALDERMAN WILLIAM HOUSE (Lab.)  
MR. THOMAS RICHARDSON (U.).

Miss Andrews, accompanied by Miss Trott, of Chester, is in charge of the Freedom League Campaign in which the Sunderland, West Hartlepool, and South Shields Branches are working. Help of all kinds will be most warmly welcomed, and members in the district who can spare any time are asked to communicate without delay with Miss Andrews, care of Mrs. Palliser, 10, Fox-street, Sunderland.

#### LAST ELECTIONS.

1910 (December).	1910 (January).	
R. Cameron (L.), Unopposed.	R. Cameron (L.)	10,393
	Major H. S. Streetfield (C.)	4,382

Majority .. 6,011  
All members of Sunderland, Middlesbrough, West Hartlepool and South Shields Branches have been circulated.

OUR READERS WILL NOTE WITH INTEREST that Messrs. Peter Robinson and Co. continue the renewals of their page advertisement in THE VOTE; it is a proof of their satisfaction with results. Will all our members ensure that this satisfaction shall increase by increased support?

### OUR NEW PRIZE COMPETITION.

To the many competitors who sent in forecasts of the voting on Sir Edward Grey's amendment to the Franchise Bill we express our regret that the Government effectually prevented us from awarding the promised prizes by withdrawing the Bill before the voting took place.

We announce, however, a further prize competition, for which we hope all will enter.

Three Prizes—First, £2 2s.; Second, £1 1s.; Third, 10s. 6d.—will be given for the **Best Forecasts of the King's Speech** at the opening of the next Session of Parliament, **not exceeding 500 words.**

#### RULES:

1. The competition is open to all our readers except members of the Headquarters staff.
2. Each forecast must be accompanied by the coupon below, and give the name and address of the sender.
3. Forecasts, written on one side only of the paper, must be addressed to the Editor, VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.; the envelope marked *Prize Competition*. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient if the flap of the envelope is tucked inside.
4. Competitors may send as many forecasts as they like provided each is accompanied by a coupon.
5. The competition will remain open until the day before the opening of Parliament.
6. The forecasts will be submitted to a judge independent of the Women's Freedom League, whose decision will be final.

#### COUPON.

##### "VOTE" PRIZE COMPETITION.

Not to exceed 500 words.

I forecast the King's Speech as follows:—

Name .....

Address .....

#### THE L.C.C. ELECTION AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, a London County Councils (1913) Election Committee has been formed with the object of finding out how far candidates are willing to assist in forwarding the Cause of Woman Suffrage. Each of the two hundred or more candidates has been asked to receive a deputation and to answer the following questions:—

1. If elected to the L.C.C. are you prepared to propose a resolution calling upon the Government to introduce a measure for the enfranchisement of women?
2. If elected to the L.C.C. are you prepared to support and vote for such a resolution?

When the candidate gives a satisfactory reply, the Women's Freedom League recommends all Suffragists in the neighbourhood to vote for this candidate.

The deputations have been very successful, having been received with great courtesy by the candidates, who welcomed the opportunity of gaining reliable information on the question of Woman Suffrage, and promised valuable help.

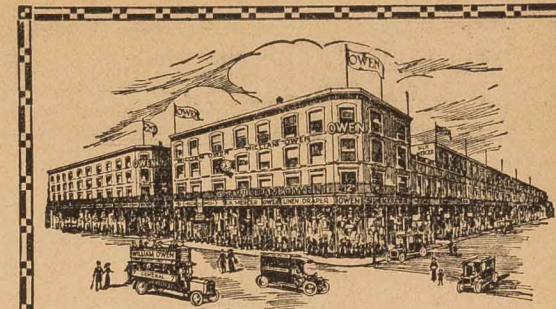
E. KNIGHT, Chairman,  
N. SPILLER, } Joint Hon. Secretaries,  
M. CAREY, } L.C.C. Election Committee.

#### CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS."

##### How Florence Nightingale Scorned Convention.

Lady Treacher presided over a large gathering at the Caxton Hall on February 26, and introduced the principal speaker, Surgeon-General Evatt, C.B., as one who had intimately known Florence Nightingale—the greatest woman citizen. General Evatt said it was true that Florence Nightingale never achieved the rights of citizenship and died a voteless woman, but he described her as mistress of the art of administration.

Florence Nightingale was the daughter of a baronet, and, having no brothers, received a full and complete education. In appearance she resembled an aggressive Quaker. She happened to be a Unitarian, was free from the bias of sects, a broad-minded woman, with a wonderfully calm judgment. She chose as her life's work the care of the sick; she studied the question of hospitals in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Paris, in Italy and Germany, in which latter country she found deaconesses were trained in the art of nursing. She started a hospital in Harley-street, and there put into practice what were then quite new rules of sanitation. From Scutari, where she was sent to nurse the sick and wounded, her work became known to the world. "What is Scutari?" General Evatt had asked her. The reply was, "Scutari was chaos, the acme of inefficiency and ignorance, of authority without knowledge, of science without command." Scutari was a Turkish barracks where the English wounded were sent. There was no medical



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corps, just a few doctors with no authority, no power to command. There was no commissariat, no transport service, and soldiers were dying of starvation while ships loaded with provisions were lying in a harbour seven miles distant. A report of these conditions was sent to *The Times* by Russell, the famous war correspondent, and the heart of England was shocked by the news. When Florence Nightingale landed there, she found the powerlessness of anyone to make the machine go. Underneath the barracks were hundreds of soldiers' wives with neither money nor food. She wanted a laundry, and got them to run it; she founded a school for their children, linked up the various parts of the machinery of service, introduced method and system, and did not hesitate to break open the door of a medical store rather than wait to find out by whose authority it could be opened.

When she returned to London her countrymen rendered her high honour; £50,000 was collected for her, but she handed this sum over to a hospital, and devoted the remainder of her life to the improvement of sanitary conditions, asking not so much "How can soldiers or other people be cured?" but "Why are they sick?" General Evatt claimed that although Florence Nightingale is dead her spirit is living in women at the present day, animating them to work for better conditions in the slums, where women were driven to drink and other evils through their intolerable surroundings.

In the absence of Miss Boyle, through illness, Miss Munro spoke of the London County Council Elections Campaign which the Women's Freedom League is at present pursuing.

### "BUNTY" WAS A SUFFRAGETTE.

It was a warm welcome to old friends which was offered by the Women's Freedom League, Edinburgh Branch, when an "At Home" was held on February 27, in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat, who, in the midst of a busy week, spared time to reiterate their Suffrage faith. Mrs. Bell, President of the Branch, said that many of its members had pleasant recollections of Mrs. Moffat as treasurer of the Scottish Council, and Mr. Moffat was one of the originators of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

Mr. Moffat, in a speech which was heard with interest and amusement, said his association with the Cause of Women's Suffrage went back for many years. He had helped to start the Men's League, and a Branch in Edinburgh. When there, he and his sister had given their little sketch, "The Maid and the Magistrate." He had put a good deal of propaganda into that sketch, and it had been used on several occasions by the Actresses'

Franchise League. He had walked more than once in procession with the women in Edinburgh, and, if his memory served him aright, he had carried a banner on the last occasion.

His associations with the women's Cause had to a certain extent influenced the plays he had written. "Bunty" was really a Suffragette, or rather she would have been one had she lived to-day. It was the attitude she took up towards men which made her such a unique character. He thought that most women would be string-pullers if only the men would let them. He did not want to criticise the attitude which the women were taking up at the present time. He hated war; the wars which men had made, and to a lesser degree the war women were making now. He thought, however, that if ever a war could have been prevented by wise statesmanship it was the women's war. When in Hull lately he had seen the statue erected there to Wilberforce, the man who freed the slaves. Their Cause was a finer one even than that, and he thought that if ever people deserved to have statues erected to them the women who had fought and would win their great fight deserved it.

Mrs. Moffat recalled the days when she had been a Suffrage worker. When she went to prison, she was glad and proud to do something for the Cause. She hoped for a little more leisure and would then join in the fight once more.

### CONVERTING GRAYS.

As so many people were disappointed at not obtaining, at Mrs. Despard's meeting on February 6, a seat, we decided to hold a ticket meeting on February 27, writes Miss Maud Tunstall, the hon. sec. of our Grays Branch. Again the large hall of the school was packed. We had expected Miss Boyle, and deeply regret that illness prevented her from coming. We wish her speedy recovery and hope to welcome her later on. We had been warned of "organised opposition"! We were not afraid when we saw present members of the Dockers' Union, who had recently passed a splendid resolution to attend Suffrage meetings, and help if necessary. It was, however, a case of "those who came to scoff, remained to pray," for Miss Munro met with applause and sympathy throughout the meeting. When she had metaphorically "bowled out" one or two irrelevant questioners at the back of the hall, their comrades considered discretion the better part of valour, and sank into oblivion. The meeting ended in prolonged cheers and calls for "Miss Munro to come again." One pronounced Anti remarked, "I take back half of what I have said before the meeting." New members were added to the Grays Branch; all copies of *THE VOTE* and much literature was sold, and a splendid collection was taken.

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### BRANCH NOTES.

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, *THE VOTE* Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

**NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.**

**LONDON.—Anerley and Crystal Palace District.—Hon. Sec.:** Miss JESSIE FENNINGS, 149, Croydon-road, Anerley.

A Branch meeting was held on February 27, to consider the resolutions for the Conference. The hon. treasurer will be glad to receive the annual subscriptions of those members who have not already paid.

**Clapham.—Hon. Sec.:** Mrs. EDITH SMITH, 37, Honeybrook-road, Clapham-park.

We are glad to say that Mrs. Neilson, who has very kindly undertaken the charge of the Merchandise Department, is receiving very hearty support from our members in this matter. At our meeting on February 11 resolutions for the Conference were sent up, and amendments to resolutions were discussed at meetings on the 18th and 25th inst. Mrs. Thomas has proposed that a working woman's Branch be formed in Clapham, and has very kindly promised to get particulars of a suitable room, &c. The candidates for the L.C.C. election in this district have been asked to receive a deputation from our Branch on the subject of the enfranchisement of women. Our next Branch meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, at 1, Imperial Mansions, Bromells-road, at 8 p.m.

**Croydon.—Office:** 32A, The Arcade, High-street. **Hon. Sec.:** Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue.

At the "At Home," on February 20, Mrs. Mustard gave an excellent address on "Women's Work and Wages"; and on February 27, Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., spoke on "Woman and Marriage." The points raised were greatly appreciated and led to an interesting discussion. We are making arrangements to hold another public meeting;

many friends present on February 22 expressed a keen desire for a meeting undisturbed by drunken rowdies. Particulars later.

**Finchley.—Hon. Sec.:** Mrs. TINKLER, 3, Stanley-road, E. Finchley.

A meeting was held on February 25, at Saltburn, Mountfield-road, Church End, by kind permission of Mrs. Mitchell. The subject was "The Social Status of Women in England, France and Germany—a Comparison." The speaker was Mrs. Edwards, late candidate for the Finchley Urban District Council. Her lecture was specially interesting, and a discussion followed. Mrs. Mather took the chair. It was the second lecture of our monthly series. The first was held in January, when Mrs. Vulliamy, of Cambridge, spoke on "The White Slave Traffic," and Dr. Vickery presided. The next lecture will be early in April, when Mrs. Baker, of Stockton-on-Tees, will lecture on "The Unmarried Mother"; details to be announced later.

**Herne Hill and Norwood.—Hon. Sec., pro tem.:** Miss WINIFRED SPRIGGS, 69, Danecroft-road, Herne Hill.

A Branch meeting was held on February 25, at 161, Croxsted-road, by kind permission of Miss Davis. The members present expressed their deep sense of the loss which the Branch has sustained by the death of Miss Barbara Spencer, the late hon. secretary, and their appreciation of her devoted work for the Cause. Miss Winifred Spriggs, (69, Danecroft-road, Herne Hill,) was elected secretary *pro tem.*, and it is hoped that all the members of the Branch will rally to its support at this critical juncture in the Suffrage movement.

[We regret that in our "In Memoriam" notice of Miss Spencer, Dr. Alice Vickery's name was spelt "Vickary."—Ed.]

**Kensington.—Hon. Sec.:** Miss MARIAN REEVES, 16, Bracewell-road, N. Kensington.

At the Branch meeting held on February 26, arrangements were made to hold a public meeting on Tuesday, April 1, at the Kensington Town Hall. Will members book this date, and endeavour to keep the fortnight preceding it free to help to advertise the meeting? A whistle drive will also be held in April, full particulars of which will be announced later. Will members make a special effort to attend the Branch meeting next week, to arrange for our Town Hall meeting, and elect our delegate to the Conference? Notice of time and place will be sent later.

**Tottenham.—Hon. Sec.:** Miss F. L. EGGETT, 30, Lausanne-road, Hornsey.

A jumble sale will be held by the Branch shortly in aid of *THE VOTE*. Will members kindly send any articles to Mrs. HARBORD, 91, Pleasant-road, Tottenham?

**PROVINCES.—Brighton and Hove.—Hon. Sec.:** Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.

An interesting lecture on Mme. Curie was given on February 24, by Mrs. Cunningham, who showed the many activities of the famous scientist, and gave an account of her discovery of radium. Miss Clove has kindly undertaken the duties of *VOTE* organiser *pro tem.* Members are asked to keep March 27 open, as Miss Munro is coming to take part in a debate, of which further particulars will be given later.

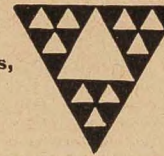
**Cheltenham.—Hon. Sec.:** Mme. BOROVKOVSKY, Mostyn Villa, Hales-road.

Our annual meeting was held on February 21, and we had a record attendance. After the business was concluded, Mrs. How Martyn, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., spoke on the present political situation of Women's Suffrage, her chief point being to show how inadequate was—and always would be—the offer of the Prime Minister to allow the question to be dealt with by a private Member's Bill; nothing but a Government measure could bring success to the Cause. The audience listened with the greatest interest, and the proceedings ended with refreshments.

(Continued on page 319.)

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.**

**LONDON AND SUBURBS.**

**Thurs., Mar. 6.**—AGENDA COMMITTEE, 1, Robert-street, 11 a.m. CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street. Weekly "At Home," 3 p.m.

**Mon., Mar. 10.**—Lecture on "Prometheus Unbound," by Mrs. Despard, Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s. and 6d., from Office.

**Tues., Mar. 11.**—CLAPHAM BRANCH MEETING, 1, Imperial Mansions, Brompton-road, 8 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 12.**—PUBLIC MEETING, Caxton Hall, 3.30 p.m. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard and J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq. 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, WORK PARTY, 6 p.m. KENSINGTON BRANCH MEETING, 55, Gledbe-place, Chelsea, 8 p.m.

**Thurs., Mar. 13.**—CROYDON "AT HOME," 3 p.m. Dr. Ballie on "Land Taxes." WOMEN'S POLITICAL DEBATING SOCIETY, 1, Robert-street, 7.45 p.m. "Should a Minimum Wage be Compulsory?" *Opener:* Miss Rogers; *opposite:* Mrs. Piggott.

**Fri., Mar. 14.**—CROYDON SOCIAL, Small Public Hall.

**Sun., Mar. 16.**—HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY MEETING, Fife Hall, Fife-road, Kingston-on-Thames. Miss Boyle on "Women and World Politics," 7.30 p.m.

**Mon., Mar. 17.**—LECTURE ON "ENGLISH REFORM BILLS," by Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. (Lond.), Caxton Hall, 8 p.m.

**Thurs., Mar. 27.**—MID-LONDON BRANCH MEMBERS' MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 7.30 p.m. Special business: Instructions to delegates to Conference.

**Fri., Mar. 28.**—NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 2.30 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 29.**—ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Caxton Hall, 10 a.m.

**Sun., Mar. 30.**—Hyde Park Demonstration. NOON. RECEPTION TO DELEGATES TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Caxton Hall, 3.30 p.m. Speeches by delegates and others.

**Mon., Mar. 31.**—LECTURE ON "THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF ENGLISH POOR LAW," by Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. (Lond.), Caxton Hall, 8 p.m.

**Tues., April 1.**—KENSINGTON TOWN HALL, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Eunice Murray.

**Wed., April 2.**—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING. *Speakers:* Dr. Clark and Miss Eunice Murray. CLAPHAM HALL, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, and Miss Eunice Murray.

**Thurs., April 3.**—CROYDON "AT HOME," W.F.L. Office, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, 3 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Eunice Murray.

**Mon., April 7.**—LECTURE ON BROWNING'S "SAUL," by Mrs. Despard, Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. from office.

**PROVINCES.**

**Fri., Mar. 7.**—Liverpool. Aintree Institute, 8 p.m. Miss Janet Heyes on "How and Why We Fight for the Vote."

**Mon., Mar. 10.**—Burnage (Manchester) Branch Meeting.

**Middlesbrough.** Hinton Café. *Speaker:* Mr. Charles Coates. Subject: "Objections to Women's Enfranchisement Answered," 8 p.m.

**Thurs., Mar. 13.**—SOUTHSEA, "Derryane," Aston-road, Whist Drive, 7.30. Tickets 1s.

**Fri., Mar. 14.**—Chester, 13, Abbey-square. SPEAKERS' CLASS, 5.45 p.m. *Opener:* Mrs. Howroyd, of Helsby. Subject, "How the Vote Will Affect Women."

**Mon., Mar. 17.**—Middlesbrough.—BUSINESS MEETING, Hinton's Café, 8 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 19.**—Chester, 13, Abbey-square. BRANCH MEETING, 8 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. Shaw (of Aintree). *Chair:* Mrs. H. F. Brown.

**Thurs., Mar. 27.**—Brighton.—Y.M.C.A. DEBATING SOCIETY, 55, Old Steine. Debate, 8 p.m.: "Can Militant Methods be Justified?" Miss Munro (W. F. L.) for, Mrs. Harold Norris against.

**SCOTLAND.**

**Thurs., Mar. 6.**—Glasgow, 70, St. George's-road, ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, 8 p.m.

**Fri., Mar. 7.**—Edinburgh. Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest-road. PUBLIC MEETING. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard, Miss Eunice Murray. *Chair:* Rev. James Black, M.A. (Broughton U.F. Church). Tickets, 1s., 6d., and 3d., 8 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 8.**—Glasgow, Philosophical Hall, 207, Bath-street. PUBLIC MEETING, 7.30 p.m. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard and Miss Eunice Murray. *Chair:* Mrs. J. B. Wilson. OPEN-AIR MEETING, Alexandria, 3 p.m. *Speakers:* Miss Shennan and Miss Gibson.

**Tues., Mar. 11.**—Edinburgh. Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. WOMEN'S MEETING, 2.30 p.m. *Speaker:* Dr. Elsie Inglis. Tea. Admission 2d.

**Wed., Mar. 12.**—Edinburgh. Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. BRANCH MEETING, 8 p.m. GLASGOW. BUSINESS BRANCH MEETING, to discuss Conference Resolutions, 70, St. George's-road, 8 p.m.

**Fri., Mar. 14.**—Glasgow. DRAWING-ROOM MEETINGS, afternoon and evening, Rock House, Garleochhead. *Hostess:* Mrs. Turner. *Speakers:* Miss Eunice Murray, Miss B. Semple, Miss Runten, and Miss Gibson.

**WALES.**

**Mon., Mar. 10.**—Swansea. Branch Annual Business Meeting.

**Wed., Mar. 12.**—Swansea. Mond Buildings, Debate with Violet League on "Militancy," 8 p.m.

**OTHER SOCIETIES.**

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.—Address after March 6: 6, York-buildings, Adelphi, W.C. Mar. 7.—Brighton and Hove Branch "At Home," 17, Rutland-gardens, Hove: Miss Francis Greenwich and Lewisham Public Meeting, 8 p.m., All Saints' Hall, Sydenham: Miss Abadam, Rev. F. M. Green. 8.—Parkstone Branch Public Meeting Parish Room, Broadstone, 3.30 p.m. *Chair,* the Rev. the Hon. R. S. Adderley. *Speaker,* Mr. Laurence Housman; Newbury Branch, Inauguration Meeting at Guildhall Hotel, Rev. C. Henselliff, 6 p.m. 10.—Ealing. Members' Meeting, 104, The Avenue, 6, Ealing, 3 p.m. 12.—Organisation Committee, 6, York Buildings, 11 a.m. 12.—Bootle (Lanes). Inauguration of Branch, St. Johns Schools, 8 p.m., Miss Barrett, Miss Anderson. Oxford Branch, lecture in Church House, S. S. Philip and James, 65, Banbury-road, 5 p.m., Scottish Churches League for Woman Suffrage.—A meeting,



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at St. Cuthberts Hall, Edinburgh, March 12, 3 p.m. "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement." *Chair:* Lady Frances Ballou, president. *Speakers:* Rev. T. Whitelaw, D.D., Lady Ramsay, Rev. C. M. Black, Rev. D. Butler, D.D., Rev. C. Fleming Williams. Admission free, reserved seats 1s. Collection. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss A. G. Ferrier, 11, Howe-street.

**Free Church League.**—March 11, Newcastle, Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, 5 p.m. March 12, South Norwood, at Liberal Christian League, 3 p.m. March 12, Brighton, "White Elephant Sale," 9, Stanford-avenue, 7.30 p.m. March 13, S. Norwood, Enmors-road, Congregational Hall, 8 p.m. (White Slave Traffic). March 17, Ipswich, Co-operative Hall, Afternoon and Evening Meetings. Rev. Fleming Williams, &c.

In March a Bill will be introduced in Alaska to give Suffrage to women on the same terms as men. If it passes the Legislature it becomes law without having to go to the voters.

**BRANCH NOTES.**—(Continued from p. 317).

**Chester.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss E. WOODALL, 13, Abbey-square. On Monday last our members met at the Suffrage local headquarters to discuss conference resolutions, and we had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Andrews among us for the first time. We all appreciated her interesting speech on current topics. Mrs. Crossland Taylor, who has shown such splendid zeal in organising the meeting for Mrs. Despard at Helsby, was elected vice-president. Mrs. Howroyd, of Helsby, whose practical help in numerous ways is so readily given, was elected member of our committee. We have disposed of six dozen copies of The Vote this week.

**Manchester Central.**—*Office:* 46A, Market-street, Sec.: Miss A. E. HORDEEN, 478, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester.

Members fortunate enough to be present at Wednesday's Branch meeting would echo the words of Miss Fildes, the chairman, that we have never had a more delightful paper—not even from Mrs. Duncan. On April 9, we are to have another treat: Mrs. Duncan has promised to lecture on "Irish Poetry with Music," and Mrs. Georgina Pearce has undertaken responsibility for the musical portion of the programme. Will friends please prove their appreciation by keeping that date free and ensuring an audience worthy of such talent?

**Middlesbrough.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss A. MARONY, 35, Albert-terrace. A meeting was held last Monday night in Hinton's Café, at which Mr. Charles Coates presided, and an address was given by Miss W. M. Jones on the subject of "Ibsen as a Pioneer of the Woman's Movement." Dealing with that aspect of Ibsen's social teaching which has reference to women, Miss Jones said that "though Ibsen had not deliberately used the drama as a vehicle for propagating views on the woman's question, yet in several of his plays, such as *The Doll's House*, *Ghosts*, *Pillars of Society*, *The Wild Duck*, is found a plea for a fuller and freer womanhood. The best of Ibsen's Women prove paradoxically that the most womanly woman is the one who has no womanliness as commonly understood. Women have long lived and worked in the shadows of life, but their entry into fuller freedom must come for the good of the whole human race."

On Wednesday last, a business meeting was held at 35, Albert-terrace. Resolutions for Conference were read and amended. Mrs. Carey was elected delegate. It is hoped that there will be a good meeting on March 10 in Hinton's Café, when Mr. Charles Coates will speak on "Objections to the Enfranchisement of Women Answered," and Miss W. M. Jones will preside.

**Portsmouth and Gosport.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. WRETTON, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

To raise funds for the Branch, Mrs. White has kindly consented to have another whist drive at her house, "Derryane," Aston-road, Southsea, on March 13, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 1s. each, may be obtained at the above address.

**Waterloo.**—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. EVANS, 49, Kimberley-drive, Great Crosby.

Another successful meeting of an educational nature was held at St. Luke's Parish Hall, Crosby, on the afternoon of February 27. Miss Andrews spoke to an interested audience, many of whom heard, for the first time, the truth about the Suffrage Movement. The result was increased membership and extended interest; several working women gave their names and addresses, and asked to be notified of future meetings. Our sincere thanks are due to those members who so warmly support this work; Mrs. Wyse, who paid for the hall on the occasion of the cake and flower sale; Mrs. Williams, for the speakers' expenses; Mr. Reader, who undertakes the necessary printing; Mrs. Reader, for hospitality to our speakers; Mrs. Cairns, Mrs. King, and Mr. Matthews, who hold themselves in readiness to help in every possible way. As an outcome of interest shown by working women, Mrs. Reader purposes holding meetings for women at her home, 4, De Villiers-avenue. J. A. EVANS, *Hon. Sec.*

**SCOTLAND.**—Edinburgh.—*Suffrage Shop:* 33, Forrest-road. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place; *Hon. Treas.:* Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street; *Hon. Shop Sec.:* Mrs. Thomson, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

Last Sunday, Miss A. B. Jack addressed a meeting convened by the Edinburgh Central Branch of the L.L.P. on "Labour's True Attitude to Woman Suffrage," and spoke to such effect that a resolution was carried, calling upon Labour Members to become anti-Government until a Government measure for Woman Suffrage is promised. This marks a decided advance in the attitude of the Branch, which three years ago refused to entertain any such idea.

Dr. Elsie Inglis (N.U.W.S.S.) was the speaker at the women's meeting on Tuesday, at which there was again a very good attendance. She impressed upon her audience the evil results of vice from a medical point of view, results as likely to afflict innocent women and children as the person whose self-indulgence is their cause. Dr. Aimee Gibbs read a paper answering the argument that "young men must sow wild oats." Dr. Inglis will speak at the remaining meeting of this series. On Wednesday, Branch business and Conference agenda were dealt with.

The "At Home" to Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat on Friday afternoon was a delightful function, thoroughly enjoyed by all present. An account of the speeches is given elsewhere. Here we would record our thanks to our visitors, who in the midst of a busy and successful week at the theatre, found time for this bit of Suffrage work. Mr. Moffat's recitation from "The Bonny Briar Bush" was greatly appreciated, as were those given by Miss Kate Evans, a member of Mr. Moffat's company and a Freedom Leaguer. Her own composition, "How Bridget Flannigan rushed the House of Commons," was specially enjoyable. Mrs. Russell and Miss McLaren kindly undertook the preparation of tea. We are now looking forward to Mrs. Despard's meeting on Friday, from which no member should be absent. Come and bring friends! H. McLACHLAN, *Assist. Sec.*

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