

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE

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THE WINNING CAUSE



On May 2nd a resolution will be passed at demonstrations in every State in the American Union, calling upon Congress to pass the Suffrage Bill now before it. On May 9th, a Suffrage procession will march to the Capitol steps in Washington and deliver these resolutions to the Senators and Representatives in Congress.

CONTENTS

Our Cartoon	465	How German Law Protects Women and Children. III. By Gertrude E. Metcalfe Shaw	473
The Outlook	465	The Revolutionary Movement	474
Equal Pay for Equal Work. By Walter J. Read	466	Government Without Consent	475
A Chance for Electors	467	Comparison of Punishments	476
The Suffrage Ghost	468	Correspondence	477
Setting the Pace Abroad	469	General News	477
The 'Timid' Tax Collector. By H. C. A.	470	News of Other Societies	478
Books and Drama	471	A Press Commentary	479
The Plural Voting Bill	472		

DEDICATION

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

THE OUTLOOK

The past week has thrown fresh light upon the character of the Government which in Ireland refrains from attempting to put the law in force against men guilty of treason, yet rigorously and relentlessly pursues women suspected of far less serious offences.

The Plural Voting Bill

The Plural Voting Bill passed its second reading in the House of Commons on Monday last by a majority of 77 votes (324 to 247). Voting with the Government in the majority in support of the Bill

were 31 members of the Labour Party, including Mr. J. R. MacDonald and four other members of the I.L.P. Mr. Keir Hardie and Mr. Snowden abstained. This is the interpretation which these seven men put upon the mandate given them by the I.L.P. conference "to oppose and defeat all franchise and registration proposals unless women be included."

The Second Time of Asking

This Bill, whose object is to prohibit electors from casting a vote in more than one constituency at a General Election, is the salvage from the wreck of the Liberal Government's Electoral Reform Bill of 1912-13. It was passed through the House of Commons last year, but was rejected by the House of Lords. If it is again rejected by the Upper Chamber this year, it will have to be carried once more by the Lower House before it can become law over the heads of the Peers by virtue of the Parliament Act. As the Liberals are anxious, for electioneering reasons, to have it law before the next General Election this may mean that the dissolution is postponed until 1915 (unless the Unionists agree to let it go through). We deal with the relation of the Plural Voting Bill to the woman suffrage question in our leading article this week.

The Budget Next Monday

The Budget statement, which was to have been made in the House of Commons either Tuesday last or on Thursday after we had gone to press, has been postponed till Monday next. In addition to the exceedingly important question of the treatment of

the incomes of married women, which we dealt with last week, reference will in all probability be made to amendments to the Insurance Act, by which women will be seriously affected. We hope, therefore, that our readers will bring home to the M.P. for their constituency the fact that women are taking note of the manner in which the interests of their sex are looked after in a parliament of men responsible to men alone.

Women in the Home Rule Bill

Failing to obtain any information from Mr. Asquith as to the procedure on the suggestion stage of the Home Rule Bill, members have plied the Speaker of the House of Commons, who has stated in answer that, as the time of the House is practically in the hands of the Government, the form and length of the suggestion stage will rest with the Prime Minister. We hope that members will not be permitted to rest as pines with regard to the proposal to insert a woman suffrage clause into the Bill, but that pressure will be brought to bear upon them to amend it in this sense, which has the support not only of the country but of a vast preponderance of the House of Commons itself.

Votes or Feathers?

The Government were defeated in Grand Committee last Thursday on the Plumage Bill on an amendment moved by Mr. Glyn Jones exempting from prosecutions under the Bill women over twenty-one years of age other than those actually engaged in the trade. The salient point of his speech was that so long as women were denied the vote it was unjust to prosecute them for wearing imported feathers. In spite of our strong sympathy with the

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

principle of the Bill, we find ourselves in agreement with this speech. It is a perversion of the natural order of things for men to impose upon women their rules of conduct, just as it would be wrong for women to impose prohibitions on men. The right way is for men and women acting together to impose such restraints as may be required upon the whole community. We have no fear that the humanity of women would be behindhand in prohibiting or regulating such barbarous trades as those which the Plumage Bill is designed to deal with.

The By-elections

Two by-elections are likely to be shortly in progress, one in Grimsby, caused by the death of Sir George Doughty (Unionist), and the other in N.E. Derbyshire, caused by the death of Mr. Harvey, who, though nominally a Labour man, made no disguise of his affinity to the Liberal Party. Both seats are likely to be contested, and we shall, in pursuance of our usual policy, throw our influence against the candidate who, either directly as a Liberal or indirectly as a Labour man, supports the Government. On the opposite page we give our reasons for this attitude, and call upon the electors to show their support of the cause of woman suffrage by casting their votes in this sense at the poll.

In America

The news which reaches us this week from America is indicative of the hold which the suffrage movement has got upon the imagination of the people and the strides which it is making towards victory. To-morrow (Saturday) in every State of the Union great suffrage demonstrations are taking place, and resolutions in support of the Congressional Amendment will be put forward. On the following Saturday (May 9) delegates appointed from each State will march in procession to the Congress House at Washington, D.C., bearing with them these resolutions, and will there, on the steps of the Capitol itself, be received in audience and explain their mission. We wish our sisters across the Atlantic every success, not only for their own sakes, but also on account of our own, for we know full well that the suffrage movements in the two countries are very closely inter-related.

Demonstration by Water

The folly and stupidity of the authorities is well illustrated by the attempt to prevent the W.S.P.U. from holding a demonstration on the Serpentine on Sunday last. If they had not interfered, a quite peaceable suffrage meeting would no doubt have taken place which would only have attracted limited attention. As it was, a far more exciting spectacle was provided in the shape of a suffrage demonstration in the Serpentine, in which the intrepidity and resource of determined suffragists was well shown and universally admired.

A Useful Exhibition

The closing day of April sees also the close of the Children's Welfare Exhibition at Olympia, with its interesting section, "Woman's Kingdom," organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. A large number of people have visited the various stalls, and wherever they have done so the ignorance which is still the attitude of so many toward the suffrage movement has been partially, at any rate, dispelled.

The Meaning of Chivalry

The appointment of a woman, Frau Baudinz, to the command of an Atlantic liner running from Copenhagen serves to illustrate an important point in the interpretation of chivalry which is frequently misunderstood. If ever the ship commanded by Frau Baudinz were to be in imminent danger, Frau Baudinz would first of all have the passengers placed into the boats, then the crew, and would not herself leave the ship till all else had been rescued. That would be her duty as captain, and we have no doubt she would do it, just as the nurses at a recent hospital fire first of all carried all their bed-ridden male patients into a position of safety before thinking of saving themselves. This duty when performed by men in favour of women often has a sex interpretation placed upon it. In reality it is not in any sense a sex matter, but is a question of chivalry dictated by the honourable feeling of those responsible to those who have placed themselves in their care.

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Dear Editors,—Many views are held on this complicated question; most of them are reasonable though more or less one-sided. The Suffragette, fighting for sex-equality, demands simple economic equality as regards pay for work done, regardless of sex, and equally regardless of the wage-earner's social obligations. Most teachers and other professional women look at the problem from practically the same standpoint. The most important person in the nation—the working-housewife, has a different point of view entirely; with the achievement of justice from the professional woman's point of view, the grossest injustice would reach its culminating point for the working-housewife; she would have to keep her family on the wage of one. The employer's point of view is the simplest of all—he wants to buy labour in the cheapest market. But finally, all other views must give way to that of the nation and the race.

The purpose of this letter is to try to suggest a way out—to see whether the problem can be solved, and which way solution, with justice to all, lies.

Ends to be Attained

- What ends do we seek to attain? I think they are:
1. Justice between the sexes.
 2. The highest possible quality of work.
 3. Equality of burden, both as between individuals and families.
 4. The highest development of the nation and the race.

As regards the first aim, I do not think that one can better the standard adopted by the National Union of Clerks, that of absolute equality. Every office in the Union is open to women as to men, and many offices are filled by women. The Union asks for the same remuneration for work done by members of either sex, and in the first victory of note won by the Union, the riss obtained averaged approximately 13s. for the women, as against 6s. for the men. The women showed their keen appreciation of the Union's beneficent activities on their behalf by unanimously abstaining from joining the Union: they pocketed the rises without offering a farthing towards the cost of obtaining them. Some of the men were as bad.

Sceptical of the Men's Sincerity

In one case a woman begged an official of the Union not to continue trying to get her wages up to our standard. She was with difficulty convinced that we did not seek to get her out of her position by getting her pay up to man's standard! I have since heard that there are a few others of our women members who are sceptical of the men's sincerity in demanding equal pay. In spite of that, however, I believe the majority of our women members are extremely keen on demanding equality both inside the Union and in our activities to secure better conditions for all clerks. When on one occasion there was a resolution before Conference to give a seat or seats on the Executive to women, as women, the delegates who most vehemently opposed it were the women. They demanded equality, not favours. I think they were right, though I was responsible for getting the resolution placed on the agenda in order to test the question.

The basis of the view which I believe is held by the mass of the N.U.C. members is that suggested in the second of the aims above-mentioned. The men members say that if women make better clerks they will give way to them, but that it is bad for both the man and the woman clerk that the employer shall take women simply because they are cheap. In the long run, the community must suffer from the setting of a lower standard of work as well as of living, which is the result of this kind of competition between the sexes.

Employment of Married Women

The question of women being able to continue in their professions after marriage has been dealt with by writers better qualified than a man to write on the point. I may say, however, that I fully endorse the view that if a woman is capable of arranging so that she may give service of a higher class to the community than housework, it is to the best interests of the community that she should do so. For example, the nation would have lost greatly if the late Mrs. M. E. MacDonald had withdrawn from the Labour Movement entirely on her marriage.

The third and fourth aims are by far the most important, and would have to override the other two if there were irreconcilable conflict between them. The fourth aim is so self-evident that I need occupy

no space in dealing with it; but as the result depends almost entirely on the way we deal with the third point, I will give fuller consideration to that.

At the present time, the inequalities are in many cases so glaring that it seems to me they are the worst outcome of the Industrial Revolution. Take the case of the widow left with a large family on the death of the breadwinner: such cases of heroism are many, and the number can probably only be approached by the sacrifices we make of such heroines, and of others whose husbands' employment is casual. At the other extreme is the bachelor or the professional woman earning as good a salary as a man and with no one else dependent on his or her exertions. Between these two lie thousands of gradations of inequality implying hardship on men and on women. The mass of hardship lies on the married men and on their families; in comparison, the inequality of pay between single young men and women is as light as a feather.

Cheap Woman and Girl Labour

The first principle we should take for guidance is Justice. The employer, in buying his labour power, does not take into consideration whether the person he engages is single, married, with a family, or without. He simply buys labour power of hand and brain. If women or girls offer themselves cheap in comparison with men, he will take them. This competitive force tends to bring down salaries and wages to the level of individual subsistence, as against family subsistence before the Industrial Revolution. The only factors of importance tending in the opposite direction are individual resistance, which, in the case of women, is almost nil, and Trade Unionism, which, in the Cotton Industry, has succeeded in bringing women's wages up to within about a shilling a week of the men's level. One can get no better instance of the lack of individual resistance than is supplied by Clerkdom; one of the women concerned in the victory I mentioned earlier in this article had her salary raised at a jump from 18s. to the N.U.C. minimum of 35s. a week. Further examples can be found in the "Pillory" column of *The Clerk* or in the columns of advertisements in every daily paper from Land's End to John O' Groats, where women clerks are enquired for.

I suggest we should accept this tendency towards an individual wage in place of a family wage in order to attain justice between the sexes, which is the first step.

But we should not have attained equality of burden. On the contrary, the inequality would then be so glaring that it would probably lead to a Bitter Cry of the Married Man, or something like it, and window-smashing by the mothers of families who would have to try and keep three to ten persons on the wages of one. The remedy for such a gross inequality could best be met by the development of a principle that has already been adopted. Education is free up to a point, make it free right to the University. "Necessitous" school-children are fed: abolish the "necessitous" and make provision for feeding all children, provided the parents desire it, or the children's bodily state shows that they need it. We inspect children at school as to health; and we have a few school clinics to attend to child-ailments; extend the system and attend free all school-children needing it. We relieve parents paying Income Tax from £10 of their assessment for each child under the age of 16; let that £10 be made £30. We have dropped the tax on corn; drop all food taxes, which press hardest on the family. And so on until the cost of the family is borne by the nation, whose business it is to see that the next generation is an improvement on the present and is adequately provided for. It is the duty of the nation to see that every burden which presses on the family, and may therefore reduce the vitality of the succeeding generation, is removed.

Justice Essential Between the Sexes

The above changes would necessitate a readjustment of taxation, a sketch of which would make this article too lengthy. The Income Tax would, however, play the chief part. Whatever is doubtful, one thing is clear. We cannot leave present inequalities to continue without grave danger to the nation and the race. Justice must be achieved between the sexes, and the single person must help to bear communal burdens, which are at present almost wholly borne by the bread-winners of families, the hardest hit of all being widows with young families.—Yours &c.,
Walter J. Read,
Editor of "The Clerk."

A CHANCE FOR ELECTORS

Men of Grimsby and North-East Derbyshire

You men who are electors have a great chance to-day in using your vote. All kinds of politicians are down in your constituencies talking about all kinds of subjects. You are asked to vote on Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, Land Reform, and a multitude of other things.

We ask you to give your vote upon one subject—that of the enfranchisement of women.

This question of "Votes for Women" is far more important than all these other questions, because it is more fundamental, and because it is of wider application.

Home Rule is a question which in the main only affects Ireland, Welsh Disestablishment only affects the church in Wales, and so with the other matters which are being brought before you. But "Votes for Women" affects the women of every nation in the world, and it affects the men and the children of those nations as well. It concerns the well being of the whole human race. Therefore we say that this question transcends all the other questions, and in asking you to decide your vote on this issue alone, we are asking you to put the issues before you into their proper perspective.

Nearer Home Than the Rest

But Votes for Women is not merely a question which is of greater importance than every other, it is also a question which comes nearer home to you yourselves. It is not a matter of the government of some country many miles away, it is not a matter of the religion of people whom you do not know very much about; it is a matter which touches you, and your wives and your daughters and your sons and your neighbours, very closely indeed. The question is whether women who bear the responsibilities which you bear, and fulfil the same duties of citizenship which you fulfil, shall be debarred from having a Parliamentary vote solely because of their sex.

A Question of Justice

We are certain that there are very few of you who will not say that as a simple matter of justice this exclusion of duly qualified women is wholly wrong. If a woman is a householder, earning money by her work to keep herself and her children, and paying the rates and taxes as you do, you admit that it is not fair she should be cut out from having a vote.

An Urgent Reform

But some of you may not be quite so sure that this reform is urgent, or that it would do so very much immediate good. If that is so we ask you to run your eye down this page till you come to the paragraphs headed "Why women want the vote." There you will see some of the grounds on which it is demanded. You will see, too, that it is not a question of "Up with the women and down with the men," but of "Up with the women, and up with the men and the children too."

What Trade Unionists Learn

Those of you who are Trade Unionists know quite well that in the early days of Trade Unionism men had many sectional Trade Unions. For instance, the railwaymen were divided into all sorts of groups; and the men in one group thought it did not matter much to them whether the men in the other group were paid good wages or not. In fact, they sometimes thought that if the men in the other group were paid low wages the employer would have so much the more money left to pay them higher wages. Modern Trade Unionism has swept all that aside. The groups in each trade are all joining together into one big Trade Union. Men have learnt that it is not merely honourable but good policy to stick by a comrade or a group of comrades who want to better their conditions, even if they are not in their own immediate circle.

The Same with Women

It is just the same with the women. Some men used to think that it didn't matter to them how the women were treated, what wages they got at work, or how unjustly the laws pressed on them. They know better to-day. They know that they themselves cannot be free and strong and well paid unless women are also free and strong and well paid.

For Parliament has to deal with many questions closely affecting our daily life, and because it has not got behind it the driving power of the women's votes it does not deal with them effectively. Among these questions we may name the purity of food, the care of child life, the protection of girls from assault, and the provision of healthy houses.

In the countries where women have the vote, notably in Australia, New Zealand, and the Western States of America, the women have already tackled these questions, and many of the evils which exist in Great Britain have been swept away. But in this country women have no power to influence politics, and these questions remain unsolved.

What We Want You to Do

We want you, then, to use your votes at this election so as to hasten on the day when women will be enfranchised.

The first thing that will occur to you is to go to your candidates and ask them their views upon votes for women, and what they will do about this matter if they are returned to the House of Commons. And you will perhaps think you are helping the women if you vote for that candidate who expresses himself most friendly. Unfortunately that is no good, because the political machine at Westminster is much more complicated than you realise.

The men you send to the House of Commons have no power in themselves to do anything; their only power is through the leaders of their political parties.

The Liberal candidates, if elected to Parliament, will not be able to do anything whatever to give women the vote because Mr. Asquith and the Liberal Government do not wish to carry a Votes for Women Bill during this Parliament. It is no use, therefore, voting for these men in the hope that they will help women.

On the contrary, to vote for a Liberal or for a Labour man who will support the Government in the House of Commons is to strengthen the hands of the Government in resisting the demand of women for enfranchisement. To vote against the Liberal candidate is to give a rebuke to the Government for their treatment of women, and this is what we ask you to do.

The Record of the Liberal Government

What is the record of the Liberal Government with regard to women? Has it been one of honest dealing? We ask you to judge for yourselves on the facts.

In 1910, after the agitation of women for the vote had reached a point where politicians felt they could no longer ignore it, a Bill was introduced called the Conciliation Bill, which had been carefully constructed by M.P.'s of all parties, so that while giving the vote to about a million women it would not be unfair to any party. This Bill passed its second reading by a majority of 167, or more than the majority for any of the Government's own measures.

The Liberal Government refused time for this Bill to go through its later stages, but promised that they would provide time and remain neutral for a similar Bill in 1912. Women accepted this promise.

Conciliation Torpedoed

In November, 1911, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George announced a new plan, and Mr. Lloyd George himself explained that this plan "torpedoed" the Conciliation Bill to which the women had pinned their faith, and with regard to which Mr. Asquith had promised that his pledges should be carried out "in the spirit as well as in the letter."

The new plan was that the Government should themselves introduce a Bill, giving the vote to more men, but that it should be framed so that the House of Commons could, if it wished, alter it so as to include women. Not only Mr. Asquith, Sir Edward Grey, and Mr. Lloyd George, but practically every member of the Government gave the most explicit pledges that this Bill should be framed in this way. And Mr. George said that to suggest it would not be an "imputation of deep dishonour."

In spite of these pledges, the Bill was not so framed. The Speaker ruled that an amendment to give votes to women would be out of order.

Thus, the Government pledge to women was broken, and no effective substitute was put in its place.

But they have done more than break pledges, they have adopted brutal methods of coercion to try to compel women to submit. It is impossible to speak of some of these things without a sense of national shame, for all over the world the behaviour of the Government to women is spoken about and condemned.

What You Can Do

The only way you can mark your disapproval of how the Government has treated women is by voting

against the supporters of the Government in your constituency.

What About the Tories?

Some people say, "But what about the Tories, will they do any better for you?" The answer is that that question does not arise at a by-election. If both of the Coalition candidates be defeated, the Liberal Government will still remain in office. But they will have had a warning that their conduct is displeasing to the electors. As the Tories are not in power they cannot do anything to help or hinder women getting the vote.

Therefore we call upon the electors to vote against the Liberal candidate.

WHY WOMEN WANT THE VOTE

Because women want to have a say in making the laws they are expected to obey.

Because there are many bad laws which women want to have altered. The present laws allow bad houses to be built, bad milk to be sold, and many other things to be done which women would change if they got the vote.

Because many laws are very unfair to women. One of the worst of these—the Insurance Act—was passed in 1911.

Because women have to pay taxes, like men, and they want to have a share in deciding what these taxes shall be.

Because the Government pays women in its employ such miserably low wages. This is bad not only for women, but for men also, because as a result women undercut men in the labour market.

Because the Government permits its sub-contractors to sweat their women employees. If women had the vote this would be stopped, as it has already been stopped in the case of men.

Because women want to have good laws made to protect the lives of little children. At present, out of every hundred babies born eleven die in the first year of their life. Many of these could be saved if the laws were better. In South Australia, before women got the vote, fourteen out of every hundred babies died. When women got the vote they insisted upon getting good laws made. The number of deaths of babies now in South Australia is seven per hundred, or only half of what it was before.

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THE SUFFRAGE GHOST

Shades of Voteless Women Haunt Debates in the House—Plural Voting Bill—Government Defeated in Committee on Plumage Bill—Other Proposed Legislation Affecting Women

THE PLURAL VOTING BILL

"We are Seven"

In view of the resolution recently passed by the L.P. Council, which, in Mr. Keir Hardie's own words, implied a mandate to the seven Independent Labour Party members in the House of Commons to vote against the Plural Voting Bill, the following table, showing how those seven members voted in the divisions on the Plural Voting Bill, both in 1913 and 1914, may be of interest to our readers:

	1913.	1914.
1st Reading	For	For
2nd Reading	For	For
Clynes, J. R.	For	For
Hardie, J. Keir	For	For
Jones, E. W.	For	For
Macdonald, J. P.	For	For
Parker, J.	For	For
Richardson, T.	For	For
Snowden, Philip	Against	Against

POINTS FROM THE DEBATE

As in most measures before Parliament nowadays, the Plural Voting Bill, in spite of its avoidance of any Woman Suffrage clause, could not be debated in the House last Monday without allusions being made to the women who ought to have been in the Bill and were not.

SIR JOHN RANDES

The Government's "Honour"
Sir John Randes, referring to the Government's Reform Bill, of which this measure was the salvage, said it was "very convenient" to forget that Bill. "That Bill, he went on, held out possibilities and hopes of votes for women. It was not convenient to perpetuate the life of a Bill of that nature, and it was dropped and the unfortunate measure disposed of. "The hopes and promises which attached to that Bill seem to have died with it. I am not saying that the Government should or should not have continued to prosecute their measures or their promises in relation to votes for women, but they must not be surprised that a good many people, looking at their attitude on this question—leaving the Government to be the judges of their own honour—think that the measures are so very fine and that it requires a very nice discernment to detect where the point of honour is saved and where it is lost. Perhaps a good deal of trouble in the country in connection with that question might be attributable to the manner in which the Government have dealt with electors' reform. It is common ground between all of us that there are a great many anomalies, and there is no question that as a part of a general scheme for one man one vote, the principle might well be adopted by this House. It is arguable whether or not it should be a part of the scheme. The one little section of electoral reform which the Government select to force through, to the neglect of the rest, should be one which does not tell to their own particular electoral advantage and to the particular disadvantage of their opponents. I should think that men of honour would have some regard to a consideration of that kind in deciding which particular measure should be pushed through if the time was so limited, as the right hon. gentleman suggested it was."

MR. LEWIS HARCOURT

Admits the Existence of Women
"Since I made my first speech in this House in 1906, introducing the Plural Voting Bill of the Government, I have assisted in the drafting and in the defence, and I am sorry to say, in the demise, of several measures directed to the same object, but directed to it by widely different methods of approach. That is only a proof of the old adage that there are more ways of killing a cat than hugging. Some of these Bills have been killed by Lords, and others have been killed by ladies."

MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON

The Labour Party's Apologia
"We are especially interested, as we have demonstrated in this House on many occasions, in the great question of the non-representation and of the non-enfranchisement of women. We would have liked, if it had been possible, for this question to have been treated along with the question of plural voting in a great scheme of electoral reform. We would have liked to have seen the Government deal with the very serious injustices which the word 'anomalies' is not sufficiently strong to which I have referred.

But what I want to ask is this: Is the mere fact that either this or any other Government does not deal to our satisfaction in a bold and comprehensive way with all the evils of which we complain a sufficient justification for saying that we will have nothing to do with this measure, which is going to deal with one of the most serious of the injustices associated with our electoral system? We believe that every man ought to have a vote. In fact, most of us on these benches go so far as to say that every woman who has to obey the law ought also to have a vote. We do not believe in talking about the government of the people for the people by the people, and then deny to millions of our people, both male and female, who are called upon to obey the law just as rigorously as those of us who have the vote, any right to take any share in the government of the country."

MR. GEORGE THORNE

Another Attempt to Conciliate the Ghost
"Representation ought to be of the individual man and, in my view, of the individual woman in this country. We are taking a great step, to my mind, for those women who are not enfranchised by making sure, at any rate, that no man shall have more than one vote."

A Press Allusion

The *Manchester Guardian*, in a leading article on the second reading debate of the Plural Voting Bill in the House last Monday, makes the following slight allusion to the injustice done to women and left untouched by this measure:—
"The Government's Plural Voting Bill is not a perfect means to its own end. Besides, it is arguable that the most justice would be done in the least time if the redress of the unpopular injustice of plural voting were coupled with the redress of the injustice—believed to be less unpopular with the present electorate—of no voting at all by women."

THE FARCE OF MAN-MADE LEGISLATION

Voteless Women Cause Government's Defeat in Committee Stage of Plumage Bill
We commented at the time of the introduction of the Government's Plumage Bill on the injustice of passing laws likely to affect women's liberties as long as women are voteless, and showed that this point of view was not affected by the fact that any such Bill might embody legislation to which women, if they had the constitutional power to express and back their opinion, would be favourable. The drastic amendment of the Plumage Bill in Grand Committee of the House of Commons on Thursday last week, in which the Government was defeated and the probable recasting of the whole measure, is an indication of the increasing difficulty with which a Government is bound to be faced if it persists in its refusal to enfranchise women but tries at the same time to pass laws that affect women more than men. For there is always the chance that a Government of conscience, of honour, and of logic may awaken in the breasts even of Members of the House of Commons, and when that happens, the party spirit itself is not enough to blind them to the fact that it is grossly unjust and illogical, besides being gratingly wanting in honour, to curtail the liberties of women—even the liberty of wearing a feather which implies cruelty to a living creature and which the very women concerned would doubtless be the first to pass a law against if they could pass laws—while refusing to them their rightful share in making laws. "Self-government is better than good government," said Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and the saying fits the occasion. But, perhaps, seeing that the measure under discussion relates to birds, "Curses come home to roost" would be more applicable in this instance. For there is no doubt that it was the uneasy conscience of the House of Commons, tempered by fear of militancy that brought about the defeat of the Government in the committee stage of Mr. Hobhouse's Plumage Bill, and, indeed, stopped its whole progress for the time being; and that conscience would not have been so ready to unseat but for the Government's failure to redeem its pledges to women, and the women's anger at that failure.

The Deceased Clause

The deceased clause of the Bill is the one dealing with definitions, and the object of the amendment carried against the Government is to exempt women wearers (not traders) of the prohibited feathers from the penal clauses of the Bill. In their desire, in fact, to avoid incurring the anger of women at being legislated for without their consent, their would-be defenders have fallen into the further error of adding insult to injury in the shape of a proffered privilege!

Mr. Glyn-Jones moved as an amendment to Clause 4 that the expression "person" should not include as women over twenty-one years of age. Mr. Glyn-Jones said that he could understand having to legislate for young, thoughtless, or heartless girls, but it was going a great deal too far, and was doing it at a most inopportune time, to dictate to adult women what they should wear in their hats. (Hear, hear.) The Government must give women either feathers or votes. (Laughter.) There were many thousands of women who resented even the ordinary legislation which was passed by Parliament, and who were going to the lengths of committing dreadful acts of violence. What right had the Postmaster-General to make a present to these women of the easiest road to goal which could possibly be devised? (Laughter.) If this Bill became law many thousands of women would adopt as the emblem of their great organisation a cheap foreign feather, and would probably be seen walking with it in their hats round the Houses of Parliament to show their contempt of Parliament. (Laughter.)

MR. BARTLEY DENNIS

Mr. Bartley Dennis, supporting the amendment, wondered what would be the relations of Mr. Hobhouse (who was in the chair) to the Bill. He asked the Secretary if all that Mr. Glyn-Jones had predicted came to pass, and added a just about forcible feeding which, perhaps, did not seem in such execrable bad taste to members of Parliament as to voteless women struggling for their freedom.

Liabilities—Never Rights!

The anti-Suffragist was strong in Mr. Hobhouse when he rose to combat the amendment. He argued that if the Bill was only to apply to people in trade that should be carried out in a general way and not piecemeal. If, however, it was wrong for anybody to be in possession of certain feathers, the liability ought to extend to women as well as men. Always equality for women where liabilities are in question, but never where constitutional rights are concerned!

Mr. Glyn-Jones subsequently moved his amendment so that it read: "The expression 'person' shall not include any woman except such person be engaged in important business."

Mr. Hobhouse intimated that he still opposed the amendment, but on a division it was carried by 16 votes to 15, and as amended was carried by 25 votes to 6.

A proposal that the Committee had better adjourn because the whole Bill would now have to be recast was not agreed to.
So the fact remains that the Government has had its Bill greatly weakened by the opinion of the women of the country who, if they had been voters and had been consulted, would probably have been the Government's allies in strengthening the Bill, and the first to reject a privilege not extended to men.

OTHER BILLS AFFECTING WOMEN

The Homicide Bill

From the text which has just been published of Sir John Jardine's Homicide Bill it appears that one of its proposals is to abolish sentence of death in cases of infanticide by mothers where the infant is under four weeks' old. There is no doubt that the Suffrage agitation is largely responsible for having focused the attention of all humane people upon the tragic case of these mothers, most of whom are unmarried. There are other clauses in the Bill, especially those dealing with suicide as a penal offence and with the definitions of murder and manslaughter, which closely affect women as well as men; it is, in fact, another example of the kind of Bill that the opinion of the women of the country ought to have been taken upon. And that opinion cannot be effectively expressed without the possession of the vote.

The Criminal Law Amendment Bill

The second reading of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was being moved by the Bishop of London in the House of Lords on Wednesday when we went to Press. It contains several provisions of great importance to all who care for the protection of young girls and for the moral well-being of both boys and girls. Among its proposals is one to raise the age of consent of girls from sixteen to eighteen; there is another to raise from thirteen to sixteen the age at which the consent of either a boy or girl shall be a defence to a charge of indecent assault. Other useful provisions are the extension from six to twelve months of the time within which proceedings can be taken against persons who have offended against girls or children; also the abolition of the defence at present allowed,

that the defendant did not know the girl was below the statutory age of consent. These are all reforms long overdue, reforms that would never have been needed but for the age-long subjection of women, and which we scarcely hope to see wholly effected before women have won the only constitutional weapon with which reforms are to be won, though, of course, the struggle of women for emancipation is a great assistance to men like the Bishop of London in forming public opinion upon such measures as the Criminal Law Amendment Bill. Meanwhile, we point out to all men who are responsible for this Bill that the best thing they could do to secure its objects speedily would be to act for the immediate enfranchisement of women.

THE QUESTION THEY CANNOT ANSWER

Heckling the Government
According to various Press reports, women Suffragists have severely heckled the Government's supporters all over the kingdom during the past week. Mr. Churchill, waiting to fly to Clacton, was approached and firmly questioned by a local Suffragist, from whom he accepted Suffrage literature. On stepping later into his aeroplane he found it well stocked with similar publications.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., was much interrupted at Preston when addressing a mass meeting of railwaymen, and numbers of Suffragists were elected with considerable violence. Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., M.P., speaking to Liberals at Walsall, intervened to prevent the forcible ejection of Suffragists from his meeting, but the newspaper reports do not say that he answered their questions. In Ireland, too, supporters of the Coalition are beginning to heck their meetings for fear of being asked the inevitable question they cannot answer; and those attending Mr. Devlin's meeting in Dublin the other day were suspected to as suspicious as they as if he had been a Cabinet Minister.

And all because a Liberal Government will not be Liberal!

BY-ELECTIONS

GRIMSBY		
Figures at Last Three Elections		
	1906.	
Sir G. Doughty (U.)	6,349	
H. H. Haldimstein (L.)	4,040	
T. Proctor (Lab.)	2,248	
Unionist majority over Liberal	2,309	
January, 1910.		
Tom Wing (L.)	7,779	
Sir G. Doughty (U.)	7,450	
Liberal majority	329	
December, 1910.		
Sir G. Doughty (U.)	7,903	
Tom Wing (L.)	7,203	
Unionist majority	698	

By the death, which occurred unexpectedly last Monday, of Sir George Doughty, the Unionist member, a Parliamentary by-election is caused at Grimsby. From the figures we give above it will be seen that the seat has not been held consistently by either Party; but if the election of Grimsby will read the record of the present Liberal Government as given by us on page 467, we cannot believe that they will take any other course than to cast their votes against any representative of such a Government, or of the official Labour Party which helps to keep it in power.

When we went to press no candidate of any Party had been chosen, discussion as to the representation of the seat having been deferred until after the funeral, which took place on Wednesday.

NE. DERBYSHIRE

Figures at Last Two Elections		
	1910 (January).	
Harvey (Lab.)	8,715	
Court (C.)	6,411	
Lab. majority	2,304	
1910 (December).		
Harvey (Lab.)	7,838	
Court (C.)	6,088	
Lab. majority	1,750	

Owing to the death of Mr. W. E. Harvey, which took place on Monday last, a vacancy has occurred in the Parliamentary division of North-East Derbyshire. The selected Unionist candidate is Major Harold Bowden. As we went to press it was thought that he would probably be opposed by a miners' nominee.

SETTING THE PACE ABROAD

Two Monster Demonstrations in United States—Australia's Protest Against Anti-Suffragist Governor-General—Rhode Island Senators Copy English Ministers—Women's Progress in Many Lands

UNITED STATES

The Congressional Amendment
The Suffragist, the organ of the Congressional Union which exists for the purpose of getting the Suffrage amendment to the United States constitution through Congress, says that the recent favourable report in the Senate (Upper House) by the Woman Suffrage Committee "has reinstated the amendment in the same position it held before it was brought to defeat by the precipitate vote on the 15th March," and it goes on to say: "The rapid progress that it has made since it was reintroduced is most encouraging, and gives hope that it may pass this session in spite of the opposition being by being forced to defeat in the middle of the session."
The Congressional Union was always opposed to a vote being taken in the Senate before the great national woman suffrage demonstration in favour of the Bill, which is to take place on May 2.

THE NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

The most universal declaration in favour of woman suffrage yet made in the United States will be uttered to-morrow (Saturday), when, in every State of the Union, a Suffrage demonstration will be held, and the following resolutions moved in every State:—
"That this meeting calls upon Congress to pass immediately the resolution which is now before it, proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising women."
An immense amount of propaganda work has been done in every State pending the demonstrations of May 2, and it is thought that members of Congress will not fail to be impressed by the universal passing of this resolution, copies of which will be sent to them in every case.

The Washington Demonstration

But nothing is to be left to chance, for to-morrow week, May 9, the serious purpose of the demonstrations all over the country on May 2 will be shown in a Suffrage procession in Washington, which will march to the Capitol and deliver to Congress the important message that in every Congressional district (Parliamentary division) in every State of the Union, men and women, the constituents of Congressmen, have met and bade them pass the Suffrage Bill now before them.

The important part of the Washington procession will be the delegates from every constituency in the United States, the rest of the procession will form an escort for these women who go to carry their messages to their several Senators and representatives. The escort, which, of course, be a very beautiful one, and will contain all the elements which have made suffrage processions of late years such impressive pageants.

Demonstration on Capitol Steps

But the political significance of the presence of the delegates bearing their important message cannot be over-estimated. A short preliminary meeting will be held in the Belasco Theatre; the delegates will then join the main body of the procession, and will march to the Capitol on the steps of which a demonstration will take place, after which the presentation of the resolutions will be made to the Congressmen.
It is as though one of the suffrage processions which have made London beautiful more than once since 1906 were to hold a demonstration on the steps of the House of Commons and be formally received by the Prime Minister and members of the different constituencies represented in the procession! When we remember that for merely trying to reach the door of the House unarmed women have been brutally assaulted for hours by the police, insulted by the mob, and finally imprisoned for as long as three months at a time, we marvel at the hyperis and cant of those who tell English Suffragettes to follow the example of their American sisters and work in a law-abiding manner!

THE ALTERNATIVE AMENDMENT

American Suffragists are divided on the subject of a measure now before the House proposing another amendment to the Constitution by which a referendum on Woman Suffrage could be held in any State as a result of an initiative petition. The more advanced section of the movement contend that this measure should not in any State be taken as a substitute for the direct Suffrage amendment, and they look upon it as something of a red-herring drawn across the path, as we should say in this country. Their objection to it seems not without foundation, since it appears that the Congressmen most active in pushing it are members of the Democratic Party who voted recently against the Suffrage measure being adopted by their party.

NEW YORK STATE

The Constitutional Convention
The decision of the electors of New York State to hold a Convention in the spring of 1915 in order to revise the Constitution of that State (an alternative method to the procedure by Legislature and Referendum) may have an adverse effect on the Woman Suffrage prospects in that State by splitting the Suffrage forces into two, those who are in favour of pinning all their hopes on winning the vote through the action of the Convention, and those who wish to continue their present campaign which is directed towards securing the passage of the amendment for the second time through the Legislature in 1915 and its ultimate submission to the referendum in the autumn of the same year. New York Suffragists, as represented by the Woman's Political Union, are sufficiently practical politicians to be alive to this danger, however; and, while pressing their question forward in the Constitutional Convention from the moment it is elected until it rises, they will not desert for a moment in their determined efforts to get the question settled in any case by the referendum in the autumn of 1915. There is a chance that if it falls in the Legislature, the Convention might submit it to the electors at a later date. New York Suffragists have thus, as it were, two strings to their bow, and they mean very wisely to play on both.

OKLAHOMA

There is just a chance that Oklahoma, though not yet what is called a "campaign" State (likely to enfranchise its women next autumn), may find itself ahead of the other five, after all. Suffragists there are working hard at the initiative petition, and if they succeed in gaining enough signatures, the question might be referred to the electors as early as August, this being a possible date for the Referendum to take place in Oklahoma.

RHODE ISLAND

The Judiciary Committee of the Rhode Island Senate have decided not to report favourably on the Bill to give women the Presidential vote, which is the only suffrage within the power of the Legislature to grant. Although four out of the seven members of the Committee—the necessary majority—had promised the women who canvassed them to report favourably on the Bill, only one of these kept his promise.

So much for "indirect" influence, which the "artful" tell us is a satisfactory substitute for direct political power!

WOMAN SUFFRAGE TOUR IN AMERICA

(From Our Own Correspondent)
At Chicago

On Wednesday, March 8, the members of the Men's and Women's City Clubs here held a dinner at which Miss Dorothy Pethick and I were the honoured guests. There were about fifty members and their friends present, and the audience appeared intensely interested and very sympathetic. I told the story of woman's evolution from the 18th to the beginning of the 20th century, especially emphasising the causes which have led her to struggle for emancipation, and dwelling upon the long years of constitutional work for the suffrage and the futile efforts at social reform without the effective weapon of the vote. Miss Pethick took the narrative up from 1905, and thrilled the audience by the picture she drew of the sufferings endured by the so-called militants in the early days of the movement, when they had committed no criminal or even unconstitutional acts. Many of the women assured me that they had had no idea of the true story of the struggle, and now that they did understand they felt exceedingly militant themselves. Lady Constance Lytton's book was referred to by Miss Pethick, and seventeen copies were sold; while the pamphlets and VOTES FOR WOMEN were in great demand. Miss Jane Addams was present at the dinner on the 8th, and showed herself very interested in the resolution run on the tone of the speeches.
On Saturday, April 11, there was a large meeting in the Congress Hotel, Chicago, at which we both spoke. We were very enthusiastically received, and Miss Pethick's account of militancy was listened to with particular interest. We sold a large number of pamphlets and many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and nearly forty copies of Lady C. Lytton's book.

At Toronto

On Sunday we left Chicago for Toronto, and arrived in the latter city at 8 a.m. on Easter Monday. The subject of militancy is not supposed to be a very popular

one, but the women of Toronto are at the present time greatly and justly provoked; as the referendum of the men of the city last week resulted in a large majority for Woman's Suffrage, and yet the Legislature rejected the measure. We have two meetings already arranged for—one on Tuesday, April 14, and one on Thursday, April 16. Toronto is rich in suffrage societies—there are seven or eight of them.

Margaret Hodge.

ALASKA

Women's Non-Party Vote for Reform
According to despatches received in Seattle, the woman's vote has just helped materially to decide the elections in Alaska by being cast in non-party interests.
It was the first election, says the account, since the Territorial Legislature passed the Enfranchisement Act a year ago. They tested the entire non-partisan ticket in Skagway against the taxpayers' faction, which had been in power six years.

AUSTRALIA

Suffragist Objections to New Governor-General
At a meeting of the Women's Political Association held in Melbourne on March 23, a public protest was made against the appointment of Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson as Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, his views on Woman Suffrage not being sound. As we pointed out in VOTES FOR WOMEN at the time of his appointment, Sir R. Munro-Ferguson has consistently voted against Woman Suffrage in the House of Commons, and on one occasion, Mr. Philip Snowden's Suffrage Amendment to the Home Rule Bill.

A Strong Resolution

The following resolution was moved at the meeting by Mrs. Bella Lavender:—
"That this Association, having received by mail a record of Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson's votes against Woman Suffrage in the Imperial Parliament, protests against the appointment of an anti-Suffragist as Governor-General of the Commonwealth, and begs to inform the Prime Minister of Australia, and the Prime Minister of Great Britain, that Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson's support of the enfranchisement of women for Home Rule Parliaments does not compensate for his opposition to votes for women for the Imperial Parliament, which is a crime against civilisation as well as against the common principles for which Australia stands united."
Mrs. Lavender said it was only right for the Women's Political Association to speak with no uncertain voice. Such a vote discredits as those displayed in Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson's attitude towards women were usually the outcome of expediency. They did not want a Governor-General out here with so poor a position and so few such matters. Woman had as good a right to be heard in Imperial matters as in little parochial affairs.

Miss Vida Goldstein's View

Miss Vida Goldstein, President of the Women's Political Association, said in support of the resolution that although Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson was in favour of women having representation in the Parliaments to be formed in Ireland and Scotland, he was frightened of women as regards Imperial affairs. As an Association anti-Suffragist being sent to Australia, the new Governor-General's attitude towards women was wholly wrong.
The motion, which was seconded from various parts of the hall, was carried with applause.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN VOTERS IN GREAT BRITAIN

The Women's Political Association of Victoria has also passed a resolution of testing against the present disenfranchisement of Australian women in the event of their becoming resident in other parts of the British Empire who women have not won their votes. The resolution runs as follows, and should make many a so-called democrat over here feel ashamed of his country:—
"That this Association demands that the Commonwealth Parliament shall on re-assembling take such steps as are necessary to safeguard the political status of Australian women resident in Great Britain, or in any part of the Empire where representative Government obtains. Australian men are not reduced to a lower political level than criminals, lunatics, and aliens by going to reside in other self-governing parts of the Empire, and it is intolerable that the Australian women should be so degraded.

HUNGARY

A Bill has been drafted by the Hungarian Legislature imposing compulsory military service of a kind upon women between thirty and forty, with certain exceptions. They are to be organised, if the Bill passes, in five divisions. The first will be concerned with hospital service; the second will look after telegraphs and telephones, act as typists, and drive military motor-cars; the third will attend to the clothes of the troops; the fourth to their food; the fifth will be a body of handy women in reserve. No woman will undertake work involving danger unless she volunteers for it and has her husband's consent.

An Insult and an Admission

This proposed legislation for women without their consent is at once an insult and an admission of their equality with men. For surely most of the work of an army, except the actual fighting, is included in the work allotted to women under this scheme. As Anatole France has wittily observed, the arts of war are just the same as the arts of peace, though carried out under difficulties and in an inferior manner, such as cooking and washing and digging, and so on. And even the actual fighting is not to be denied to Hungarian women if they wish for it and have their husband's consent to stand up and be shot at. We do not object to this last clause in the least, provided that the wife has an equal right to allow or to veto her husband's desire for action, fame, and glory, since the welfare of the family depends equally upon both, and both should therefore have a voice in deciding a matter so vital to the family.

Political Equality Comes First!

But—and herein lies the crux of the whole matter—we thoroughly agree with the *Scottish Times*, which, commenting on the Hungarian proposal, says:—
"It is clear, however, that women could not very well be called upon to share with men the responsibility for national defence without their being admitted to political equality with men."

DISTINCTIONS FOR WOMEN IN OTHER LANDS

In Denmark a woman master-mariner, Frau Banding, has just been appointed to the captainship of a liner making voyages between Copenhagen and America. When she first obtained her captain's certificate she commanded cruising vessels for some time. When the State became aware of her ability and good seamanship, she was readily granted permission to take charge of a foreign-going ship; this has resulted in her new appointment. The acceptance of the ship by an insurance company has set the final seal on the recognition of Frau Banding's position and equality with men who command liners. Her husband, by the way, has been appointed doctor of the same ship.

Miss Katherine Wheatley, an English nurse trained at Westminster Hospital, and employed for some time at Fulham Infirmary, has been asked by the Turkish Government to organise a system of training for nurses among Turkish women.

In Switzerland a woman has recently been elected to the highest post on the Council of the Orphan Asylum Board, as a result of the activity and effective service rendered by women inspectors and assistants on the Board.

The Emperor of Austria has conferred the Elizabeth Order of the Second Class on Frau Hertha von Sprung, in recognition of her services in the organisation of trade schools for women.

Miss Ella Gleditsch is one of six graduates, the others being men, to be appointed by the Norwegian Government to receive a fellowship entitling the holder to work in an American University. Miss Gleditsch, who formerly worked under Madame Curie, is now doing research work at Yale University.

The first woman to be elected to a German Board of Guardians has just been appointed in Berlin. The name of this pioneer is Frau Gerudt.

PARISIAN WOMEN'S BALLOT

Journalistic Experiment

The Paris *Journal*, which has championed the cause of Woman Suffrage in its columns, instituted an experimental ballot for women during the recent French elections. The result in Paris, where 16,819 votes were recorded by women, has surprised many, seeing that the experiment is entirely a private one, and was not promoted by the Suffrage societies.

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THE TIMID TAX-COLLECTOR

As He Appeared to a Would-be Tax Resister

Owing to the middle-headed and erratic fashion in which Income Tax is collected in our beloved country—some people escaping altogether, others being squeezed unfairly—I, who ought to have been paying for years, was never asked for any till last December.

I wrote the dear old sentence about "representation and taxation" on the form and returned it. Nothing happened for many weeks. Then I got a formal notice addressed to "Occupier," asking "Sir" to fill up the form sent him.

"Sir" replied that he was a widow, with only what he could earn by the "precarious profession of journalism" to exist upon. "He" went on to say that while he considered the Income Tax a fair one for men, he objected to it strenuously when applied to women who were unrepresented, and he did not propose to give, willingly, a single halfpenny to a Government which denied "him" the rights of citizenship, which had tricked and lied to women, and which was, even now, torturing his fellow-women in prison.

The local man seems to have felt himself unable to deal with this outburst of mine, for my next note was from headquarters, and might have been written to a small child of six. It explained, very gently and kindly, that I had made a mistake—they were not asking me for a tax. All they wanted me to do was to fill up the form, and, if I wanted exemption (the italics are mine, but their wish was quite clear!), would I use such and such a column? I wrote to say how sorry I was that I'd been so stupid as to mistake their intentions. I said I'd been misled by the title of "Income Tax," and I was glad they didn't want a tax, as it would have been my duty to refuse it; but as they didn't want one, and I didn't want to pay one, I suggested that our correspondence might now close.

To this Mr. X. replied with several neat pages, explaining exactly how to fill up the form, and hinting again at exemption. With this he returned all my letters, including the little leaflet, "Pay up and shut up," which I had enclosed, thinking it might interest him.

I wrote again to explain that I had no record of the years he proposed that I should take to make an average of—that until he began to take a kindly interest in me there had been no one with authority to ask me what I earned, or how I spent it, and that I didn't keep accounts.

What He "Couldn't Discuss"

The good, kind, patient man replied that he thought I must have some idea of what I earned, and if I'd go and see him he'd help me to fill up the form! So I went to see him, and he was very kind indeed. He pointed out how much less trouble I should be to myself—and incidentally to him—if only I'd fill up the form and claim exemption. I explained that I wasn't claiming exemption on the ground of my income, which was above the limit, but that I refused to pay on the ground of not being a citizen. This, of course, he "couldn't discuss." He explained that they could assess me on the full amount, and at one and twopenny; but I was sorry to say I couldn't tell him anything at all about my income!

Two days later the local man, Mr. Z., called in a very uneasy state to see me. He had some written questions from Mr. X., which I was requested to answer: "Was I a widow, and had I only what I earned?"

"The answer to both questions was in the affirmative," and I pointed out that I had already given this information.

"Oh, well," he said, "it's a case for exemption." "If I swear I'm exempt," I said, "I shall hear no more of this?"

"Oh, no! You'll hear no more of this," he said hurriedly.

"But I'm not exempt," I said. "I've told Mr. X. so. You can assess me and distract, and we'll have a meeting and speeches—"

"Oh, no!" he said, in very real horror. "We don't want anything of that sort! I know the man who conducted Mrs. Y.'s sale"—naming a well-known

suffragist here who resisted taxes—"and he said he wouldn't go through it again for a pension!"

"Well, but," I pleaded, "we'll do it very nicely if it has to be done."

"Oh, no!" he said, getting rapidly out of the house and almost running down the path. "Oh, no! We don't want anything of that sort! I shall report it as a clear case of exemption!"

Chivalry—or What?

For a moment I was dazed. I had expected distrust, and all the unpleasantness of it—my friends had been quite sorry for me—I was even trying to prepare a short speech for the occasion—if courage did not fail me—and now I was to be "reported exempt"!

What this chivalry? I had often heard of chivalry, and never, never seen it. Could it be that, as a widow who had only her own exertions to depend upon, I was to be exempt? But no! I couldn't feel certain that if I had handed in my cheque meekly they would have refused it on any such grounds! And their anxiety seemed less on my account than their own, so chivalry it could hardly be. Besides—there are other widows!

But if it was not chivalry—what was it?

An Unexpected Denouement

Time went by, and, of course, I thought that my timid tax-collector meant what he said when he told me I should hear no more of the matter. I had even bought a new hat (as a present from Mr. Lloyd George) when, lo and behold, my tax-collector again appeared—this time with an assessment notice. He came, he said deprecatingly, "in all friendliness." Did he mean that headquarters had refused to accept his plea of exemption, or was he giving me another chance of pleading exemption and so getting him out of his difficulty?

Anyhow, I shall now be able to make my protest. H. C. A.

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BOOKS AND DRAMA

"WITHIN"

We have here a brave man making an honest attempt to discuss some of those problems concerning life and death and the purpose of our being which are but too often treated as subjects which afford a good excuse for writing pages of beautiful English of an insincere and therefore most unconvincing nature. Anyone who feels interested in seeing how a man of action behaves when he begins to poach on the preserves of the Theologian should read this book. They will find it easy to point out that the very theories he puts forward are in themselves a proof that there is a World Spirit, a Life Force, a Great Purpose—or whatever we choose to call it—outside ourselves as well as "Within," but they will find it impossible not to love the writer, and not to admit that his words have the power of all true simplicity, and, whether we agree with him wholly or not, have the salutary effect of causing us to sort our opinions from our prejudices.

Against Physical Force

As suffragists we are not so much concerned here with his religious beliefs as with the fact that this man of daring in health and endurance in suffering is here revealed as having so much of the woman in him. It has been said that the best men are at heart women, and the best women at heart are men. In other words, that there is but little difference in the best of either sex; and this book may certainly be quoted in support of the contention. It is as though Sir Francis stood surveying the world of life as he would a chess board, and one of the first things he removes with a sweep of the hand is the good old "Physical Force—the Survival of the Fittest" argument. He will have none of it:—

As a matter of practical experience, captains of eleven do not often rise to distinction. . . . Darwin, who suffered from illness all his life, has affected the whole thought of mankind. . . . The best very often do not survive—if the sun's heat were to diminish considerably and the earth begin to freeze, the "fittest" would survive, but the "fittest" would be some sort of super polar-bears, not super-men. . . . We are ascending, but not only on account of natural selection—natural selection selects from variations but does not create them; had there been no other principle at work than natural selection and the survival of the fittest, no advance would have been made; it was not the fitness to survive which caused the advance, but that which impelled to something more than survival. This something evidently did not mind if the beings who expressed it did not survive, so long as they expressed it better than could the original forms. . . . We have that within us which will not let us remain slaves to our surroundings or allow us to merely accept the position of adapting ourselves to our masters. We are impelled to master our surroundings, not remain at their mercy.

There may be a great deal more good in a thing than ever evolves. Its unfolding may be checked by the severity of external conditions. There is that within us which impels us not simply to survive but to fulfil ourselves. It is the impulse which makes us feel we would rather die and have done our best than survive with the best undone.

A High Place for Women

A suffragette could not put it better, nor is it surprising to find that so great a heart assigns a very high place to woman, though wholly ignorant as to how she should be lifted there. He is anxious, whilst belittling mere physical excellence, to add that bodily health is desirable and that "we want full-blooded men and women with the vim and attraction of abounding physical strength. It is of more value to be a woman than a lady, and to be a man than a gentleman," he adds with refreshing candour. In praising moral courage, "which is of a higher degree than physical courage," he is careful to praise—

Women who have to struggle for a living against the fearful odds with which the world opposes them—who have not half the openings for obtaining a livelihood which are available for men; but who struggle on, making light of their troubles and presenting a bold front to the world with a courage as great as that displayed by any soldier in the public eye.

He warns us that "We English, with all our boasted freedom, are still under the dominance of obsolescent ideas. We want to get out into the open, free from all encrusting traditions." He denounces the sheltered and cloistered virtue which has not fought through the hard buffets of the world, he claims scope for individuality—"to clear away evil, to make room for good," he says, "efficiency of intellect and fibre of character are needed. Easy sentimentalism does not suffice!"

We have let our wills be atrophied. We think less of ourselves than we are entitled to think, and in consequence we do not make the most of what is within us.

"Within." By Sir Francis Youngquasband, K.C.L.E., LL.D., D.Sc. (London: Williams and Norgate. Price 3s. 6d. net.)

NOW READY. VOTES FOR WOMEN. Vol. VI. Bound in the Fellowship Colours, with Index. Price 10/6. Post Free 11/6. Remittance should be sent with order to THE PUBLISHER, 4-7, Red Lion Court, E.C.

or adequately fulfil the purpose of our being. We are not worms, we are men; we are not submissive slaves, we are self-reliant free men.

All this was written for men. But it is even more applicable to women, as is also the following fine passage:—

We have to force a way through all the encumbrances and entanglements which choke and smother our lives. In every possible way we have to free our intellects, our souls and lives, and for this the most finely-tempered courage and daring of the most imaginative order are required—the daring of a Christ, who in the very Temple itself overturned the tables of the money-changers and attacked the most hoary traditions and the most privileged persons, and at the risk of life itself proclaimed a new way for men to follow.

A Tilt at Tradition

Sir Francis indulges in a practical tilt at some of our own "hoary traditions," for he advocates that women in every class of life shall be taught to work even as men are, saying it is desirable in order to give them not only "economic independence in marriage," but to "vivify their whole existence"; he denounces the idea of a marriage that entails "the forcing of one to conform to the will, the opinion, and the tastes of another, destroying all individual development and far too often resulting in the pathetic mutilation of a soul." He calls such a system "infringing the most ordinary human rights," and advocates "political equality for the sexes." But he goes much further than a mere remodelling of all our laws and customs. He says:—

We have to develop our means of acquiring knowledge—especially important will it be to develop the acquisition of knowledge by intuition. It is in intuition that poets and women especially excel, and it is this faculty of intuition that the race particularly needs to develop—it is this, rather than by reasoning, that the inmost truths are reached. Intuition is the discoverer, the Inspirer. Intuitive power requires more attention than it receives at present, and those with the gift of intuition should be cherished as the bright leaders of us all. . . . The higher men and women we must expect will reach the truth by swift intuition rather than by massive reasoning. They will not be men of iron, but men of light and heat. . . . Imaginative, flowing, mobile, quickly and intensely expressive—and always full of tenderness of love—they will lead not by stamping their wills, not by forcing men by millions into the self-same mould, but by ensuring for each individual freedom to fulfil himself. Then, maybe, a pure God-Gift will arise, and intuitively he—or perhaps she—will see into the inmost core of things.

This book is one of the many we now come across which show how rapidly our outlook is changing, with what increasing intensity we are all yearning for a different social system, and how the "Woman's Movement" is in truth only an integral part of humanity's progress towards a higher plane. R. C. B.

"THE MOB"

Mr. Galsworthy's Play at the Coronet

Mr. Galsworthy's latest play cannot be said altogether to represent his art at its best. So inspiring, however, is the strain of lofty idealism which dominates the play that one almost hesitates to criticise; yet there is much need of criticism. It is a play that "gives one furiously to think." To appreciate it fully, I almost feel that years of hard work in the suffrage movement are indispensable. How well we know that Mob, with its fatuousness, its blindness to all that is great and grand, its hatred of anything that is different from itself; its irreverence; its intolerance; above all, its meanness, its cowardice!

How we recognize that sense of disgust at the utter hopelessness of trying to reason with it and being answered by vulgar catch phrases or obscene jests! How well, too, we know that greater mob than Mr. Galsworthy had in his mind—the British public, the man in the street! Who, if not a suffragist, knows that stupidity, that indifference to the high ideals preached to them? Yes, Mr. Galsworthy, you are right about the mob, we have preached and we know!

The False Note

Sad to tell, it is in his women that Mr. Galsworthy lets his play down so badly. If ever there was a false note struck in any play surely it is in this one when More's wife leaves him. She, an idealist, too, in her way, leaves, for patriotic reasons, the husband who dearly loves her and who is a greater and better patriot than herself—leaves him when all England—the great mob—was against him, when the Press vilified him, his friends cut him, his very servants left his house, fearing for their lives! Leaves him when he was an almost intolerable round of indignities, calumny, miseries of mind and body! No, Mr. Galsworthy, a thousand times no! Stephen More's wife was, from your portrayal of her, a good woman, a high-minded woman, a woman who knew how to suffer and be strong. We cannot believe that she was one who would hurt the suffering; still less can we believe that she could leave her husband (taking with her, by his consent, their only child) to the brutal fury of the mob.

Granted that this last and most crushing blow did possibly help to put penny Union Jacks in the hands of the audience the triumphant idealism of the man who suffered unflinchingly and fought to the end; but is not the method somewhat crude for a great artist like Mr. Galsworthy? Not merely crude, but untrue to life.

Quite another story, however, is the little incident at the end, where a penny Union Jack is put into the dead idealist's hand. That will long remain in my mind. Surely there was genius in such grim irony!

With all its faults—and it has faults—one feels it is a play emphatically to be seen—by the Mob and by the Few. E. M. W.

BOOKS RECEIVED

"The Priceless Thing." By Mand Stepany Rawson. (London: Stanley Paul. Price, 6s.) "Wheat and Woman." By Georgina Binnie-Clark. (London: Heinemann. Price, 6s.) "Damaged Goods." A play by Brioux. Translated by John Pollock. With a Preface by Bernard Shaw. (London: A. C. Fifield. Price, 1s. net.) "Philip's Wife." A play by Frank G. Layton, M.R.C.S. (London: A. C. Fifield. Price, 1s. net.) "The Chinese Review." No. 1, April. (From Publisher, 42, Hillfield Road, N.W. Price, 1s. net.) "The Magpie." May. (From Publisher, 5, John Street, Adelphi, W.C. Price, 4d. net.) "Mrs. Bosant's Policy." By Joseph H. Russell. (Printed by the San Diego News Press, San Diego, California. Price not stated.)

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FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1914.

THE PLURAL VOTING BILL

Can a man be a good suffragist and yet be an active supporter of the Plural Voting Bill? "Yes," answer the great bulk of the Liberal and Labour members of Parliament. "No," answer the advanced suffragists and the keen men and women in the Labour party all over the country.

Let us first put the case of those who answer "Yes." Our present electoral system, they say, is full of anomalies. One of these is the total exclusion of women from the franchise, another is the system by which certain electors who possess "interests" in more than one constituency are allowed to have a vote in each. Both anomalies, they say, ought to be swept away. They are prepared to support a Bill to do both these things simultaneously, or Bills to do each of them separately. They refuse to oppose a Plural Voting Bill simply because it is not also at the same time a Bill to give votes to women.

This reasoning is very attractive to those who have not given attention to the whole question, and appears to them conclusive. As a matter of fact, when carefully examined in the light of existing circumstances it will be found to break down completely.

In the first place, what is the ground on which the Plural Voting Bill is defended? The principle is put forward that the vote is a great human right inherent in the individual. Now, this principle is either sound or it is false. If it is sound it ought to be enforced throughout. Men and women ought to be enfranchised because they are men and women. But this is just what the Liberal party refuse to do. They refuse to give votes to women, and even go so far on this matter as to deny the existence of the principle. If the principle is false, then the moral ground which they say underlies the Plural Voting Bill is gone. For they cannot seriously pretend that the party advantage which they hope to gain from it is a moral justification.

In the second place, it must be remembered that

the Plural Voting Bill is the Government's salvage out of the wreck of their franchise proposals of 1912-13. Mr. Asquith had in the previous year undertaken to introduce and carry into law during the present Parliament a wide measure of franchise reform, and pledged himself categorically that the Bill should be brought before the House in a form capable of amendment so as to include women. This promise was broken—or "not kept," if Mr. Asquith prefers to put it in that way—and when this glaring breach of faith had been perpetrated the Franchise Bill was dropped and the Plural Voting Bill substituted in its place, while no genuine offer was made to women. That is to say, by a simple piece of *leger de main* the Government got out of their inconvenient promise to women and secured the only form of franchise Bill which was of importance for their own purposes. For Liberal and Labour members to support the Plural Voting Bill under these circumstances is to make themselves parties to the dishonourable procedure of which the Government have been guilty.

In the third place, the passage of the Plural Voting Bill will act to postpone the date of other franchise reform. For the removal of plural votes is a measure which the Liberal Government are genuinely anxious to see carried into law; if, therefore, this Bill were held up until the Government had granted votes to women then they would be anxious to see women enfranchised, so that their own favourite proposal might not be any longer delayed. If it is meekly passed without opposition, then they will be strengthened in their desire to postpone woman suffrage indefinitely.

These facts are fully realised by the most progressive section of the Labour party, which would naturally be in favour on its merits of the abolition of plural voting. At their recent conference at Bradford the I.L.P. carried a strong resolution calling upon the Labour party "to vigorously oppose and defeat all proposals for amending the franchise or registration laws unless women are included therein." Mr. Keir Hardie was careful to point out before putting this resolution that so far as the seven I.L.P. members of the Labour party were concerned, it would, if carried, be a definite mandate to them to oppose the Plural Voting Bill. Yet we find that in the division on Monday night not a single one of the seven I.L.P. members voted against the Bill, and only two were absent, while all the remaining five, including Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, went into the lobby to support the Government!

We hope that this episode will enlighten men and women of the Labour party up and down the country who have hitherto been confused by the opposition shown by ourselves and other advanced suffragists to the Labour M.P.s. To the Labour party we are not opposed, but we are definitely opposed to the Parliamentary Labour Party in the House of Commons, for these men, acting under the shameful banner of Mr. MacDonald, have thrown aside their independence and have become the tame supporters of the Government.

Men of the Liberal and Labour Parties, who genuinely desire to see a reform of the franchise laws carried, which shall bring them into accord with democratic principles, ought to take the opportunity provided by the discussion and votes on the Plural Voting Bill to bring home to the Government that they will not consent any longer to be the mere tools of the party machine. They ought to tell the Government quite plainly that they will vote for the Bill only on the condition that a measure conferring the vote upon women is allowed to proceed simultaneously into law.

HOW GERMAN LAW PROTECTS WOMEN AND CHILDREN

By Gertude E. Metcalfe Shaw

(The first two articles of this series appeared in **VOTES FOR WOMEN** on April 17 and 24)

III.

The statement is frequently brought forward, in connection with our man-made laws and the administration of them, that disregard of matters affecting human life and exaggerated respect for property are characteristics essentially masculine. An examination of the German code of laws published in 1900 disproves that assertion and compels the student to admit, with concern and humiliation, that England has much to learn from her more progressive neighbour.

It is a dangerous thing for a nation, as for an individual, to "think of itself more highly than it ought to think"; there is no greater fosterer of ignorance and hardness of heart, no greater stumbling-block to progress. We labour under the dire disadvantage of the assumption which many of us are never tired of repeating, that our laws are the most righteous, our administration the fairest, our system the most just the world has seen. Hence it has been left to a section of Englishwomen to arouse the self-satisfied British man to a realisation of the actual state of the law—justices so monstrous and evils so intolerable as to kindle in women who are aware of these things the flames of unquenchable revolt. German statesmen, meanwhile, alive to possible deficiencies and eager for progress, have devoted twenty years of thought and strenuous labour to the advancement and perfecting of their legislation, and manifest, by the position in which their efforts have placed woman before the law, an impartiality, a discrimination, a sense of justice which may well inspire patience in the women who are striving for equality with men, since they promise with no uncertain voice the ultimate recognition of all human rights.

It has been shown in the previous article how German law protects woman against the lust of man; let us now see what is in Germany the position, before the law, of—

- (1) The married woman
 - (a) As wife,
 - (b) As mother.
- (2) The unmarried mother.
- (3) The illegitimate child.

The Married Woman as Wife

For the purposes of comparison it may be well to restate the fact that in our country the wife has no legal claims upon her husband beyond those involved in the bare necessities of life—food and shelter and clothing of some sort; she is no more protected by law (except when it comes to actual murder) than any animal in his possession, and any further consideration she receives is dependent entirely upon his goodwill.

Introductory to the clauses on marriage in the *Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch* of 1900 stands the following: "The married couple are bound to one another by the duties of a life-partnership"; and it is in the spirit of this enunciation that the laws governing married life are drawn up and interpreted. It is impossible under such a view for a wife to be placed in the humiliating position so often conspicuous in our police courts and courts of law; it is her right to be consulted as a partner in the marriage contract, which rests upon mutual consideration, and the fulfilment of mutual duties. At the same time, the belief that the man is the wiser of the two partners crops up in various ways, and gives the husband rights which are not in keeping with absolute equality. The right of the husband to interfere with contracts involving the personal service of the wife has been vigorously attacked by the woman's movement. The wife, however, is protected from the capricious and unreasonable interference of the husband by the fact that he himself must first obtain the authorisation of the Court of Guardians ("Vormundschaftsgericht"), which hears both parties and requires evidence that the wife's activity is harmful to the joint interests of the couple.

The husband also has the "right of decision" in matters affecting the joint interests of the couple. This, however, carries with it no legal power or authority of the husband over the wife; it can only become effective through argument or persuasion. "The wife," says Dr. Landrichter Scherling, "does not stand to the husband in the relation of a subject, but of a consort with equal rights, and she need not follow his decision if it presents itself as a misuse of his right, that is, if in the true spirit of marriage

and of genuine conjugal love such a decision would not have been made."

On the other hand, the husband's duty of maintenance is strictly legal and enforceable. He is bound to maintain his wife and family in conditions in keeping with his position in life, his property, and his power of earning an income. Actions which violate the spirit of the marriage contract, such as insulting behaviour, cruelty or unfaithfulness, entitle the wife to leave him and set up a separate establishment at his expense, maintenance to be paid by him quarterly in advance.

All money earned by the wife (outside her actual work in the home and in her husband's business) is her own absolute property.

Idle or drunken habits are not allowed to nullify the husband's duty of maintenance; there are establishments provided where men who will not work are compelled to work, their wages being paid over to the wife for the maintenance of the family.

Divorce may be obtained by either party when flagrant violation of conjugal duties, or dishonourable or immoral conduct, has so shaken the foundations of the marriage relationship that a continuance of it cannot reasonably be demanded.

Facilities for divorce in the case of the poor are provided by the State.

A widow cannot be disinherited, except on grounds which would obtain divorce. She must inherit a proportion of her husband's property dependent on the number and propinquity of the other remaining relatives.

The Married Woman as Mother

The mother shares with the father the rights of parenthood, and has a voice in all questions affecting the upbringing, nurture, education and calling in life of the child. In case of difference of opinion, the father has the deciding voice, but the mother has the right of appeal to the Court of Guardians, which can nullify his authority should he be misusing it, or by his own course of life be damaging the career of his child.

The Unmarried Mother

The unmarried mother must be maintained for six weeks after confinement by the father, who is responsible for the entire costs of birth (which may be demanded in advance), and also of any expenses due to bad health caused by pregnancy or confinement.

Funeral expenses in the event of the child's death must be borne by the father.

Seduction under promise of marriage or other fraudulent pretext making the co-habitation appear as nuptial is punishable with five years' penal servitude.

THE SELF-IMMOLATION OF MAN

By T. O'Meara

I think there is a great deal to be said for the quaintly symbolical legend of Woman made from the rib of a Man. For any doctor can tell us that the most vital part of a man's anatomy is that protected by his ribs; that any injury to a rib means an injury—often fatal—to the man's whole body; and that he who deliberately and wilfully tries to inflict such injury upon himself should at once be placed in a strait-waistcoat.

Now the lot of woman and man is as literally and truly interwoven as the lot of man and his own ribs. Every law unjust to woman, every social convention pressing unfairly upon her, reacts with terrible and inexorable force upon her, reacts with terrible and inexorable force upon the man. The hysterical protests of Mr. Belfort Bax have a good sound basis of reason, and there is something more than ignorant brutality behind the antagonism of the average workman towards an underpaid, unorganised gang of female "blacklegs." It is only masculine myopia which prevents Mr. Belfort Bax from concluding his tirade with a cry of "Votes for Women!" and the workman from collaring his unwelcome rival and dragging her forcibly within the shelter of his own Trades Union.

The matter cuts both ways, for every injustice done to man reacts with equal promptitude upon the woman; only she is quite aware of this obvious fact, and so fights upon his side again and again, as much for her own sake as from pure altruism. She knows who pays the piper when wages are low and prices high, and it is an open secret now that the miners' revolt against the merciless "three shift

The unmarried mother has not the parent's authority over her child; she has only the duty of the care of its person, being in many cases unfitted for weightier responsibility. The Court of Guardians, however, appoints the mother as the guardian of her child whenever she is both capable and worthy of the task.

The Illegitimate Child

The Court of Guardians appoints to every illegitimate child a guardian responsible to that court for the child's welfare.

The father of the child is responsible for its maintenance in the position of life of the mother until the completion of its sixteenth year. "Maintenance" comprehends the entire requirements of life, as well as the expenses of education and the training for a career.

Should the child, through bodily or mental infirmity, be unable to maintain itself after that age, the father continues to be responsible.

The father's responsibility towards mother and child does not expire with his death, even should it take place before the child's birth; but it may in the case of the child be compromised by paying to the child the share of its father's property which would have been its minimum inheritance had it been legitimate.

An illegitimate child is legitimised by the marriage of its parents; it may also be declared legitimate by special request of the father in the appointed quarter, and so obtain all the legal advantages of legitimacy.

It will be seen from these facts that the penal machinery of the State, which is reserved here for the ruthless punishment of the unhappy woman who turns in despair upon her betrayer, is utilised in Germany to minimise by adequate penalties the temptations to betrayal, and to load upon the shoulders of the man the full responsibility of his own deeds. At the same time, the innocent children of such parents, instead of being thrown forlorn upon the world, as they are to the number of about 50,000 yearly in our country, foredoomed in poverty and helplessness to swell the outcast and criminal classes, are in Germany valued, watched over, guided and protected by the State.

After the evidences of a just and humane point of view given by such laws as these, it will be no surprise to find that the glaring contrasts between the penalties inflicted for damages affecting life and those affecting property, which are so shocking in our own country, are made impossible under the present code of German laws.

Need we wonder any longer that German women are constitutional, while English women are in rebellion?

(Concluded.)

system" is primarily a revolt of the miners' wives. But the men—heaven help them in their blindness!—don't see that whatever is done to women to-day will be done to men to-morrow; that the police outrages in Dublin and South Africa must follow the hooliganism of the Home Office as surely as night follows day; that each petty degradation of woman's body or soul lowers the standard for both sexes. They are only just waking up to the bitter fact that every poor, silly girl jostled to the pavement has her terrible revenge, striking down upon the third and fourth generation, and always hitting hardest at the man.

Masculine honour, decency, and dignity never stood at a lower level in this country than during the dismal years of the eighteenth and nineteenth century, when the filthy cant of the effeminate female reigned supreme; and our national, social, and economic conditions were never more appalling. China has stood stock still for centuries, cramped and crippled in her own women's shoes, whilst the sturdy little ladies of Japan come pattering along beside their men-folk, urging them to continual new conquests.

"Once you are married," says Stevenson, pathetically, "there is nothing left for you, not even suicide, but to be good!" And, in the highest and truest sense of the word, every man is born wedded to every woman, and every woman to every man. The twain are of one flesh, and all talk of sex-antagonism is but the jabber of a lunatic engaged in single combat with his own ribs. We stand or fall together; Man's Rights are Woman's Rights; and Woman's wrongs are Man's.

THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS

The following incidents have been attributed to suffragettes in the Press during the week—

Saturday, April 25.—Two large wheat stacks on the estate of Mr. E. G. Prestyman, M.P., Nacton, Suffolk, destroyed by fire. Suffragist message found.

Attempt to fire Grand Stand at Ninian Park, Cardiff.

Monday, April 27.—Stack containing 100 tons of hay destroyed by fire on Stratton Hall Farm, at Trimley St. Martin, Suffolk.

Tuesday, April 28.—Bath Hotel, Felixstowe, destroyed by fire. Damage estimated at £30,000. Suffragist messages found. Two arrests made.

IN THE COURTS

Wednesday, April 22.—At Belfast, before the Special Court, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Muir, charged with having in their possession various things for the purpose of committing a felony, and with having under their control a certain explosive substance, Miss Muir committed for trial, bail offered, and case against Miss Evans adjourned until following day.

Thursday, April 23.—At Belfast, before the Special Court, Miss Dorothy Evans; committed for trial, bail offered.

BELFAST SUFFRAGISTS IN COURT

On Thursday in last week Miss Muir and Miss Evans were again brought into Court separately, Miss Muir's case being taken first.

She appeared extremely weak as the result of a hunger-strike while on remand, and was brought in on a stretcher. The investigation lasted five hours, at the end of which she was committed for trial, bail being offered. She refused to take any part in the proceedings except to make a statement at the end, in which she complained of the treatment accorded to her while she was in prison. Five wardresses, she alleged, had held her down, while the bedclothes were taken from her bed, although she was suffering. Such treatment, however, would never have the effect of making her surrender, and though her body was weaker her spirit was infinitely stronger than it had been.

Miss Evans' Case

Miss Evans was also committed for trial to the Assizes, but not until a scene had been enacted described in the newspaper reports as indescribably painful. She had been without food for three days, but on appearing in the dock she at once drowned the proceedings by making a long speech of fifty minutes' duration, at the end of which she made a bid for the door. A terrible struggle followed, only ended when Miss Evans fainted from exhaustion. She resumed the struggle on her recovery, and was finally carried to her cell, completely exhausted. Chairs were then placed in the passage for the magistrate and officials, and the proceedings were soon when two of the number were recognised as being local Suffragettes, and were requested to go to the manager's office. This they refused to do, asking that the manager should come and speak to them if he wished. A second message was sent, with a similar result.

Released on Saturday

Both prisoners resumed the hunger-strike on being removed in custody to Crumlin Gaol, Belfast, and by Saturday evening were reduced to such a grave condition of health that the prison doctor refused to accept the responsibility of keeping them one night longer. As they were being driven out of the prison gates two sealed packets were thrown into the taxi-cab containing lemons, calling upon them to appear at the Assizes in July, and inform the police of their whereabouts in the meanwhile. These they tore up and threw out of the window, not considering themselves bound by any conditions, as they had refused bail in the first place. They maintain that the lemons have no legal value, as they were served on them after their release.

More Raids on Suffragettes' Houses

On Thursday in last week the police entered the home of two W.S.P.U. members in the neighbourhood of Belfast and searched it. Their search was fruitless. "This relentless persecution by the authorities of militant women," adds the W.S.P.U. in a statement issued to the Press, "is in glaring contrast to their toleration of militant men, who, in the words of the Prime Minister, have been guilty of 'grave and unprecedented outrages.'"

SUFFRAGIST PRISONERS

Among motions down for discussion in the House of Commons, for which no day has been fixed, is one to be brought forward by Mr. Fringle, M.P., "to call attention to the prison treatment of Suffragist prisoners, and to move a resolution."

SUFFRAGETTES ON THE SERPENTINE

For no very apparent reason, the Women's Social and Political Union were, last Sunday, prevented by the authorities from holding their previously arranged water carnival on the Serpentine, in Hyde Park. It is seldom, however, that militant Suffragettes are entirely outwitted, and proof was certainly given of this by the unrehearsed demonstration which took place in consequence of this prohibition.

At noonday two members of the W.S.P.U. visited the landing stages near the Royal Humane Society's Receiving House, and endeavoured to charter a boat. This being refused, the women attempted to take possession of one, and a short but somewhat fierce struggle then ensued with the boatmen, the two women wading in almost up to their knees in the water.

Protecting the Fleet

The next move on the part of the authorities was to moor the whole fleet of boats in the middle of the Serpentine, and a special force of police arrived in case of emergencies.

At half-past three o'clock two women on the bank, apparently elegantly dressed, suddenly threw off their outer wraps, revealing bathing costumes underneath, and plunged into the Serpentine, and swam vigorously for the boats in mid-stream. Two boats put off in hot pursuit of the women. No arranged item in the original programme could have caused more interest! One of the women, however, reached the boats and succeeded in boarding it and waving a flag amid cheers from the shore. The other swimmer was overtaken by the boatmen, but managed to cut the ropes by which the boats were held together. The women were rowed to the landing stage and hustled into the boat-houses.

A repetition of these events was carried out by three other women and one man, the woman driving up in a motor-car before she took a header into the forbidden waters.

The man and the women were taken to the police-station in the park, but were not charged.

The whole affair naturally proved of thrilling attraction to the vast crowd of spectators, who witnessed the scenes from the bank, and would probably not have assembled in anything like the same proportions to witness the originally planned demonstration.

After all, did the authorities prevent the Suffragettes from holding their water carnival on the Serpentine last Sunday?

WOMEN ASSAULTED ON BRIGHTON PIER

Police Assist Hooligans

(From Our Own Correspondent)
On Saturday last, during a short visit to Brighton, I joined several other women friends of mine who wanted to see a performance of the Russian dancers on the pier in the evening. We all bought tickets and were standing in the queue for admission, when two of the number were recognised as being local Suffragettes, and were requested to go to the manager's office. This they refused to do, asking that the manager should come and speak to them if he wished. A second message was sent, with a similar result.

Brutality Encouraged

In the meantime numbers of police had been summoned, who gave the women no protection, but helped in pushing and about and hurling jeering remarks at them, thus further encouraging the brutality of the pier officials. At last the order came from the manager that we were all to be removed from the pier. One woman was seized by the arms and legs and surrounded by a crowd. It was almost impossible for her companions to get near her. At last two managers seized the coat collars of two of the men, and forced them to let go their helpless victim. Other men seized one of the women and ran her at a great rate down the whole length of the pier and flung her outside the gates. (This lady was a visitor to the town.)

The Suffragette was attacked again while lying in a helpless condition on the floor, and was frog-marched almost the whole length of the pier till her friends managed to get in front of her, and were able again to force her captors to drop her. She was,

however, once more picked up, and was finally flung on the ground outside the pier gates. From there, in a fainting, bruised, and exhausted condition, she was taken by her equally battered and exhausted friends to a cab and driven home.

Four of the ladies who were subjected to this brutal treatment were strangers to Brighton; their bags and hats were literally torn from them without the least provocation being given on their part, the police meanwhile not giving them the least assistance; but some of the women who appealed to the police to take the names and addresses of the brutes attacking them, were only laughed at. If this kind of thing can be done with impunity to voiceless women, does anyone wonder that some women are militant?

The Suffragettes in the *Daily Telegraph*, to the effect that the women were "escorted off the pier," and that they "carried parcels of handbills" can be seen from the above account to be at least misleading!

FORCIBLE FEEDING

Vancouver Again Protests

We have already recorded more than one resolution passed by different organisations in Vancouver, British Columbia, protesting against the practice of forcible feeding in this country. The following resolution was passed unanimously at a recent meeting of the Women's Educational Club, Vancouver:—

"Whereas forcible feeding of Suffragist prisoners, as practised in English gaols by the British Government is cruel, barbarous and prejudicial to the health and life of those so treated;

Whereas the so-called 'Cat and Mouse Act' is prejudicial to health and life and is a revival of medieval torture, be it therefore resolved: That in the name of humanity we protest against the continuance of both these practices."

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE

Mrs. Pankhurst's Arrest

In the House of Commons on April 23, Mr. MacCallum Scott asked the Secretary for the Home Department whether any reports as to the circumstances connected with the recent arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst in Glasgow; and whether he has been asked by the Corporation of the City of Glasgow to appoint a commissioner to hold an inquiry into the matter?

Mr. McKinnon Wood: The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part of the question, I received yesterday a communication from the magistrates' committee of the Corporation of Glasgow forwarding for my consideration various documents bearing on the subject, which I have not yet had time to consider; but no request of the nature indicated is made by the committee.

Mr. Watt: When does the right hon. gentleman expect to be able to give an

PLAYING AT BEING VOTERS

"Truth is stranger than fiction," as Mr. John Seurr may well be thinking if he has taken the trouble to compare his witty forecast of the first meeting of Mrs. Humphry Ward's Women's Parliament (see *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, April 17) with what actually took place in the House on April 23.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, and the other ladies associated with her on the new Joint Advisory Committee of Members of Parliament and women social workers, played quite nicely at being voters when they met for the first time at the House of Commons on Thursday in last week, though it cannot be said that their men colleagues treated them as such. Real men with votes were elected, for instance, to fill the offices of chairman and honorary secretaries; and most of the speakers seem to have belonged also to the enfranchised portion of the Committee. This impression may, however, have been wrongly conveyed by the Press report, which scarcely mentioned the women's share in the proceedings at all—a most unkind omission, as the whole thing was their very own idea.

"Business" Done

Sub-committees were appointed to consider Bills brought before Parliament; and, with a lightning rapidity which may not be accounted for by the assumption that the committees were in existence before they were appointed—a rule of the game that is quite in keeping with the whole Gilbertian scheme—Mrs. Humphry Ward moved the adoption of a report from the "Education Sub-committee" upon Mr. Pease's Elementary Education (Defective Children) Bill. The game went very merrily at this point, for Mrs. Ward was allowed to say quite a lot in criticism of the Bill that neither she nor the women members of her Sub-committee had the power to alter by a comma, while the M.P.'s present played up gallantly and did

answer to this suggestion by the Corporation? Mr. McKinnon Wood: It is not a suggestion by the Corporation.

Mr. Watt: When will they get an answer?

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Hampton Court, we understand from the *Daily Chronicle*, is to be re-opened, and among the precautions to be taken against possible incursions of Suffragettes an entrance fee is mentioned, also the mobilisation of visitors in parties to be conducted round by a guide.

We cannot really suppose that a militant woman bent on damaging property in the name of her cause will be deterred by having to pay a shilling or by the prospect of an audience for her action. We really advise the Hampton Court authorities to call upon the Government to grant Woman Suffrage instead. It is the only precaution likely to be effective.

BAPTISTS AND THE VOTE

Recently, the *Christian Commonwealth* informs us, a deputation of the Free Church League for Woman Suffrage met the General Purposes Committee of the Baptist Union, and as a result of the meeting a special and exceedingly strong committee was appointed to investigate the women's movement, especially its spiritual implications, and to prepare a manifesto or pronouncement from the Union on the present position and responsibilities of women in the new age. This committee will in due course report to the General Purposes Committee and later to the Council and the Assembly.

Forcible Feeding

The *Commonwealth* adds: "This is a distinct step forward which we heartily welcome. But we may add that we hope the religious leaders concerned therein, who include, we understand, Rev. J. H. Shakespeare and Dr. Clifford, will express strong condemnation of forcible feeding, and help to put an end to a form of torture obviously being used as a punitive weapon against women."

MAXIM GUNS FOR VERMIN

The Bishop of St. Germain, speaking at St. Columb, Cornwall, last week, said he was painfully haunted by some words uttered not long ago, that the Suffragettes "ought to be shot down like vermin." These are haunting words indeed. The spectacle of maxim guns ranged against the blackbeetles in the basement, certainly calls up a nightmare vision. No wonder the Bishop's sporting friend longs for Suffragettes as his quarry. They would be so much easier to hit.

PRESS HUMOUR

It is all very well to call women who damage public property 'apostles of militancy,' but we do object to the axe of the apostles.—*London Opinion*.

all they could be to polite to suggestions they were not in the least bound to consider.

For instance, Mr. Goldsmith said, with regard to one suggestion, that he had already embodied it in an amendment to the Bill which he practically foretold would be ruled out of order.

Dr. Addison, while sympathising equally with the women's suggested amendment, said he did not think the Bill afforded the right opportunity for its adoption.

Mr. MacCallum Scott then had a brain storm, and suggested that the report under discussion should be circulated among the M.P.'s who were members of the Advisory Committee, and their opinions invited. This was agreed to, and the same innocuous method was adopted with regard to the report of the "Home Office" Sub-committee making the revolutionary suggestion that the payment limit in the Affiliation Orders Bill should be increased from £5. to 10s. a week.

That Bell Rope without a Bell!

There is no reason, of course, why Mrs. Humphry Ward's Sub-committees should not go on for ever circulating reports among M.P.'s who are under no obligation to act upon their findings. In fact, after reading this account of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee (which should rather be the *Times* of last Friday an historic number) we can more than understand why M.P.'s and anti-suffragettes of both sexes should welcome this method of keeping women-pulling at a bell rope which has no bell at the end of it.

But what we cannot understand is how any suffragist, man or woman, can consent to remain for a moment a member of a body whose very existence perpetuates the cause of all its members, and who are allowed to say quite a lot in criticism of the Bill that neither she nor the women members of her Sub-committee had the power to alter by a comma, while the M.P.'s present played up gallantly and did

GOVERNMENT WITHOUT CONSENT

THE PURE MILK DEBATE

Long before New York took up the question of the milk supply so successfully, the enfranchised States of the Union had passed their Milk Inspection Bills—in Utah and Colorado, for instance, two of the States that were earliest in trusting their women with the vote. In California and Oregon two States more recently enfranchised, one of the first laws to be passed in both instances after the women won their votes, was a Bill to inspect and regulate the sale of milk. In Australia and New Zealand, where milk inspection is an old story by this time, the women voters who read the statistics given in the House last week will indeed wonder how long Great Britain is going to lag behind!

Never was the paradox of the anti-suffragist's position more clearly demonstrated than in the reply of the President of the Local Government Board to the points raised in the debate. Mr. Herbert Samuel thinks that women should not be enfranchised, yet, when foreshadowing fresh legislation in the help of women, he admits in his speech, which, to put it mildly, is at least a confession of failure on the part of men to rule satisfactorily, that the best authority he has on the subject is agreed on all hands that the present measures which are taken by the law and the administration of the law to stop these hundreds of thousands of deaths of children, especially from tuberculosis through milk, are quite inadequate. This death-rate continues, and the children are now dying. Week by week, and month by month, thousands more of them are suffering from hip disease, diseases of the glands, and other causes which we are told on the best authority are the result of taking tuberculous milk.

His final, though unconscious, argument for women's immediate enfranchisement came in his appeal to the House to establish "a favourable current of opinion in Parliament which will carry this necessary measure safely into port."

Unless a measure of this sort is generally acceptable in all quarters of the House it is unlikely to pass.

There is only one way of establishing that which favours the current of opinion in Parliament in respect to any Bill—by bringing pressure to bear upon Members from their constituents. In the case of a Pure Milk Bill, at least half of the constituents who are most anxious for its passage into law are voteless women, and are therefore incapable of bringing that pressure to bear.

THE STAFF OF LIFE

Some indication as to the way the public is defrauded in the matter of the short weight of bread, owing to inefficient Acts of Parliament and the difficulties of administering such Acts as do exist, was afforded in the evidence given last week before the House of Commons Committee appointed to inquire into the matter. Mr. Richard Robinson, chief of the department administering the Weights and Measures Acts, the Bread Acts, and a number of other penal statutes under the direction of the Middlesex County Council, said that dissatisfaction with the existing Acts seemed almost universal. A section at least of the baking trade was profoundly dissatisfied with the Bread Acts of 1822 and 1838. Apart from this, the Acts were unsatisfactory from an administrative point of view.

Another argument for giving the vote to women so that housewives and others may be able to strengthen the hands of men like Mr. Robinson in a demand for legislative and administrative reforms that will enable the public to get its money's worth when it goes out to buy a loaf of bread!

The following dialogue took place:—
The Chairman: What you say is that amendments of the Bread Acts are required to bring them to date?—Yes.
And you say that the law should make it an offence to sell short weight?—Broadly speaking, yes.
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And you say that the law should make it an offence to sell short weight?—Broadly speaking, yes.

Some appalling statistics were revealed in the course of a debate in the House of Commons on Wednesday in last week, when Members once more demonstrated what it means to the welfare of the country at large, and especially to the children, to perpetuate a system under which women have no direct means of forcing the Government to legislate or of ensuring the effective administration of laws when passed. It is inconceivable that, if women were voters, something would not have been done long ago to protect the baby's milk and to ensure a pure supply of an important food commodity which, in its present unsuspected condition, accounts largely for infant and child mortality, and for the spread of disease both among the juvenile and the adult population of the country.

THE DEBATE

The resolution moved by Mr. Waldorf Astor, round which the discussion ranged, was to the effect that—"Fresh legislation is needed to control the supply and sale of milk and cream in the United Kingdom, and that the existing laws should be more thoroughly administered."

Points for Suffragists

All through the debate there were points for suffragists. "The chief thing we have to fight against," said Mr. Astor, "is the ignorance and prejudice of the public," and he added that if the public insisted on having a pure milk supply they would get it.

But who are the public? If Mr. Astor meant only the men, his criticism may be a true one. But who who think that the public includes women know perfectly well that the vastest half of it comprises the mothers and the housewives who have most to do with the food supply both of children and households, and are most interested in the very question on which Mr. Astor complains that the public are ignorant and prejudiced. If women as well as men possessed direct political power, the necessary driving force required for the making and administration of Pure Food Laws would be available. This is also applicable to the further statement by the same speaker, that a year ago, in its final report, the Departmental Committee on Tuberculosis welcomed the prospect of legislation which was promised. The welcome remains; the legislation has not yet arrived."

Some Striking Facts

The facts given during the debate as to the present state of our milk supply constitute in themselves a demand for woman suffrage without delay. Ten per cent. of the milk which came to London, said Mr. Astor, was tuberculous, which meant that on one day in ten, people who drank milk drank tuberculous milk. He gave instances of cows who were so diseased that they had to be milked lying down. He spoke of milk "which cripples children, which produces joint tuberculosis and cervical glands." He suggested remedies which can only be brought about by Government action, and by a public administration far less lax than prevails at present in the Courts; and he concluded by saying:—

"We do not want to run the risk of producing crippled children that will afterwards bear the scars given to them in their tender years because of the drinking of tuberculous milk. We must see to it that we look ahead, and that we make certain that the milk given to children does not give them disease and in many cases death."

How is it possible to attain to this state of things without the help and advice of enfranchised women, the mothers of the race to be protected?

Further Facts

Mr. Hills, seconding the motion, showed that in New York, where they started a pure milk supply in 1910, the infant death-rate had dropped by 1913 nearly 50 per 1,000 births. This, coupled with Mr. Alden's statement that over thirty-three million gallons of infected milk is sold every year in this country, gives some idea of the waste of infant life brought about through a legislative neglect that we cannot believe would ever have been persisted in had the women of the country been given their just share in the management of the country's affairs.

WOMAN WHO DIED IN HOLLOWAY

Several points strike us about the inquest, as reported in last Saturday's papers, and held on the woman who died of pneumonia in Holloway Gaol at the end of a month's sentence.

through want of exercise, partly through the bad ventilation, which prevents a proper circulation of what air there is in the cells, partly through low vitality brought about by the unhealthy conditions, prisoners suffer almost more from cold than from anything else.

With regard to the food, the same witness said that 75 per cent. of the prisoners gained weight in prison, and that the quantity of food given was so large that the women frequently throw the bread out of the window. Both these assertions may be facts as far as they go. Prisoners may sometimes appear to gain weight as registered in the prison book. But they are very frequently weighed on the night of their arrival, if not in their night garments only, certainly without

their outdoor clothes. On leaving, they are generally weighed when dressed for departure. As for the bread, it is no wonder that the prisoners cannot get through the two solid little loaves, not often fresh, which form their daily allowance, accompanied with butter in too small a quantity to render it palatable. No doubt the prison diet would be sufficient in quantity, if it were possible to eat it all; but bad, sodden potatoes and dry bread are naturally left uneaten. This can hardly be called evidence of there being too much food supplied to the prisoners!

The official who honestly wishes to understand prison conditions should change places with the prisoner. Nothing else will cure his official point of view.



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COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES
Assault on a Wife
The Aberdeen Evening Express (April 22) reports case of a cooper charged before Bailie Edwards in the Aberdeen Police Court with brutally assaulting his wife by striking her on the head and body with his fists, seizing her by the hair, and half strangling her. It was proved that she worked to keep the home going, and he spent the money on drink. Sentence: Forty days' hard labour.

Cruelty to a Dog
The Morning Post (April 24) reports case of a tobaccoist and a mortuary keeper summoned before Mr. Lister Drummond at the South-Western Police Court on charges of killing a dog with unnecessary cruelty by tying its mouth with string, half-strangling it with a hammer, and finally digging in a knife behind the ear, causing it to die a lingering death in great pain. Sentence: Tobaccoist fined £10, with 2s. costs; mortuary keeper, six weeks' hard labour.

Reckless Driving
The Times (April 5) reports case of a man summoned at Greenwich Police Court before Mr. Symmons on a charge of driving a motor-car recklessly. He was fined £5, and nine people were injured, not fatally. He had been previously convicted of driving to the danger of the public, and had now lost his post in the sequence. The magistrate took the latter fact into consideration, saying he would otherwise have fined him £10. Sentence: £4 and three guineas costs, or one month's imprisonment.

JULIA DECIES
A Comparison
Our readers have not forgotten, of course, that a woman, about to become a mother, is serving a sentence of seven years' penal servitude for attempting to murder the man who had treated her so badly that the jury recognised the great provocation she had had, and recommended her to mercy.

Compare her case with that of Edward Bryan, charged at the High Court, Glasgow, before the Advocate-Depute, with murder of his wife (see Aberdeen Evening Express, April 22). He had made a brutal assault on her by throwing her down, repeatedly dashing her head on the floor, kicking her, and striking her on the head and body with a blunt instrument, in consequence of which she died next day. When the alarm was raised by the neighbours he was said to have remarked, "She has got more than that before and survived it."

For the defence it was shown that the home had always been wretched through the woman's drinking habits, that she had sometimes assaulted her husband, and the daughter had been forced to leave home at fifteen. A Parallel Verdict
The jury found the accused guilty of culpable homicide (to which the charge of murder had been altered at the instigation of the Advocate-Depute), committed under strong provocation, and they recommended him to the leniency of the Court.

His Lordship passed a sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment. We do not quarrel with the leniency of this sentence, but with the severity of the sentence passed on the woman in the other case, whose provocation was at least as severe (many women would consider it more severe), and whose deed was immeasurably less brutal, and was not followed by fatal consequences. It is impossible to compare these two sentences without being forced to the conclusion that in the view of administrators of the law a wife's body is held infinitely cheaper than that of any man.

ANOTHER COMPARISON
Daily there are cases in the paper which demonstrate the injustice of the sentence upon Julia Decies in comparison with those passed upon men who murder, or attempt to murder, their wives or other women. The Daily News (April 17) recorded such a case of a labourer charged before the Swindon magistrate with attempting to murder his wife in bed. The defendant brought a number of counter-charges against her, alleging that she pawned his clothes to buy cigarettes and drink, starved their child, and drove him into a state of madness. She admitted the pawning and smoking, but denied the other charges. The charge was reduced to one of assault, and the man was sentenced to a month's imprisonment. Again, our quarrel is not so much with the leniency of this sentence as with the shameful severity of the one passed on

HEAVY SENTENCES
Petty Theft
The Sheffield Daily Telegraph (April 7) reports the following cases, all dealt with at the West Riding Quarter Sessions:— A labourer, charged with the theft of a garden hose at Huddersfield. Sentence: Twelve months' imprisonment. A clerk, charged with twice obtaining food by false pretences, at Oakworth and Keighly. Sentence: Eighteen months' imprisonment. A man, charged with the theft of an overcoat at Huddersfield. Sentence: Three years' penal servitude.

Demanding Money with Menaces
The daily papers (April 22) report case of a porter charged before the Recorder at the Central Criminal Court with sending a letter to a woman whom he did not know, demanding £50 with menaces. Sentence: Eighteen months' hard labour.

Attempted Burglary
The Times (April 21) reports case of a young man charged at Croydon Police Court with attempted burglary and assault on a constable. He was caught prising open a window with a jemmy, and in the struggle that followed he knocked the constable down. He was charged on a charge of "having house-breaking implements in his possession." Sentence: Three months' hard labour.

Julia Decies, whose condition was so much more pitiable in consequence of her treatment by the man Piffard, and her provocation so much greater than in the case of the labourer who also attempted the murder of a person in bed—but that person happened to be only his wife!

IF HE HAD BEEN A SUFFRAGETTE!
We are glad to see that Mr. Plowden sternly rebuked the young Austrian, described as "of independent means," who was charged at Marylebone Police Court with damaging a whip belonging to the Press cart of the Women's Social and Political Union, on Friday last week, but who in reality made an improper attack upon the horse while Miss Sheppard, the driver of the cart, was collecting goods inside a house, and, when she came out and intervened, tried to force her to the ground.

The defendant, who made no attempt to apologise, said that what he had done was intended as a demonstration against the Suffragettes, who had "interfered with him both in Austria and in England," but admitted that it was "a little bit silly."

Mr. Plowden: Well, I cannot improve on the word by which you have described your own conduct. It was silly—extremely silly—and if the horse which you seem to have lashed had had a quarter of the spirit of the Suffragettes a very serious accident might have happened. His Bark Worse than His Bite
Mr. Plowden then sentenced the man to pay a fine of 20s. and 6s. 6d. for the whip, or go to prison for fourteen days. Of course, there are magistrates who would not have done so much as that when the plaintiff was a Suffragette. But remembering that Mr. Charles Gray got six weeks' hard labour merely for laying his hand upon Mr. Lloyd George's shoulder, two years ago, we should like to know what sort of a sentence would have been given to that young man in Marylebone Police Court if he had been a Suffragette and his victim the horse of a Cabinet Minister, even if he had not treated the latter as roughly as he did Miss Sheppard?

THE UNMARRIED MOTHER
Speaking of work done in helping the unmarried mother to support herself and her child, Mrs. Deane Streetfield, Chairman of the Chelsea Committee that manages a branch of this work, said it was believed that 90 per cent. of the girls on the streets in Piccadilly took to that life in order to support a child. What a charge to bring against a system that is thought to be so well conducted that the woman's help is not needed to improve it!

WOMEN WITH VOTES ABOVE SUSPICION
"Women not suspected as they have votes in the Isle of Man," says the Illustrated Chronicle (Newcastle) in reference to the recent outbreak of fire in the official residence of the Governor of that island. We are glad that our contemporary recognises that revolutionary actions are the inevitable outcome of the denial of constitutional rights.

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INCOMES OF HUSBANDS AND WIVES

According to an article in the Standard it is possible for a wife, in accordance with the Budget of April, 1911, which provides for the joint assessment of incomes of husband and wife to learn from the income-tax officials the exact financial position of her husband. Under this Act, as interpreted by the writer of the article, any wife called upon to state the amount of her income for the purpose of this joint assessment (she not being chargeable on her own income separately) may demand of the Special Commissioners to be shown how they arrive at the amount charged upon her so that she can check the accuracy of their calculation.

Some Wives Actually Know!
This course has actually been pursued by some wives, says the same writer, with the result that in their reply the Commissioners have furnished the applicants with full details of their husband's incomes.

This does not seem to us a specially grave defect of the present Income-tax law so long as the wife is ordered to disclose the amount of her income to the husband, and, failing to make that disclosure, renders him liable to imprisonment (as in the case of Mr. Mark Wilks); or in face of that much graver injustice to the wife, dealt with in our leading article last week, by which her income is only rendered taxable through being added to her husband's, and any rebate due to her is paid to him and is only recoverable from him at his own pleasure. But the suggestion that a wife should be able to find out anything about those worldly goods with which her husband has promised sentimentally at the altar to endow her has raised such a storm of apprehension in the minds of those who have hitherto thought themselves safe in their incomes to be immune from the curiosity of the endowed one, that the following question was put in the House of Commons last Monday:—

Mr. Cassel asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in cases in which a separate return of income is required from a wife, pursuant to Section 11 of the Revenue Act, 1911, the amount of the husband's income is disclosed to the wife; and whether this is contrary to the oath of secrecy?

Mr. Lloyd George: In the circumstances mentioned the wife is not informed of the amount of the husband's income, and no disclosure is made contrary to the oath of secrecy.

What Does It All Mean?
Judging by this answer, either the writer of the Standard article has been misinformed and no wife yet breathes in this country who has forced the disclosure of her husband's income from the Special Commissioners, or he is correct in his facts and the Commissioners have broken the oath of secrecy as laid down by Mr. Lloyd George or Mr. Lloyd George, in his anxiety to soothe the agitated husbands represented by the gallant Mr. Cassel and at the same time to defend the Budget of 1911, has wittily—but not that, to use his own historic phrase, is an imputation of deep dishonour that we refuse to discuss!

TAX RESISTANCE
On Wednesday, April 22, there was a most interesting open-air meeting in Upper Street, Islington, when Dr. Jessie Murray, of Endsleigh Street, Tavistock Square, protested against the seizure and public sale of her carriage clock owing to her refusal to pay Imperial taxes.

On Wednesday, April 22, goods belonging to Miss Rose were sold at the Victoria Sea owing to her refusal to pay Imperial taxes. Tax Resistance in John Burns' Borough
On the evening of Friday, April 24, Mrs. Beaumont Thomas and Mrs. Sutcliffe had goods sold by public auction because of their refusal to pay King's taxes. The sale took place at Warren's Auction Room, Battersea Rise, and afterwards a procession, with banners flying, wended its way to Mossbury Road, where a protest meeting was held.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES

Deprived of all political power, the nurses are seeking to promote their Registration Bill, so essential to their professional and economic status, by means of an explanatory petition. This will be presented to the Prime Minister by Dr. Chapple, M.P., who is in charge of the Bill; it is signed by the Chairman of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, Lord Amptill, and by the honorary secretaries, and will be supported by an appendix signed by 600 matrons and superintendents of nurses from all parts of the United Kingdom.

Sir Victor Horsley's Support
At the annual Conference on Nursing and Midwifery, held this week at West-Julian calling upon the Government to accept Dr. Chapple's Bill for the State Registration of Nurses. Registration would consolidate the profession, and would improve education, conditions of work, and the social status of nurses. It would also make it possible for them to secure a proper remuneration for their work. "People say to me," said Sir Victor, "that nurses are fairly well remun-

nerated. I think exactly the opposite. I am perfectly certain that a great deal of the shortage of nurses at present is due to that simple fact. The public did not realise that the question was not only one of advantage to the nursing profession but primarily it was a question of public health. Surely the public would not tolerate it if they realised that children with infectious fevers were now being left in the homes of the poor, because the fever hospitals could not take them in.

Resolution Carried
Lord Knutsford stated several objections to registration, and a protest signed by 244 matrons and a number of others interested in nursing. A vote resulted in the resolution being carried by a large majority, however.

ANOTHER WOMAN AS CHAIRMAN
The appointment of Miss Musselwhite to be Chairman of the Croydon Board of Guardians adds another to the women officials who prove so conclusively that women are perfectly capable of entering public life on an equality with men.

A WITTY DISTINCTION
Miss Cicely Hamilton, responding to the toast of "British Dramatists at the O.P. Club dinner" on Sunday, said very wittily that she doubted if there was a very witty woman's point of view with regard to the theatre. She thought it was very much the same as the man's point of view. The only difference was that the man did not want it to be the same. When the woman writer really brings more money into the hands of the man, she would have emancipated woman from what was really the great burden of womanhood, and that was the undesired admiration women got.

CORRESPONDENCE THE PRISONS BILL

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Editors,—I consider you are carrying out a public duty by calling attention to the attitude on women and on the liberty of the subject, in the Prisons Bill now before Parliament. No such attack on the liberty of the subject has probably ever been made within the memory of anyone now living. I consider its two main objects are (1) To rob political opponents in order to bring more money into the hands of a grasping and mercenary Government; (2) To take away all power of resistance against injustice and oppression from women by reducing them to a state of financial dependence. There is little doubt that could any Government obtain money by this movement, it would only be too glad for it to continue indefinitely.

I viewed with apprehension and suspicion the recently carried resolution, which allows payment of fines by instalments, as it is not only a far worse punishment to fine poor people than to give them short terms of imprisonment, but it also introduces the corrupt system (under the specious disguise of humanity and mercy) of bringing money contributions into the administration of justice. The Bill now introduced fully justifies my apprehension, and a firm resistance against its august provisions must be made by all lovers of fair play, if necessary by public meetings all over the country, demanding its withdrawal.

Such a Bill loudly proclaims the urgent necessity for Woman Suffrage, as it is mainly aimed at women, and would not be possible if they had the protection of the vote. Should such an iniquitous measure become law, the assertion that women's interests are safeguarded by a Parliament responsible only to men will be shown up to be what it really is—a false and hollow sham.—Yours, &c., CHARLOTTE E. IRELAND, Villa Bristol, rue Louis Philippe, Neuilly-sur-Seine, April 26, 1914.

THE PLUMAGE BILL

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Editors,—As a humanitarian and a Suffragette I protest against the remarks made by Mr. Glyn Jones in the House of Commons last week against the passing into law of the Plumage Bill. Many thousands of enlightened women (not a few being Suffragettes) would scorn to wear in their hats speyres torn from living birds. To such the loss of the Bill will be a heartfelt disappointment. I think we women could punish the enemies of the Bill far better still by abstaining from wearing speyres and redoubting our efforts to educate the thoughtless and indifferent women who care neither for votes nor humanity. By this means we could show our righteous indignation at the un-called-for remarks of the member for Steyney and at the same time ruin a trade so disgraceful to civilisation.—Yours, &c., 22, Dyson Road, Leytonstone, N.E.

[Our correspondent does not seem quite to realise that without votes women can do nothing effectual to secure the passing of any legislation, humanitarian or otherwise; and that the defeat of the Government in Committee on the very Bill which she advocates would be a serious blow to the Government's failure to fulfil their pledges to Suffragists and the consequent lame efforts of the Member for Steyney to offer

the woman a privilege they do not seek as compensation for the constitutionally right they demand in vain.—Editors, VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

THE BAN ON MARRIAGE

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Editors,—I have never argued against a woman having a vote, I am quite convinced in this respect. But I totally disagree as to the retention of married teachers or doctors in the L.C.C. upon marriage, and further, to leave children in charge of a nurse or anybody else is asking for the breaking down of home-life.

Which is the greater evil—to use the talent of a woman (married) in the interests of the public service at the moral expense of her children, or to allow her to honour her position as a mother in the home?—Yours, &c., E. C. LUN, 15, Brodia Road, Stoke Newington, N. April 22, 1914.

[Our correspondent has missed our point. Married women of the leisured classes have a free choice in the matter and in the vast majority of cases choose to employ hired and trained experts to look after their home and family. We demand that the same freedom of choice should be allowed to professional women, and that there should be no compulsion upon any woman either to give her time to her home or to work outside the home.—Editors, VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

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ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE

2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. President: Lady Forbes-Robertson The "Australian" at Home, to be held at the Arts Centre to-day (Friday), is being looked forward to with great interest. That delightful entertainer, Miss Grace Jean Crocker, has kindly consented to give a recitation for the Civil Service Women's Suffrage Society, at the Essex Hall, on April 28. We are glad to inform members and guarantors that the profits from the "Woman's Theatre" have far exceeded all expectations, and are now being divided among the various Suffrage Societies selected by the guarantors. The "Costume Dinner," to be held at the Hotel Cecil, originally fixed for May 4, has been postponed until Monday, June 29, when we anticipate a far greater number of guests, as the event will take place in the middle of the season. Full particulars will be given later.

UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

3, Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C. Telephone: Regent 5150 Colours: Purple, White and Orange Committee

Miss Lena Ashwell Mrs. H. D. Harben Mrs. Gerald Gould Miss Evelyn Sharp Mrs. Henry W. Nevison Mr. John Scarr Mrs. H. H. Gillies Mr. J. M. Maillard Mrs. Ayrton Hon. Secretary Mr. Charles Gray, Secretary

Public Meeting.—Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., on Thursday, May 21, at 8 p.m. Tickets, numbered and reserved, 2s. 6d. and is, unreserved, 6d., to be obtained on application to the Ticket Secretary, U.S., 3, Adam Street. Speakers:—Olive Schreiner, John Scarr, Gertrude Popencorn, Eddy Olive, Douglas Eyre, Evelyn Sharp, Chair, Miss Lena Ashwell.

Drawing-room Meetings.—At Dr. Corthorn's, 30, St. Mary Abbot's Terrace, Kensington, W., Wednesday, May 6, at 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Ayrton Gould and Mr. H. W. Nevison. Invitations on application to Ticket Secretary at 3, Adam Street. Others announced next week.

Poster Parties, to advertise the public meeting, will take place every Tuesday (beginning May 5) at 3 o'clock, and every Saturday (beginning May 9) at 11 a.m. Will poster paraders kindly send in their names at once to the Hon. Secretary?

Members' Meeting.—This is held in the offices at 3, Adam Street, every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. Last Thursday's meeting was well attended, and resulted in new members being enrolled. Miss Rosika Schwimmer, the well-known Hungarian Suffragette, spoke humorously on the political and militant opposition to the movement in her country.

Election Campaigns

Walworth and Southwark West.—In both constituencies campaign going well, but more canvassers badly wanted. Weekly meetings.—Thursday, April 30, at 8 p.m. Corner of Walworth Road and Liverpool Street. Speakers:—Miss Hickey, Mr. E. Mewett, Mr. C. Gray.

Monday, May 4, at 8 p.m.: York Street. Speakers: Mrs. Gould, Mr. P. C. Darby.

Central Hackney.—New Campaign started here. Weekly meetings, Tuesday, at 8 p.m., beginning May 5, junction of Kingsland Road and Boleyn Road.

Branches.—Amersham: Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Drinkwater. Two meetings arranged; drawing-room on May 5. Speaker: Rev. J. M. Maillard. Garden meeting, May 12. Speaker: Mr. George Lansbury.

Stroud: Hon. Secretary, Miss Edelman. Public meeting, May 23. Speakers:—Mr. George Lansbury, Miss Evelyn Sharp.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM AT OLYMPIA The Woman's Kingdom, organised by the N.U.W.S.S., has been to Suffragists by far the most interesting section of the Children's Welfare Exhibition at Olympia, which closes on Thursday in this week. The woman motor instructor, the woman consulting engineer, the woman ready to give every kind of information about women's trades—these are all signs of the times, exhibition features that could not have existed as "side-shows" in any other exhibition. It is a pity that extra payment is demanded for entrance to this most attractive corner of Olympia, for otherwise it would have made, perhaps, a wider appeal than it has under the present arrangement.

Sweated Industries We hope, for instance, that many people who are not Suffragists visited the section set apart for sweated industries. It might give them the glimmering of an idea as to why women are working and fighting so hard for the vote, to protect the working woman and save her from being exploited. In the words of the Daily Herald: "Here a woman with a baby a few months old makes men's shirts for 6d. per dozen. She works ten or twelve hours a day to earn 5s. a week. Her baby sleeps on a heap of clothing beside the sewing machine (he has grown used to the noise), and is only picked up to be fed. "Another woman joins the uppers to the soles of boys' boots. If she works very hard from 6.30 a.m. till 9 p.m. she can earn 1s. 8d., out of which she must pay 2d. for materials. Women make baby's long gowns, and, working twelve hours a day, earn 5s. a week. There is a child's coat made for 10d. which takes 5 1/2 hours to make. "There are samples of beautiful hand-made lace, for which the makers, who grow blind at the work, are paid from one penny to twopence per hour for their labour."

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Difficulties in Ladies' Tailoring. Speaking of the course open to the Government of arresting the Ulster leaders on a charge of treason felony, the Manchester Guardian says: "There is, however, considerable opposition to taking this course, and the difficulties of getting a conviction for a political offence from a jury are obvious." (The italics are ours.) To us, as Suffragists, the difficulties are not at all obvious. When we recall the two Suffrage Conspiracy Trials of 1912 and 1913, in which more than one person who had never taken any part in the militant agitation were included in a vague charge of conspiracy, found guilty by a jury, and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, we cannot say that we think juries are troubled by scruples of the kind hinted at by the Manchester Guardian. Surely a jury capable of sending people to prison as dangerous conspirators on such flimsy evidence as the presence of a hammer and other carpentering implements in a writing desk, or the damning fact of their having been known to stand bail for militant women, is capable of convicting men who have openly imported guns and other armed forces to be used against the Crown!

enjoyable time. The potato race, arranged in four heats, was perhaps the most amusing, bursts of laughter greeting the efforts of some of the competitors to balance a large potato in a small teaspoon. The winner in the final heat was Miss Needham, who thoroughly deserved her success. Other competitions included candle-lighting and character-guessing, the latter providing amusement for everybody. The stalls were in the hands of Miss Phyllis Lovell, Miss Dorothy Lovell, Misses Hindle, Misses Needham, Miss Hoyle, and Miss Smith, and character-reading from handwriting was carried out by Mrs. Lovell. The energetic organising secretary for the district, Miss Phyllis Lovell, is always working hard in connection with the Votes for Women Fellowship, and I hope her latest efforts have met with the success they deserve.

COMING EVENTS "Votes for Women" Fellowship Meetings Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak at the Suffrage Club, St. James', on May 8, at 8.30 p.m. Subject: "The Political Aspect of the Woman's Movement." Chair: Mrs. C. A. V. Conybeare.

Lancashire Centre Organiser: Miss Phyllis Lovell, Wingate House, Ainsdale, Lancashire.

The Lancashire Organiser is at Home to members and friends every Monday evening at 15, Houghton Street, Southport, from 8 to 9 o'clock.

Other Meetings The New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage will hold a Public Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, at 3 p.m., in the New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. Speakers: Mr. J. T. Grein and Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence will speak on the "Interconnection of Votes and Wages," at the International Franchise Club, on May 6.

The Women's Freedom League holds Public Meetings at the Caxton Hall every Wednesday, at 8.30. Speakers for May 6: Mr. Geo. Lansbury on "The Religious Duty of Revolt," and Mrs. Mustard. Chair: Mrs. Johnson.

Under the auspices of the Irish Women's Franchise League, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak at a meeting at Sackville Hall, Dublin, on May 14. Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington will preside.

The United Suffragists will hold a Public Meeting in the Portman Rooms, at 8 p.m., on May 21. Speakers: Olive Schreiner and others. Chair: Miss Lena Ashwell.

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Becoming Blouse in good quality white voile, nicely trimmed with fine embroidery.
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Dainty Blouse in white voile, trimmed with fine beading and Swiss embroidery. Newest form of collar, trimmed with embroidery.
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OB 61. "Spanella" Shirt. Can be buttoned close to the neck or worn open. In a variety of colored stripes on Ivory ground, or plain Ivory. All sizes 13 to 14 **12/9**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Single insertion, 24 words or less, 2s., 1d. per word for every additional word (four insertions for the price of three).

All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, Votes for Women, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

NET SUNDAY'S SERVICES

HIGHER THOUGHT CENTRE, 40, Courtfield Gardens, Cromwell Road, S.W. 11.30, Miss L. Stacey. 7, Mrs. Annie Rix Milliz, Doré Gallery, 35, New Bond Street. 11.15, Miss Helen Boulton.

M. MARY-AT-HILL—Church Army Church, Eastcheap. Sundays, 9 and 6, views, orchestra, band. Prebendary Carlile.

CONCERTS

MEMORIAL HALL, MANCHESTER.—Tuesday, May 19, at 7.30 p.m. Concert by Hope Squire and Frank Merrick. Works for two pianofortes. Tickets 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., at Messrs. Forsyth Bros., Deansgate, Manchester.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE MEETINGS.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY for Women's Suffrage, Tuesday, May 5, at 3 p.m. New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. Mr. J. T. Grein, "The Drama as an Ethical Force," and Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE holds public meetings at Caxton Hall each Wednesday afternoon. Speakers, May 8th: Mr. George Lansbury, "The Religious Duty of Revolt"; and Mrs. Mustard. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Johnson at 3.30.

BOARD RESIDENCE, Etc.

ABSOLUTE Privacy, Quietude, and Refinement, no extras. At the Strand Imperial Hotel, opposite Gaiety Theatre, ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters; sumptuous bedroom with h. and c. water fitted; breakfast, bath, attendance, and lights from 5s. 6d.; en pension 9s.; special terms for long stay; finest English provisions.—Managers, 4788 Gerard.

BRIGHTON. — TITCHFIELD HOUSE, 21, Upper Rock Gardens, off Marine Parade. Good table, congenial society. Terms from 25s. week.—Mrs. Gray, W.S.P.U.

DEAN FOREST, SEVERN-WYE VALLEYS.—Beautiful Holiday Home (600ft up); pretty grounds, bath, billiards tennis, Boarders, 30s. Photos, prospectus.—Hallam, Littledean House, Newnham, Glos.

DEVONSHIRE.—Homestead, Seaford, Emsworth. 30s., no extras. Sunny southerly rooms; extensive view; hot baths; late dinner.—Miss R. Williams.

FOLKESTONE.—"Trevarra," Bouverie Road West. Board-residence, excellent position, close to sea, Lens, and theatre; separate tables; moderate terms; private apartments if required.—Miss Key (W.S.P.U.).

LANSDOWNE PRIVATE HOTEL, Worcester Park, S.W. Thirty minutes from town; three minutes from station. Tennis, croquet, Badminton, billiards. Terms, moderate and inclusive.

RESIDENTIAL Club for Ladies.—Cubicles from 18s. 6d. per week with board; rooms 25s.; also by the day.—Mrs. Campbell-Wilkinson, 49, Weymouth Street, Portland Place, London, W.

WEST HEATH HOSTEL, Lyndale, Hampstead.—Designed to give freedom and comfort to visitors or workers. Lovely garden. Telephone 5497 Hampstead.—Apply, Mrs. Errol Boyd.

TO BE LET OR SOLD.

AMERSHAM COMMON.—To let, newly furnished and decorated, modern country cottage, five rooms, air specially recommended for nerves.—Box 540, Votes for Women, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street.

CHILTERN HILLS.—Small, comfortable-furnished house to let; now to August; six guineas month. Amersham station half-mile; no children.—Percy Carter, Chesham Bois.

LARGE ROOM to let, suitable for Meetings, At Homes, Dances, Lectures. Refreshments provided.—Apply Alan's Tea Rooms, 263, Oxford Street.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY'S HALL in Knightsbridge to be let for meetings, &c.—For all particulars apply Secretary, N.C.S.W.S., 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.

BOOKS

64-PAGE BOOK about HERBS and HOW TO USE THEM, free. Send for one.—Trimmell, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond Road, Cardiff. Established 1879.

"IF IT WERE TRUE" explaining Spiritual Meaning of Women's Militancy, obtainable, 7s. 6d. per 1,000, 10d. per 100 leaflets, from M.W.V.S., 26, Grand Parade, Brighton.

EDUCATIONAL

ADA MOORE gives Lessons in Singing and Voice Production; diction a speciality.—106, Beaufort Mansions, London, S.W. West End Studio. Visits Brighton weekly.

LINDUM HOUSE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.—Boarding School for Girls on Progressive Thought lines. Principal, Miss Richardson, B.A. The school stands in its own grounds where tennis, hockey, and cricket are played. Home care. Thorough tuition. Entire charge of children coming from abroad.

MODERN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, Letchworth.—Principal, Miss Cartwright, M.A.; staff includes specialists and University graduates; pupils prepared for professional entrance examinations; bracing moorland air; home comforts.

MRS. MARY LAYTON, F.R.C.O. (Hon. Organist to the W.S.P.U.). Voice Lessons in Singing. Singing Classes and Ladies' Choir. Please note change of address to "The Chalet," 2, Fulham Park Road, S.W.

NORFOLK COLLEGE, Rathgar Road, Dublin.—Sited in one of the best suburbs of Dublin. Large and well qualified staff. Sound, liberal education given. The boarding-house is under experienced management and adjoins the school. The girls' health and well-being receive the utmost consideration. Full particulars on application.

GOD'S WORD TO WOMEN has never been a word of disapproval and suppression. The Bible, when correctly translated and interpreted, encourages the fullest development of all woman's powers, and teaches her equality with man in every respect. Do you wish to equip yourself with Scriptural arguments for those who use the Bible as a block to woman's emancipation? Do you wish to know where and how it is misinterpreted? Then send 7d. (35 cents) in stamps for the new improved (third) edition of "The Woman's Catechism," which answers 101 questions about woman's place in the Bible, and at the same time gives an outline of the teaching of the first year's course of the Women's Correspondence Bible Class.—Katherine Bushnell, 3, Leicester Street, Southampton.

PROFESSIONAL

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