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Notes.

IF there is any truth whatever in the rumour that it has been suggested that the Minimum Wages Bill should apply in the first instance to women only, we have therein another irrefutable argument for the granting of the Franchise to women—*vide* our cartoon on p. 26.

WHILE by a large majority the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians have consented to women students being admitted to the examinations of their College, the Royal College of Surgeons has for the present refused. We earnestly hope that the Council of the latter College will see their way to remove this sex qualification when they meet in October.

Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.

Weekly Numbers, 1½d. a week post free. Quarterly Subscriptions, 1s. 8d.; half-yearly, 3s. 3d.; yearly, 6s. 6d. All Subscriptions must be paid in advance. Back Numbers can still be obtained at the Office.

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

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

'WOMEN'S FRANCHISE,'
EDITORIAL AND PUBLISHING OFFICE,
13, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.

The paper is on sale at Messrs. Smith & Son's Depots.

IN an interesting note in a weekly contemporary, Mr. Alfred Sedgwick announces the discovery of a pamphlet published by J. Dawkins in 1739—fifty-three years before Mrs. Wollstonecraft Godwin's 'Vindication of the Rights of Women'—entitled "Woman not Inferior to Man; or, a Vindication of the Right of the Fair Sex to a Perfect Equality to Men. By Sophia, a Person of Quality." Mr. Sedgwick, who thinks of republishing the pamphlet, is anxious to know of any biographical facts relating to Sophia.

AT the Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, to be held in Aberdeen from October 12th to 15th, the main subject for discussion this year is to be 'The Training and Practice of Citizenship.'

A BALLOT is being taken among the Fellows of the Chemical Society as to admitting women to the Fellowship. Surely sex distinction will no longer be allowed to bar the way to Fellowship in this and other learned societies, or we shall be forced to ask ourselves once more, what is learning without wisdom?

WE watch with much interest the correspondence which is taking place week by week on Women's Suffrage in the pages of *The Nation*. One letter signed "A Liberal Woman" struck us as particularly good. What fills her with surprise "in the letters written by women Liberals who think the enfranchisement of their sex a matter of secondary importance, is the absolute want of appreciation, not only of the value of a vote to a sex, but also of the value of womanhood as a sex.....They seem unable to realize that the vote is the keystone and hall-mark of freedom, the beginning and foundation of the power to protect one's independence of thought and action." She ends her brilliant letter with an appeal to "all who love fair play; to the lawyers who are keeping women LLB.'s out of their profession; to the Universities who are keeping their degrees from women who have earned them."

WE are delighted to see that the two representatives of the women who did so much to promote the success of the Pan-Anglican Congress are appointed on the commission to deal with the unappropriated thanks-offering.

THE Jewish community at Brondesbury have carried a proposal in which the United Synagogue is asked to extend the Synagogue franchise to lady seat-holders who are members in their own right. We hope the authorities will fall in with this suggestion. *The Jewish World*, says:—"Our own opinion on the subject is that, seeing that the mere male members of most of our London Synagogues have in recent years shown themselves to be decidedly apathetic to the welfare of their congregation, they cannot logically refuse to give the ladies a chance of improving matters. The Brondesbury proposal does not go the length of demanding for women seats in the Warden's Box or on the Board of Management, but it may reasonably be argued that, if the franchise were granted, the fact that the honorary officers would be directly responsible to a new and possibly more critical body of constituents would have a healthy effect on Synagogue management generally."

A CONFERENCE re Women Candidates for local governing bodies was held on July 9th in Kensington at the house of Mrs. Milholland, by her kind permission. Mrs. Theodore

Williams took the chair in the unavoidable absence of Ald. Mullins, L.C.C., who had been announced to preside. The purpose of the Conference was to promote the formation of local organizations, with a view to securing that suitable women candidates may in sufficient time be prepared to stand for the Town Council elections in November, and for future elections to Metropolitan Borough Councils, and to County Councils and other local governing bodies.

About eighty were present, mostly residents in and near London, but there were also friends from the counties of Berks, Bucks, Cambridge, Essex, Hampshire, Oxford and Sussex. The meeting was addressed by Miss Sutton, Town Councillor of Reading, and Mr. Coote of the National Vigilance Association. Local Conferences were recommended as a means of arousing interest, also classes for citizens' duties. There was a general expression of opinion in favour of the candidature of women on non-party lines where possible and where the candidates have not strong party convictions. It was made clear that the Women's Local Government Society, which convened the Conference, leaves to localities the promotion of the candidature of individuals.



Alice Jane Bull: "Where is the servant whose duty it is to answer the door?"

I've been knocking at it."

Par. Procedure: "Shouldn't do that—shouldn't do that. You let it alone," he panted out, "and it'll let you alone, you know."

But Par. Procedure told an untruth.

to her family, but to the society at large, and endeavours were being made to educate her for this wider sphere."

WE very gratefully acknowledge Miss E. Watson's kind offer to compile the Index for our first volume. We shall be glad to receive applications for these, as we propose to print a limited number only, and to charge 2d. each (postage ½d.), which it is hoped will cover the expenses of printing. We hope to announce the date of publication in our next issue, which date will also apply for filling the orders already received for volumes (price 6s.), which are now only awaiting the Index to be completed.

The Suffrage in Other Lands.

JUST now all other countries seem to have their eyes fixed on England, and the two subjects that chiefly occupy all the papers that have recently come to hand from other countries, are the London demonstrations and the Amsterdam Congress. I am therefore giving a few quotations from articles that have reached me.

The *Neue Freie Presse* says: "It is the height of the London season; the streets are gay with people, and the sun sheds an appearance of festivity over everything. But ten thousand women, dressed for the most part in light summer garb, and carrying hundreds of banners in blue and silver, red and gold, presented an unwonted spectacle, such as even the streets of London, accustomed to many a strange sight, had never before witnessed." Then follows a description of the eight sections of the procession of June 13th. "The quiet and dignified manner in which the demonstration was conducted made a distinct impression on the public, and the crowds that lined the roads greeted the marching women with almost invariable respect and undisguised amazement. Hitherto they had known the Suffragette only as a sort of Mænad, an excitable woman ready to engage in conflict with the police, and chain herself to the railings of a minister's house, and they were surprised to see women in this procession who looked and behaved just like anybody's sister, or wife, or mother. It was an extraordinarily varied and striking picture."

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* has a long article on the Suffrage movement in England, which points out that while England has not yet attained to Manhood Suffrage, the agitation in favour of this change is not a very serious one, since the limitations in the Franchise are due largely to accidental anomalies, or affect those grades of the population which are too wretched or too ignorant to set store by electoral rights. The real Franchise agitation is being conducted by the women, and the results of this agitation must not be under-estimated. "It is carried on by the leaders with exactly the same arguments which helped the founders of English democracy to carry their great Reform Bill, as though, in fact, women were a class apart, and an oppressed class to boot." After describing some of the proceedings of the militant party, the writer continues: "The movement is now abandoning its guerilla character, and proceeding on the acknowledged lines of an ordinary campaign. Of these one of the most important in this country is the public demonstration. London has recently witnessed two of these, the 'Ladies' procession on the 13th, and that of the people last Sunday."

The women's page of the *Berliner Tageblatt* says: "The laborious propaganda and preparation which the indefatigable Suffragettes had been carrying on for months throughout the country and in the capital, was brought to a brilliant conclusion on June 21st by the greatest demonstration which has ever been held in Hyde Park. The whole of London seemed to have turned out into the streets, and the omnibuses and trains were hard put to it to cope with the traffic." The processions are described and the scene in the Park, in particular the crowds that flocked to Miss Pankhurst's platform. Whatever the result of the meetings and the appeal to Mr. Asquith, it is certain, says the writer, that the agitation will continue. "These women are eager for the fray, full of confidence and fresh schemes, and there is absolutely no limit to the capacity and willingness of Englishwomen to pay the full price for the cause."

FINLAND.—The dissolution of the Finnish Diet has put a stop to some important legislative projects dealing with matters specially concerned with women, and in several cases initiated by the female deputies. Great energy is being shown in canvassing for the new elections, and an effort is being made to secure the election of at least as many women as sat in the last parliament. One of the women's associations has inserted an appeal in seventy-four papers, calling on the women to do their part. A pamphlet entitled 'To Arms in the Fight against Ignorance and Prejudice' points out that it rests with the women to guard their own rights.

A. ZIMMERN.

Correspondence.

Seaside Propaganda.

DEAR MADAM,—It has occurred to me that all Suffragists taking holidays at the sea might help on the sale of *Women's Franchise* by taking posters and getting them fixed up at the railway station and on the news-vendors' stalls on the parade, together with one or two copies of the paper to start off with. The posters would attract attention to the papers. I am trying this in Eastbourne. Yours truly, M. A. S.

16, Cambridge Road, Eastbourne, July 4th, 1908.

[We shall be delighted to supply the necessary material.—ED.]

Equal Wages for Equal Work.

SIR,—Coming fresh from the Paris Feministe Conference, where great prominence was given to 'Equal Pay for Equal Work,' I am particularly struck with the following advertisement in *The Athenæum* of July 4th:—

BRISTOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ST. GEORGE SECONDARY DAY SCHOOL.

WANTED, to commence immediately after the Summer Vacation, a FRENCH MASTER or MISTRESS. Candidates must possess good Academic qualifications, and an accent acquired by actual residence on the Continent. Good teaching and discipline essential. Salary—Master, 130*l.* per annum, rising by 10*l.* to a maximum of 170*l.*; Mistress, 100*l.* per annum, rising by 5*l.* to 130*l.* In calculating the initial Salary credit will be given for half-length service in a Secondary School under other Managers.—Forms of Application, which must be received here not later than JULY 8, 1908, may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to THE SECRETARY, Education Offices, Guildhall, Bristol.

I notice no offer is made to compensate the pupils if a woman is selected.

What can be the reason for any honourable and responsible public authority advertising a vacant post to women at 30*l.* per annum less than they offer to men candidates? It is obvious that, in the opinion—the expert opinion—of the Bristol Education Committee, no woman can possess quite such "good Academic qualifications" (which is strange when we recall *Punch's* cartoon of the Girton student entering the First Class Honours Compartment of the Cambridge Train labelled, "Ladies only"); that no woman's accent can equal a man's "accent acquired by actual residence on the Continent" (the Bristol authorities should really make inquiries, any servant at any continental hotel could be relied upon on this point); and lastly, that no woman can compete with a man in supplying the "good teaching and discipline essential." If School Inspectors, Heads of Training Colleges, and School Managers held this opinion, we should certainly have heard about it, even if it were only the case in Bristol.

What right have the Bristol experts to offer either an inferior teacher to their scholars, or an inferior salary to the best of the applicants, *man or woman*, for their vacant post?

The Ministry of Education in France, in appointing Madame Curie, did not, I believe, reduce the salary paid to her husband and predecessor. There are other things besides an accent which English people might "acquire abroad."

Yours &c.,

KATHARINE MANSON.

All Money to go to Help Win the Vote.

DEAR SIR,—It has been suggested already that all supporters of the Franchise cause should withdraw their subscriptions and donations from all other objects until our own is gained. I believe it would be very useful if, in addition to this, every one would reply to all appeals whatsoever, as I am now doing myself, that no financial help will be given to anything but Women's Suffrage until the vote is won. This is a more practical suggestion than a refusal to pay taxes, since the consequences of my method fall on others, while those of the latter simply fall on oneself. Also if we all divert our funds into the one channel, there will be less cause to collect for every Suffrage event.

I am, Sir, yours truly, ETHEL BIRNSTENGL.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

OBJECT.—To obtain the Parliamentary Suffrage for Women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to Men.

The Union is a Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies in Great Britain.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Secretary: MISS MARGERY CORBETT, B.A.

Treasurer: MISS BERTHA MASON.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS FRANCES HARDCASTLE, M.A. MISS WARD.
Telegrams: "VOICELESS, LONDON."

Organisers: MISS E. M. GARDNER, B.A. MISS MARGARET ROBERTSON.
Telephone: 1960 VICTORIA.

OFFICES: 25, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.

The Union will send Organising Agents, Speakers, or Literature to any place requiring them, its desire being to form a Women's Suffrage Society in every County and Borough. All persons interested in the movement, or desiring information about it, are requested to communicate with the Secretaries. Increased Funds are needed for the growing work of the Union, and Subscriptions will be gladly received by the Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1908.

Chairman—MR. WALTER S. B. McLAREN.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON
THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR
MISS FLORENCE BALGARNIE
MRS. ALLAN BRIGHT

MR. A. CAMERON CORBETT, M.P.
MISS EDITH DIMOCK
MISS I. O. FORD
MISS MARTINDALE, M.B., B.S.

MRS. BROADLEY REID
HON. BERTRAND RUSSELL
MRS. PHILIP SNOWDEN
MISS LOWNDES

MISS WARD
LADY STRACHEY
And the Hon. Officers,
ex officio.

Current Topics.

At Amsterdam we very much enjoyed hearing a Cantata and some delightful children's songs conducted by their gifted composer Miss Catherine van Rennes. Miss Van Rennes offers to set to music an international song, and she will probably come over to conduct it when the International Suffrage Alliance meets here next year. We should be very glad to receive words which would be suitable for the purpose.

Meetings have been recently held in Huntingdonshire, under the auspices of the National Union, to advocate the cause of Women's Suffrage. One took place on the 1st at the George Hotel, Huntingdon. Miss Constance Cochrane was in the chair, and was supported by Mrs. Alderton of the National Union, while among those present were the Countess of Dysart, Miss F. Cochrane, Mrs. J. Marshall, Mrs. C. Temple Layton, Miss Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Northcote, Mrs. A. Smith, Mrs. Stones, &c. On the previous evening there had been a meeting in St. Neots, the audience numbering about fifty.

The official list of speakers is being revised, and secretaries of all our Societies are asked to send in the names of local speakers to Miss Corbett as soon as possible; in this way the usefulness of the list will be much increased. A copy will be sent to every secretary.

The prize offered in the Banner Competition at the Pudsey Exhibition was divided between Miss E. Guest, Albert Lane, Stanningley, and Miss D. Blower, Radcliffe Lane, Pudsey. The six most popular banners were: (1) Artists' League; (2) Cambridge; (3) Education; (4) Australia; (5) Scriveners; (6) Holborn. The winners each had five out of the six correct and had arranged them fairly well in order of popularity.

We have received 2l. 2s. from Mrs. Whitehead, of Cambridge, for the 5,000 Guineas Fund.

Pembrokeshire By-Election.

SINCE Mrs. Stanbury joined us we have been able to hold two meetings every evening. This is a great advantage, as it is often impossible to collect an audience in the country districts except in the evening. We have continued our plan of pursuing candidates and securing their audiences before and after their meetings. On July 6th Miss Rowlette and Miss Macmillan managed in this way to get three successful gatherings. They saw both candidates. Mr. Roch expressed himself "very glad" to have been asked the question, and answered most satisfactorily. As usual they sold every badge they had with them to enthusiastic supporters. The same evening Mrs. Stanbury and I held a meeting at Narberth, for which I had prepared by chalking the pavements and sending round the town crier. We had a good many hundred listeners, and our meeting was well reported in the local paper. The following day we had two meetings—one in the Coronation Gardens at Tenby, where the audience is reported to have numbered 1,000; and the other at Pembroke Docks, where Miss

Macmillan and Miss Rowlette addressed two or three thousand men; and again on the following day in the dinner hour. On Thursday we did some house-to-house propaganda. We entered one cottage where the old woman greeted us with quiet dignity: "You've come fifty years too late for me." Our evening meeting at Tenby had been well advertised by the editor of the local Liberal paper, and the hall in which we held it was packed to its utmost extent. There must have been a hundred people standing, and hundreds were turned away. We were told that many "of the best people" were there. The meeting was a very successful one, and the collection more than covered its expenses.

Our heartiest thanks are due to Mr. Mason for the invaluable assistance which he rendered us in organizing the Tenby meetings, as well as for the loan of both the Coronation Gardens and of the public hall. We hope to get in a good many village meetings and in any spare time we may have we mean to travel backwards and forwards in the steamer between Pembroke Dock and Neyland, as we hear that hundreds of voters cross every day, and we may hold informal short meetings in this way. We could, of course, do much more if we had more workers; but the most crying need of all in a constituency like this—a need which is borne in upon us day by day and hour by hour—is a National Union motor-car. Who will give us one?

MARGARET ROBERTSON.

By-Election Organizer.

When Greek meets Greek.

MANY are the letters which appear in the papers from the enemies of Women's Suffrage. The vast majority bristle with untruths and false reasoning; but when a foe of Mrs. Humphry Ward's standing writes a letter to *The Times* dealing with the Suffrage movement in America, we are at least justified in expecting accuracy as to facts. It is interesting, therefore, to see that Dr. Anna Shaw, the President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, whose splendid speech at the Albert Hall on our Procession Day all who were present will remember, takes up the cudgels in defence of her sex and country, and in an admirable letter to *The Times* of July 8th refutes Mrs. Ward's statements one by one.

In answer to Mrs. Ward's assertion that the Woman Suffrage movement in America is "now in process of defeat and extinction," Dr. Shaw tells us that "not only is 'the membership of the National American Woman Suffrage Association larger now than at any time in its history, but within the past four years the movement has been endorsed by many of the most influential organizations in our country. In the year 1904 339 organizations (not Woman Suffrage societies) officially reported to our National Headquarters that they had taken such action. Since then this number has been so largely increased, that we now have the endorsement of over 500 organizations, comprising several which have a membership of hundreds of thousands."

Regarding Mrs. Ward's statement that "in two States—Connecticut and Ohio—the abolition of the School Suffrage has actually been discussed." We learn that an unofficial discussion to abolish School Suffrage was made a few years

ago in Ohio, but there was such a vigorous protest in consequence from both men and women, that the legislators assured them there was no intention of altering the School Suffrage law, and at the present time there are more than a hundred women on the school boards of Ohio.

Mrs. Ward sheds crocodile's tears over "the untoward fact that at the present moment there is no woman upon either the New York or the Boston Boards of Education," due, she concludes, to "the general disapproval and opposition which the Woman Suffrage movement has excited." It is strange that Mrs. Ward does not appear to know that the School Board is not elective, but appointed by the mayor in New York City, and women are looking forward to the day when sex jealousy will be overcome and they will be appointed on to it. Mrs. Ward also ignores the fact that in the rural districts and small towns of New York, where women have the vote, there are scores of women on the School Boards, the President of the New York Suffrage Association having been also President of the School Board of her city for many years.

Mrs. Ward points out that "the important thing for us to notice is that the Suffrage movement has been checked, and will be ultimately defeated, by women themselves. In Oregon an amendment of the Constitution bestowing the Suffrage on women has been rejected within the last two years by a 10,000 majority. The women organized; they issued an appeal to the men 'not to mistake the clamour of outsiders for the sentiment of the home-loving women of Oregon.'"

Dr. Shaw's answer is deeply interesting, and will prove useful to our speakers, writers, and organizers in their propaganda work. She says: "It is true that a Constitutional amendment was defeated by 10,000 votes in Oregon, but it is not true that this defeat was brought about by that little band of women known as the Oregon Association Opposed to the Extension of the Suffrage to Women. The amendment was defeated by the same powers that have opposed every step of woman's enfranchisement from the beginning of the movement in the United States, and these are combined avarice and vice."

After the election in Oregon the paid agent of these 'powers' told in a newspaper interview how it had been accomplished. He gave the number of men employed to defeat the amendment; how much money these men were paid, &c.; but he never even mentioned the Anti-Suffrage Society. The organized liquor interest and a powerful railroad corporation defeated Woman Suffrage in Oregon, and used more than 300,000 dollars to do it. The real protest which influenced the election was not the appeal of the little band of so-called 'home-loving women of Oregon,' but the appeal which the State Liquor Dealers' Association sent to the 2,000 retail dealers in the State, demanding that each one of them should pledge to secure 25 votes to secure the 50,000 votes necessary to defeat the Woman Suffrage amendment in order to continue the liquor business in the State."

Mrs. Ward replies to Dr. Shaw's letter in *The Times* of July 10th. Her answer does not strike us as satisfactory. She contradicts Dr. Shaw's statement on Oregon by reference to an anonymous correspondent. Considering how much at variance are the reports over here as to the causes for defeat or success at an election, we cannot attach much importance to a statement not backed by a name carrying the same authority as Dr. Shaw's. At the same time we feel our thanks are due to Mrs. Humphry Ward for drawing such an admirable statement of the case from Dr. Shaw. The latter's letter will be of great assistance and encouragement to us all in our fight for justice and truth against misrepresentation and ignorance.

Advice to Exhausted Suffragists.

AFTER perusing the "confidential" circular of the Anti-Suffrage League, we would suggest to every overworked Suffragist that she may recuperate for a time by joining the Anti-Suffrage League, which states that "You are invited to become a member of the Central Organizing Committee, which, however, would not entail any definite work." Cheered by this remark, we are surprised to find the next sentence begins, "Some expenditure will necessarily be incurred."

Mrs. Fawcett's Appeal.

WE have received the following sums in response to Mrs. Fawcett's appeal for 1,000l. to carry on a summer campaign:—

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------|----|----|---|
| Miss Alice Head | | £0 | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. Cruickshank | | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Hamer | | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Joan Drew | | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Mrs. Cowell | | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Mrs. Eve | | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Ida Samuel | | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. Lawrence | | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. Simm | | 1 | 1 | 0 |

£12 7 0

Lady Lovat and Women's Suffrage.

It is very interesting just now to watch the quaint weapons produced by the opponents of Women's Suffrage from the old armoury of arguments. Some of these weapons have been repaired, polished, and in a few cases highly ornamented, so that at first sight they present quite an impressive air of novelty. It is also amusing to see these weapons in unskilled hands doing more damage to the person wielding them than to the Suffragists whom they are intended to lay low.

The latest anti-Suffragist combatant to enter the field is Lady Lovat in *The Nineteenth Century* of this month. She may be described on the whole as a gentle antagonist—as, indeed, becomes the "old-fashioned" true woman on whose behalf she claims to speak. The blows she deals fall, in most cases, wide of the mark, but her gift of prophecy is marked, and when she prophesies she makes you creep.

The reader has considerable difficulty in arriving at any clear idea of what Lady Lovat is aiming at, and becomes a little dizzy in following the gyrations of her statements; but by the help of an illustration on p. 2 of her article we learn that Lady Lovat looks upon Shylock as the type of the Woman Suffragist—not the Shylock who is foiled by Portia's judgment, but a ruthless, dauntless Shylock, who exacts his pound of flesh, regardless of death and confiscation of property, and who insists on slicing it off Bassanio—who, presumably, typifies the male elector, while Portia, the true woman, looks on helpless and horrified.

After this lurid opening, which has at least the merit of novelty, the reader is naturally braced up to prepare for the worst. The worst, however, is the effort to reconcile Lady Lovat's statements with each other.

"The problem before us," says Lady Lovat, "seems to me, therefore, to turn, not so much upon whether women are capable of making the best use of the vote, as to whether the advantage they and humanity in general would derive from it would be at all commensurate with certain inevitable loss."

To our mind it would appear precisely to turn on that capacity. Be that as it may, Lady Lovat evidently considers women unfit for the vote, as the following summary shows:—

"If widows and spinsters were enfranchised they would, in the ratio of 10 to 1, be admittedly faddists who neglect the thousand claims of suffering humanity forced upon them in order to endow homes for 'our dumb friends.' Followers of the latest fashionable craze, whether it be Socialism or table-turning, and the rabid anti-vivisectionist. [Widows and spinsters please note.] To enfranchise married women would be unthinkable: it would set Britain in a blaze."

Here is where the spirit of prophecy comes in so handy for the anti-Suffragist. Lady Lovat proceeds, however, to say that "married women would, in the majority of cases, follow their husbands' lead, and in the divided household it would but add to the many debateable subjects on which man and wife may differ." Why the husbands should lead their wives to commit arson we do not know; but if true that married men are incendiaries it would point to the desirability of their imme-

diate disfranchisement. Apparently wives do not differ from their husbands on political questions now, but would do so at once when they were given the Franchise. Why? "Hitherto man has had it all his own way in the active domain of politics. Woman has used her influence; she has pulled the strings." If this means anything it must mean that man is the machine which places the voting paper in the ballot-box, while the woman tells him where to put his X. This may account for some of the men found amid the anti-vivisectionists, Socialists, and table turners. Such a state of things calls again for the immediate disfranchisement of men, for any one capable of being influenced to that extent is clearly unfit for the vote.

Lady Lovat thinks that women ought to follow those well-indicated paths in which nature and the common sense of mankind (and by mankind her own sex should be included) has hitherto held her restrained. That these restraints are only restraints in the sense that law is a restraint to the evildoer; and she quotes Ruskin in her support as follows:—

"By her office and place she (woman) is protected from all danger and temptation. The man in his rough work in the open world must encounter all peril and trial; to him, therefore, must be the failure, the offence, the inevitable error. Often he must be wounded or subdued; often misled and always hardened; but he guards the woman from all this; within his house as ruled by her, unless she herself has sought it, need enter no danger, no temptation, no cause of error, no offence. Pretty—isn't it?—this Elysium which women enjoy; and yet, in spite of it they will pursue their "mad career for the Parliamentary vote." Later, however, Lady Lovat asks: "Is it not that the interests and aspirations of man and woman should be identical, so that they should labour hand in hand, the one contributing what the other lacked in the great work of social regeneration?" The reply is, naturally, Yes; but how Lady Lovat proposes that man and woman should labour hand in hand if the woman is to stop at home and be protected we do not know.

Lady Lovat says it is the earnest wish of all "true women" that woman's sphere in the future should be an ever widening one for all good and useful work, and that she (woman) will maintain the high ideals of the past (with the exception, we presume, of the widows and spinsters who, according to the writer, are hopelessly out of it); but she does not think "that these ends can be obtained by the present outcry against limitations imposed by natural laws," for that "is contrary to all experience, as well as the instinct of mankind." Certainly if natural laws are against Women's Suffrage, the anti-Suffragists may sleep peacefully in their beds. Natural laws can generally take good care of themselves. As to the "instinct of mankind" being "wise and far-seeing" in debarring women from the franchise, this we may take leave to doubt, judging by past mistakes made by mankind in legislating for women. It was, no doubt, an instinct of mankind which made man say to his wife, "With all thy goods I me endow"; but these instincts have been curbed and corrected by a sense of justice, and there seems to be a growing preference for reason and common-sense as opposed to instinct on the part of our rulers.

Lady Lovat concludes her article by replying in these words of Cassius to those women who differ from her: "The fault is not in our stars... but in ourselves that we are underlings."

Suffragists will be grateful for these words; they are a reminder that it lies with ourselves to win our enfranchisement. Our stars have not doomed us to perpetual exclusion from the citizenship of our great country, but our opponent must have forgotten that a few pages back she warned us that "chivalry and reverence" for women would be destroyed if woman left "her own sphere," and descended from "her pedestal." Furthermore, she quoted Ruskin to show that "we are foolish, and without excuse foolish in speaking of the superiority of one sex to the other, as if they could be compared in similar things."

Woman can accomplish many things, but I doubt whether she can be on a pedestal and at the same time be an "underling." We may take it for granted, I suppose, that those poor widows and spinsters to whom my thoughts sadly revert have no pedestals, although they have no votes.

EDITH PALLISER.

Branch Societies.

CHELLENHAM.—During Pageant week we have been busy every day giving out leaflets, not only to the persons visiting the Pageant, but to the people lining the streets to watch the performers go by. 'To Working Men' has been distributed with some success, few men refusing copies, while 'Why Women Need the Vote' has been largely accepted by the women. A white dress, scarlet ribbon, and badge make the distributor at once recognizable as "one of those Suffragettes."

Some of our members have also helped the local branch of the Women's Freedom League in its vigorous and successful outdoor campaign carried on during the last fortnight. Our President, Mrs. Frances Swiney, has spoken several times at these gatherings, and others have helped. **THEODORA MILLS.**

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Woman's Forward Movement was discussed under ideal conditions on July 9th, in the charming grounds of Park House, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Arnold Shaw. An invitation had been given to the young ladies in the different business houses of the town, but they appeared very shy in responding. When we remember how closely their lives are affected by legislation, as, for instance, Seats for Shop Assistants' Bill, and other important measures, we are surprised they were not more keen to identify themselves with the movement. The Society which arranged the meeting—viz., the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—has been at work for forty years doing quiet educational work, and should be supported by all women who believe in constitutional methods for obtaining the vote. Much interest was taken, the majority of those present gladly availing themselves of the opportunity of obtaining literature on the subject. Dainty sandwiches and lemonade were thoughtfully provided by the hostess at the close of a very enjoyable gathering.

Want of space obliges us to omit reports from Fleet, Southampton, and Warrington. We hope to publish them next week.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

| July. | | | |
|-------|---|--|--------|
| 17th | London, N. Hackney, Garden Meeting | Hostess, Miss Richards Chair, Miss Lowndes Speakers, Mrs. Stanbury, T. Hart-Davis, Esq., M.P. | 6 P.M. |
| | Wandswoth, Garden Party | Hostesses, The Misses Hill and Miss Fyfe Chair, E. Wood, Esq., J.P. Speakers, Miss Corbett, Miss Hill Chair, Watson Caldecott, Esq. Speakers, Miss Eden Lewis, H. Y. Stanger, Esq., M.P. | 4.30 |
| | Wolverhampton, Public Meeting | | |
| 18th | London, Wandswoth, Drawing-Room Meeting, 31, Spencer Park, Wandswoth | Hostess, Mrs. Shillington Chair, Miss V. Shillington, D.Sc. Speakers, Miss Emily Hill, Mr. H. J. Ross Bell Hostess, Miss Abadam | 3.30 |
| | Norwood, "At Home" | | |
| 20th | Redhill, Open-Air Meeting | Speakers, Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson H. Y. Stanger, Esq., M.P. | 6 |
| | Birmingham, Public Meeting, Midland Institute | Hostess, Miss Adeney Speaker, Miss Hammond | |
| | Reigate, Garden Meeting | Speaker, Miss Hammond | |
| | Cranford, Reigate Open-Air Meeting | Hostess, Mrs. Thomson Speaker, Miss Janet Case | |
| 21st | London, Highgate, Suffrage Tea | Hostess, Miss Foster Newton Speaker, Miss Hammond | |
| | Richmond, Invitation Meeting | Speaker, Miss Abadam | 8 |
| | Stratford, Women's Co-operative Guild, Meeting of Members re Suffrage, Workman's Hall, Romford Road. | | |
| 23rd | Bermondsey, Debate, "Temperance and W.S.," Christ Church Branch of Church of England Total Abstinence Society | Opener, Miss Swankie Cameron | 8 |
| | Marylebone, Garden Meeting | Hostess, Miss Hallowes Speaker, Mrs. Wilson | 8 |
| 25th | Paddington S., Garden Meeting, 50, Porchester Terrace, W. | Speakers, Mrs. Hodgkinson, Mrs. Hylton Dale, J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., and others | 4.30 |
| 27th | Reigate, Open-Air Meeting | | |

* * * Kindly address all communications relating to the work of Societies in the N.U.W.S.S. and all paragraphs intended for these columns to Miss Hardcastle, 25, Victoria Street, S.W.; to reach her by first post Saturday.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Women's Freedom League (late W.S.P.A.).

Telephone: 15143 CENTRAL.

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

NATIONAL OFFICES: 18, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNRO.
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. GRAHAM MOFFAT.

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

National Hon. Organising Secretary: MRS. BILLINGTON-GRIEG

Notes.

WHALES, BEES, AND SEED POTATOES.—It is our duty at this juncture to examine carefully the list of great Imperial measures which are occupying or will occupy the time and attention of the present Government to the exclusion of less pressing business. We all know that this democratic Government, while pining to enfranchise women, is so weighed down by the mass of constructive work handed down to it by a reactionary and Tory oligarchy, that it is impossible to add to its programme. Last week, in preparation for the autumn holidays, the Prime Minister assured his followers that never had there been such an exceptionally industrious set of men capable of getting through measures of national urgency in such a short space of time. Having thus raised them in their own estimation, he further astonished them by telling them not only what they had achieved but what they were going to achieve. Achieved: Pensions for Poor Dead Veterans of Industry, two Public Health Bills, two Scottish Laws. To be achieved: Friendly Societies Bill, Expiring Laws Continuation Bill, Bee-pest Bill, Seed Potatoes Bill, Whale Fisheries Bill, and several others equally urgent from the point of view of the safety of a free nation. The Bill for the continuation of expiring laws was suggested by the difficulty experienced in reviving a certain law of Charles II. during a recent period of national danger. It will contain the following clause:—*Section I.* Any law (however ancient) containing provision for the execution of rebels may be revived by any magistrate (however ancient) at a moment's notice. *Section II.* In any penal act where the term rebel seems to imply male rebel it shall for purposes of the said Act be interpreted female rebel. Of course it will not be worded in this rude, simple way. The lawyers in the House preponderate sufficiently to enable them to draft this or any other Bill in such a manner as to render it quite incomprehensible and open to fifty interpretations (otherwise how should lawyers live?), but it will work out as above. In reviewing the work of the last Parliamentary Session the worst enemies of the Government must admit that it has remained true to the great tradition of Liberalism, and in spite of "pin-pricks" has gallantly upheld, defined, developed, and defended the rights of—whales, bees, and seed-potatoes.

THE BAR OF ENGLAND.—The lawyers have been giving Mr. Asquith a dinner. The after-dinner speeches did not err on the side of modesty; self-laudation being the prevailing note. Without lawyers in Parliament it seems the country would be handed over to "the twin dangers of Socialism and the Suffragettes." Mr. Asquith disguised the alarm which makes him choose underground passages and backdoors as exits when women are about, under a thin veil of jocosity. In recalling the legendary character who was torn to pieces by feminists, Mr. Asquith added, "happily history does not always repeat itself." However we may remind Mr. Asquith that human nature remains fundamentally the same. Mr. Asquith's person may or may not be safe, but of his seat in Parliament and of his reputation the same cannot be said.

We do not entirely endorse Mr. Tulliver's opinion that law is a sort of cock-fight, in which it is the business of injured honesty to obtain the services of one rascal to fight it out with another—the biggest rascal winning, but a lawyer's training is certainly not a good qualification for a politician. We need honesty and a desire for justice in politics rather than subtlety and a desire to win the case. Besides lawyers hold too important a stake in the law to be fair-minded and disinterested law makers.

A Review.

By DR. ALICE DRYSDALE VICKERY.—continued.

Our present land and marriage laws are based upon legal fictions instead of facts. But those who ask for the franchise want to do away with legal fictions. They prefer to regard men and women as separate responsible individuals. Further still, there are some who think that men and women might, with mutual advantage, at this stage of the world's advancement, be permitted to make their own contracts according to their own preferences, economic position, and capacity for management, direction, and co-operation.

The intimate relation of husband and wife, with its complexities as to mutual personal and economic relations, parentage, and relations to society are, strange to say, not arranged according to the wishes of the individuals whose happiness is at stake, but by outsiders—clerical, legal, and political—in accordance with the tenets of a false moral, economic, and physiological standard, which is every day becoming more and more unworkable.

Dr. Earengy goes on to show the inequitable nature of the divorce laws, and makes the very pertinent criticism: "If adultery alone were a sufficient cause for divorce there seems little reason to doubt that man's moral code would improve, and that the problem of the streets would probably be brought some distance nearer to a solution. This problem is not likely to arrive at a speedy solution under the present regime, which allows two moral standards—one, as Mrs. Billington-Grieg puts it (a moral one), for women, and another (an immoral one) for men.

Judicial separation, magisterial separation, together with restitution of conjugal rights in turn receive notice, and attention is drawn to the impolicy of separations which, Dr. Earengy declares, are fruitful sources of immorality, since the parties concerned are incapable of marriage during their joint lives. Divorce, he urges, should be considerably extended, and allowed to men and women alike without distinction.

Wife's Maintenance and Agency.—The law on this point is a curious example of the kind of logic which legal minds bring to bear on the problems they are supposed to solve. The direct method of giving the wife, who devotes her energies to the regulation of the household, a direct claim on the husband for maintenance, or recognizing her as joint owner of his capital and income, would presumably be too simple and straightforward. A circuitous method is preferred. Therefore the wife is entitled to pledge her husband's credit for necessities as his agent, or if he forbids this and she becomes chargeable to the parish, the Poor Law Guardians may sue him for the cost of any relief supplied to her. A most undignified position truly. Surely our English law makers might with advantage, on this point, take a hint from our French neighbours. The same economic conditions do not apply with equal justice to all married couples; for we see around us to-day an infinite diversity in the possessions and earning powers of the conjoints, and they alone should arrange the terms which best apply to their own case.

Chap. iii. deals with woman as mother, and here again one feels, with the author, aghast at the injustice which the mother is subjected to, and at her indisputable natural status being subverted. Truly does Dr. Earengy show how the most elementary canons of justice are ignored, and how the masculine intellect prostrates itself in its adoration and glorification of mere masculinity and paternity. When shall we see the womanhood of the nation exhibit an equal appreciation and glorification of maternity and femininity?

Chap. iv. deals with business and industrial matters, and the author draws attention to the increasing interference of the State with the right of the adult woman to labour and obtain the necessaries of life for herself and for her children according to her own judgment of their needs. Feminine logic might suggest the reasonableness of a claim on a due proportion of the earnings of the husband and father. In any case the author shows that the interposition of the legislature is all in the direction of imposing burdens and enforcing restrictions.

Chap. v. deals with inheritance, and shows the slow and gradual tendency toward the removal of the most glaring injustices. Much, however, yet remains to be done. Women who are not yet converted to the realization of the need for the vote should study this chapter attentively, and try to realize the relative lack of respect and the indifference which its provisions imply with regard to the motherhood of the nation.

Chap. vi. deals with criminal law. Here we perfectly agree with Dr. Earengy that the "privileges" of women, which arose out of the state of subjection in which she formerly lived "being in constant and well-grounded fear, stronger than the fear naturally inspired by the law," have no justification for their continuance at the present time. "A conception of matrimony," says the writer, "scarcely befitting the twentieth century."

Chap. vii. deals with the Parliamentary, Municipal, and other franchises, and here the author says: "Woman's alleged inability to take a share in public affairs is traceable to the position of inferiority and dependence which the 'Age of Chivalry' enforced upon her. Women could and did hold public offices as owners of property, but not in a representative capacity. Peeresses in their own right, however, were entitled to a personal summons to Parliament, and to give the king the benefit of their counsel." The Representation of the People Act (1832) conferred the Parliamentary franchise on various classes of persons not previously entitled thereto, but expressly granted (shall we not rather say restricted?) the right to "male persons of full age and not subject to any legal incapacity."

There is a view of the logical outcome of representation so restricted that I have never yet known put forward, and that is that since a male Parliament restricted the right of representation and legislation to male persons, it should have been held to follow that the laws they made and the taxes they imposed should likewise have been held to apply to "male persons only."

To-day I hear in *The Daily News* of June 24th of a noble and fair-minded man who protested against being called upon to try a woman for an offence against laws which only men have made and which only men are permitted to administer.

The constitutional argument has not yet been seen in its full significance, for no Government can be constitutional which puts outside the pale of electors more than one-half of the inhabitants of the country, and then claims payment of taxes where no representation exists.

The Magna Charta of England, the so-called charter of England's liberty, claims the right of every citizen to be tried by his peers. Women are not acknowledged as citizens. They are never tried by their peers. Here is work for the Men's League. Let them oppose by all means in their power the imposition of repressive laws upon women by men who have usurped authority. Therefore if women should withdraw themselves into an organization of their own: to meet, to frame laws for their own guidance and control, they would only be doing something to fill in the lapses and omissions which characterize governments limited by masculinism. This, of course, is a digression by the way. In the meantime we would say that this little book cannot be too highly praised, both for the spirit of justice and fairness which characterizes it, from the first page to the last, and for the clearness with which women's legal limitations are summarized and explained.

We hope that all claimants of "Votes for Women" will read and study it thoroughly from the beginning to the end.

[We regret that owing to want of space we have been obliged to omit the Birmingham and East Fife news.—ED. W.F.L.]

Visit of the National Executive Committee to Cheltenham.

THE National Executive Committee has held its first meeting in the provinces, Cheltenham being the selected place. Splendid preparations were made by the local branch to give us a hearty reception, and the members of the Committee retain very pleasant memories of the warm welcome extended to them, and of all that was done for their comfort.

Mrs. Sproson went in advance to help the members hold some open-air meetings. Such meetings, in the interests of Women's Suffrage, are still a novelty in the town, and some men, not all of them sober, caused much interruption, and attempted to knock the speakers from their chairs. The meeting broke up in confusion, the banner was torn, but the chairs were rescued. A policeman advised the chairman to go, and when she refused to run away, he remarked, "It is too hot for me," and disappeared. The open-air meetings will be continued.

At the reception on Friday evening Dr. and Mrs. Earengy received the guests, and during the evening Mrs. Coates Hansen, Mrs. Sproson, and Mrs. Despard spoke. The duologue 'Granny's Decision,' given by Miss Hodgson and Mrs. How Martyn, was received with appreciative applause, and they were asked to give it again on the following evening.

At the meeting on Saturday evening in the Town Hall, the audience was small but enthusiastic, and several new members joined the branch. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Billington-Greig, and Mrs. Sanderson spoke. If any left unconverted, they did so in silence, for no word of dissent was heard from beginning to end.

The August committee will meet at the Caravan, wherever that happens to be.

The plan for the September meeting in Scotland holds good. E. H. M.

Pembrokeshire By-Election, Haverfordwest.

ON Saturday afternoon we addressed a large meeting in the Castle Square.

Mrs. Sproson was very forcible in her arguments and drove home many hard facts, much to the discomfiture of the numerous Liberals in the crowd. Her answers to the many questions drew loud applause, the men appreciating her thorough knowledge of what she was talking about.

One novel feature of the afternoon was the advantage taken by the prospective Liberal candidate for Glamorgan, Mr. Crawshaw Williams, who addressed the crowd upon Adult Suffrage from a window of the Castle Hotel. He is a very young man, who says he believes in working women having votes, and tries to beguile us into agitating for Manhood Suffrage. Of course he calls it Adult Suffrage. After Mrs. Sproson's remarks he asked to be allowed to put a question; but as he endeavoured to make a speech, the crowd refused to listen unless he came down into our vehicle. On our invitation he complied with their request, and made a nice patronizing speech on Adult Suffrage. But Mrs. Sproson's reply on our behalf was much more convincing, and had far more weight with the audience. After all, we mean what we say, which cannot be said for parliamentary candidates.

We held another successful meeting in the evening, wedged in between those of the Free Trade Union and the Tariff Reform League.

SATURDAY.—Haverfordwest, Pembroke.
MONDAY.—Pembroke Dock, Neyland, Milford, Solva, St. David's, Goodwick.

TUESDAY.—Fishguard, Newport, Haverfordwest.
WEDNESDAY.—Narberth, Saundersfoot, Tenby.

COMMITTEE ROOM: McKenzie's, New Bridge, Haverfordwest.

The constituency is a wide one, stretching over the whole county. Our display of posters and literature is attracting considerable attention, and our badges, as usual, are selling well. So far the people have taken well to the Suffragettes, and agree that the vote should be granted; but the Liberals are strong here, and, as in Scotland, they resent our opposition to their candidates. ALICE SCHOFIELD.

Caravan Campaign.

AFTER the exciting campaign at Tunbridge Wells we found Goudhurst very peaceful and comforting. But lack of opposition generally goes with apathy, and to a great extent this is what we had to confront in the village of Goudhurst. But, with many helpers to stir things up, we managed to hold three meetings—Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, at which Mrs. Hicks, Miss Bennett, Miss Cowen, and Miss Hicks spoke. We quite understand these country folks' point of view; it is difficult to feel strenuous-minded or militant in the midst of cornfields scarlet with poppies, and hedges of dewy honeysuckle, and sweetbriar surrounding the caravan, and wide horizons showing purple shadows, save where the sunlight makes gold the distant hills. But notwithstanding the lotus-eating tendency, we girded on our armour and went off to the fray. We met it next day at Cranbrook. The rest of our officers had returned home, leaving Miss Bennett and myself to fight the foe alone. We took up our stand in the Market Place, beneath the shadow of St. Dunstan's. Our strongest opponents were a sore-headed Liberal and a fat old lady, who clung to the Market Cross and made an impassioned declaration against us and our disreputable behaviour. However we rallied ourselves against the opposing force, and soon the victory was ours. We decorated between fifty and sixty soldiers with the Legion of Honour, "Votes for Women" badges.

On to Tenterden, where we had a victorious meeting on Tuesday night followed by another on Wednesday. All the men in Tenterden Town are prepared to lay down their arms and make peace with their women comrades. Joined by Miss Eustace Smith, we made our way to Wittersham. We laid siege to the town on Thursday eve in the midst of slow-falling rain. With enthusiasm we make a further attack to-night (Friday). MURIEL MATTERS.

WE have gratefully to acknowledge receipt of the following sums for the Van Fund:—

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Miss D. de J. Le Lacheur | £6 0 0 |
| Miss M. M. Le Lacheur | 6 0 0 |
| "A Sympathiser" | 3 0 0 |
| Miss Bennett | 2 0 0 |
| Mrs. Drysdale | 1 1 0 |
| Mrs. Stansfield | 0 10 0 |

This we think a very good beginning for the 30%. we asked for before the end of the month. Even more encouraging are the letters our "Vanners" continually receive; here is an extract from one, out of many such.

"I think your Caravan Tour is just the thing that is needed now. I had been wishing that the leaders of the movement would have gone round the country, so that when they undertook their militant action they might have the sympathy of the country at their backs. But you and they working together 'insurrection and education adopted simultaneously' must surely soon bring success."—M. S. C.

Branch Notes.

Edinburgh Branch.—At a meeting held in India Buildings last night, Miss H. H. Forbes read a paper on the Children's Bill at present before Parliament. Several speakers pointed out that all such legislation was bound to be more or less unsatisfactory, while our only method of dealing with defaulting parents was to give them board and lodging for short periods at the expense of the taxpayers. Labour colonies, by which parents could be made to contribute to the support of their offspring, were absolutely necessary. This method had been tried in Austria and elsewhere with satisfactory results. Women ratepayers were also urged to do their duty with regard to the Infant Life Protection Act, now incorporated in the Children's Bill, as, without the co-operation of public-spirited women, this important section was likely to remain very much of a dead letter.

Manchester Branch.—A general meeting of this Branch was held on July 2nd. The Secretary's report of the Demonstration of June 13th was received with much enthusiasm. It

has been decided to comply with a request for speakers received from Leeds, and arrangements are being made for Miss Hines (Hon. Secretary) and Mrs. Dean (Hon. Organizer) to address a meeting there. Our best wishes for the success of the newly formed branch go with them.

We have been most fortunate in obtaining an excellent room at 47, Mosley Street, which has been tastefully decorated and furnished; and branch meetings will in future be held here every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. The opening of the new premises will take place on Wednesday next, the 15th inst., and is to take the form of an "At Home," to which all friends and sympathizers are heartily invited. It is hoped that all members will do their utmost to be present. M. B.

London Council.

ACCORDING to the arrangements made with the London Theatre of Varieties, Limited, two of our members—Miss Irene Miller and Miss Molony—have appeared at the Islington Empire each evening during the week, and have delivered short addresses on the subject of "Votes for Women." After the first night both speakers secured a good hearing; the element of opposition grew gradually smaller and beautifully less until Friday, when Miss Irene Miller might have been speaking to a gathering of our own members—for all the interruption there was. It is difficult to gauge the results in a move of this kind, but I think we may say that it has been a valuable, as well as a novel, form of propaganda. And it has been decided to continue the good work this week at the Grand, Clapham Junction.

On behalf of the Council, I thank Miss Irene Miller and Miss Malony for having undertaken this hard and unaccustomed work, and also those ladies who have supported them on the stage. I hope that other volunteers will not be lacking if it is arranged to continue the speeches at other halls under Mr. Gibbons's control. Facilities have already been offered for addressing the audiences at the Balham Music Hall; but this is a more difficult undertaking, owing to the distance, particularly as ours is the last turn on a lengthy programme.

In conclusion, a word of thanks to Mr. Masters, Mr. Gibbons's general manager, and to Mr. Montague, the manager of the Islington Empire, who introduced our speakers during the week. MARIE LAWSON,

Hon. Sec. to The London Council.

Cycling Corps.—The next meet will be on Saturday the 18th inst., at Duke Street, Adelphi, at 3 o'clock, for a run to Tottenham, where a meeting will be held. All communications for the next fortnight should be addressed to Miss Buckland, 18, Buckingham Street, W.C. E. M. BUCKLAND (Captain).

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS. July 16th to July 24th.

| | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| Thurs. 16. "At Home," Caxton Hall | L. A. Atherley Jones, Esq., K.C. M.P., Mrs. Despard | P.M. 3.30 |
| Central Branch, 18, Buckingham Street, Strand | Mrs. Holmes | 8 |
| Fri. 17. Kilburn High Road | Hampstead Branch Members | 6 |
| Sat. 18. Garden Meeting "Elmwood," Bickley, by kind invitation of Mrs. Fels | Mrs. Despard Mrs. Bewick Colby Miss Margaret McMillan Mrs. How Martyn | 4 to 7 |
| Sun. 19. Battersea Park, S.W. Gate | Mrs. Duval and others | 3.30 |
| Brockwell Park, S.E. | | 3 |
| Finsbury Park, N. | | 3 |
| Wandsworth Common | Mr. Duval and others | 12 |
| Mon. 20. Willesden Green | | 6.30 |
| Tues. 21. Kilburn High Road | | 6 |
| Thurs. 23. "At Home," Caxton Hall | | 3.30 |
| Hyde Park | Mrs. Toyne and others | 8 |
| Fri. 24. Cricklewood | | 6.30 |

Pembrokeshire By-Election. Meetings daily, Pembroke, Haverfordwest, and district

* * * All communications intended for the Women's Freedom League columns should be addressed to The Editor, W.F.L., 18, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C., and must reach her not later than first post Saturday morning.

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

OFFICE: 38, MUSEUM STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

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

Hon. Treasurers: GOLDFINCH BATE, H. G. CHANCELLOR.
Hon. Literature Secretary: A. S. F. MORRIS.

Notes and Comments.

It is with great pleasure that we call the attention of our readers to the subjoined report from Mr. E. W. Hendy regarding the new Manchester Branch. The Hon. Secretary of the London Society has been in correspondence with Mr. Hendy and Mr. Sam Brooks on behalf of the central and branch committees, and we are able to say that the adoption of the branch by the London executive is purely a matter of routine.

The new branch, as we have already indicated, and as Mr. Hendy's report shows, is a very strong one, and there is no doubt at all that it will adopt a very active policy. Preparations for an inaugural public meeting are already in hand, and the Women's Suffrage cause will be a very prominent feature in Manchester elections in the future.

We regret to say that our friends in Liverpool have a harder row to hoe. An open-air meeting in the populous suburb of Waterloo resulted in what can only be described as "a row." Our energetic representative, Mr. Allerton, was refused a hearing, and with his friends was escorted to a place of safety by the police. Still the work goes on, and those of us who have known what it is to be on a platform which is "rushed" have learned practically what women have to submit to in their struggle for recognition as citizens. We are told that women are better off with chivalry than with citizenship; we are told that it lies with the women themselves to get the vote. We regret that experience shows both these statements to be false.

The Literature Secretary, Mr. A. S. F. Morris, asks us to remind our readers that those who are working for the cause cannot do better than circulate the following two pamphlets: the verbatim report of the speeches delivered at the Queen's Hall meeting on December 17th (by Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., the Earl Russell, Rev. R. J. Campbell—"Women and the Social Evil"—Israel Zangwill, and Canon Hicks), and Mr. John Russell's 'Sex Symphony.' Both of these pamphlets are priced 3d.

Great preparations are afoot for the improvement of this journal during the next year. We are not yet able to give details, but we urge our readers to be on the look out, and especially to make the paper more widely known. During the holiday season our friends should take the opportunity of bringing it before new circles of possible readers. The problems which are before the Editors will be greatly simplified if the circulation is increased, and the improvements contemplated will be more rapidly effected, and also on a larger scale.

The Epigram Competition.

SPACE has hitherto prevented our publishing an epigram which in our opinion ran the prize verse very close. We rather regretted, indeed, that we had not offered a second prize, which would certainly have fallen to S. C.

THE A(NTI) S(UFFRAGE) S(OCIETY).

This dim quiescent thing, which ponderous lies,
Bestirs itself at last to organize
And lead a propaganda. But, alas!
A wondering world beholds it as the A.S.S.

S. C.

Manchester.

A MEETING of the Manchester Branch was held in the Portland Café on Tuesday, 7th July. Prof. Alexander presided. A letter from the secretary of the London League, approving the suggested alterations in the rules of the branch, was read. The rules as altered were then confirmed. Another letter from the secretary of the London League, approving the suggestion that a member of the Manchester Branch should be co-opted to the London Committee, was also read, and it was left to the Manchester Committee to appoint such member. Mr. H. V. Herford was elected hon. treasurer. It was mentioned that there would be a public meeting early in October, and it was left to the secretaries to arrange for speakers. The meeting considered what part the branch should take in the W.S. and P.U. demonstration in Heaton Park on the 19th July. After some discussion it was decided not to have a Men's League platform, but to attend as stewards. Members were asked to attend an open-air meeting of the League at Marshall's Croft on the 9th July, and the exhibition of the banners designed by the Artists' League, which will be held by the North of England Society in the Memorial Hall on the 16th and 17th July. All members who were willing to act either as speakers or stewards at Suffrage meetings were asked to send in their names to the secretaries. It was announced that a considerable number had already responded.

An open-air meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Men's League was held at Marshall's Croft, Higher Broughton, on the 9th inst. Mr. Duguid, who had organized the meeting, and Mr. Kirkley, another member, spoke. The meeting was also addressed by Mrs. Annot Robinson, of the Women's Social and Political Union. The audience, which numbered some hundreds, was respectful and sympathetic. E. W. HENDY.

Correspondence.

[The Men's League is essentially a non-party organization, in which all shades of political opinion are represented. For this reason we feel bound to state that the League is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.]

DEAR SIR,—Your correspondent Walter Davidson in his letter of June 18th, asks what the publicity of the Suffragettes amounts to. It amounts to this. Whereas three years ago the general public knew little of the question of Women's Suffrage to-day there is no question more widely discussed than "Votes for Women." Three years ago people might be pardoned if they professed an ignorance of the existing demand for Women's Suffrage. To-day that demand is strikingly in evidence, and every man, woman, and child in the United Kingdom has heard of it. Three years ago "Votes for Women" was scarcely ever mentioned in the public press—to-day you can hardly take up a book or magazine without finding some mention of the question.

If the methods so objected to by your correspondent have done nothing more than this—they have not been in vain.

Yours faithfully, ALBERTA RUSSELL.

26, Franconia Road, S.W.

SIR,—Such attacks upon women as those quoted in a recent number from the *Academy* suggest that Mrs. Browning was not far wrong when she said, "The world's male chivalry has perished out"; but she wrote of England. Would an editor who published such letters go quite unpunished in America, where husbands and brothers set so high a value on their women, even though the anonymous writer might escape unscathed? Yours truly, G. C. HAY.

DEAR SIR,—I noticed in last week's number of *Women's Franchise* words to the effect that Women's Suffrage had been gained in Denmark. This is a mistake. What was gained in Denmark last April was Municipal Suffrage for women and eligibility. Yours truly, M. G. FAWCETT.

Woman's Freedom.

CHATS ABOUT PERSONS AND BOOKS.

No. 7.—An Harbourouue, &c.—(continued).

BUT Arist. 3. polit. saith that cities be euil gouerned by women. What, by al or by some? if he saye by all, we can reprove him by many instances: if he saye by some: we can saye the same of men. So that you se: that these be no oracles which you bring in out of Aristotle, wherby (if you haue no better authoritie then this) you can not put them out of possession. In this poynte I can not but think you much blame wurthy, not that maliciously (as many do) you peruert the sayings of the authors: But for that negligently, you passe them ouer without waying and understandinge their sayings, without conferring and matching place with place, and saying with saying. For if in the citinge of Aristotle you had ioigned the Ethikes with the Politikes, I surely beleue, that you wold haue made him none of your iury in this matter. . . . And there in the Ciuile Court, you enter your actio' against us, and find the doctors fauorable to pronounce with you in this plea here I must sew a demur against you and answer you as Hermog: calleth it παραγραφικός that is with exceptio' against the court. I sai therfor that this mater belongeth not to the ciuil law, but to the municipal law of England, for like as euery felde bringeth not forth al frutes: so is not one law mete for al countries. I grant that the ciuil law is the best, the perfightest and the largest, that euer was made: yet comprehendeth it not al things in al countris, nor at the making and gathering therof in Iustinia's time by Tribonianus, Dorotheus, and Theophilus, were all countries and prouinces so known to the Romaines, that they could prouide al laws that shuld be for al necessary. Wherfor in apoynting us to be ordred bi the ciuil law you offend in iustitia distributua as Cyrus in Xenophon did beinge a childe: wiche finiding a great boy to haue a little coate, gaue sentence, that the greater boye shoulde haue the greater coate, and the little boye the little coate. But his master corrected hym for his iudgemente. For it was not to bee iudged by the greatnes or smalnes, but which was whose: a'd so euery one according to iustice to haue his owne. In like maner you shuld not loking upo' the ciuil law, and weying how good by it is, how larg and indifferent it is, geue it as the great coate to Englande, no more than you wolde apoint the English law, which is the litle coat to Rome our lawe muste direct us, because it best agreeth with our country, we haue no further to do with the ciuil law then in arch matters, that is for testaments, mariages and such other, as for landes, and inheritance, pains for offences and many other poynts touching the law, as we shall in some poyntes declare. Wherfore to burden us with the ciuil law? is asmuch as if you shoulde perswade the Scottes to use the Garamantes law, to kil men at 50 and women at 40, because the countrey being somewhat barren, can not wel norish such, as by their age can do no greater good. But that you may see, that the ciuil lawe, and oures, agreeth like harpe and harrowe: we will confer them in a few poyntes. And because this matter whereof we treat, concerneth enheritance: we wil first speake of inheritance. In England the Eldest sonne inheriteth, the fathers lamdes only, sauing in Guel kind. And in mi opinion it is good pollicie, for the continuance of houses. For nothing soner destroieth greete houses, then the deuision of the inheritance, as it appeareth in Germany and wil more hereafter to our posterity, when the yong brothern shall not be made abbottes bishops, and cardinals as they haue hitherto bene.

Where you see not only our lawe farre to disagree with this: But also that the ciuil lawe graunteth enheritance to the females, wiche, you would plucke away. The cyuill lawe, geueth the father power ouer his childe in lyfe and death, specially, that wiche is called Ius vetus, as it aperith Le 2. C. de par. qui fil diet et le. in suis F de lib. et posth. C. de pat: ptate. But in England if any father should kill his

sonne: he should be trysed up for his labor. The cyuill lawe maketh the children of traytors, Infames, but committeth them not to perpetual prison, as they do in Englande. In the cyuill lawe, the king, or lorde of the soile, hath nothinge to do with wards or tutorshippes, but the next of kynne, if the father in his lyfe tyme apoynte none: but in our law, the kyng hath the wardship of all that holde of him in capite or knightes seruice. And as it was graunted to the crowne upon a necessary respect: So must it not be pulled away, so longe as the same cause remaineth. It was geuen him at the first, in consideration of the great charges in warre, and the smale reuenues that belonged to the crowne. And though suche orders seme hard, thorough th'abusing of the, by some greedy guttes: Yet the realme, hauing alwaies, almost contynuall warres, with the Frenche, or Scottes, or both: who so euer goeth about to pul from the crown suche helpes: unwittingly maketh a breache for the enemy to inuade us.

Wherfore I would wishe, that such as out of gods boke will comptroll the kinges exchequer, should well understand the matter, befor he brought it into the pulpit."

After dealing with the introduction of the Jury system and its advantages over the rack, Aylmer continues:—

"Now I pass to cirten inconueniences which are thought to come of womens rule. Many inconueniences do commonly followe the rule of women and their enheritinge of Kingdomes, as the losse of holdes, and auncient possessions as experience teacheth of late daies, by the departing from Hams, Guisnes, and calyce, with all that we hadde in France, besides the dangeringe of the realme to be gouerned by straungers, which thing of late was much feared, and not unlyke to happen. For the first, it is trewe: that in that womans reigne Englande was put to a sore plunge through hir wylfulness: wiche wold moue warre, when she might haue bene at pease, upon no iust cause, but because (as you wold haue her) she wold shew her a louing worme and an obediente wife, rather then a carefull gouernes. That follye was accidente to her person, and not proper to her sexe. But admit it to be through the fault of a woman: haue we not had as greete, and greater by men? who lost olde Brytaine to Iulius and the Romaines? men. Who loste it againe to the Saxons men. Of whom wone it William conquerour? of men: who lost it to the Danes? me, who lost Normandie, Brytanie, Gascoigne and Guine and al our right in Fraunce? men, who lost Bulloigne, Bullenois, and all the rest? a man. Who killed the Scottish King, when Henry 8. was in Fraunce? a woman, or at the least her army? Who brought in the light of gods worde into Englande? a woman, who lighteth now again the candle after it was put oute? a woman, whereby it is euident that we haue not yet so muche cause to complaine of losse by them, as by men. And in our histories wiche we haue before cited: wee maye see manye common welthes by women enlarged, or at the leaste well preserued, but fewe eyther much weakened, or utterly destroyed. Onles you tell me of the destruction of Troye, which notwithstandinge, was rather thorowe the follie of Paris, then any rule of Helena, and as for thys losse we haue nowe, I doubte not, but as the olde fathers are wonte to saye, that as by woman came death: so by a woman was brought fourthe life. . . . In the Kingdom of heauen is nother Iew nor gentile, man nor woman. A strauger if he be a goodman, is as deare in the sight of God, as he that is born in the middist of Edenborough. . . . Nor thus thou seest good reader, that al this wynde shaketh no come, that this bolde blustering blaste, though it puffeth and bloweth neuer so much: Yet can it not moue, or ones stirre the suer grouded rock of verite. . . . Thou seest it euidently proued, that it standeth well enoughe with nature and all good order, with iustice and equitie, with lawe and reason, with Gods and mans ordinance with custome and antiquitie: that a woman leaste by hir progenitors, true heire of a realme, hauing the consent of hir people, the stablihent of lawe, auncient custome, and Gods callyng, to confirme the same: may undoubtedly succede her auncestors lawfullye reignyng, in lawfull succession, both enheritance and regiment."

(To be continued.)

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