

THE VOTE,
JUNE 9, 1916.
ONE PENNY.

THE NEW MENACE.

C. DESPARD.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. XIV. No. 346.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1916.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

OUR HONOURED DEAD.

POEM: THE WOMEN BEREAVED - - -
WOMEN AND THE HONOURS LISTS.
LIBERTE, FRATERNITE, EGALITE.

S. Gertrude Ford.

THE NEW MENACE - - - - - C. Despard.
PICKING UP THE PIECES - - - - - Dora Mellone.
WOMEN AND THE LAND - - - - - L. H. Yates.
THE WHIPPING BOY - - - - - C. Nina Boyle.

OUR HONOURED DEAD.

THE splendid annals of the British Navy hold no more stirring tale than that of Admiral Beatty's adventure last week. The heavy toll of life, on the High Seas as in the trenches, will lay a burden on the hearts of the women of our race which they will bear until they, too, go to their last account. Portsmouth and the coast towns, from which the Fleet is mainly drawn, wear their mourning proudly if tearfully; from end to end of the land, and to its far portals oversea, the price of Admiralty is being paid by weeping women whose only consolation will be their pride in heroic deed and duty nobly done.

To the long list of admiral and midshipman and seaman, of general officer and subaltern and private soldier, is now added that of the great military proconsul who was called in to organise a national Army for the emergency. Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener of Khartum had all but completed his task when death met him, not in camp or trench or battlefield, but, by a strange irony, on the deck of one of His Majesty's ships of war. The great services he has rendered his country will not be forgotten.

THE WOMEN BEREAVED.

A message of sympathy to our sisters who lost their husbands, brothers, or sons in the naval battle last week.

I.

Think not they only perished—the great dead
Who, with the steadfast souls not Death could drown,
Such souls as always Mother England bred,
To the great deep went down.

II.

The life whose light went out, the heart whose love
Lies bleeding dumbly—these were martyrs, too;
These gave the crowning gift, all gifts above,
For us—for me, for you.

III.

Shall they not share the glory and the praise
Of those true hero-hearts we also mourn?

They bear the burden—they shall share the bays
At Victory's final bourne.

IV.

O! great the gift of that thrice-valiant life
Freely laid down in that green ocean grave;
And this, O sonless mother and widowed wife,
Surely ye also gave!

V.

Laurel to all our heroes—laurel and rose!
But hearts of women in the death-strewn seas
Went down with lives of men. In crowning those,
England, remember these.

S. GERTRUDE FORD.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

Telegrams—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON."
Telephone—MUSEUM 1429.

Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.

President—Mrs C. DESPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.
Hon. Head of "Vote" Sales Department—Miss ALIX M. CLARK.
Hon. Head of Literature Department—Miss MARGARET HODGE.
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Munro. BROCKWELL PARK, 3.30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 20.—LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL SEWING MEETING, 3 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 21.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m.

Thursday, June 22.—DEBATE, "That Industrial Compulsion should be applied to Women." Proposer: Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. Opposer: Miss Margaret Hodge. Chair: Miss Reeves, 7.30. 144, High Holborn, W.C. Admission 6d.

Saturday, June 24.—GOLDERS GREEN BRANCH DRAWING-ROOM MEETING, 13, Temple Fortune-court, 4 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Mr. Laurence Housman. Chair: Miss Hodge.

Sunday, June 25.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 12 noon.

Wednesday, June 28.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Despard.

Thursday, June 29.—NINE ELMS SETTLEMENT, "At Home," 1, Everett-street, 4.30-7.30. Tea, Music and Short Speeches.

Sunday, July 2.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 12 noon. Mrs. Despard.

Monday, July 3.—MID-LONDON BRANCH MEETING, 144, High Holborn, W.C., 6.30 p.m.

Thursday, July 6.—Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, Caxton Hall, 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT, 1, Everett-street, Nine Elms, S.W. 1d. and 3d. meals; weekdays at noon. Children's Guest House and Milk Depot for Nursing Mothers.

THE DESPARD ARMS, 123, Hampstead Road, N.W. (five minutes' walk from Maple's). Open to all for refreshments (dinners and suppers from 6d.) and recreation. Weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 4 to 10 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Tuesday, June 13.—PORTSMOUTH. Members' Meeting, 17, Lombard-street, 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 14.—PORTSMOUTH. Work Party, 17, Lombard-street, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Monday, June 19.—MIDDLESBROUGH. Public Meeting, Suffrage Centre, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, July 5.—MIDDLESBROUGH. Garden Party at Wilstrop House, Linthorpe (by kind permission of Mrs. Schofield Coates). Tickets 1s.

WALES.

Thursday, June 22.—SWANSEA. Branch Meeting, 105, Walter-road, 7 p.m.

We Call Special Attention to—

1. THE CLOSING OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE OFFICES from Saturday, June 10, at 1 p.m., to Tuesday, June 13, at 9.30 a.m.

2. THE OPEN-AIR MEETINGS IN HYDE PARK on Sundays at noon and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. (near the Marble Arch). Also at Brockwell Park, Highbury Corner, and other places, as announced in Forthcoming Events.

3. THE DEBATE AT HEADQUARTERS (in the Minerva Café) on Thursday, June 22, on "Industrial Compulsion for Women," between Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., and Miss Margaret Hodge. Chair: Miss Reeves. 7.30 p.m. Admission 6d.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

POLITICAL AND MILITANT.

Deputation to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister, who appears reluctant to receive the influential deputation which desires to discuss with him the prospects of a possible Registration Bill, has asked the organisers of the deputation to put in writing the points they desire to raise. We trust that the importance of the question of the political status of women who are to "win the war," will seem to the Prime Minister at least as important as the grievances of married men, to which he graciously devoted a portion of the nation's time when requested.

Women and the Honours Lists.

The following correspondence has passed between the Political and Militant Department of the Women's Freedom League and his Majesty the King and the Prime Minister:

To His Most Gracious Majesty King George V.,
Buckingham Palace, S.W.

YOUR MAJESTY,

We have the honour to call your attention once more to the heavy grievance that your loyal women subjects suffer under the issue of lists of honours granted by Your Majesty at the suggestion of Your Majesty's Government, which do not include names of British women who have qualified quite as highly for inclusion in these lists as British men. May we most earnestly entreat that the practice of excluding Your Majesty's women subjects in the United Kingdom from these lists and including only some comparatively little known women who have rendered service in distant parts of the Empire, should be discontinued, and that women who have served their country so well and so faithfully during the trying times since August 4th, 1914, should receive an equal share of the recognition which is their due at the hands of their King and country? Such recognition would, we feel sure, tend largely to foster loyalty, patriotism and civic virtue in an even greater degree than at present, when it is almost possible to point out that these virtues in women are discouraged rather than encouraged.

I have the honour to be,

Your Majesty's most obedient and humble Servant,
(Signed) C. NINA BOYLE.

May 26, 1916.

The Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, K.C., M.P.,
10, Downing-street, S.W.

SIR,—My League wishes to call your attention to the fact that again and again the loyal and devoted women in the United Kingdom find their services go unrecognised in the recurring lists submitted to His Majesty for honours. I am instructed to request that you will advise His Majesty of the claims to recognition on his Honours Lists of a very large number of women who have rendered immense service to the country since August 4th, 1914. This list would naturally include so large a number of women that it would be impossible for me to enumerate those who are worthy of the recognition of the King. It will be for you, however, to choose the most representative, and to see that their patriotic service does not any longer go unrewarded.

Trusting that the claims of justice and of patriotism will no longer be passed over by you in these matters.

I have the honour to be, your obedient Servant,
(Signed) C. NINA BOYLE.

May 26, 1916.

10, Downing-street, Whitehall, S.W.
May 30, 1916.

DEAR MADAM,—The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for your letter of May 26, and to say that he quite recognises the claim to recognition in the Honours List of men and women who have rendered great services to the country in the course of the war. Up till now there have been obstacles in the way of suitable recognition of women's services, and I can only say that the whole question is receiving the attention of His Majesty's Government.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) M. BONHAM CARTER.

Miss Boyle.

This is certainly an advance on former days, when the question was coldly disregarded. In spite, however, of "the attention of His Majesty's Government," the Honours List came out without any change from its usual male complexion. Let us hope for a change of heart (and manners) at the New Year.

THEY SUPPORT US!

TREASURER'S LETTER.

Dear Freedom Leaguers and Friends,—This year's President's Birthday Fund has now started—£1,000 to be presented to Mrs. Despard, for the work of the League, at the Birthday Party on July 6th at Caxton Hall.

This is the fifth year of the fund.

All through the difficult months of the war our beloved President has stood boldly at the head of our League holding high the suffrage banner.

The very existence of every country is now plainly seen to depend upon the work of its women; from this it is an easy step to recognise that women must become responsible for what is done by their country and must receive their full rights of citizenship.

The ordinary person readily admits this when it is pointed out to him, but he does not think of it for himself; therefore, this is the golden moment when suffrage propaganda is most needed.

Many Suffragists have turned their energies into other channels, but the public expects the Women's Freedom League to press for the Vote, and it is our business not to lessen but to redouble our efforts and take advantage of the altered attitude towards women to enforce our demand for our political enfranchisement.

Victory may be very near now for
the Cause we all have at heart.

Now is the time to work for it; if we wait for the end of the war this chance will have gone by for ever. When peace at last comes back, the help of women will be needed more than ever before in the counsels of the State, and we must be ready to answer to the call.

The most Patriotic work at the
present time is Suffrage Propaganda.

True economy means getting the best value for the money laid out, and the more we can lay out now, the more we shall save later on.

I am quite sure I may rely on you to do your part in increasing the Birthday Fund as much as you possibly can; now that so many men and women are learning the meaning of sacrifice for the first time, the members of the Women's Freedom League will not be backward.

Last week's VOTE showed that our Fifty Thousand Shilling Fund required 43,864 more shillings; the Birthday £1,000 will go to swell the 50,000 shillings. So let us make up our minds that by July 6th 20,000 shillings shall be added.

E. KNIGHT.

LIBERTÉ. FRATERNITÉ. EGALITÉ.

These words form the slogan of the French nation. It would be good for the British nation if these same potent words and the spirit of their signification were graven on the hearts and minds of our rulers and of those who, without authority or qualification, desire and try to rule women's work.

Is it mental obliquity, or a lack of the sense of justice (which means much the same thing), or a deficiency of imagination, or perhaps a lack of the grace of humour, which has caused a body of laymen to establish a *College of Nursing Co., Ltd.*, through which they propose to govern the nursing profession? A great profession, founded by Florence Nightingale, and numbering many thousands of trained women! It sounds rather like a comic opera! If it were not so serious it would be amusing. The seven signatories of this college, be it noted, are all laymen! There is not even a doctor among them. Impossible? No, it is a solemn truth, which all who care to refer to the Memorandum and Articles of Association can prove for themselves. These seven laymen have appointed the first council of management.

THOMPSONS

LTD.

SUMMER DISPLAY

IN OUR

WINDOWS & DEPARTMENTS

OF

GOWNS, MILLINERY,

BLOUSES, OUTFITTING,

GLOVES, SHOES & HOSIERY

ALL AT

MODERATE PRICES.

T. W. THOMPSON & CO., Ltd.,
Tottenham Court Rd. & University St., W.

One Minute from Train, Tube, 'Bus and Tram.

The College, therefore, is a lay institution, and is founded on a voluntary basis. The council, which is a nominated body, takes power to renominate itself from year to year. It assumes, besides, almost supreme power, and is composed largely of hospital officials. There are no representatives of independent certificated nurses or their organisations on the first council. This lay institution does not grant or profess to grant titles or diplomas.

Could any self-respecting trained nurse be attracted by such a scheme?

A word about State registration.

For more than twenty-five years the progressive members of the profession have been working untiringly to obtain it; whereby they will be enabled to govern their own profession in their own professional way, under an authority appointed by the State—*Liberté*.

The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland is affiliated with the International Council of Nurses—founded by the Editor of *The British Journal of Nursing*. It comprises twenty-three countries—*Fraternité*.

The Bill for State Registration will give legal status to trained nurses. The Bill is a Charter of Liberty, because it provides for a council of management, on which all registered nurses will have power to elect direct representatives. It will give to trained nurses the dignified and protected title of registered nurse. The Bill has been before Parliament for the past fourteen years. It is strongly supported by members of both Houses, by the medical profession, and the nursing profession; moreover it has been pronounced by experts to be "an excellent Bill."

What nurses want is to have the same opportunity of governing their own profession as medical men possess—

EGALITÉ.

SEE OUR SALE AND EXCHANGE, PAGE 1068.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors:—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd.
 Offices:—144, High Holborn, W.C.
 FRIDAY, June 9th, 1916.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
 To the Editor—on all editorial matters.
 To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
 To the Secretary—on all other business, including Votes
 orders, printing, and merchandise, etc.
 Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.
 Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... post free, 6/6 per annum.
 "THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

THE NEW MENACE.

It is earnestly to be desired that while the opportunity is still theirs, and before a cut-and-dried scheme engineered by the Northcliffe Press and the Unionist and Liberal War Committees is forced upon the Government, all the suffrage societies—in the Dominions as well as here—will seriously consider the situation. For we are faced with a new danger. It is proposed by some of our leading political lights to introduce as a basis for electoral representation in this country a hitherto undreamt-of principle.

As has often happened before, it is being brought in gradually. That seems at present to be the cue of the politician. Ask for much less than you intend to get. Throw a veil gently over the head of your victim. If he is restive, soothe him by showing how innocent are your demands.

In the case before us—a new register! Could anything be simpler or more reasonable? Everyone knows what upheavals, what scattering of homes, have been brought about by the war. Men with an acknowledged right to representation are voteless now. Surely not even the most rabid socialist, not even the keenest woman suffragist, would wish to penalise, through their patriotism, those who are gallantly serving the country.

That admitted, it is easy to go further. All who have joined the colours are patriotic. It is true that some may not have been voters before the war. But would it not be invidious to make distinctions? It would simplify matters and be a proper reward for valour to give political representation to all the fighters.

The *Daily Mail* puts the position boldly. Deprecating delay in dealing with so urgent a matter, a leader-writer in a recent issue says: "If there is delay it should be on the clear understanding that the time will be used in working out a scheme for taking the votes of the Army, though this should not require long."

The *Times* is even more explicit. Commenting on the fact that millions of men are serving with the colours, and stating that an election held on the old register would be a mockery of representative government, this writer goes on to say: "Two things are necessary. One is the revision of the old register to bring it up to date. The other is provision for enabling men serving in the war to record their votes. The Liberal War Committee has already advanced the principle that every man in the fighting forces should have a right to a vote, and the Unionist War Committee has now followed their example."

If the Government does not act up to orders, it "may expect some very strong and natural hostility." The rumour goes that generals and other persons of small account in the eyes of party-politicians do not favour the idea of introducing politics into the fighting line. Possibly they think it might have unforeseen effects. It would be, to say the least, inconvenient to find rival politicians fighting one another and forgetful of the foe.

In any case we have here a frank admission of the fact that some of our leading politicians desire to have in Army and Navy not only a fighting but a voting machine; and, if pressure enough is brought to bear upon the Coalition Government, it may give way as it has done before.

Let it be clearly understood. The proposition is that the fighting force is to be rewarded with the privileges of citizenship. Those who equip the Army, without whom it could neither march nor fight, are not to be considered at all. How many munition-workers have been obliged to shift their homes in order to serve the country! We remember how Lloyd George said: "Men at benches are as important as men in trenches." Why not give every one of these a vote? Thousands of women are at the benches; thousands more are engaged, as one of the journalists expressed it, "saving the country on the land, forming a second line of defence." If the vote is to be given as a reward of service, who shall dare to exclude these?

There are other and still more serious considerations. Not women only, but liberty itself, would be in danger were a Franchise Bill framed and passed, giving special citizen privileges to Army and Navy. For this would mean the practical exercise in our own political life of that physical force principle from the hideous results of which all the civilized world is suffering to-day.

From such a fate nothing but a broad and sane democracy—"Government of all by all, under the guidance of the wisest and best," as Mazzini put it, can save us. The time will come, though it may be far distant, when professional armies and war navies will no longer be necessary; in the meantime these, like labourers and mechanics and merchants and learned professors, must be made to understand that, existing for the country and maintained by the country, they can expect no special privileges.

Our hope is that in the very complexity of the problem which faces us a solution may be found. The elementary act of justice we demand would, we cannot doubt, have for its first effect, the setting free of pent-up energies and the drawing of men and women more closely together in service. But if this is to be, the women who believe in freedom must be vigilant, active, and, above all, united.

The call is coming to us. Another and more vigorous campaign—possibly the last for the vote—may have to be entered upon. May we, when it comes, each one in our place, be ready to answer, like the prophet of ancient days, "Here am I, send me."

C. DESPARD.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

At the annual meeting of delegates of the Free Church League for Woman Suffrage the following resolution was passed *nem. con.*, and copies have been sent to the members of the Cabinet:—"The Free Church League for Woman Suffrage desires to reaffirm its steadfast adhesion to the democratic principle of the equal citizenship of men and women. In view of the response made by women to the national needs at this critical time, and of the serious social problems that will confront the nation at the close of the war, this League is convinced that the co-operation of women in political life is rendered more urgent than ever before; it therefore urges upon the Government the necessity of the inclusion of women in the new register to be compiled in accordance with the Parliament and Registration Act of 1916."

PICKING UP THE PIECES.

Politicians of all parties have had their way in Ireland these many years, and we see the results in Dublin to-day. I will not dwell on the mutual bitterness engendered and fomented by writers in the Press on both sides in politics, nor on the question of responsibility.

Four hundred and fifteen girls and women are unemployed owing to destruction caused by fire, and about another hundred owing to slackness of trade, greatly increased by the disturbances. Then there are the wives and children of the deported men. How have the authorities tried to deal with the situation?

First, during the actual period of hostilities there was the necessary distribution of food, and the North Dublin Union alone records an expenditure of £1,000 on relief. Then the Mansion House Committee for the Prevention and Relief of Distress, which does actually include two women among its members—not a very large proportion—took the situation in hand on their usual lines. Firms employing "blocks" of girls send these to the Mansion House; a crowd of women and girls waits throughout the morning, and the few who force their way in get a dole of 6s. a week. No condition as to seeking work is attached to the grant, and there is no indication how long it will be continued. The Distress Committee is about to start a three months' domestic training course. Three months' training in cookery, etc., at the technical school is useless as a means of permanently relieving distress. The girls do not learn enough to qualify for domestic service, and though the demand for trained servants is constant, there are not openings for the girl from a factory or shop who has had three months' teaching over a gas stove. In 1914 the Suffragists' Emergency Council organised a domestic training centre, which gave six months' training for general service, an empty house being used for the purpose, with the ordinary equipment of a middle-class kitchen. After the first six months, the department refused to continue the grant for instructresses, though the thirty girls employed all found work. Now about £500 is to be spent over a three months' course.

Meanwhile some of the Dublin shirt factories have tendered for War Office contracts and have been refused. Had these contracts been given, much unemployment might have been relieved at no expense to the public and without diverting labour from the ordinary channels; the authorities, however, prefer that public money should be spent in doles. The Dublin Toy Company also volunteered to take girls as apprentices if the Distress Committee would give a maintenance grant. This was not even considered. It is easier to give a dole.

So now again we find our hands tied and our efforts hindered. Letters to M.P.s appear to be useless, they are too preoccupied with party issues to concern themselves with the unemployment of women. Increased munition work is promised, but this will not meet the need for employment, which will continue after the war. The money being poured out in relief might have been used to start more training centres, perhaps in the power-machine work—there is always a demand for skilled workers in this trade—or to teach machine-knit gloves, a new industry in Ireland. The equipment and premises used for domestic training by the Suffragists' Emergency Council might, with the help of maintenance grants, have been the means of training fifty girls. As it is, large sums of money will be spent with no permanent result, and the refusal of War Office contracts will increase the bitterness in the city.

Can we in Ireland afford all this waste and loss?

DORA MELLONE.

WOMAN AND THE LAND.

If women are debarred from taking their rightful share of political power, they are not allowed to be feeble folk in work demanding patience, endurance and much physical strength, such as that of the farmer and market gardener. At the present moment the most urgent appeal is being made to women to consider how patriotic they may be if they will milk and feed animals, weed crops, or cut hay, for twelve or fourteen hours a day in the hot sun. A vigorous campaign is afoot to induce them to go in for training, or, if they cannot afford to pay for a proper and thorough training, to enrol for war emergency service and take a course of elementary instruction sufficient to prepare them for the office of general farm hand.

For the girl or woman who has neither the inclination nor the means to enter for such training as will assure her a living out of work on the land, there are openings for taking up immediate useful work through the National Land Service Corps and the National Political League. The first-named body, which has its headquarters at 50, Upper Baker-street, W., was started early in the present year because of a grant made by the Board of Agriculture to the well-known and old-established Women's Farm and Garden Union. This grant, intended solely for recruiting women for work on the land, and giving the necessary training, had the condition attached to it that for every £100 granted by the Treasury, £1,000 should be raised by public subscriptions. In order to fulfil this condition the Women's Farm and Garden Union deemed it advisable to found a separate organisation, the sole object of which would be to place women on the land as farm and dairy assistants, trained to take the place of men. A month or six weeks' training suffices to teach women how to handle tools, how to milk and care for animals, and do the ordinary work of the farm. It is sufficient to guarantee that the women sent out by the National Land Service Corps will not be returned as unsuitable and unsatisfactory. But the older organisation, the Women's Farm and Garden Union, would have it understood that it does not consider such women trained in the proper sense of the word. With the conclusion of the war it is probable that the subsidiary organisation will come to an end, but the larger work of the Farm and Garden Union, giving to women a complete equipment for all branches of country work, will still go on.

Distinction should be made between rapid training for war work and the long and careful—and sometimes costly—training and practice that must precede an attempt to make a living out of the land. It is necessary to lay emphasis on this, for the appeal of such an organisation as the National Political League, for instance, which is an appeal to patriotism and right feeling, might, quite unintentionally, mislead those enthusiasts who would take up such work believing that it will open a way to a lucrative career in the future as a reward for the patriotism of the present. Those who take up agricultural work are asked definitely to state whether they wish to make it their permanent career or not, and to make a choice between general farm-work and care of stock (with the object of qualifying for the position of bailiff or the management of a farm), or of fruit-growing, market-gardening, poultry and pig-rearing (so as to become able to manage a small holding). If temporary work only is required, there is the option of taking a short training, and then being placed according to capability at an average wage of 16s. to 22s. per week, or to enter for the entirely unskilled work of hoeing, fruit and vegetable picking, at piece-work wage, for which practically no training is required. All this

work is ready and waiting for those who will take it up, and can be had immediately by applying either to the National Land Service Corps, or to the National Political League, Lloyds Bank Buildings, 16, St. James's-street, S.W.

For those who see in farming and market-gardening an attractive career and an increasingly profitable living, the longer and more thorough training offered by the Women's Farm and Garden Union is the best worth considering, the more so, that since several experimental farms are now in full working, the original training course has been greatly expanded, and the most complete and practical preparation for many different kinds of work is procurable. Training for posts as gardeners, poultry-farmers, glasshouse and fruit-growing has always been the aim of the Union, but the war has brought the needs of the farmer to the front. In the autumn of 1915 the demand for help became so urgent that Lord Rayleigh kindly placed two farms at the disposal of the Union, to be used for practical training. The first Farm Training School was opened last November, and has been wonderfully successful, all the students obtaining posts immediately they were ready for them, and all have done well.

In March the second farm offered by Lord Rayleigh was opened for work, and a third at Kettering was fitted and furnished by Lord and Lady Hood. Quite recently still another has been put at the disposal of the Union by the Knight of Kerry and Lady Fitzgerald; and Lady Henry Somerset has offered to take twenty-five pupils for training on her home farm at Duxhurst. Those who wish to enter for training on any of the farms belonging to the Women's Farm and Garden Union should address their inquiries to Queen Anne's Chambers, S.W.

There are many other opportunities for women to become qualified for working and earning a living on the land. Many private farms and big estates offer individual posts where women may obtain experimental work under expert head-gardeners. There are training schools for home and colonial life, such as the excellent one established at Huntmoor Park, Iver, Bucks, by Miss J. S. Turner. In a school like this the pupil learns motor-driving, the management of an electric-light plant, plumbing, and carpentry, all kinds of domestic work, and the out-of-doors training. In smaller schools there is a chance to specialise on some particular form of cultivation, such as rose or fruit-growing; there are also dairy and poultry farms like the well-known Agricultural College at Reading. The teaching has to be paid for, but every pupil is sent out fully qualified for undertaking the best work of whatever type it may be, and all the schools announce a long waiting-list of situations—not of candidates for them!

The farmer has been one of the hardest to persuade that women could ever do as well for him as men, but this is what he now writes: "Send me a well-educated lass; she is worth three of my men." Even her tact has a monetary value, for he admits that she is able to get more work out of the labourers than any foreman did. One bright girl can do in a few minutes more than Lord Selborne's emissaries have been able to do in hours of talk. L. H. YATES.

The Despard Arms.

Who will give us a big flag in the colours of the League, with the words, "The Despard Arms," boldly displayed? We can fix it over the restaurant, and it will attract the attention of all who pass, whether on foot or on trams and buses. The sooner the better! Our stock of cooking utensils needs renewing. Friends, far or near, who sympathise with the national service of the Despard Arms, will render us great assistance by helping to supply these needs. Early in July—probably Saturday, July 8—a sports afternoon by the Despard United will be held at 22, Harley-road, Hampstead. Friends will be welcome, and can obtain tickets (1s.). The proceeds will be for the Despard Arms.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

THE WHIPPING BOY.

War has not in any way altered or abolished the shocking injustice with which women are habitually treated; and a careful perusal of the London and provincial Press still provides its constant flow of examples of the penalty of votelessness. Murder, and brutal assault of women are of incessant occurrence. Men who have not gone to the trenches, and men who come back from them, vie with each other in this pleasing pastime. Magistrates encourage it by sentences which are a stain on civilisation; the general public cares not a straw what happens to women. It is only the wrongs of men—carefully fostered and engineered by Press agitation—for which any attention can be secured.

A helpful correspondent sends some examples this week. One Press paragraph is headed "Woman's War Wealth." This woman was able to earn £3 18s. a week at Birmingham. Another paragraph, "War Workers' big Wages," shows Tyneside and Clydebank men as earning £15 a week and more. At Sheffield the weekly wage (for men) sometimes amounts to £20. But £3 18s. for a woman! It is wealth. Many people grudge it her, just as magistrates and other self-indulgent persons, who count income by the hundred, appear to grudge women with children the weekly shillings which the War Office doles out to them. A true sense of proportion would teach that rearing healthy children was a greater national service than sending a few drunken women to prison!

One woman, with three children, whom she "kept" on 26s. 6d. a week, was sent to prison for three months' *hard labour* for neglecting her children; and was described as being, on that beggarly sum, "better off than ever before!" That sentence, used by the prosecuting solicitor for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Childrer, carries wholesale condemnation, not for the woman, but for the society that allows women to live in such misery—and then expects them to have a high standard of decency on the comparative wealth of 26s. 6d. for the support of four persons!

The shameful advantage taken under the laws for protecting children, of bullying women for drink or for immorality, and of relieving the "legal" male parent of his responsibilities and loading them on to

HAND-WOVEN MATERIALS

MADE IN THE

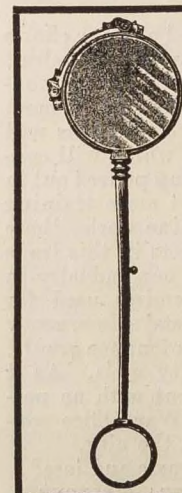
DAUNTLESS HALL WORK-ROOM.

Artistic Dress Fabrics

In Linen, Cotton, Wool, &c. Send for price list, or 2s. for sample Towel, to help the Women Workers, or call and see the goods at

The Alston Studio, 8, New Bond Street, W.

Where lessons in SPINNING and WEAVING are given. TERMS ON APPLICATION.



ELEGANT EYE-GLASSES

At Very Moderate Prices.

Mr. McCLEAN will be pleased to test the eyes of readers of this paper entirely free of charge and advise thereon. By our method of testing the sight and fitting the individual face, perfect satisfaction is assured, both with regard to sight and comfort in wear.

Gold-filled Spectacles and Pince-Nez from 5/- per pair.

We hold a large selection of LOUIS LORNETTES, as illustrated, latest designs, at 15/-.

A. E. McCLEAN,
Ophthalmic Optician,
37, ALDWYCH, W.C.
(Under the Waldorf Hotel.)

THEY SUPPORT US!

the woman who is not the "parent," is a disgrace not only to the Legislature, but to the Bench and to the philanthropic societies that prosecute under it. So long as vice and drink are not punished in men, we object to these underhand attacks on women. If a woman is sued for neglecting her children, the Court is informed of her drunkenness or immoral conduct, *as well as the neglect*. The husband, hearing this, is provided gratis with the evidence for divorce. But a wife cannot divorce the man for infidelity; and so in every way the double standard of morals, and the double penalty for the woman is enforced and reinforced.

Women living on military allowances lose them after these prosecutions. No pity is shown them. They are flung back on immorality. But in the case, on June 4 (*News of the World*) of a man who was found guilty, after making a "diabolical charge" against an innocent man, the sentence of three months was given *without hard labour*, so that his pension should not be forfeited!

C. NINA BOYLE.

WOMEN'S WORK AFTER THE WAR.

At the conference held on May 27 at the Kingsway Hall by the Women's Labour League to consider the question of "Women in Industry After the War," Mrs. Tanner attended as delegate from the Women's Freedom League. She sends the following interesting report:—

Dr. Ethel Bentham acted as chairman owing to the unavoidable absence of Miss Mary McArthur, and stated that 127 Societies were represented, including five Suffrage Societies.

The subject was considered under two heads. Mr. F. Bramley (organiser of the National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades' Association), and Dr. Marion Phillips speaking on "The Future of Women Who Have Become Skilled in Trades Hitherto in the Hands of Men," and Miss Maude Royden on "The Future of Untrained Girls Who Have Entered Industry During the War." A very interesting discussion followed, though it must be admitted that very little fresh light was thrown on the subject. Both Dr. Bentham and Dr. Phillips emphasized the point that women were better in health even doing hard physical work when they got decent wages which enabled them to have a sufficiency of nourishing food, and prophesied that such women would not be content after the war to go back to their old ill-paid or unpaid drudgery.

Dr. Phillips also voiced a demand for equal conditions of pay, and that women be admitted into the Trade Unions. She agreed with Mr. F. Bramley that it would not be possible to turn women out of the factories in large numbers, even when they no longer filled an emergency after the war. Some delegates expressed anxiety as to the welfare

of the children if married women went into industry, and wanted mothers of families to be entirely excluded—in the interests of the children, *of course!*

One male delegate said if women were allowed to flood the labour market it would be a crushing blow to the future of the race and quite against women's instincts of maternity. As delegate from the Women's Freedom League, I assured the gentleman that women had other instincts besides those of motherhood; they had instincts for good food and decent conditions and for the joy of life as much as any man. With reference to a statement made by Mr. F. Bramley that the employers who showed most hatred and viciousness towards the Trades Unions were those who were most in favour of extending women's employment, I pointed out that this trouble was due to the shortsightedness of the men themselves, who refused to have women in the unions, thinking, in this way, to keep them out of the labour market. These points of view were very well received.

The Women's University Federation of France and the Colonies, says *The Labour Woman*, has issued an appeal to women's organisations in other countries, urging "all feminist, occupational, and other organisations to initiate a powerful movement in favour of equal pay, with a view to obtaining from their Governments, at the time when peace is signed, the establishment of international conventions to be applied within a limited time, and calculated to ensure the observance of the following principle: That pay for a given piece of work should be determined absolutely without reference to the sex of the individual performing it."

Conference of the British Dominions Woman's Suffrage Union, July 5 to 7.

Many and frequent are the questions at suffrage meetings in these islands as to the conditions prevailing in the enfranchised and unenfranchised Dominions of the British Empire. It is very difficult for the lecturers to be absolutely up to date in their answers, and therefore anxious enquirers sometimes have their curiosity only imperfectly satisfied. On the afternoon of Wednesday, July 5, at the Central Hall, Westminster, representatives from the British self-governing Dominions will be present, and will come well prepared to answer questions upon the condition of women in their respective countries, and a unique opportunity will be offered to all Suffragists to secure first-hand information on a subject so vitally interesting to them.

ASK THE CHARLADY!

Mrs. Margaret Wynne Nevinson writes: In the correspondence columns of *The Times* one hopes at least to learn something from the letters of those who should have expert knowledge and experience, even if their literary style sometimes leaves much to be desired. The name of Lord Latymer does not convey any special experience on the subject of "Petty Economies," so I was not surprised when I read his letter last week saying that high laundry prices were to be attributed to the increased cost of chemicals, and suggesting that for the sake of economy laundries should revert to "old-fashioned soap and water." As the husband of the richest woman in the kingdom, Lord Latymer would have no need to slave at the wash-tub. Clearly he has not worked there since the war began, or he would know that laundries cannot keep up their pre-war prices with soap at double the cost, soda at a penny a pound (instead of 7lb. 3d.), coal, gas, electric-light, labour, paper, string, ironing felt, etc., all greatly increased. He ought to remember the great and noble tradition of the House of Lords, "who never interfered in matters which they did not understand." But why are such letters gravely published, when any poor charlady knows better?

The Minerva Café.

After a successful opening last week, the Minerva Café is going strong as the best and most attractive place in or near the City and West End for well cooked, daintily served meals. Come and try! The managers will be grateful to friends who will help them by sending comfortable chairs, a Chesterfield couch, and a piano.

British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union.

CONFERENCE: JULY 5th, 6th & 7th.
CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

SUBJECTS:

Women as Citizens in the Dominions Overseas.
Sex Morality and Sex Education.
Women and Children in the Industrial World.
India.

Particulars from the
HON. SEC., B.D.W.S.U.,
c/o International Women's Franchise Club,
9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly.

SEE OUR SALE AND EXCHANGE, PAGE 1068.

FRIDAY,
JUNE 9,
1916.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

BRANCH NOTES.

Chester. Suffrage Shop, 45, St. Werburgh-street.

The Whist Drive realised more than we expected—viz., £5 8s. 11d.—and this, with money made by the Jumble Sale, has been forwarded to Dr. Knight, altogether £10 towards the 50,000 Shilling Fund. On May 29 a members' meeting was held at the Holborn Rooms to decide whether we should undertake to help the War Saving scheme, having been asked by the Mayor to do so. Those present were in favour of the scheme, so that on Monday next we meet again to form an association as part of our war work. Mrs. H. Brown will speak on the subject. It was also decided that a letter should be sent round to the members asking for financial help towards a much-needed organiser or secretary for our branch. The organ collections on May 27 for the prisoners of war in Germany passed all previous records, amounting to £35 10s., which was, as usual, divided between the Mayoress and Miss H. Brown. Kindly do not forget to call at the Shop for your weekly paper, *THE VOTE*—and there are a few more "jumbles" there to be sold.

Middlesbrough. Suffrage Centre, 251a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road.

A branch meeting was held on May 29, when the principal business under discussion was the Government War Saving scheme. The branch has been asked by the Town Clerk to participate in the scheme, but it was unanimously decided that we cannot undertake the collecting of money for that purpose. Several excellent suggestions were put forward towards guiding the public to buy food and other commodities in the most economical way, and the Secretary was instructed to write to the Town Clerk to that effect. Suggestions were made for raising money for our President's Birthday Fund, to be added to the 50,000 Shilling Fund, and it was arranged to have a garden party the first Wednesday in July at Wilstrop House, by kind permission of Mrs. Schofield Coates. It is hoped all members will work hard to make this a great success, so that Middlesbrough can send a substantial sum to the Fund. It was also suggested that we follow the example of the Chester Branch and take out a barrel organ decorated with the colours of the League.

Further particulars later. We regret to announce that Mr. Lansbury has had to cancel his visit to Middlesbrough.

Portsmouth.

A heavy thunderstorm somewhat spoilt the attendance at the public meeting on May 30, but those present were amply repaid for braving the elements by the able and interesting address on "Women and War Economy," by Mrs. Mustard, who dwelt on false economy in education and sanitation. A resolution protesting against the employment of young children to the detriment of their health and education was proposed by Mrs. Whetton from the chair, seconded by Mrs. Mustard, and carried unanimously. The monthly members' meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at 7.30 p.m., at 17, Lombard-street.

London Branches Council Sewing Meetings.

The next meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, June 20, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., when Mrs. Holmes will be very glad to see newcomers as well as those who have attended previous meetings. Members are reminded that if they cannot stay and work Mrs. Holmes will be very pleased to give them work to do at home.

Women's Freedom League Settlement, 1, Everett-street, Nine Elms, S.W.

Gifts are very gratefully acknowledged from Miss Riggall, 1s.; Mrs. Clark, buns and a cake; Mrs. Despard, flowers; William Watkins, a horseshoe for luck; Mrs. Walpole, Latrobe, Tasmania, £3; Mrs. H. Fryer, £2 2s.; Miss M. Holmes, wild roses; Mrs. Delbanco, pinks; Mrs. Thomas, clothing for Jumble Sale. We still badly need helpers for the dinner-hour at Nine Elms; has no one in our neighbourhood a spare hour a week they could give us to make the hour from twelve to one more comfortable for both hostesses and guests? We also want volunteers for mending the guest-children's clothes and stockings. Old boots and shoes for children would be most useful to us; also some jerseys for small boys.

ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY.

69, UPPER STREET, N.

Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,

Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon.
Established 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7s. 6d.
Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Postcard for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Showcase at door.
CONSULTATIONS FREE. Telephone: 3795 North.

Help BRITISH Industries by Drinking

SALUTARIS WATER

WHOLESAME & DELICIOUS.

AERATED OR STILL.

Absolutely free from all impurities.

Made with pure distilled water.

Salutaris Water, Ginger Ale, Ginger Beer, Lemonade and Orangelle
(thin slice of orange added makes delicious cup).

Very inexpensive.—Send p.c. for price list to:—

SALUTARIS WATER CO. Ltd., 236 Fulham Rd., London, S.W.

SALE AND EXCHANGE.

These advertisements are charged 1s.
for each 24 words or less.

FOR SALE.

BARGAINS FOR BOY OF 14.—
Two pairs white Flannel Trousers,
5s. and 2s. 6d.; four white matt Tennis
Shirts, 5s.; black cloth Jacket, 5s.—
Box 30, "THE VOTE" Office.

LADY'S GREY SERGE CAPE
WRAP, waistcoat front, $\frac{3}{4}$ -length,
as new, 12s. 6d.—Box 31, "THE
VOTE" Office.

LADY'S CYCLE, 24in. frame, splen-
did condition, £3 10s. Also
Humber, suit medium or tall rider,
25in. frame, nearly new, £5 10s.—
GODFREY, 41, Colville-gardens, Bays-
water.

BEADED SLIPPERS, crossed straps;
size small 4; only worn few times;
6s. 6d.—Miss F. WARD, Park-road
South, Middlesbrough.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ON demande une jeune Française
pour le travail de la maison dans
une petite ferme.—Box 33, THE VOTE
Office.

AT THE STRAND IMPERIAL
HOTEL, opposite Gaiety Theatre,
Strand, London. Absolute Privacy.
Quietude and Refinement. Ladies will
find the freshest, warmest, daintiest,
cosiest quarters. Sumptuous Bed-
room, with h. and c. water fitted,
Breakfast, Bath, Attendance and
Lights, from 5s. 6d. En pension, 9s.
For long stays, special terms. Finest
English provisions. — MANAGERESS,
4788 Gerrard.

FURNISHED COUNTRY COT-
TAGE; 2 sitting, 3 bedrooms,
kitchen, scullery. Electric light, gas
cooker, water laid on. Fifteen minutes
from station. Moderate rent.—Mrs.
HART, 27, Arthur-road, Horsham,
Sussex.

LADY, with small flat at Kew, desires
occasional Lady Guest. Week-
end, 8s.; whole week, 18s. 6d.—Box 23,
VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

WENSLEYDALE.—Paying Guests
received in a "do as you
please" country cottage. Restful
surroundings. — Miss SMITH, Low
Green House, Thoraby, Aysgarth S.O.

YOUNG LADY HELP Wanted for
good cooking and part housework
in cottage near Tunbridge.—Box 24,
VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

SMALL PRIVATE CRECHE in
West Central district for the
babies of business mothers. Convenient
for City and West-end. Children taken
in daily. Every care. Bright, healthy
surroundings.—Apply MATER, Box 34.
"THE VOTE" Office, 144, High Hol-
born, W.C.

THE HON. MRS. FORBES wishes
most highly to recommend
MADAME LONSDALE, 14, Abingdon-road,
High-street, Kensington, who sells very
charming and inexpensive Blouses.

64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS
AND HOW TO USE THEM, free.
Send for one.—TRIMMELL, The Herbalist,
144, Richmond-rd., Cardiff. Est. 1879.

What are your Wants?
See how our Advertisers can
supply them
—and please you.