

# THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Vol. II.—No. 28.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 1915.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec., Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.  
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

## MEETINGS LIST.

**Friday, Sept. 24th.**  
Sloane Square, 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier.  
Outside "Green's," 1 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.  
Piggott St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.  
Beckton Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.  
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Drake.  
Women's Hall (Debate), 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss Chesley.  
Highbury Corner, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mr. Everett.  
**Saturday, Sept. 25th.**  
Stepney, near Station, 3 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.  
Hague St., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.  
Gibraltar Walk, 4 p.m., Miss Lynch.  
Marble Arch, 5.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Manicom.  
Rathbone St., "Whitehouse," 7 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.  
"Boleyn," 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.  
**Sunday, Sept. 26th.**  
Hyde Park, 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Chesley.  
Demonstration 4 p.m., Trafalgar Square.  
**Monday, Sept. 27th.**  
Morning Lane and Mare St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Manicom.  
"Peacock," 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.  
Dock Gates, 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.  
**Tuesday, Sept. 28th.**  
Clock Tower, Burdett Rd., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.  
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss Haughton, Mrs. Drake.  
175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Manicom.  
Women's Hall, Bow, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory, Miss Beamish.  
**Wednesday, Sept. 29th.**  
Chrisp St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake.  
Ford Road, 6.30 p.m., Miss Chesley.  
**Thursday, Sept. 30th.**  
175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst.  
124 Barking Rd., 8 p.m., 53 St. Leonard's St.,  
**Friday, Oct. 1**  
Piggott St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.  
Beckton Rd., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.  
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Drake and others.  
Women's Hall (Debate) 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst.

Poster Parade, to advertise the Demonstration in Trafalgar Square, on Saturday, Sept. 25th, starting at 3.30 p.m. sharp from International Suffrage Shop, 5 Duke Street, W.C. Helpers please send in your names!

The calls on our four mother and baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines, and doctoring and nursing care, will become more frequent and more urgent as the summer advances. Will you help by sending us some money for this work?

Will you send us new laid eggs, arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

Will you send us a maternity outfit?

We want—For baby, four gowns, four barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother, two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

**Mothers and Children should make a point of attending the weekly consultations with nurse and doctor at—**

400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays 2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tuesdays 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St., Wednesdays 4.15 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd., Canning Town, Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.

## DOWN WITH SWEATING!

If a woman does a man's work she must have a man's pay!

Down with High Prices and Big Profits!

No Taxation of Food or Wages!

Votes for Women to protect our Homes and Wages!

NO COMPULSION!

A GREAT

## JOINT BUDGET DEMONSTRATION

The East London Federation of the Suffragettes, United Suffragists, Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, Herald League, B.S.P., The Dockers' Union, and branches of the I.L.P., Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, Electrical Trade Union, National Union of Railwaymen, National Amalgamated Coal Porters' Union, Electrotypers & Stereotypers and others.

AT TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

Sunday, September 26th. 4 p.m.

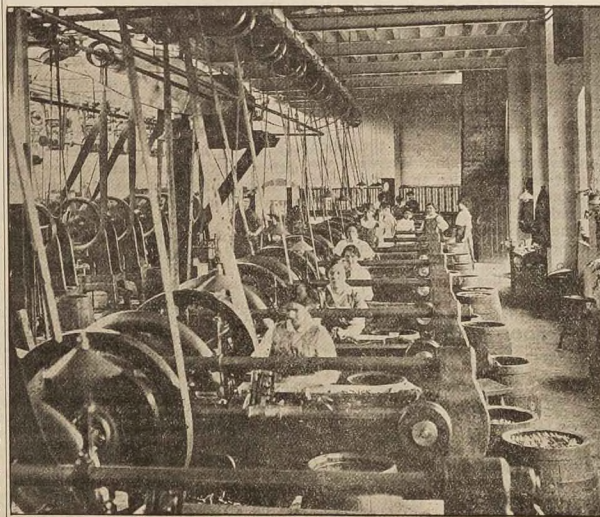
Speakers: W. C. Anderson, M.P.; George Lansbury; Mrs. Despard; Sylvia Pankhurst; Mrs. Pethick Lawrence; H. M. Hyndman; E. C. Fairchild; Mrs. Ganley; Mrs. Ayrton Gould; Mrs. Drake; J. Hill; Fred Bramley; Harry Dewbery; Robert Williams; R. G. Outhwaite, M.P.; Mrs. Leigh Rothwell; Mrs. Robinson; Fred Hughes; W. G. Woodley; W. Carter; Grace Neal and others.

## PROCESSION

Starts from 400 Old Ford Road, at 1.30; East India Dock Gates, 1.30. March via Gardiner's Corner 2.30; Bank; Ludgate Circus.

The North London Contingent starts from Highbury Corner, at 2.30 p.m.

COME IN YOUR THOUSANDS AND SEND THE GOVERNMENT A BUDGET MESSAGE.



WOMEN MUNITIONEERS.

## PLAGUE SPOT IN THE PENSIONS BILL.—CUT IT OUT.

The Naval and Military Pensions Bill, if passed in its present form, will give power to the Statutory Committee, "to decide whether any pension, grant, or separation allowance to wife, widow, child, or other dependant, has, under the regulations, subject to which it was granted, become forfeited."

No right of appeal, no public inquiry is provided for, so that, if the Bill goes through, the soldiers' and sailors' wives and parents will be left entirely at the mercy of the Local Committees from which the Statutory Committee will take its facts.

Soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives must organise and claim representation on these Committees if ever they are formed.

But the Bill must be amended.

## SOLDIERS' MOTHERS LEFT WITHOUT PENSIONS.

When the House of Lords shelved the Naval and Military Pensions Bill we were told that the dependants would not suffer. But soldiers' mothers, fathers and other relatives, find that 26 weeks after the soldier's death, the separation allowance stops, and when they apply for pension they receive the following reply:—

"Sir,—With reference to your letter of—, I am directed to inform you that any claim you may wish to make to a dependant's pension or other grant should be put forward when the proposed Statutory Committee, which is to be considered by Parliament, has been appointed.

"I am, sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. G. ASHLEY.

"For the Assistant Financial Secretary."

## TRYING TO EVICT A SOLDIER'S WIFE.

A soldier's wife in Bromley-by-Bow, who has eight children, has been given notice to quit by the landlord's agent, who is appealing to the Courts for power to evict her.

At the same time he refuses to give her a reference, which means that she cannot induce another landlord to accept her as a tenant, especially as landlords object to large families now-a-days.

The family has lived in the house in question for six years, and during that time the soldier fitted new wainscoting in the kitchen, new hearths in two of the rooms, and several new locks, and also plastered up holes in the walls.

East London landlords do very little to keep their houses in repair, preferring to leave this duty to their tenants.

Is this why the agent wants to turn the soldier's wife out now that her husband is at the War?

On September 22nd, Mr. Horace Rich, the agent, applied for an order under the Emergency Courts Act to evict the soldier's wife and her family. The case having come to our notice we had applied to Father Carey, of the Presbytery, Bow Common Lane, to tell us what he knew of the family. He wrote as follows:—

"I have known the family for now six years. It is a large family of eight children, dependent at all times on the earnings of the father, who has been only a casual labourer until he joined the Army. It is much in their favour, and indeed proves both father and mother to be sober, clean-living people, that this large family is, and has been, maintained all the time without any charity. I know them well, and not once have they

(Continued on page 325, col. 1)



LEAGUE OF RIGHTS

For Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.

Full particulars from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

I wish to join the EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

Name.....

Address.....

I enclose 1d. to cover Membership Fee and postage.

E.L.F.S. & R.S.P.U. JOINT SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

A Social will be held in aid of the Nursery Fund, as funds are urgently needed. We trust that all members and friends will rally to make the Social a huge success.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, 400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E. Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS: INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Charing Cross, W.C.1. CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co., 25, Boleyn Churchyard, E.C.4. Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.4.

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Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

THE BUDGET.

A man who has an income of £5,000 a year, has to pay in taxes £1,029, or 4s. 1 1/2d. in the £. He will have £3,971 a year left to spend as he pleases.

A man who has £10,000 a year will have to pay taxes of £2,529, or 5s. 1d. in the £. He will have £7,471 left for himself. We are supposed to pity him!

A man who has £20,000 a year will pay £6,029 in taxes, or 6s. in the £. He will have £13,971 left for himself.

A man who has £100,000 will have to pay £34,029 in taxes, i.e. 6s. 10d. in the £. He will have £65,971 left for himself.

Yet whilst a man earning £2 15s. a week is to pay an income tax of 12s. 1d. a quarter, and even worse, tea and sugar is to be taxed still more, we are told that all classes are bearing the burdens of war in equal measure!

Here are the Income Tax proposals in detail:-

Table with 3 columns: INCOMES, Previous Budget, New Budget. Rows include Earned, Unearned, Exemption limit, Abatement limit.

Table with 3 columns: SUPER TAX, Previous Budget, New Budget. Rows include Incomes between £8,000 and £9,000, £9,000 and £10,000, above £10,000.

These proposals are far from satisfying us. Before levying a penny of extra tax on the incomes under £500 a year, and especially on the weekly earnings, we should tax out of existence all incomes above £500.

WAR PROFITS.

Mr. McKenna promised to tax extra war profits. "I shall get them," he said, when we protested against them at our interview with him on September 10th.

He has put on a tax of 50 per cent. which he says will amount with income tax to 60 per cent. He has carefully hedged round this tax with provisions to save the profiteer from

hardship. The tax is to apply to all profits above £100 which are more than those on which income tax was paid in 1914; but not if the profits were less than 6 per cent. on the capital in April 1914, or additional capital has been invested, or if the work was on Government contracts or munitions of war, and the profits of the three years before the war gave less than "a fair return on capital."

If any such objections are raised by the taxpayer, the matter will be referred for adjustment to a committee of Mr. McKenna's own choosing. We wonder whether any working people will have seats on that committee.

We object to this war profit tax of 50 per cent., because we consider it should be 100 per cent. But we object still more strongly to the fact that the Government has allowed extra war profits to be made. Mr. McKenna estimates that the tax will bring in thirty million pounds, which shows that the Government is aware that at least sixty million pounds in extra war profits has been made.

That the Government knows this, is a proof that it might have stopped the making of these extra profits, had it chosen. Fourteen months have been allowed to pass before a tax is put on these profits, which means that large sums of money have been piled up already.

Before extra war profits are taxed they have to be made. If they are made on Government work, the people must pay the 40 per cent. that is not taxed. If extra profits have been made out of food and coal, the people have been made to pay the whole of them, and though 60 per cent. goes back to the State, yet that 60 per cent. has really been raised by an unjust charge on the necessities of life, and a charge on the necessities of life always bears hardest on the poor.

There is no extra tax on beer and spirits—the great brewing and distilling interests have refused to allow it. They are more persistent than the temperance advocates.

The tax on sugar is to be raised from 1s. 10d. per cwt. to 9s. 4d. per cwt.

When Mr. Will Thorne heard Mr. McKenna announce that in the House of Commons, he called out: "Where are you going?" And well he might!

Mr. McKenna replied that he would "soothe" Mr. Thorne by telling him that the consumer would not have to pay the whole of the tax, because the Royal Commission appointed by the Government to buy up the sugar supply would reduce the price of sugar to refiners from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per cwt., so that the tax would only amount to about 5s. per cwt., or 1 1/2d. a lb.

Granulated sugar that is now 3 1/2d. per lb. would only be 4d. he said cheerfully, though the price of lump sugar would rise much more. Does Mr. McKenna remember that granulated sugar which is to be 4d. per lb. was only 1 1/2d. per lb. before the war? This enormous rise in price has caused, and will continue to cause very great hardship to working people. We wish we could be sure that the dealers will not insist on making a profit out of the tax as usual, and to do it raise the price more than 1d. a lb. We wish we could feel sure also that the price will not be raised before the tax is actually put on.

The tax on sugar, tea, cocoa, coffee, chicory, dried fruits and tobacco is to be increased by 50 per cent. Here is a list of the rates of the present taxation on these things and the taxes that are about to be put on:

FOOD AND DRINK.

Table with 3 columns: Sugar, Tea, Cocoa, Coffee, Chicory, Dried Fruits. Columns: per cwt., per lb., Previous Rates, New Rates.

TOBACCO.

Table with 3 columns: Raw, Cigars, Cigarettes. Columns: per lb., Previous Rates, New Rates.

Tea was taxed an extra 3d. per lb. last November. It is altogether too hard that a further 4d. should be added to the tax now. When the three-penny tax was put on, the dealers raised the price by 6d. per lb., and tea that before had cost 1s. 4d. is sold to-day at 1s. 10d. This has already been raised to 2s. 2d., before the tax is put on. If women had the vote they might have been able to resist at least the tax on tea.

Tea is not only the drink of the poor woman—the only drink that she can afford—but it is the energiser that makes it possible for her to get through a hard day's work on insufficient food. Cocoa—always too expensive for the very poorest—will also cost more now.

Those who are making the outcry about drunkenness amongst soldiers' wives should bring pressure to bear upon the Government to secure the remission of the tax on tea in favour of one on beer and spirits. If they do not exert all their power and influence in this direction, they will clearly prove that their anxiety is not so much to make the soldiers' wife sober, as to reduce or take away her separation allowance.

POSTAL CHARGES.

In peace time postal charges do not affect very poor people much, for their correspondence is usually not large, but in war time, with sons, husbands and brothers at the War, the cost of postage has proved already a heavy burden, and many appeals have been made for a lower parcel post rate to the front. It would be fairer to raise the fee on higher-priced postal orders than on those from 6d. to 2s. 6d. A penny fee on 6d. is a tax of 3s. 6d. in the £!

Increased postal charges are as follows:-

POSTAL CHARGES.

Table with 3 columns: Present Rates, New Rates. Rows include Inland Letters, Postcards, Circulars, Newspapers, Parcels, 6d. to 2s. 6d. Postal Orders, Telegrams, Press Telegrams, Telephones (London), Trunk Fees.

The remaining taxes are as follows:

SUNDRIES.

Table with 3 columns: Patent Medicines, Motor Spirit, Motor Cars and Cycles, Cinema Films, Clocks and Watches, Musical Instruments, Plate Glass, Hats.

NEW IMPORT DUTIES.

Table with 3 columns: Motor Cars and Cycles, Cinema Films, Clocks and Watches, Musical Instruments, Plate Glass, Hats.

The tax graduated according to value, which results in a smaller tax being paid, on lower priced articles, would be a great advantage to the poor; but the tax is only graduated on things bought by the rich.

Many Liberals are very much disturbed because, with a Liberal Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer and a Liberal majority in the Cabinet, a tax is to be put on the above imported articles, whilst there is no corresponding Excise duty on the home made product. This is an instalment of what Tories call Tariff Reform.

The taxes on tea, cocoa, and dried fruits distress us more, though we do not know why rich people who have British-made motors should evade the motor tax.

The Budget is supposed just to cover the interest and sinking fund charges on the vast debts into which the country is being plunged, but the Manchester Guardian says that "the margin is a little fine."

We do not like to contemplate the awful liabilities that the country will have to meet in the future.

We know that, as usual, the workers, and especially the women will have to pay the cost.

There will be another budget and more taxes in the Spring.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

THE MUNITIONS ACT AGAIN.

At the Liverpool Munitions Tribunal Messrs. Cammell Laird and Co. complained that the 10,000 men in their employ had lost 1,500,000 hours in 20 weeks.

The men were given little opportunity to state their case, but most of them pleaded illness. It was not explained that Messrs. Cammell Laird are expecting their men to work very long hours of overtime, and that the hours of lost time quoted do not represent loss of time on the old working day, but inability to complete every hour of the excessively long day now expected.

One hears very much from Lloyd George and others about the increase in lost time during the War, but such advocates of compulsion omit to explain the cause.

It is common, for a man to begin at 6 or 8 a.m. on Saturday, work through the day and, after one or two hours off, to go on night duty. Then after another short rest, to go on to day duty until 8 p.m. on Sunday. We need not be surprised if he comes late on Monday morning, the strongest must fall into the heavy sleep of exhaustion under prolonged strain. But if a man comes a few minutes late he is docked "a quarter" and reported for loss of time.

Mr. Asquith still an anti-Suffragist? Does he still think it right to say to the women whom he is asking to come forward to help the Government out of its difficulties: "You shall have no voice in the election of the Government that has the power to change the whole course of your lives?" Sir Edward Carson, the new Attorney General, has admitted that he is responsible for the raid on the Labour Leader office, and the prosecution and secret trial.

He is the last man who should be trying to suppress other people's utterances!

SEE THAT YOUR NEWSAGENT STOCKS THE "DREADNOUGHT."

(Continued from front page) begged. Not only do I know them, but I highly respect them.

"You surprise me by saying that the agent wishes to get rid of them because of dirt!"

"The agent who said that has some 'other fish to fry!'"

"I am certain he would not do so well, were he placed in their circumstances. But lest I might be mistaken, I took your letter to the Headmaster of the school. He was as much surprised as I and he entertains a high opinion of the children's brightness and cleanliness. The family is admittedly poor, but they are a sober, industrious, clean-living family, and under these circumstances, and whilst the father is away serving his country, it is nothing short of a scandal that an agent living at home in comfort should be allowed to harrass the defenceless mother!"

"May God bless you for taking the case up."

"I am, yours faithfully, J. CAREY, Rector."

On hearing this letter read, the Magistrate said that the agent had no excuse for taking action, but as by the help of our friends the soldier's wife had secured another house, the case went no further.

The L.C.C. has started classes for women in repairing door fittings, stopping leaks, and other odd jobs. Now, perhaps, women as well as their husbands will learn to do the repairs that ought to be attended to by the landlord!

ANOTHER EVICTION.

The Duke of Sutherland, the owner of more than a million acres of land, three country houses, and a town house, is trying to evict Joseph Mackay, an old man of 83, who has three sons at the front.

In June, 1914, notice to quit was served on the Mackays, which resulted in indignation meetings of the Highlanders. Now, however, this crofter's land is wanted to add to the Balmacool shooting, and the Duke is anxious to carry out the eviction decree of 1914.

The Highlanders are determined to oppose the Duke to the utmost of their power, regarding it as a cruel act to turn this old man out at the beginning of winter.

How can such a man as this Duke encourage men to go to the front when he treats the soldiers' old parents like this? Surely his million acres are sufficient without coveting the Mackay holding. The land should belong to the people!

William George Edrupt, a driver in the City of London R.F.A., and his stepmother, Emma Edrupt, of Cavendish Buildings, Clerkenwell, were summoned to the Guildhall for having attempted to obtain by false pretences a sum of 5s. per week from the City Territorial Force Association.

Mr. Roome, prosecuting, said defendant enlisted in April last, and stated he had a salary of £1 per week, out of which he paid his stepmother 15s.

Edrupt, however, had only 15s. a week, out of which he paid his stepmother 10s.

The soldier was bound over to come up for conviction if called upon within six months, and the woman fined £2 and £2 10s. costs.

How can a poor woman pay £4 10s.? It is a scandal that any man, or woman either, should be expected to live on 15s. a week!

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE LEAGUE OF RIGHTS.

(1) That a representative chosen directly by the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives should be placed on the Statutory Committee.

(2) That in districts where there are organisations composed of and managed by the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives themselves these organisations shall elect representatives to the local committees and sub-committees.

(3) That soldiers' and sailors' parents and dependent brothers and sisters shall be treated in respect of separation allowances and pensions

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK (?)

A young woman informed us that she is employed at Woolwich Arsenal, that she and other women who fill shells there are paid 18s. a week for a 52-hour week, and that they are not paid extra on night shifts.

(4) That the separation allowances and pensions shall be raised in proportion to the rise in the cost of living.

(5) That arrangements shall be made whereby soldiers may marry by proxy from the trenches.

(6) That all unmarried mothers of soldiers' and sailors' children shall be entitled to separation allowance and pension, as at the present time the woman who has been engaged to be married and becomes a mother, suffers extreme hardship; and that wherever possible leave shall be given in order that the marriage may take place.

(7) That the wives of soldiers who have been previously stationed in India or in barracks and have returned to their homes in London on mobilisation of their husbands, shall not be deprived of London allowance.

(8) That better arrangements shall be made for securing that there shall be no irregularity in the payment of allowances where soldiers and sailors are in hospital or billeted at home.

(9) That in cases where the soldier or sailor has been punished for breach of discipline the allotment to the wife and children shall not cease.

(10) That separation allowances shall be paid on Friday or Saturday instead of on Monday, as this arrangement would be much more convenient to the women concerned.

(11) That arrangements for free medical attention for the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives are unsatisfactory and produce unnecessary delay.

(12) That the postage of parcels to France shall be reduced, and that as it is contended that this would entail an increased number of parcels sent, that a limit on the number of parcels to be sent per person shall be arranged in order that the poorer families shall not suffer as at present.

The War Emergency Workers' National Council has passed a resolution against lowering the school age to enable children to enter the labour market at an earlier age. It also protests against the present Naval and Military Pensions Bill, on the ground that the necessary funds should be provided, not from charity, but from public funds; and that it is essential that the proposed Statutory Committee should be under the direction of a Minister who could be responsible for its administration to the House of Commons.

THE "DREADNOUGHT" IN THE TRENCHES.

A "Poplar Boy," Royal Fusiliers, British Expeditionary Force, France, writes:—"I now have the pleasure of writing to you and your comrades to tell you how much I appreciate your paper, which the wife sends me every week. I might also tell you all the boys in the trenches where we are read it. The town where we are is almost in ruins now; the place is shelled daily, and it is a very sad sight to see the poor women and children out here. They are continually on the move; in fact they do not know where to go.

We have flies and mosquitoes by day and rats by night.

Give my love to all the wives of dear old Poplar; we are all doing our bit, and the sooner we get back to Christ Street shopping with them the better.

Good-bye and good luck to you all. Wishing your paper every success."

Vickers pay women 2 1/2d. an hour for work done by men at 6 1/2d. After 12 months training girls earn 7s. to 9s. a week, and 6d. a week War bonus, working 12 hours a day.

Waring and Gillows, military tent work; women receive 3 1/2d. an hour, men 9d. an hour. According to well-authenticated reports women turn out as much work as men.

Peek Frean's women get 13s. 9d. for work always done by women; 15s. for work that used to be done by men.

Mrs. Spicer of Roaring River, Minotons, Manitoba, Canada, writes to say that Mr. Norris, the Liberal Premier of the State, has promised women the Vote if they can present a mandate from women equal in number to 15 per cent. of the male voters at the last election. If the Premier keeps his promise, Votes for Women in Manitoba must certainly be assured.

SOCIAL AND DANCE in aid of the Herald Orchestra, on Saturday, October 2nd, 8 p.m., at the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road. Tickets 3d. at the Hall, or from the Secretary, W. H. BROADBEAR, 23 Parnell Road, Bow.

PARLIAMENT AND CONSCRIPTION.

In introducing the seventh Vote of Credit on September 15th, Mr. Asquith stated that with its inclusion a sum of £1,262,000,000 would have been voted by Parliament since the War began; that the gross daily War expenditure had risen from £2,900,000 in April to £4,200,000 on Sept. 11th; and that future weekly expenditure would be £35,000,000 a week, or £5,000,000 a day. (Mr. McKenna says that the expenditure already exceeds £5,000,000 a day.)

Mr. Asquith added that, with the men who were serving or called up when War began, three million men have joined the colours, and that 800,000 men and women are employed in the controlled munition factories.

The debate on the Vote of Credit was mainly devoted to Conscription, but the question of foreign policy was twice raised. Mr. Amery said:—"During the years before the War there were those on both sides of this House who believed that the danger, if it existed, would be averted by arbitration or other pacific methods, and by refraining in every way from encouraging the policy known as the Balance of Power. When they laid their methods of peace before the House they were always swept aside with bland assurances that there was no danger."

"We were trapped into this War. Those who hoped for peace by arbitration or disarmament and those who hoped for peace by the provision of better armaments, and the pursuit of a more resolute policy."

Mr. D. M. Mason said that when such vast sums of money had to be voted Members of Parliament were entitled to know "the objects and policy which His Majesty's Government intend to pursue with regard to the future of this War."

RECRUITING THE UNFIT.

Mr. Amery, Captain Guest, and the other advocates of Conscription, based their case largely on assertions that some of the men who are recruited are physically unfit, and that others are skilled mechanics who should be used in making munitions. Mr. Amery quoted a colonel who said that he had had sent out to him "any number of unfits—the halt, the lame, and the blind." Sir Richard Cooper spoke of men being recruited and afterwards discharged as "deformed" and "unable to stand" in the ranks, and having a "withered leg" or a "smashed foot."

But under the voluntary system of enlistment, just as under Conscription, recruits are obliged to undergo a medical examination, and if the doctors are as grossly incompetent as would appear from these assertions, their mistakes would be still more disastrous if they had the power to compel sick men to enlist at their bidding.

The same applies to the question of the skilled mechanic at the front. Instructions not to recruit the skilled mechanic, may just as easily be given to the recruiting sergeant under the voluntary system, as under compulsion.

Sir Alfred Mond complained that skilled men who are sent back from the trenches for munition work are compelled to work in their khaki uniform. This is a bit of War Office red tape, and quite unconnected with the voluntary principle.

The conscriptionists made no secret of the fact that they want industrial as well as military compulsion. Captain Guest said that the wages paid to munition workers are too high, and suggested that this fact is making it difficult for farmers to get workers on the land.

He also stated that the death rate at the front is 100 per cent. per annum, which means, if he is right, that as many men as are sent out are killed in the space of a year, and that no man need hope to live beyond that period—an appalling prospect for poor mothers and wives at home!

But how can conscription remedy such a matter? Men cannot be created by Act of Parliament!

CONSCRIPTION ALREADY TRIED.

Mr. Dillon quoted from the Memorandum on the Militia Ballot, prepared for the War Office in 1870 by General Sir Henry Havelock, giving the history of all the trials of conscription that Great Britain has made.

(Continued on page 326, col. 2.)



### EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

**OBJECTS:** To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women. Entrance Fee ... 1d. Subscription ... 1d. a Month.

### BRANCH REPORTS.

#### BOW.

A very enjoyable Debate was held on Friday, Miss S. Pankhurst being in the chair. There will be another Debate on the 24th, with "Arbitration without a Truce" as subject. Members try to come and bring friends.

All should make a point of coming in the Procession on Sunday 26th. We form up at 1.30 p.m. at 400 Old Ford Road. Make this known in every way you can. Don't forget the Poster Parade on Saturday. For particulars, see announcement.

September is now nearly over, and members are reminded that monthly subscriptions are overdue. *Dreadnought* sales, week ending Sept. 18th—1,003. Miss O'Brien 175, Mrs. Greer 48, Mrs. Farrall 24, Miss Bennett 20, Special Meetings 735, City and District—Mrs. Holloway 363.

#### POPULAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST. *Organiser:* Miss Drake. The Autumn session was held here on Sept. 12th, when Miss Pankhurst spoke and Mdle. Espagne gave us some excellent singing. Friends remember the next Sunday meeting, which will be on Oct. 10th.

There will be no meeting this Sunday owing to the Demonstration in Trafalgar Square. Please explain the object of this to your friends, and come to the office for some bills. This is a very important demonstration, and everyone should know of it. Good meeting at Charles St., on Wednesday, and on Saturday at Grandy St.

The Club held here on Wednesday is a great success, for which we must thank Miss Lagsding for playing the piano, and Miss Watts for getting refreshments ready—8 to 10 p.m. We have received 11s. 6d. towards *Dreadnought* poster, and shall welcome more subscriptions towards this. Let us see how soon we can complete the amount, which is 35s.!

Anybody wishing to join the Savings Club may do so on Tuesday evening. Secretaries: Miss H. Watts and Miss C. Lagsding. Pay what you like and draw out at Xmas. *Dreadnoughts* sold during week ending Sept. 20th—274. Distributed 500. Miss Lagsding and D. Morley, 60. Christ St., 66. Collected—Miss E. Lagsding and Miss D. Morley 13s. 3d., Mrs. Drake 9s. 4d. Donation towards dress 10s. 0d., Miss Widdicombe.

#### SOUTH WEST HAM.

Centre for Tidal Basin: 55 FIFE ROAD, BARKING ROAD, THURSDAYS, 8 P.M.

Will members please note that our open-air meetings are held at 6.30 instead of 8 p.m.—as the lights are so low in the district. We therefore hope that members will find it more convenient to attend, so please see which pitch is nearest to your home. Will any volunteer come forward to canvass some members in order to get larger meetings on Thursday nights? Just now it is very important to have meetings, discussions and debates, and to keep in touch even more with one another than we have done in the past.

Also there are some members willing to pay their subscriptions, but they are waiting for a collector to call on them. We should like volunteers to do that, as money is a very pressing need in the Federation. All friends are thanked who have so ably helped by canvassing, selling *Dreadnoughts*, meeting speakers, and helping in shop, etc., while secretary has been away. The Procession to Trafalgar Square starts from Dock Gates at 1.30 p.m., and we hope a good number will turn up. There will be a band with the contingent, in order to get the public to join in. We want collectors and Paper sellers. The *Dreadnoughts* sold from July 30th up to date were 594.

#### THE NATIONAL REGISTERS.

Harold Pugmire, a schoolmaster, was fined at Haywood recently for refusing to fill up the National Registration Form. In imposing the fine the magistrate expressed regret that the Act did not provide the alternative of imprisonment.

As we have pointed out before, certain magistrates have been going beyond their powers and breaking the law.

Actions for wrongful imprisonment should be brought against them.

The Misses Aichen and Rodgers, and Mr. Randolph of Letchworth are to be prosecuted for refusing to sign their registration forms. Miss Aichen refuses on the grounds that she is a pacifist and suffragette!

At Croydon Police Court a young man, Stanley Adams, 17 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath, was ordered to pay a fine of £5 with the alternative of a month's imprisonment, for refusing to fill up the Registration Form.

(Continued from page 325.)

Conscription was tried under Pitt, and the report says:—

"This Militia scheme met with no favour in the country. The people rose against Conscription, and their hostility proceeded to such an extremity in the north of Scotland that at the Spring Assizes for 1759, four persons, obstructing the Militia Act, were convicted, and some of them executed for high treason."

The Duke of Wellington had said: "It is quite clear that the British Regular Army cannot be raised by Conscription or ballot." Lord Palmerston and the other Ministers of his day had also declared against Conscription.

Mr. J. H. Thomas of the National Union of Railwaymen, pointed out that the Conscriptionists refuse, on their own account, to trust the Government, "if they, with all their knowledge of the Government, are not prepared, as representative men, to trust the Government to say what they shall do, do they expect the great mass of working men and women in this country to say 'We will place ourselves unreservedly at the disposal of the Government!'" Mr. Thomas added that the workers could not forget that the Conscription agitation was begun by those who wanted to get cheap soldiers, and that the working classes were firmly opposed to it. He reminded the Government that it had been found impossible to enforce the Munitions Act against 200,000 miners, and asked "What is going to happen with 3,000,000 men?" He said that with an increase of 35 per cent. in the cost of living, and thousands hardly able to exist to-day, it will be difficult to keep peace as it is, during the Winter, and warned the Government that it might eventually be forced to conclude peace on terms that it did not consider just, because of industrial troubles at home. He said: "Realise that the worker feels to-day that he is fighting and giving his life to crush German militarism. The worker is not blind to the fact that there are those in this country who would like militarism, which would be equally a danger to them."

Where other opponents of Conscription took refuge in excuses that the Government has not yet declared that it is necessary, Mr. Thomas had the courage to state clearly that he and the men behind him are definitely opposed to Conscription, because they think it wrong. By honestly expressed opposition, not by cowardly hedging, Conscription may be prevented.

#### DEFENCE OF LONDON.

On September 13th Mr. Balfour was questioned in regard to the defence of London. He said that when he was appointed to the Admiralty he found to his surprise that he was responsible for the defence of London. This was more than four months ago.

He said that, "Nobody foresaw when the War broke out the full development of aerial war. If the Government had set to work three or four years before the War, with a full knowledge of the development of aerial warfare, to organise the defence of London, no doubt it would have been organised on lines different from those which prevail, but you really ought not to criticise the Minister in charge because it is not done. That is not a fair way to look at human effort."

Mr. Balfour should remember that the War began 14 months ago, and that as he recently announced to us, the first air raid was in January.

Yet until the other day London had no protecting aircraft at all.

All Mr. Balfour's talk about the defence of London "being in process of development" is beside the mark, and his statement that "the Naval Air Service is now an immense service, the number of flyers is very great, and the number of machines is very great," only makes the matter worse.

If Mr. Balfour has the sort of mind that takes three or four years, or even 14 months, to decide whether hostile aircraft should be met by protecting aircraft, he should give up being a man of war and become a man of peace.

But these are only excuses. Mr. Balfour's true mind and the mind of the Government may be read in his later words:—

"If you turn your eyes away from the case of individual hardship, cruelty and suffering, and consider simply how much injury to this country, either as a great economic unit or as a great fighting force has been done by these aerial attacks, I can truly say that, so far, that damage has been insignificant."

That is the standpoint of Governments of the past, a standpoint which takes no account of the happiness and well-being of the individual citizens, except when they are powerful enough to make themselves unpleasant to the Government or to threaten the existing order.

The Mission of the Woman's Movement must be to effect as radical a change in the attitude and practice of Governments as that of transforming a juggernaut car into an omnibus, or the inquisition into a friendly society.

#### THE "EMILY DAVISON LODGE."

The following report has been sent in:—

The energy of the promoters of the "Emily Davison" Lodge was well rewarded by an over-crowded opening meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 15th, at 8 p.m., to hear Mrs. F. E. Smith's most interesting lecture on the "Life and Work of Emily Davison, considered astrologically." A new light and a new hope seemed to enter into the meditation of those gathered together, to perpetuate the memory of a gallant woman. Above all gifts and powers, and these were many in Emily Davison, seemed to stand out the will to make sacrifice in the attainment of her ideal—the complete dedication of self for the benefit of others, even unknown. This characteristic, prominent in the horoscope, worked out even more prominently in actual life, and was dwelt upon by Mrs. Lamartine Yates, in her "Personal Recollections," which followed Mrs. Smith's lecture. Throughout her life she had fought injustice at any cost to herself, and though with a wrench, she did not shrink from the supreme consummation of sacrifice, the surrender of life itself. She was faithful unto the last.

Something of the struggle with which she reached this point is wonderfully expressed in her "Price of Liberty," a short essay found amongst her papers, and reproduced in the *DREADNOUGHT* of June 12th, 1915.

In formally declaring the Lodge open, Mrs. Lamartine Yates explained that its object was to perpetuate the memory of Emily Davison, by gathering together women of progressive thought and aspiration, with the purpose of working for the progress of women according to the needs of the hour.

The entrance fee has been fixed at a nominal 5s., and annual subscription likewise, that none may be deterred by monetary considerations. Prospective members must be proposed and seconded by existing members. Application forms can be obtained from the Secretary, "Emily Davison" Lodge, 144 High Holborn, W.C.

A representative Executive Committee will shortly be elected by the members. Will all those wishing to join promptly, therefore, send in their applications, accompanied by entrance fees?

The following donations received at the meeting are gratefully acknowledged:—Mrs. Davison 10s., Mrs. Riddell £2, Mrs. Lamartine Yates £1 1s., Mr. Lamartine Yates 10s. 6d. Friends please copy.

When the baker, Daniau, of the Commune of Exoudun, in the Department of Deux Sevres, left for the front, the villagers were without bread. His little daughter, aged 14, promptly set to work, and practised making rolls until she acquired the necessary skill. Rising at four o'clock in the morning and aided only by her ten-year-old brother, she bakes 800 lbs. of bread daily, thus performing the work of a strong man.

#### OUR DEBATE.

On Friday, September 17th, a debate on Continuous Arbitration Without Truce, was held at the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The debaters became for the time being spokesmen for the various nations.

A conference of the neutral powers was formed, and this conference made to each nation in turn, suggestions as to the terms on which peace might be concluded, afterwards conveying the reply to the opponents. Italy and Belgium were especially belligerent and stuck out firmly for a heavy indemnity. Germany showed itself sharply divided, the Kaiser and the official element taking a line diametrically opposed to that of the Socialist Party.

At the close of the debate peace was restored on a harmonious basis.

It is proposed to hold a similar debate on Friday, September 24th.

#### GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

*DREADNOUGHT* FUND.—Miss A. M. Buchan 5.0.0, James Leakey, Esq. 2.12.0, J. Coleman, Esq. 1.0.0.

GENERAL FUND.—Collection Hackney 2.6, Mrs. J. C. Miller 1.0.

FOR MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Mrs. W. Doran (annual) 5.0.0, Miss L. M. Lomas 5.0.0, Mrs. Rushbrooke 3.3.0, Mr. and Mrs. Sudd Brown 3.0.0, Miss H. A. Gordon 3.0.0, Miss Roberts 2.2.0, The Lady Semple 2.2.0, Mrs. Sankey 2.2.0, Mrs. Malkin 2.2.0, Mrs. Holberton 2.2.0, M. Proser James, Esq. 2.2.0, Mrs. Joy 2.0.0, Mrs. H. G. Boswell 2.0.0, Mrs. Baillie Weaver (monthly) 2.0.0, The Misses Collier (monthly) 2.0.0, Toolroom, etc.—London Small Arms Factory 1.11.0, Mrs. Strain Boulnois 1.1.0, Mrs. Patridge 1.1.0, Mrs. W. A. Tennant 1.1.0, Mrs. Seligman 1.1.0, Mrs. Pollock 1.1.0, Miss I. V. Yeoman (10.0 weekly) 1.0.0, Mrs. Archcliffe Sennett (monthly) 1.0.0, Mrs. Bishop 1.0.0, Miss Campbell 1.0.0, Mrs. Butler 1.0.0, Mrs. E. Hutchinson 1.0.0, Miss Eva Moore 13.6, Mrs. Garner 11.0, Miss P. W. Phillips 10.0, Mrs. Bevan 10.0, Miss H. E. Raisin (monthly) 10.0, Mrs. Corbett 10.0, Miss M. L. Burroughs 10.0, Mrs. Foulkes 10.0, Mrs. Pepper 10.0, Mrs. Thornton 10.0, Miss F. Patterson 10.0, Mrs. Blood 10.0, Miss Tregellis 10.0, J. C. Anderson, Esq. 10.6, per Miss Dreury 7.5, Mrs. Baillie 7.0, Mrs. Todhunter's Nursery party 6.0, Miss Levy (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. F. Lowy (monthly) 5.0, Miss J. T. Dreury (2.6 monthly) 5.0, per Miss Zoe Proctor 5.0, Miss M. James 5.0, Mrs. Kennard 5.0, Anon 5.0, Miss Macan 5.0, Rudd-Clarke, Esq. 5.0, West Adam 5.0, Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly) 2.5, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.5, Miss S. Morris 2.5, Mrs. C. Davis 2.5, Mrs. Granger's Club 2.5, Ronald Nichols (aged 6) 2.5, Miss M. Barrowman (monthly) 2.5, D. Wilkie, Esq. (monthly) 2.5, Miss D. L. Dubock (2.6 monthly) 5.0, Miss A. M. Osmond (weekly) 2.0, Mrs. S. Saxby (monthly) 2.0, Miss Osman 1.0, Miss Heathcote 1.0, Mrs. Spicer 1.0, 50 cents.

COLLECTIONS.—Milk collection Bromley 8.10, Mrs. Crabb 1.0.3, Miss Bennett 0.8.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Hornblower, Mrs. Cholmely, Mrs. Budd, Wimbledon W.S.P.U., Miss Gordon, Mrs. Redmayne, Mrs. Roland Wicks, Miss Hoare, Hon. Mrs. de Grey, Mrs. Saxby (flowers), Mrs. George Young (flowers), Hampstead W.S.P.U. (groceries).

#### SEPTEMBER 21st.

*DREADNOUGHT* FUND.—Miss A. Gliksten 1.10.0, Mrs. Sudd Brown 1.5.0, E. H. Johncock, Esq. 1.0.

GENERAL FUND.—Miss Mary Floyd 1.0.0, Miss D. Hollins (monthly) 10.6, Mrs. Branch 10.0, Naval Storeworkers' Protection League 10.0, Bow Members subscriptions per Mrs. Payne 8.0, Tom Norris, Esq. (monthly) 5.0, Miss Gulland 5.0, Miss Nancy Fleming 5.0, Mrs. Rothwell 3.0, Collection Barking Rd., 2.6, E. Friend, Esq. 2.6, Collection Women's Hall 2.6, Collection General Meeting 2.1, "A Nottingham Rebel" 2.0, Poplar collection 1.4, Members subscriptions per Mrs. Mantle 1.3, Collection Hackney 1.3, Mrs. King 1.0, Mrs. Walters 1.0, Mrs. Green 1.0, Members subscriptions per Mrs. Parsons 0.8.

MILK & GENERAL DISTRESS.—H. Evans, Esq. 2.0.0, Toolroom, etc. L.S.A. 1.11.3, Mrs. Gerard Fox 1.1.0, Miss A. Gliksten (monthly) 1.0.0, Miss G. Sheldon 1.0.0, Miss I. V. Yeoman (10.0 weekly) 1.0.0, Mrs. A. C. Woodman 1.0.0, Mrs. Richmond (5.0 weekly) 1.0.0, Mrs. Morrison (5.0 monthly) 1.0.0, G. E. & M. 1.0.0, Miss I. Moncrieff (sale of dishes) 1.0.0, E. G. Kneekles, Esq. 5.0, Mrs. Garner 5.0, Miss A. M. Vickers 5.0, Miss Ada Farmer 5.0, Miss E. M. Morgan (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. Rittershaws 5.0, Mrs. G. Phipps 5.0, Miss Nora Tennant 4.0, Miss M. Hoy 4.0, Anon 2.6, Mrs. Kennedy 2.6, Mrs. Mary Pott 2.5, Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly) 2.6, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, Mr. Stiebel 2.0, Miss I. Jones (weekly) 2.0, Miss M. Osmond (weekly) 2.0, Miss E. Hayes 1.0, J.S. 1.0, Miss M. Balchin 1.0.

COLLECTIONS.—Miss Lagsding and Miss Morley 15.0, Bromley Milk 10.9, Mrs. Crabb 10.0, Bow Restaurant 9.8, Mrs. Tollon 9.1, Victoria Park 3.5, Bow Milk 2.7, Mrs. Mears 1.3, Mrs. Green 1.3, Mrs. Dowling 1.0.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Mrs. Clara M. Kennedy, Miss E. Skeates, Mrs. Gillies, A. P. L., Mrs. Hoare, Miss D. Hunkel.

APPLES.—Mrs. Graham.

GROCERIES.—Per Miss Batson.

BOOTS AND SHOES, ETC.—Mrs. J. Branch.

Girl aged 21, educated in convent, can do embroidery, fine sewing and washing, wants work.