

Vol. II.-No. 5.

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1908.

PRICE

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Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.

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

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

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

'Women's Franchise,'
Editorial and Publishing Office,
13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

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

Notes.

WE take the utmost pleasure in recording the inaugural meeting of the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League on July 22nd at the Westminster Palace Hotel. However disagreeable the opposition of the hooligan element has been, we have solaced ourselves with the thought that such opposition brought us as supporters all lovers of fair play. We firmly believe that this fresh opposition of a totally different character will prove as advantageous to us. The General Editor is only prevented from reprinting the first manifesto of the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League from a feeling that it would be hardly fair to take the same as the collective and authoritative pronouncement of a League, so recently inaugurated; but bearing in mind the object with which this paper was started—"that the truth may prevail"—we earnestly ask the Women's Anti-Suffrage League—so soon as they have had time to give the matter their collective and mature consideration—to furnish us with a full and authoritative statement of their case, signed by the officials of the League, which we will most gladly publish in our pages, with our reply thereto.

In the plebiscite on the Women Suffrage question conducted by the Daily Express, we are told the result of the poll was a victory for the Anti-Suffragists by a majority of 3,232; but if we go into details, we find that majority was made by men, the majority of women in favour of the Suffrage being over 17,000.

A GREAT deal of capital was made by our opponents of the result of the Women's Suffrage canvas at Sheffield, and the subject has been made much of by the Press. Equal publicity was not given to a canvas undertaken of the women on the Municipal roll in the Tradeston Division of Glasgow (represented by Mr. Cameron Corbett), on the question of Women's Franchise. The canvas, which was undertaken by the local Women's Liberal Unionist Association, resulted in the following figures: For, 1,462; against, 176; neutral, 443.

Pilot's Mate to Pilot Asquith.—Hadn't you better get aboard her, sir,

and bring her into port, or she'll run us down. We can't pretend any

The Church Times re Female Suffrage. We are glad to see so many capable writers coming forward to refute the somewhat feeble arguments of our opponents. These letters will do much to answer the taunt of some, that the movement is contrary to religious and scriptural admonition.

THE events of the week have included a peaceful Suffrage raid on the Earl's Court Exhibition, where, on Saturday afternoon last, a sympathetic audience listened to speeches delivered by Miss Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and others from various picturesque sites; and a march of the support of the Licensing Bill.

WE have to thank several ladies who kindly distributed specimen copies of the paper on Saturday last at the Licensing Bill Demonstration. It is easy to under-estimate the value of such help, but it is difficult to suggest any better way of making the paper known than by placing copies of it far and wide. Volunteers are urgently needed. Will any who are willing to help the Suffrage cause in this way call at 13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, on August 1st? It should be possible to distribute a great number on that day—the occasion of the Peace Demonstration.

We would again ask those of our friends who are at the seaside or in the country to send for distribution copies, to use every endeavour to get local newagents to display a contents bill, and, if they have any influence in obtaining advertisements, to do so on behalf of Women's Franchise.

THE amount subscribed for our sandwich-man-who has recently been decorating the streets and educating the passers-by—is now exhausted. We are the more anxious to obtain further support for the payment of his work in that the employment thus given will help him to tide over the coming week or so, after which he has a promise of regular employment in his own trade.

WE have received from Miss C. J. M. Strangways subscription for the paper to be sent to four clubs and libraries in Somerset for three months: from Miss J. H. Thomson for the paper to be sent to the University Club, Hanover Square, for six months; from Miss M. Turner for the paper to be posted to the South-West Sussex Liberal Association, Chichester, for three months, with promise of renewal.

MRS. ARNCLIFFE SENNETT has again sent 4s., being 1s. a week which she kindly promised towards the publishing expenses of Women's Franchise.

A FRIEND, taking her holiday at Robin Hood's Bay, is distributing specimen copies, and getting our paper taken up by newsagents there.

The Suffrage in Other Lands.

RUSSIA.—The following article kindly contributed by Madame de Mirovitch, though not bearing immediately on the Suffrage, gives a vivid, and alas! gloomy picture of the condition of women under the present reactionary régime.

The Banishment of Women from the Universities in Russia.

One of the most revolting acts of the present reactionary Government in Russia towards women has been their expulsion from the universities.

* The ninth is the University of St. Petersburg. We hope that by this autonomy, women were immediately admitted to them. They did not get the rights of men-students at the time; but these

AN excellent correspondence is being carried on just now in were expected to follow; the question seemed to rest with women—they were to prove capacities for the highest education, and this they did in the years 1906-7, as is testified by the universities of Russia. More than that, it has been observed that the atmosphere in the universities has altered for good with the admission to them of women, Formerly the majority of men-students regarded the highest education as a means of getting a certificate in order to go in for State offices. With the admission of women, new, more idealistic, aims were put forward. Women had no practical ends before them, the State service existing only for men They studied with disinterested motives, in order to get knowledge and be able to work for their country. This Suffrage contingent with the demonstrators to Hyde Park in explains why women students often proved more efficient than

They passed their examinations in 1907 very successfully some remarkably well. Such is the testimony of many professors. But their zeal and progress did not advance their cause. In Russia everything rests not on principles of justice and equity, but on the whim and bon vouloir of this or that autocrat, and there is such a number and variety of autocrats in Russia! In 1908 a new Minister of Education was appointed. Mr. Schwarz is a reactionary man, and he immediately set to work to destroy all his predecessor, Mr. Kaufmann, had done for education in Russia. Considering the character of his activity, Mr. Schwarz might as well be called Minister of Ignorance.

One of his reactionary measures bore on women. He issued in May a circular, expelling all women from the universities, a measure owing to which 2,000 women-students who had been studying during two years in the universities are now thrown out and deprived of the means to finish their course of education in Russia. What is then the motive of such a drastic measure? Mr. Schwarz states in his circular that women not being admitted to the State service have no business to go to the university. Evidently the universities, according to the Minister of Education's "ideal" views, are but means to create State officials, and women must not stand in the way of men. But even admitting the justice of such views, the women-students would not have stood in the way of menstudents, there being several universities where there always are on some faculties vacant places for students. Evidently there is something else behind the scene, and this something else is the feeling of instinctive repulsion of an autocratic Government towards the extension of education in the country; is so much easier to govern an ignorant nation!

All the progressive elements in Russia are most indignant at the circular of the Minister of Education banishing women from the universities. All have protested against this measurethe Progressive parties in the Duma, the Press, and eight out of the nine universities in Russia.*

The review of the "Russian Union for Women's Rights' is now doing its utmost to help women students to get back their rights. It has undertaken an investigation with the purpose of getting the opinion on the question of university professors. "The Women's Union" has forwarded to the professors. professors of all the universities in Russia a circular with the following questions:—

Have the women students proved to be sufficiently prepared to follow the university courses?

'2. Have they shown a sufficient amount of assiduity in their work?

3. What have been the results of their examinations and practical work?

"4. Do you consider the demand of women asking to be admitted to the universities just and lawful? If not, state

why. "All answers must bear the name of the professor and his subject."

We believe that this investigation, to which a large publicity will be given, will prove most favourable to women and most useful for their cause.

ZÉNÉIDE MIROVITCH.

Municipal Franchise.

STR.-Mrs. Dixon's astonishment and annoyance at discovering that the Women's Qualification Act of 1907, does not confer the Franchise on her is quite excusable. I endeavoured to explain the position of married women under the Act is an article which appeared in your issue of October 3rd, 1907 at page 158; perhaps a reference to this will help Mrs. Dixon to understand the present anomalous state of the law.

With regard to the future, the Women's Local Government Society, of 17, Tothill Street, Westminster, London, S.W., is actively engaged in promoting a Bill to remedy the defects of the recent Act, and is generally watching the interests of women in relation to Local Government.

If Mrs. Dixon wants to help, she cannot do better than join this Society, and subscribe to its funds. I should also

like to take this opportunity of pointing out that many women (married and unmarried) who do possess votes for various local bodies are not aware of their qualifications. The law on the subject is very intricate and difficult, but a leaflet has recently been issued by the Women's Local Government Society which explains clearly and simply the electoral qualifications and disabilities of women in the United Kingdom. The last day for sending in new claims is August 20th, and therefore women who may think themselves entitled to votes should obtain a copy of this leaflet without delay.

The leaflet is supplied at

4d. per dozen; 2s per 100; 8s. per 500. Postage extra.

Faithfully yours. HERBERT JACOBS.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent Mrs. Agnes M. Dixon, may I say that a Bill has already been drafted, at the instance of the Women's Local Government Society, to remove the "punishment" which marriage inflicts on all married women desiring to e candidates for Town and County Councils ?

But so far, hardly any attention has been given to the fact that married

working-women are practically all penalized by marriage from voting for Town and County Councils. The Women's Coperative Guild is urging the need for an agitation on this point. and suggests that the husband's qualification should be the basis of his wife's enfranchisement (as suggested for the Parliamentary Franchise in Mr. Dickinson's Bill, No. 2). Such a Franchise would recognize that the wife is joint head of the household, and cannot legally live anywhere except in her husband's house.

Will not the Local Government Society enlarge their Bill so as to include the enfranchisement of married women?

Yours truly, MARGARET LLEWELYN DAVIES.

longer that we don't see her.

[We hope to have space next week to insert other important replies on the same subject.]

Mrs. Merton Russell Cotes' "Freedom."

SIR,—I gladly note your reference to my point in last week's issue. It would be better for all women that they paid more attention to the statutes and edicts as they stand. Even after the adverse decision of "Counsel" last year, another Counsel" wrote voluntarily to tell me that if a "freewoman" of a company, applied to be put on the Register as a Freeman, she could not be refused.

The word "man" includes "woman," as I have proved

I wrote to ask Miss Nightingale to apply to be put on the Register, as part of her "Freedom," but her friends said she was not strong enough now to be troubled.

But perhaps Mrs. Merton Russell Cotes may think of it.

I am, yours faithfully, CHARLOTTE C. STOPES.

DEAR SIR, - In last week's Franchise, under the heading 'Law versus Nature,' the writer states that the mother of an illegitimate child is its legal parent. This is true only up to a certain point. The mother, who is usually very young and ignorant is compelled to take full responsibility and maintain the child, no matter how. As far as this is concerned she is the "legal" parent. But let her by any means whatsoever raise herself from poverty, what claim has her child on any property she may leave behind? None whatever. If she dies without having made a will, her property, small or large, passes to her legal next-of-kin, or, failing these, to the State, and the child, her own flesh and blood, cannot claim even her old clothes. If she makes a will, then the State charges the maximum death duty, as though she and her child were utter strangers. In fact the law says, this mother and child are "strangers in blood."

Yours faithfully, A. C. WALL (Mrs.)

Money to go to help win the Vote.

DEAR SIR,—I have read Miss Birnstengl's letter with much interest. Last year I deducted 25 per cent from all subscriptions and donations for the benefit of Women's Suffrage; this year I am deducting 50 per cent, and I propose to go on increasing the deduction till the vote is won. Many severe letters from representatives of societies suffering under this deduction have been sent me, and I am quite sure that it is one of the most effective methods of letting people know that we Suffragists are in earnest, and also raising funds for the cause.

Yours faithfully,

C. W.

Pational Union of Momen's Suffrage Societies.

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

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

Hon. Secretaries: Miss Frances Hardcastle, M.A. Miss Ward. Organisers: MISS E. M. GARDNER, B.A. MISS MARGARET ROBERTSON. Telephone: 1960 VICTORIA. Telegrams: "VOICELESS, LONDON."

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

The Union will send Organising Agents, Speakers, or Literature to any place requiring them, its desire being to form a Women's Suffrage Society in every County and Borough.

All per sons interested in the movement, or desiring information about it, are requested to communicate with the Secretaries. Increased Funds are needed for the growing work of the Union, and Subscriptions will be gladly received by the Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1908. Chairman-MR. WALTER S. B. McLAREN.

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

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

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

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

Current Topics.

WE are arranging, with the assistance of the Cambridge Society, a propaganda campaign among the students who are gathered there from all parts of Europe during the first fortnight of August. The central point will be our Banner Exhibition at the Assembly Rooms, details of which appear elsewhere, and which Prof. James Ward, M.A., Sc.D., LL.D., has kindly consented to open. We earnestly beg all members who have friends at Cambridge, or in the University Extension Society, to ask them to help make this exhibition a great success. All communications should be addressed to Miss Ward, 25, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

We were glad to see that Miss Hardcastle had sufficiently recovered from her accident to be able to be present at the Edinburgh Council Meeting, and it is satisfactory to learn that she confidently expects to be able to resume the full responsibilities attached to her office in September. Under these circumstances, Miss Ward has asked the Executive Committee to allow it to be understood that her position as joint Hon. Secretary is a purely formal one, and will lapse in October, in order that she may be able to continue the work for the London Society which she had already undertaken.

MESSAGE FROM VICTORIA.

WE have received the following letter and communication from Miss Vida Goldstein, whose work in the Suffrage cause is so well known and appreciated in Victoria, and who is President of the Women's Political Association there. In answer to our invitation to join our Procession Miss Goldstein writes:-

Indeed, I wish I could have seen your great Demonstration, and unfortunately our own struggle for the State Suffrage keeps me so busy that it was impossible for me to think of attending the Amsterdam Conference.

At a meeting of our Association held last night the enclosed resolution was passed unanimously.

"That this meeting offers the heartiest congratulations to the English National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies on the unparalleled success of its procession last Saturday, and rejoices at its immediate effect on the hostile English press, though it regrets that the press and the Government have compelled women to a course of action utterly repugnant to them, because those vaunted 'leaders' and 'reflectors' of public opinion are such silly babies that they cannot understand the peaceful argument of logic, reason, common sense, statistics, and industrial evolution, but require a kindergarten object lesson to show them that women are as public spirited as men, and need and desire the protection of the vote as much as they do. Further, this meeting calls on the Bent Government to prove to England that it has advanced beyond the kindergarten method of political argument by making Woman Suffrage a Government measure, and passing it into law during the coming session.

Yours sincerely, VIDA GOLDSTEIN.

A most interesting meeting was held by the Christchurch, Bermondsey, Branch of the Church of England Total Abstinence Society on the evening of Thursday, July 23rd, to discuss the subject of Women's Suffrage. Miss Swankie Cameron's address was listened to with the utmost attention, and at the end very intelligent questions were asked by several of the audience.

Haggerston By-Election.

WE are badly in need of helpers for the Haggerston by-election, as the whole of the work must be done within the week. Will helpers report themselves to Miss Robertson, 47, Queen's Road at once? The following replies have been received from the candidates :-

Mr. Burrows's Answer.

DEAR MISS PALLISER,—When the lady from your Union saw me at Chandos Hall, on Thursday, I explained my position to her with regard to Woman Suffrage, of which, all my political life, I have been (as is well known) a staunch upholder. As an Adultist I am opposed to all Limited Bills; but I did not look sufficiently at the two questions she handed me.

With regard to No. 2 of these, I will vote for the inclusion women in the promised Government Reform Bill, if I am elected, on the condition that the Bill is an Adult Suffrage measure. I mean that if the Bill is a Manhood Suffrage Billwhich, of course, is not Adult—I would do my utmost to make it a complete Adult measure by including in it all women. And should vote against any Bill for the further extension of the franchise to men which did not include women. That does not, of course, mean that I would vote for a Bill which, although it included women, was a limited measure.

I am sorry that the Adultists and the Limiteds do not see eye to eye on this important question. I most fully realize and sympathize with the desire of women to get rid of the sex-disqualification; but to me, any limited measure would extend the vicious principle of property qualification and defer, perhaps for years, any Adult measure.

I am, faithfully yours, HERBERT BURROWS,

Socialist Candidate for Haggerston.

From Election Address :-"I am in favour of Adult Suffrage, believing that every man, and every woman, married or unmarried, except criminals and lunatics, should possess the full Franchise and have a voice in the making of the laws by which they are governed.'

The Hon. Rupert Guinness's Answer.

DEAR MADAM.—In answer to the request of your representative for my views on the subject of Woman's Suffrage, they are as follows: I am in favour of granting the Suffrage to women on the same terms as it is now granted to men; but I am not in favour of universal Suffrage for men or women.

I have not mentioned the question in my address, because in an industrial constituency such as this I wished to confine the issue of the election to Tariff Reform and the social questions Yours faithfully, which depend upon it. RUPERT GUINNESS.

Mr. R. C. Warren's Answer.

DEAR MISS CORBETT,-Mr. Warren is not in, and I doubt whether I shall see him until the adoption meeting to-night. I enclose you advance copy of his election address. He

was questioned at the Executive Meeting of the Haggerston Association last Wednesday about the Suffrage, and answered that he would support the extension of the Suffrage to women on exactly the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men. This answers your first question.

Also Mr. Warren will certainly support the inclusion of women in the proposed Government Reform Bill by every means in his power throughout the debate that will take place.

But as to your last question, Mr. Warren is confident that every extension of the Franchise to men brings us nearer to a similar extension to women, and that it would neither be just not politic to oppose any possible widening of the basis of the Franchise to men because it is not accompanied by a corresponding extension to women. In other words, Mr. Warren holds that the opposition to Women's Suffrage comes not from the democracy, but from the leisured and propertied classes. Yours faithfully, J. PALMER NEWBOULD.

P.S.—Since dictating the above, Mr. Warren has arrived. He asks me to say that he thoroughly agrees with my statement of his views, and that he only wishes to add that he is wholeheartedly in favour of the extension of the Suffrage to women on the widest possible basis, and that he has advocated this for years past, and would not fail to avail himself of every opportunity in and out of Parliament of urging the justice and equity of the women's cause.

The address being already printed, it is impossible to modify the wording of it, but you will notice that the reference to extension is simple and unequivocal.

Extract from Mr. Warren's Election Address. THE FRANCHISE.

'I am in favour of simplifying the law of registration; and would support the extension of the Franchise to women.'

The National Union Executive Committee have, in accordance with the new resolution passed at Edinburgh, decided to support Mr. Warren as a noted supporter and a member of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

Caravan Tour.

THE van has proved such an unqualified success during the last month that Miss Gardner is to take charge of one during August, leaving Beattock on August 3rd. Miss Gardner would be most grateful for offers of help from speakers, collectors, leaflet and badge sellers, and for gifts of food and stabling for the horse. The caravan is an unusually light one, so that some one might be willing to lend us man and horse for some, or all, of the tour; very little mileage is covered each day. We also want helpers who would be content to sleep in inns, and only take meals in the caravan. By attacking the seaside holiday resorts we hope to spread news of our cause all over England, and it would be a fine opportunity of securing business men among our audience. Can some one suggest a man who would drive the horse for expenses only?

The caravan will start from Beattock on Aug. 3rd, and will stop at the places named below:-

Selkirk, Galashiels and Melrose, Coldstream, Berwick, Bamburgh, Alnwick, Morpeth, Tynemouth, Hartlepool, Redcar, Saltburn, Whitby, Whitby, Scarborough, Filey, Bridlington, Hornsea, Malton, Thirsk, Northallerton, Richmond, Kirkby Stephen, Appleby, Kendal.

If friends in any of the places named in the above list have gardens or grounds in which they could kindly accommodate the caravan at night we should be very glad if they would communicate with Miss Gardner at the Post Office of the place just before.

MARGERY I. CORBETT.

Correspondence.

MADAM,—I note in *The Daily Chronicle* of July 24th, a manifesto issued by "The Liberal Women's Suffrage League" Manchester), in which occur the words "all existing [Suffrage] associations....if constitutional, are hostile to the Government, which stands for progressive ideas and social reform. It is true some Suffrage societies claim to be neutral; that position is, however, difficult, if not impossible, to maintain.

These words are curiously interesting. To whom do they refer? I have a misgiving that they are intended to refer to the National Union. If so, they contain that most dangerous entity a "half truth." We do not claim to be neutral, but we hold scrupulously aloof from all party movements as such. We do not support the present Prime Minister-in the words of our leader Mrs. Fawcett, "we have no faith in him" -but those Parliamentary candidates who support us, we support, be they Labour, Liberal, or Conservative. This attitude is not neutral, but it is a far more convincingly Suffrage attitude than any party attitude can be.

I write as a Conservative; but so long as we remain strictly non-party" as a society, we all, of whatever party, work harmoniously together, putting Suffrage "1st, 2nd, and 3rd." I could wish thousands more would join us and help to convince party politicians that we Suffragists are in grim earnest. We have been put off with phrases long enough. We want our Bill now, not, as I heard a Liberal woman canvasser put it, "in the Government's own good time.

Yours, &c., A CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF N.U.W.S.S.

County Campaign Fund.

In their appeal Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Bertha Mason ask for 151. from each county in Great Britain. This is the response up to Saturday, July 25th :-

		£	8.	d.	£	8.	d
Argyllshire.—Anonymous					1	0	(
Berkshire.—Mrs. Stansfield					1	0	(
Berwickshire.—M. L					0	2	(
Cambridge.—Already acknowledged	• •	10	0	0			
			10	0			
Miss Duer	• •	U	10	U	10	10	-
CI III I W II II					1	1	(
Channel Islands.—Miss Hall	• •	0	7	0	1	1	,
Cheshire.—Already acknowledged		2	1	0			
Miss Wyse	• • •	0	1	0	0	0	
		-		_	2	2	
Cornwall.—Mrs. Hoskyns-Abrahall					1	0	
Cumberland.—Already acknowledged					0	5	(
Devonshire.—Already acknowledged					1	0	- 1
Dorset.—Hon. Mrs. Haverfield					5	0	-
Durham.—Miss Martin		0	2	0			
Miss Cook		0	2	0			
TIANS COOL		L	bel	-	0	4	
Forfar.—Miss Monro Miller					0	5	
Clamoraga Miss Iones					0	2	-
Glamorgan.—Miss Jones Gloucester.—Miss Barett					0	10	1
Hammaking Almady asknowledged			-		2	0	
Hampshire.—Already acknowledged					6		
Hereford.—Already acknowledged		_	0	0	U	10	
Kent.—Mrs. Druce	• •	5	0	0			
Miss Druce		1	1	0			
Mrs. Thompson		10	0	0			
Mrs. Conybeare (collected)		3	8	0		-	
		-		_	19	9	- 1
Lanark.—Mrs. McKerrow		1	0	0			
Mrs. Paxton		1	0	0			
		-	1	-	2	0	1
Lancashire.—Already acknowledged		2	2	0			
Mrs. Shawcross		5	0	0			
Mrs. Crook		1	1	0			
Miss Kemp		1	0	0			
35 0		2	0	0			
3.5		20	0	0			
Mrs. Brunner		20	0		31	3	
T 1 Almos des en la comba deced		51	15	6	01		
London.—Already acknowledged		2	0	0			
Mrs. Dryhurst	• •						
Mr. and Mrs. Edwards		1	1	0			
Mrs. Oakley		10	0	0			
Miss Matheson		0	2	6			
Miss Lovsey		0	2	6			
Mrs. Richards		0		6			
H. H. Fawcett, Esq.			0	0		104	
Mrs. Bartram		0	10	6			

Miss Lister 2 2 0

£ 8. d. £ 8 d. 0 10 0 Miss Aldis Mr. and Mrs. Blyth Miss Macdonald, M.D. 1 1 0 Lady Horsley 1 0 0 14. .. Miss Morison . . "In Memory of Eleanor Grove" 5 0 0 Miss Workman 0 2 6 Middlesex.—Already acknowledged .. 12 0 0 Mrs. Bousfield 1 1 0 Miss Thomson 0 12 0 Miss Showell Midlothian.—Miss Brand Oxford.—Miss Graham Perthshire—Miss Haldane Rutland.—Miss Andrews Suffolk.—Already acknowledged 0 1 0 .. 12 3 0 Surrey.—Already acknowledged Mrs. Hecht 1 0 0 ехо 5 0 0 Mrs. Auerbach Sussex.—Miss Martyn 0 10 0 Brighton and Hove W.S.S. . . 7 10 0 Miss Bryan 10 0 0 .. 5 0 0 Miss d'Albiac 2 0 0 Warwick.—Already acknowledged Wiltshire.—Already acknowledged Yorkshire.—The Rev. H. G. Oyston ...

Will Cambridge please notice we only require 4l. 10s. to complete the amount

Total up to Saturday, 25th 233 16 0

Kent is doing nobly, and Lancashire is only beaten by the richest city in the world.

With regard to London, we feel justified in asking 10l. per borough, a paltry sum—280l.; less than 200l. is still to

Middlesex wants 7s. to complete total. Who will have the

Will Surrey and Sussex earmark their further donations for some poor backward counties, or give a lead to those counties who have not yet started?

5,000 Guineas Fund.

MISS MASON, who is still a prisoner in the hotel at Bath where she was first taken ill, has sent us an urgent message that we should try to complete this fund by the end of the financial year (October 31st), by which time we hope to have her back

So far 630l. has been received at the office: but to this must be added the sums spent by Leeds and Manchester on their two by-elections. These two societies subscribed the whole of the expenditure for these elections.

On the strength of what has been received, we have already engaged two more permanent organizers—Miss Robertson and Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson, whose good work for the cause is well known to many of our readers; and now we are about to enlist the services of a fourth organizer, in the sure faith that our Treasurer's request will be promptly responded to.

There are some to whom the by-election work specially appeals, and to them we say, "Give quickly."

EDITH DIM							
Since our last issue we hav	e rece	eived for	the a	bove	Fu	nd:	-
Miss Chrystal Macmillan				£3	0	0	
I. Rhys Carver, Esq				1	0	0	
Mrs. Stanbury				0	3	6	
Mrs. Purcell				0	1	0	
Mrs. Bartram		ST Man		1	0	0	
		Total		£5	1	6	

Branch Societies.

July 30, 1908

CARDIFF.—A general meeting was held on July 1st, Mrs. H Lewis in the chair. The Provisional Committee submitted rules, which were adopted. Officers were afterwards elected. The Executive stands as follows: - President: Mrs. H. Lewis, Greenmeadow; Vice-Presidents: Miss Erie Evans, Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. G. C. Thompson: Hon. Treas.: Miss M. Rees-Jones: Hon. Sec. : Miss Marieta Jones ; Committee : Miss Collin, Miss Harris, Miss Hurlbatt, Mrs. Lester-Jones, Mrs. Joscelyn, Mrs. C. Morgan, Miss Nautet, Miss J. Price, Mrs. J. Williams. A report was read from the Delegates to the Procession and Albert Hall Meeting on June 13th, and the banner which had done duty on that day was on view. Mrs. H. Lewis gave an interesting account of the presentation of flowers to Mrs. Fawcett at the Albert Hall, It was decided to invite designs and mottoes for the permanent banner to be sent to the Committee. The Cardiff and District W.S.S. now numbers over seventy members; intending members should communicate with Miss Marieta Jones, 234, Newport

CROYDON.—This society has had a very successful spring and summer campaign, and has added considerably to its numbers. It has held four drawing-room meetings, also a public debate in the Horniman Hall, and on July 4th a garden party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Crosfield, at which Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., and Miss I. O. Ford gave most interesting and inspiring speeches. The subject has also been brought forward twice at our large 'Mothers' Meeting," when great interest was shown, especially regarding the Procession and its objects. A debate also took place at a "social evening" of a branch of the Girls' Friendly Society. A great deal of opposition to the movement was evinced by the girls, who had greatly objected to the "militant tactics," but it s hoped that a good many misapprehensions were removed, and several girls became convinced of the righteousness of the woman's claim to political equality with man, and of its necessity especially to the workers. The secretary, Miss Crickmay, St. James's Park, will be very glad to hear from any one in Croydon who is interested in the Suffrage movement. A series of meetings are being already arranged for the autumn and winter.

HULL.—This committee has been working for the last three months in Grimsby with very good results. After a large meeting held there on July 22nd, at which about three hundred people were present, several signified their willingness to join Women's Suffrage Society should one be formed in Grimsby.

SHREWSBURY.—A public meeting was held on the 13th inst. in the Girls' Clubroom, College Hill. There was a large attendance. The chair was taken by Miss Gale, who was supported by Miss Timpany, Miss Atkin, Mrs. Shields, Mrs. Thomp-Mrs. Scott Deakin, Miss Harris, and Mr. E. P. Everest. Miss Gale said the Shrewsbury Branch had been very fortunate in securing Mrs. Harley as president. She would have presided that night, but was unavoidably prevented. Mr. Everest then read a very able paper, and answered questions which were afterwards put to him.

WARRINGTON .- A garden party was given by Mrs. Dodd, of Penketh House, on July 9th, when a very successful afternoon was spent. Miss Ashton (Chairman North of England Society) gave an address which was greatly appreciated. Afterwards plans for the future were discussed, and suggestions invited. Some new members were enrolled, and more have been since. The secretary has had many inquiries about the objects of the Society and its methods of work, and has been invited to explain them at the houses of one member and of a sympathizer.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

F, M
July 31st Cardiff, Garden Party Hostess, Mrs. Lister Jones 3-6.3 Speaker, Hon. Mrs. B. Russell
August 6, 7, and 8, Cambridge. Exhibition of Banners, in Assembly Rooms, Downing Street.
Admission, 6d. and 3d.; Tea, 6d.
Opening Ceremony, 4 P.M., Thursday, August 6th,
Prof. James Ward, Sc.D., LL.D., M.A., in the Chair.
Haggerston By-Election. Three Meetings Daily.
Committee Rooms, 47, Queen's Road, Haggerston.
Helpers urgently needed.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

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

Telephone: 15143 CENTRAL. NATIONAL OFFICES: 18, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW. Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNR. Hon. Treasurer: MRS. GRAHAM MOFFAT. Hon. Secretary: MRS. How MARTYN, B.Sc., A.R.C.S. Hon. Treasurer: MRS. DESPARD.

National Hon. Organising Secretary: MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG

Notes.

SEX DISABILITY.—We cannot too much emphasize the fact that women do not want special treatment or privileges, and we regret to read that in the committee stage of the Prevention of Crimes Bill a sex disability was introduced by 10 votes to 9. The clause dealing with "release on licence provides that women can be released at the end of three months. en not till after the end of six months.

WHERE MEN DECAY.—Mr. Pete Curran, M.P., said at Tottenham that the House of Commons does not conduce to moral or intellectual improvement. He "was doubtful whether

he had ever been in such bad company."

Example (from the Daily Mail): Mr. Harold Cox asked the vernment whether a man charged at Huddersfield, who was alleged to have gone through the form of marriage with eleven vives would be excluded, under any provision of the Pension Bill, from a reward intended for veterans of industry.

MR. LLOYD-GEORGE: My hon. friend seems to assume that se facts provide irrefutable proof of industry. (Laughter.) Mr. Bottomley: Is there any case of a man who having had veral wives ever attained the age of seventy? (Laughter.)
MR. LLOYD-GEORGE: I should like notice of the question.

A SERIOUS MATTER.—The advent of the Liberal men's Suffrage League now being formed at Manchester has pset the nerves of a contemporary. On this The Daily News marks: "It will be a serious matter, if Liberal women as whole join those forces, already so powerful, which are orking against Liberalism." Never mind, we must be serious

FRIENDS OR ENEMIES ?—The Committee of the Cheltenm Liberal Association has decided to withdraw from the omen's Liberal Federation, as they consider the latter body too much interested in Women's Suffrage to show a proper arty spirit in supporting the present Government. The Comse must agree with the statesman who only valued those riends who would support him "when he was wrong."

A PERSONAL INTEREST.—The Prevention of Crimes will establish Prison Committees to watch over convicts. he Home Secretary says that the Government is anxious to btain a body of men who will take a personal interest in the velfare of prisoners. Mr. Keir Hardie's amendment providing that a Prison Committee may be composed of persons "of er sex," was accepted; Mr. Gladstone no doubt remembering hat, both in and out of Holloway, there is a constantly increasing army of "personally interested" women.

Haggerston By-Election.

Our Committee-Room is at 97, Hackney Road (close to reditch Church and Shoreditch Railway Station, N.L. way).

A great amount of work is going on in the constituency, open-air meetings are being held by us every evening, nner-hour outdoor meetings, and gatherings of women at the Committee Rooms in the afternoons.

There is intense interest taken in the Suffragists wherever go, and any amount of work waiting to be done. We want member of the League, who can possibly spare any time, il at the above address, where she will be set to work at

Polling day is Saturday next, so we have no time to lose!

Sex Warfare in England.

It may be difficult for an Anglo-Indian, or indeed for any colonist, to realize sex warfare in England. When newly arrived from Australia, however, I was impressed by the pronounced antagonism between the sexes noticeable before Suffragist tactics gave any excuse for the sentiment. Such antagonism is, of course, unknown in the colonies, and the causes of its existence in Great Britain lie deeper than is generally imagined. To some extent it may be ascribed to the preponderance of the female sex, and to the result of that preponderance, the increase of wage-earning women whose inroad, because of inept legislation, causes irritating industrial disorganization. These, however, are not the chief reasons, for in certain parts of the colonies, contrary to general belief, the difference between the sexes is almost the same as here, while the women of Australia and Canada are often quicker in their grasp of so-called male privileges than their sisters of England. It is not too fanciful to assert that this antagonism is partly due to the Anglo-Saxon's need of helots as well as heroes—a class to despise as well as a class to admire. In the colonies there is generally a native alien population to whom, rightly or wrongly, some measure of contempt is meted. England, however, has no native race, while, owing to the spread of democracy, class contempt is becoming a thing of the past. Human nature, however, still requires its helot, so sex takes the position otherwise given to class or race. Woman, in some respects, at least, is the kaffir of England!

In making this statement one must, of course, guard against exaggerations, and differentiate between the consequences of old laws, for which no modern mind is responsible, and the deliberate unchivalry emanating from the character of the modern man himself. Taking this fully into consideration, one yet sees a marked difference between the general treatment of women both in America and the enfranchised colonies, and the measure meted out to them in the Homeland-a difference affecting social and home life as well as politics. Thus in America, though business honour is there much lower than in England, a woman entering the life is frequently safe from sharp practice, if she be not actually assisted. In England, in spite of higher traditions in general, she suffers more than her male colleagues. I am myself acquainted with several quite astute women of business who, as a matter of course, employ lawyers for comparatively simple transactions, because they know serious attempts will be made to defraud them on account of their sex. In the professional world the same unfairness is to be found, while one sees it even more clearly in English family life, where the young woman, expected as a matter of course to fend for herself, yet finds her career put aside for the more important training of her brother. The Englishwoman suffers, in fact, because she stands midway between two ideals. She has lost the home protection and financial security (implied in the daughter's dowry) of the older countries, while she has not attained the civic dignity of those colonies where woman, to a large extent, enjoys not only the vote but the other benefits arising from the justice and fair play which prompted the bestowal of that boon.

It is the absence of this boasted justice which is arousing so much indignation in the hearts of Homeland women to-day. Englishmen, it must be admitted, are not far wrong in their assumption of this virtue in general, but as every man evidently requires to be unjust to some one, he makes this exception with regard to woman. He does not refuse the vote, it must be remembered, from any old-fashioned notion that she is too good for the Suffrage, still less, as was for some time the case in the colonies, because he held that she did not want it. He refuses it because she does want it! He refuses it sometimes because, though a democrat, he will not have her vote imperil his at the ballot box, often merely for the reason that his pride will not permit that he shall no longer have some one to look down upon.

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As a consequence of this lower motive, English sex antagonism has a bitterness unknown in countries where the Suffrage is denied from sentimentality rather than from intentional injustice. On the feminine side we see this antagonism illustrated amusingly enough in the case of one well-known English novelist who, because she cannot vote herself, will not permit her gardener to do so, and keeps a strict surveillance over him on election day till the polls close. It is shown more seriously in the number of women who now refrain from assisting at Government elections, and who threaten to refuse all donations no such compliment to the women of these isles, but contem to charities save such as benefit their sex alone. On the other side, feeling runs quite as high, as is proved in matters both small and great, and often in a trend of feeling that existed before Suffrage tactics were begun. It was before the Suffrage came to the fore, for instance, that the scheme for a certain mixed club in London fell through because the gentlemen wished the lady members to leave and enter by a side door! It is to the Suffrage agitation itself, however, that we owe certain street scenes when Suffragists, merely holding out money-boxes for the cause, are subjected to the jeers and insults not of hooligans, but of well-dressed men. Parliament itself is not exempt from the charge of ungentlemanliness as well as injustice. We see it equally in the aristocrat Winston Curchill, M.P., standing out by Parliament to smile at the arrest of Suffragettes, as in the foolish vulgarisms of the democrat John Burns during the ejection of disturbing Suffragettes from his meeting; in the poor witticisms of Asquith over the ever-lengthening prison sentences given to women "raiders," and to the disgraceful cheers that rose in the House when it was decreed that Mrs. Pankhurst should serve her full term in Holloway. In England, in spite of a Male League for Woman's Suffrage, it can be alleged that men and women are far more in opposition camps than was ever the fact in the now enfranchised colonies, or than may ever be the case in the older countries.

That this sex warfare is no temporary matter the beginning of this session has already shown, and as the year goes on there are certain to occur still stormier scenes between Woman and Politician. So far the battle, on the former's side, has been a mere affair of passive resistance, prison being always the final end in view. Thus one league besieges Cabinet Ministers' doorsteps till the inevitable policeman is sent for, while another attempts the doors at Downing Street to disappear later in the Black Maria. Larger raids on Parliament House itself occasionally land some fifty or sixty protesters in Holloway, but since the short sentences of two weeks, which as I know from experience are fairly endurable, have been lengthened to six weeks in the second division, there has naturally occurred some increase of bitterness in the minds of the Suffragist martyrs. It is small wonder, therefore, if some fury of indignation is at times perceivable, and if some of the Suffragist women are not whispering of taking more active and violent steps! Let no one smile at this. Muscular inferiority means so little in these days when bolts and bars can be as easily manipulated by a woman's hand as by a man's, when the machinery of modern life is as much at the disposal of one sex as of the other. Colonists must remember, again, that Englishwomen are now well used to working together; and also that they have moved quite beyond the ladylike" ideals of the Charlotte Yonge period. It is usual to speak of colonial women as if they were advanced in all respects. As a matter of fact they are quite behind Englishwomen in their clinging to the genteel traditions of the Victorian age, and consequently can hardly understand the great unyielding force that is behind the Woman's Movement here.

It must be confessed that the Woman's Movement has still many difficulties to encounter, these being also of quite an exceptional nature. This is partly owing to the fact that the Englishman's prejudice against woman is on lines very different from those of other countries. The South European nations and most of those in the East enslave the sex largely through a sincere dread of their moral untrustworthiness. 'The Englishman, however, has entire faith in the Englishwoman's moral

superiority, therefore his dislike of her power in political and public life is, paradoxically, more of an insult. In combating this dislike, she has to fight something vague, irrational, hardly to be defined. Nevertheless, for this state of affairs woman has been herself largely to blame. She has hitherto made a fetish of her mankind, even as the American man has made an idol of his female counterpart. For instance, it is quite usual to hear women in this country declare that could never marry any one but an Englishman, and certain it is that to accept a foreigner or a colonial is to confess oneself more or less of a failure, even though the person in question be socially and otherwise quite the equal of the Britisher. The Englishman himself, be it noted, pays plates the bestowal of his hand without any insular prejudice whatever. This illustration I have given may seem somewhat trivial and feminine, but much results not from such facts themselves but from the state of ethics they indicate. Beneath all her sex antagonism the Englishwoman has an admiration for the man of her country as distinguished from the men of other countries which is beyond all reason. She exaggerates, somewhat, his nationally superior sense of honour (regarding which George Meredith defines him as existing on the reputation of his ancestors). She overrates to a considerable extent the greater rectitude of his moral life and in particular the staidness of his sex ideals. The Englishwoman will never truly take her proper place till she believes in herself more and in the Englishman less. She must remember that it is she, and not he, who shows national superiority in many o the broader virtues. In the industrial and civic world he ha been notably less successful than his sex in certain other countries, such as Germany, Holland, and so forth, while the Englishwoman, on the other hand, is acknowledged to be much superior to her continental sisters in that social and charitable work which she has performed so unostentatiously and quietly these fifty years, when she has so often asked for enfranchis CONSTANCE CLYDE. ment-and asked in vain. Reprinted from East and West, May, 1908.

Office: Whiteaway Laidlaw Building, Bombay

Women's Suffrage Caravan Campaign.

DURING our visit to Hastings and St. Leonards we had spell of bad weather which marred outdoor meetings. But down at the Fish Market, amongst the weather-beaten old sailors and fisher folk, we were able to muster audiences. On Saturday night we took the Market Hall, which held a cosmopolitan crowd, and outside raged the storm and rain, but inside varmth and good feeling prevailed. We were supported on the platform by leading Liberal women and members of other Suffrage societies, whose sympathy was most encouraging Meetings were held on Sunday night in Ore and on Monday a Wellington Square, Hastings. A kind offer was made by young man who sympathizes with the cause and is anxious t He with other boy friends are going to a beanfeast next Saturday, so they asked for "Votes for Women" posters to cover their brake and leaflets to distribute along the route.

On Tuesday we held our first meeting in Bexhill, which was a great success. The audience listened attentively to speeche from Mrs. Hicks and myself. Our meeting on Wednesday night was also successful; but an inebriated "monk" from t Pevensey Pageant was brought into our inner ring, and the police took fright and forbade further meetings in Bexhill. are pleased to relate that the disturbing "monk's" wife, being friendly towards the Suffrage cause, punished her erring lor by burning all his pageant array next morn.

We are now in Eastbourne, and opened our campaign this evening at "The Fountain," where Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett has been regaling audiences with "Votes for Women" for some weeks. The ground is well prepared and success assured. MURIEL MATTERS.

Caravan Fund.—We have gratefully to acknowledge receipts fr MARGARET S. CLAYTON, Hon. Treasurer, Van Committee.

East Fife Campaign.

This campaign is going forward with great success. This week four organizers are in the constituency, and fine meetings are being held three or four times a day. Miss Scott and Miss Eunice Murray are visiting the villages in the west of the Prime Minister's electoral district, and Mrs. Sanderson with Miss Arabella Scott are working along the coast.

The market-day meetings have been a pronounced success. both at Cupar and St. Andrews. At the latter place the townsfolk and the many visitors combined with the farmers who are voters in Mr. Asquith's constituency to give a right royal welcome to our speakers. Mrs. Sanderson made a splendid appression, and large collections resulted.

Miss Eunice Murray reports that there is every prospect of the formation of a branch of the Women's Freedom League at Ladybank. To those who know the people of East Fife this is evidence enough of the good work our members must have been doing. The Memorial to the Prime Minister is also being extensively signed. It should be ready for presentment in

This particular campaign is, at this moment, of great political importance. The men and the women of East Fife nust be enlisted upon our side. Then Mr. Asquith cannot long esist our claim.

Mrs. Mitchell of Ashton-under-Lyne takes charge of the npaign in August, and in September the members of the N.E.C. are to visit the constituency. T. B. G.

Work at the Scottish Summer Centres.

THE summer campaign, which is being conducted under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, was inaugurated ast week in the East of Scotland. The centre at Carnoustie is in charge of Miss M. Milne Farquharson, M.A., and Miss Florence McNeill, who are assisted by Miss Muriel Nelson, of Wolverhampton, and Miss Clunas, of Dundee. Introductory eetings were held at Momfeith, Broughty Ferry, and Eastaven respectively, and on Wednesday, July 15th, the npaign was officially opened at Carnoustie by Miss Anna The next day Miss Munro conducted two meetings in arnoustie, the second one in pelting rain, but the assembled cople refused to disperse without a short address and the ise of another meeting that evening.

On the following day a large audience was addressed a noustie by Miss Nelson and Miss Farquharson, and the ively heckling which followed aroused considerable interest and sement amongst the crowd.

Two meetings have been held in Momfeith, and a second series in Arbroath, Broughty Ferry, and Culroath. An address by Miss Farquharson on 'The Social Evolution of Woman from Days of Early Egypt' was much appreciated.

A considerable amount of private canvassing has also been e, and the sympathy expressed by men and women of every ass and age is very gratifying.

Miss Nelson has unfortunately now had to leave Scotland. TH. MCNEILL.

Seaside and Caravan Work.

HELPERS are wanted at Eastbourne, Weston-super-Mare, and in East Fife.

also volunteers for Caravan work during August and September. Please send names and addresses to the Hon. Secretary, W.F.L., 8, Buckingham Street, Strand. Miss Woodall will be glad to lear of helpers at

Paignton and Bournemouth during August. Address, care of Mrs. F. Smith, Ardarth, Osney Crescent,

FINCHLEY.—On July 23rd a very successful Drawing-Room Meeting was held at Saltburn, Mountfield Road, Church End, Finchley. Mrs. Eileen Mitchell was the chairman, and Mrs. Tweedy and Miss Bremner very ably supported her.

With the exception of one or two people, the audience was composed of the unconverted; but such excellent propagandist speeches had been made, that when the resolution was put, it was carried with only three dissentients. Furthermore, although no collection was actually made, the chairman having merely mentioned the existence of a receptacle in the hall which would hold money, the future Finchley Branch will begin life with cash in hand

Will friends please let Mrs. Eileen Mitchell have names and addresses of people living in Finchley and its environments.

Branch Notes.

Central Branch.-Members please note that during the month of August there will be no indoor meetings. Open-air meetings will be held every Thursday at 8 P.M. in Hyde Park, Please rally round and support us there.

Maida Vale Branch.—Fresh ground was broken at Cricklewood on Friday evening. Mrs. Nevinson and the Branch Secretary found great difficulty in arousing the interest of this suburb in Votes for Women, and it was nearly an hour before an audience could be collected to hear Mrs. Nevinson's address. However, many leaflets were distributed, and it is to be hoped that the seed sown will bear fruit in the future.

On Saturday evening a drawing-room meeting was held at 134, Portsdown Road, Maida Vale. Dr. Thornett took the programme of the newly-formed Anti-Suffrage Society as the subject of her address, showing how easily these arguments could be refuted. A bouquet of pink carnations was presented to the speaker, as a mark of appreciation of her kindness in coming to address the meeting.

London Council Cycling Corps.

The Corps will meet on the 1st prox. at Duke Street at 3 P.M. and the run, in response to an earnest request, will again be to Tottenham, where the meeting on the 18th, though promising, was cut short by the weather. Communications to E. M. Buckland (Captain), 18, Buckingham Street, W.G.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

att			July 29th to A	ugust oth.	
1e	JUL	Y	fattorns net to best and will	To it is the same sinds to	
d	Wed.	29	. The Flagstaff, Hampstead Heath	Mrs. Nevinson Mrs. J. Brindley	P. M. 7.15
d	Thurs.	30.	"At Home," Caxton Hall, Westminster	Miss Molony Mrs. Fenwick Miller	3.30
n			10 7	Mr. Atherley Jones, K.C. Miss Dorothy Holmes will	, M.P.
	Fri.	31	18, Buckingham Street, Strand	Central Branch	8
n	Aug		Prince's Head, Battersea	Mrs. Nevinson	8
У	Sun.	2.	Hyde Park, near Marble Arch	Mrs. Brindley Mrs. Holmes	3
				Miss Fox	3
			Battersea Park	Mrs. Duval	3.30
			Wandsworth Common	Mrs. Manson	All as tile
	TT 1	1		Mrs. Duval Miss Underwood	12
	Wed.	5.	The Flagstaff,	Mrs. Nevinson	7.15
	Thurs.	6.	Hampstead Heath "At Home," Caxton Hall	Miss Bremner	1.10
	16.3		110 Home, Caxton Hall	Mrs. Despard	3.30
			and and the same of the same of the	Miss Molony Mrs. Wentworth Gosnell	
			Hyde Park, near Marble Arch	Mrs. Nevinson	8
				Miss Lawson	
	Fri.	7.	Prince's Head, Battersea	Miss Hillsworth	
				Mrs. Duval Miss Underwood	8
	Sun.	9.	Battersea Park	Mrs. Duval	3.30
)			Brockwell Park	the state of the s	0.50
			Finsbury Park Wandsworth Common	W D .	
			- Common	Mrs. Duval	12

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

Men's League for Momen's Suffrage.

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

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

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

Chairman of Executive Committee: HERBERT JACOBS.

Hon. Secretary: J. MALCOLM MITCHELL.

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Notes and Comments.

As foreshadowed in a previous issue, we are glad to announce that the Manchester Branch was formally adopted by the Executive on Tuesday last. The branch has begun its work under the most favourable auspices, and the heartiest congratulations are due to the organizers (and now joint honorary secretaries) Mr. E. L. Hendy and Mr. Sam Brooks.

Arrangements are being made with the Artists' League for the designing of a badge and a banner for the Men's League. It has for a long time been felt that the Stewards Corps, for example, and the members generally, should have a distinctive badge, and a banner is badly needed for use at open-air meetings. Both will be ready by the time the holiday season

A joint meeting, under the auspices of the Portsmouth Branch of the National Union and the Men's League, will be held on November 11th. The speakers will be Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Despard, and, on behalf of the Men's League, Mr. John Russell, M.A.

Mr. Allerton is making arrangements for a big open-air demonstration in Liverpool on September 5. He proposes, with the help of the local branches of the other societies, to have four platforms, two in front of the St. George's Hall, and, two at the Wellington Column.

Renewal of Membership.

In response to the letters issued by the Honorary Treasurers, Messrs. Goldfinch Bate and H. G. Chancellor, the great majority of the renewed subscriptions due from our early members have now been received. May we ask those few who have not yet paid, or whose subscriptions will by then have fallen due, to send their contributions by the end of the second week in August? A great saving both in time and money will thus be effected. It is a great pity that the funds of the League should be drawn upon for this purpose.

Edinburgh Branch.

WE are glad to report from Mr. James A. Baird, Honorary Treasurer of the Edinburgh Branch, that the members on his list now number over fifty. "We contemplate," says Mr. Baird, "pursuing a vigorous campaign in the coming autumn and winter, hoping thereby to arouse the active sympathy of the electors in our city.'

Our readers will recall the fact that Edinburgh, as mis-represented by some of its University students, is far from sympathetic. The word "Corstorphine" has still to be engraven firmly on the hearts of a number of these embryo scientists and philosophers. It is good to hear that our branch is on the warpath

Stewards Corps.

The corps was represented at a lecture on Women's Suffrage given by Mr. Grant in Kennington Town Hall last Thursday, and under the vigorous leadership of Mr. Laurence Housman took part in the subsequent debate.

An Open Letter.

TO THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE LEAGUE—(continued from last week).

You say that the possession of the vote would lose women their influence. With all respect to your experience I regard this as flat nonsense. You must be aware that people of strong character, great ability, sweet temper, dominant personality have had and will have influence, whether they have votes or not. Do you mean to say that a mother will cease to influence her sons because she votes for Members of Parliament? that a Florence Nightingale or a humble district visitor will win the respect of a wounded soldier or a broken profligate the less for being on the electoral roll? There is this much truth in your contention, that women who have succeeded in influencing men by merely sexual fascination will probably not acquire further influence by having the vote, and that a spasmodic sensualist who recovers temporarily through remorse for the wrong he has done his helpless wife may treat her all the worse because he knows that she has at last some power to say what sort of divorce laws she wants. No, your influence argument, so far as it is true, is merely the truism that people who are influenced merely by an emotional sympathy with weakness will naturally cease to be influenced in so far as that weakness is re-

In passing may I add that your wording is frequently in need of improvement if it is to convey your own ideas? Women's influence "would naturally be lessened in proportion as women attempted to become the competitors and rulers of men, rather than their companions and helpmates." Queen Victoria lost no influence, nor did Elizabeth, the Egyptian Hatshepsut, Cleopatra, Berenice, because they were rulers. It is too late to inveigh against women as competitors; economic conditions have made them so. You would have then companions and helpmates, and yet you would prevent women from helping to

Another quaint assumption is "the fact" that "the possession of the vote is not necessary in order to remedy the injustices of which some women complain. Legislation in the interests of women and of children also has never been more active than it is at the present day, or more representative of the woman's point of view." Why, my thirty-one lords, ladies, and gentlemen, the main injustice of which women complain is precisely that they do not possess a vote; the possession of the vote is necessary to remove that grievance—you cannot deny that—the grievance of bearing a stigma of inferiority. And as to legislation in favour of women and children in which eleven of you have taken part, well, one of the chief reasons for which women want the vote is that they dislike and despise this very legislation. The very fact that you are deciding about feeding and clothing children, the use of cradles, &c., would make these women laugh if they were not too anxious about the children. I am told that some of your efforts have been from the expert (i.e., the mother's) point of view simply ludicrous.

The Everlasting "Woman" Question.

AN APPEAL TO LITERATURE.

It is often said, quite seriously, that men will think less of woman if she has a vote. It is maintained that political power of any kind will drag her down from that pedestal upon which she has stood for ages commanding the chivalry of man Whether powerlessness in a woman calls forth the respect man is a question that can be best decided by an appeal to the

literature of the past, for literature reflects as in a mirror the trend of contemporary thought. In spite of what modern politicians may say to the contrary, it can easily be maintained, by a survey of English literature, that the greater woman's political power and activity, the greater the respect in which her sex is held by man.

To begin with Anglo-Saxon literature. In the Anglo-Saxon manuscripts there is much about the buying and selling of that no love story exists in Anglo-Saxon literature, except the tale of Apollonius of Tyre, which was a translation from the Latin. Curiously enough, the only women who served as a poetical inspiration to our Anglo-Saxon forefathers seem to have been Judith and Elene. Now Judith chopped off Holo-fernes' head, a masculine proceeding surpassing the atrocities of the Suffragettes, and Elene organized an expedition in search of the Holy Rood with a generalship worthy of Miss Pankhurst or Mrs. Billington-Greig. They were unsexed women, according to the jargon of to-day.

Going on to the next great age of literature, we are arrested

by the name of Chaucer.

July 30, 1908

This poet reflects the thoughts of his time chiefly in the admirable portraits contained in his famous Prologue, and it is a remarkable fact that the women he describes in it are held up to scorn and ridicule. Turn to poem after poem of Chaucer's and you find jibe after jibe at women. It is true that the poet made a magnificent apology for his youthful indiscretions in his 'Legend of Good Women,' in which he eulogized pure womanhood in quite extravagant language. It is noteworthy, however, that his poem was written as a token of gratitude to the Queen for some help she had been able to afford him in his official life.

After Chaucer, perhaps the next greatest name in English literature is that of Malory, whose 'Morte d'Arthur' is considered the text-book of mediæval chivalry. Any one who has dipped into its pages will probably be aware that his work is not exactly a glorification of woman. All the knights of the Round Table are what might be called—in vague but expressive English—"a bad lot," with the single exception of Sir Galahad. Their merit lay in their recognition of the Christian ideal of purity, and in their honest humility in recognizing how far they

The next epoch of English literature is generally known as the Elizabethan or Shakespearian age. Never before was woman treated to such an outpouring of flattery as was ontained in the 'Faerie Queene,' and in the centuries of love oems which at this time became the fashion in high life. Yet this is the age in which the political power of woman eached its high-water mark. It saw the existence of such amous Queens as Catherine de Medici, Mary Queen of Scots, lary of England, and Elizabeth, and such well-educated and ntellectual women as Margaret Roper and Lady Jane Grey. And some of these women showed capacities which are usually considered supremely masculine. Yet there are people who say hat women are not going to be thought so much of when they political power! The contention is simply ludicrous.

Let us pass on. The Stuart period saw the power of women abeyance. What may be called the "Stuart" literature is or the most part an abomination, which is happily no longer videly read. In it woman serves as little more than a peg for aplicated intrigue. Curiously enough the poetry of this age ften called "heroic."

Milton, who represents the Puritan element of the time, as one of the most unchivalrous poets that ever lived. His a of woman's sphere is well indicated by the following speech of Eve to Adam :-

Oh thou, for whom And from whom I was formed, flesh of thy flesh, And without whom am to no end, my guide And head! What thou hast said is just and right. For we to Him indeed all praises owe, And daily thanks, I chiefly, who enjoy So far the happier lot, enjoying thee, Pre-eminent by so much odds, while thou Like consort to thyself canst nowhere find.

These humble compliments of Eve, Adam does not return He in delight

Both of her beauty and submissive charms, Smiled with superior love.

Milton, one fears, had little sense of humour.

The eighteenth century saw the rise of the novel, which form of literature is undoubtedly the best mirror of contem-A woman was a mere chattel, and it is a significant fact porary manners. The prevailing tone of the novelists of this century in their references to women is one of good-humoured derision. Fielding, Smollett, and Goldsmith, had evidently little respect for the sex in general, whatever they may have had for an occasional individual woman. As for the would-be intellectual woman, she is treated with unutterable scorn.

The woman writers of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries would appear to have altered to some extent the general tone of literature towards their sex. Thackeray's female characters, it has been said, are dolls or devils, but devils are a distinct advance on nonentities. Becky Sharp is treated as a really subtle being, but this is something of an innovation

in the delineation of woman.

If we compare these old-fashioned novels with the novels that have been written since the Woman's Rights movement came into being it will be possible to gain some conception of the wonderful change that has lately come over man's attitude to woman. This change is all to the advantage of the latter. No age of English literature—not even the Elizabethan age has glorified woman as the literature of the past fifty years has done. Meredith, the greatest of living novelists, has plainly shown his sympathy with the modern movement, and he has described women with an intuition that has never before been equalled. He has also proved that head and heart are not necessarily antagonistic in a woman. Turn to other of our great modern writers—Stephen Phillips, for instance, or Henry James, two of the greatest modern names after Meredith-and you will find the same deep-rooted reverence for the opposite sex.

In fine, it is the age which has seen the birth and rapid development of the Woman's Rights movement that has inspired a literature in which woman is treated with a chivalrous respect never before equalled. Furthermore, woman's special duties and functions, which in the past were looked upon as a proof of her everlasting inferiority, are now reverently extolled as something little short of divine.

Correspondence.

Literature and Women's Suffrage.

DEAR SIR,-Mr. Clayton's list of authors by no means includes all the names of writers of repute who are favourable to Women's Suffrage.

Mr. Herbert Paul, M.P., Mr. J. H. Yoxall, M.P., Sir A. Conan Doyle, Mr. Richard Whiteing, Mr. Eden Phillpotts, Mr. Antony Hope, Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Quiller Couch, Canon Scott Holland, Mr. Robert Blatchford, Mr. H. S. Salt, Mr. Ford Madox Hueffer, and Mr. Arnold Bennett, should be mentioned as authors who are, in various degrees, supporters of the Enfranchisement of Women.

Then of women writers: Mrs. Mandell Creighton, Mrs. Stopes, Mrs. J. R. Green, Gertrude Atherton, Miss Clementina Black, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Fyvie Mayo, Miss Margaret Macmillan, Miss Constance Smedley, Mrs. Mabel Dearmer, and Miss Constance Clyde can all be claimed as Suffragists.

At the same time The Academy is not the only paper against the Suffrage. There is the serious and responsible opposition of The Times, The Spectator, and The Observer—an

opposition conducted gravely and honourably.

But such papers as The Sporting Herald, The Young Lady's Companion, The Fishmonger's Journal, and The Tooley Street Gazette are, I am sorry to say, as violent, as abusive, and as unfair as The Academy is in hostility to Women's Suffrage and Yours, &c.

A MEMBER OF THE MEN'S LEAGUE.

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