

THE VOTE,
July 13, 1912.
ONE PENNY.

THE RALLYING POINT. BY MRS. DESPARD.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Vol. VI. No. 142.

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1912.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Manhood Suffrage Unashamed.

Mr. Lewis Harcourt, in moving the Second Reading of the Manhood Suffrage Bill on July 8, did not hesitate to suggest that women would be entirely excluded from its scope. We do not expect support from a convinced Anti, but the levity of the Colonial Secretary in dealing with so serious a question was despicable—the more so that he is the minister who comes closely into touch with the work which enfranchised women are doing in the Colonies. These women have already protested against his attitude; they have good reason. It is significant that the Bill is in charge of two Antis, Mr. Pease and Mr. Harcourt, but the latter was compelled by Mr. Tim Healy to admit that he was speaking for himself "and some other colleagues," not for the Government, in opposing the inclusion of women in the Bill. "A great injustice to women," "a humiliating insult"; thus was the Bill described by other Members. When the Bill was introduced by Mr. Pease the House was twice counted, and sufficient Members managed to put in an appearance to make the business proceed. On July 8 the debate was dull and listless; *The Times* writes about the languid House, and Mr. Hogge drew attention

to the small attendance, and Lord Robert Cecil was scathingly critical of the indifference shown. He wished the whole country to know the truth, and said:—

I should like to have it displayed in every constituency in the country, and I should like everybody to know what the House of Commons—which they read about—and the Imperial Parliament

really means when it is discussing a great question of this kind. It means that we have, so far as I am able to judge, the presence of thirty or forty hon. Members during the whole of this Debate, so far as it has gone. There may have been twice that number to listen to the Colonial Secretary, but since that there have been only thirty or forty. [An Hon. Member: "What about your side?"] I am making no distinction between the two sides of the House, and I am going to say a word about the reason for it in a moment. That is what it means, that thirty or forty Members listen to the Debate, and three or four hundred vote in the Division.

Such is the reception given to an undemanded Bill, which proposes to give the vote to boys of twenty-one, and shuts out every woman. The references to woman's enfranchisement were the bright interludes, and we express our gratitude to Lord Robert Cecil for his championship of our Cause. Mr. Gill, speaking for the Labour Party, declared that a woman's amendment would have their support; Sir Arthur Markham and Mr. Hogge declared war on the Bill if women were excluded. Again the attitude of the House was a negation of the boast that women may trust in the chivalry of men on



"John dear, won't you move and let me 'free'?"
"I'm busy. Go & mind your own affairs!"
"How can I mind my affairs when you are sitting on my skirt?"
"Don't bother me."

their behalf. Those who spoke boldly for women served as welcome contrasts to the callous indifference of the rest. The debate is to be continued on Thursday and Friday—perhaps.

Our Poster Parade.

Meanwhile, there was much more animation outside, when members of the Women's Freedom League poster-paraded round the House of Commons. Twenty women carried boards bearing the devices, "We demand inclusion in the Franchise Bill" and "We protest against being taxed to pay Members of Parliament who are representatives of men only." For three hours did this gallant band of women encircle the House and made their protest against the Second Reading of a Franchise Bill which does not include women. Mr. Asquith, on arriving at the House, was seen to be gazing at the procession, and a smile crept over his face. "It seems scarcely imaginable," writes a parader, "that the Prime Minister of England, who is supposed to represent the English nation, should be content to allow women to spend their strength in marching round their own House of Assembly to which they have no right of entry through their representatives. We met plenty of sympathisers, and the rude remarks we used to hear were no longer forthcoming. Nevertheless we grudge the time and energy which a poster parade means; we think they could be much better employed in other directions. So once more we reiterate our demand that women shall be included in the Franchise Bill."

The Only Real Cloud on the Prospect."

Thus does a Liberal journalist, Mr. Harold Spender, describe in *The Daily News and Leader* the action of the Labour party. The significance of the determination of the Labour party to contest the seats at Hanley and at Crewe, thus involving three-corner fights, may be gauged by the efforts of the Liberal Press to prove that the movement will not seriously affect the position of the Government, while constantly urging the wisdom of coming to terms with Labour about the seats. In order to take the sting out of the decision of the Parliamentary Labour Party, and bring back members to Westminster, the House, during the campaigns, is to be occupied with business in which the Labour party are closely interested. Time will prove how the Government will be affected by the division lists. It is the unexpected which happens, both in Parliament and outside, and the suffrage support of Labour candidates continues to tell. The imperative question is: Will the Government learn wisdom and make friends, not enemies, of women?

How Man-made Laws are Considered.

The following extract, also from Mr. Harold Spender's political writings, is significant. Dealing in *The Daily News and Leader*, on July 8, with the prospects of the Manhood Suffrage Bill—he does not even use its official title of Electoral Reform and Franchise Bill—Mr. Spender observes:

The second reading debate will occupy three days—to-day, Thursday, and Friday. The interval—to be occupied by the Defectives and Inebriates Bills—is due to the Parliamentary visit to the Fleet to-morrow, when the whole of the House of Commons are invited to the great review at Spithead.

Such important social questions as dealing with the mentally deficient and inebriates can easily be taken when the House of Commons is on holiday, having been invited to go and see big ships. There is no vote-catching in the Defectives' or Inebriates' Bills, so an empty House can deal with them! Honourable members would be the first to cry shame if women, with great responsibilities carried on their business in this fashion. Let us bear no more of men's boasted chivalry to those who cannot bring the pressure of the vote to bear on legislation.

Another Insult to Patience.

The Prime Minister's point-blank refusal to afford facilities to the Bill for the necessary registration of trained nurses has evoked wide protest from devoted women who for twenty-five years have been working to secure this protection for the nation. Again, it is not a vote-catching measure, so it goes by the board. Miss Beatrice Kent, our member, whose long experience qualifies her to pronounce on the subject, writes:—

"To none will we deny, to none will we sell, to none will we delay the right of justice." Such was the maxim laid down in Magna Charta by our first legislators, and which has served, as we understand, as a basis for all subsequent legislation. Trained nurses have experienced a long delay in the granting of a very urgent measure of justice. For twenty-five years they have been labouring continuously to obtain legal status. No less than eight times has a Bill for this purpose been introduced into the House. The principle of the movement is that they may have power to protect the defenceless sick from the untrained—and often unscrupulous—nurse (those who wrongfully claim to be trained nurses) and to uplift their sacred profession and free it from the trammels of ignorance and prejudice for the benefit of the community at large. A few days ago Dr. Chapple, M.P., asked Mr. Asquith in the House if he would give facilities for the passage of the Bill into law, reminding him at the same time that in many other countries laws for State registration of their nurses were in force. The reply was an unqualified refusal. Another example of the impotency of voteless women! No Prime Minister of any country would have dared to return such an answer to women possessed of the Parliamentary vote. But what is more significant is that a large body of professional women would not have been asking twenty-five times for so needful a reform had they been free women instead of political slaves. We would remind Mr. Asquith that when a deputation waited upon him in 1909, consisting of Members of Parliament, representatives of women's organisations, and nurse representatives, he promised that the arguments laid before him should receive "the careful and sympathetic consideration of himself and his colleagues." This is the fulfilment of his promise!

Illiberal Liberalism.

We are not surprised at Miss Kent's indignation at this travesty of Liberalism, and agree that it drives women from Liberal ranks into open revolt. She continues:—

Liberalism has been defined as "a passionate love of the people." This is of course the ideal meaning, and we do not ask to have it accepted quite literally. The principle implied is a strong and faithful sense of duty towards the people by those who govern. The people consist of two sexes, both having, morally at least, an equal claim upon the Prime Minister and his colleagues for the just consideration of their demands. Mr. Asquith admits no claims but those of men and those of voters; such an ungenerous attitude is a travesty of Liberalism and an insult to the ideal of it. Trained nursing is, in the present day, operating in every department of the life of the nation; it is an important social entity; it concerns itself with preventive as well as curative work; this means that posterity, through its agency, will be endowed with better health and therefore happier life. This will react upon the State by providing it with strong and useful citizens. All these logical facts are ignored by an obstinate, illiberal Prime Minister. In the meantime the country is flooded with women who, with little or no training, yet claim to be nurses, thus bringing discredit upon an honourable profession by being a source of danger to the sick.

Coward Panic.

Efforts are being made to weaken the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, which, from the point of view of many who are interested is not nearly strong enough. We hear that a coward panic has arisen lest an innocent man should be arrested. We are glad to give prominence to the noble words of Lord Balfour of Burleigh that he would rather, as an innocent man, be arrested than that innocent girls should be betrayed to their ruin by the guilty who escape. It is such a spirit amongst men, in welcome contrast to the selfishness of those who, as they think, are safeguarding themselves, that will have to be more general if the nation is to be proud of the purity of its homes and safety of its streets.

More Co-operation.

We are glad to note that *The Eye-Opener* is dealing courageously with the direful White Slave Traffic; also that *The Daily Herald* is now devoting space to "Woman and Citizenship." May it go on and prosper!

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—6146 CITY.

Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

Poster Parades and Open-air Meetings.—The Poster Parades round the House of Commons on the days of the Second Reading of the Franchise Reform Bill for men only are the most important arrangements for this week. Miss Boyle urges all our friends and sympathisers to come to Parliament Square on Thursday, also Friday, when the division on this second reading may be taken. Meet at office 2 p.m. Readers are also asked to do all in their power to make a success of the open-air meetings which are taking place every night in various parts of London, and to help us increase the street sales of THE VOTE. All copies of our paper sold out at the meeting at Hanley Saturday night, when the Women's Freedom League held by far the largest crowd in Market Square. "All the Suffrage News!" made as telling a cry as "All the Winners!" and it should be as effective in London streets as in Hanley.

United Demonstration in Hyde Park—Come and Help.—Will all members and friends make a special effort to come and support our Platform (No. 14) in the great United Demonstration in Hyde Park on *Sunday next, July 14, at 3 p.m.*?

Literature Department.—Recent publications. "Woman and Evolution." By Lady Sybil Smith. Price 1d. "Woman under the Insurance Act." By W. G. Earengay, B.A., LL.D. (Lond.). Price 2d. "Lydia Becker," a cameo life-sketch by Marion Holmes. Price 3d. Sepia postcards (either full-face or profile) of Mrs. Despard may be obtained, price 4d. Postage extra in all cases.

August Bank Holidays.—The office of the Women's Freedom League will be closed for the holidays from Friday evening, August 2, until Wednesday morning, August 7.

THE BY-ELECTIONS: AT WORK AT HANLEY AND CREWE.

The campaign in Hanley has opened auspiciously for the W.F.L., which was early in the field, and secured admirable quarters for a committee-room in the heart of the town. Both Liberal and Unionist campaigns are being vigorously prosecuted; but, so far, the Labour candidate has not been much to the fore. After to-morrow, however, it is expected that a great deal of activity will be manifested in Labour circles.

The Liberals, as usual, show a shrewish spirit, and may be reckoned on to foster whatever of bad feeling may be roused. Otherwise the populace is good-humoured to the last degree, and bent on enjoying its election, and all the fun it can get, all "free, gratis, and for nothing." The usual variety of political persuasion is in evidence—Tariff Reform jostling Home Rule, land taxes competing with social revolution; and Anti-Suffrage bringing up the rear. The "Antis" have, for this occasion, abandoned their usual guerilla tactics, and come out into the open, the first sight that greeted my eyes in the Market Square being Miss Mabel Smith in process of explaining her views to an uninterested and dwindling audience. She is attended by the faithful Samuels, who, as usual, takes his creed easily, and shows no signs of that divine rapture which should surely distinguish the prophets and priests of the *culte* of the "True Type of Woman."

Home Rulers mustered in force on Saturday afternoon at Wolstanton Moor, just outside the constituency, where Mr. Outhwaite, sponsored by Mr. Josiah Wedgewood and Mr. Alderman "Gipsy" Ball, addressed his friends and admirers. The crowd was far smaller than we had expected. In the evening vast crowds poured into Hanley Market Square; and, despite some angry Liberal tumult, plus the efforts of several gentlemen far gone in liquor, we had a meeting of over two hours, and held a larger crowd than either the Tariff Reformer, whose meeting I fear we spoilt, or the Outhwaite-Wedgewood platform, which occupied the space on the other side of our pitch.

This morning (Sunday) we sallied forth into the town towards noon, and found a pleasantly disposed crowd, who had just been hearing some speaker whose unoccupied lorry had then a forlorn appearance, as the speaker had departed. With the connivance and at the request of the crowd, we mounted it without ceremony, and had a splendid meeting which lasted until past the dinner hour. As we descended, Mr. Samuels appeared to claim his lorry, from which we had spoken! We thanked him for his hospitality, and retired with the laugh on our side.

The demonstration at which Mrs. Despard is to speak on Wednesday next is being well advertised, and we expect a good attendance. The people here are well disposed and interested, and our local Branch will, we hope, benefit from the advent of the members of the Headquarters' staff. All our members are being invited to meet Mrs. Despard at the committee room on Wednesday, and the result will doubtless be an increase in the Branch membership. I have to thank Mrs. Pedley and Miss Round for their kind support and help; and also must acknowledge the great advantage I have enjoyed in having Mrs. Myers and Miss Underwood to help me with so much of the uninteresting routine work that is inevitable in an election campaign, and which my good colleagues undertake so cheerfully.

Crewe is the next place to be attacked, and it is our intention to start work there early in the week. Before this goes to press our committee room will, I hope, be opened, and our workers in harness.

C. NINA BOYLE.

HOW SOME MEN PROTECT WOMEN.

Murder or Murderous Assault.

Mrs. Carr, found dead on hearthrug, strangled. Husband confessed.

Lilian Hill, wounded "with intent to murder" by Ernest Thompson, with whom she lived. Had left him on account of his brutality, and after threats, followed her, attempted to strangle her, dragged her into the street and stabbed her twice. Eighteen months. Staffordshire Assizes, before Mr. Justice Horridge.

Jane Cartwright, found murdered outside a house at Burnley. Throat cut, razor found.

Frank Jordan, for battering Charlotte Yeeves to death with a flat iron, found guilty by Mr. Justice Pickford at the Old Bailey of "manslaughter" and sentenced to eight years. Had done a previous sentence for assaulting another woman with an iron spanner.

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THE BIRTHDAY PRESENTATION TO OUR PRESIDENT.

From far and wide the friends of our President gathered at the Caxton Hall on July 3. It was a real birthday party, joyous and hopeful. The hall matched the mood of the moment; its severity was hidden beneath decorations and banners; that women now "dare to be free" does not prevent them from being joyful, and at the birthday party we made merry. With Mrs. Huntsman as the moving spirit, ably supported by the London Branches Council responsible for the gathering, no one could be dull, nor could they fail to be inspired by her to further effort to realise the £1,000 goal. Well begun is half done, and £500 is a good beginning. "We determined," said Mrs. Huntsman, "to give our President a birthday present for something she loves much more than herself—the League," and the names read out as contributors to the Fund, in addition to the efforts of the Branches, proved that widespread interest is being taken in the effort; it should be crowned with complete success; it will be, if we so determine.

Touching and tender were the words with which the President received the gift before she handed it over to the hon. treasurer, Dr. Knight. "I do not think words will express what I feel this evening. We of the Freedom League want money very much, but we want something more, something which will do us more good than money—the spirit of love which binds us together. I thank you with heart and soul for this birthday present, knowing that all have given nobly. I have had many birthdays, but not one more joyful; I was older when I was twenty than I am to-day because of the youth, love, and inspiration which comes from you." A few graphic phrases were added, which impressed two pictures on the mind—the crowds of determined, but suffering, men and women gathered on Tower Hill, fighting for self-realisation; the Labour Party in revolt, but coming to see that only with the help of women could victory be won. Then a strong plea for personal service; work there is for everyone; work such as each may do; who will respond? We have days when we "lie down with our loss and pain," but, taking courage from co-operation, we are soon ready "to fight again." The woman's movement, growing stronger, purer, greater, is bound to conquer.

In addition to the supreme interest of the evening, an admirable programme had been arranged, which was more than sufficient to make the gathering memorable. Miss Janette Steer's rendering of "A Dream," by Olive Schreiner, was tellingly impressive, and "An Obstacle," by Mrs. Perkins Gilan, given in response to an insistent encore, put courage into all hearts. Miss Marta Cunningham, ever ready to help the Suffrage cause, delighted the audience with a number of songs, and Madame Edith von Elischer won most appreciative recognition by the true musician's gift shown in her singing. The programme was varied by two contrasting dances, a stately gavotte and a coon dance by the Misses Mitchell, Coggin, Newmarch, and Turner, and the finale was a one-act play, *Two of the Odd Boys*, by Miss Winifred St. Clair. Miss St. Clair, Miss Irene Greenleaf, and Mr. F. W. Lambe played their parts in difficult circumstances owing to the noise of passing trains, but when the play has been strengthened by judicious compression, it will rank as excellent and clever propaganda, showing how a crusty old professor may have to be taught woman's worth by woman's wit, by the ruse of a girl student masquerading as a man.

WITH THE CAMPAIGNERS.

The Caravan.

We found Linton to be a very quiet and picturesque little town, and had quite a sympathetic reception there. Mrs. Clark and Miss Anson kindly took charge of the van, as I had to go to London, and they held two excellent meetings, and had a good hearing. Miss Preston, too, rendered excellent service as chairman. On Monday I reached Haverhill, whither the van had gone, and found it pitched at the top of a slope of a very pleasantly situated meadow. The chief industry at Haverhill is silk weaving, and many hundreds of men and women are employed at the mills. We were told that no speakers were listened to there, except those who were professed Liberals, but we were hardly prepared for the rough reception we re-

The Fall of the Bastille—THE WOMAN'S DAY!

TO COMPLETE A GREAT DAY, and
TO HELP THE INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP CONTINUATION FUND, ON SUNDAY, JULY 14, at 8 p.m.,

Madame LYDIA YAVORSKA

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Will make her only London appearance this season
At the KING'S HALL THEATRE, COVENT GARDEN.

The house must be packed—every Suffragist is appealed to to help make this Benefit Performance a triumphant success.

Seats must be booked now. NO MONEY TAKEN AT THE DOORS. For box plans, tickets, &c., apply to the CORONATION SOCIETY, 15, ADAM STREET, STRAND. Telephone: 5202 Gerrard.

ceived. On arriving in the Market-square we found some 1,500 people assembled; indeed, before our arrival we were aware of a hostile crowd, because of the shouting and boing that reached us at a distance. We managed to place a chair in the middle of the Square, and proceeded to address the meeting. It was useless, however, to think of being heard, for the crowd threw their caps at us, and pushed terribly. After a time we were forced to give in, and the police cleared a way for us to our lodgings, where we were surrounded till midnight by a howling mob. In the morning we found that a crowd of roughs had pushed our van down the slope, and had broken the shafts, and had done other damage, so we had to get a wheelwright to take it to his yard for repairs. Miss Anson and Miss Preston had to return home, and Mrs. Clark and I, finding that the repairs would take a day or two, went up to London to Mrs. Despard's anniversary party. Here other work has captured us for the present, but I hope shortly to return to Haverhill, and get the van under way for the East Coast campaign in August. Meantime, if anyone will pay for the cost of the new shafts I shall be very glad. CONSTANCE E. ANDREWS.

Clyde Coast.—Headquarters—77, Montague-street, Rothesay, Isle of Bute.

On Wednesday, July 3, Miss J. L. Bunten opened our campaign at Rothesay. A large crowd assembled, many of them friends and sympathisers who had attended our meetings last year. Miss Bunten spoke on the women's need for the vote, illustrating very ably her argument by reference to other States and countries. Miss Anna Munro followed, speaking almost exclusively on the Reform Bill and our attitude to it. Many questions were asked by the audience, women included, which were satisfactorily answered by Miss Munro. At the close Mr. Woolf made such an interesting speech on our literature that pamphlets, badges, and postcards sold well. Our meetings are held every afternoon and evening, and are well attended. On Thursday evening there was so great a demand for THE VOTE that this week we purpose trebling our order.

ANNA MUNRO.

Swansea.—Hon. Sec.: MISS HUTTON, 9, Sketty-road.

Mrs. Sproson commenced her week's open-air campaign on Sunday morning by addressing a large and appreciative audience for over an hour, and dealing very ably with the political situation. When touching on the subject of militancy she said that though all the plate-glass in Swansea were smashed it was of less consequence than the destruction of the human lives sacrificed daily, she was warmly applauded. Much sympathy was shown when she condemned the forcible feeding of suffragists in prison. She showed how men, as voters, had it in their power to compel the Government to enfranchise women and make them citizens instead of outlaws. Many questions were asked at the close. THE VOTE and other literature sold well. Mr. Beynon, who has lately returned from South Africa, made an excellent chairman. On July 7 a mass meeting was held on the Swansea sands. Mr. Alderman David Williams presided over a most sympathetic audience numbering 2,000. Mrs. Emma Sproson gave a spirited address on the "New Woman." Mr. Alderman Williams proposed, and Mr. Thornhill seconded, the following resolution: "That this mass meeting of Swansea workers demands that women shall be included in the Reform Bill now before the House of Commons." It was carried with one dissentient. It is hoped that members will attend our meetings. Help is needed in literature and VOTE sales, collections, &c. We must show that the Woman's Cause is very much alive in Swansea. Do not forget the Branch meeting on July 15 at the Cartref Café at 7.30 p.m. Please ask your friends to send anything they do not want to our jumble sale in September. Active propaganda must be carried on in the autumn, and funds are needed.—JENNIE ROSS, Organising Secretary.

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MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND. FIRST LIST.

BRANCHES:—	£	s.	d.
Aintree	2	10	0
Chester	1	10	0
Clapham	5	10	0
Eastbourne	1	3	0
Ipswich	9	6	0
Liverpool	3	3	0
Marlow	0	10	6
West Hampstead	2	13	9
West Sussex	5	0	0
Woolpit Group	3	11	6

Anonymous	100	0	0
Mr. Reginald Pott	10	10	0
Mrs. Bastian	10	0	0
Mr. W. R. Snow	10	0	0
Muriel, Countess De La Warr	10	0	0
Miss F. A. Howard	7	0	0
Miss Mansell	6	6	0
Mrs. E. M. N. Clark	5	5	0
Mrs. Fox Bourne	5	0	0
Miss Esther Bright	5	0	0
Mrs. George Cadbury	5	0	0
Dr. Knight	5	0	0
Mrs. A. W. Thomson	5	0	0
Per Dr. Knight: Anonymous	4	0	0
Lady Treacher	3	3	0
Mrs. G. C. Whitley	3	0	0
Mrs. Schofield Coates	2	2	3
Miss H. Fryer	2	2	0
Miss E. Murray	2	2	0
Mrs. Balfour	2	0	0
Dr. Patch	2	0	0
Miss M. E. Penrose (collected)	1	9	0
Miss W. L. Boulton	1	5	0
Miss J. Chumas (collected)	1	3	0

One Guinea.—Miss Mary Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Baillie-Weaver, Mrs. Herbert Cohen, Mrs. C. F. Fagan, Mr. A. Fleming, Miss M. McGowan, Mrs. John Russell, Mrs. Selous, Miss H. M. Smith, Mrs. E. Unna, Dr. Alice Vickery, Mrs. Julia Wood 12 12 0

One Pound.—Mrs. M. Carey, Miss Rosa Cox, Mrs. Cunningham, Miss E. T. Fox Bourne, Miss Gill, Mrs. Hulme, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Meredith Macdonald, Mrs. Thomson Price, Mrs. Tudor, Miss Mary A. Woods, Mrs. Zangwill 12 0 0

Fifteen Shillings.—Mrs. Bernard Jenkin 15 0 0

Twelve Shillings.—Miss Mary Campbell (collected) 12 0 0

Eleven Shillings and Sixpence.—Miss L. G. Woolf (collected) 11 6 0

Ten Shillings and Sixpence.—Mr. W. H. Jeffers, Mr. Alfred Thompson (collected) 10 6 0

Ten Shillings.—Miss A. E. Abrahams, Mrs. and Miss Anderson, Mrs. E. Ashton, Mrs. Bartram, Miss Evelyn Branch, Mr. Henry Fry, Mrs. Hartley Withers, Miss A. Holmes, Miss Husband, Mrs. Hylton Dale, Mrs. Felix Moscheles, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Sholl 10 0 0

Nine Shillings.—Miss Boorman (collected), Miss Janet Gibson 9 0 0

Seven Shillings and Sixpence.—Miss Cecil Preston 7 6 0

Five Shillings.—Per Miss Leah Anson—Miss Holmes, Miss Muriel Bois, Mrs. C. Bryant, Miss K. Conran, Mr. Will Crooks, M.P., Miss M. J. Fagan, Mr. Kier Hardie, M.P., Miss Beatrice Harraden, Mrs. M. T. Hossack, Miss H. A. Law, Miss Laws, Mrs. Mallalae, Miss R. Mayo, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Miss Kate R. Moffat, Miss E. S. Priestley, Mrs. Reeves, Mrs. A. Sanderson, Miss M. L. Saunders, Miss A. Sherwood, Miss E. J. Sherwood, Miss W. M. Spriggs, Miss M. Stirling, Mrs. Tolle-mache, Dr. Tudor, Mrs. Wills 5 0 0

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POLITICAL NEWS.

The Labour Party and the Government.

On July 2 the following resolution was passed by the Labour Party: "That the Executive of the Labour Party, regarding Hanley as a Labour seat, decides to make every preparation for a contest, and to send Messrs. Arthur Henderson, M.P., and Stephen Walsh, M.P., to meet the Trades Council. It also decides to send Mr. George Roberts, M.P., to confer with the party in Crewe. In the event of there being three-cornered contests in these constituencies, the Executive recommends the party to withdraw its members from the House of Commons during the elections, so that the full force of the party may be put behind the candidates."

A meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party was held on July 4 at the House of Commons, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald presiding, to consider the position arising out of the Hanley by-election. The following resolution was carried: "That, having considered the recommendation of the Executive of the Labour Party, each member decides to place himself at the disposal of the officers of the party in going to the two constituencies—Hanley and Crewe—to assist in the contests and to use every effort to secure the success of their candidates." The Parliamentary Labour Party thus agrees to the by-election policy decided upon at Tuesday's meeting of the Executive, but does not accept the recommendation to withdraw from the House of Commons in a body during contests. It is understood that there was marked difference of opinion as to the tactics to meet the situation.

Amendments to the Reform Bill.

A meeting of the Conciliation Committee was held in the House of Commons on July 2. Lord Lytton presided. In considering the question of suffrage amendments to the Government's Franchise Bill, it was resolved to approach the other suffrage groups with a view to arriving at an agreement on procedure in Committee, so as to avoid any clashing of suffrage amendments and the consequent danger of important proposals being ruled out on a point of order. "The idea of the Committee," says *The Manchester Guardian*, "is that there should be a kind of Dutch auction of amendments, beginning with the most comprehensive, and working down to an amendment on the lines of the Conciliation Bill. It was agreed to move an amendment to Clause 1, Section 1, that the word 'person' should be substituted for 'male persons,' and it is hoped that all groups will work in harmony to get this done as a preliminary."

Pressure on Mr. Redmond.

Mr. H. N. Brailsford, writing in the July issue of the Men's League *Monthly Paper*, says that he does not doubt that an amendment deleting the word "male" in the clause which states those who are qualified to vote, will be carried. "The House, he adds, will make itself the laughing-stock of the civilised world if it first decides that women shall not be excluded, yet fails to decide that any women shall be included. It is precisely at this point that a Government which meant to govern would know how to intervene. If the House, voting freely, had decided to remove the sex disability, the Government ought itself to step in to propose the form of their qualification." As a measure of practical politics, Mr. Brailsford recommends those members of the House, other than the Nationalists, who are Suffragists and also Home Rulers, to bring effective pressure on Mr. Redmond.

Liberal Candidate's Protest Against Forcible Feeding.

Mr. H. D. Harben, prospective Liberal candidate for the Barnstaple Division of Devon, has written to the Barnstaple Liberal Executive withdrawing his candidature. His resignation has been accepted. Mr. Harben in his letter strongly criticised the course taken by the Prime Minister and the Government with regard to the treatment of the imprisoned Woman Suffragist leaders, and announced his withdrawal as a protest.

In his letter to the Chairman of the Liberal Association Mr. Harben says:—"This policy of pusillanimous persecution is not my idea of Liberalism. The bullying of voteless women by a Government that is actually proposing to widen the franchise of men is quite without excuse. Unmanly, ungentlemanly, un-sportsmanlike, and uncivilised, it can serve no purpose but to disgrace those who are responsible for it and those who acquiesce in it."

The Home Secretary and Forcible Feeding.

In his reply to the memorial, signed by 117 doctors as a strong and urgent protest against the forcible feeding of Suffragist prisoners, Mr. McKenna said: "I have received the memorial referred to, but as the memorialists are unable to suggest any alternative method by which prisoners who refuse food can be prevented from committing suicide I am unable to attach much weight to their representations. I may add that I have received another memorial signed by most distinguished medical men

stating that feeding by tube, if carried out in accordance with the usual rules of procedure, is neither dangerous nor painful. The compulsory feeding of recalcitrant prisoners is a most unpleasant process, extremely distasteful to those whose duty it is to carry it out, and everything is done by the medical staff of the prisons to avoid it where possible, and, when it is necessary, to guard against any risk to health and to minimise the discomfort to the prisoner."

Dr. Agnes Savill and Sir Victor Horsley have replied to Mr. McKenna. In the course of their letter they say that apparently Mr. McKenna is under the impression that any assertion is good enough as an answer for the House of Commons. They add: "In the interests both of medical truth and the civilised treatment of political prisoners it is Mr. McKenna's duty to publish immediately this anti-memorial and the names of the signatories thereto. If Mr. McKenna's 'most distinguished,' but anonymous, informants are correct, then they have proved the Home Secretary to have acted with the grossest injustice to some prisoners and Mr. Ellis Griffith to have made false statements to the House of Commons. For the Home Secretary has released some prisoners and kept others in prison on . . . medical grounds."

THE MANHOOD SUFFRAGE BILL DEBATE.

In the House of Commons, on July 8, Mr. Lewis Harcourt (Colonial Secretary) moved the second reading of the Manhood Suffrage Bill. He said he thought the present Bill had been met with very little more than cooing criticism. He had always believed that the Parliamentary franchise was really and rightly based on manhood, and that a single individual was only entitled to a single vote. Plural voting he had always described as a scandal. With reference to the omissions from the Bill he said that it was quite clear that no Government Bill on its introduction could have contained any proposal for female suffrage. As to what might happen in Committee it would be premature to discuss that day. He could not believe the House of Commons, as at present constituted, was prepared to add ten and a-half millions of women at this moment to the voting roll, with all the consequences which that would logically entail.

Mr. T. HEALY (N., Cork, N.E.): Does the right hon. gentleman speak on behalf of the Chancellor of the Exchequer when he says that?

For Myself—and Others.

Mr. HARCOURT: I am speaking for myself and some of my colleagues. Continuing, he said that he did not imagine that those who were opposed to the larger proposition would at this moment be prepared to adopt the lesser one—which must lead certainly to a great extension—namely, the admission of some propertied women to the register when they were abolishing the property qualification for men. Referring to Mr. D. M. Mason's threat that if female suffrage was not included he would vote against the third reading of the Bill, Mr. Harcourt said that it would be an illogical proceeding on the part of the hon. member to betray the sex which he adored. With regard to the criticism that the Government had not attempted any reform of the local government franchise, he said that the omission was justified both by precedent and the pressure of time; but he hoped that within the life of this Parliament the local government franchise would be simplified and extended, and in such a measure he believed women could make out a strong case for further representative and voting power on local bodies.

Woman Suffrage a Revolutionary Measure.

Mr. PRETYMAN moved the official Opposition amendment:—"That this House declines to proceed with a measure on a most important aspect of which the Government responsible for its introduction is admittedly not agreed, which leaves unremedied the most glaring inequalities of our representative system, and which is framed solely in the electoral interests of one political party." He said that the Parliamentary year had now become a simple round of hustle and congestion. In order to comply with the Parliament Act this Bill was now introduced, but it was simply providing a peg on which to hang so great a revolutionary measure as female suffrage. That amendment, however, might not be introduced till next November, or even March. No greater abuse of the forms of the House could be imagined. It seemed to him that none of God's creatures was more highly endowed with the instinct of self-preservation than were the members of the Government. He said that manhood suffrage ought to be accompanied by an educational test. The sudden addition of 3,000,000 voters—the bulk of whom would be young men of 21

(Continued on page 208.)

Come to the Bohemian Fête,

organised by the Hampstead Branch of the Women's Freedom League, to help our President's Birthday Fund, On Saturday, July 13, 3-7 p.m.

in the Grounds and Studio of OAK TREE HOUSE, Branch Hill (Hampstead Tube Station), so kindly placed at our disposal by Mr. HENRY HOLIDAY. :: Entrance (including Concert and Tea), ONE SHILLING.

For the special attractions offered, and all particulars, see page 220.



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with no property, and without any educational test—was a dangerous step, and it was the more dangerous because the Government were approaching the question not from a national but from a party point of view.

A Tricky Bill.

Mr. H. LAWSON (U., Mile End) said the Bill was a tricky Bill. It had been drafted in such a way that the most important parts of the measure were contained in the schedules, which might never be discussed at all.

Sir CHARLES HENRY (L., Shropshire, Wellington) said that the Liberal party were committed to deal with plural voting, and he candidly admitted that he would have been quite satisfied if the Bill had dealt with that subject alone. He intimated that if in Committee an amendment conferring the franchise on women were carried, he would be unable to support the Bill on the third reading.

Mr. DICKINSON (L., St. Pancras, N.) thanked the Government for leaving the woman suffrage question an open matter, and hoped that all the supporters of the enfranchisement of women would join forces, in order to take advantage of this great opportunity.

An Impossible Position.

Lord ROBERT CECIL (U., Hitchin) said the main purpose of the Bill was to secure for the Liberal party an electoral advantage. He asked the House to consider very carefully the bearing of the extension of the franchise by this Bill upon the question of woman suffrage. If they were to say that every man was entitled to vote because he was a man, were they really able to say they would exclude every woman from any share in the government of the country? That seemed to him to be an impossible position. Was it really intended to give the vote to the casual labourer and to refuse it to highly educated and capable women? The Colonial Secretary could not seriously think that the only alternative was between no woman voter and 10½ millions of women. He (Lord R. Cecil) should certainly be opposed to the admission of 10½ millions of women at one stroke to the register. It was too large a change. But to say that they must reject the admission of any one woman seemed to him a controversial method scarcely worthy of a Minister of the Crown. He did not share the optimism of the hon. member for St. Pancras. He could not feel that the attitude of the Government was very clear and very easy to understand. Their pledges were perfectly clear and plain. They had pledged themselves to give an absolutely free and fair chance for woman suffrage in this Bill. Nothing was to be done by the Government to prejudice the question one way or the other. He did not feel that that pledge was being carried out in this Bill. It was rather disquieting that the right hon. gentlemen who moved the first and second readings of the Bill were strongly opposed to woman suffrage. He trusted that before the debate closed the House would hear from some other occupant of the Treasury bench, who was in favour of the suffrage, their view on this business. He earnestly hoped and trusted the Government would not adopt a provocative attitude in this matter. It was a serious question, arousing deep feelings, and he begged the House not to attempt, by any Parliamentary astuteness, to take any advantage of those in favour of woman suffrage. He appealed to all who were in favour of it to stand united. If they did so, the Government would treat them fairly, and the cause of right and justice would prevail in the end, and women, in some form or other, would receive the vote.

A Humiliating Insult.

Sir A. MARKHAM said that he felt great difficulty how to vote on this Bill. His constituents were overwhelmingly in favour of the abolition of plural voting, but the Bill brought in its train very great injustice to women. He was not a strong believer in woman suffrage, but he voted for the Conciliation Bill, and had not changed his opinions because of the foolish acts of certain women. But under the Bill it seemed to him they were going to enfranchise three millions of men, who had never asked to be enfranchised, and were omitting altogether to deal with ten and a-half millions of women. That was not common justice. After the agitation that the women had been carrying on, this was a humiliating insult to them. The House was going to say that educated women, who took a keen interest in public affairs, were to be debarred from taking any part, while others, who had not asked for votes, were brought in because it was to the advantage of the party machine. The Government ought to give a lead in regard to the question of woman suffrage. If the Government persisted in their present attitude with regard to the question of the enfranchisement of women he would have no option but to vote against the Bill.

Mr. STANLEY WILSON (U., Holderness) charged the Prime Minister with cowardice in leaving the question of woman suffrage, which he believed would be "a national disaster," to the House, and Mr. CHARLES ROBERTS (L., Lincoln) thought everyone should recognise the fairness of the action. He urged Suffragists to unite to make use of the opportunity presented by the Bill.

Support of the Labour Party.

Mr. GILL (Lab., Bolton) said that the Labour Party would support any amendment to extend the franchise to women.

Mr. FELL (U., Great Yarmouth) believed that by including women in the Bill, an unknown political force would be introduced, but as women represented so many people in the

towns it was a question whether their claims should not be met. He was prepared to consider it in a most liberal way. The change in the electorate should be thorough if there was any change at all.

Mr. HOGGE (L., Edinburgh, E.) said he would vote against the third reading if the franchise were not extended to women.

Sir F. BANBURY (U., City of London) supported the amendment. The American colonies separated from this country because they were called upon to pay taxation without having a voice in the imposition of those taxes.

Political Opportunism.

Sir ROBERT FINLAY (U., Edinburgh): The attitude of the Government towards the proposal to give votes to women in connection with this Bill was a most remarkable one. Was any Government before content so to humiliate itself with regard to a great question? The Bill represented political opportunism at its lowest point. Every line of it was stamped with the desire not to benefit the nation, but to benefit the Liberal party.

Mr. J. A. PEASE (President of the Board of Education) said with one small exception no new class would be added to the register, but the large number of individuals who were temporarily disfranchised under the existing electoral system would be able to fulfil the duties of citizenship.

At eleven o'clock the debate was adjourned.

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE DEBATE.

The Times.

The House of Commons was occupied yesterday in watching the careful preparations of the Government for the next General Election. The spectacle is by no means novel, so the attendance was small and the interest was languid.

Daily News.

The critical phase of the measure relates to the women's vote. . . . It is not conceivable to us that a House committed as the present House is to the cause of Women's Suffrage can permit the Bill to pass without the inclusion of women. Mr. Harcourt spoke of the objections to the adult suffrage being extended to women, but when Mr. Healy asked whether he spoke for the Government, he had to admit that he did not. If the House, taking advantage of the folly of the militants, fails to insert a woman's clause, it will not escape the issue; it will only make the struggle more prolonged and more bitter. It will drive into extreme courses thousands of those women—and they are the vast majority—who have patiently and quietly worked for the cause, believing that those who have promised them their support would fulfil their undertaking. Let us once be clear that this question must and will be settled in the only way that plain justice admits, and we shall not hesitate to take the plunge now rather than later.

The Morning Post.

Mr. Harcourt expressed his belief that if the sex barrier were once broken down women of the country must sooner or later be granted the vote on the same terms as it is given to men. In opposing Woman Suffrage Mr. Harcourt certainly speaks for the majority of the people of the country. But if he and some of his colleagues believe with Mr. Asquith that to give women the vote would be a mistake of a very disastrous kind, it is difficult to see how they could continue to be members of a Government pledged to carry a Bill that would bring this evil on the country.

The Standard.

The Bill has a profoundly fraudulent core under its husk of triviality. It is Mr. Asquith's disingenuous reply to his suffragist persecutors. Lord Robert Cecil pointed out that it gives the franchise to men (or boys) who do not want it in order to deny it to women who do. As the Colonial Secretary cheerily observed, it was not conceivable that the House would decide to confer the franchise on ten and a half millions of women at a stroke. So the Government has faced the Woman Suffragists with the alternative of granting votes to all women or to no women, knowing very well that to the question so put there can be only one answer. This may be clever, but it is the sort of cleverness the English people do not admire.

The Manchester Guardian.

We do not know whether the present House of Commons will be prepared to do justice to women. The best reply to the violence of a few is to support the moderate and reasonable claim of the many. This is not a matter to be determined on any narrow ground of passing feeling or irrelevant incident. It represents a great human claim now for the first time finding free expression and destined to grow in power and insistence until it is satisfied. It is one which appeals to the very root principles of a well-founded Liberalism, and it has met with a quick response from that other new and transforming force, the awakening power of organised labour. It may seem a small matter to refuse it recognition at a moment when it has been prejudiced by the extravagance of a few of its supporters, but it is not a small matter. Liberalism lives, and only deserves to live, by ideals and by principles. Not all the votes of all the plural voters can do it a tittle the damage which it will receive at the hands of its friends if, when put to the test, as shortly they will be, they make the great refusal.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE WHITE SLAVE MARKET.*

To Mrs. Mackirdy and Mr. W. N. Willis all honour is due. The one has probed and the other has thrown herself into the painful task of revealing certain of the most hideous facts that, with their cruelty and horror, are to-day poisoning society.

The awful tragedy consists in this: that they are facts. We have heard of the White Slave Traffic. The poor little projected piece of legislation—the Criminal Law Amendment Act—that is before the House of Commons now has been devised to check what is known as the White Slave Traffic. In the book with which I am dealing, "The White Slave Market," it comes home to us poignantly that to do away with houses of ill-fame will but poorly profit our women so long as those fiends in human form, who are described as "pimps" and bullies, can betray and deceive girls who in age are little more than children, take them on board ship and sell them into the most revolting forms of slavery in India, Japan, Sumatra, Buenos Ayres. Appalling stories of what can be done, and is done, are given in this terrible record. Captains of ships are often aware of the freight they are carrying, and they cannot interfere. In many cases the voyage is over and the girls are transferred into the hands of the woman who is to train them to submission before they are in the least aware of the fate in store for them. Blows, starvation, long terms of imprisonment and still worse horrors are often dealt out to them before they will yield. Some commit suicide; others enter upon their brief career of glittering misery and die, still young, worn-out and despairing; a very few escape. And this is happening constantly.

We see in the papers that a girl is missing. I heard lately myself of a little girl sent by her aunt to a certain address in a taxi-cab. She did not arrive, and although for weeks every sort of effort has been made to find her she is still lost; and this happens again and again, and most of the unhappy little victims are young working girls.

What is to be done? Something more than is done in England. We hear that in Australia the hideous trade has almost died out. The story is told here of what happened to a member of a gang who had been bringing Italian girls to the gold-fields of Western Australia. By extraordinary good fortune one of these girls succeeded in escaping from the house in which she was imprisoned. She gave notice to the police, her captor was arrested, brought before the courts, tried and condemned to ten years' penal servitude and four floggings. That killed the wicked trade in Western Australia. In England the punishment for a similar offence was three months' imprisonment—half the term given to a militant Suffragist for breaking windows.

It is estimated," says Mrs. Mackirdy, "that fully twenty-five thousand 'pimps' live on unfortunate women's earnings in London alone; yet the number of convictions last year rose only to the total of 151. Surely it is time women had votes or our law-makers had sense and made up their minds to exclaim with Voltaire, 'Ecrasez l'infâme.'"

We will not pretend that "The White Slave Market" is a pleasant book. It is painful in the extreme. None the less it should be read by those who desire to know what is being done in these hellish under-worlds which yearly absorb earth's innocent children. For to know is to be armed for service; to see down into the depths is to be inspired with passionate determination to fight to the bitter end against a social order that permits these abysses of iniquity to exist. We thank the writers of this book for putting before us in plain words that which they have heard and seen. C. D.

BOHEMIAN FÊTE AT HAMPSTEAD.

An admirable programme has been arranged for the Bohemian Fête on July 13, at Oak Tree House, Branch-hill, 5 to 7 p.m., in the garden and studio kindly lent by Mr. Holiday. It will include a Thé Musical, under the direction of Madame Edith von Elischer, supported by Miss Floriel Florian (South African vocalist), Miss Vivienne Audrey, Mr. Hilliard Davies (tenor), Mr. Savori Levey (poems at the piano), Miss Vere Mannoeh (vocalist), &c.; recitations by Miss Esther Walker, Miss Margaret Omar, Mademoiselle Juliette Mylo. At 5 p.m. "an utterly impossible plebeian episode in one act," *The Aspirations of Archibald*, is to be performed in the beautiful studio, amidst Mr. Holiday's works of art. Cakes have been most generously promised, and only a few more are needed to complete a delightful tea. Mrs. Holiday is giving a birthday cake in honour of Mrs. Despard, and is also sending some scented fir-branches for the table from Ambleside.

For this splendid programme the entrance fee (including concert and tea) is only one shilling, and as the proceeds are to be devoted to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund, the Branch hopes the Fête will be well supported by members of the W.F.L. from all over London.

The Branch has undertaken the distribution in Hampstead of more than a thousand copies of THE VOTE to advertise the Fête and the responsibility of the four extra pages in this issue.

BISHOP GORE'S ADDRESS ON "THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT," delivered at Queen's Hall on June 19, has been published as a penny pamphlet by *The Christian Commonwealth*, Salisbury-square, London, E.C.

* "The White Slave Market." (Stephen Swift. 5s. net.)

AT PLAY—WITH A PURPOSE—AT CROYDON.

Suffragettes are said to take themselves seriously, but, like other animals, are sometimes seized with a propensity to play. The Croydon Branch was playing last Saturday evening, but it was organised play, with a purpose, and the purpose was that of augmenting the Croydon contribution to the President's Birthday Fund. The green and gold decorations on the garden railings of the Braithwaite Hall indicated the scene of the Garden Fête. Round the hall were arranged the familiar banners and pennons which have so frequently waved in the breezes of the Embankment or Hyde Park. When will they wave in triumph? The legend "Dare to Be Free" introduced the one militant note. For the rest it was a cheerful, peaceful scene. The husbands did not look henpecked, nor wives cock-pocked, and the charming children—the future electors of both sexes—may have come out of the neglected Suffragette homes of the Anti-Suffrage imagination, though they certainly did not look like it.

The opening ceremony was performed by the president, who was looking well after her Swiss holiday, and was as full as ever of faith and hope in the future. She said the day of women's freedom was not yet, but that she believed they were very near the recognition of their citizenship. The revolt of the Labour Party was a matter of great congratulation, and she considered that very real pressure was going to be put upon the Government. It was no mere mention of Women's Suffrage that the Labour candidate at Hanley was putting into his election address. He was placing equal electoral rights for men and women in the very forefront of his campaign. Since politics concern the whole people, women must show that they are determined to be inside the State, and that they refuse to be left outside any longer. A beautiful bouquet was presented to Mrs. Despard by a small girl, old enough to remember that incident when she tells her own children that there was once a time when women were considered political outcasts.

After the opening ceremony the audience streamed out into the garden, where excellent coffee, cakes, and ices, &c., were served by dainty little Puritan maidens and other helpers. In one corner of the garden a trade was being done in home-made jams, cakes and sweets, and Mrs. Snow's stall of beautiful hand embroidery, hats, blouses, &c., found many customers, which was not surprising since the prices suggested "sale bargains" rather than those usually connected with bazaars. Dips into the future were to be had in a secluded corner, where stood the tent of a palmist, but it is understood that no very definite information could be obtained as to the nature of the Women's Amendment to the Reform Bill.

Inside the hall two excellent concerts were given during the evening. Perhaps the most popular items were the children's songs and dances, arranged by Miss Jessett. The love-making of the little Dutch peasants, with their sabot dance, was very heartily applauded as, indeed, was the whole programme. Miss Frances Ison's violin solos gave great enjoyment.

The programme of the first concert was brought to a close by an admirably-acted duologue, entitled "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," between a charwoman and an anti-suffrage lady who did not succeed in converting the charwoman to her views. "Man and woman are one," insists the anti-suffrage advocate. "Which one?" pertinently demands Mrs. Chicky. "Laws," she insists, "weren't made for turtle-doves," and she describes the arguments used on a former occasion by an anti-suffrage mission to the slums as such as her cat wouldn't swallow, and "he ain't pernicketty." "It's quite nice dust," politely urges the Anti when she suffers from the vigour of Mrs. Chicky's cleaning processes. New brooms in politics may, perchance, make some clouds of the dust of ages, even the "nice dust" of the angelic home variety.

Out in the garden, now lighted with long festoons of Chinese lanterns, the Troubadour quartette party discoursed sweet music. It is a pity we do not more often hear unaccompanied part-singing in this country. Sandwiched between the concerts, an entertainment of mirth, magic and mystery was taking place in the library. Picture postcards of a line of Suffragettes engaged in a bun-munching competition would have sold well at the Anti-Suffrage stall at the Exhibition.

Miss Inez Bensusan's triumph as Mrs. Chicky was further enhanced by her acting of the maid in Mr. Graham Moffat's (the author of *Bunty Pulls the Strings*) little play of *The Maid and the Magistrate*. The play deals with two lovers, one of whom is to appear before the other on the following morning. He is shocked that she, "so flower-like," should be a Suffragette. She is equally horrified that he should have been appointed a police-court magistrate. Speaking of the ordeal of the following morning, she remarks, "You'll want all your manly dignity to carry it through." He demands of her "Are you not loved and protected?" "And so is a poodle," she indignantly retorts. Of the future she will not speak. Their marriage, she says, must depend upon Mr. Asquith. Until women get the vote she will remain a spinster.

Will they be married this year?

The Garden Fête was unanimously agreed to have been a great success, and those who are responsible for its admirable organisation are heartily to be congratulated, and the thanks of the League are due to all those who contributed to the evening's enjoyment. E. M. N. C.

THE VOTE.

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 Directors—Mrs. DESPARD, Mrs. J. E. SNOW, Mrs. M. H. FISHER, Miss C. ANDREWS, Mrs. E. SPROSON, Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD, Miss C. NINA BOYLE.

SATURDAY, July 13, 1912.

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Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.
 Published by W. SPEAIGHT & SONS, 98 & 99, Fetter Lane, E.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

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 Foreign Countries 8/8 " " "

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THE RALLYING POINT.

We are approaching once more an important crisis in the woman's movement. After years of work, after disappointments and betrayals innumerable, after reverses, cruel enough to have daunted the stoutest will, liberty-loving women find themselves face to face with what may be the final struggle for political freedom.

We must not attempt to minimise the strength of the combination that is against us.

A reactionary Government that, whatever individual members may have professed, has, as a whole, either ignored or insulted us; behind it the worshippers of the present indolent disorder, who dread nothing more than the growing up of a strong young democracy, with these the timid, the fearful, the ignorant of all classes, marshalling their forces to defeat us. That which is dearer to us than our own lives—our vision of liberty—is menaced. If it is to enter into the world of the real, we must guard it now with all our force.

More than ever we need a rallying point. How are we to find it?

In coming to a full understanding of our vision, in placing definitely before us what the loss of it would mean.

History may help us. When we look back into the mid-Victorian era, we see certain phenomena; the slow dying out of the old aristocracy of blood—this was prophesied by Shelley early in the nineteenth century—the rapid growth of individual wealth; an extraordinary expansion of luxury, and a deeper degradation, a more piteous horror, in poverty. In every one of these we find the same note; and it is significant that to this the opponents of our movement make appeal. Physical force, domination in industry, control of army, navy, courts of justice, administration at home and abroad—these, possessed by men, constitute, we are told, their claim to dominion. The modern world has decreed that money and material power shall rule. Woman, if she is wise, will bow to the inevitable. Man, the owner of material wealth, the contriver of luxury, the purveyor of the things for which she craves, has her in his grip. She is his. He needs her for his pleasure; he needs her for his work. If he is unscrupulous, he will break her. What does the breaking of a few women matter? When one white slave drops under her ghastly burden, there is another to take her place. When one mother, or woman-worker, or factory-girl falls, dozens are ready—nay, are eager and hungry—to fill up the gap. So has the cynic said, in the days that have gone by. And while one here and another there, asserting their human independence, have risen in revolt, woman has submitted. It was in the nature of things. She was but a poor creature against the men-folk.

And then the vision came. Born as a light of hope

in the souls of a few—the saints of the middle ages, the pioneer-women, many of whom died heart-broken before their race was run, of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries—it has quickened into the flaming torch which, passed from hand to hand, is arousing womanhood everywhere.

We ask what the vision means.

It means first recognition of our work. The hearing, rearing and training of children is the highest, the most ancient, the absolutely necessary industry. In our vision we see it honoured and respected. Like comes of like. The servile mother will bear a servile race. The vision puts before us woman royally independent.

Acts of Parliament, we are told, cannot stamp out vice. Public opinion can. Woman, the worker, the citizen, the mother, put in her own place, will so mould public opinion that forms of vice which are now tolerated by even good men and women will become impossible. This we see in the future.

Further, we see woman achieving economic independence. The reward of her work will not be given to her as a favour. She will attain it as a right. With equal rights she will have equal opportunities of education and culture. Marriage will no longer be a necessity, entered upon without love or vocation, and persevered in because no other life is open. It will be joyfully chosen. The dark underworld into which women, often in ignorance of its meaning, are drawn, will then fail to find recruits. When honourable work, with its fair reward, is open to all, the young of both sexes will be able to protect themselves. An educated public opinion, meanwhile, and a stern law sternly administered, will make certain forms of iniquity so dangerous that those who, in defiance of nature, tempt the innocent and ignorant to ruin will be balked of their prey.

To sum up; that which we see as we look on into the future is a strong manhood and a strong womanhood dealing valiantly together with the things that hurt their peace, and overcoming. This is to be. To doubt it would be blasphemy against humanity, the one unforgivable sin.

With its sweetness and power our vision has drawn us. Are we to lose it? Are we to sit by with folded hands, while men, in fear of further trouble, hold out to us a Criminal Law Amendment Act which barely touches the real criminal, and a Feeble-Minded Bill, while they give us moderate benefits in such laws as the Insurance Act, framed by the two Front Benches in the House of Commons for their own safeguarding? A thousand times no! In all these matters we—the women of the nation—have a deep concern, and we demand that our voice shall be heard respecting them.

That is what the suffrage means to us. It represents citizenship, and the open door to the fulfilment of our vision. Therefore, to-day, we make of our hope the rallying-point round which we can gather as one.

We dare not disguise from ourselves the fact that the situation is grave. The Second Reading of a Men's Franchise Bill will, in all probability, be an accomplished fact before this week is out. That the Government should exclude women deliberately from this so-called Democratic measure constitutes an insult to the whole of the womanhood of the nation. An amendment will be introduced, and consideration has been promised for it, and we hope and believe that our friends in the House of Commons will force it through.

We, in the meantime, of the Women's Freedom League, have joined hands with the only political party in the House that is pledged to stand by us. We shall be at Hanley, we shall be at Crewe, where great Labour victories are expected. The lists are open, the combatants are face to face. We hope and trust that from these two great constituencies of workers will go forth a voice that none will be able to mistake. For Labour has its vision also. That great force through which the earth is made, generation after generation, to yield

up her riches for the service of humanity, is in revolt against intolerable conditions—foresees an age when it shall be able to reap its due reward of service in the possibility, denied now to so many of its sons and daughters, of leading a human life.

It is natural that the vision of Labour and the vision of Woman should come together, for one cannot exist without the other, and we draw undying hope from the conviction that, this great discovery having been made, it will never again be lost.

Therefore, in the words of Miss S. Gertrude Ford, one of the sweetest and truest singers of to-day,

We snatch a hope from our last despair,
 And shout in defeat as the victors do!
 We can live and bear, we can do and dare;
 Be the storm above or the cloudless blue,
 Like the hero of old, we are unperplexed,
 "We just lie down" with our loss and pain,
 And bleed for an hour, and are up the next
 To fight again.

C. DESPARD.

MEN AMOK.

It is, perhaps, not a well-known fact, but it is one which could very easily be known if we had a mind to take cognisance of it, that men run amok more readily than women and with more disastrous consequences; they are more liable to impulsive, uncontrolled action which springs from discouragement, wounded vanity, or passion. In the book called "Woman Adrift" (Stanley Paul), Mr. Harold Owen has run amok; he has written one of those diatribes which are somewhat common in male literature, though the general public is not often brought up against them, for they are invariably a response to the stimulus of sex-antagonism, and one aim of the semi-civilisations in which we all live is to keep women in such a condition of ignorance and subordination that they should be conscious of no desires which do not suit men and should recognise this state of things as "womanly." But it is enough that any woman should ask for something men do not give her, or suggest that all is not for the best in this best of all possible male worlds, for the spirit to manifest itself. In classical Greece it was aroused on several occasions; in the sixth century of our era, Christian Bishops did not half relish the notion that women had just as good souls as themselves, and a Council met to consider whether women would live for ever or only men. Joan of Arc aroused this sex antagonism in the British breast, and British soldiers burnt her; Florence Nightingale roused it and was called "an indecent huzzy," and when the noble British male got accustomed to "indecent huzzies" as nurses, he turned his bile against the woman doctor and described her in one of the leading daily papers as a curious pathological phenomenon. There was more respect when women said they would like to go to school—more respect but not less contempt, for the men were so sure they would not be able to learn anything when they got there.

It is that measured judgment which called Florence Nightingale "unwomanly" and "indecent," a woman accoucheur "unnatural" and "immodest," and opined that women were incapable of higher education, which has hitherto controlled the affairs of the mother half of the race. Hence one cannot open Mr. Owen's book in the expectation of unprejudiced discussion, and we are not disappointed.

Here are all the phenomena to which we are accustomed when men "heat their heads"—as the Italians say—discussing women. There are also pages of tiresome verbiage which a practical person would scout at once, if any man allowed himself to be practical where women are concerned.

Women, we are informed, can add nothing to politics because men have all the experiences, except maternity. "If finance is talked of, forward come the bankers . . . and so on to the end of the chapter of every human

activity." Poor Mr. Owen! None of the Anti-Suffragists know the difference between natural law and man-made law. "Banker," "diplomatist," "traveller," "artist," "scientist" suggest to Mr. Owen secondary sexual characters. These "human activities" are, in fact, elsewhere identified with "male interests"! Mr. Owen, however, gives himself away too often. He suggests "that even the domestic freedom of women may have its bad side," and he mentions the education of women as a source of conjugal estrangement. Here is an instance of lovely perspicacity, or is it simply an example of robust male logic? "A man knows a good deal more about the affairs of the home than woman knows of those affairs of his which are practically inaccessible to her. . . . Moreover, so long as men live in houses, the home is man's affair, too." But so long as women live in States, the State is woman's affair, too.

Mr. Owen and others want reminding that the political and administrative sagacity of women has been recognised by great men from Plato onwards. Facts are tiresome things when we are balancing on the horns of passion and prejudice, and there has been a far larger proportion of eminent women rulers than of men. There are, says Mr. Owen, "women who don't" want political status. But the verdict of the women who say "yes" is intrinsically more valuable than the verdict of those who say "no," and in other affairs we are quick enough to act upon this principle. "There are always slaves who hug their chains," as Mr. Redmond called out when the opposition of some women to their enfranchisement was spoken of. It is the same with the opinions of men. Considering the force of habit and of nurture the opinions of even a few really great men in all ages would outweigh in importance the views of the whole of mediocre maledom on this subject.

When Mr. Owen leaves the State for the law he finds that the common law is "a perfect code" for the protection of women, "if women are to have any obligations at all," and "men any rights whatever." But after this scintillating exordium Mr. Owen tumbles into bathos. "Someone must have the last word," so the common law gives it to the man, but it is "certainly not always the husband who has it." That practice, alas! falls ever short of theory we knew, but it is pleasant to reflect that the laws as administered by men are at least logical. Could it be credited, however, that if a woman brings a breach of promise action she gets sympathy and damages, but that a man gets only "ridicule and derision"? And all the time that partial jury know that men have the inheritance of property in preference to women, that marriage is the one means of livelihood contemplated for women, and that all the "human activities" by which men gain fortune and position are shut out from women. After this, we shall not be surprised to learn that "the administration of the law," as it concerns women, is a "department of chivalry." (And, by the way, what a splendid asset that "chivalry" is proving for the poor male. He can urge it to cajole a male jury into forgetting that women have any grievances, because some other men somewhere else once in a blue moon may put some women into a boat first when a passenger ship is in danger.)

Let us, nevertheless, implore Mr. Owen and his chivalrous juries not to be carried away too far; for on page 191 we read that the custody and control of offspring, which is "one of the most sacred rights" of males, has been tampered with in favour of women. The author cites this fact as proving how the law favours the female sex, but should even "the law" be allowed to whittle away "sacred rights"? Why should sacred rights be whittled away? Perhaps because it turns out they were not sacred rights at all.

The author of "Woman Adrift" proceeds to riddle the argument that women need the vote to make their children's bread secure. This is how he does it. Women

cannot possibly have a vote to control their own affairs, because you would also be "giving them power to control your affairs, and that is not the sort of Home Rule for the sexes which is possible. Even Ireland says, 'Let us manage our own affairs and you can do what the devil you like with yours.'" It need not be pointed out that this is precisely what Ireland does not say. The next assertion is that "except in legislation for protecting women"—the italics are his—"man has always legislated in the spirit that the well-being of one sex is the well-being of the other." This is not only stupid but discreditable. The white slave traffic and the relative "protection" afforded to the illegitimate mother and the illegitimate father are perhaps instances of the well-being of one sex coinciding with that of the other; especially in the mouth of Mr. Owen, for whom, as we see, *legislation for the protection of women* is not conducive to male well-being. Imagine 333 pages of dull, ignoble material of this sort, and you have read Mr. Owen's compilation. Here is one more example: "All the great inculcators of moral principles have been men, though woman has certainly been placed in no position of disadvantage by man that has restrained her from expressing herself as a moral teacher." No, when sons and husbands are told that the woman has to obey the male, this can be no disadvantage to her *role* as his moral teacher; the harem can have placed no embargo on the *role* of a prophetess; and the shutting of University and college doors in her face can only have served to raise her prestige in the eyes of the other sex.

Mr. Owen's book is out of date. All the tampering with "sacred rights" and "natural laws" when the world cannot put up with them any longer, all the compromises between inveterate prejudice and even-handed justice, all the meanness of mind which gives women an education and men the degree which is its hall-mark, shows us that a change is coming. As education came, so must political status. The lesson of history is not what Mr. Owen thinks—that men have been very fine fellows to modify the laws they made in their own favour; the lesson is this, that what was based on injustice, selfishness, and false science must and will fall like a house of cards. Principal Donaldson has just described the kind of world Mr. Owen lives in: it is a world which has left the "male out of man and the human out of woman." Men have imagined themselves raised above their sex, and at the same time have placed woman below humanity.

The recent ebullitions of anti-suffragists have made quite clear what should never have been doubted. Sex antagonism in history and literature is a purely male phenomenon. Men cannot be trusted to see clear where women are concerned—the passions are too much involved—and women's concerns, *pace* such as Mr. Owen, are too sacred for her to allow of their continued neglect. The male will not be able to run amok any longer. We may, however, expect more valiant help for Liberal politicians if not from "Sir Somebody Wright" then from some other Sir Somebody Something. For contemporaneously with the rise of "feminism" have come the startling scientific discoveries showing that male pretensions, which lay at the root of our laws and customs, were themselves based upon ridiculous superstitions—just like the elephant and tortoise of Indian cosmogony. The ordinary man, cossetted on false science and false analogies, cannot be expected to like this, and he is now having a final run amok to such purpose that he must inevitably come to a stop, head over heels, even without our assistance. Books, speeches and letters which take no account of scientific facts are doomed to fall quite flat. Woman adrift! What from? The mother, then, adrift from the male, the mother come to realise that her proper place cannot be that of an adjunct to the male sex, which in nature is subordinate to her own. That is precisely and exactly how woman must cut herself adrift if we are to return to nature and natural law. M. A. R. TUKER.

"MOTHER IN THE STATE."

Self-Accusers.

Women who have read the debates in the House recently on Supply (Civil Service) must come to the conclusion that at least Members of Parliament show up very clearly their own defective work, and there is little need for the other sex to find more faults. We have these honourable gentlemen discussing some of the great Imperial questions with which it would never do to let women meddle—*e.g.*, Housing, Sanitation, Clean-Milk Supply, Care of the Poor and Feeble-minded, Vaccination, and Baby-farming.

Muddle and Mismanagement.

A motion to reduce Mr. John Burns' salary by £100 was used to show up a deplorable state of affairs. We would point out that there might with great advantage to the nation be a considerable reduction not only in this gentleman's salary, but in the huge salaries paid to a great many other officers of State. Is it not rather an anomaly to hear that the young son of Mr. Lloyd George has just been appointed Consulting Engineer to the Port of London at £800 per annum? Would not many of our troubles be less if the cost of Government were diminished? This has of late years gone up with leaps and bounds and is at the root of the increased cost of living, which is causing such dire distress among the poor.

The whole debate shows there is muddle, mismanagement and enormous expenditure in every department; and a great cry is going up from the nation for the mother-spirit to come in and help to call order out of chaos. Several M.P.'s have insisted in their speeches that women shall be more largely employed in the administration of the law, but we cannot think this sufficient. What is wanted is woman doing her own particular work of looking after the home, the child, the sick, &c., from the point of view as co-director in the State.

How Widows are Treated.

We are told that 200,000 deaths annually are attributable to overcrowding, that we have some 8,000 mentally afflicted mixing with inmates of ordinary workhouses, and that 181,000 children are being inadequately assisted by out-relief. If women are well protected by men, it is surely the widow with children that we should expect to be particularly and favourably treated. Yet what are the facts? The bread-winner dies, and the first help offered the widow is to deprive her of one or two of her children and send them to a home just when she needs their comfort most. Then in one district fourpence and two loaves per week per child is offered, whilst the average treatment of the country is 1s. 6d. per child per week, and not any bread.

A grand way of ensuring a new generation of unfit and unemployable. Curiously enough, one never hears the suggestion made of taking away the children so long as the father exists, never mind how sick, incapable, or unwilling he may be; women know that a mother is the best nurse and that children need love and affection just as much as nourishment. Adequate out-relief—well managed—is also very much more economical.

More "Splits" in the Cabinet.

We find the Housing and Town-planning Bill practically a dead-letter. But the President of the Local Government Board tells us we do not need more legislation on this matter. We agree that we are suffering in many directions from over-legislation, and it might be both beneficial and economical to close Parliament for a few years. There seems to be a division in the Cabinet on more subjects than one, for the Chancellor tells us "We must clear out the slums," and that the people live "in miserable dens, the crevices of which are seething with disease and dirt"; whilst the President of the Local Government Board seems to think all is well in this best of all possible worlds. Can this be the same man who led the Dockers' Strike and helped pull down Hyde Park railings? Could he not now lead the crusade of action instead of inaction? Mr. Burns tells us he has been instrumental in closing over 1,000 milk shops, and takes credit for doing it. Would it not be more helpful if he gave us clean milk in all shops and more shops, not fewer, to meet the demand?

Cleanse, not Close.

Mr. Burns also expresses the pious wish that he could close 1,000 public-houses. Again, would it not be better to cleanse the public-houses, making them fill their proper function of being places where food and rest could be obtained? This is another question which neither Mr. John Burns nor anyone else will satisfactorily settle without the help of the women. Whilst women see these essentials treated so badly and know that they too are responsible to the nation, they can never cease to demand a share in the management of the great State-Home. S. A. M.

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ON "VOTE" SELLING.

We need more VOTE sellers. Who will volunteer to give an hour or two daily, when they can, in any neighbourhood, to selling our paper? Even if no one buys, "the Suffragist on the kerbstone," paper in hand, is an object lesson and a reminder, so disliked by some passers-by that their hostility is sufficient proof of its value as propaganda.

Besides, paper-selling is an education. Take your place among the humble vendors of penny matter, and if you have never realised it before, you will begin to understand something of what it really means to be poor in a great and wealthy city. You will understand how the satisfied indifference of the well-fed, well-dressed passer-by must gall the weary, hungry, aching seller of wares that no one seems to want. Of course, their attitude is not contemptuous, but it does and must look so, to poor street-seller.

Incidents of many kinds enliven THE VOTE-seller's day. It is by no means uninteresting work. One paper-seller arriving at a new "pitch" was kindly welcomed by a little, old habitué, misshapen and worn with ceaseless economic endeavour. His companion, returning, eyed the Suffragist more doubtfully.

"What's this?" he cried. "More competition?"

"No," replied the little, old man; "only an honoured fellow worker."

Outside the Church House, where bishops and finely-dressed ladies and gentlemen were arriving, the atmosphere was very different. "Why don't you go away and do some useful work?" asked a lady attired in shot silk and chiffon, looking disdainfully at the paper-seller's humble cotton.

"Why don't you?" was the obvious retort. The lady tossed her head and passed on, and even the policeman grinned behind his wooden mask of convention. "Buy a VOTE," said the seller to an extremely aged lady. "Go home, my dear," was the reply, "don't you know your day is over." Vigorous and happy strength smiled at tremulous senility. "My day," said the seller, "is only just beginning." "Buy this week's VOTE," she appealed again. "I wouldn't touch it," and the speaker crossed himself as if to exorcise an evil thing; but whether he meant it for the VOTE, the seller, or the Franchise was uncertain. "Buy a paper," cried the voice. "I'd sooner buy you," and the man-about-town leered at the speaker, but turned away at her quiet answer. "That is impossible."

"I love to see you ladies selling papers," whispered a poor, shabbily-dressed woman, parting with a penny which meant so much to her. "I'm sure you mean good to women." "Give me a paper, quick," implored a vivacious little lady in the extreme of fashion. "My husband's coming, but I will support my own sex so far, whatever happens." "Miss," said a factory

girl, after telling the seller she was out of work, "will it be better for us women when you get it?" "I hope so. We'll do our best, sister," and the girl passed on, comforted and more hopeful, after a cheering word from a "lady."

"Yah, Suffragit!" said an impudent, little newsboy, in such rags that knees, elbows and shoulders were all visible, planting himself squarely in front of the seller. "Ah, when women have the vote, we'll see that no little girls and boys like you are left to run hungry and ragged in the streets," was the answer. "Will yer' reely, Miss? Bravvo, Votes for Wimmen!" and the imp passed on, shrugging his load a little higher. The seller meant it; he responded at once to sincerity.

These are a few of many incidents. Come and sell for yourself. All can help and all are welcome. There is life and excitement in plenty. Come and experience them. LEAH ANSON.

TAX RESISTANCE.

Mrs. Harvey's barricade is still unbroken. Again congratulations. Among the events of last week were:—

Drawing-room Meeting, July 1, at Hans-erescent Hotel. Hostess: Mrs. Alfred Nutt. Chair: Mrs. Louis Fagan. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, and Rev. Hugh Chapman. Drawing-room Meeting, July 5, at 17, Kensington-square, W. Hostess: Lady Maud Parry. Chair: Lady Maud Parry. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mr. Laurence Housman. Sale of goods, the property of Miss Maud F. Roll, on July 6, at Rotherfield. Speakers: Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Miss Honor Morten, and Dr. C. V. Drysdale.

THE "HARP" TRIBUTE placed on the John Hampden statue at Aylesbury on June 27 was from the Irish League for Women's Suffrage, 19, Buckingham-street, Strand, London, not from the Irishwomen's Franchise League.

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Particulars of Posters Printed and Published at THE SUFFRAGE ATELIER, Stanlake Villas, Shepherd's Bush.

LAW FOR MAN AND LAW FOR WOMAN. Six subjects illustrating some legal disabilities to which women are liable in England:—
 "How the Law Protects the Husband."
 "How the Law Protects the Widower."
 "How the Law Protects the Widow."
 "How the Law Protects the Wife."
 "How the Law Protects the Mother."
 "How the Law Protects the Daughters."

Printed in black and white, with green labels, and sold in the following forms: Poster (60 by 40), comprising six subjects, with coloured background and large label in centre, "Law for Man and Law for Woman," 2s. each complete.

Poster (20 by 30). Any one of the above subjects attached to coloured sheet with label at top. "Woman Under the Law," 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

Poster (18 in.) (approximately), actual size of print, with gum label, 2d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

Leaflet comprising the six subjects, as above, 11 by 9, 6d. doz., 3s. 100, 25s. 1,000.

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20 by 15, price 2d. each, 2s. 3d. doz., 16s. 6d. 100.

Small size, about 8 by 5, 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 10s. 100.

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"MR. AND MRS. BULL ON HORSE," supplied in black and white; also in three colours.

One size only (30 by 20), price (black and white) 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100; (coloured) 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

"WHAT A WOMAN MAY BE AND YET NOT HAVE THE VOTE." "WHAT A MAN MAY HAVE BEEN AND YET NOT LOSE THE VOTE," supplied in black and white and in three colours.

30 by 20 (black and white), price 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100.

30 by 20 (coloured), price 4d. each, 3s. 9d. doz., 28s. 6d. 100.

40 by 30 (same size print as above, with wide coloured margin), 5d. each, 4s. 6d. doz., 35s. 100.

"WAITING FOR A LIVING WAGE" (The Sweated Woman), supplied in black and white only.

20 by 15, price 1d. each, 1s. 6d. doz., 10s. 100.

30 by 20 (same size print as above, leaving wider margin), price 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100.

"CITY AND TOWN COUNCILS" (153 City and Town Councils petition Government on behalf of Women's Suffrage), supplied in black and white; also in black, red and gold.

30 by 20 (black and white), 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100.

30 by 20 (coloured), 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

40 by 30 (black and white), 4d. each, 3s. 9d. doz., 28s. 6d. 100.

40 by 30 (with handsome border design in red and gold), price 5d. each, 4s. 6d. doz., 35s. 100.

"TWENTIETH CENTURY ROBBERY" (Lloyd George and Asquith as Highway Robbers taking taxes from women), supplied in black and white and three colours (one size only).

30 by 20 (black and white), price 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100.

30 by 20 (coloured), price 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

"IN THE DIM AND SPECULATIVE FUTURE" (Asquith and Franchise Daisy), supplied in black and white (one size only).

30 by 20, price 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100.

"ALAS! IT IS THIS YEAR," sequel to above, same size and price.

"REFORM CONTENTS BILL," with space for notice of meetings, supplied in black and white or in the colours of any Suffrage Society.

30 by 20 (black and white), price 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 12s. 6d. 100; (coloured), 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

NEW POSTERS JUST ISSUED.

The following can be seen at the Women's Freedom League and THE VOTE Office, Robert-street, Adelphi, Strand. Returnable samples on application, postage 3d., in one size only.

"NO MORE MOONSHINE" (Vote Supplement, published April 20), 30 by 20 coloured only, price 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100.

"THE APPEAL TO WOMANHOOD" (Vote Supplement, published May 11), supplied in black and white, also coloured, one size only, 40 by 30 (black and white), 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100; (coloured) 4d. each, 3s. 9d. doz., 28s. 6d. 100.

"WHAT MAY HAPPEN" (The Servant's Tax) (Vote Supplement), published May 25, supplied in black and white and coloured, one size only, 40 by 30, price (black and white) 3d. each, 2s. 9d. doz., 20s. 6d. 100; (coloured), 4d. each, 3s. 9d. doz., 28s. 6d. 100.

"THE OLD DAME IN A HUFF" (Vote Supplement, published May 18), sizes and prices as above.

"THE PREHISTORIC ARGUMENT," supplied in black and white and coloured. Size and prices as above.

FORTHCOMING POSTERS.

All the Coloured Supplements which appear in THE VOTE will be issued as posters. They will be supplied in 40 by 30 size in accordance with the demand for this size.

POSTERETTES.

Sizes approximately from 15 by 10 to 20 by 15.—"The Paid Piper," "Waiting for a Living Wage," "A Bird in Hand," "Anti-Suffrage Ostrich" (coloured only), "The People's Horse" (black and white only). Price (black and white), 1d. each, 6d. doz., 3s. 6d. 100; (coloured), 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz., 10s. 100.

COLOURED CARTOONS ON CARD.

Size (approximately) 7 by 10. Two subjects. "THE IMPERIAL TRIO" and "PUNCH AND JUDY," 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz. Coloured Supplements, as produced in THE VOTE, are supplied at 1d. each, 6d. doz., 3s. 100.

POSTCARDS.

Most of the Designs issued in THE VOTE, also the Poster Designs, are issued as Postcards, price 1d. each, 6d. doz., 3s. 100; ditto (coloured), 2d. each, 1s. 9d. doz.

BRANCH NOTES.

NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON.—1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, THE VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.? A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Anerley and Crystal Palace District.—Hon. Secretary: Miss J. FINNINGS, 149, Croydon-road. Our audience was awaiting us last Friday, and much appreciated Mrs. Mayer's clever speech and her quick retorts to their remarks and questions at the end. Mr. W. G. Prince made an able chairman. THE VOTE was sold and a collection taken, but the hon. sec. would have been glad of more assistance from members. We would like to remind our readers that the Mrs. Despard Birthday Fund is still open, any contribution, however small, will be gratefully received by the hon. sec.

Croydon.—Office: 32a, The Arcade, High-street. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue, Croydon.

Our thanks are due to members and friends who worked so hard to make our Garden Fete a great success. To the members who distributed the special copies of THE VOTE, and to all who sent gifts, we offer hearty thanks. Will members please be ready to ensure another success on Friday, 12th inst., when the exhibition of posters will take place at our office and the office of the N.U.W.S.S.?

Hackney.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. PIEROTT, 31, Walsingham-road, Clapton, N.E. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. CATMUR, 23, Terrace-road, South Hackney.

A very interested and crowded audience listened to Mrs. Mustard's address on "Woman's Need of the Vote," on July 2, at the South Hackney Conservative Club. In the discussion which followed several speakers declared that they had never realised before how seriously the women regarded the question, and how earnest they were in working for their enfranchisement. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Mustard, and the chairman spoke for all present when he expressed the hope that the speaker would consent to address them again in the near future.

Owing to the united demonstration on Sunday, July 14, we have decided to abandon our meeting in Victoria Park on that day. All members and friends are urged to rally round the W.F.L. platform at 3 p.m. in Hyde Park. The best thanks of the Branch are due to Mrs. Huntsman for her work in connection with our Thursday afternoon "At Home" which are now discontinued for the summer.

Kensington.—Hon. Sec. (pro tem.): Miss E. ALLEN, 72, Chester-ton-road, N. Kensington.

A successful open-air meeting was held on Monday outside the North Kensington Public Library. There was a large and attentive crowd, and the speaker, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, was kept busy answering numerous questions. THE VOTE was sold and a collection taken. The Kensington Branch is organising a grand Cake Fair and Entertainment on Tuesday, July 23, at 6, Argyll-road, Kensington, W., by kind permission of Mrs. Brend. The proceeds are to be devoted to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. There will be a variety of entertainments, and all Branch members are urged to do their utmost to ensure its success.

Mid-London.—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing.

The usual meeting was held in Hyde Park on Sunday. Mrs. Despard was the speaker; the crowd quickly gathered to hear her. Mrs. Despard explained the present policy of the League and its position at elections where there was a three-cornered fight. The audience listened with breathless attention as she drew an eloquent picture of the woman of the future with the shackles shaken off. In response to the chairman's appeal small contributions were handed up, and membership cards asked for. Mrs. Hyde was very disappointed that her appeal for a Vote-seller outside the Park between 12 and 1 has met with no success, and she trusts that such a good opportunity of advertising the paper will not be missed.

At our members' meeting on Monday, July 1, we handed in our collecting-cards and our donations towards the League's birthday present to our president. They amounted to a satisfactory sum, which will, we hope, be added to before the end of the month. We hope soon to hear more details of the International Fair to be held in November and for which we ought to begin to work in real earnest at once. With great pleasure we heard that our Branch hon. treasurer, Miss Hunt, has been appointed assistant secretary to the League. The meeting asked me to send a message of sympathy to Miss Neilans in her very serious illness, and she desires me to thank the members for their thought

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of her. Our quarterly Branch meeting will be on Monday, September 9, and we shall not meet in August.

Northern Heights.—Hon. Sec.: Miss MITCHELL, Merok, Great North-road, Highgate, N.

We held a very good meeting in Finsbury-park on Thursday, July 4, when Mrs. Mustard, in spite of a bad throat, very kindly came over to speak for us. The crowd was most orderly and attentive, and questions were asked at the end. The London County Council has refused us permission to collect as it "is not satisfied that the money collected would be entirely devoted to the furtherance of some public object"! We must therefore redouble our energies in selling THE VOTE. On Thursday last we sold all we had.

Stamford Hill.—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. THOMSON, 7, East Bank.

At a committee meeting reports of work and finance were satisfactory, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mesdames Goodwin and Cashmore for their personal help and successful meetings. It was agreed that after the Fruitarian Lecture on Tuesday next only open-air meetings would be organised until the summer holidays were over. Tuesday's lecture (after a fruit tea) will be given by a speaker from the Lady Margaret Hospital, Bromley; Mrs. Goodwin in the chair, and fruitarian cakes, &c., will be on sale. A good attendance is expected. Plans for the autumn campaign are under consideration. Our open-air meeting on Friday evening was most successful. Our chairman, Mr. Hammond, held the crowd admirably until the arrival of Miss Andrews and Mrs. Clark, when they were listened to with such eagerness that the crowd grew stifling. Questions were many and "hecklers" busy, but the speakers evidently gave them some new ideas. We hope for another good meeting next Friday, and our chairman is kindly coming over for it. Our thanks are due to Headquarters for the excellent speakers they send us.

PROVINCES.—Barry.—Hon. Sec.: Miss B. ELLIS, B.A., 11, Gaen-street.

Will all members please note that an open-air meeting will be held in King's-square, Barry Dock, on Friday, July 12, at 7 p.m., when Mrs. Sprouson will be the speaker? Help wanted for selling THE VOTE and literature.

Brighton and Hove.—Hon. Sec.: Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.

A members' meeting was held on Monday at Miss Hare's house, when the Insurance Act as it affects women was discussed. An open-air meeting will be held on the beach opposite the Bedford Hotel on Thursday, July 11, at 3.30 p.m. Miss Leah Anson will speak; Mrs. Francis in the chair. Members are asked to be present if possible. A meeting for women will be held in the Institute, Livingstone-road, Hove, at 8 p.m., on Thursday, July 18. Mrs. Despard has kindly consented to speak, so the meeting must be made widely known, especially among working women. Miss Hare will be in the chair.

Burnage.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. G. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme.

The Burnage Branch met at 25, North-avenue, on Monday, July 1, Mrs. Lawrence read a paper on "Woman under the Insurance Act," and a discussion followed. We hope to have our postponed "At Home" on Saturday, August 31, and look forward to Mrs. Despard being with us. Next week we hope to have Miss Nina Boyle with us in Burnage for a few days. We have arranged several open-air meetings to be held during her visit.

Portsmouth and Gosport.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. WRETTON, 64, Devon-shire-avenue, Southsea.

Miss Bremner and Mr. John Simpson, of the Men's League, were the speakers at the open-air meeting on July 3. The audience was getting deeply interested in Mr. Simpson's speech, when a heavy shower came on and continued so long that the meeting had to be abandoned. However, Miss Bremner promised to speak the following evening, when a very good meeting was held. During question time, a man in the crowd challenged a debate, saying he would bring an Anti lady. Miss Bremner promptly accepted, and it was arranged for Wednesday, July 17, at 8 p.m., on the Common. Gratefully acknowledged.—Mrs. Bremner, £1 towards £1,000 Fund.

SCOTLAND.—Dundee.—Hon. Sec.: Miss HELEN WILKIE, 280, Perth-road.

Last Saturday several of our members attended the trial of Miss Fraser Smith, the W.S.P.U. organiser, charged with breaking a window in the Post Office. Miss Smith cross-examined witnesses very cleverly, and the verdict was Not Proven. By request of the Friendly Societies, we took part in the Hospital Saturday procession. Our wagonette, gay with flags and bunting, attracted much attention; everywhere we were received with cheers and expressions of goodwill. Our scroll with the words, "We demand the vote this year," was read and commented on. We distributed bills all along the route advertising the demonstration on the 13th. The speakers at the W.F.L. platform then will be Miss Eunice G. Murray, Miss Semple, and Miss Husband, whilst the chairman is Mr. R. Stirling, President of the Trades Council.

Edinburgh.—33, Forrest-road. Hon. Sec.: Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place. Hon. Treas.: Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street. Hon. Shop Sec.: Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

Ideal weather conditions favoured the garden party on Saturday, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Arrangements for tea were in the capable hands of Mrs. Jackson and her energetic "staff," who wish to acknowledge gratefully contributions of sandwiches, cakes, and home-made scones. Speeches by Miss Sara Munro and Miss Anna Munro were listened to with great interest by a large company. Thereafter a procession of Highland characters, led by a Piper, marched round the garden to take their places on the improvised stage. The Branch owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mrs. Sim, Miss McLeod, and other members of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, who so realistically presented the process of "waulking" (shrinking) home-spun cloth, accompanied by some of the beautiful labour songs of the North. In the "Ceilidh" (gathering for social intercourse and entertainment) which followed, a violin solo was contributed by Miss May Grant, a dance by Miss Elsie Young, songs by Miss McLeod and Miss McDonald, and a short recitation by Miss Nannie Brown, all of which were greatly appreciated. A very special feature was the telling of an old story by Mrs. Bankhead, to the accompaniment of soft fairy music by Miss Grant. The scene, which concluded with a reel danced with great spirit by the "waulkers," was introduced by Miss McLachlan in an explanatory poem written for the occasion. Finally, the company joined in country dances. To Councillor and

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Mrs. Young we owe not only the use of their garden, but willing help of every kind towards the success of the party.

Earlier in the week Mrs. Jackson gave a cookery demonstration, her subject being "Cheap Dinners." This naturally attracted a good audience, which not only followed the demonstration with great interest, but listened willingly to a few words of suffrage from Miss Sara Munro. The last demonstration for the summer will be held next week.

H. McLACHLAN, Asst. Sec.
Glasgow.—*Suffrage Centre*: 70, St. George's-road. *Hon. Sec.*: Miss J. L. BUNTON.

The Glasgow Council met on June 27, when arrangements were made for the summer months. It was decided to close the shop during July. At the close of the business a resolution was enthusiastically carried thanking Mr. Lansbury for his action in the House of Commons, where it was impossible for women to help themselves.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Free Church League for Woman Suffrage.—*Hon. Sec.*: Rev. C. and Mrs. FLEMING WILLIAMS, 2, Highbury View, Clapton, N.E.

The "At Home" of the Lewisham Branch given by Mrs. E. J. Nichols at "Warrawee," Blackheath-rise, Lewisham, on July 2, held indoors on account of the rain, was a great success, and the speeches of Mrs. Strickland, Rev. E. J. Barson, and Rev. W. W. Chynoweth Pope were listened to with much appreciation and understanding. Help was promised for the "Vanity Fair" to be held in November by the League. New members to the Lewisham and District Branch were enrolled.

Scottish Churches League for Woman Suffrage.—*Hon. Sec.*: Miss ANNIE G. FERRIER, 11, Howe-street, Edinburgh.

This League has been formed recently to further the cause of Woman Suffrage among the Christian people of Scotland. The officers are as follows:—President, Lady Frances Balfour; vice-presidents, Rev. C. M. Black, Christ Church, Edinburgh; Rev. Robert Craig, D.D., Edinburgh; Rev. R. J. Drummond, D.D., Edinburgh; Rev. C. M. Grant, D.D., Dundee; Rev. John Hunter, D.D., Glasgow; Mr. Cargill G. Knott, D.Sc., Edinburgh; Miss S. E. S. Mair, Edinburgh; Miss Lumsden, LL.D., Aberdeen; Very Rev. P. M'Adam Muir, D.D., Glasgow; Lady Ramsay, Edinburgh; hon. secretary, Miss Annie G. Ferrier, 11, Howe-street, Edinburgh; hon. treasurer, Mr. Sterling Craig, LL.B., S.S.C., 130, Princes-street, Edinburgh. At the last meeting of the Executive Committee a resolution protesting against the non-inclusion of women in the Franchise Reform Bill now before Parliament was passed. It was signed by the president and hon. secretary, and has since been sent to all members of the Cabinet and to all Scottish M.P.s.

The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.—*Hon. Treas.*: Miss MONICA WHATELY. *Hon. Sec.*: Miss G. JEFFERY. *Office*: 51, Blandford-street, Baker-street, W. *Office hours*: Tuesday and Friday, 5-6 p.m.

Petition forms for the release of the remaining Suffragist prisoners must be sent in not later than Friday, July 12. Those who have not yet signed one can do so at the office that day between 5 and 6 p.m.

Cymric Suffrage Union.—*Hon. Sec.*: Mrs. MARY E. DAVIES, 53, Wandsworth-bridge-road, Fulham, S.W.

At the Hyde Park Demonstration, Platform 18 has been allotted to our Union. Our speakers include Miss Abadam, Miss Rachel Barrett, B.Sc., Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Mansell-Moullin, Mrs. Wynne Nevinson, and Miss Muriel Matters. It is hoped to have a thorough Cymric audience and that much "hwy!" will be felt. Supporters are asked to wear Welsh costumes if possible.

THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.

At the last "At Home" of the Actresses' Franchise League Miss Lena Ashwell presided over a large audience at the Criterion on July 5, which met to consider the connection between the White Slave Traffic Bill and the enfranchisement of women. She said that it was a subject which women should know and should face with courage and determination. So long as one woman remained a victim to the White Slave Traffic the women of the country must feel responsible.

Dr. Christine Murrell proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting, while welcoming any effort on the part of Parliament to minimise the terrible evil of the White Slave Traffic, calls upon the Government to deal it a more fatal blow by granting the vote to women." Miss Ada Moore seconded the resolution.

Dr. Ettie Sayer proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting strongly protests against the proposed amendments to the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, designed to effect the weakening of the existing Act. The Bill passed its second reading on the understanding that the Act of 1885 would be strengthened and not weakened, and this meeting urges upon the Standing Committee the necessity for rejecting all further amendments which will have the opposite effect. This meeting also protests against the proposed elimination of the words 'White Slave Traffic' from the title of the Bill." Miss Adeline Bourne seconded the resolution. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst said that if we cannot make our streets safe for any girl at any hour of the day or night, we have no right to call ourselves a civilised nation. Mr. Joseph Clayton said that Chinese slavery was a party cry, and something could be made of it; but party gains could not be obtained by releasing women from slavery. It was his conviction that these evils would never pass until women were citizens. Both the resolutions were then put to the meeting and carried.

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The whole will be sold on Monday, July 15th, and following days, at about one-fifth of Messrs. Sell's prices,

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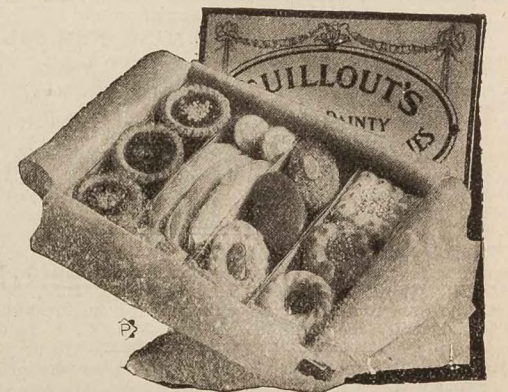
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Thurs., July 11.—FINSBURY PARK, 7.30 p.m. HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Tanner.
Fri., July 12.—W.F.L. SHOP, 32a, The Arcade, High-street, Croydon, 3.45 p.m., Exhibition of Posters. *Speakers:* Mrs. Jopling Rowe, Mrs. DUNCAN HARRIS and Miss Nina Boyle. **THE TRIANGLE, Penge, 7.30;** Mrs. Legge and Mr. W. G. Prince. CLAPTON COMMON, corner Amhurst Park, 8 p.m.

Sat., July 13.—OAK TREE HOUSE, Brank Hill, Hampstead, Bohemian T&E, by kind permission of Mr. Henry Holiday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Sun., July 14.—HYDE PARK, noon; Mrs. Tanner, J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq. JOINT SUFFRAGE DEMONSTRATION, 3 p.m. W.F.L. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle, Mrs. Merivale Mayer. *Chair:* Miss Underwood. BROCKWELL PARK, 11.30; Miss Leah Anson. *Chair:* Miss W. Springs.

Mon., July 15.—DALSTON-LANE, corner Queen's-road and Park-holme-road, 8 p.m.

Tues., July 16.—THE FLAGSTAFF, Hampstead, 8.30; Mrs. Thomson Price. PRINCE'S HEAD, Betsfield, 8 p.m.

Wed., July 17.—CORNER LONG-ROAD, Clapham, 8 p.m.

Thurs., July 18.—FINSBURY PARK, 7.30; Mrs. Tanner. HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Bigger.

Fri., July 19.—THE TRIANGLE, Penge, 7.30. CLAPTON COMMON, corner Amhurst Park, 8 p.m.

Sun., July 21.—HYDE PARK, noon; Mrs. Nevinston, Mrs. Clarendon Hyde.

PROVINCES.

Thurs., July 11.—Brighton. The Beach. Open-air Meeting, 3.30. Miss Anson. West Hartlepool. Church-square, 7.30; Mr. F. Garbutt and others. *Chair:* Mr. M. Atkinson.

Wed., July 17.—Hartlepool. The Moor, 7.30 p.m.; Mr. M. Atkinson and others. *Chair:* Mr. F. L. Ward, B.A. Southsea. near Clarence Pier, 8 p.m.; Miss Bremner. *Chair:* Mrs. Whetton.

Thurs., July 18.—Brighton. Working Women's Meeting, Mrs. Despard.

Thurs., July 25. Wellingborough. "Archfield," Garden Party, 3 p.m.; Miss Nina Boyle.

WALES.

Montgomery Boroughs.
Tues., July 16.—BODFACH, Llanyllin, Gold, Green and White Fair, 2.30 p.m.

Thurs., July 18.—NEWTOWN. Gold, Green and White Fair, 2.30 p.m.

Fri., July 19.—KERRY. Public Meeting, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Clark.

Sat., July 20.—THE CROSS, NEWTOWN. Open-Air Meeting, Miss Boyle.

Mon., July 22.—CAERSWS. Public Meeting, Miss Boyle.

Tues., July 23.—LLANBYNNMAIR. Public Meeting, Miss Boyle.

Swansea.

Thurs., July 11.—VICTORIA PARK, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Emma Sproson.

Fri., July 12.—BARRY, 7.30 p.m.; Mrs. Emma Sproson.

Sat., July 13.—CASWELL BAY, 5 p.m.; Mrs. Emma Sproson. *Chair:* Mr. Olson.

Mon., July 15.—CARTREF CAFE, Heathfield-street, Branch Members Meeting, 7.30; Mrs. Sproson.

SCOTLAND.

Clyde Coast Campaign.
Thurs., July 11.—ROTHESAY, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Miss Anna Munro, Miss Buntin.

Fri., July 12.—DUNOON, 11.30 and 3 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin. ROTHESAY, 8 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Sat., July 13.—ROTHESAY, 11.30, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Mon., July 15.—ROTHESAY, 11.30, 3 p.m., and 8 p.m., Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Tues., July 16.—DUNOON, 11.30 and 3 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin. ROTHESAY, 8 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Wed., July 17.—KILN, 11.30; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin. INNELAN, 3 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin. ROTHESAY, 8 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Thurs., July 18.—ROTHESAY, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Miss Munro, Miss Buntin.

Sat., July 13.—Dundee. Albert-square, 7 p.m., Joint Demonstration. W.F.L. *Speakers:* Miss Husband, Miss Semple, Miss E. G. Murray. *Chair:* R. Stirton, Esq., J.P.

Tues., July 16.—Edinburgh. Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road, 7 p.m. Demonstration of special Sickroom Cookery by Miss Gilmour.

HOPEFUL NEWS FROM MISS NEILANS.

Our readers will be very glad to hear the hopeful news of Miss Neilans, who wrote from Warrington Lodge, Warrington-crescent, Maida-vale, on July 6, as follows:—"I should like to use the medium of THE VOTE to thank all my colleagues and friends who have sent such kindly messages and presents of flowers, &c. I am glad to be able to say that I am now decidedly on the road to recovery, and do not think there will be any further disappointing relapses. With many thanks and best wishes, ALISON NEILANS."

MARRIAGE.—JAMES—ELDERTON.—On June 28, William Frederick Lloyd James, of Pantisauon, near Cardigan, S. Wales, to Lillie J., third daughter of the late Captain E. H. P. Elderton, J.P., the Cameronians, of Knockboyne, Navan, Ireland. The W.F.L. heartily congratulates Mr. and Mrs. W. F. L. James.

REMEMBER MADAME LYDIA YAVORSKA'S only appearance in London this season: King's Hall Theatre, Covent-garden, Sunday, July 14, 8 p.m. Tickets from International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam-street, Strand.

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PROVINCES.

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EDINBURGH.—Miss A. B. JACK, 33, Forrest-road, Edinburgh. **GLASGOW.**—Miss BUNTEN, 70, St. George's-road, Glasgow. **KILMARNOCK.**—Miss J. L. WADDELL, 8, Douglas-street, Kilmar-nock.

KIRKINTILLOCH.—Miss McINTYRE, Woodhead-avenue, Kirkin-tilloch. **PERTH.**—Mrs. MACPHERSON, 3, Charlotté-street, Perth. **SCOTTISH SCATTERED.**—Miss EUNICE MURRAY, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbarton.

WALES.

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Printed and Published for the Proprietors, THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD., by W. SPEAIGHT AND SONS, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.
 Editorial and Advertisement Offices, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.