

29 Ludholm
Addison Way

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 29.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 1915.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

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

MEETINGS LIST.

Friday, Oct. 1
Piggott St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Beckton Rd., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Drake.
Women's Hall (Debate) 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst.
Sunday, Oct. 3rd.
Victoria Park, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Leigh Rothwell, Miss Manicom.
Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mr. B. W. Sorensen.
Dock Gates, 6.30 p.m., Miss Fraser Smith, Mrs. Drake.
Monday, Oct. 4th.
Morning Lane and Mare St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Beamish.
"Peacock," 6.30 p.m., Mr. Mackinlay.
Dock Gates, 6.30 p.m., Miss Peek, Mrs. Drake.
Tuesday, Oct. 5th.
Salmon Lane, 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Davies.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Drake.
175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Miss Chesley.
Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory.
Wednesday, Oct. 6th.
Chrisp St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake, and others.
Ford Road, 6.30 p.m., Mr. Franklin.
Thursday, Oct. 7th.
175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Miss M. Price.
124 Barking Rd., 8 p.m., Miss O'Callaghan.
53 St. Leonard's St., Mrs. Bouvier.
Friday, Oct. 8th.
Piggott St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Beckton Rd., 6.30 p.m.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Debate.
Sunday, Oct. 10th.
Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Leigh Rothwell, Mrs. Drake.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Mrs. Walshe.

SUFFRAGE CLUBS. Poplar, 20 Railway St., 8 to 10 p.m., Wednesdays.
Bow, 400 Old Ford Road, Mondays and Fridays 8 to 10 p.m.

To reach Old Ford Road take an Old Ford 'bus (No. 8), which goes via the Marble Arch, Oxford St., the Bank and Liverpool St., or book to Old Ford Station on the North London Railway.

THURSDAY, OCT. 7th.
175 DALSTON LANE, 8 p.m.

"The Work of the Hackney Trades Council." SPEAKER: MRS. PRICE.

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

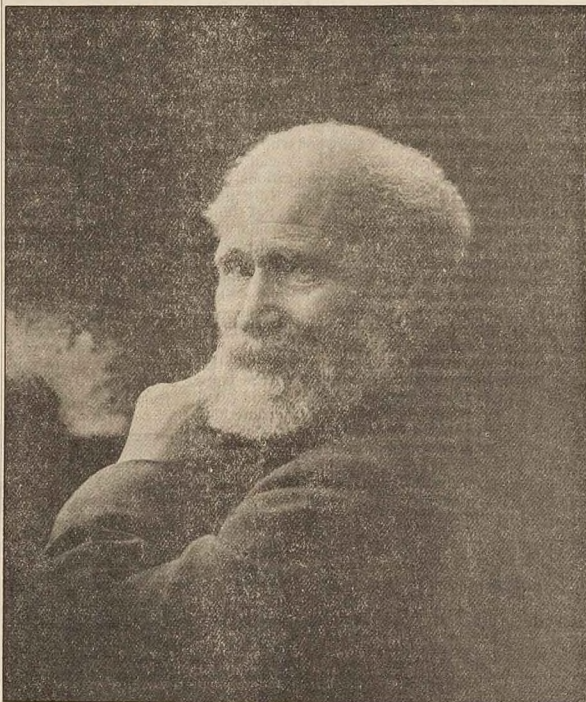
Will you send us new laid eggs, arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

Will you send us a maternity outfit?

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

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

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



KEIR HARDIE.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE Mr. KEIR HARDIE WILL BE HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, FARRINGDON STREET, on TUESDAY NEXT at 7.30 p.m.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE DEMONSTRATION.

A great Demonstration was held in Trafalgar Square on Sunday 26th September at 4 p.m. At 3 o'clock, the crowd already began to assemble and when the processions from the East End and Highbury Corner arrived, many thousands of people were gathered at each of the Plinths. Speeches demanding the abolition of sweating, equal pay for men and women, votes for women, the abolition of high prices and big profits, no compulsion and no taxation of food or wages, were made from the plinths, and were received with unanimity. The resolutions were carried. The news of Keir Hardie's death, which was announced from the platform at the end of the meeting cast a gloom over the audience who passed the following resolution in silence:—

This meeting expresses "deep sorrow at the news that has just come of the death of Keir Hardie, the veteran who from his childhood has fought the good fight for the people.

Founder of the Labour Party, he had always remained true to his principles, no matter what they cost him.

His spirit remains fighting with us, so long as men, women and children are not secured the necessities of life."

Buy the "WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT" from your Newsagent, 2s. 2d. a year, or by post from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E., 4s. 4d.

COAL TO COST MORE.

An increase of 1s. per ton on all kinds of house coal in South London is announced; this raises the general minimum to 30s., as compared with the pre-War minimum of 20s.

The Hammersmith Borough Council, acting on the warning of the Board of Trade to large consumers to store as much coal as possible, has purchased 5,000 tons of Welsh coal to be delivered at the rate, approximately, of 100 tons per week during the year ending July 31st.

What are the small consumers to do?

NATIONAL REGISTER AGAIN!

At the Bristol Police Court, Mrs. Lily Girdlestone, a clergyman's wife, was summoned for refusing to sign her Registration Form. "I have no vote, and, therefore, I am not a citizen, and if you have a grain of justice or logic you will see that I ought not to be classed with idiots and aliens," was one of her reasons for refusing.

She was fined 50s. and a penalty of £1 a day if she did not fill up her Form, failing that, 21 days' imprisonment.

Mrs. Girdlestone refused to pay.

At Aldershot Mrs. Rainey, of Albert Road, Aldershot, was fined a guinea for refusing to register herself under the National Registration Act.

Sunday Meeting,

OCTOBER 3rd.

WOMEN'S HALL, 8 p.m.

Speakers:

Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST,
Mr. B. W. SORENSEN.

DEPUTATION TO THE MINISTRY OF MUNITIONS.

Tired of waiting for Mr. Lloyd George to arrange the promised date for an interview, the E.L.F.S. deputation itself appointed Monday, September 20th, at 3 p.m. Mr. Lloyd George telephoned and wired that he was called away into the country. The deputation therefore appointed Thursday 23rd at the same hour, but when they got to the Munitions Office, Mr. Lloyd George's secretary sent a note that "The Minister" must have a preliminary statement in writing from the deputation before he could consent to give a date for the interview.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst protested that he might have said so earlier, but wrote out the statement then and there. Mr. Lloyd George then sent a note to say that he would see the deputation at 11.15 on the following Monday morning. The deputation agreed to be there on that day.

When the deputation arrived, it was found that Mr. Lloyd George had not returned from his week end and that he had appointed Dr. Addison and a number of "experts" to receive the East London Women. The deputation considered this highly unsatisfactory, but decided for the moment to accept the situation.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, having foreseen the possibility of Mr. Lloyd George not being there, had prepared the following statement in writing:—

1. Wages of women workers as compared with those of the men whom they replace on:

(a) Piece Rates.

These we submit should be the same for women as hitherto paid to men, with the addition of any war bonus or other increase given in the case of men. Where it has been customary to pay for any class of work by the piece, the women engaged on it should always be paid by the piece after a short period of training.

(b) Time Rates.

These should be the same for women as for men.

The Munitions Act establishes this in the case of semi-skilled men who come in to replace skilled men, as follows:

"Where the custom of a shop is changed during the War by the introduction of semi-skilled men to perform work hitherto performed by a class of workmen of higher skill, the time and piece rates paid shall be the usual rates of the district for that class of work."

It may be objected that it is impossible to pay women the same rates as those hitherto paid to skilled men, because as newcomers in the trade they cannot turn out an equal amount of work.

To this we must reply that they are to a large extent in the same position as the men for whom the above clause provides.

We refuse to assent to the view that there is any inherent disability in women, as women, when working at the various forms of munition work in which they are employed.

In support of our view that after a similar period of training women can do this work as well as men, we may quote the statements in the *Engineer* of Sir William Beardmore of Beardmore's Engineering Works, Glasgow.

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can secure that they shall be remedied, and that many excellent practical suggestions would be made by the workers who have a constant experience of the factory conditions.

5. With regard to the Profits of Munition Manufacturers and their Limitations we wish to ask an explanation.

We have understood from Sir John Simon's speech on the Munitions Act, that if a munition manufacturer produced an output of £100,000 before the War, he may make up to £12,000 profit now, on the same output. If he doubles his output, we understand that he can make up to £24,000 profit; if he doubles it again he can make up to £48,000 profit, and so on.

We should like to ask if that is so, because such a scheme would seem to us highly unsatisfactory.

6. Munitions Tribunals and the Control of the Workers under the Munitions Act.

We have to complain that the Munitions Act is being used to checkmate just demands for a Trade Union wage.

A fitter's mate, employed by Towler and Innes of Stratford, was paid 6d. an hour. He complained that he was working under price, but the higher rate was refused. He said that he would go to another munition factory where he could get the Trade Union rate, but was told that permission to leave would not be granted.

At the Caxton Hall Metropolitan Munitions Tribunal, E. J. Markham asked the Court for a certificate to leave his employers, on the ground that his wage was 4s. below the Trade Union rate, and that he was therefore prevented from becoming a member of the Union, also that he was not paid for overtime. His application was dismissed.

In another case a man engaged in the manufacture of search-lights asked to leave because he was getting a farthing an hour less than the Trade Union rate. The President of the Tribunal refused a certificate on the ground that this was a "minute" question.

Workers appear to have been prevented from leaving for all sorts of really sensible reasons, although the firms by which they are engaged do not keep them occupied. A case of this kind has been reported, in which 151 men were discharged from Armstrong and Whitworth's Openshaw Works, whilst certificates enabling them to get work were withheld.

Trouble has occurred in munition factories which has sprung from all sorts of internal causes, such as the re-arrangement of meal times and failure to produce enough work.

We believe that the best way to obtain the output that you want and to secure harmonious working would be to ask the workers to co-operate in a system of self-government.

We think that the idea ought not to be considered too daring in view of the fact that it has been found successful in schools and penal institutions.

We would urge you, both from this point of view and that of saving expense to the community, to have as large a proportion as possible of the munitions made directly under Government auspices, and as small a proportion as possible made through the medium of private contracts.

In our view the manufacture of armaments should never be placed in private hands.

Miss Pankhurst added that it was said that the Government was making grants for the installation of new machinery, etc., to firms that were newly undertaking munition work.

Dr. Addison declared that that was not so. But he refused to answer Miss Pankhurst's question in regard to the limitation of munition makers' profits.

A Munition Worker.

Miss —, a munition worker, who had taken a day off from the factory to be present, displayed a fuse, explained how it was made and

how the different operations were paid for.

She protested that the rates were too low.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell asked why the employer should have the right to discharge employees as he pleased without reference to anyone, though workers might not leave without a certificate from the employer or the Munitions Tribunals. Sparklets were gradually dismissing British women and girls, and employing Belgians in their stead.

She asked whether there was a way to protect women from being forced to work from 7.30 a.m. to 11 p.m., as is done by many munition firms.

She called attention to the great diversity of wages paid by different firms in the same locality for the same kind of work. Sparklets had paid their women a war bonus that in six weeks had only amounted to 4s. 8d. each, whilst Eley's, near by, paid 2s. a week.

She also raised the question of the bad conditions under which munition work is often carried on, many of the women having to stand all day on floors covered with water. Nobels had promised to have the water carried off in pipes, but they had done nothing. Could not the Munitions Office insist on something being done everywhere?

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst suggested that there should be an iron grating raised up from the floor for the workers to stand on. Dr. Addison said he would see what could be done.

Mrs. Drake.

When women replace men at a lower rate of pay, as we have evidence all over the country, the employers do not stop at men of military fitness, but gradually work women right through when they are sufficiently trained. The only protection for little children is equal rate of pay for women on time rates as well as piece, as their fathers are thrown out of work.

The minimum wage must be a living one of 7d. an hour, or 28s. a week of 48 hours.

If women or men are worked continuously for longer than 8 hours they show a falling off of productive power, which may not have mattered while labour was plentiful, but is national suicide at a time like this. We have evidence of this in our own districts where women have visibly declined in the last twelve months on Government work, and will be old women at 30, and not fit to bear children. In better circumstances men are not too old at 60; in Government offices, in fact, they are considered in the prime of life, and this could easily be obtained among the workers by an 8-hour day.

The Munitions Act, instead of aiming at better production, aims at controlling workers more, instead of taking into consideration conditions under which the workers work, and trade union rates of pay. Its object should be the output in the interest of all. At the present it is simply a slave driver for the workers, causing great bitterness and having a prejudicial effect on everything.

The committees set up to deal with the question of women's labour as replacing the labour of men are a scandal, as only two women are on them. This is owing to women's voteless condition, but should be at once remedied by placing women only and entirely on committees to manage the conditions, hours, and wages of women and girls.

COMMENT.

Re profits of munition manufacturers.—The Government should manufacture all their own munitions, and as they press or commandeer men into the national service, this power should be fully used in the case of everything, from the highest to the lowest, in this time of need.

A working man, earning 30s. weekly, with five per cent. War bonus making 31s. 6d., allows his wife 27s. weekly (four children, husband and wife)—

Rent 7 6 weekly.
Insurance, 1 0 1d. each child, 2d. mother, 2d. father, old people 4d.
Drapery .. 1 0 for sheets, curtains, clothes etc., weekly.
Gas 2 6 1d. in slot for cooking and light.
Bread 4 4½ 2 loaves a day at 3½d. a loaf.
Tea 1 1 3 lb. at 2s. 2d.
Sugar 1 0 3 lbs. at 4d.
Meat 3 0 to last the whole week.
Margarine, 0 6 1 lb.
Butter 0 5 1 lb. at 1s. 8d. a lb., so that baby can have some.
Milk 0 9 4d. tin, condensed; 5d. cow's milk.
Jam 0 9 2 lb. pot.
Bacon 0 8 4 rashers or slices.
Dinners .. 3 6 husband's food at work.
28 0j

You see this total is more than the allowance, and the woman has to do odd jobs at charring, and gets into debt, as a number of necessaries are not included; but these are the main regular expenses.

Mrs. Bouvier.

Mrs. Bouvier said that as a Russian subject, the Munitions Act seemed to her a departure from British justice and the introduction of justice à la Russe. The great fundamental principle of British justice had been that the accused must be considered innocent until proved guilty. But this principle did not appear to rule in Munitions Tribunals. In the Cammell Laird case at the Liverpool Munitions Tribunal, the men had not been allowed to state their case.

Mrs. Bouvier also protested against the action of a Sheffield firm that had docked the wages of the three women employees for the three hours during which lights had been put out, and they had been compelled to stay in darkness for fear of Zeppelin raids. Women were specially helpless because they were deprived of the vote.

Mrs. Cressall.

Mrs. Cressall said she wanted to put the point of view of the mother of a family. Her husband had worked at a certain white lead works for seventeen years, and for 60 hours a week was paid 26s. That firm was now gradually discharging the men and taking boys in their places at 17s. a week. Other firms were taking women to do the same work at an even lower wage. If this went on, the men's wages would certainly be reduced. Her husband's wage was a starvation wage as it was. There were five children, and though she herself toiled at home to earn a few shillings, she did not think she could continue to manage, now that prices were so high.

Mrs. Pascoe.

Mrs. Pascoe said that she was the breadwinner of her family as her husband was an invalid. She was cook in a nursery at a guinea a week. If she were to be taken away to work in a munition factory at a lower wage, it would be a very great hardship.

Dr. Addison.

Dr. Addison then replied that the Munitions Department had the various problems acutely in mind. A committee on skilled and unskilled labour had been formed, and on this committee of 14 there were eight labour representatives and two women. The deputation said in chorus that two representatives were too few.

He said that skilled labour would not suffer as it was much in demand, and refused to meet the point as to what might happen after the war. He said that a great deal was being done to meet the points raised about women's labour.

The Government wanted to get the women on to piece rates and to arrange a fair minimum wage. When it was fixed, it would surprise some people, but everything took time, and there were 700 munition factories.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst said: Well, to save time, why don't you fix for the women in every factory the rates that you pay to men in Woolwich Arsenal?

Dr. Addison did not reply, but went on to say that the Cammell Laird case was one the Government had decided to look into.

Dr. Addison said that the Government could not fix rates of wages,

except in controlled factories, although the Munitions Act would prevent the workers leaving without permission, or going on strike. But one of the experts interrupted him by saying that the Government could fix the wages in all the munition factories.

Another expert said that in one factory he knew of, the women could earn up to £3 a week.

Miss Pankhurst said: "Can you tell us which it is?" He said: "I could, but I will not!"

With regard to the question of the workers in the factory sitting on committees to advise the Advisory Committee on fatigue, Dr. Addison said that the trade unions had already been asked to form advisory committees in each district, and thus the point was already met. His explanation did not give the deputation a very clear idea of what is being done. The gist of Dr. Addison's remarks was that the Munitions Office is going to set up perfect conditions in regard to wages, hours and comfort, even the housing of the workers will not be overlooked. We shall see.

MUNITION WORKER'S LETTER.

Dear Miss Pankhurst,
The first few women who entered the factory at which I work in Croydon (Government Contractors) received 12s. 6d. a week, with the bait held out to them that under the premium bonus system which is in vogue, the women would be able to earn £1 a week.

I am not expecting the bonus to come through for another fortnight, so I cannot tell you yet what they will really make.

The new hands they are taking on are only to receive 8s. a week, with a promise that when they know their work they will have a rise!!!! I find the promises are many—but they do not materialise.

Take off the insurance 3d., and unemployment contribution 5d. (as the women are in an insured trade), and that reduces the women's wages horribly—already the women are coming to me to say they cannot live on them—some have children to keep.

Three weeks ago the firm closed the applications list with 500 on their books—this makes the employers very independent—at the same time it does not pay them to "sack" a hand that knows her work, and take on a fresh one.

The profits (I hear) all around are very large, and the Government (so I am told), since Lloyd George has been in control of the Munitions Department, is shovelling out the money to help contractors buy machinery.

Some of the Trade Union Societies are passing Resolutions for women to have £1 minimum—I should like to know how they are going to enforce it.

You ask about the work done—we make bomb fuses—we also have two women on capstans, they both receive 12s. 6d., with a promise of a rise in three weeks time. Hours for all so far are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., with one hour for dinner—no tea, no mid-morning lunch—eat on the benches.

TRAINING FOR 14s. A WEEK.

The Ministry of Munitions reported the London County Council to conduct a six week course to train munition workers.

About 600 men and women are attending these courses, but the Council takes no responsibility for finding employment.

Won't the Ministry of Munitions see to that?

An Oxford Professor reports the results of an investigation of industrial fatigue.—Thursday and Friday workers are more easily fatigued than on Monday. In one case the contrary was noticed, but on investigation the Professor found that the "manager was absent."

Surely this proves workers left to themselves can divide their work better and escape unnecessary fatigue!

GIVE THIS PAPER TO A FRIEND.

(Continued from page 328.)

private life. He recognised the better side of every human being with whom he came in contact, and would speak with pleasure of the gifts of men who towards himself had been guilty of gross disloyalties. And yet he was ever steadfastly uncompromising when principle was at stake.

One of the outstanding features of his years of absolute isolation as the sole Labour Member was his fight for the unemployed. He marched with the workless men and women from East London, and forced their need upon the hide-bound consciousness of Parliamentary ears.

For his contention that workless men and women have a claim upon society to be provided with work, he was ridiculed and most angrily abused. But by the poor and those who understood him he was greatly loved. I remember, as a child, before I had ever seen Keir Hardie, hearing my father's voice thrilling with emotion in praising his struggle for the unemployed. Walter Crane drew him on his back into the Houses of Parliament. To Walter Crane he was ever the ideal workman, and his drawings of emancipated labour were all derived from him.

Had Keir Hardie lived in a communistic world, he would have been a great painter, writer or musician, a craftsman and a creator of beautiful things. In our age he was the friend of human kind.

No body of people struggling for freedom ever appealed to him in vain, and for this he was beloved by men and women of every race and creed. The people of India adored him, because he passed amongst them as simply and humbly as a brother. They garlanded him and pressed their offerings on him, but they pained their friend by treating him as super-human and prostrating themselves in multitudes before his face.

From the little girl in one of the rare Indian schools who gave him a locket she had painted, to the old princesses speaking through a curtain, he was welcomed and trusted everywhere he went.

At home in Britain, none had more reason to be grateful to him than the little band of women who broke out of the I.L.P. to fight for their enfranchisement, and to found a growing body of militant suffragettes.

He collected funds for us, wrote leaflets for us, taught us Parliamentary procedure, introduced us to helpful men and women, spoke for the cause of women's enfranchisement, both in Parliament and out. He visited us in prison, and strove to procure ameliorations of our lot. When forcible feeding was started in 1909, he was filled with a horror and concern which made him physically ill. He was ridiculed for his protests in Parliament against the outrage, but he continued to raise the question persistently.

He tried to awaken the members of the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Labour movement as a whole, to the great need for the enfranchisement of women, and for the comradeship of working women with working men. He scarcely made a speech without dwelling upon this, and when enthusiasts asked him to write a motto, he would choose "Votes for Women, and Socialism for all."

He made the labour movement a coherent political force. He made the need of the unemployed a political question. So too he helped to bring votes for women into the range of practical politics. It had dropped away from amongst the political possibilities, and even before the militant tactics he had begun to drag it back. Bamford Slack actually won the day on which the Bill was introduced on May 12th, 1905. But it was through Keir Hardie's agency that the day was given to votes for women.

In the House as out of the House, Keir Hardie set the example of taking votes for women seriously, and it was an example sorely needed in those days.

All might read of Keir Hardie's public utterances, few could know of his ceaseless work behind the scenes.

WOMEN IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

The Hungarian Women's Suffrage Society has continued its efforts during the War unabated.

The Coalition opposition parties of the Parliament are pressing for the enfranchisement of all the men who have fought in the War. The women suffragists replied with an address to these parties, calling for the enfranchisement of women as a matter of urgency and justice, especially as women must now undertake a large share of industrial work.

In Terre Haute, in the State of Indiana, U.S.A., the women's clubs have been struggling to put an end to corruption in city politics for some time.

At the last November elections 400 women watched at the polling booths with note-books and cameras. Many of the women had their cameras smashed and their note-books snatched away, but they retained enough evidence to lay a serious complaint before the Governor of the State.

The Governor refused to act, and the women, therefore, carried their complaint to the Federal Court.

An inquiry was held which led to the conviction and imprisonment of the Mayor, and a number of other prominent politicians.

The Board of Administration of the State of Illinois, U.S.A., where women have the vote, has decreed that all women employed by the State shall receive the same pay as men for the same work, and that there shall be the same minimum wage for men and women.

This will affect 3,500 women. The women voters of Illinois will keep the State Board up to the mark, and see that it does not break its promise as Lloyd George has done!

The women of Topeka, the capital of the State of Kansas, U.S.A., organised a Public Health Nursing Association in 1913. By the power of their votes they have induced the State to take steps to safeguard the welfare of mothers and babies. As a result, the infant death rate has fallen from 12 per cent. in 1913, to 9 per cent. in 1915.

The order to remain indoors after nine in the evening, does not apply to British born wives of alien enemies, but these women may not travel five miles beyond their homes without special permission.

SWEATING!

For the manufacture of pickles, preserves and confectionery, minimum rates have been set up by the Irish Trade Board as follows:—

10s. 10d. for women of 18 years and upwards, and 22s. 8d. for male workers of 22 years and upwards. For younger workers the rates begin for girls at 5s. per week, and for boys at 6s.

In order to avoid paying the wretchedly low minimum rates for adult women, Messrs. Williams and Woods of Dublin, served notices of dismissal on 150 women and girls, some of whom had worked there for 15 years, and prepared to take on girls under 18 in their places.

Is this patriotism?

The following advertisement has appeared in the Press:—"Women wanted for factory on Government work; wages starting 3d. per hour. London Timplax Co., 384 Old Street, Shoreditch (down gateway)."

Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, states that out of the Prince of Wales' Fund, which amounts to over five million pounds, only £264,645 has been spent on the relief of civil distress.

Yet there is acute distress in many watering places, and especially in the Isle of Man, and the employees in certain Government departments and private firms are still being induced to pay a proportion of their wages into the Fund week by week.

Distress Committees are to be done away with, the officials are to get other employment. What about those who are in need or unemployed?

COMPULSION BY EMPLOYERS.

Before the Munitions Act Barrow employers had already a system which made it impossible for workers to pass freely from one factory to another, and obliges them to present a "clearance card" from the old employer, without which the new employer will refuse to give them work.

Mr. Anderson recently drew the attention of the Munitions' Minister to the fact that a number of girls applied for munition work at Messrs. Vickers, but were refused, although suitable for the work, because the Kellner Partington Pulp Co., Barrow-in-Furness, with whom the girls were working, refused to give the girls such clearance cards.

At the Metropolitan Munitions Tribunal a workman, named Tullet, complained that he was ten days out of work because his last employer would not give him a leaving certificate. The certificate was granted him, but costs were refused.

At a sitting of the General Munitions Tribunal in Glasgow, 26 workmen were charged with striking on August 26th, and remaining idle since then. They were employed at the Fairfield Shipbuilding Co. on Munitions work.

Seventeen of the men were sentenced to a fine of £10 each, or imprisonment for 30 days.

In the House of Commons on September 21st, Mr. Alden asked the Minister of Munitions whether he knew that at Woolwich Arsenal some thousands of boys of 14, 15 and 16 years are working from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. on night shifts, and that many of them live a long distance from work?

Dr. Addison stated that the boys worked 10½ hours, both for day and night shifts, which means that the boys work 12-hour shifts, with 1½ hours deducted for meals. He also said that hostels were being erected for them, and that a Committee had been formed to inquire into the question of fatigue. We are always told that everything is going to be done presently. We wish that presently with all its wonderful promises would begin!

In the House of Commons on September 23rd, Mr. Currie asked whether Messrs. Brunton, wire-workers, Musselburgh, Midlothian, were endeavouring to engage munition workers at 5d. an hour.

Dr. Addison could give no information.

In the House of Commons on September 21st, Mr. Lloyd George admitted, in reply to Mr. King, that six persons have been appointed to work under the Ministry of Munitions at a total annual charge to the country of £13,100. In addition, 15 Government servants—whosoever services have been lent by other departments—with official salaries of £1,000 a year each or more!

Sweated workers in munition factories "please note!"

In the House of Commons on September 21st, Mr. Runciman stated in reply to Sir C. Kinlock-Cooke that the total number of women whose names had been entered on the War Service Register up to September 10th was 110,714.

The total number of effective entries was 59,214. Employment had been found for 5,511. In addition, employment had been procured for about 145,000 women from the ordinary register.

In the House of Commons on September 22nd, Mr. W. Thorne stated that he knew of a skilled engineer, who is out of work, whose name had been on the Voluntary Munitions Register for 13 weeks. He added that he knew of other engineers in like case.

On September 15th, Mr. Lloyd George stated in the House of Commons that there had been 16 prosecutions of workmen under the Munitions Act, and seven prosecutions of employers; also that 136 men had appealed against the unreasonable withholding by their employers of certificates entitling them to leave. Mr. Lloyd George did not say how many appeals had been successful.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

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

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW.
There were good audiences at all the platforms in Trafalgar Square on Sunday, and altogether it was a fine Demonstration. Now that this excitement is over we have to devote our energies to our ordinary work. The meetings on Tuesday afternoon and the Sunday evening meetings should both be better attended. Members tell your friends about them! On Sunday next the speakers will include Mr. Sorensen, the well-known lecturer, whose speeches we enjoyed so much last winter.

Our Debate last Friday was much enjoyed by all. Next Friday the subject will be "The Budget," and the Debate will be in the form of Parliament; Miss Smyth will take the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending Sept. 25th—1,623. Mrs. Crabb 277, Miss O'Brien 200, Mr. Payne 52. Mrs. Savoy 24, Mrs. Farrall 24, Miss Bennett 22. Special Meetings 637, City and District—Mrs. Holloway 357.

POPLAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST. Organiser: Mrs. DRAKE.

Mrs. Cressall and Miss Pranker spoke on Tuesday; Miss Chesley on Friday afternoon. There have also been excellent open air meetings this week, at which a good number of Papers were sold. The subscriptions amounted to 13s. for August, and September's are now due. Will members make a special effort to get a friend to join, to help to swell our subscriptions?—1d. a month, and 1d. to join.

Best thanks to members and friends who worked so well in the Demonstration on Sunday.

The photos of our Milk Babies and our Members at Richmond are now to be obtained in our office at 4d. and 3d. each. Collections this week: Miss Bennett £1, Mrs. Schlette 3s. 2d., Miss C. Dent 2s. 2d. (at Trafalgar Square); Miss Morley and Miss E. Lagsding 14s. (at Cubitt Town); Mrs. Drake 13s. 8d. (at "Green's.")

Paper sales are better; *Dreadnoughts*, week ending Sept. 25th, 605. Miss Bennett 106, Miss P. Lagsding and Miss T. Barker 126, Miss J. Watts 35 (Trafalgar Square). Mrs. Schlette has been selling more lately, and we have omitted by mistake to mention how many; 56, 57, 65 have been her sales for the last three weeks. These are not included in this week's figures.

We have tickets on sale here for Joint Social, in aid of Babies' Nursery, to be held on Saturday, Oct. 9th, 8 p.m. Tickets 3d. each. Please support this.

Do not forget our next Sunday meeting, Oct. 10th, 8 p.m. Ladies and gentlemen invited.

Poplar members are asked to come to Debates at 400 Old Ford Road. These are very interesting.

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 DALSTON LANE (Facing Hackney Downs Station). Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

Miss Pankhurst will speak on Thursday evening at 175 Dalston Lane. Members should make a point of coming and bringing friends. Meetings will also be held every Tuesday afternoon. These should be better attended. Will members volunteer to help with canvassing and in making our meetings better known? Members should try to go to the Debates at the Bow Women's Hall on Friday evenings—a very entertaining evening can be spent there.

Dreadnought sales are unavoidably held over till next week.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

Centre for Tidal Basin: 55 FIFE ROAD.

Branch Meetings: 124 BARKING ROAD, THURSDAYS, 8 P.M.
The "Peacock" meeting was postponed owing to the General Meeting. Will friends please note this happens once a month? Mrs. Bouvier addressed the meeting at 124 Barking Rd. on Thursday, and very few people turned up. Will some folk canvass so that this can be remedied? A splendid meeting was held at the "Boleyn" on Saturday, when Miss Lynch and Miss O'Callaghan spoke, and 115 Papers were sold. We are expecting Miss Beamish to be in the district again, now she has recovered from her illness, and she needs a lot of help to keep her well. So please come and give your offers of help.

KEIR HARDIE.

The E.L.F.S. sent as a tribute of reverent love and gratitude a laurel wreath tied in the colours. Members who wish to contribute may still do so.

In the House of Commons on Sept. 23rd, Mr. Barnes stated that rents of small house property in Glasgow had been increased from £1 to £3 per annum during the War.

When you are buying your Autumn clothes, remember our Garment Stalls in the East End, where new and second-hand clothes are always needed. Parcels should be sent to Miss Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

WOMEN AND THE WAR.

Extracts from a speech by CLARA RAZAZ, at the General Meeting of the Swiss Suffrage Society in Biel.—From *Jus Suffragii*.

Many orthodox Suffragists say that of course this war would never have broken out if women had had a share in the decision. And yet I cannot agree that woman with political rights would have prevented the war; woman, like so much else, has been a disappointment. We cannot complain that, uninformed, badly organised, and politically helpless, she did not prevent the world-war; but we must deeply regret her attitude towards it. Some indeed—all honour to them—have condemned war, instead of their opponents, have preached love, and not hate, and have devoted themselves whole-heartedly to the study of the causes of war and the means of preventing it. But the great mass of women share in the prevailing war fever, in admiration for military technique and organisation, in hatred for their enemies, in fear to take part in peace movements in preaching "endurance" till an "honourable peace," and all the other fine phrases. They have, it is true, accomplished marvels in practical work and devotion; but it has been for war, not against it.

If we women feel war as a crime, we cannot throw all the blame on men, but must admit that, as we are to-day, we should not have prevented it, even with the vote. As a matter of fact, the decision of war and peace is not left to the population, who have to pay for it with their blood. Neither men nor women have any knowledge of what goes on in the offices where these decisions are taken. They are confronted only with accomplished facts, and these facts have a different aspect in each country; and the citizen, whether male or female, is presented with facts only in the guise that serves the interests of the Government. Each Government shows itself to its people as a blameless innocent, and the strange thing is that the very people who formerly were foremost in criticising and mistrusting their Government, now accept its word as Gospel truth and swallow all that is offered them about the "holy war of defence!"

Women are taken in by the deception as well as men, and would not have opposed war any more than men have. Is Woman Suffrage, then, useless? Is the struggle for peace useless, because it has been powerless to avert this war? No; in spite of all disappointment, onward with the women's movement and the peace movement! The woman's movement is part of the upward movement of woman and humanity. Why have we women failed? Because we were too little ourselves, because we are too dependent on man; because we still believe that the world, as men have made it for themselves and for us, is the only right one.

We have borne social conditions against which we ought to have revolted. We have borne the injustice in women's position that showed itself in a hundred different ways, in the exploitation of her labour, in her under-payment, in the denial of political rights, and in prostitution. Those of us who have fought against these things have had to contend with the indifference of many of our own sex. Many, indeed, pride themselves on taking the man's point of view, instead of feeling and acting as women.

Woman, of herself, would not glory in the winning of battles and the sinking of ships. As a woman, she would have felt for individual suffering, she would have thought of the anguish of mothers and wives, and would have cursed the victory that sacrificed the young lives and hope of the future. But she has not thought her own thoughts; she has taken over the tradition of men, and been caught up in the great stream, and joined in the jubilations, as well as in the suffering.

We see the same thing in Socialism, and its fall from internationalism to nationalism. Those who have been so often reproached with want of patriotism and class feeling have gloried in proving their patriotism and self-sacrifice. But it is no service to humanity, that one sex or one party should sacrifice to the other its own special duty and function.

If we women have only the same things to offer as men, and if the Socialists had nothing different from other parties to contribute to political life, neither would have the same claim to recognition, as if they remained true to the human ideals they have attained through suffering. These ideals are the setting of a higher value on human life. Society at present values things more than people. Industry must flourish; the worker and the worker's child may wither.

The State must be glorified by its military power, and therefore milliards must be wrung from the people for armaments, and the same State does not feel itself dishonoured if the mass of its citizens are exploited and exhausted by the same governing caste. The State claims political freedom and independence, but no individual may claim them. The State demands devotion and love from its children, but wretched industrial conditions show that it does not give love and care in return. Money is grudged to improve social conditions which would maintain human life, but freely spent for military purposes in the destruction of life. They tell us, indeed, that this is necessary for self-protection. Where would the nations be to-day without this military protection? Yes, indeed, where would they be? Where are they to-day? In the trenches, on the battlefields, on the sea, in the air, inflicting torture and death on each other; crippled, torn to pieces, physically and mentally wrecked! Hundreds of thousands dead, homes destroyed, sorrowing widows and orphans, *there are the nations to-day!* And where might they be if they had made the State their servant, instead of their idol; if they had put the idea of humanity above that of the State; if all the brains and zeal that have been devoted to gaining predominance for any one State had been given to establishing good inter-State relations and securing peace, instead of bringing on war by piling up armaments? We, both man and woman, have worshipped false gods—he by worshipping force, we by giving in to him. And in this crisis we must look to men to help as much as to women. It may be that the ideals that man has allotted to women as being inconvenient for himself are the true human ideals, for which both must strive.

We must wage war, not with but against cannon, battleships, and airships; and that will be a hard task, for they have become the idols of the peoples. And we must fight against the State that exists only for itself, and for the State that exists for the people; against the State that settles its diplomatic difficulties by bringing millions to death and destruction, and for the State that acts only with and for its people, for their happiness, and with their knowledge and consent.

The vote will help women only if used in the right spirit for the good of humanity. But it will be the symbol of woman's share in responsibility for public events.

"DREADNOUGHT" BADGES.

To those who have sold 1,000 copies of the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT, the E.L.F.S. presents a special graduation badge in the colours. To this badge, a bar is added for every additional 1,000 papers sold. Mrs. Schlette, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Parsons, Mrs. Millo, Miss O'Brien, Mrs. Crabb, Mrs. Bird, Miss Marks, have all won these badges, and Miss O'Brien has gained three bars. Will other members who have qualified, apply for their badges or additional bars to the DREADNOUGHT secretary?

VARIOUS VIEWS.

"Will someone who believes that morality need not be, nor usually is, ignored in commerce, explain why what was bought by a trader last month at 1s. and sold at 1s. 3d. is now fairly charged 1s. 6d., because next month or next year the trader can only buy at 1s. 3d.? One cannot wonder at the general discontent, and regret that the action of the Government to frustrate the politics and upset the knavish tricks of these domestic enemies has been so partial and so feeble."—CANON HORSLEY in the *Daily News*.

"Why should we only control engineering shops making shells and not the prices of the material which the Government wants to buy? The financial burden is very great; it is so great that we bear it smilingly, because we cannot realise how much it is. We ought, however, to do something to lighten it."—SIR ALFRED MOND in the House of Commons.

Mr. Long says that "the Empire is at grips with other Powers in a struggle for existence. We are fighting for the principles of liberty for nations, and freedom for individuals, and we are determined that those immortal principles shall be preserved."

We should like to know what Mr. Long means by freedom for individuals. The Government appears to us to be taking away the freedom of the workers as quickly as it can!

Britain had attempted to become a powerful military nation as well as the supreme naval power, the dogma of the balance of power would have grouped European nations against Britain, instead of Germany, and will do so in the future if we attempt to follow in the footsteps of that country.—GEORGE BENSON.

"I think that we are entitled, when we are asked to vote this vast sum of money, to know what are the objects and the policy which His Majesty's Government intend to pursue with regard to the future of the War."—MR. D. MASON speaking on the Vote of Credit.

A soldier from the firing line in Gallipoli, whose letter is published in the *Manchester Guardian*, says: "The worst of this place is that there is no news, and no one seems to know in the least what is happening." It is refreshing to hear the truth!

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Alpha Union 2.00, Miss E. Flike 1.00, Members' Subscriptions (Hackney) 5.00, Miss M. Burgess 3.00, Miss L. Robinson 2.00.

TOWARDS EXPENSES OF THE TRAFALGAR SQUARE DEMONSTRATION.—Donations on Plinth 5.16.8, Anon 2.00, Royal Army Clothing Employees' Union 1.00, Mrs. Rowan (collected) 17.8s., Mrs. Crabb (collected) 15.9s., Mrs. Savoy (collected) 11.5s., Deptford Naval Storeworkers' League 10.00, Barbers and Hairdressers Assistants' Union 5.00, National Union Railwaymen (Kenith Town Branch) 5.00, E. P. Pearce, Esq. 5.00, Mrs. Richmond 5.00, Anon (collected) 4.4s., Mrs. Eglinton (collected) 1.4s.

FOR MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Mrs. and Miss Kingsland 8.00, Samuel H. Scott, Esq. 5.00, Mrs. Le Lachour 5.00, C. E. Foster, Esq. and Mrs. Woodridge 5.00, Mrs. Cator 3.00, Miss O. M. Willis 2.10.0, Miss G. Brackenbury 2.00, Toolroom, etc., L.S.A. 1.9.5, per Mrs. Burton 1.6.0, Miss M. Holmes 1.0.0, Miss E. Thomson 1.0.0, Mrs. Singer (monthly) 1.0.0, Mrs. Pearce-Sercoold 1.0.0, Miss D. E. Brown 1.5.0, Miss Garrod and friends 15.0, T. Stenhouse, Esq. 11.6, Miss Sybil A. Blunt 10.0, Miss H. M. Lawrence 10.0, Miss Widdicombe 10.0, Mrs. Richmond (5.0 weekly) 10.0, Mr. and Misses Escombe 7.0.0, Mrs. Shearman to hire, Miss North Paget 8.2, Mrs. Skeate 7.6, Misses E. H. and M. A. Entwistle 6.0, Anon (Sutton) 5.0, Miss E. A. Warner 5.0, E. H. Thom, Esq. 5.0, Mrs. Daubin 5.0, Mrs. Mackenzie-Kennedy 5.0, Miss E. H. Jenkins 4.0, J. Singer, Esq. 4.0, West Adams 3.6, Miss M. B. Vibert 3.6, Mrs. D. M. Parker 2.6, Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly) 2.6, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, Mrs. Leon 2.6, E. R. 2.0, Miss I. Jones (weekly) 2.6, E. H. Johncock, Esq. 1.0.10s., Brown 0.6

COLLECTIONS.—Trafalgar Square 1.5.0, Bow Milk L.L.11, Miss Chesley 15.3.7, Misses Lagsding and Morley 13.3s., Bromley Milk 13.3s., Mrs. Crabb 11.6s., Mrs. Drake (outside Green's) 9.4, "The Mother's Arms" 8.10, Miss O'Brien 8.1s., Mrs. Fix 1.9, Anon 0.9, Anon 0.8s.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Miss Collier, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. M. Ward, Miss A. Warren, Miss Udny, Anon, Miss Morgan-Jones, Anon, Miss M. Burgess.

BABIES' CLOTHES.—Miss P. Etty, Miss C. Chadwick, Mrs. C. Campbell-Dick.

GROCERIES.—Per Miss Batson.

VIOL.—Anon.

EGGS, ETC.—Anon.

Friends write:—

"I have much pleasure in enclosing 10s. towards the supply of milk for babies, or whatever they specially need. I have a dear baby of my own."

"I enclose cheque for the funds and shall be glad to send it annually. I am much interested in your splendid work."

"I gladly send a contribution in aid of your good work, but why does not the State do more where the need is so claimant?"

Property owners in the neighbourhood of Mountain Ash in Wales, have put up the rents of houses, which were 25s., to 28s., since the War. A meeting of protest has been held.