

Women's Franchise.

No. 52.

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Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.

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

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

'WOMEN'S FRANCHISE,'

EDITORIAL AND PUBLISHING OFFICE,
13, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.

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Notes.

FROM the spectacular point of view Suffrage Sunday in Hyde Park was a very great success. Whether the large amount of money necessary has been spent to the best advantage we must leave others to decide—we ourselves, with great sadness, confess to a sorely prejudiced view by reason of our seeing our work curtailed in every way for want of money.

Last Sunday the hooligan worked his will effectually in the case of three platforms. In the case of the other seventeen platforms no doubt many were impressed by the eloquence of the speakers.

Miss Pankhurst more than a year ago said she would fill the park, and, as we expected, she has kept her word, with the aid of her honoured mother, the Founder of the National Women's Social and Political Union, and other splendid helpers; but whether anything more than another tremendous arousing of curiosity has been attained we do not know.

If such curiosity, before its interest is taken away by a fresh subject, can be made to inform itself of the arguments in our favour, and so become something a great deal better than mere curiosity, then in shortening the distance to our goal the money has been well spent. To this end we had hoped to see our contemporary, *Votes for Women*, pressed into the hands of the onlookers at the earliest opportunity. We ourselves refrained from propaganda work, thinking that the matter was in more capable, because more wealthy, hands. The opportunity was largely missed, as was our own last Saturday week—but not from the same cause.

Public curiosity is aroused. Who will come forward with money and personal help, so that we may turn that curiosity to account?

WE have had facilities offered to us for showing and selling this paper at the Franco-British Exhibition. It will cost 15*l.*, which we cannot afford. Will some one help us?

AN application has been received from the Public Libraries Committee for a copy to be sent to the Woolwich, Eltham, and Plumstead Public Libraries. One friend already subscribes for the Eltham Library, who will pay for the others?

WE congratulate Miss Amber Reeves, daughter of the High Commissioner for New Zealand on adding to her first class in Part I. of the Moral Sciences Tripos at Cambridge, another in Part II. The names of the Wranglers this year include Miss Long, equal to the 4th, Miss Cameron, equal to the 10th, and Miss Warren Jones to the 20th. Under the new regulations of the Mathematical Tripos two ladies, Miss Forrest and Miss Sayer, are placed in Class I. No men get firsts in the Economics Tripos, Part II. That position is, however, not vacant, being occupied by Miss M. L. D. Grier, and Miss E. M. Spielmann.

IN the Preface to the official handbook which describes the history and scope of the Pan-Anglican Congress appear these words:—

"The women members of the Congress remind us that we did not discover the existence of women for some three years or more: they also assert that they have done more to spread knowledge of the Congress and to stimulate study of the subject than any one else."

Now it has been, in the past, not uncommon to overlook the latent possibilities of the woman half of human society, so one cannot be too grateful to those ladies who made the assertion, and, judging from the excellence of the papers delivered by Miss Gertrude Tuckwell on Modern Industrial Conditions as they Effect Child Life, Miss Constance Smith on Sweated Labour, and Mrs. Barnett on Housing Reform, it would seem that it has probably been nowhere more abundantly justified than in that section whose subject is 'The Church and Human Society.'

It is considered quite fitting and proper that women should join this, that, or the other society of social and philanthropic aim, that they should organize and work and subscribe and make themselves generally useful—it is only when they lay claim to more privileged and responsible positions that they are reminded of what it is their pride and glory never to forget—that woman's sphere is the home!

If there is one thing in these matters of Social Reform that these meetings have demonstrated more clearly than another, it is that legislation and a righteous public opinion are the two main instruments with which to better social conditions.

Canon Scott Holland, using words which those who heard them will never forget, said that you can't *make* people good, but that you can create an environment by means of which people can help themselves to become good—and that to create this environment you must make Acts of Parliament. If women are to effectually co-operate, they must receive the steadying responsibilities of citizenship.

Amsterdam and the International Suffrage Alliance.

Nor having had time to recover from last night's journey, I feel terribly incompetent to write at all an adequate account of the glorious week we have just spent in Amsterdam. England was very well represented by Miss Margaret Ashton, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Edith Palliser, Mrs. Fred Richardson, and Miss Frances Sterling. Among the English representatives of other societies not officially in the alliance were Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Billington-Greig, and Mrs. Sanderson of the Women's Freedom League, while Miss Mac-Millan represented the International Council of Women. Miss Methven went from Scotland, and Dr. Drysdale for the Men's League.

Owing to the activity of the movement here during the last two years, culminating in the striking procession of Saturday, June 13th, they considered England the storm centre of the world; and we received so generous a meed of praise from all our friends that we must steadily bear in mind the President's last words, that the solid advantages gained in the last twenty-two months must put us on a better footing, from which we may hope to gain as much in the next eleven months as in the last twenty-two.

This Congress has been above all memorable in that three governments have sent to it official delegates, paying their expenses—Australia, Denmark, and Norway, while a Premier has sent us a formal message of congratulation and goodwill. For the first time, too, the Burgermeister of a capital—Amsterdam—has officially entertained us and attended our meetings.

Though there have been Suffrage societies in Holland for some time, the membership is still small, and the working woman still remains outside the movement. Since we believe that the protection of the vote is more urgent for the working woman than for any others, we can scarcely understand this position. Miss Margaret Ashton gave us a splendid speech on why the industrial woman needs the vote, and we are told that her treatment of this aspect of the question was much needed, and will prove of the greatest value.

The Press of the Netherlands must indeed be congratulated on the splendidly fairminded, even enthusiastic, way in which they reported our meetings, and the hospitality, both public and private, was simply overwhelming. The feeling of common interest gave a glow of cordiality to all our proceedings, enhanced by the thought of our gains since the Copenhagen meeting in 1906. Denmark has gained equal Municipal Suffrage for men and women; Norway has won the Parliamentary Suffrage for women taxpayers; and Finland, most truly democratic, has Universal Suffrage for men and women, both being eligible as members of Parliament. In the general election of 1907, nineteen women were elected. The one shadow

that fell on the Congress was the news received on Sunday that the Tsar had made Finland a dependant province. All laws passed must be signed by a Russian minister at St. Petersburg. The news came as a crushing blow to the Finnish delegates, who inspired us all by the bravery and faith with which they showed themselves ready to face this new disheartening calamity.

Next week I hope to do more justice to the Congress as a whole.

MARGERY I. CORBETT.

The Suffrage in Other Lands.

FRANCE.—Further details are now to hand of the Congress to be held in Paris on the 26th, 27th, and 28th of this month. The place of meeting is the Hotel des Sociétés Savantes, 8, Rue Danton. The Congress will be presided over by Madame

Feresse Deraismes, hon. president of the Société pour l'Amélioration du sort de la Femme, and Madame Bogelot, hon. directress of the Œuvre des Libérées de Saint-Lazare, both well known in France as pioneers of the Women's movement. They will be supported by a "committee of honour," composed of deputies and senators belonging to the feminist groups in Parliament, and other persons who have rendered distinguished service to the cause. Among these may be mentioned M. Viviani (Minister of Commerce), M. Paul Deschanel (late President of the Chamber), and M. Beauquier. A large number of societies have declared their intention of sending delegates to the Congress. A subscription of 10 francs entitles to four delegates. The subscription for individual members is 5 francs. Application should be made to Madame Oddo-Deflou, 55, Rue de Seine, Paris. A subvention towards the expenses has been voted by the city of Paris.

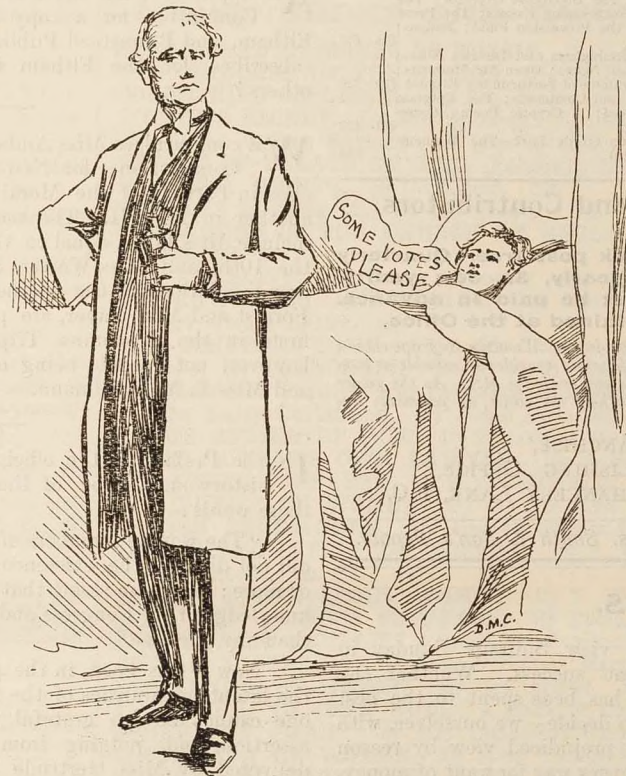
ICELAND.—*Freyja*, the organ of the Icelandic Suffragists in Winnipeg, Canada, publishes an address of congratulation to the women of Reykjavik on their recent victory "on behalf of the first Women's Suffrage Association of Icelandic women in America, and of all true friends of human rights." "We feel

convinced," they say, "that the honour of Icelandic women is safe in the hands of your deputies, and that they will succeed in convincing the Icelandic nation that you not only deserve the amelioration in legal position which you have already obtained, and which you have used so well, but that entire political equality with men which is the due of Icelandic women."

In Iceland itself the women have not relaxed their efforts. They are calling on their supporters to secure the discussion of their claims in the preliminary Thing meetings of their own districts, and to urge the deputies to the Althing to support their cause in the coming session.

A. ZIMMERN.

[Owing to lack of space, we are obliged to hold over some Correspondence, Reviews of Books, and other Articles.]



[On May 20th.

Dr. Asquith. "My colleague Britannia advised that the patient be given the food she asked for. I'll try a sleeping draught instead" (mixes Extended Male Franchise and a little amendment with a lot of aqua distilla, which patient swallows with avidity. She continues to lie awake, however, and to call for food).

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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

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

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Secretary: MISS MARGERY CORBETT, B.A.

Treasurer: MISS BERTHA MASON.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS FRANCES HARDCASTLE, M.A. MISS FRANCES STERLING.

Organiser: MISS E. M. GARDNER, B.A.

Telephone: 1960 VICTORIA.

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

The Union will send Organising Agents, Speakers, or Literature to any place requiring them, its desire being to form a Women's Suffrage Society in every County and Borough. All persons interested in the movement, or desiring information about it, are requested to communicate with the Secretaries. Increased Funds are needed for the growing work of the Union, and Subscriptions will be gladly received by the Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1908.

Chairman—MR. WALTER S. B. MCLAREN.

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

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

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

LADY STRACHEY
And the Hon. Officers,
ex officio.

Current Topics.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE CONGRESS assembled at Amsterdam has accepted the invitation of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in Great Britain to hold next year's congress in England.

We are looking forward with great pleasure to this congress, and to be given the opportunity of returning the splendid reception we received in Amsterdam. Our procession news has crowded out our account of our visit there.

HEARD IN THE CROWD ON SUFFRAGE SATURDAY.

Young Fellow (practising to be funny, jeeringly to lady in the procession marching to Albert Hall): "I say, what time do you expect to get to the Dogs' Home?"

Lady (with gentle smile): "Just in time to let you in, my puppy!"—*Free Lance*.

We are having separate leaflets printed giving those press accounts of our Procession which appear in this week's *Women's Franchise*. These will be most useful to all who are engaged in propaganda work. We ask our secretaries to send copies to their M.P.s, in order that these gentlemen may see for themselves how strongly the tide is turning in our favour. The importance and variety of the papers quoted from will greatly add to the value of their testimony; they will also be useful in controverting the argument often advanced that Processions do no good, as no one is convinced by them. We think many of our supporters will be glad to have this collection. As we are only having a limited number of leaflets printed, any one wishing for them should apply to the office at once. They can be obtained for one halfpenny apiece. This will just cover cost without postage.

National Union of Women Workers. Annual Council Meeting, Aberdeen, October 14th and 15th, 2.30 P.M.—The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is entitled to send ten representatives to the above. Miss Corbett will be glad to receive names of members of Women's Suffrage societies within the Union who will be willing to represent it on this occasion.

Correspondence.

MADAM,—In your last issue appeared a letter from Miss Strachey expressing the thanks of the Procession Committee for the labours of all those who have contributed to the success of Suffrage Saturday. We value this expression of what they feel, but those among us who did try to work for its success have learnt something of the difficulties that have been overcome, and I think I may say, without presumption, that I voice the thoughts of most of our members in expressing the warm appreciation we on our side feel of the ability and the responsible and prolonged effort on the part of Miss Strachey and the Procession Committee, by which alone it has been possible to uphold adequately the honour of our National Union on this historic occasion. It would be a nice point to decide whether most to admire the sacrifice of professional interests, or the remarkably high level of artistic attainment displayed by the Artists' League.

I am, &c., MEMBER OF THE N.U.W.S.S.

Lines Written on seeing the Suffragist Procession, Saturday, June 13th, 1908.

So they passed! the old and the young,
Beneath their banners bravely flung;
Flung to the world—a challenge bold—
"Votes for Women," their motto told!

Ah me! 'twas a stirring sight to-day,
And quickened the blood of us all, I say!
It touched sad hearts—slow pulses leaped—
A women's harvest proudly reaped!

Oh sisters! Toilers—whence ye come,
From mansions fair or city slum,
I know not; but I wish "God speed!"
To vict'ry may your banners lead!

Seed Time and Harvest.

THE procession on Saturday was all that its promoters hoped it would be, and though a procession is only useful as an outward and visible sign to those who say that there are no women who wish for this emancipation, or for those who say that they cannot by searching find them out, it came as a thing they cannot ignore.

No great change in our constitutional history has come without these demonstrations. They appeared before every Reform Bill, and the Anti-Corn Laws were passed under similar pressure. Ulster turned Belfast into one series of processions when Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bills were before the country. Precedents were all in favour of such a procession, and accordingly, at whatever cost in money, time, and energy, the cause had to "proceed."

The time was when the writer of this article, and many others who were of the same mind, asserted that women could not effectively appear in public demonstrating in person. The occasion concerned some of the Factory legislation before the House, and a few women either did appear, or it was suggested they should do so, to show by their presence how they resented an Act which was to interfere with their method of livelihood. The cause of women has advanced since then. A Cabinet Minister has asked that women should show themselves in masses before he and his Government can really believe they need and desire the Franchise.

If these things are demanded of women it must be done. They take up rather more time than any woman would need to use in the exercise of the vote when it is obtained. Women are getting accustomed to be told different things, and their heads have ceased to be bewildered. They are to be keepers at home and rockers of the cradle. They are to ceaselessly demonstrate in meetings and processions that they need the vote. Above all, they are at all times to be ready to give any amount of their time to furthering the political ends of the male voter and candidate.

A sweet reasonableness therefore impels women to do what they can to please the dictators of their pre-emancipated lives, and as processions give the Ministers no trouble, and only occupy the police, processions are at this minute the fashion of the day.

After satisfying "the lust of the eye," what has the procession done to convince the reason?

"A General has helped in this," was the remark of one spectator. The procession was organized by women who knew their business, and the name and traditions of a great race of administrators and financiers reappeared in Miss Strachey. The Army estimates were not overdrawn, and the finance was administered with economy and without waste. Next to organization and economy came the presence of Art. We are all familiar with the gloomy ugliness of the banners borne aloft by the Benefit and Temperance Societies. The best artists had the cause at heart, and art triumphed, as well as ability and ingenuity, in the storied flags that carried their standard-bearers "full sail" along the breezy route. Many a legend, many a history, many a consecrated life in the roll-call of our "rough island story," went down the long lane which for us women has come to the turning. If to some the march was a trial to mind and body, faith and courage were renewed, and those of little faith were rebuked as they ranged themselves under the names of the strong hearts, now at rest, who had so bravely fought in their day and for their generation. As the eye ranged over that long array, it rested on all that was dignified, purposeful, and of good report, and that being so, the procession had done half its work. Could those forces have been drawn together even ten years ago? Would they have met with the courtesy and understanding which was accorded them by the multitude who came out to see? Would their progress have met with the meed of recognition which it received from the British Press? Asking ourselves these questions, no single worker in the cause but knows the answer. As the great procession, under its leader, Mrs. Fawcett, passed along the streets, it knew that if much remains to be done, the world they passed through was a world that admits the procession marks an epoch in the history of women in these islands.

Forty years Mrs. Fawcett has toiled—years which her followers know have not been wasted. Stony ways have her feet trodden, and for long the soil was unfruitful and barren. The seed has taken root, and as the flowers were placed about her, so do Suffragists believe that procession day is to them also an outward and visible sign of the blossoming of their highest hopes and aspirations. What went the world out to see? Banners shaken in the wind, carried by stalwarts, and followed by those whose hearts are undaunted, and who find increasing strength for the contest which now must be fought to the finish.

FRANCES BALFOUR.

The Inevitable Objector.

LETTERS have appeared in some of the leading papers taking exception to the use of the arms of the Scriveners' Company, and also to the names of Caroline Herschel and of Mary Kingsley on banners which figured in the Procession. Miss Lowndes answered that "a black eagle on a silver ground is most certainly not the blazon of the Scriveners' Company."

Regarding Lady Gordon's indignant protest, Mrs. Fawcett, in her letter to *The Times*, says: "Lady Gordon affirms that her distinguished great-aunt, Caroline Herschel, was no Suffragist." No one in their senses would expect a German lady born in 1750 to be one. Her services to astronomy were well recognized in the scientific world of her time. Her extreme modesty gave an additional lustre to her name. She "minded the heavens," as she said, for her brother, and added, "a well-trained puppy dog could have done as much." That puppy dog has yet to be produced. Her chief work in astronomy was undertaken and carried through after her brother's death, and it was for this that she was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1828. We hope Caroline Herschel's great-niece will feel that her objections have been satisfactorily answered.

We have also to reckon with Mary Kingsley's brother. It is most unfortunate that so discourteous and hysterical a letter as the one signed by "Charles G. Kingsley" should have appeared to tarnish the glory of a revered and honoured

name. Mr. Kingsley protests "against the insolent and unscrupulous conduct which the Women Suffragists were guilty of on Saturday, when, as I am informed, they marched through the streets of London, displaying a banner embellished with an effigy of my sister." He tells us that Miss Kingsley was "strongly opposed" to Women's Suffrage, and considers it "absolutely monstrous, now that she is dead, that her portrait should be paraded through the public streets as an advertisement by a party of feminist enthusiasts, whose schemes, if she were living, she would, in all probability, actively combat, and whose methods she would unquestionably regard with disgust and scorn." This outburst has been admirably answered by a letter over the name of Alice Singer. We give it in full:—

SIR,—Knowing that Queen Victoria was bitterly opposed to Women's Enfranchisement, the Suffragists were yet willing to bear a banner with her name on it, among the names of illustrious women of the recent and remote past. They no more implied that the late Miss Mary Kingsley was a member of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies than they implied that Joan of Arc had been one. Personally, I feel they honoured her (and with her you and the rest of her family) and themselves by their large-mindedness.

ALICE SINGER.

5,000 Guineas Fund.

For the above we have received the following gifts:—

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Ashworth Hallett	26	5	0
Mrs. Brey	0	5	0
	26	10	0

Pudsey By-Election.

THOUGH the new member, Mr. Oddy (Conservative), did not put Women's Suffrage in his election address, he has pledged himself, both to the electors and to us, in a very satisfactory way. All parties realize that the feeling of the constituency is strongly in our favour. Last week we held eighteen well-attended and enthusiastic meetings. On many occasions the crowds have cheered to see our rivals go away without a hearing. Most of the political organizations ask us meekly how long our meeting will last, but a few bold spirits have set up at an opposite corner, and after inviting our crowd to listen to them, have had the humiliation of going away after ten minutes, followed by their whole audience, a few jeering small boys. There has been a great demand for our new penny badges. We sold two gross on polling-day, and could have sold more if we had had them. The men bought them nearly as eagerly as the women, and promised to wear them when they went to vote. Many girls on Saturday were wearing our election colours, lavender and white, so that we felt as much to the fore as a political party as anybody.

We have already the germs of a small Women's Suffrage Society, which we hope to develop into something more in the course of this week. In any case, we shall find Pudsey on our side when the General Election comes.

E. M. GARDNER.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

			P. M.
JUNE			
25th	Sunderland, Garden Party, "The Poplars," Ashbrooke Road.	Host, Charles E. Thompson, Esq. Speakers, Mrs. Rackham Mr. Stuart, M.P.	
JULY			
6th	Fleet, Garden Address, The Beacon, Fleet.	Speaker, Mrs. Alderton	7.30
21st	Stratford, Woman's Co-operative Guild, Meeting of Members re Suffrage, Workman's Hall, Romford Road.	Speaker, Miss Abadam	8

The Press and the Procession.

"MANY an imposing spectacle has unrolled itself in the streets of London during the long struggle of our people for political rights. In all this moving panorama nothing has equalled in significance, or surpassed in splendour, the great procession of women which filed through the West End on Saturday afternoon.....The reality and the sincerity of the demand for Woman Suffrage was never so impressively displayed."—*Daily Chronicle*.

"The fact that distinguished women scientists, with equally distinguished women writers, have joined with leaders of society, housewives, nurses, students, and working women of a dozen different orders in a temperate and sober demand to be allowed to vote at parliamentary elections does supply indisputable evidence that a large section of the thinking women of the day are seriously interested in the Suffrage agitation.....Woman has entered with supreme success into the professional and business worlds. She competes with man and holds her own. Unless we are to find a new meaning for the word democracy, it is difficult to discover any effective argument for denying her the Suffrage."—*Daily Express*.

"Viewed from any standpoint the procession must be regarded as impressive. It was impressive in respect of its numbers—it was impressive because of the kind of women who formed the procession; and perhaps it was not least impressive because of the character of the reception which it met with on its tedious, dusty journey from Charing Cross to the Albert Hall."—*Daily Graphic*.

"What women want women will win; was the lesson of the procession in which 10,000 women marched from the Victoria Embankment to the Albert Hall to demonstrate the ardour of their desire for the parliamentary vote.....Never, surely, since the days of pagantry has a more artistic procession been seen in this country.....The wealth of artistic banners and the numbers of the throng impressed even the most prejudiced that the desire of women for the Suffrage is no mere fashion of the moment, but a demand that must be treated seriously."—*Daily Mail*.

"Saturday's procession belonged to those rare events which make history. In less than three years the women's movement has conquered the most stubborn conservatism of all—the conservatism of a privileged sex. The Franchise is among the urgent questions of the moment; the silliest scoffer is silenced, and even the practical politicians are preparing to give effect to the claims of the disenfranchised.....We trust that this procession will convince Mr. Asquith that there is an effective demand among women for the Franchise."—*Daily News*.

"The demonstration was unquestionably a remarkable one.....The recognition accorded to the demonstrators by the general public was decidedly sympathetic, and a knot of scoffers in Northumberland Avenue, whose ribald jests were resented by the crowd, were rather badly hustled.....There is no gainsaying the fact that the demonstration was a huge success, and that its importance was proved by its thoroughly representative character."—*Daily Telegraph*.

"The great Suffragist procession which wound its way through London streets on Saturday was something of a surprise to the many people who had always been content to believe that the women who demanded the Parliamentary Franchise were a small if very noisy body. There is no denying the fact that Saturday's procession was not only very large, but thoroughly representative, and that it contained many women whose names are highly and deservedly respected. The whole demonstration was conceived and carried out in a spirit which did its organizers every credit."—*Evening News*.

"The most convinced opponent of Women's Suffrage cannot disregard a demonstration at once so great and so orderly as that which was held on Saturday. If it did nothing else, it established the fact that, for good or for evil, the demand of the vote for women must be taken seriously."—*Globe*.

"The demonstration in support of the demand for Women's Suffrage was undoubtedly unique, even in the long history of popular agitations in the Metropolis.....It included some of the most cultured and intellectual of the womanhood of Great Britain.....No one can, or will desire to minimize the significance of this admirable demonstration."—*Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*.

"Whatever may be the general view of the country upon the question of Women's Suffrage, it cannot be denied that last Saturday's procession was in every way a complete success. It was spectacular, it was impressive, and above all, it was convincing. Intellectual womanhood, in common with her less accomplished sister, is in deadly earnest. She demands the vote, and means to obtain it.....Never before has there been in London streets such an assembly of women in cap, gown, and hood, and the strong and striking evidence of womanly learning and wisdom make the mere man in the street stare with blank astonishment. It came as a shock and a revelation to him, and when he could not cheer he stood and wondered. The academic regalia had conquered.....The march was a masterpiece of stage management, and in every way accomplished the purpose of the organizers."—*Standard*.

"The organization and stage management were admirable, and would have reflected credit on the most experienced political agent. Nothing was left to chance or improvisation; and no circumstance that ingenuity or imagination could contrive was lacking to make the show imposing to the eye.....There was a feminine charm and daintiness about the accessories which was as refreshing as it was new, and which might, perhaps, have suggested agitation in an *édition de luxe*, but for other circumstances. Chief among those were the quiet, dignified earnestness of the demonstrators, the number of notable and distinguished ladies who had place in the ranks, and last, but not least, that imposing legion of lady graduates in cap and gown, whose passing even the most insensible spectator could scarce forbear to cheer."—*Times*.

"The striking appeal of womankind for the Suffrage in London on Saturday and the march in brilliant procession from the Embankment to the Albert Hall will be remembered for many a long day. This was a march of intellect not to be denied. There were no appeals to the gallery in it.....

Ten thousand women, representative in the best sense, took part in this great and significant demonstration, born of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Their organization was perfect; it displayed military genius to a degree that was quite astonishing, and, though peaceful as a parade of lambs, it lost none of its significance by that."—*Morning Leader*.

"The man in the street, who is supposed to typify fair-minded diagnosis of current events which pass under his observation, would, if consulted, readily admit that Saturday's processional march of women to demand the Franchise was one of the best organized, most orderly, and most picturesque that has ever been seen in the metropolis. The political student, whatever his personal views on the rights and wrongs of female enfranchisement, must have also been impressed with the earnestness and directness of its purpose.It was undeniably a unique procession. There was the note of the picturesque sweeping it from one end to the other. That was the feast of the eye, and all the time there was the sane and vigorous appeal to the intellect—an appeal the more eloquent perhaps by virtue of its silent demonstration."—*Morning Post*.

"London was treated to a new experience yesterday, which surprised even the Metropolis. It was the revelation of the power of woman as organizer.....It was a serious, and many will think successful, attempt to answer the challenge of the Prime Minister that 'Women must first show that they really want the vote.'.....These Women Suffragists can do anything, can accomplish all that they have set out with the purpose of accomplishing. In their vocabulary there is no such word as fail, and they will get the vote just as sure as the morrow will dawn, and, what is more to the purpose, they will deserve it."—*Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper*.

"The Prime Minister invited the advocates of Woman Suffrage to show that they have the women of England at their back. On Saturday the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies responded to the invitation with a demonstration which won the admiration and respect of all who beheld it."—*Star*.

"The Women Suffragists had a great day on Saturday. Their demonstration seems to have been admirably organized, as, from all accounts, it seems to have been admirably successful. There were features of the procession that were arguments in themselves. The spectacle of ladies entitled to wear the doctor's robe, and yet not entitled to exercise the vote, was bound to be impressive. We have never been blind to the fact that the balance of argument is all on the side of the women."—*Bristol Mercury*.

"The great demonstration yesterday was, perhaps, the most impressive and convincing piece of evidence that has been brought forward to show how keen is the demand for the Suffrage among educated women. The demonstration was decorous and dignified."—*East Anglian Daily Times*.

"Even the most pronounced opponents of the demand of 'Votes for Women' will admit that the Suffragists have shown a faculty for organized, orderly, and picturesque demonstration on popular lines, such as even the most expert agitators of former times could not have improved upon. It must be admitted also that, while the demonstration touched the highest level of processional effectiveness, the addresses in the Albert Hall were for the most part models of moderate, sound, and convincing argument."—*Glasgow Evening Times*.

"On Saturday the Suffragettes had their big and eagerly awaited field day in London. It opened with a procession no less than 10,000 strong..... It is both impossible and idle to ignore the moral of both procession and demonstration. They show, as hardly anything else could, that these thousands of women are not only anxious and eager to obtain the Franchise, but resolved to exert every legitimate and constitutional effort to obtain it without delay."—*Leicester Post*.

"It would need 'an eye to all majestic meanings blind' to miss the impressiveness of this march of ten thousand women across London..... There was a convincing earnestness and resolution in the general demeanour of the women, many of them among the most distinguished of their sex at the present day in England."—*Liverpool Daily Courier*.

"Saturday's great demonstration in favour of votes for women was convincing in one special respect—the capacity of women to reach positions which entitle them to claim intellectual equality with men. Not the most bigoted opponent of the extension of the Franchise can deny the dignity of the procession or the prominence of the women who took part in it."—*Manchester Courier*.

"The demonstration of Women Suffragists in London was imposing in numbers and still more in character. All that is most sober and responsible in the movement was here represented. The professions, the arts, the universities, the great army of those who work for the public in all manner of useful service, all sent their contingents.....The processionists have at least done two things—they have done what in them lay, and done it with splendid efficiency, to prove to the Government and to everybody else for whom proof may still be necessary, that they mean what they say, and that the demand for the Franchise is backed by a body of opinion relatively as great and earnest as that by which the previous extensions of the Franchise have been demanded; and, beyond this, they have shown, what is, perhaps, quite as important, that the present demand is not only serious but insistent, and that no Liberal Government can, in the long run, safely ignore it."—*Manchester Guardian*.

"As a political procession the march of women under Mrs. Fawcett's lead will take a distinct and worthy place in the record of such events. It made a great impression upon all who beheld it, and some of the features of it were unprecedented and unparalleled. The banners were of memorable beauty and notable meaning. The academic portion of the procession, in which a great number of women graduates marched in university array, not only was a most brilliant stroke of effective suggestion, but strikingly typified that advance in the position of women which it aimed to consummate by obtaining full citizenship."—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*.

"Whatever people may think about the claims of women to vote at Parliamentary elections, there can be but one opinion concerning the remark-

A Vision.

able demonstration of yesterday. It was splendidly organized, possessed many picturesque features, and made a deep impression on all observers. Indirectly it also conveyed a great moral."—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

The women's demonstration was a success which agreeably surprised some even of the most sanguine of their political supporters. It was certainly remarkable, and at first sight it might well seem that no doubt could be entertained, after such practical evidence, that the Prime Minister's condition of an overwhelming demand by the women of the country for the Franchise could be overwhelmingly met."—*North Mail*.

"Many political processions have marched through the streets of the Metropolis with band and banner, and have made Hyde Park or Trafalgar Square resound with democratic oratory; but the march of the Ten Thousand Women from the Embankment to the Albert Hall, with the view of convincing Mr. Asquith, is a novel spectacle. If the Prime Minister thought that he was calling spirits from the vasty deep, and that they would not come, his astonishment is probably equalled by his chagrin. The women have heard his call and have answered it.... Rarely, if ever, has any political demand in this country given better evidence of substance and vitality, and a calm and considerate public opinion will probably conclude that the time has come for our statesmen gracefully to make the concession which the most reasonable of the women demand.... It would be sheer perversity to raise, in the name of democratic reform, the question of Adult Suffrage."—*Scotsman*.

"There can be no question as to the fact that the demonstration of women in advocacy of Female Suffrage created a marked impression on the public mind. The procession, which was absolutely unique in character, was participated in by ten thousand women of all social grades.... Even the most unprogressive critic feels constrained to admit that the foundations of a new political development have been laid."—*Western Daily Press*.

Further Donations to the Procession Fund.

Mrs. Hobhouse	£0 1 0
Miss Lawrie	0 2 0
Mrs. Smithson	2 0 0
Miss J. Robertson	0 3 0
Miss Intelmann	0 1 0
Mrs. Zangwill	0 10 6
Miss Miller	0 5 0
Miss Justice	0 3 6
Mrs. Pears	0 5 0
Miss Isabella Mills	1 0 0
Miss E. Hart	0 2 0
Miss Nevins	0 5 0
Mrs. Pissario	0 5 0
Mrs. Bousfield	1 1 0
Miss Newcombe	0 3 0
Mrs. Balfour	1 1 0
The Hon. Mrs. Paley	1 0 0
Mrs. Aitken	0 5 0
Mrs. Armstrong	0 5 0
Mrs. Morgan	0 10 0
Mrs. Barnard	0 2 6
Mrs. Thunder	0 1 0
Mrs. Wolfe	0 1 0
Mrs. Drew	0 1 0
Mrs. Lloyd	1 1 0
Miss C. L. Willis	0 10 0
Miss Wilson	0 10 0
Mrs. Richardson	1 1 0
Miss Bracewell	0 5 0
Miss E. A. Duncan	0 7 6
The Misses Merriman	0 5 0
Miss M. Simmons	0 1 0
Mrs. Kinnell	50 0 0
Mrs. Hammond	0 5 0
Mrs. Shillington	1 0 0
Miss Hamilton	0 5 0
Mrs. Hartland	0 5 0
Mrs. May	0 2 6
Miss E. Rowe	1 0 0
Mrs. Gray	0 2 6
	£66 14 0

Badges.

We have a supply of 1d. "Women Suffrage" badges like those worn by the N.U. Members in the great Procession of June 13th. We feel it would be of immense use if members would wear these always and not keep them for an annual "Suffrage Day" or for occasional Suffrage meetings.

It was as though I saw a large garden, and men and women working therein. The soil was fertile, but weeds grew apace as well as flowers, so that the headway made by the labourers was but slow. The men worked with a will and had freed themselves from everything that impeded their movements, but the women had their two wrists connected by a cord, which hampered them at every turn, and, if they worked vigorously, often cut their tender skin.

The men cleared the ground of the thorns and thistles, and the women tended the delicate seedlings that in the future were to grow into noble trees and luxuriant shrubs, and be the glory of the land. Alike they were inspired by the vision of the fair and fruitful garden they would fain see smiling before them, and they cast many an appealing look at the idlers, who having possessed themselves of the corner already cleared, took their ease in the sunshine. Among them, too, were women, but they, instead of chafing at their cords—symbols of political thralldom—had embroidered them with rich silks, and adorned them with pearls and precious stones; and as they moved gracefully to and fro, they swayed their arms so that the light fell on their sign of bondage, and made it appear but as an added charm.

At length, one of the foremost of the workers paused, straightened his back, and threw out his arms with a weary gesture.

"It is hopeless! The task is beyond our strength! I had thought at least to see the ground freed from the worst weeds, but the labourers are so few."

Then the woman who had worked at his side, stayed her hand also, and said:—"Not only are the labourers few, but half of them are bound. Free us, if you really care for the well-being of the garden."

He shook his head. "You are untrained, you would lack judgment, use wrong methods, court failure."

"We would learn by our mistakes even as you have done. Time was when, but for a favoured few, men also were bound."

"Even were that so, few women care to labour. There is the typical woman," and he motioned towards the gay and idle throng.

"More women would care, were we not so impeded and discouraged," she replied, "and for every woman who left her selfish ease to share our task, two men would follow. Believe me," and she fixed her glowing eyes upon him, "never till woman is free will you know the noble possibilities of man, never till both can put their best powers forth will it be dreamed how fair a garden this world might be. Cut but this cord, and that pregnant act will prove your life's most fruitful deed."

She stretched forth her hands. He saw for the first time how the rope was strained, and how it fretted and blistered her wrists. For a moment he hesitated, but a man's brain, in which he has so faithful a trust, is slow to assimilate the thought of a woman; with a vague sense of uneasiness he again shook his head, and returned to his work.

But the woman no longer bent at his side, with strained eyes and set lips she moved slowly away from him and the bitter germ of resentment began to gnaw in her once gentle breast.

AUGUSTA E. HARRINGTON.

THE following recommendations with regard to the position of married women are made in the report of the Departmental Committee on Bankruptcy Law:—

"That a married woman who carries on a trade or business on her own account, whether apart from her husband or not, should be subject to the Bankruptcy Laws. Steps should be taken by the trustees to secure the whole or part of her separate income for the creditors. That a claim by a husband on the estate of his wife in respect of money lent or property transferred should in her bankruptcy be postponed to the claims of creditors for money or money's worth."

The report also makes further suggestions with regard to marriage settlements and covenants.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

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

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNRO.
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. GRAHAM MOFFAT.

NATIONAL OFFICES: 18, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Hon. Secretary: MRS. HOW MARTYN, B.S.C., A.R.C.S.
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. DESPARD.

National Hon. Organising Secretary: MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG

Birmingham and District Notes.

BIRMINGHAM has awakened to the fact that there is activity amongst the women, and the press records that the Suffragettes have been seen in and about the city. Some disappointment is apparent, however, because Mr. Asquith did not receive the attention which Cabinet Ministers evidently look for at their meetings. Because the Premier passed practically unscathed the Suffragettes were termed "impotent." Had an attack been made they would have been called "impudent."

Much curiosity has been aroused by our red badge, and many people, unable to resist the impulse, have entered into conversation with me on the subject of our league and its splendid workers. Unfortunately at this time of year many valuable helpers are away from the district, and it is rather discouraging to call upon ten people in one day and find them all "away from home." Nevertheless we are going to have a big meeting at the Birmingham Town-Hall on Friday, July 3rd, at 8 p.m. when Mrs. Billington-Greig, Mrs. Holmes, Miss Irene Miller, and others will speak. The notice is very short, but many people are eager to hear Mrs. Billington-Greig, who, on some former occasion, created an excellent impression here.

Over in Bourneville, the other day, I had an encounter with the brother of a Member of Parliament for a division not very remote from Buckingham Street. It would have been amusing had it not been pitiful to see a man absolutely carried away with bigotry. He is a very ardent supporter of the Licensing Bill, and his wonderful logic is such that every one who is not working as he works for this marvellous measure is working hand in hand with the brewers. He calls our action "devilish," and does not give a single woman in the movement credit for any higher motive than that of supporting the "drink trade."

Now, this Liberal (?) worthy says he is a whole-hearted supporter of "Votes for Women." Might I not apply his wonderful system of logic, and say that those who do not work as we work for the Suffrage are opposed to the cause, and their action, as far as we are concerned, is "devilish," too?

Now, again, this broad-minded individual said, "At the next General Election I shall vote for the women." Then I wickedly asked, "Supposing the Conservatives took up our question and the Liberals did not, would you vote for the former?" Poor man, he was honest, and answered "No." So you see what we still have to contend with. It is an exceptional man who can place principle before party. I wonder how many men of this kind each of us knows.

We have held some very successful open-air meetings in this district. Mrs. Sproson, some of the Wolverhampton members, and I gathered a big crowd together after the rain on Tuesday, and had a very interested audience at Letterhall Park gates. Then we were at Small Heath and Aston on Saturday, at each of which places we had a very cordial reception. It is wonderful to note the change in the popular mind concerning the Suffragettes. A year ago we should have had a very different greeting here. A fair amount of literature has been sold, and the badges take very well. I find that the buyers, particularly young men, who often come to jeer, but somehow do not do so, prefer those worn by the speaker. So, in order to do good business, I wear about twenty at a time. I used to think the young men silly; now I make them pay. You know, I honestly believe that men are far more sentimental than women.

Yesterday a rather interesting remark was made to me, and I pass it on. A young man was buying a flag to take home to his sister, when he turned to me and said, "You have just remarked how ashamed you were sometimes of Englishmen. Do you know that we are proud of Suffragettes, proud that they have such grit, and we can claim them before all the world as Englishwomen!" Would that Englishmen would make us proud of them by forestalling the other great nations in granting justice to women!

Next week I shall have a meeting in Bourneville Park. To-morrow I go to Alum Rock Heath, and Thursday to Wolverhampton again. On Saturday we shall be at Small Heath in the afternoon, and King's Heath at night. Then there is the Sunday meeting at Wolverhampton, when Miss Molony will speak, and Mrs. Sproson is very busy chalking the pavements with announcements long before breakfast.

Stafford was invaded by the Suffragettes last week-end for the first time. The invading army consisted of Mrs. Sproson, who met a host 2,000 strong. The proceedings were very lively, but the attacking force received a very hearty invitation to come again when the defenders were better prepared; so on Wednesday (June 24th) next week Mrs. Sproson goes again to meet them, this time under cover. I should like to mention here that Dundee sympathizers often send me kindly messages and souvenirs of the campaign there, and I wish to thank them through the columns of the *Franchise*, as it is impossible to write to them all.

ALICE SCHOFIELD.

Women's Suffrage Caravan Campaign.

THE van started again on its journey last Monday afternoon. From Littlehampton we went to the village of Angmering, where we stayed the night and spoke to the few inhabitants. There, as in other parts, the women seemed to be much more intelligent than the men, and it was surprising to hear the words of wisdom coming from a simple old mother, whereas the son of the same betrayed his ignorance in every word he uttered. More than ever are we convinced that, as Ibsen says, "we must look to the women for reform." It is a great joy to speak with these simple women, to hear their life experiences, and to be able to point out to them the connexion between their conditions and the Parliamentary vote. These women are indeed ready for the gospel of freedom for their sex. We went to Findon on Tuesday morning, where we held two successful meetings in the evening at different parts of the village. Several men, as well as women, converts were made. It is wonderful to watch the effect this campaign is having upon these country people, who hitherto have known nothing of the movement, save what they have read in the newspaper columns. When we tell them that we really are the same women of whom they read such strange accounts in the London press it makes them pause and reflect. They cannot understand why our speeches have not been fully and truthfully reported in the newspapers. And so our campaign, if doing no other good, is surely causing these country folk to take a kindlier view not only of the movement, but of the women who are in its ranks.

A great deal of interest was shown in both West Grinstead and Cowfold.

Great preparations are being made for our visit to Crawley by an enthusiastic resident.

Friday morning.

We have had hospitality offered this morning by a local Suffragist, who also wishes to give all possible assistance.

Miss Ridler is arranging the afternoon meetings, and her organizing talent is most helpful. MURIEL MATTERS.

The Women's Suffrage van will be at the following places on the days named: E. Grinstead, June 24th-26th; Hartfield, June 26th-29th; Tunbridge Wells, June 29th-July 2nd; Goudhurst, July 2nd-4th; Cranbrook, July 4th-6th; Benenden, July 6th-8th; Tenterden, July 8th.

L. M. HICKS.

Branch Notes.

Central Branch.—On Thursday last Miss Clementina Black gave us a most interesting address on 'Sweated Industries,' which should make us yet more anxious (if possible) to get "Votes for Women." The meeting was a full one, and nearly eight shillings' worth of literature was sold. Will branch members please attend Quarterly General Meeting on Thursday, the 25th, at 7 P.M., followed by an open-air meeting in Hyde Park at 8 P.M. On Thursday, July 2nd, there will be a meeting of the Despard Debating Society, when Mrs. Meredith will speak for the following proposition: "That women should replace party politics by methods of constructive social reform." All are invited to attend these debates, whether members or not.

P. H.

Lewisham Branch.—A presentation will be made to our first prisoner, Miss Gibb, on Tuesday, June 30th, at 7.30 P.M. For further information respecting the above please apply to Miss Henderson, Eton House, Daere Park, Lee, S.E. K. M.

Cheltenham Branch.—In view of the visit of the National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League to Cheltenham, a special meeting will be held in the Town Hall on July 4th. Full particulars from Mrs. Florence How Earengy, 3, Wellington Square, local secretary.

Edinburgh.—At a meeting of the Edinburgh Branch of the Women's Freedom League, held in India Buildings last night, Miss Lauder, appealed for the State registration of nurses. The great body of nurses in Great Britain were practically unanimous on this question, and they were backed by a vast majority of the medical profession. The fact that legislation was so difficult to obtain was only another proof of how women were handicapped by their present political disabilities.

Open-Air Meetings.

OUR first meeting at Hilly Fields, Lewisham, on Thursday last was a new departure, which proved entirely satisfactory. The speakers were Mrs. Nevinson (chair), Miss Molony, and the writer, supported by Miss Henderson and Miss Gibb of the Lewisham Branch. To-day (Thursday), at the same time and place, Mrs. Toyne will speak.

At Brockwell Park on Sunday last (by special request) Miss Molony spoke, and had a very friendly reception from the large crowd which quickly gathered as soon as we announced our meeting. Miss Molony's arguments carried conviction, and several men present declared themselves converted. It was the writer's privilege to take the chair at this meeting, and Miss Levy also spoke. It being Hospital Sunday, and a large meeting having been arranged in the park under the chairmanship of the Rev. Mr. Waldron (from whose audience we seriously detracted), we decided in this case to apply our collection in aid of the Hospital Fund, and accordingly 7s. 1½d. was handed over from the Women's Freedom League meeting and duly acknowledged.

Mrs. How-Martyn was the principal speaker at Finsbury Park on Sunday last, and had a big meeting, presided over by Mrs. Self.

Our members are invited to attend the park meetings on Sundays, and so contribute to their success. Those willing to speak are requested to send in their names to the undersigned at the offices of the League, 18, Buckingham Street, Strand.

MARIE LAWSON, Hon. Sec. to the London Council.

The London Council.

WILL all members who wish to join the Cycling Corps meet at Marble Arch on Saturday, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock sharp. From there the corps will go to Ravenscroft Park, where a meeting will be held.

I shall be pleased if all those members intending to join the meet on Saturday will send in their names to me before that date. HELEN LEVY, Hon. Sec. Cycling Corps.

Scottish Council.

SUMMER CENTRES.

Carnoustie.—Carnoustie has been fixed for the Scottish summer centre on the East Coast. Already a good many members have volunteered to spend their holidays there and take entire charge. If any one can offer hospitality, or help in any way, we shall be glad to hear from them.

Dunoon.—The same applies to Dunoon in regard to hospitality and helpers.

As the time is drawing near—July and August—names should be sent at once to Miss Anna Munro, 30, Gordon Street, Glasgow.

Subscriptions in April and May.

CORRECTIONS.

Miss Jack, 5l., should be Edinburgh Branch, per Miss Jack.
Miss Munar, 1l. 10s., should be Miss E. Murray.
Omitted Stonehaven, donations per Mrs. Sanderson, 1l. 10s. 9d.
" " Sale of tickets and collection 3l. 11s. 11d. per Mrs. Sanderson.

(The report of the East Fife Campaign, Correspondence, and other news have been held over on account of lack of space.—Ed. W. F. L.)

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS. From June 25th to July 5th.

			P.M.
Thurs. 25.	Suffrage Social, Caxton Hall, Westminster Imperial Club	Mrs. Despard Violin solo—Miss Frances Ison Mrs. How Martyn Miss Hodgson	8 3.30
	Hyde Park, near Marble Arch Hilly Fields, Lewisham	Central Branch Members Mrs. Toyne	8 8
	Wolverhampton, West Park Gates	Mrs. Sproson	7.30
	Central Branch, 18, Buckingham Street	Quarterly General Meeting	7
Sun. 28.	Hyde Park Brockwell Park	Miss Mary Smith and others Miss Lawson Mrs. Toyne	3 3
	Battersea Park	Mrs. Ackroyd Mrs. Roy Rothwell	3.30
	Finsbury Park, N. Wolverhampton, Empire Theatre	Mrs. How Martyn Miss Molony	3 7.30
Mon. 29.	Wolverhampton, West Park Gates	Mrs. Sproson	7.30
JULY			
Thurs. 2.	Suffrage Social, Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand	Mrs. Meredith	8
Fri. 3.	Despard Debating Society, 18, Buckingham St., Strand	Miss Hodgson Miss Fitzherbert Mrs. How Martyn	8
	Cheltenham, Town Hall, Reception and Duologue	Mrs. Billington-Greig Mrs. Holmes Mrs. Sanderson	8
Sat. 4.	Birmingham, Town Hall	Mrs. Despard Mrs. Billington-Greig	8
	Cheltenham, Town Hall	Mrs. Despard Mrs. How Martyn, B.Sc., A.R.C.S. Mrs. Sanderson	8
Sun. 5.	Hyde Park Battersea Park Brockwell Park Finsbury Park	Mrs. Nevinson	3.30

Special July 11th open-air performance of 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' with Mendelssohn's incidental music by the South Place Orchestral Society. Tickets, 7s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., from this office.

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

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

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

Notes and Comments.

THOSE of our readers—and we hope they are many—who marched to the Albert Hall on Saturday week and also were present at the N.W.S.P.U. demonstration on Sunday last, must have derived immense encouragement from what they saw. Comparison between the two is both impossible and undesirable. We are in the position of the theological student who said, when he was asked to give a list of the minor prophets, "Who am I to distinguish between these eminent persons?" Suffice it that both achieved their objects with a success that leaves no doubt on the minds of the people at large that the women's demand has a tremendous backing throughout the country among all classes and conditions.

Hyde Park was alive with people. Those who were fortunate enough to find a vantage ground, from which a panoramic view could be obtained, were staggered by the vast expanse of humanity packed together so tightly that it was literally impossible to move. Not all of these were Suffragists, of course, but the great proportion were keenly interested in the subject, and we were glad to see that senseless interruption was in many cases stopped at once, even by those who were frankly opposed to the speakers. In our hearing, one man out of the hundreds gathered about Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's platform, was severely rebuked for repeated attempts to drag the Adult Suffrage herring across the path, after Mrs. Lawrence had clearly stated the attitude of the Women Suffragists to that solution.

In fact, the chairman had no difficulty in maintaining order, for the audience was determined to hear the speeches, and to give fair play to the speakers.

Long after 5 o'clock, when the resolution was put from all the platforms simultaneously, the West End, from Knightsbridge to the Strand and Holborn, was full of persons returning from the Park. Everywhere we heard the subject discussed, and almost always with sobriety and real interest. It was a memorable day, and not least because the careless mockers who have in the past associated the N.W.S.P.U. solely with "methods" and "tactics" (variously described), saw that Society responsible for a great constitutional demonstration on the most approved lines, and on a scale which has rarely before been approached.

The Epigram Competition.

THE task of allotting the prize among the numerous verses sent in has been no light one. The judgment of Paris was a comparatively simple affair, save in respect of the results which may be expected to follow. The task was somewhat facilitated by the fact that some of the verses which were metrically good and pleasantly worded failed to satisfy the requirements of an epigram, or departed too far from the subject in hand. A few competitors permitted themselves to muse on the virtues of the non-Anti-Suffragist; others made praiseworthy, though unsuccessful, attempts to set forth the whole case for Women's Suffrage in the narrow limits of a four-line verse.

The prize is awarded to E. S. H., whose verse seems to us, on the whole, to be the best of those submitted. It runs as follows:—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE LEAGUE.

A grudging cur—we all have heard the tale—
Once barred a toiling ox (as you would do)
From benefits not needed by himself—
He doubtless was a petted lap-dog too.

This verse seems to us to embody most clearly the essence of the Anti-Suffrage League, which is seeking to keep from the women who need the vote a privilege which its own members, for various reasons, do not require. Any extension of the vote is based on the idea that the general good requires the evening up or levelling down of inequalities. The rich man, the strong man, must not be allowed to run a community without due consideration for the poor and the weak, nor must the many have uncontrolled power to coerce the few. Now the women who are sponsors of the Anti-Suffrage League are apparently in a good position, as the world counts prosperity. They have influence and at all events some degree of creature comfort, probably without undue need for personal exertion.

We therefore think that E. S. H. has hit the nail on the head when he or she makes this aspect of the case the theme of the epigram.

The Men's League in Liverpool.

OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATION.

A HIGHLY successful open-air meeting was held in the great square in front of St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on Saturday, June 13th, under the auspices of the League. The chair was taken by Mr. Allan Tracy, and the principal speakers were Rev. H. D. Roberts, Mr. J. Ivory Cripps, B.A., and Mr. A. A. Roden.

The Chairman, who dealt mainly with the social and economic aspects of the case, was able to emphasize his words by personal experience in New Zealand. He pointed out how important it is that women who are compelled to enter the labour market should do so on the same terms as men have done. That women should be handicapped by the lack of direct Parliamentary representation is not only bad for them, but dangerous to the wages system throughout. If unscrupulous employers are able to squeeze long hours of work out of unrepresented women, they possess a powerful weapon for compelling the men to take lower wages or be supplanted.

Mr. J. Ivory Cripps, whose brilliant speech at Birkenhead in April has already been quoted in these columns, moved a resolution requiring the Government to grant facilities to Mr. Stanger's Bill. The resolution was seconded by the Rev. H. D. Roberts, and supported by Mr. Roden.

Questions were then put by the audience, which was large—about 500 at least—and interested, and the resolution was ultimately approved. Copies of the resolution were sent to Mr. Asquith and to the Liverpool Members of Parliament.

The meeting was well reported locally, and the *Dispatch* even went so far as to publish four photographs of the leading speakers! Mr. Allerton, our local representative, is to be congratulated on a very bold and successful enterprise.

A Cryptic Poem.

WE have often promised a welcome to any adversary who would undertake to expose the flaws in our reasoning. The answer has come at last—in five closely-written foolscap pages of verse. It arrived without warning, in quite an ordinary envelope, which bore the non-committal postmark "London, S.W.," and was incorrectly addressed. With the modesty of true genius the author has refrained from sending his or her name, and the masterpiece itself does not appear to possess a title. Nor, indeed, is it absolutely clear where the reader is expected to begin and end, though the sense of the poem is not materially affected by this omission. One fact stands out clearly amid so much that is mysterious—the bard does not

like women, and the poem consists of many variations upon the theme of his dislike. We give some examples:—

* * * * *
Who 's that hypostasis that hangs the head?
Personal liberty: in mortal dread
Respectability will promptly use
By women's votes to all that 's good a noose.

Robert Browning once asked a former ambassador from the Court of Pekin what type of poetry was preferred in China. He received the courteous reply, "Cryptic poetry." The lines just quoted can hardly fall far short of the highest standard of celestial art.

* * * * *
The Maoris hold, whilst man from clay arose,
'Twas from a "sloppy mixture" sprang his spouse.
This daring unconventionality in rhyme is a feature of the entire poem.

* * * * *
"In brief, Sir, study what you most affect."
How would a demoiselle with gauds bedecked
Read that? Study the fashion plate:

(The bard does not appear to "affect" the laws of metre)

Study the wedding presents of the great.
Sweet in themselves, charms never are a test
Of excellence: the butterfly 's a pest.
Th' amusing kitten view the wise hold fast,
In time to come as true as in the past.
In her wry posture on the saddle we
Of silliness the *ne plus ultra* see.
A switchback illustrates her habitude,
From physical or moral standpoint viewed.
Oh, Objectivity, you 'll go to pot
When Subjectivity the vote has got.
Oh, Logical Conclusion, you 'll be shent
When women choose the men in Parliament.

The agility with which the poet leaps from kittens on horseback to philosophy certainly renders him an opponent difficult to meet by any ordinary methods of reasoning. He proceeds to point out the horrors that would overwhelm a world deprived of masculine brains.

* * * * *
Give men the female brain henceforth, and what
Of modern human life would be the lot?
Science defunct, dead every mystery [*sic*]
Industrial art and complex craft would be.
The boats all wrecked and all the ships gone down,
The French would not to English folk be known.
The carnivores man's flesh would dine upon
When all the men with virile brains were gone.
Where bigger beasts were not, the rats and mice,
Unchecked by any skillful artifice,
Would multiply so fast that they would leave
No food, and thus the race would reach the grave.

The author of this appalling forecast is well aware that his views will seem novel—as, indeed, they are; but he declines to retract a word, and continues, with a fine self-confidence:—

Most versifiers iterate again
The same old themes, obscurely. And in vain
Their readers try to keep awake. But here
Are verses of another character,
Such as moreover will not be forgot,
Whether their tenor pleases you or not.
None can the metrist's arguments confute,
Irrefutable and beyond dispute.

* * * * *
The poet bases his forecast of the future upon the experience of the past:—

No essays, criticisms, history,
Produces she in books that will not die:
No epics, lyrics, dramas, she 'll compose,
No ballads, operas, or oratorios [*sic*]. . . .
From woman ne'er has come, tho' so devout
In cults a new kick-off of any note.

He hastens to anticipate a possible reply—

"A woman's mind is quick, intuitive."
What's 2 and 2? She briskly answers 5.
The duller man will o'er the question pore
And more deliberately answer 4;
'Tis 5 to-day, to-morrow 6 or 3,
Just as her febrile fancy makes it be.
Let 's keep the votes with those to whom 'tis 4,
Nor make a change which, certes, we 'll deplore.

* * * * *
So when you see that women rule the state
Beseeching eyebrows you should elevate.
There can be little doubt that the poet will have succeeded in inducing some of his readers to elevate their eyebrows.

* * * * *
At the last moment a doubt assails us. Have we been the victims of an elaborate hoax? Is the poet really arguing for Women's Suffrage by a *reductio ad absurdum* of the case against it?

Correspondence.

[The Men's League is essentially a non-party organization, in which all shades of political opinion are represented. For this reason we feel bound to state that the League is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.]

SIR,—In the letter from a Mr. Walter Davidson which you published on June 18th, he tells us that he is one of a class who "do not see a joke easily, and when they do they cling to it with an infinitely touching fidelity." Infinitely touching, indeed! The "unsavoury hodge-podge of fact"—"daily devoured," the "sixty minutes of cheap cigarettes and indifferent coffee which pass with them for lunch"—how could clear thinking come of such?

Sir, we must be very patient with these people. "They know not what they do."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
H. ARNCLIFFE SENNETT.

Woman's Freedom.

CHATS ABOUT PERSONS AND BOOKS.

No. 7.—An Harborouë, &c.—(continued.)

"... And because Aristotle is thought to be of such Authority in this matter, let us a litle examine his woordes ἀγεμονικώτερόν ἐστι τὸ ἄρσεν ἢ τὸ θήλυον that is the male is moore mete to rule then the female, well, what inferre you? ergo the woman unmete. I denie that argument, you should rather saye the woman is not so mete; that we could graunt you, and not a whyt hurt our cause: for otherwyse no man will reason, as to say this man is better learned then the other. Chalke is whyter then cheese: ergo cheese is black. No man that knoweth what comparison is, wyll bryng two contraries in one comparison, as to saye pitche is blacker then snowe, or fyre is whotter then water. But if they compare two thynges together they must be suche as they haue in one qualite or propertie maius et minus. As I saye right. A man is more mete to rule then a childe. That is not by affirmacion and negacio, as because th'one is apt, therefore th'other is not, and euen so of a ma' and a woma', he is more mete: therefore it foloweth not that she is utterly unmete. And therefore Plato, Arist. master not a whit wurse learned then his scholer, saith: Magistratus utriusque Sexus peficimus nuptiss, our maner is to make officers of both sexes to ordre marriage. And saint Paule as we haue declared, gyueth them a kynd of government δικοδοεποτείν to gouerne the house. And lykewyse Aristotle him selfe in the Ethikes. So that neither Philosopher nor Apostle, dealeth with them so hardly as you do."

(To be continued.)

Scottish Women's Social and Political Union.

Organizing Secretary: MISS HELEN FRASER.

COCKBURN BUILDINGS, 141, BATH STREET, GLASGOW.

Telegraphic Address: "SUFFRAGE, GLASGOW."

Nat. Telephone: 416 DOUGLAS.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

We demand the Vote on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

Hyde Park—The Women's Demonstration.

It was a wonderful day—and the scene in Hyde Park was one never to be forgotten by those who took part.

The twenty platforms and the high tower in the centre were like oases in the desert, and the sands were the myriads of people. Everywhere one looked the crowds seemed denser than before—and against the background of great trees with the sunshine, the gay dresses gave a fête-like appearance to the scene. The feeling generally was gay and victorious. At our Scottish platform, where General Drummond was in the chair, and Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Annot Robinson, and Mrs. Mosen spoke, the crowd were enthusiastic—so silent, listening to the speeches, that one could be heard at the utmost limit of that huge crowd of over 10,000 people.

A piper added to the national character of the platform, and after the great shout played a pæan of victory.

We had a splendid Scottish contingent in the Victoria Embankment procession, among whom were Miss Methven, Lady Steel and Miss Lees, just arrived from the International Congress at Amsterdam, Miss Haig, Miss Irwin, Mrs. Reid, and Miss Phillips and Miss Webster, with the Aberdeen banner. The Scottish graduates, headed by Miss Chrystal MacMillan, carried a banner, "Scottish Graduates registered voters may not vote." In that procession marched Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. P. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Zangwill, Mrs. Ayrton, Miss Lillia McCarthy and many notable people. Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy, pioneer, walked with Mrs. Pankhurst from Euston Road, Miss Annie Kenney brought the Welsh people, Miss Mary Gawthorpe some of the Midland contingents, George Bernard Shaw made Procession H—had one on his own—and on the conning tower one noted our staunch supporter Mr. Keir Hardie.

Every type of woman was represented, and one felt that surely there were numbers enough to satisfy even Mr. Herbert Gladstone.

One paper hails it as the greatest demonstration in the world held by women, and everywhere one reads there is admiration for the organization and the achievement. It is another blast against those walls of Jericho that must go down—a blast that will reach the House of Commons and the Cabinet. One marvels at the stupidity of a Government that refuses to give justice to those who demonstrated their desire as we Suffragists have last Saturday and yesterday; but from the bottom of one's heart one thanks them for their stupid opposition, which has done more for our womanhood than anything else could have done.

Had Pharaoh's heart not been hardened yesterday's scene had been impossible. The walls will go down soon, and yesterday will help.

The Scottish Summer Centres.

VOLUNTEERS are needed for July and August for Dunoon and Carnoustie. Miss Munro will take charge of one centre, and several volunteers have given in their names for short periods, but more are urgently needed. This work begins in about a fortnight! Funds will also be required for the work. One way of raising them is that undertaken by Miss McLean, who has held a Cake and Candy Sale for two days, in her home in order to raise money for the summer propaganda work.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

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