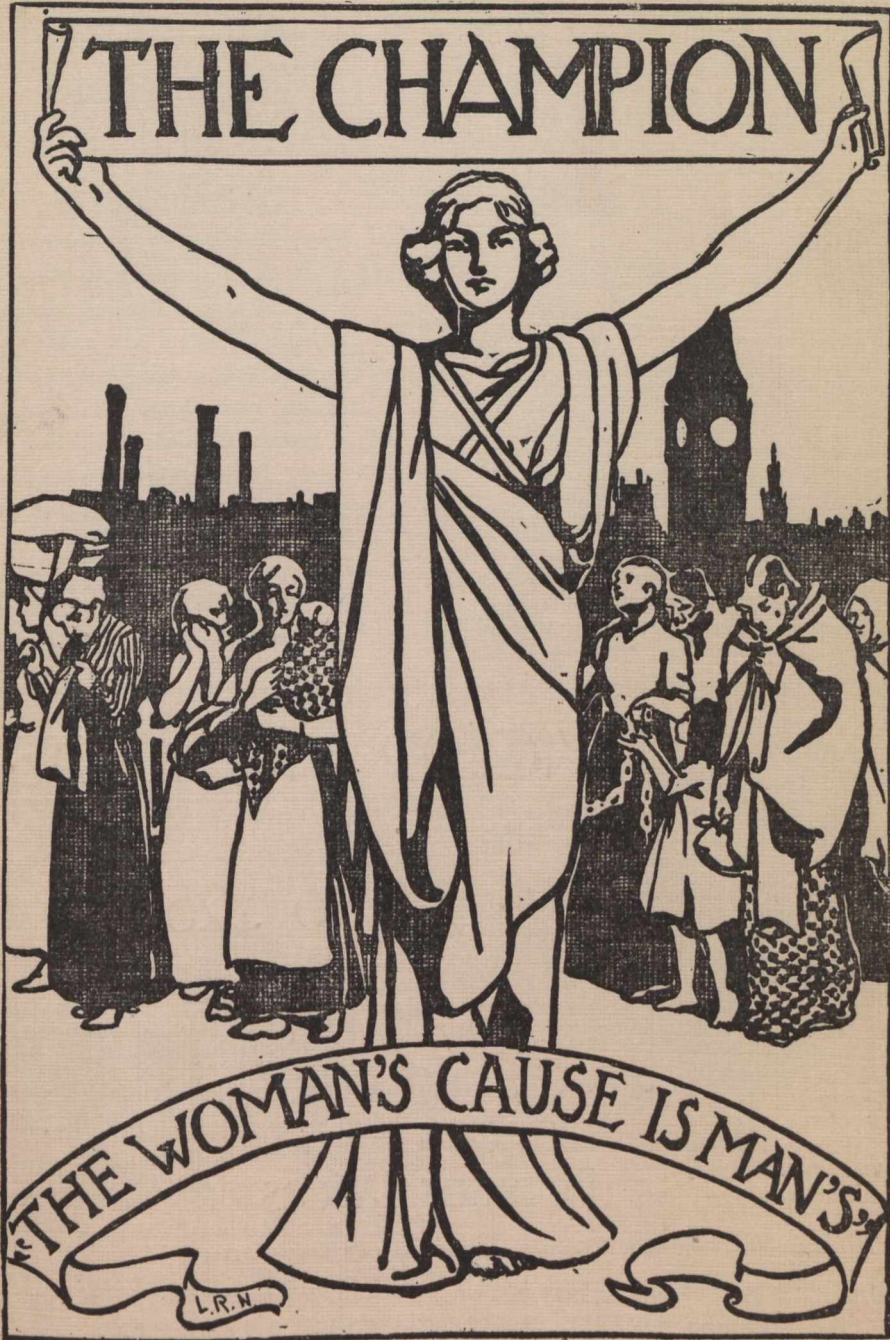


"The Woman's Cause is Man's"

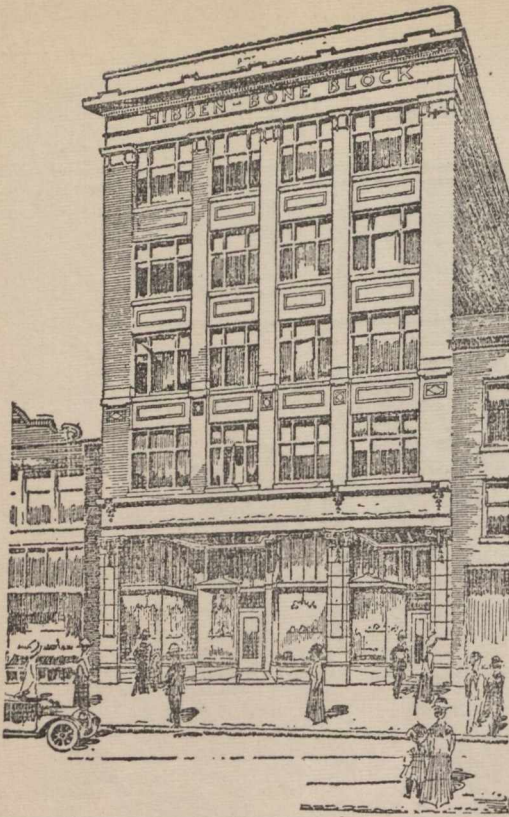


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March, 1913

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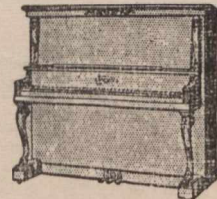
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A Monthly Magazine Published by
THE POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE
(Victoria Branch)

"THE WOMAN'S CAUSE IS MAN'S"

\$1.00 Per Year, Postage Paid

Single Copies 10c.

VOL. I.

VICTORIA, B. C., MARCH, 1913

No. 8

POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

Victoria Branch

President, Mrs. Gordon Grant.

Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Baer.

Organizing Secretary,
Miss Dorothy Davis.

Recording Secretary,
Miss McDonald.

Office: Room 28, Brown Block,
Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.

1. This Society adopts as the fundamental principle of its Constitution the establishment of the Political, Social and Industrial Rights of Women and Men.

It recognizes as indispensable the possession by Women of the Parliamentary Vote on the same terms as it is or as it may be granted to men.

It demands from the Government immediate legislation to secure this.

The further aim of the Society is to take active means to remedy existing evils and to bring to the knowledge of the public the inefficiency of some of the laws of British Columbia especially as they affect women and children.

2. The objects and aims of the Society as set forward above, need very little explanation. We intend to expose in every way possible to us, the dual standard existing for men and women, to demonstrate the evil result-

ing therefrom, and to force public recognition to the direct connection between this dual standard and the political disability of women.

We stand to emphasize the fact that **causes** of individual cases of injustice can only be satisfactorily and finally dealt with by legislation in which women have a direct share.

3. Regarding the enfranchisement of women as essential to the attainment of equality between the sexes, we are necessarily working primarily for Woman Suffrage, and the principal item on our programme is therefore the demand for a Government Measure giving the Parliamentary Vote to Women on the same terms as it is or may be given to men.

EDITOR'S NOTES

The Political Situation.

We have failed. Or rather, the Government has failed,—failed to rise to an opportunity of vindicating its claim to a democratic basis and a broad unprejudiced outlook, failed in statesmanship, in courage, and in sincerity. For the words in which the Premier communicated to the House the "decision" of the Cabinet are in themselves sufficient evidence that the subject of Women's Franchise was not given that open, unprejudiced consideration which any proposal of such a

vital nature merits at the hands of the Servants of the Public.

Sir Richard said:

"With the consent of the Legislature and your permission, sir, there are two statements I would like to make on behalf of the Government. The first has reference to a delegation which waited upon the Cabinet last week, requesting that a measure of legislation be introduced here in order to provide for the extension of the franchise to the women of the country.

"This delegation was composed of a very representative and influential body of women, some of whom came from the far-off Kootenay to take part in the presentation of the case that was submitted by the main body for the consideration of the administration. The Government fully appreciates the importance of the question; the fact, too, that in its presentation the active agency through which it came was made up from so many parts of the commonwealth.

"The subject has had careful consideration at our hands, and my purpose in rising to make these few observations is to give an official answer to the request made. This I must do in these words: That we find ourselves still of the view which we have consistently adhered to for now upwards of ten years, and that is that as a matter of Government policy, we are unable to agree that it would be in the public interest to bring down proposals of the character asked for, for the endorsement of this Parliament.

"Sir, I make this statement in order that the position of the Administration may be made clear, but with absolutely no intent to in any way prejudice the right or privilege of private members on the floor of this House to submit for the consideration of Parliament a like proposal to that submitted by the delegation. On the order paper last week there was a notice over the signature of the member for Nanaimo of the introduction of a bill that would perhaps adequately meet the requirements of the delegation to which I have referred. Of course, to have the way clear as far as the Government is concerned for full

consideration of the question that honorable member withdrew his notice. It is still quite competent, if he be yet of the opinion that the legislation ought to be introduced this session, for him to bring down the bill for the discussion of the present Parliament."

The work of the women of the Province during the few months preceding their deputation had been of what the Premier himself, in a private interview, called "heroic" nature. They had thrown themselves with utter unselfishness and zeal into a campaign inaugurated under difficulties of finance, of distance, and of climatic conditions. They had faced those extraordinary ebullitions of incivility and slander which somehow invariably manifest themselves on the part of the ignorant and vulgar directly any brave and definite attitude is adopted on behalf of a new moral ideal—especially if that attitude be taken up by women. They had gladly and ungrudgingly denied themselves much in the way of personal comfort in order to accelerate the achievement of that ideal. And many of them had undertaken long, and tiring, and expensive journeys in order to impress upon the Electorate and their appointed representatives the sincerity, the vital importance, and the widespread character of their demand.

Only to meet with denial.

Perhaps it is true that many of the women were working without actual hope of immediate success, but on the other hand the majority had that absolute faith in victory, without which no force should go into action. And to these latter women, the completeness of the Government's negative came as a real and amazing shock.

Temporarily, then, we have failed. But, on the whole, it is quite certain that this failure is for the ultimate good of the womanhood of the Province and for the Cause we have at heart. We do not attach all the blame for the reverse to the Government itself. The electorate which put the Government in office shares the responsibility for this refusal of justice. And that responsibility lies even more heavily on the shoulders of the very large body

of women of position and influence in this land, who either decline to interest themselves in a question of such supreme urgency or who pursue the wholly unjustifiable line that success is bound to come to a matter of such vital importance, and that therefore they feel themselves under no obligation to give any personal support in either word or deed. These women, who admit that the honor of their sex is involved, and who yet are practically indifferent as to the vindication of that honor, constitute some sort of justification for the line followed by the Government, although if the demand of awakened women is considered undeserving of that due attention which servants owe their employers, certainly there is no reason that the apathy of the rest should receive acknowledgment or be made an excuse for the Government's neglect of its duty.

Yet, as has been just said, this check will have no permanent effect on the final issue, except as a halt refreshes a regiment for another march, or as one defeat but spurs it on to a speedier victory.

Already, from all kinds of unexpected sources, messages come to the Political Equality League announcing the support of persons who had been indifferent, or the inflamed zeal of those who are indignant at the Government's attitude. And after all, the country is now vividly awake. Women who formerly had only a vague idea that in Britain women were throwing stones, now realize that the Women's Franchise Movement is something which intimately concerns each one individually right through the world, and in a very practical manner in this country. Women who had never "worried themselves" for half an hour over any political question are now, right here in B. C., coming out on to political platforms and calling upon other women to **begin to think**, pointing out to them many tragic and terrible facts which it has become every woman's duty to look into and help to put a stop to.

All this is so much to the good, and if so much can be accomplished within a few weeks, what doubt can any ra-

tional person have that by next January Victory and Freedom will lie within our grasp for the taking?

Our Office.

Last month we announced that the office in the Campbell Block, into which we hope to move shortly, would cost us \$25 a month, but we find that we overshot the mark—the rent is only \$22.50, delightful surprise, and we have already paid the first month's rent in advance, to secure the premises.

In response to our suggestion to readers that we are in need of various office etceteras, Mr. C. C. Pemberton has very generously offered to provide a typewriter for us for a time, and Mrs. Grant has brought in a pair of scissors. Mrs. Dennis Harris has supplied a wastepaper basket. We still need a pen-tray, inkstand, pen-knife, letter-trays, letter-weight, paper-weight, curtains, and also a scrap-book for press clippings. Who will help in this way?

Tag-Day.

"The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft a-glee," but there was no need at all for the plans of the Political Equality League to do so. Our tag-day certainly justified its existence but did very poor credit in the eyes of the general public to the enthusiasm of our members. We put the question of such a method of raising funds before a special meeting, and the idea was cordially endorsed. We thereupon obtained police permission to take possession of the city on February 8th, and proceeded to invite the help of members as collectors.

We knew that to make a success of the affair it would be essential that we should be "thick on the ground," all in good spirits, and the scheme of organization of the streets very carefully adhered to. We mentioned explicitly that if the public saw that the whole arrangement was well planned they would take it as an excellent joke and pour the money into our purple, white and green boxes. But that if there seemed any lack of numbers or support, the tag-day would be a lamentable failure. About thirty women and

girls responded to this call to arms. "Pitches" were chosen at suitable intervals throughout the centre of the city, and collectors were allotted their respective "beats." If the thirty had all turned up and had each given eight hours, we should easily, at the rate we began at (and should in that case have maintained), have taken \$700 or \$800, if not more. But, unfortunately, for one cause or another, about twenty were unable to turn up. This is just one instance of the vital importance EVERY WOMAN is to the Cause. It is a proof that the strength of a chain depends on its weakest link. Next time we call for a rally, let each one respond loyally. Our total takings amounted to \$120.40.

As regards the experiences of the collectors, but for the extreme exhaustion of those who were able to go on longest (eleven hours), they enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The day was beautiful, clear, sunny, fresh. The public was friendly and at first more than generous. Hardly anyone was objectionable. A few of the incidents were extremely amusing. The naive vanity of men of a particular type was well illustrated by the frequency with which they met the offer of a jingling box with the remark: "I'm sorry, my dear, but I'm married already." It is curious to observe how impossible such minds find it to look upon a woman or her occupation in any but a matrimonial light, or to realize that we may ask anything of them on wholly human grounds. It is this morbid outlook which the whole Franchise Movement will speedily annihilate. It is a sign of degeneracy, of an over-sexed personality, which is a greater menace to the welfare of a nation than any other of the many signs of our present rotten social system.

The names of those who took part in the Tag-Day "raid" are:—Miss Dorothy King, Mrs. Baer, Miss G. MacDonald, Miss Bertha Kitto, Miss Dorothy Davis, Miss Edith Jubb, Miss Octavia Robinson, and Miss Geoghegan; and Mr. Geoffrey Kitto proved himself a real friend by inviting us all to tea at the Tea-Kettle Inn.

The Deputation.

On Friday, February 14th, 1913, there took place an event of historic importance in the history of British Columbia, when for the last time, a Deputation of Women drawn from far and wide throughout the Province, went to the Parliament Buildings in Victoria, to meet the Provincial Executive Council, show their Petition, and ask the Government to introduce and carry during the Session a Bill giving the Vote to Women on the same terms as it is or may be given to men.

This event attracted a great deal of attention, not only in the City itself but in Vancouver, and throughout the Province.

Just before five o'clock small groups of women began to assemble under the dome of the Buildings, and were escorted in detachments to the Executive Chamber.

The Deputation was led by Mrs. Maria Gordon Grant, the pioneer of Women's Enfranchisement in this Province, who for 25 years kept alive the flame that is just about to burn up the artificial fetters which through countless ages have cramped the lives of women and so impeded the highest progress of the race. A complete list of the women composing the Deputation is, unfortunately, not available, for very few sent in their names beforehand, and of the total number who eventually came, many at the last moment and after the proceedings had commenced, we were only able to inspect the cards of about thirty. We counted over seventy present.

Almost punctually at five o'clock, the Premier entered the Executive Chamber, followed by the Hon. Dr. Young, Provincial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Hon. W. Ross, the Hon. A. E. McPhillips, K.C., and later, the Minister of Agriculture.

Mrs. Gordon Grant, in a concise and able little speech, introduced the Deputation, making a special point of the fact that the whole Pacific Coast had exhibited the Western spirit of progression in enfranchising its women, with the exception of B. C., and she asked the Government to consider very

seriously the demand of their own countrywomen.

Mrs. Kemp of Vancouver read a very telling paper, in the course of which she expressed the confidence of the women of this country in the Premier, and stated that she brought their Petition signed by approximately 10,000 women and voters of the Province.

Dr. Belle Wilson, representing the unaffiliated Suffrage Societies of Vancouver, read a paper representing their point of view, and suggesting on their behalf that a Referendum or a Plebiscite should be inaugurated.

Miss Dorothy Davis, Organizing Secretary, next stated explicitly the reasons for the Women's demand, and emphasized the greatness of the Government's opportunity on this occasion for showing the courage of true statesmanship and justifying their claim to be representatives of the most progressive Canadian Province. She added that never again would the women of the country come to them in quite the same way, and they would still prefer to take their freedom and the recognition of their citizenship as a generous and chivalrous gift, than win it as the result of a political struggle, (a peaceful struggle!), which would usurp energies they were ready to utilize in various lines of service to the State.

Dr. Scarlett-Synge, of New Westminster, then made a striking little speech, followed by Mrs. Machin, and Mrs. Tuckwell of New Westminster, Mrs. Corey of Kamloops, and finally Mrs. Winstead of Kaslo, each of whom emphasized some one distinct point in the claim of womanhood for its rights.

The "Times" says that "the scene was picturesque. Ranged round the room were all types and ages of womanhood, from the feeble and white-haired, who, side by side with their husbands, had toiled in the pioneer struggles of the early days of the Province, to the fresh and hopeful faces of young girls whose lives yet lay before them. . . . Elements of humor were not lacking in the facial expressions of some members of the Cabinet, who were obviously doubtful of the

climax which might come in the event of the refusal of the women's demand. The prevailing impression, however, was one of extreme dignity, and even the Premier's non-committal words when he rose to speak failed to dissipate this."

The Premier made exactly the reply expected of him. He alluded to the very great respect in which Mrs. Grant was held throughout the Province for her long and untiring work in many different departments of social development, and the consequent importance which would be attached to an appeal made by the women of the land through her. He promised a reply by the following Wednesday at latest, and reminded the Deputation that in the event of the Government refusing a Government Measure, they could always obtain the introduction of a Private Member's Bill. As the Deputation had distinctly stated that they were asking for the former, and had practically already refused the latter, this suggestion on the part of the Premier showed that he hardly yet realizes the clear-sightedness of the women with whom he has to deal. The Government will have to learn that the "hot-air" which is so readily swallowed, in such large draughts, and with such apparently thirst-satisfying results by their present voters and masters, is a mixture of which we recognize the prescription and dislike the taste. The "open your mouth and shut your eyes" policy is one of the many political methods at present in vogue which does not commend itself to the judgment of women. Experience, in this day of masculine commercialism, has taught us that cash is preferable to cheques, and that promissory notes may satisfy the sense of honor of the issuer but otherwise generally fulfil a barren destiny.

After the Deputation the ladies dined in groups at the various hotels, and later in the evening several of them met at a most delightful reception held by Mrs. Mitchell of Superior Street, when discussion of plans for the future was kept up till a very late hour, among the decisions arrived at being the im-

portant one that the women of B. C. were unanimous in demanding nothing less than a Government Measure, as the key to unlock the gate to their freedom, Mrs. Ralph Smith of Vancouver speaking particularly strongly on these lines.



Alexandra Club Meeting.

On Monday, 17th of February, a mass meeting was held at the Alexandra Club.

It was really organized expressly on the suggestion of the Premier, who recommended that a large meeting be called and an invitation sent to each Member of the House, stating that the Women of B. C. wished to put before them their reasons for demanding the Vote. The Premier declared that the Members would certainly respond willingly to such an invitation. Nine of them eventually declined it, and the rest did not even take the trouble to send a reply, though the cards were marked R. S. V. P. . . . perhaps they did not understand the meaning of these mystic characters.

However, in spite of an exceptional number of rival attractions, a very large crowd assembled to hear four speakers, whose names had not been advertised, owing to the uncertainty up till the last moment of securing some of them.

The Chair was taken by Mrs. Gordon Grant, who introduced Mrs. Kemp of Vancouver, who made an excellent little speech. Then followed Mrs. Lashley Hall, who kept the audience in a delighted ripple of laughter, and who made her points very cleverly. The speaker of the evening was Miss O'Meara, of Seattle, who had been organizer in Washington through the women's campaign there, and who made a great point of the essential quality of faith in such a campaign as ours—faith, not in a distant and vague future, but in an **immediate** victory,—however, far, from the practical point of view, it might seem,—in fact, a faith which vitalizes its dream, **realizes its ideal!** She spoke splendidly, and made a great impression on the audience. Finally, Miss

Dorothy Davis was to have supplied the "raison d'etre" of the meeting—the explicit statement of the reasons "why the women of B. C. want the Vote," but the hour was so late that she merely gave a brief sketch of the position, and this closed the evening's proceedings. A collection of about \$25 was taken.



Letter from a Member.

Miss Harris of South Vernon writes to make what would be an excellent suggestion if only we had more space at our disposal, or could afford to add to our pages at this moment. She thinks that a Correspondence Club for the interchange of Members' views in different parts of the country would be a way of drawing us all into closer touch with each other.

At present this is unfortunately not feasible in the form she puts before us, but a modification of it might be very satisfactorily adopted,—that is, for all members who will do so to write to the Editor giving their views on a special topic each month, and the most concise and helpful of these letters from the various points of view, might be selected by us and published. Supposing we try it as an experiment at any rate, and for the first topic take Miss Harris' own suggestion:

"Will members give their ideas as to the best means of stirring up the people of this Province and creating vital interest in the question of Women's Franchise?"

Letters should be written on one side of the paper only, as plainly as possible, and should be brief and pointed. They should be addressed to the Editor of the "Champion," 28 Brown Block, Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.



Funds.

Although only a few days have elapsed since we sent out the first batch of appeals for funds to carry on the work of our organization in Victoria, subscriptions have already commenced to come in, as will be seen by the Treasurer's report, and we feel warranted in anticipating a generous response. We

believe that in asking for personal subscriptions from those who are interested in our work, we take the simplest and most satisfactory way of securing funds.

THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC

It is only a very little while since women first began to learn the meaning of the words: "White Slave Traffic," and there are still a large number in this country at any rate, who ask wonderingly, "Well, but what is it?"

The Women's campaign for freedom has been the means of awakening them to the evils of such ignorance and such political helplessness as have for so long prevailed; and it may now be known by anyone who will take the trouble to ask or to read that the White Slave Traffic is a great commercial organization, the richest commercial organization in the world, which has ramifications in every country, agents in every city, and in many villages, travellers on every railway and steamboat line, all engaged in the work of beguiling or tricking young girls into their power and then selling them to houses of infamy, or sending them to other lands, on the false pretexts of good employment or high salaries, into a bondage which is worse than death, and to which indeed death, coming inevitably and with hideous suffering, after only half-a-dozen years at most, is a merciful release.

The whole transaction is conducted with as much cold business calculation as that with which cattle might be bought and sold, shipped abroad or slaughtered at home. Wherever the demand is greater than the supply, prices for these girls are proportionately higher. Youth, beauty, innocence are so many marketable assets—they raise the value of the victim. And the whole scheme is for the purpose of financial profit. Behind it lies a vast supply of capital, much of it in the charge of companies which masquerade under a guise of philanthropy and the attractive titles of Benevolent Associations.

It is financed and conducted so skilfully that the efforts of societies and moral reform organizations alone to destroy or even check the evil are utterly powerless.

Thousands of innocent girls are trapped every year in all parts of the world and taken into hotbeds of vice, confined in prisons from which in their lifetime there is no escape. There are 25,000 men in London alone living on money earned by these girls in a life of shame. There are estimated to be rather more in New York, about as many in Paris, thousands in other cities.

And this hideous traffic in the bodies and souls of women has been going on for years and years. And whenever there has been a movement to bring forward legislation which alone could be successful in checking it, governments of men have considered the question too unimportant to require adequate and serious attention.

It is often said that you cannot make people moral by Act of Parliament, nor by legislation reform individual lives. But you can by legislation terrorize evil-doers—the law can not only influence public opinion but it can deter men and women from crime; and nobody will ever deny that by an Act of Parliament **you can most certainly kill a trade.** The Slave Trade was killed by legislation, and any other other trade or traffic can be made **financially unprofitable**, and so killed. This terrible trade in girls could be killed, not by feeble tinkering with the fringe of the evil, not by flogging the few scapegoats who may fall into the hands of the law (greatly as the knowledge of this risk may help by acting as a deterrent), but by attacking the system at its root, by aiming at the great financial interests which are at stake in its existence and so exterminating it. This White Slave Traffic could be killed at once by sane and careful legislation if women had the Vote. And it is for this reason, if for no other, that every woman should come forward and join the ranks of our Suffrage army.

It is frequently said that the interests of women and children are safe in the hands of men—in hands, that is, which have not even tried in any effective way so far to defend innocence and childhood and youth from the bitterest shame and degradation and disease, but have allowed them to be sold for the enrichment of men. And it is not only the men directly at the back of this gigantic crime who profit from these broken lives. Ordinary men and women drawing their incomes from unknown sources, which their brokers assure them to be “reliable” and “sound concerns,” are often helping to finance, and are ignorantly living on, this iniquitous system. And in indirect ways, all those who profit by the labor of sweated workers, who in a natural desire to be economical buy “cheap” ready-made goods, are encouraging the under-payment of women workers, and so leaving them more exposed to the dangers of poverty and the wiles of the White Slave Agents. It is true that men have tried now and then to put down the widespread evil, but they have never tried in the right way. They have attempted punishment of the women, especially of those who, having been degraded beyond their own power to rise again, are put in charge of infamous houses; but they have not attempted to punish the men who frequent those houses and by their criminal “demand” encourage the tragic “supply.” All the legislation they have attempted has been **penal legislation**, and as Mrs. Pethnick Lawrence says, “because they were dealing not merely with a trade that could be killed by penal laws, but with much bigger things, because they were dealing with human hearts and human passions, they failed. You do not help people to be good by putting them in prison, by branding them, or by flogging them.”

“But the traffic in Black Slaves was killed when it was attacked financially, first by legislation and then by the administration of the law. That is to say, laws were passed making it illegal to capture black men, to ship them away from their native land and to sell

them for purposes of industry. Then the high seas were policed. Great vigilance was exercised. A suspected ship, when sighted, was pursued. If slaves were discovered as part of the cargo, the whole ship was confiscated. In this way the risks of the trade became so great and the profits so small that it was not worth while to continue it. And so this traffic died.”

The trade in White Slaves is even more profitable than the other. Its promoters grow fabulously rich by the capture and sale of girls, not for purposes of industry, but for purposes of vice. And the moment women have the Vote they will have sufficient power over legislation to insist on having this trade killed.

No woman who is content to sit still, trusting to a vague “some day,” or declaring that the time is not yet ripe for her enfranchisement, while this ghastly traffic grows and grows, and lives are ruined every day, is worthy of her womanhood and its high calling.

❖

DEFEAT

Discouraged? Nay, never a whit!
 We stand in the storm and the night,
 But the torch of the truth being lit,
 What wind shall extinguish it quite?
 East, west, north and south may combine
 'Gainst the flame that we kindled
 with care;
 Serenely, no less, it shall shine —
 Who said that defeat was despair?

Shall we swerve for the thorns in the
 track?
 On, on, though they pierce us and
 rend!
 Seek our wounds on the breast, not
 the back,
 In the field where we fight to the
 end!
 We fail not and faint not, nor fly;
 Who wars for the Right, for the
 True,
 Has the future for friend and ally;
 Has Time and Eternity, too.

It may be that, scattered and scarred,
 We carry away through the night
 Some sense that the battle was hard,
 Some weariness born of the fight.
 Yet, true to the cause we would serve
 With the truth that such cause may
 befit,
 Not a heart that will shrink, that will
 swerve—
 Discouraged? Nay, never a whit!
 —From "The Woman's Journal."

TREASURER'S REPORT

Feb.-March Receipts of Victoria Branch

Amount previously acknowledged	\$ 77.25
Membership Fees—	
Mrs. Cuppage50
Mrs. Carr50
Miss Bebbington50
Mrs. Ramlose50
Mrs. Lewis50
Miss Bryen50
Mrs. McVickers	1.00
Mrs. Reade50
Special Appeal Fund—	
Miss Kitto	1.00
Christian Sivertz	1.00
Chas. Hampton	1.00
Mrs. Otto Weiler	2.00
Miss Morley Ralph	5.00
Mrs. Baer	10.00
Miss K. C. Robinson	10.00
For Literature—	
Mrs. McIvor	1.00
Mrs. Kerr	1.00
Miss Hardie25
Mrs. Hannington75
Collections—	
3 Weekly Meetings	10.60
Mass Meeting at Alexandra Club	24.35
Tag-Day Collections	120.50
	\$270.20

Note.—It should be pointed out that this tabulation of receipts without that of the concurrent expenditure may give an erroneous impression of our financial position! We are **not** rapidly approaching millionaire-hood! For in-

stance, the Tag-Day expenses amounted to something like \$10, the hire of the Alexandra Club alone was \$35, apart from the expenses of the chief speaker and the cost of advertisement; while our regular office expenses amount to about \$100, in rent, salaries, telephone, correspondence, etc. Thus we **always need more than we have!**

THE CASE OF MRS NAPOLITANO

During the summer of 1911 many papers gave publicity to the story of Angelina Napolitano, the Italian woman who was condemned to death for the murder of her husband, and whose sentence, after a widespread agitation, was commuted to penal servitude for life. We have now received further details of this terrible case from a lady who, with another lady, has been interesting herself in an agitation for Mrs. Napolitano's release. Our correspondent recalls the details of the case as follows:

"An Italian, Napolitano, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, assaulted and wounded his wife, Angelina, so savagely that she was for weeks in hospital from her injuries. It was found that he had left his wife and family to shift for themselves, after selling the furniture, but that he still regarded his wife as his property, and demanded of her that she should obtain money from other men, and turn over such earnings to him. Her refusal to do this had caused his violence. He was tried and sentenced to three years in the Kingston penitentiary, but was let out after serving a week in jail. No explanation has ever been given of the carelessness that so soon set free an obviously dangerous convict. Napolitano was before long again threatening Angelina, insisting that she should earn the servile wages for him. On Sunday, April 16, 1911, he told her that if she again refused he would kill her after his afternoon sleep. He had half-killed her before, and legal protection had failed her. The only choice seemed to be his death or her own. But suicide is most unnatural

to a prospective mother. Instead of suicide she killed her cruel enemy, in self-defence.

"No humane consideration prevented her being tried within a month, and on May 9, 1911, she was sentenced to be hanged. The same day the same jury recommended to mercy an Italian man who had murdered another, taking him by stealth at night, who said he had killed the wrong man by mistake. The execution of Angelina was to be deferred till after the birth of her child. Her reprieve from death was probably chiefly due to the protests which came from more humane countries. Angelina's baby was taken from her at the age of six weeks, and died of starvation from lack of suitable food. Her four children were found neatly clothed and are bright and docile, showing the care of a good mother.

"A deputation of ladies from Toronto waited on the Minister of Justice, the Hon. C. J. Doherty, to ask him to release Mrs. Napolitano, and restore her to her children. He promised his attention to the case, but neglected to return any reply. For a number of months it was hoped that the National Council of Women would press for justice and mercy in this case, but they, also, neglected it.

"The Minister of Justice has now again been appealed to, through one of the Cabinet Ministers. In his reply he ignores all the important features of the case, and refuses any further clemency."

VOTES FOR WOMEN

The following letter appeared in the "Times," and we think it so excellent that we would like all our subscribers to have the pleasure of reading it:

To the Editor:—Permit me through the columns of your paper to make a few comments on the "eloquent" speech which Mr. A. E. McPhillips delivered against the woman suffrage bill, as reported in your issue of March 1.

The honorable member for the islands, it appears, "yields to no man

in the love, respect and reverence which he has for women." At a later stage of his speech he opposes the enfranchisement of women because they made themselves prominent in France at a time "when all idea of morality and propriety had been lost." They had been the principal factors in bringing about a condition in the fair country of France of infidelity, atheism and lawlessness. This argument, it seems to me, is without point unless Mr. McPhillips believes that the majority of women of our own country at the present day are characterized by immorality, impropriety, atheism, lawlessness and infidelity. If he does not believe this, why does he instance the women of the French Revolution as a reason for refusing the vote to the women of British Columbia? But the question which agitates the mind of the writer is this: Does Mr. McPhillips "love, respect and reverence" women on account of the aforementioned qualities of immorality, impropriety, atheism, lawlessness, and infidelity, or in spite of them? Does he contend that immorality, impropriety, atheism, lawlessness and infidelity are all very well in the seclusion of the home, and in connection with the rearing of children, but that they would derange such delicate and difficult matters as the purchasing of Indian reserves or the awarding of government printing contracts? Of course we knew all the time that it was only the firm stand taken by the male sex which prevented the spread of immorality, etc., through our own "fair country."

Mr. McPhillips apparently would have us believe that had it not been for the aforesaid five deadly sins on the part of the mob of women who marched to Versailles crying for bread for themselves and their starving children, the horrors of the French Revolution would never have occurred. Any perfect lady will admit, of course, that it was very unseemly of these unsexed and hysterical (the inevitable adjectives) French women to go out on the streets screeching for bread, just like common termagants. "We must study history," says the honorable member

for the islands. What a pity the honorable gentleman does not take his own advice. At least if the other members of the House would consent to take up their history books, they might thereby escape being misled by the supposedly learned, but really unfounded statements of the honorable member.

Mr. McPhillips is also quoted as saying that "it was necessary before a body could go to the people that it should have some constructive policy to present." Here the honorable member appears to be distinctly muddled. The women who are asking for the franchise are not "going to the people" for election (by the way, who are the "people?"), but merely asking to have a voice in electing those who will make the laws which they have to obey and who will fix the taxes which women must pay equally with men. We are told that Mr. McPhillips made profuse quotation from Gladstone, but he seems to have omitted such axioms as "Taxation without representation is tyranny," and many eloquent speeches in praise of democracy which are attributed to the "Grand Old Man." Will Mr. McPhillips explain to us how we can have a democracy when only approximately half the people are represented?

The honorable member for the islands is further quoted as saying that "the parliament was but a development of the family idea, the family organization." This statement becomes truer every day, since so many matters formerly attended to by women in their own homes—such as food, clothing and amusement for the family—have passed out of the hands of the house-mother into those of the community, and have hence become subjects for legislation. This statement by the honorable member for the islands is one of the strongest of arguments in favor of woman suffrage. It is true that in law (man-made law, that is) the father is the only member of the family who is vested with authority, but the law in this respect is entirely out of accord with the facts of every-

day life. The importance of the mother in the family is shown by the fact that amongst working people the death of the mother is much more disastrous to the unity of the family than the death of the father, and this in spite of the fact that the woman's earning power is perhaps only one-half to two-thirds that of the man. It is precisely because the state is an extension, as it were, of the family, that women are needed in the government along with men in order to give a well-balanced and representative organization.

Mr. McPhillips is further quoted as admitting that conditions under masculine rule were not as they should be. But almost in the next breath he insists that women must prove men to have failed in their "duties" before the former could be expected to step in and fulfil the duties in which men have failed. Not at all. When woman asks for the franchise she does not propose to oust man from his position as law-maker, which would be the logical procedure, Mr. McPhillips seems to admit, in case man had failed utterly; but merely to assist him by her special knowledge in certain departments of life which in recent years have become subjects for legislation, for, to repeat Mr. McPhillips' quotation from Mirabeau, "Men and women play an entirely different part in nature."

Mr. McPhillips is also quoted as saying, "Women have never been enfranchised." This is not strictly true. Previous to the Reform Bill of 1832 English women with the necessary property qualifications did have votes. There are women in England to-day whose grandmothers voted previously to the year 1832. We are, perhaps, therefore justified in casting the burden of proof on the side of the honorable member for the islands, and demanding of him why our ancient privileges should not be restored.

AILEEN McCLUGHAN.

Lac la Hache, B. C., March 6, 1913.

NOTICES

Meetings.

Our Weekly Public Meetings are now a regular affair, and we hope to secure well-known speakers for each. They take place at 8.15 at the Unitarian Hall, Government Street, every Tuesday. We hope the attendance will increase still more rapidly. If each person brought a few others we should have crowded audiences.



Volunteer Advertisement Corps.

We badly need volunteer helpers for various kinds of work. Mrs. Ramlose, Miss Geoghegan, Mrs. Cuppage, Miss McDonald and Mrs. Lewis are coming forward nobly to work in the office, but we also need outside work done. Who will help by selling the "Champion" from house to house, or among their friends? or by undertaking to distribute leaflets outside places of entertainment? Miss Dorothy King and Miss Geoghegan are, so far, the only two who with Miss Davis distribute leaflets. Mrs. Dennis Harris, Mrs. Ramlose and Mrs. Cuppage are selling papers among their friends.



Women's Franchise Dance.

A Ball is to be given in Victoria on a Friday early in May in support of Woman Suffrage. The arrangements are in the hands of a capable committee of ladies, most of whom, though keen Suffragists, have not hitherto taken up active work for the Cause. This committee consists of Mrs. Hasell, Mrs. Roper, Mrs. H. C. Hannington, Mrs. Devlin, Mrs. Curtis Sampson, Miss Dorothy Davis (representing the Political Equality League), and other names will be added within the next few days.

This Ball will be held at the Alexandra Club, and everyone concerned is bent on making it a unique success.



Delivery of the Magazines.

If anyone should fail to get her or his magazine we should be very glad if they would kindly communicate at once with Mrs. Pethick, Circulation

Secretary, 976 Heywood Avenue, Victoria, for so many of the papers and letters posted by the Political Equality League have gone astray, or have at any rate never been delivered, that we have been obliged to send in a serious protest to the Post Office, and we are anxious to keep track of all future errors.



The Petition.

Secretaries of Branches and others are reminded that during the next few months' propaganda, it would be just as well to continue collecting signatures to the Petition-Forms, in order that we shall not have to rush this work at the last moment, before next year's session, as happened this time. Will all those who are ready to go on quietly with this most useful undertaking kindly write to the Legislation Secretary, Mrs. Kemp, 23 Broadway West, Vancouver, for fresh forms. We were very careful only to **display** our long Petition to the Cabinet on February 14th, and have it now in safe keeping, ready to be added to for next—and last—time. We ought, therefore, to obtain 50,000 signatures quite easily before New Year's Day, 1914.



Next Month

There will be an Article on "The Anti-Suffrage Point of View."



Correspondence.

It would be a great help to the office workers and the Editorial staff if all correspondence were addressed to the Office. The other day, the official editing this paper was informed that she ought not to have published the name of Mrs. Dunn as Secretary for Invermere, as a letter had been received from that lady protesting. Miss Dorothy Davis, whom Mrs. Dunn had promised when she was in Invermere that she would undertake temporarily to act as representative and try to work up a Branch there, had not heard one word since then and so of course put down Mrs. Dunn's name. It now appears that Mrs. Dunn had written some weeks ago to say she would be unable to organize and wished to withdraw

her name, whether permanently or not is still unknown to the Secretary.

Miss Davis has written to Mrs. Dunn on the subject, but if readers would remember that all correspondence not intended **personally** for the President, or for the Treasurer, or for the "Champion" Circulation Secretary, should be sent direct to the Secretary at the Office address, it would be a great help to us in conducting the work of all the various departments without such mistakes arising.

Also, if correspondents should not receive replies to their letters, will they please conclude that those letters have never been received, for the Victoria postal system is seriously in need of attention.

♦ ♦ ♦

Leaflets.

The response to our offer of Leaflets has not hitherto been so great as we expected, considering the number of demands we received for them before they were published! We have heard from a few Branches asking for a hundred or so, but hope that all will adopt this method of educating the people of the country to the urgency of our Cause. Perhaps others have written for leaflets and we have not had the letters. Several ladies who arrived for the Deputation told us of letters sent us which we had never had.

♦ ♦ ♦

Poster-Drawing.

Will any Suffragists with a taste for designing or copying make some posters for us? A list of the subjects required may be obtained from the Secretary at the Office.

—*—

JIMMY'S AFTERNOON

By Mary Samuel Daniel

At five o'clock the operating surgeon passed through the entrance door, and, with a friendly, if rather pre-occupied, nod to the porter who opened it, stood for a contemplative moment at the top of the stone steps leading up to the hospital, glancing at, without seeing, the pair of gloves held in one hand, and

aware somewhere near the bottom step of a gleam of yellow daffodils.

The westering April sun caught the flower-seller's basket in a golden glory, and fell with mellowing touches on the dull walls of the houses in the long, irregular street, where cottages with ancient gables and windows dedicated to those public favorites, the pig's trotter and the British bun, stood wedged between large modern emporiums flaunting tawdry cheap apparel and ornately adulterated food.

"That's it!" said Dr. Graham to himself. "A cup of tea with Aunt Leebie. I can do with a little optimism this afternoon."

Yet optimism was not a quality in which by his co-workers Dr. Graham was considered lacking. Jimmy, the small patient who had been operated on that day, though he would not have expressed it in those words, thought him extremely optimistic, basing his opinion on a flow of unflinching cheerful conversation combined with airships that flew over your bed. The little ward-maid, who proudly boasted as her special perquisite the doctor's white operating coats, which he gave her to cut up into aprons "long afore they was wore out," agreed with Jimmy, infusing into the agreement a demonstrative warmth from which Jimmy manfully abstained.

The surgeon passed down the hospital steps and took the short cut to the Green, beyond which lay Maitland Road and Miss Elizabeth Sampson's neat and cheerful villa. Miss Elizabeth's choice of Maitland Road as a place of residence had been sub-consciously determined by its nearness to her nephew's hospital; consciously, the matter had been placed "unreservedly" in the hands of an over-ruling Providence, strengthened incidentally by those of approving, authoritative Scottish relatives.

The appearance of the flower-seller suggested, unpleasantly, Jimmy's mother, towards whom in the clean sunshine of this April afternoon he felt a not unreasonable grudge for having produced that sorry addition to the race—Jimmy. (He must get him a new

air-ship for convalescence — if ever those days were reached.) Certainly, and this reflection further upset the world for him, a quite diabolically-tangled web of contributory causes had combined to produce that God-forsaken slip of wretchedness whose pitiful offspring had lain stark and mute to-day on the operating table, while several highly-skilled workers put forth their finest efforts to save if possible one deplorable little body rotten with disease. To what end? What was likely to be the end of Jimmy, who, in his own words, "hadn't got no father"? The lump was gone from his shoulder, and it seemed rather more than likely that the arm might have to follow; and Jimmy—doubtful subject for thankfulness—was alive still. Why, anyway, were Jimmies allowed to come in such promiscuous abundance into this already overcrowded corner of a rotten world?—a world, nevertheless, which produced daffodils golden in April sunshine, and in which the blades of grass were springing emerald green after April rain. He had obviously overpaid the flower-seller for these daffodils, but they would help to brighten up the corners of the cosy room at Maitland Road, particularly if—it was Joan Marchmont he saw putting them into bowls where the light would find them.

Would she have run in from her studio this afternoon to see Aunt Leebie? Her face painted itself for him as he strode across the Green. Joan, with her hazel-grey eyes and the lashes curling upwards, her gold-brown hair with the wavy tendrils on the temples, her serious mouth so sweet in the dimpled corners; Joan with her ridiculous devotion to work and independence and—causes. Why, she could have her studio just the same if—yes, and paint as many pictures as she liked! And as to causes? Yes, yes, of course; he couldn't separate Joan and causes, and he wouldn't if he could. Causes were necessary evils; Jimmy and his mother were pretty clear proofs of that. For Jimmy's was a common case, the old, old story of a bad man and his prey; and the man, as usual, had escaped all punishment. He

hated the thought of Joan and Jimmy's mother as two aspects of one question. Joan and her blossoming face; motherhood, as it so often was and as it might be—mixed up and muddled; but, oh, the Lord preserve her—and him—from hammers and Holloway!

Would she be there this afternoon? That "little more," the muchness of which he realized in a daily increasing vividness; would it be any nearer to-day? Perhaps the question was too manifestly in his eyes as he presented his flowers. Perhaps it accounted for the sudden readjustment of Joan's, as she held out eager hands for the daffodils and made haste to find bowls for them, and became very busy in corners as Miss Elizabeth marshalled the teacups. There was an almost perceptibly exultant rattle of the little thin silver spoons in their delicate old blue saucers. To hold the fate of the two people you love best in the world poised in the hollow of your hand; to give two hivering, foolish bodies one more chance to make an end to folly; to lead Opportunity firmly but discreetly by the fingers—Miss Sampson foresaw the imminent hour when prayer must surely be merged in thanksgiving.

"Eh, Joan, and you'll maybe find a mat," remarked Aunt Leebie, affecting, with only partial success, an unawareness of the dramatic moment; "I'm not for water-droppings all over my polished mahogany. And, for any sake, child, come and sit you down in comfort to your tea."

For answer a pair of arms came round the little low shoulders and a kiss descended on the soft and silvery hair. "It's just beautiful this afternoon," said artful Joan. "I'd give anything to have lovely white hair like yours, Leebie dear."

"And what'll be the matter with your own, I'm wondering? Alec, you'll find the scones perhaps. And what thirsty work will you have been doing this afternoon?" added Miss Elizabeth, manipulating with a nicety and justness the cream.

"Interfering with Nature's merciful destructiveness," answered Alec grimly, and Joan's curving eyelashes went

up, and a question filled the wide-open, steady, grey eyes.

Later, when Aunt Leebie had bustled from the room on absorbing business elsewhere—"Tell me more about it," said Joan. "I know there is more to tell."

And he told her the plain story of Jimmy. They often talked over the terrible facts of life; they were the best of comrades, these two, though one very much in love.

"It's horrible," said Alec, in conclusion. "The mother was a child, barely sixteen; and for men like the father there is no justice in things as they stand. The law, as made, neither can nor will deal justly with these devils."

"No," said Joan. "The law, as made, is man's law, and—oh, you know, you know We've got to get it altered—we women. Women must do it—for women and children—and men. We've got to do it with—"

"Hammers?" put in Alec, whimsically, looking with a curious heart-pang at the tightly-clasped, frail-looking hands.

"With violence, apparently—the kingdom of Heaven has to be taken that way, you know, sometimes. With force, certainly, if—if there is no other way. What other way is there?" she added passionately. "All other ways have been tried—and tried—and tried, for half a hundred years. One instrument, and one alone, will give us power to amend the law; and man's law for men and women has got to be changed. Men will never change it, neither will they give us, without force, that for want of which all our crusades are futile. Therefore"—the voice dropped sadly and very wearily, but not unsteadily; "therefore we shall use—whatever force is necessary, and some of us, I suppose, will die. No," she said, as, remonstrating, he tried to take her hand; "no, I cannot listen now—"

"Yes," broke in Alec, "you shall listen. You know I love you, and—I believe you love me. You don't know it, perhaps, yet; but I believe you will. Joan, marry me. I won't hinder your—your work, however mistaken I think its methods. I want you as my wife. Perhaps the world wants us—both. It

isn't for nothing a man loves a woman as I love you. Marry me, Joan, and—see." He had hold of her hands. As they stood facing each other, he felt them tremble, and her slight body sway a little. Then the curved lashes swept up, revealing eyes dim with tears.

He needed her, this valiant lover. She saw his man's need of her; saw, too, as through a widely-opened window, a vision of her rightful woman's kingdom, its sweet sanctities of wifehood and motherhood and home. And there he stood, the man who held the key to the treasure-house, who loved her, whom she knew she loved.

"And some of us will die." Remorselessly her own words echoed in her heart.

Freeing her hands, she retook both of his and held them tightly.

"I love you," she said. She paused, and her eyes were proud and glad—and loving. "But—while men keep barred the door of justice, shut women in hell, while motherhood can be—what it is to Jimmy's mother, and men within the law can make it so, I will never marry any man. Go and work for us—for the common cause, women's cause and men's. It is true the world wants us both, and together. Go and help to break down the evil wall of partition. And when the cause is won, on the day that victory is ours—if you still want me—" She kissed his hands as she held them, smiling through tender tears. "I love you," she ended. "I will marry you—then."

LIST OF BRANCH SECRETARIES AND REPRESENTATIVES

- Point Grey—Mrs. Harvey, 834 18th Ave. W.
 Eburne—Mrs. Forbes, Terra Nova.
 New Westminster—Mrs. Wiggin, Royal Studio.
 Central Park—Mrs. Bryan, Central Park, Vancouver.
 S. Vancouver—Mrs. Houlder, James Road P. O.
 Sapperton—Transition.
 Ladner—Mrs. R. T. Wilcox, Ladner.
 Chilliwack—Mrs. Chas. Barber, "Free Press" Office.

N. Vancouver—Mrs. J. Gallagher, P.O.
N. Vancouver.
Port Haney—Mrs. Hunter, Port Haney.
Fairview—Mrs. Vermilyea, 1520 3rd
Ave. W.
Cloverdale—Mrs. Wright.
Ashcroft—Mrs. Hoftl, Ashcroft.
Agassiz—Mrs. F. Smythe, Agassiz.
Kamloops—Mrs. E. Mackenzie, 241
Seymour Street.
Mission City—Miss C. Murray.
Coquitlam—Mrs. Irvine.
Abbotsford—Mrs. J. C. Campbell.
Enderby—Mrs. Lawes (temporary),
Enderby Heights.
Vernon—Miss Parkhurst, Vernon.
Kelowna—Mrs. D. F. Kerr, P.O. Box
565, Kelowna.
Summerland—Miss Lipsett.
Mrs. Jack Logie.
Peachland—Mrs. J. B. Robinson.
Penticton—Mrs. I. M. Stevens.
Revelstoke—Miss J. Hardie.
Golden—Miss Ruth Armstrong.
Invermere—Vacant.
Fernie—Vacant.
Cranbrook—Mrs. W. Macfarlane.
Mrs. J. Finlay-Smith.
Creston—Mrs. Crompton.
Nelson—Undecided.
Kaslo—Mrs. John Keen.
Rossland—Mrs. Cornish.
Miss Cecil Moffatt.
Greenwood—Miss Ida Shaw.
Phoenix—Mrs. Ingram.
Mount Pleasant—Mrs. Curtis, 12 14th
Ave. E.

Other places have still no fixed representative, but will have shortly. Where no address is given, the name of the town is sufficient.

A complete list of all Branch Officials will be published next month if Secretaries and Representatives will kindly send in by April 5th, at latest.

THEREAFTER

If I do right, though heaven fall,
And end all light and laughter;
Though black the night and ages long,
Bitter the cold—the tempest strong—
If I do right, and brave it all—
The sun shall rise thereafter!

PRESS HUMOR

(From the "Globe," England)

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company, having boarded up their windows in Cockspur Street, have posted the notice, "We are looking for settlers, not Suffragettes." Unfortunately for us, the Suffragettes are settlers.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Kelowna.

The Political Equality League is hoping to start monthly debates and is anxious for neighboring Branches to co-operate in a concerted scheme, and exchange brief reports, circulated by mail. Among the subjects they propose to discuss are:

Representative Government.

True Democracy.

The Origin of the Subjection of Women.

Economic Position of Women.

Civic Position of Women.

B. C. Laws discriminating against Women.

The Woman Ideal: Past and Present.
Views on Women of Social Reformers and Teachers.

Where and When have Women been Most and Least Free?

History of Feminist Movements.

Women and War; Past, Present, and Future.

Women's Social Prospects.

◆ ◆ ◆

Creston

Intends to organize an entertainment to raise funds for the Provincial Organization.

◆ ◆ ◆

Vernon

Is organizing a Concert and Debate combined for the same purpose. Vernon is also helping Armstrong to organize.

◆ ◆ ◆

Enderby

Hopes to get up theatricals.

◆ ◆ ◆

Other places write promising us more news next time.

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

"For so the whole round world is every
way
Bound by gold chains about the Feet
of God."

Three more victories. The new Legislature in Alaska has passed a Bill giving Votes to Women without any opposition, and every woman along the Pacific Coast is free except the women of British Columbia—a part of the Empire whose watchword is Liberty!

Women have also been enfranchised in Austria-Hungary, though here only a limited Bill has been carried.

Iowa, according to one paper, has added another name to the list of progressive States. How absurd it is that there should be opposition anywhere.

"THE ONLY WAY"

The following public appeal has been made through the Press from the Canadian Suffrage Association. It recognizes the real significance of militant methods in its concluding passage:

"Though the Dominion of Canada has only partially enfranchised her women, there is a rapidly growing conviction in the minds of her best thought that Canadian women must soon be given the ballot on the same terms as men. The National Suffrage Association is backed up by the National Council of Women, representing all the organized women of the Dominion, in demanding the vote, and there is no organized opposition to it.

"It is along the line of evolutionary progress that the status of women should be equal to that of men. Australia and New Zealand have proved that only good results have followed the enfranchisement of women, and at this serious crisis in England, when women have been driven to such extreme measures, it would meet with the approval of all civilization to stop these militant tactics in the only way possible to stop them—by giving women the ballot on the same terms as men."

APRIL

Listen! I sing with the waking leaf
A song the breezes knew
Before God watered the world with
grief
Or thorns on the rose-bush grew.

I sing of a Dawn divinely blest,
Fresh with the fallen rain,
When eyes now fixed on the empty
West,
Shall turn to the East again.

I sing of a fragrance chill and sweet,
In orchards blossom-white,
Of a promise the nesting birds repeat,
To the thrill of the trembling light.

O listen! Under an April sky,
With the waking leaf I sing,
What though a summer glory die?
We stand at the Gate of Spring!

And the silent Future lets us peep
Down a long, green lane of days,
Where a tender sun, still half asleep,
With shifting shadows plays.

For the vanished Past held naught so
fair
As the wonderful gift that lies
In the hands of the Possible, standing
there
With dawn in her shining eyes!

O hark! with the waking leaf I sing,
To the passionate blue above,
And life's a-rustle to watch the Spring
Rising to laugh with Love.

H. C. H.

A PUBLIC PROPOSAL

An unusual form of heckling is reported from America, the victim (or victor) being the well-known leader of the Women Suffrage movement, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw. While Dr. Shaw was addressing a meeting at Danielson, Connecticut, a respectable farmer rose in the middle of the hall and blushing but resolutely offered her marriage. "I've been a widower eighteen years," he said; "will you marry me and make me happy?" When Dr.

Shaw recovered her breath, she replied, not with the usual formula, "This is so sudden," but with the plain statement: "I don't want a wedding-ring; I want a vote." Her suitor thereupon left the hall with a very downcast countenance. Another story of Dr. Shaw has been set in motion by Dr. Shaw herself. Her little grand-niece, eight years old, told her mother that she would not be a Suffragist because the other children ridiculed her. A still younger sister spoke up defiantly: "I wouldn't be a coward; they've been making fun of Aunt Anna for hundreds of years!"

It seems as if the Suffragists have come to bring not peace, but a sword into the world. When Mrs. Chapman Catt, the international president, was sailing across the Pacific homeward from her little trip to organize the world for Woman Suffrage, all was calm and serene until she was called on for a speech. "Before this," said one of the men voyagers, "we were all at peace with one another; but after that woman spoke, everybody was fighting over the Suffrage question."

This is a hint to hostesses: When your guests seem bored to extinction, just get somebody to say Woman Suffrage, and then watch the sparks fly!

A robber arrested in Chicago said in court, "Almost all the women I have tackled showed some nerve, but the men laid down at once." His testimony is recommended to those who think women have not the physical strength to vote. They should also interview those two women who have just returned from a year of hunting big game in Africa and are going into the Rockies for the same purpose when spring opens. These ought to be a match for the ward heelers in any of our cities. As a matter of fact, no women ever have been insulted at the polls in any of the States where they have been voting for seventeen to forty-three years, and if such a thing ever should happen, it would not be necessary for them to lift a finger to defend themselves—the men would attend to it.

ENFRANCHISED WOMEN IN ENGLAND

The following resolution, passed unanimously by the Executive of the Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association (London), has been forwarded to the Premier, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs:

"We, Australian and New Zealand women, now resident in England, who deeply deplore the loss of our political freedom since coming to the Mother Country, desire to record our deep indignation at the fact that we are represented in the Cabinet by a Minister who holds such contemptuous views of the policy which our Dominions have thought fit to adopt, and our deep regret at the failure of the Government to fulfil their pledges to facilitate legislation giving votes to women. We demand the introduction during the present session of a Government Bill to enfranchise women on the same terms as men."

◆ ◆ ◆

AVERY'S PRIDE

Conservative—"By the by, Avery, I understand you want the universal franchise!"

Avery—"Yes!"

Con.—"Why, man, do you want your wife to become a politician?"

Avery—"It isn't that exactly. Fact is, she has always been a—politician!"

Con.—"Well, what is the reason?"

Avery—"Pride, pride, my boy—pure, brute, male pride!"

Con.—"How so? I don't see the connection."

Avery—"I don't like the idea of being married to a human being who is classed with the idiots!"

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That ancient skull found in England proves conclusively, so the anthropologists say, that man had reason before he spoke. Well, well! What a revolution has taken place since those prehistoric days!

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