

the dignity of the nation here and abroad, or to quell an insurrection, where would he get the money? Will this be the great wealth concentrator of the century—the master of business, of the government, of the people?



Suffragette Obstruction to Suffrage.

The (London) Daily News (Lib.), Feb. 24.—The meeting at the Albert Hall addressed last evening by the Chancellor of the Exchequer was called to demand woman suffrage in 1912, and Mr. Lloyd George began his speech by telling his audience that the outlook for the cause to-day was far better than it had ever been before. His theme was the position of the suffrage in relation to Parliament, and he advised the women's leaders to lay their plans on the assumption that a franchise bill giving the vote to women would pass the Commons, but be rejected a first and second time by the Lords. Challenged by the interrupters to say why the suffragists in the Cabinet, being in the majority, did not enforce their will, Mr. Lloyd George gave the only possible answer—namely, that any attempt to force either the Government or the Liberal party into giving the vote to women would inevitably shatter both. The Parliamentary situation remains unchanged, and Mr. George could only repeat that the Government's promise of facilities represented the only way by which the measure could be got through the House of Commons during the ensuing session. . . . It is deeply to be regretted that even on such an occasion as last night Mr. Lloyd George should have had to deliver his address in the teeth of almost unbroken interruption.



Woman Suffrage in Great Britain.

The (London) Nation (Ind. Lib.), March 2.—The Albert Hall has been the scene of two great meetings on woman suffrage in the past eight days. At the first, a meeting organized by suffrage societies with the object of obtaining the vote in 1912, Mr. Lloyd George was continually interrupted by militant suffragists in spite of a dignified appeal from Mrs. Fawcett. Mr. George urged a "broad and democratic measure," but stated that if there were no alternative means of extending the suffrage to women, he should vote for the Conciliation Bill in preference to leaving the matter untouched. . . . On Wednesday, the anti-suffragists made their demonstration, but though the Lord Chancellor put the familiar arguments, or rather the considerations that weigh with many men, with his accustomed dignity and terseness, it cannot be said that any new fact emerged. In the interval a letter appeared from Mr. Churchill stating objections not only to the Conciliation bill but to the enfranchisement of seven or eight millions of women at a stroke. The effect is to throw Mr. Lloyd George's advocacy of a democratic franchise into stronger relief. . . . If Mr. Lloyd George should, after all, succeed in carrying a suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill this session, it would certainly make a great many denunciations of his alleged treachery sound foolish. But this is really no excuse for the attempt of one organization to spoil a meeting organized by another

having the same object in view. It is, in our view, utterly unworthy to write of the unreasoning action of a small band of women as an argument against the political capacity of an entire sex; but human nature being what it unfortunately is, the action of any prominent set of women is sure to be used as an argument against the ability of women in general to form a balanced political judgment. Moreover, the fact that any prominent politician who identifies himself with the suffrage at once lays himself open to attack from the militant suffragists has its effect on the less staunch supporters of the movement.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

SPRING SONG.

For 'The Public.

Give me your hands across the distance and the fear—

So prays Earth's spirit for the touch of Spring.
The long, long hopes of patience to their welcome cheer

Lift all glad gifts of joyful answering.

Give me your song, full sweetened by its use of pain,
To blend with one my heart alike has brought.
Thro' Winter's loss comes to the brave that greater gain

The potencies of faith for love have wrought.

Give me your trust, as happily my own to you gives all.

The upheld bloom of Spring has naught to keep.
And tho' from higher suns your sympathy shall call,
Sings my response from gratitude as deep.

Give me to know yet more of what your longing needs.

Must still unheeded all my tribute waste?
O hear you not the voice that deep within you pleads,
Bidding your hunger of life's fulness taste?

GEO. E. BOWEN.



WHY I WANT WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Part of an Article in Collier's Weekly for March 16,
By Frederic C. Howe.

Long habit has made men think in terms of dollars. Long habit has made women think in terms of husbands, children, and unborn babes. Men vote the terms they think in. Women will vote the terms they think in. That is what the women did in Colorado. They voted in terms of the home.

I want a civilization in which one-half the people will vote in terms of humanity rather than in terms of property.

I want to live in a world that is free from the law-made privileges that beget the poverty from which we all suffer; free from the terror of hard times, of lost jobs, of periods of sickness and accident almost as fearful as death.