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| **DCONC/5/12** | WESTERN MAIL 06/04/1900PROPOSED GIRL’S CLUB FOR CARDIFF[MISS GOUGH (OF LONDON) AND THE BARMAIDS]A large number of ladies were invited to at “At Home” at the drawing-room of the Vicarage, Charles-street, Cardiff on Thursday afternoon for the purpose of considering the question of establishing a Girls’ Club and meeting Miss Charlotte M. Gough, who has been working amongst barmaids and waitresses in London for the last seventeen years.[…]The object of the address was to stir up the people of Cardiff to start a place of social help for the girls in town. – Mr. Percy Thomas said what was proposed was to introduce the social element into the lives of the barmaids during their hours of relaxation from labour. As a class, barmaids were isolated from the Christian Church, and it was proposed to do something to break down that isolation. The ladies of Cardiff were, therefore, invited to give some portion of their time and their friendship, their counsel, and give their advice to the girls.Mrs. Thompson stated the result of the deliberations of a committee of the Young Women’s Christian Association. It was a mistake to confine their labours to one class of young women – the barmaids – alone, and it was proposed that they should form some sort of girls’ club, say, in Penarth-road or Westgate-street, which should be at the service of young women of various occupations who needed social help and friendship. It was thought that a scheme could be arranged by which young women of various occupations would use the club on weekdays and those employed in hotels and restaurants on Sundays. It was ultimately unanimously agreed to form a committee of all those present to meet on Monday next at the rooms of the Young Women’s Christian Association, at which the details of the club would be fully discussed and a scheme evolved. Canon Thompson eulogised the scheme, and gave it his support. So far as he was concerned, he would, he said, be delighted to break down any prejudice which might at present exist on the subjects of introducing barmaids into any of their homes. He should be delighted to welcome those employed in hotels and refreshment rooms to the Sunday evenings at his own house - (hear, hear) - and would deprecate any spirit of patronage. All such meetings should be conducted on lines of perfect equality. (Hear, hear.)[…] | 06 Apr 1900 |
| **DCONC/5/18** | SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS 06/03/1902DEAF TO APPEALPAINFUL INCIDENT AT CARDIFF POLICE COURTYes, she was a woman of ill-repute, and would be 18 next birthday. The admission is made without hesitation, without a blush, and she stares the Court full in the face. Stolid policemen give each other suggestive glances; solicitors look up astonished, and even Detective-Inspector Scott, who has the case in hand, fails to conceal his pained surprise.The Stipendiary gazes at the girl fixedly.“Where do you live? Where are your parents?” quietly asks his Worship.“I lived in Grangetown; I now live in Millicent-street. The number? I – I forget; I don’t know.”Another girl a year older, is similarly questioned, and is equally frank. The case proceeds, and for the thousandth and one time we get another kaleidoscopic picture of low life in Cardiff.The incident, with all its hideousness, is probably soon forgotten by all. There is one, however, who does not forget it – the Stipendiary. He gives a whispered order to Sergeant Davies, and half an hour afterwards a Salvation Army lass appears in court.The girls giggle and nudge each other.The Stipendiary orders them to step forward. They stand side by side in the witness-box. The Salvation lass is close by and Detective-Inspector Scott takes up a positon behind the unfortunates.The Stipendiary leans forward, and in a voice gentle but firm says, “You must know you are leading evil lives. You will pay the penalty sooner than you think. Now give it all up. Are you listening? You have no homes, you say. Would you like to go into a home – go with this lady?”The girls make no reply. They hang their heads, not with shame or remorse, but to hide a giggle.“Do you hear me?” The question has just a note of sharpness in it. “Why don’t you answer?”“Answer his Worship,” urges Detective-Inspector Scott.“Would you like to give up the lives you are leading, and go with this lady for a while?”The girls snigger impudently, and the Court is irritated and pained.“No” says one. “No” echoes the other.Then they leave the court. Some day they will think of the kind-hearted and thoughtful Cardiff Stipendiary with bitterness and shame. | 06 Mar 1902 |
| **DCONC/5/19** | SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS 12/09/1902SENSATIONAL INCIDENT AT CARDIFF LADY DEMANDS HER RIGHTSSCENE AT THE POLICE COURTMarjorie Kingdom (32), a tall, superior-looking lady, appeared in the dock (before Alderman Sanders and Mr. J. W. Courtis) at the Cardiff police court on Thursday to answer the charge of being disorderly and making use of obscene language in Woodville-road on the 11th inst.Prisoner, who made the application in private to the magistrates at Wednesday’s court, said, in answer to the charge, she wanted to be locked up. “I have been working for the late Duke of Clarence,” she added, “and why should I not get my money? If it is not true, why don’t they take me in charge? To save his name I lost my husband and three children.”Mr Rees (clerk): You can’t make use of those assertions here. You were advised yesterday what to do.Prisoner: I have not the means; I can’t do that, and I have not a friend in England. I was sent for from India to get my rights.Mr Rees: You can’t be allowed to make these statements; you must confine yourself to this charge. Sergeant Davies said this was the prisoner’s first appearance.Alderman Sanders: We have heard something you have said, and have stopped your saying more.Prisoner: It is true your, Worship.Alderman Sanders: We have decided to dismiss the charge.Prisoner: What am I to do for a living? I can’t live on the streets.Prisoner the left the dock. | 12 Sep 1902 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | WESTERN MAIL, Friday May 10th, 1907POLICE & SUFFRAGETTECrowd of 400 in a Cardiff StreetMiss E Pankhurst, one of the leading suffragettes, who is now in Cardiff, addressed an open-air meeting at Dumfries Place on Thursday evening but very few of her remarks were heard more than a couple of yards away on account of the good-humoured banter to which she was subjected by a crowd which at the start numbered about 50, but quickly increased to about 400. In spite of the opposition she reeled out a torrent of words.The crown indulged in snatches of comic songs, and a heroic attempt was made to sing “Pour out the Rhine wine”. This was a failure as the audience were not sufficiently acquainted with either the words or the tune, but when somebody started “For she’s a jolly good fellow” the lady had to stop for a few minutes.At length the pressure became so great that she was pushed off the box upon which she had been standing and simultaneously a constable came up and asked whether she had obtained the head constable’s permission to speak in the public streets. Miss Pankhurst admitted that she had not and was requested to desist. As soon as the preserver of the peace had gone away the lady restarted, to the accompaniment of more bantering remarks, but when the officer returned she desisted, and the crown was cleared, meanwhile singing “Goodbye my own love”.(see also page 27 – different version of same story in South Wales Daily News) | 10 May 1907Page 26 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | WESTERN MAIL.BESPRINKLED WITH FLOURSUFFRAGETTTES ASSAULTED AT CARDIFFAn intended meeting in favour of women’s suffrage at Grangetown, Cardiff, on Friday night did not materialise. Miss Adela Pankhurst and several of her colleagues had advertised the meeting by the distribution of leaflets during the afternoon, but when they assembled at eight o’clock in front of the Forward Movement Hall, it was discovered that Miss Pankhurst had forgotten to bring with her the police permit to hold an open-air meeting. Accordingly, the police of the Cardiff suburb would not allow any speeches to be delivered. Quite a large crowd had gathered, and a friend was sent to Miss Pankhurst’s residence in Canton for the permit, but as she had not returned by nine o’clock it was resolved to abandon the meeting.Miss Pankhurst stood upon a box to announce an adjournment till Monday night and had only said a few words when someone in the audience, said to be a man, threw a bag of flour. The bag struck the wall behind the speaker, and the major portion of the flour was besprinkled over Miss Barrett of Penarth. Considerable indignation was caused by this act, and a police-constable endeavoured to find the offender. A number of women of the working class were particularly incensed. A lad also threw some loose flour over Miss Pankhurst, but she was not at all perturbed, and concluded her remarks as though nothing had happened. The ladies were taken to neighbouring houses by sympathisers, where they had the flour removed from their clothing.see also page 29 – different version of same story in South Wales Daily News – with the addition of a letter written by Miss Pankhurst to the Editor as below:-Sir – It is surely time that some sort of protest was made against the action of a section of the youths of Cardiff, who for some time past have disgraced themselves and their City, by their disorderly conduct at Women Suffrage Meetings. The Cardiff people, and all who care for the future of their country, must deeply regret that the interests of the Community should be at the mercy of those who appear to be without any qualifications of citizenship, having no regard for the liberty of others, no self-control, and an utter lack of responsibility towards their country, as displayed by their treatment of those who have serious questions to which, in the interest of the community, they endeavour to bring before the people – Yours truly, Adela Pankhurst – Organiser Women’s Social and Political Union. | 11 May 1907Page 27 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | WESTERN MAILBETTER MANNERS AT ROATH PARKMISS PANKHURST SECURES AN ATTENTIVE HEARINGMiss Pankhurst was given a patient and an attentive hearing by a large crowd of people who assembled in Roath Park on Sunday afternoon. There were no interruptions whatever, and the policeman who attended in anticipation of a “scene” had a quiet time of it, and appeared to be keenly interested in the harangue of the bold and fearless suffragette. It was the old, old story of women’s wrongs and the selfishness of the other sex and their crass stupidity as legislators. England, according to Miss Pankhurst, will never be the happy land it ought to be until the franchise has been extended to women. At the close of the address the male folk in the audience showed that the age of chivalry is not quite past by applauding heartily and Miss Pankhurst, naturally, was pleased.Miss Pankhurst, who was accompanied by Mrs. Keating Hill, the Misses Gillott and Miss Barrett, also addressed an open-air meeting in Llandaff Fields in the evening. The proceedings were orderly throughout. At the close Miss Pankhurst referred to the Grangetown incident, and stated that the last time she had spoken there, they thought to silence her with flour, but people would never convince them that their movement was wrong by flour and eggs. It was not to the credit of Cardiff that people were not able to come forward and plead their cause. | 13 May 1907Page 31 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | WESTERN MAILSUFFRAGETTES IN CARDIFF WORKHOUSEAMUSING SEQUEL TO A CANTON MEETINGMRS PANKHURST AND TRAMWAY FINANCESFollowing up the campaign in favour of Women’s Suffrage, Miss Pankhurst addressed an open-air meeting in front of the Wyndham Hotel, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff, on Monday. The crowd, which was small at the beginning, soon swelled into several hundreds and by the time the meeting was brought to a close there were signs of restlessness on the part of groups of youths in various parts of the audience. The police, however, had thorough control, and when it was seen that some more venturesome spirits than others were crushing in on the speaker they were promptly pulled out and sent to the rear. With the police protection thus afforded, the meeting was conducted in a fairly good spirit, although there were plenty of interruptions, which at times raised laughter. Just before nine o’clock Miss Pankhurst, who spoke with fluency and eloquence, diplomatically closed her address, as the crowd were showing signs of uneasiness and closing slowly, but surely, around her little box pedestal.Questions were invited and one of the crowd wished to know when it was stated that a woman could keep her house on 15s. a week and by whom. Miss Pankhurst never heard that it had been stated, but was proceeding to say that she could speak from knowledge, when her questioner pinned her down to her statement and she frankly admitted that she was willing to correct it. Then another man took up the running and wanted to know what Miss Pankhurst knew about keeping house on 15s. a week. “If you go to Dowlais you will see it”, she replied, an answer which was greeted with derisive laughter and the retort that it was more like 50s. than 15s. a week.To the query at what age should a woman be eligible if she were given the vote, Miss Pankhurst replied that whatever age qualified a man to vote should qualify a woman also. “You don’t expect us who have not got votes to tell, and I think you had better find out for yourself” was the closing retort.Several other questions were put, which led Miss Pankhurst to remark that she would like them to be sensible. Telling those around her of something of what women had done with the power they had got in municipal matters, Miss Pankhurst referred to the fine trams, going up and down past them, to which a voice replied, “Aye and they cost us a bit too”. “It’s because you manage them so badly in Cardiff” said the lady. “In other towns they are a source of revenue”The police carved out a passage for Miss Pankhurst and her lady friends, who at once essayed to make their escape. The crowd, however, kept at their heels and the suffragettes, finding the attention paid them rather unwelcome, had to seek shelter within the friendly portals of the workhouse gates, an institution and its inmates to which she had made several references in her speech. The police meanwhile, kept the crowd moving on, and on the arrival of a car to town, the ladies were hurriedly escorted to the stopping-point, boarded it and soon got away. The fun ended, the crowd also broke up rapidly.NB. Same story covered by the SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWSMR. HASLAM, M.P. AND WOMEN’S INFLUENCEMr Lewis Haslam, M.P. for the Monmouth Boroughs, addressed a meeting of the Newport Women’s Liberal Association on Monday evening at the Liberal Institute, under the presidency of Mrs. Bear, where, he said, it was found that women took an interest in politics; Parliament was likely to pass laws for the good of the country. Whether they had votes or not, they could exercise an influence for the good of the people. | 14 May 1907 Page 32 - Page 33 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | DANGEROUS SUFFRAGETTE CROWDSASSEMBLY OF THOUSANDS AT GRANGETOWNCONTINUOUS UPROAR STOPS ORATORYAfter last night’s and other proceedings it becomes a question for the local authority to consider whether the suffragettes now in Cardiff, headed by Miss A Pankhurst, should be allowed to hold open-air meetings in the streets. The lady was unable to ventilate the grievances of her sex in Grangetown on Friday night because she had forgotten her police permit and promised to make another appearance in the neighbourhood. The result was that a quarter of an hour before the meeting was supposed to commence in the open space in front of the Forward Movement Chapel, on the corner of Corporation Road on Wednesday evening, some 500-600 people had gathered together. In In consequence of the heavy traffic at this corner the police ordered a change of venue to the upper part of North Clive Street, where a triangular piece of ground is appropriately enough called locally as Trafalgar Square. Here the crown rushed by the shortest cuts they could find and many ladies who were in the neighbourhood received some very unwelcome attentions. In fact, the police had to interfere to make a way for them through the mass of humanity which surrounded them under the supposition that they were suffragettes.Shortly after eight o’clock Miss Pankhurst arrived and taking her position on a chair with her back to a dead wall, commenced her speech, with an audience of quite 3,000 people in front of her. It was evident that the majority came there not to listen to what she said, but to obtain as much fun as they could out of the proceedings. She had not been speaking more than a minute when the turbulent element in the crowd let itself loose and afterwards the speaker’s words were not heard more than a few yards from where she stood, bravely defended by Inspector Butler.“Women claim to have votes because they pay taxes and they want value for their money” said Miss Pankhurst. “Whose money?” shouted someone. “We pay duty on every pound of tea we buy” was the reply, which brought the other query “Whose money do you spend?” By this time the crowd had got rather uproarious and refused to listen to the speaker.“What about Wimbledon?” asked several, but to this Miss Pankhurst did not reply, except by saying, “You are showing your British pluck”, with all the sarcasm she could put into her voice.Inspector Butler asked Miss Pankhurst whether she intended to continue and she defiantly said “Yes”. Then came a surging movement towards the speaker from several quarters and she was nearly forced off her chair. Her defender, at the cost of a grazed sin, managed to keep the crowd back.Miss Pankhurst asked whether they wished her to proceed and “Yes” came with a mighty shout, followed by laughter. She continued, only to find that the consent was purely ironical and the same dangerous movement of the crowd, coupled with uproar and cries of “Wimbledon” followed.After speaking for about a quarter of an hour the young lady said she would desist because there were so many children in the crowd who, she feared, might be injured.Accompanied by a police escort and followed by many hundreds of people, Miss Pankhurst, Mr. Gillett and others were conducted to a car and the first they met happened to be one from Wood Street to the Docks, into which they escaped. The car started, amidst cheers and laughter and many followed to the Docks, thinking another meeting might be held there.NB. Same story covered by the SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS | 16 May 1907Page 36 - Page 37 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWSSuffragettes at Cardiff.BRIEF MEETING AT CANTONMORE DISORDERLY SCENESThe meeting which it was announced would be addressed by Miss Pankhurst in Cowbridge Road, outside the Cardiff Workhouse, on Thursday evening began and ended within a period of about 40 minutes. It was 8.15 before Mrs Keating Hill started to address a crowd of about 400 people, which speedily grew in proportions until there must have been nearly a thousand people present. It was evident that a number had come up from Grangetown in anticipation of a repetition of Wednesday night’s scenes in that locality. From the start the speaker was continuously subjected to interruptions, the majority of which had not the saving grace of wit. Miss Pankhurst’s rising was the signal for a great chorus of cheers and “boos” and the singing by a gang of young men of “For she’s a jolly good fellow”. The speaker addressed herself to the advantages that men had gained by becoming possessors of the suffrage, but a portion of the crowd began to sing comic songs such as “Following my Father’s Footsteps” and now and then there were cries of “What about Wimbledon?” Then the crowd began to sway and Miss Pankhurst appealed to the rowdy element to remember there were children in the front. “Why don’t you go home and nurse ‘em?” came a response from the crowd. For some time Miss Pankhurst struggled bravely to get a hearing, but the swaying of the crowd and the interruptions necessitated a speedy termination of the meeting. Just at the end a young man got up to speak; but he was howled down with cries of “Henpecked” and “Speak up Horace” and the proceedings terminated amidst laughter.The Police present, who included Superintendent Yelland, Inspector Butler and several constables, escorted Miss Pankhurst and her companions to a tram car, whither a huge crowd followed them, cheering and booing as the car went off.Letter to the Editor:-**Protest Against Hooliganism**Sir, - It is difficult to believe that the “mobbing” of Miss Pankhurst in Grangetown last night is the method adopted by the electors of that ward to show their protest against the principle of women’s suffrage, but if this be so, then it is time that those whom they have elected to represent them upon the Cardiff Council should devote their energies to educating the ward electorate to a sense of their duties as citizens and making them realise that “free speech” is one of the vaunted glories of this country, at any rate, in theory.If, on the other hand and as seems the only conclusion that can be drawn from the incident, the row was initiated and carried out by hooligans and roughs, why on earth is not the law relating to disorderly behaviour and obscene language put into effect? It is a disgusting comment upon our boasted civilisation that an individual who attempts to assault a lady in the streets may be brought into court, whilst a crowd of hooligans intoxicated with a desire (born of a stunted or neglected intellect) “to have some fun”, are allowed to mob a lady speaker holding a police permit to speak in those same streets, simply because she is a lady.An unbiased observer of the meeting last evening and of other meetings of a like nature preceding it, cannot but regret that the authorities do not enforce in the interests of the public the law relating to riotous conduct and thus allow those who wish to do so an opportunity of hearing a lady whose words are full of sincerity speak upon a subject vital to the interests of the State and the welfare of the nation. - I am, &c., Philip Howell, May 16th. | 17 May 1907Page 38 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | WESTERN MAILSUFFRAGETTES MEET AT THE FOUNTAINSOME MORE LIVELY SCENES IN CARDIFF.An open-air meeting of suffragettes in Adamsdown Square, Cardiff, came to an abrupt termination on Friday night. The ladies “gathered at the fountain”, from the steps whereof the speeches were delivered. Proceedings commenced shortly after eight o’clock in the presence of some 200 people, many of whom were youths out for an evening’s fun.Mrs Keating Hill, who presided, first of all took a show of hands as to whether the audience wished to hear the speakers and the result was unanimously in favour. Mrs Hill gave the first address and in an appeal for fairplay, made a pointed attack on a nobleman connected with the fortunes of the city. “There is one man”, she said “who annually draws hundreds of thousands of pounds from your pockets to who you would give a respectful hearing were he to speak to you and yet he does far less for the workers than would we women if we had votes”. (“Quite right”, and ironical laughter)Miss Pankhurst spoke for half an hour on the conditions of women workers in the industrial districts and in the main was given a very fair hearing. Stalwart policemen kept the steps of the fountain clear and only occasionally was the speaker interrupted. In a reference to old-age pensions, of which she strongly urged the need, she stated that Cabinet Ministers and Army Officers were pensioned and so also were policemen, whereat there was a great burst of laughter at the expense of the constables around the fountain, who affected to gaze at the rising moon as if indifferent to the piquancy of the situation. “I think it quite right that policemen should have their pensions” added Miss Pankhurst.When the meeting had lasted nearly an hour the youthful element became obstreperous and upon a reference to the prevalent feeling that only men should have votes there was a huge outburst of cheering, which was renewed again and again. Seeing that there was little chance of proceeding, Miss Pankhurst declared the meeting at an end, saying that the audience would have to come another night if they wished to hear her speak again. Mrs Hill and Miss Pankhurst, who were accompanied by Miss Barrett, Miss Trimnell and other ladies, then moved down from the fountain steps and a rush being made upon them, Inspector Lewis, a police sergeant and other officers in uniform and plain clothes at once closed round them. Except that a lot of orange peel was thrown at the suffragettes, no harm came to them.NB. Same story covered by the SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS with the addition of a letter to the Editor:-**Votes for Women**Sir – It is full time that scenes similar to what took place at Cardiff last night and previous nights, should be stopped. They are only intended for the benefit and amusement of one section of the community – viz: the type of youth depicted in your cartoon of today’s issue. Respectable and reasonable minded people have neither the time nor the inclination to listen to the so-called grievances of women put forward by persons who have no regard for etiquette and yet have the audacity to remark on the shortcomings of men in general. I think it is extremely unwise for Miss Pankhurst to entertain any hope of ever receiving a fair and reasonable hearing again in Cardiff. Evidently the fact has not been instilled into her mind that Cardiff audiences are entirely unsympathetic towards the movement for the emancipation of women and in ignoring this fact and pursuing her campaign she is courting certain disaster. Last night’s proceedings are excusable on the grounds that chivalry is no longer recognised where women have ceased to respect themselves. They have given us the precedent in matters of etiquette and consequently they have only themselves to blame if their example is followed out in interrupting meetings. It is useless for them to lecture about morals and manners after the example they have shown us. I am, &c. D.A. Harries – 56 Taff Embankment, Cardiff.To the Editor;-**Suffragettes and Hooliganism**Sir – May I also enter my protest against the undisguised hooliganism to which the above have been treated at Cardiff lately. Surely it is no reply to their claim for votes for their arguments in favour thereof to boo or hurl insulting epithets at the speakers. It does not need the aid of “education” or “respectable dress”, to be offensive. The vilest wretch on God’s earth can be this and I am surprised to learn of apparently respectable young men - aye, even men of mature age – descending to conduct on the level of that of the gutter snipe and the footpad. Women householders already have votes in municipal elections, why then withhold from them this privilege with regard to the election of members to Parliament? As I understand it, this is all the “suffragettes” are contending for at present. All the rest resolves itself into a question of tactics. – I am &c. Ishmael Harris – 59 Monthermer Road, Cathays. | 18 May 1907Page 38Page 39 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | **South Wales Daily News****Correspondence****Miss Adela Pankhurst and the Cardiff Meetings**To the Editor; -Sir-In reply to the comments in your issue of May 18th with regard to the breaking up of meetings held by the Women’s s Social and Political Union. I should like to point out that these gatherings are held for educational purposes solely. The speakers give to the best of their ability their reasons for their demand for votes and for the position they occupy. A definite time is set apart for questions and opposition. There is therefore, no need to interrupt the process of the meeting by singing, shouting, flour-throwing or rushes , which go so far as to endanger the lives of those who come to plead their cause to the people. The position of the street hooligans at a suffrage meeting and that of a woman demanding the redress of a grievance is entirely different. The Government can give or withhold the Parliamentary franchise, yet while steadily withholding, refuses even to justify a course of action which ought not to be adopted without good reason. It is to draw from the Liberal Government this justification or the pledge that the wrong done to women shall be remedied that the demonstrations are made within Liberal meetings made by those who, vote-less, have no other means of protest. The women’s suffragist movement, has inflicted no wrong upon the hooligan. She can neither give nor withhold anything from him. If he has no desire to listen he can stay away and by doing so he loses nothing that he values On the contrary, the Liberal Government by refusing to grant a right does a great wrong to womanhood. The questions discussed at a Liberal meeting are so bound up with the lives of women , the attitude of the Cabinet minister upon this question so vital to her interests, that the woman’s suffragist movement cannot leave her question unput, her point of view unexpressed. – I am, & c ,ADELA PANKHURST.W.S & P U. Organiser.17 Beda – road, Canton, Cardiff,May 20th  | 29 May 1907Page 41 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | **Hooligans and Suffragettes**To the Editor; -Sir – I should be glad to be allowed to use the columns of your paper to reply to your correspondent who wrote on May 18th on “Votes for Women”. It should be perfectly obvious to all intelligent people that the open air meetings are held by the Women’s Social and Political Union, not for the purpose of affording amusement but of educating the public in a question of vital importance. Your correspondent is surely unjust to the Cardiff people when he states a “fair and reasonable hearing” cannot be expected of them. There must be people in Cardiff as elsewhere, a large number of people not only willing but anxious to hear both sides of any question.When referring to “chivalry, etiquette and manners, “Mr D A Harries entirely forgets to discriminate between the offensive behaviour of a howling mob and an orderly demonstration undertaken for a definite and praiseworthy purpose. – I am & c R BARRETT, B.Sc. (London)1 Victoria –square, Penarth, May 19 1907  | 29 May 1907Page 41 |
| **DCONC/5/30** | **Western Mail****Correspondence****Lady Ratepayer’s Appeal**To the Editor of the “Western Mail”.Sir – I should be glad if you would kindly intimate to those members and officials of the corporation who have been graciously allowed three tickets to view Royalty to kindly remember the lady ratepayers who have, apparently, been overlooked at this time, but are much sought after once a year, when we are led to believe that we cannot get better men. So now we wish to remind these gentlemen that they have a glorious opportunity for proving their manliness by suggesting that a space should be set apart for those ladies who contribute to the rates and are not suffragettes. At the former visit of the King and Queen, then Prince and Princess of Wales, all ratepayers who applied were allowed one ticket. I am, etc.,A BELIEVER IN CHIVALRY. | 6 Jul 1907Page 122 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | **Western mail****The Fair Sex On strike** **Humorous incident at Spillers Nephews**Article relating to strike action by female workers “They created a rather uproarious scene which reminded one of the suffragettes” | 4 Nov 1907 Page 104 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | Same story covered by the South Wales Daily news | Page 106 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | **Western Mail****UPROARIOUS FUN****Suffragette Meeting in Cardiff** **College Students shocking remark.**Article reporting a local branch meeting of the women’s political and social union, held at the Cory Hall , Chaired by Cllr Dr R J Smith and also occupying the platform Mrs Despard and Mrs Winton Evans of London ex Cllr., Dr Rhys Jones (Grangetown), Mrs Keating Hill and others. A large audience one side of the hall was monopolised by students disrupting the meeting to such an extent that it was impossible for any of the speeches to be heard. This is a substantial article with a humorous tone which seems to undermine the efforts of the speakers, and document the various attempts to disrupt the meeting.  | 12 Nov 1907 Page 115 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | **South Wales Daily News****Suffragettes at Cardiff**To The Editor ; -Sir, - Your “commentary report” of the suffragette meeting at Cardiff proved to be very interesting reading. The frantic appeals of the speakers for order were most amusing, and Mrs Despard was particularly funny. This good lady is one of the leaders of the noisiest crowd which ever afflicted any community and when given a dose of her own “specific” she seriously says “Please don’t laugh. It is very silly, you are only making yourselves ridiculous etc. etc. I am tempted to ask whether our good lady has ever thought how ridiculous the women make themselves by the manner in which they behave at demonstrations. I have attended meetings in various parts of the country at which Cabinet ministers and other prominent politicians have spoken and at which the behaviour of these ladies (?) has been worse than that of any gang of hooligans ever let loose and yet they whine most piteously when subjected to a mild dose of the same treatment.In the very next column to that which contains the report of the Cardiff suffragette meeting you give a report of a meeting at Brighton addressed by a Mr Reginald McKenna at which the suffragettes behaved uproariously. Why should these superior persons expect different treatment? They must look for reprisals and reprisals there will be. They have howled down the Prime Minister, Mr Asquith, Mr Lloyd George, Mr Loulou Harcourt [Lewis Vernon Harcourt], Mr Buxton, Mr McKenna, Mt S T Evans and a number of others, and if they think they can do this sort of thing without being paid back in their own coin they have much to learn. Mrs Despard last night said there would be opportunity for questions after the speeches, and on the ground appealed for order. This is precisely what Liberal speakers have offered them at Liberal meetings but without effect, and because they have continued to interrupt and have been “bundled out” they have complained of being handled roughly. The poor dears must not expect preferential treatment. If they behave like hooligans they will be treated as hooligans. Let them mend their manners, and behave like the ladies they would have us believe them to be and then “mere man” will accord then courteous treatment. I am not defending the action of the naughty men who carried on so furiously last night, but I simply desire to point out that such conduct is the inevitable result of the suffragette plan of campaign.I am & c F.G Whitchurch, November 12th  | 13 Nov 1907Page 119 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | To The Editor; -Sir – If those “puppies” who tried their utmost to break up the meeting at the Cory Hall last night had remained away it would have conduced not only to the welfare of those members of the audience who wished to listen to the speakers, but also to the maintenance of the usual conception of a university as a “seat of learning”. It is understood that the majority of the disturbers were so-called “students” (though students of what it defies the wit of man to conceive unless it be the art of hooliganism).The time is ripe when a protest should be made against the possibility of speakers and audiences in any meeting being subjected to the indignity of purposeless rowdyism and abuse.I am & c PHILLIP HOWELLCardiff November 12th. | 13 Nov 1907Page 119 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | **To the Editor**Sir – allow me a little space in order to clear up a point or two in connection with the suffragette meeting at the Cory Hall on Monday night.The chairman (who should have been impartial) appeared to be in sympathy with the students, who came to the meeting with the express purpose of doing their utmost to break it up, and his zeal in the matter of keeping order did not go beyond a few mild remonstrances and appeals for chivalry.Several students ejaculated from time to time that we could not expect to have an uninterrupted meeting when we ourselves set the example by interrupting other meetings. I would like to point out, however, that wherever women have done so, they have been immediately ejected by force and the meeting has continued; they are aware of the consequences that will result from their action, and do not grumble at the treatment received. Only the favourable attitude of the chairman towards the students prevented them from experiencing exactly the same treatment.Preventing a speaker from being heard is a cowardly attitude to adopt at a public meeting, especially when the disturbers have not studied the movement in question.However, we live and learn, and other meetings will be organised by the Cardiff branch of the W.S.P.U., when greater precautions will be taken to guard against such thoughtless, irresponsible, but at the same time cowardly interruptions,.Owing to the general disturbances we were unable, as intended, to make an appeal to all women in sympathy to join with us in pleading our cause. All information will be gladly given by the secretary, address, 14 Pembroke-terrace, Queen-street.I am, etc., A SUFFRAGIST. | 13 Nov 1907Page 119 |
| **DCONC/5/31** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Correspondence****Suffragettes at Cardiff** **To the Editor**Sir – May I be allowed to pass a little friendly criticism on the remarks of one of your correspondents, who signs himself Philip Howell, and whose letter under the above heading appears in this morning’s issue of your paper? The first part of his letter is extremely amusing. He describes a section of Monday night’s audience, by no means insignificant, as “puppies.” I should like to ask him to explain the meaning of that term. It is surely, hardly appropriate. The character of these youths has toned down considerably of late. They were first described as “Hooligans,” then as brainless “Haw-Haws,” and now they blossom forth as “puppies.” Where is the contrast in delineating these characters?I heartily agree with the latter part of your correspondent’s letter. The time is certainly ripe when a protest should be made against disorderly interruptions at meetings, but no doubt I will differ from him in the method I suggest by which a reform should be brought about. Since it was women who initiated and introduced these disorders in the first instance, it is to them that we naturally look for redress. Now is their chance for reform. Let them conduct themselves decently at political gatherings, then, perhaps, their good example may induce those, of the opposite sex who have hitherto vigorously opposed them to show a little more impartiality. Mrs Despard’s position on Monday evening was rather unique and her attitude a little grotesque as compared with former occasions. With such a reputation for disorderly conduct, as she holds, her appeal for chivalry was ludicrous in the extreme. The prominent part she took in the disgraceful Suffragette riot, in London on February 13th must not be forgotten when arguing against the inconsistency of such an appeal. If the younger generation are unchivalrous it is because they are following the precept shown by their older and wiser (?) friends. The young copy the old, and when the old set a very bad precedent, then the younger generation cannot very well be blamed for the bad influence which their elder sisters exercise over them.I am, etc., AUSTIN HARRIES,56, Taff-embankment, Cardiff.November 13th | 14 Nov 1907Page 120 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **WESTERN MAIL** Article and report of Cardiff meeting“Les talions” is clearly the motto of the gallant Radicals of Cardiff so far as the suffragettes are concerned. There is no connection between the doings of Miss Maloney, the lady with the bell at Dundee and the meetings held in Cardiff yesterday under the auspices of the Women’s Freedom League, but a number of men seem to have seized the opportunity for wreaking their vengeance on the women’s cause in general. Nobody can defend the tactics of the suffragettes in so far as they do interfere with freedom of speech, although there is no doubt that they have succeeded as probably no other tactics could have done, in making men think out for themselves the problem of women’s suffrage. Since they have chosen these tactics, it will be said that they must be expected to be paid back in their own coin, and that they have no business to expect people to listen to them. This excuse may justify a few callow university students making a noise but it does not justify prominent men in the Radical party joining in the hullabaloo. Last night’s proceedings in Cardiff were positively a disgrace to all who took part in the riot. Lex talions is a disappearing rule of life and Radicals are greatly mistaken if they think the breaking up of a women’s rights meetings is an effective form of revenge, and they did so with their eyes wide open. But, instead of being retribution for the suffragettes, it is an undignified proceeding which recoils upon the heads of the angry males and makes them look simply foolish.  | 12 May 1908Page 115 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **A RIOTOUS MEETING**A substantial and detailed follow up report documenting the Cardiff meeting and subsequent riot under titles listed below :- Also reported in the South Wales Daily news**-THE SUFFRAGETES ROUTED-STUDENTS HAVE A FIELD DAY-MRS FAWCETT HOWLED DOWN-SEETHING UPROAR IN CORY HALL-LIBERALS BLAMED FOR TUMULT-POLICE MAKE FOUR ARRESTS** | 12 May 1908Page 116 - 117 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **Alleged assaults and wilful damage to the Hall**As a consequence to the proceedings in the hall the police on duty outside made four arrests of young men. It is understood that two of them were apprehended on charges of assault and the other two for causing wilful damage to the property of the owners of the hall. The men will be brought before the magistrates this morning. **Window at the Police-station broken**One of the rioters, by way of showing sympathy with the men arrested, is stated to have had the audacity to throw a stone through one of the windows at the Central Police-station in Cathays Park. Anyhow, a window was broken, and a man was promptly arrested on the charges of breaking it, and will be brought before the magistrates this morning.**Damage to the hall**It is stated that damage to the hall was done to the extent of about £30. Two at least of the large panes of glass in the windows were smashed, a number of chairs were broken, the heavy brass rail in front of the platform was partly wrenched off, doorknobs were torn away and other mischief done. Mr. Gilbert Shepherd, the secretary of the hall, informs us that he intends to make a demand upon the organisers of the meeting to make good the damage.**An appeal for funds**To the Editor of the “Western Mail.”Sir – Funds are urgently needed to repair the damage done by the rowdies to the Cory-hall. All sympathisers are requested to send any contribution, from 1d. upwards, to Miss Stevenson, 15 Oakfield-street. | 12 May 1908Page 117 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **WESTERN MAIL****A Place of Refuge****Speeches delivered without disorder** Many of the supporters of woman suffrage had by this time proceeded to the Ruskin Institute, in St. Mary-street, where it was proposed, at the invitation of members of the I.L.P., to hold a meeting in peace. However, a good many of the suffrage supporters were met by the students and their accomplices in the streets, they having formed into a procession and being loudly hooted and jeered. The rioters made their way to St. Mary-street, and at nine o’clock there was an immense throng outside the I.L.P. headquarters. However, a posse of police had arrived, and the crowd were prevented from doing anything more than make the night hideous with their noise. They were kept continuously on the move. The door of the institute was guarded by Inspector Burke and a stalwart constable, and as the suffrage supporters arrived in twos and threes they were admitted into the building. At half-past nine there was a large gathering of women of various grades of society in the main room of the institute, together with several members of the I.L.P.Mrs Mackenzie took the chair, and Mrs. Fawcett, who led off with an eloquent speech, said that they might expect many of the lads who had been so troublesome that night to be their ardent friends later in their lives. If they read their newspapers they could not but be struck by the enormous progress made by the movement for woman suffrage. It was one of those great movements which were creating a difference in women’s position in almost every country in the world. As to the bye-election policy of the Women’s Freedom League, they did not oppose the Government candidate as such, but they went into every contest and supported the candidate who was in favour of woman’s suffrage. She emphasised that every measure brought before Parliament intimately affected women.After an address by the Rev. W. B. Graham, of Colne Valley, Mrs Despard said it was absolutely necessary that they should make their question a burning question. They had been driven to using the methods they had, but it was very sad. Theirs was a battle of justice against injustice, of righteousness against unrighteousness. They must and would prevail. A resolution in favour of woman’s suffrage having been carried, the meeting was brought to a close. | 12 May 1908Page 117 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **WESTERN MAIL****Ladies in Conference****Mrs. Despard on the advance of woman****Attempt to vindicate Miss Maloney**By no means was convincing evidence of the strength of the woman suffrage movement in Cardiff afforded by the meeting for women only held in the schoolroom of West-grove Unitarian Church under the auspices of the Women’s Freedom League on Monday afternoon. There was an attendance of fewer than fifty.Miss Stevenson, of Oakfield-street, Cardiff, occupied the chair, and said that one objection she had heard against the enfranchisement of their sex was that they had too much solidarity, and that the women would combine to pass drastic laws against the men. Certainly, it was necessary that they should combine – co-operation was one of the greatest forces of the day – to oppose the instinctive co-operation against them by the menfolk; but they did not want to pit one sex against the other. They desired that each sex should help the other.Mrs. Despard, sister of General French, grey-haired, and tremendously enthusiastic, was the principal speaker. “This movement of ours is not an anti-man movement,” she declared. They did not say that woman was better than man, but they did say that the great source and root of much of the evil in the world lay in the false relations between men and women, for where there was domination and power on one side they would always have cringing submission on the other. Mrs. Despard re-called her early days, when marriage was the only vocation open to women, and the principle actually accepted was, “Better any man than no man at all.” The uprising of the female sex was now going on all over the world. In this country they were making more progress among men than among their own sex. Mrs. Despard asserted that, save for a very inconsiderable minority; women had to hear heavier burdens in life than men. She instanced the case of the poor widow, who not only had to work to maintain her family, but to keep her house in order in her spare time. Such a woman had to hear a double burden. The speaker went on to refer to employment in dangerous trades, and spoke of cases of “phossy jaw” and lead poisoning which she had seen. The influence of women would be felt in these matters, for most of the consequences of employment in dangerous trades could be averted by science; but machinery was costly while human flesh and blood were cheap.**Miss Moloney and her bell**Questions were then invited, and Mrs. Cecil Brown asked Mrs. Despard if she approved of the tactics of Miss Moloney, who in Dundee prevented Mr. Winston Churchill from speaking by ringing a bell.Mrs. Despard replied that Mr. Churchill had in a public meeting made a statement that after the result of the Peckham election had been declared suffragettes had allowed themselves to be carried in the arms of brewers’ men and publicans. Miss Moloney asked Mr. Churchill to withdraw that or apologise. She was present at the close of the Peckham election, after which a number of members of the Women’s Freedom League came to the office and desired to wait till the result was declared. She begged and entreated them to go home, and knew, as a matter of fact, that they all did go home. Mr. Churchill declined to withdraw this statement when asked to do so by Miss Moloney. Mrs. Despard added that the members of the Women’s Freedom League did not make a practice of disturbing meetings.Mrs. Dixon (Cathedral Road) stated that the ladies of Cardiff considered that Miss Moloney’s conduct had been most unladylike. (Hear, hear.)Miss Gillett mentioned that in this district it was very unsafe for a woman to ask questions at meetings, especially at Liberal meetings, unless she was surrounded by strong, healthy males. | 12 May 1908Page 117 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Suffragettes’ Meeting Stormed****Disgraceful scenes at Cardiff****Speakers refused a hearing****Disturbance continued in the streets****Four persons arrested**One of the most disgraceful scenes witnessed at a public meeting at Cardiff occurred at the women’s suffrage meeting held at the Cory Hall, Cardiff, on Monday evening. Mrs Henry Fawcett, LL.D., and Mrs Despard had been announced to address the meeting, which was to have commenced at half-past 7, but long before that time a crowd of men and women surrounded the hall clamouring for admission. After the doors had been opened and seats had been taken, it was found that men ranged themselves on one side of the hall and women on the other, while the centre seats were vacant. And to while away the time the men, most of them young and well dressed, sang comic songs, whistled, shouted, and rang bells in imitation of Miss Moloney, who had figured so conspicuously at Mr Winston Churchill’s election.Before the business of the meeting commenced it was noticed that some of the young men seemed bent on disturbing the proceedings, and two of these were turned out. Quiet reigned for a little while until Mrs Keating Hill appeared upon the scene, and as she walked up the hall she was received with loud cheers and hootings. Mrs Despard came in through another door, and as soon as she was recognised she also was assailed with cat calls and shouts and the incessant ringing of bells.Councillor H. M. Thompson at this stage ascended the platform, and addressing the disturbers said that many of the young people in the corner had been working as he himself had been working for the University College in the city. This was greeted with cries of “Order,” “Shut up.” He (Mr Thompson) had done a good deal of work for the college for a good many years, and he hoped that they too had done something. This was received with a derisive shout of “Get out” and cries of “Order.”Then a young fellow got up and said that he understood that all this uproar was caused by the “chuckers out.” A derisive laugh and cries of “Miss Moloney,” “Dundee,” and “Manchester” followed the observation. “And,” continued the speaker, “we have decided that the meeting shall not go on until our men come back.” (Loud applause from the disturbers.)Mr Thompson endeavoured to argue with these people, but he was not able to obtain from them a pledge that if those who had been turned out were allowed to return that there would be peace.Then a lady appealed to them. She was not a suffragette, she said, and on this becoming known several of the men in the front row turned to the crowd, who continued the disturbance and uproar, saying, “If you don’t be quiet I will chuck you out myself,” and “Half a minute, chaps; give the lady a chance. She’s not a suffragette.” The latter assurance was received with loud hurrahs. But every attempt to bring about peace proved futile.Mr Thompson made a further appeal later on, but it was of no avail, for the disturbers declared vociferously that there should be no meeting. They bawled out that they were simply paying back in their own coin – doing what women had done when they went about disturbing Cabinet Ministers’ meetings, and ringing bells to prevent speaking. Someone observed that it was “a crying shame that these women were not better employed.” Mr Thompson, in a momentary lull of the hubbub, said he had been asked to appeal to them for stillness, in consideration of the fact that Mrs Despard had arrived after a very long journey. But he only provoked laughter, and met with cries of “Suffragette,” “So had Winston,” “Yah,” “Boo,” and a variety of other street corner expressions.When the meeting proper commenced, and the lady speakers appeared on the platform, they were met with howls and cat calls, and cries of “Peckham,” and “Who helped the publicans?” Mrs Fawcett wore a handsome shawl, and this tempted the audience to sing, “Here’s a lass from Lancashire,” and to repeat the chorus until Professor Millicent Mackenzie, who presided, rose to speak.“Ladies and gentlemen,” said she, but that was all that could be heard for the shrill notes of whistles and the clanging of bells drowned her voice. A disturbance in the ante room created a diversion, and a burly policeman walking up the aisle was assailed with a volley of insulting remarks. Failing to make an impression upon the men’s side of the hall, Mrs Mackenzie turned to the women and spoke to them, but the din and the confusion were so great that not a word that fell from her lips could be heard.“Come this side,” the disturbers cried, but the lady could not, or would not, hear them, whereupon they roared the strains of “Sospan Fach,” and stamped, whistled, and booed. Mrs Mackenzie declared that she was very sorry for what was taking place, as they looked like hinderers of the opportunity to hear Mrs Fawcett. Somebody cried out, “It’s all right now, Mum.”Then Mrs Mackenzie, evidently thinking that peace had been restored, addressed herself to a body of young men in the right-hand corner. Would they like to hear a little story? she asked. For a while she spoke as though to a refractory class, but after uttering a few sentences her speech was cut short by whistling and shouting.Mrs Fawcett then essayed to speak, but all that could be heard of her address were the words “The worldwide character of this movement.”Mrs Fawcett then walked to the far end of the platform and tried to speak to the women, but the din continued, and she was compelled to retire.Ex-Alderman Edward Thomas attempted to bring the rowdies to their senses, but even his stentorian voice could not be heard much beyond the Press table. He said that for the first time in his life he was ashamed. Here were a number of young men who would soon be claiming a vote preventing one of the finest specimens of women the British nation possessed giving expression to her view on the rights claimed by her sex. He was ashamed as a Welshman that in the Metropolis of Wales such a lady was refused a hearing – nay, was howled down by a body of young men who should have known how to behave themselves. Mrs Fawcett was a woman who knew more about political economy and political questions generally than the whole lot of that howling mob. He was on the side of the women, and there was a time coming when the people who were now howling like beasts would listen. Political progress had been by slow stages, but he hoped to live long enough to see every person in that room now joining in making disorder heartily ashamed of their actions. Holding up a little book, he said it was written by Mrs Fawcett and entitled “Political Economy for Beginners.” They should read that, and see what type of woman it was they were treating so discourteously. Mrs Fawcett was the widow of the noble Professor Fawcett, who had fought the battle of freedom before her silly interrupters were born. This was not the first occasion on which he had stood on the side of the minority, but in every instance he had lived to see that minority turned into a majority, and he felt confident that the same thing would happen with reference to the women’s movement. He could assure Mrs Fawcett and her colleagues that that meeting did not represent the feeling of the people of the Principality.Mrs Despard was the next speaker to seek a hearing, but she appealed in vain, for the disorderly section of the crowd hooted more and more, and it was absolutely impossible to hear a single complete sentence of hers. She was understood to express her disgust at the action of men howling down women.The ladies on the platform then retired in the midst of a terrible din and disturbance, in the course of which two panes of one of the windows were broken, probably by the surging of the crowd at the back of the hall, some of whom had climbed upon the chairs and windowsills. When the ladies had retired the crowd stormed the platform, and the two or three policemen in the room seemed powerless to restrain them. The placards with the mottoes of the Women’s Political Union hanging from the walls and from the balcony were torn down and cut into strips. Then someone discovered a quantity of literature left on the balcony and the papers were thrown down like a shower upon the heads of those on the floor of the hall.All attempts to restore peace failed. Alderman Edward Thomas stood his ground, despite the threats made to turn him out. Then one man to whom Alderman Thomas had referred in his address got up to speak and leaning on the brass rail of the platform, which in the rush had been dangerously bent, he said he was as good a “Radical as Cochfarf [Redbeard], and a better one,” and he wouldn’t betray his cause by association with such people as these women. By this time the whole platform had been stormed by the rioters, and it was evident that some of them were bent upon doing mischief to the furniture. The police, however, also ascended the vantage point, and their presence undoubtedly saved the situation, for the bulk of the crowd sat down quietly and sang “Sospan Fach.” The speaker who had already made himself conspicuous by his conduct, and who, on being asked his name, replied “John Jones” – evidently an incorrect name – again put himself forward. He said that before they proceeded further he wanted them to pass a vote of condemnation on the suffragettes. (Loud cheers.) Furthermore, he asked his excited hearers to condemn those who called themselves Liberals and supported “these women and thus betrayed their cause.” He added that he had been in favour of votes for women until that time, but having seen the attitude they took forwards prominent members of the Liberal Government he would never more support their claims. (“Oh.”) His speech was listened to for a few moments, but then some began to pull his coat, and others patted him on the back; and he was treated by the greater number much as the lady speakers had been before him, whilst some of those still remaining in the gallery howled their loudest and rendered his flow of oratory quite inaudible.At this stage, people were standing on the chairs, tables, and orchestra seats, and young fellows were frantically cheering they knew not why. Individual arguments were in progress in different parts of the building, and general disorder, with overwhelming noise, prevailed. Led by a grey-haired man, the rowdies stamped and bawled, “We want our money back,” and this was kept up for some minutes until the appearance of several more policemen.No time was then lost; but with the greatest courtesy these officers persuaded many who had now quite lost control of themselves to leave the hall. Even on the steps a further stand was made, but the police did not mince matters, and the “stalwarts” speedily subsided to firm pressure exerted in the rear.IN THE STREETSOutside the crowd r=performed and it being rumoured that the suffragettes had gone to Charles Street, thither the disturbers marched in procession. They saw a light in the schoolroom of the Wesleyan Chapel and effected an entrance, but to their surprise found the place practically empty. The procession which, with its followers a couple of thousand, then wended its way to the Conservative Club in St. Mary Street and cheered, but meeting with no response they proceeded to the Ruskin Institute – the I.L.P. Headquarters, everything was in darkness and the doors bolted. Thence they paraded through St. Mary Street, High Street, Duke Street and Queen Street, back to the Cory Hall, where their conduct became so disgraceful that the police interfered and arrested four. This action was resented and an attempt was made at rescue, whereupon the police drew their truncheons, cleared a way through, and took their prisoners to the police station.AT THE RUSKIN INSTITUTEThe crowd came surging along St. Mary Street some minutes after the advance-guard of the ladies had arrived at the Ruskin Institute – the headquarters of the I.L.P. A youth was carried shoulder high by his colleagues and a small army with bells, headed the procession, which had accumulated adherents on the way. To guard against a rush, barricades were used and stalwart Socialists kept guard inside. Two policemen with Spt. Burke were on the spot as the big crowd came along, but its halt was only brief. Soon afterwards reinforcements came and the imprisoned suffragettes felt relief. Numbers came to the door demanding admittance; but they were politely told that the place was full and only the more important ladies with the speakers and Pressmen were allowed in. Prof. Millicent Mackenzie presided and Mrs. Keating Hill was the first speaker.“The time has come for us to assert ourselves” she said, as the noise outside decreased and a stern “Move on there!” was distinctly audible to the audience. The women calmly said “We are alright; the police will protect us”Mrs Fawcett urged her friends not to be discouraged by the conduct of what she described as “ the young students” “Really” she added, “some of them are too young to have yet formed opinions of conduct in life” (Laughter)The Rev. W. B. Graham (Colne Valley) advised the suffragettes to proceed on the lines of the widow v. the unjust judge, described in the Bible and not be discouraged by roughs and students, led, he was given to understand, by a man of 60, who was described as a prominent Progressive.Mrs Despard, who came in late in the proceedings, characterised the perpetrators of the disturbance, as nothing more, nor less, than hooligans.The crowd was dispersed on several occasions, but the people lingered till 10.15, when the ladies made their reappearance in the street. There was, however, no further incident, and Mrs Despard drove away to the accompaniment of a chorus of “Hooray! Holloway!”**To Repair the Damage**We are requested to publish the following appeal by the local secretary of the Women’s Freedom League:-To the EditorSir, - Funds are urgently needed to repair the damage done by the roughs to the Cory Hall. All sympathisers are requested to send in contributions from a penny upwards to Miss Stevenson, 15 Oakfield Street, Cardiff.FOUR PERSONS ARRESTED: POLICE STATION BESIEGEDCardiff very nearly experienced a riot last night. When the meeting in the Cory Hall was broken up the police on duty arrested a young man who is alleged to have caused wilful damage there. As he was being taken to the Central Police station he and his captors were followed by a procession of men and youths who cheered, yelled, and rang bells. Down Queen Street and up North Road the procession passed and such was the noise created that even the audience assembled in the New Theatre and the Empire, heard the shouting, whilst people passing along Queen Street stood amazed to witness the extraordinary spectacle, and to hear the yelling of the processionists. Whilst the name and address of the arrested man was being taken in the charge room of the police station, a crowd, which filled the entire space in front of the police offices, extended to North Road and down to the weighbridge and must have numbered several thousands of people, congregated. Some of them became particularly objectionable and acted towards the police who were amongst them in such a manner that three more youths were arrested and marched inside. Then the attitude of the crowd became distinctly ugly. “Put the windows in” shouted someone and immediately a shower of stones rattled against the building. One of these smashed a pane of glass in one of the charge room windows and the flying glass narrowly missed the two police officers who were then in the room – Detective Inspector Davey and Sergeant Wheeler. The police on duty promptly grasped the situation and dispersed the crowd, who proceeded down North Road and up Queen Street, cheering, singing, and ringing bells. Inspector Burke and a number of constables followed them as far as the College, where they again massed and indulged in horseplay. Eventually, however, the police induced them to disperse and they proceeded to their respective homes. There can be no doubt that several times after the Cory Hall meeting had been broken up the attitude of the crowd was distinctly ugly, but the promptitude of the police officers in bringing up all the constables who could be got together in the police station and in the locality where the disturbances occurred, together with the tact of the police in handling the crowd, averted what might have developed into a riot. As it was, it was a very serious disturbance.One of the Police officers attributes the whole disturbance to college students “They started the disturbance” he said “and others were induced to take it up”.The four men who were arrested are of different occupations. One is an engine cleaner, another an insurance agent, another a collier and the fourth is said to be a clerk. All four will be brought before the magistrates this (Tuesday) morning. Three of them will be charged with assaulting the police and the other with committing wilful damage.WOMEN’S FREEDOM LEAGUEMrs Despard on “The New Order”In connection with the Women’s Freedom League two public meetings were held in Cardiff on Tuesday. In the afternoon, at the Unitarian Church, a woman’s gathering was held, addressed by Mrs Despard.Miss Stevenson, who presided, opened the proceedings with a concise *little* speech on the objections being raised to the solidarity of women. She enumerated the statements made by the opponents that women were inferior in mental power. It had been said that if women had the franchise they would pass “rascally” laws against the male sex. Putting aside this absurd objection, she said that there was an instinctive, not a reasonable objection, to women’s emancipation, and this instinct was one of self-preservation – that of keeping women out of competition with men. The woman’s movement aimed at helping women alone, and by helping women they maintained that they would also be helping men, by the improved conditions which would be secured. The awakening of woman to the consciousness of her own individuality and the recognition of her work would be shortly followed by the grant of the franchise.Mrs Despard chose as her theme “Women under the New Order” and urged that they did not advocate an anti-man movement, but they did say that the great source of many of the great wrongs at present existing was that there were false relations between man and woman. Domination with power on the one side resulted naturally in cringing submission on the other. Proceeding, she spoke of the rising of the women in other countries, even in India. They were told that women’s sphere was the home, but this was the ancient idea coming from the time when the woman’s home was the workshop and then she contrasted the present economic pressure with olden times and spoke of women’s entry into the turmoil of industry. The Liberal Government had got in, she said, by the work of the Liberal women of England. Women in the State Government would bring fresh minds into great public questions and they would be able to create a new power, making for the regeneration of man.Replying to questions at the close, Mrs Despard said that the object of the League was both to oppose the Liberal candidate and to urge their own claims. “We oppose”, she added, “because it is the only way we can bring pressure to bear. Theirs was propaganda work and what had been accomplished in this way at the elections had been very beneficial”. Mrs Despard’s observations in regard to the use of the “bell” at Dundee will be found in another column. | 12 May 1908Page 119-120 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | WESTERN MAILRIOTOUS SCENES AT Cardiff POLICEMAN USES BATON ON THE CROWDPROTESTING MAN FINED FOR ASSAULTSEQUEL TO SUFFRAGETTES’ MEETINGIn anticipation of exciting revelations arising out of the suffragette disturbances on the previous night, there was a large and superior-looking crowd in attendance at Cardiff Police Court on Tuesday and feeling seemed to run high during the proceedings.The first to stand in the dock was George F. Robin, 40, well known in the financial world, a prominent Liberal and an enthusiastic worker in the Wesleyan denomination. The magistrates on the bench were Mr. F. J. Veall (in the chair), Mr. J. Morcom and Mr. John Chappell.The charge against Mr. Robin was that he assaulted Police Constable George Jones in the execution of his duty in Cathays Park.The evidence given at the trial and the witnesses called followed in this newspaper report – with the outcome that this man was fined 20s. – This was immediately paid by his friends who were in the courtroom.A CHARGE DISMISSEDIn the next case James James, seventeen, an engineering student, employed at the Dowlais Works, was charged with wilfully damaging a plate glass window to the extent of 3/- in the charge office at the Central Police Station.This case was dismissed.ONLY EXUBERANCEWallace Gimblette, seventeen, was charged with damaging a notice board to the extent of 5/-, the property of Leonard Page, outside the Cory Hall in which, the ill-starred suffragettes’ meeting was held.Police Sergeant Puddy gave evidence.Mr Veall, in discharging defendant with a caution and a warning not to repeat the offence, said it was all very well to be exuberant.BRISTOLIAN FINEDEdwin John Shears, a Bristolian, employed at Senghenydd, was next charged with assaulting and obstructing Police Sergeant Puddy.The Sergeant said that prisoner came up to him and caught hold of his belt from behind. Witness pushed him away several times and then he put his leg in between the sergeant’s and tried to trip him.Prisoner denied this offence, saying he was merely pushed by the crowd.Fined 20/- and costs, or fourteen days. | 12 May 1908Page 121 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | STUDENTS INDICTEDDISCIPLINE OF CARDIFF COLLEGEINDIGNANT REMONSTRANCE BY MISS E.P. HUGHESTo the Editor of the “Western Mail”Sir – May I appeal through your paper to the men of Cardiff and more especially to the men who govern Cardiff, to make it impossible that in the Metropolis of Wales we should ever have a repetition of the disgraceful scenes, which took place in the Cory Hall last Monday evening?I would confess at once that, although I have been for many years a strong supporter of the franchise for women, I consider (as far as I understand the state of affairs, and I have tried to look at it from many sides) that the suffragettes have used methods which appear to me to be most unwise and impolite and altogether undesirable. If a political meeting was disturbed by a suffragette, I should certainly approve of her being removed, with no unnecessary force; but I maintain that what is sauce for the goose is also excellent sauce for the gander and consequently, that the young men who behaved in such an ungentlemanly manner at the Cory Hall should also have been removed.I confess with deep sorrow that it was obvious that a considerable number of the disturbers were college students. When I remember with what fervour men like Mr. Tom Ellis, Mr Cadwaladr Davies and Mr. Viriamu Jones worked (alas! far beyond their strength) to win for Wales a university education; when I remember what we felt when Lord Rosebery handed us the charter of the University of Wales, my indignation is deep against the men who enjoy the privileges gained at such a cost, privileges which were surrounded by such a halo of hope – and yet men who caused a Welsh patriot to declare publicly on Monday night, “For the first time in my life I am ashamed of being a Welshman”. I am wondering how long the sober and religious element in Wales will tolerate such conduct from those who enjoy great educational privileges, largely paid out of public money.It was evident that the disturbers of the peace at the Cory Hall were playing a game that they had often played before. I have protested in public and private against the present lack of discipline in our university colleges. But, whatever the order may be in our colleges, when the student passes through the college gate he is under the discipline of the town, and I would appeal to the citizens of Cardiff to allow no band of students to be a nuisance and an annoyance to the general public. I understand that quite lately at the New Theatre many citizens were inconvenienced and annoyed by the bad conduct of a number of students. Surely, Mr. Editor, this need not be tolerated and for the sake of Cardiff, for the sake of Wales and for the sake of the students themselves, men who behave in a childish and ungentlemanly manner in public should be ejected from public places of amusement and of instruction.To many of us it was little short of a tragedy to see a city councillor who had toiled for years in the cause of education, another city councillor who is one of our most ardent patriots, a woman professor of the university college, an elderly lady sister of one of our most distinguished generals and another lady of European fame howled down by a band of young men who forgot alike gratitude and chivalry.It is because I believe profoundly in the possibilities of the race to which I belong; it is because I am convinced that what is best in the Welsh people will revolt against the scenes of Monday night, and those who disturb the peace at such meetings are serious enemies of democracy and of all democratic government.Will Cardiff men allow a repetition of such scenes? I do trust that they will not. – I am, &c., E.P. Hughes, Penrheol, Barry. | 13 May 1908Page 121 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **SUFFRAGETTES’ SPIT(E)FUL TACTICS**HOW RUCTIONS WERE STARTED AT MONDAY’S MEETINGMr Lloyd whose name was conspicuous in our report of the uproarious suffragette meeting at Cardiff wishes it to be stated that some “ladies” in the balcony 2made a spittoon” of him and it was to till he was spat at that he raised ay protest through his chief grievance was that a Liberal should support a movement which had broken up so many of their party’s meetings.COUNCILLOR GASKELL AS SUFFRAGE CHAMPIONSpeaking at the annual meeting of the East Glamorgan Conservative Association on Tuesday evening Councillor f Gaskell expressed himself in favour of female enfranchisement, and remarked that when he saw the account in the “Wester Mail” that morning he was utterly disgusted a the orgy that had taken place at the Cory-Hall.DRASTIC MEASURES WANTEDTo the Editor of the “Western Mail”Sir, - Is it not time that more drastic measures were taken in dealing with the noisy youths and students from our college who make a recreation of breaking up meetings in favour of the women’s movement? Usually when a charge for admission to any meeting is made, is it expected that anyone desirous of attending is prepared to meet that charge. Not so these boys, who unable or unwilling to do so, had to resort to brute force to gain admission. Assuming however, that they had paid for admission, they should be made to understand that they must behave as it is customary among civilised people; and if incapable of doing so no consideration should be shown, and if they should be turned out wholesale, if necessary as was the case this evening. I overheard a remark that navvies would not have behaved in a more disgraceful manner. I am sure he average navvy is too much of a man to be capable of behaviour such as some of the students who graced (p) the meeting with their presence this evening were apparently so proud of. – I am &c, F BEVANCardiff May 11WHY THE STUDENTS WERE THERETo the Editor of the “Western Mail,” Sir,- Will you please allow us to inform you that our presence at the Cory-hall last night was a protest against the tactics of the suffragettes concerning the right of free speech? We have also contributed our police court fund a substantial sum to the suffragette repairing fund. – I am &cSTUDENT  | 13 May 1908Page 121/122 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS** **THE SUFFRAGETTES**SEQUEL TO CARDIFF SCENESPolice Court ProceedingsIn addition to the case of Mr George F Roblin reported in another column three other defendants were charged at Cardiff Police Court as the outcome of the disturbances at Cardiff on Monday night in connection with the Women’s Freedom League meeting.James Henry James (17) was charged with wilfully damaging a plate-glass window of the charge- room at the Police Station. P C Carter said he saw the boy throw a stone through the window of the charge office, and ran after and caught him. Defendant called a boy friend named Ernest Lewis who said they were swept along to the police station by the crowd, being unable to turn back when they tried to do so. At the police station witness was knocked over the fence ad he and the defendant stood on the green patch inside the fence just below the window. As they stood there a brick came over their heads and crashed through the window .Half a dozen constable rushed out and of course he and his friend, though neither had thrown the brick ran away. From the position in which they stood it was impossible to break the window. The case was dismissed.The charge against Wallace Gimblette (17) of damaging a notice board outside Cory Hall was then proceeded with. Sergeant Charles Puddy said at a quarter- past nine, after the hall had been cleared, several youths began to throw stones at the notice board outside the hall. Witness saw a defendant throw a stone and later pull the board down and throw it I the street. He arrested him, and the crowd closed in, and P C Carter came to his assistance. They had to fight their way to the police station. P C Carter corroborated. Defendant who denied the offence was discharged with a caution.Edwin John Shears (29), who said he belonged to Bristol and was working at Senghenydd, was next charged with assaulting Sergeant Charles Puddy in the execution of his duty. Sergeant Puddy said as he was taking the last defendant to the police station prisoner came up behind him In Park –place pulled at his leg and put his leg between witness’s and tried to trip him up. Defendant said he had just come from Bristol and was on his way to the Rhymney Station to go Senghenydd when he saw the crowd. He followed to see what, was the matter. “As to doing what the officer says” he added; “I never done such a thing in my life. I was shoved against him.” After hearing the corroborative testimony of P C carter and defendant’s own statement on oath the Bench imposed a fine of 20s and costs, or 14 days.  | 13 May 1908Page 122 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **MESDAMES DESPARD AND FAWCETT AT CALDICOT.****Lively Meeting Last Night.**Mrs Despard and Mrs Henry Fawcett, LLD, carried the suffragette gospel to the little village of Caldicot, near the Severn Tunnel, on Tuesday evening. In the early part of the proceedings there was a good deal of chaff and singing in the small gallery at the back of the Reading Room, where the meeting was held. When Mrs Despard and Mrs Fawcett ascended the platform they were greeted with cries of “What about Cardiff?” and “Where’s the bell?”Dr. Corben, Caldicot, and his wife, who have taken an active part in the suffragette movement took a seat among the young men in the gallery and appealed to them as Englishmen to give order. (A Voice: What about the bell at Dundee?) 2 Can’t I appeal to you as men?” he repeated. (A Voice: It’s a Tory dodge they are the brewer’s lackeys.)Mrs Fawcett who had a mixed reception, said there had been a great deal of excitement and misrepresentation as to what had happened at Dundee. She did not take part in that election, and she certainly did not approve of the method of ringing the bell. (Hear, hear) She would remind them that this method was invented by the Liberals at Dewsbury – (Cries of “no, no “) –to silence the women there. The National Union of Women’s Suffragists did not adopt a policy to oppose the Government candidates. (Disorder and a Voice “That’s a big un”) “We don’t” continued Mrs Fawcett-“We interview all the candidates, and support the one who is most favourable to our cause.” ( A Voice; “Perhaps” ) Proceeding, she said that the women did not want a seat in Parliament. They wanted a vote. (A Voice “Go to New Zealand.”) Mrs Fawcett proceeded to explain the anomalies of the law, but was subject to continuous interruptions.Mrs Despard was similarly received on rising to speak, and on referring to her imprisonment for her principles, was met with cries of “Hear, hear,” and A disgrace to you.” “What are we asking for?” she proceeded. (A Voice: “More than You’ll get.”) Touching on the work of Parliament she said she was not satisfied. “You are satisfied” said Mrs Despard, “because you are represented and we are not. “ (Cries of “yes you are have you not got husbands?” “We can’t all have husbands,” responded Mrs Despard; there are not enough to go round.”(Loud laughter and applause)After further disorder she said this was not the first time she had spoken in Wales, and she was sorry to go away with the impressions she had obtained. (A Voice: “You were not asked to come.” Laughter.) At this stage the singing of “Land of My Fathers” was struck up and the meeting for a time became unmanageable.Resuming Mrs Despard argued the cause was gaining converts in consequence of the conduct of opponents.On questions being invited, Mr R Hancock, a railwayman essayed to move a resolution to the effect that the meeting depreciated the tactics of women in trying to bring about the defeat of Liberal candidates at bye-elections and in acting in conjunction with the Tories in blocking the friends of progress. (Applause and “That’s it.”) “Tonight” said Mr Hancock “we are retaliating, and how do you like it?”(Laughter and applause.) He advised the women, if they had any time on their hands, to go among the factory girls, the servant girls and try and improve their lot, and do some practical work for their own sisters. (Disorder and applause.)Mr William Arnold seconded as Mrs Despard and Mrs Fawcett were leaving the platform “wait a bit,” said Mr Arnold, “I have something to tell you. If women,” he added, “did their duty at home they would have no time for politics. Not one quarter of them want to vote.” (Applause and disorder.)The speaker’s voice was finally lost in the pandemonium which ensued. As the principal speakers and their supporters were leaving hand bells were rung, and Mr Hancock, amidst cheering and booing declared his resolution carried by “a tremendous majority”.As Mrs Despard and Mrs Fawcett appeared outside there was considerable booing and hooting/**SUFFRAGETTE INTERVIEWS****Longed for her Battersea Stalwarts**Seen by a representative of the “Echo” Mrs Despard, who is a sister of General French, the brilliant cavalry leader, said: - “I think the whole of last night’s opposition was due to party feeling, but that sort of thing won’t help the cause of Liberalism at all, and the effect on my mind is to make me more than ever determined to sever my connection with Liberalism.”Continuing, Mrs Despard said she had never been in a town where people acted as they did in Cardiff last night. There was disorder at a former meeting of women at Cardiff, caused principally by students, but last night’s was something more than disorder; it was hooliganism“I longed for some of my Battersea supporters” she remarked. “Cardiff has something to learn in the matter of organisation”**An Unwarrantable Disturbance**Mrs Fawcett, LL.D., who was seen by one of our representatives on Tuesday morning with regard to the previous night’s broken up meeting, said “It was a thoroughly organised row by a crowd of youths led on by an elderly man. This man appeared to be the ringleader, and at a signal given by him noises were caused and stopped. I feel particularly sorry for the ladies in Cardiff who are responsible for getting up the meeting, especially if the cost of the damage done to the hall falls upon them. They did everything they could in reason to avert disorder and had a band of stewards, but I suppose these were unequal to dealing with so large a crowd of disturbers”Mrs Fawcett went on to state that the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies, of which she was president, had never taken any part in disorder of any kind. They had simply appealed to the representatives of both the great political associations from the point of view of justice and common-sense. “That being so” she added, “I feel, as their representative, that the disturbance here last night was altogether unwarrantable”Our Representative pointed out that a good deal of feeling had been aroused amongst the men by the action of Miss Molony at Dundee, to which Mrs Fawcett replied: “I don’t approve of methods such as that adopted by Miss Molony, but, after all, there is something to be said for the action she took. In the Dewsbury election women, when speaking in the open air, were continually annoyed by men ringing bells, so originated, not with Miss Molony, but with men who were opposed to women’s suffrage”Asked whether she had experienced similar disturbances to Monday night’s in other towns, Mrs Fawcett replied in the affirmative, “and”, she added, “they were generally on the part of young medical students and youths and boys”.“It is the thrust of a blow at the right of free speech at a public meeting” she added, “and although, as I said before, I don’t share the methods of the militant suffragettes, yet I feel they have aroused the Country, in a way that the peaceable methods pursued for many years, have failed to do”**No One Misled**To the Editor:Sir, - I daresay a great deal of pious indignation will be manifested in connection with the break-up of the suffragette meeting las evening, but after all, what can the frenzied sisterhood expect?They, themselves, have set the very worst example, in recent times, of the violation of the rights of free speech in one’s own meetings and human nature has its limitations of forbearance. I can conceive of no more impudent and bad-mannered conduct than that of Miss Molony in Dundee, who brazenly followed Mr. Churchill about, ringing the bell in his face.No one is misled by last night’s fiasco into thinking that it was intended as a discourtesy to Mrs Fawcett, whom all admire nor as representing Cardiff’s opposition to the “votes-for-women” meeting. Undoubtedly, it was intended as a lesson – I hope it will be a salutary one – to show suffragettes that their own acts can be made to rebound on themselves. I daresay that 90 per cent of those present favoured the object of the meeting; but they certainly combined to show the suffragettes how other meetings are disturbed by them. The conduct of these misguided ladies is certainly alienating the sympathy of thousands of their friends and among others. I am, &c. AN ABSENTEE | Page 122-123 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | THE STUDENTS’ CONTRIBUTION TO THE COSTSTo the Editor of the “Western Mail”Sir - Will you allow me in your columns to make an appeal for funds, and also to reply to a letter signed “Student” in your issue of today?In reply to this letter I would beg to state that the “substantial sum” (?) received by me from the students towards payment of the damages incurred, amounted to 8s. 3d. Many will deduce from the letter that the sum perhaps covers the whole of the damages incurred, estimated at about £10. The damage done by men at the meeting has to be met by us and as not one of the women who organised the meeting belongs to the leisured classes, donations, however small, would be welcome. I would therefore ask all sympathisers to help us in this matter, and so enable us to carry on our propaganda work.I would also wish to point out to “Student” that neither Mrs. Fawcett’s organisation (the N.U.W.S.S.) nor Mrs. Despard’s organisation (the W.F.L.) denies the right of free speech to anyone or breaks up meetings. The ringing of the bell at the Dundee election was done simply to extract an apology from Mr Churchill, concerning a false statement. What methods would men have used under similar circumstances, convinced of a false statement made towards them? Would they have been content with simple bell-ringing? If the force argument as a corrective be admitted, then education in higher things than purely physical, such as touches the mental, moral, and spiritual upliftment of the people, must be a fallacy and the law a purely physical plane. I am, &c. HON. SECRETARY WOMAN’S FREEDOM LEAGUE. 15 Oakfield Street, Cardiff May 13. | 14 May 1908Page 124 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | THE CORY HALL BOARDTo the Editor of the “Western Mail”Sir, - I notice in your report of the police court proceedings you state that Wallace Gimlett was charged with damaging a board belonging to me at the Cory hall. Will you kindly allow me to state that I called at the Central Station yesterday morning before the time of the court and informed the police that my board was not damaged in the least? In spite of this, they persisted in the charge. Could not the watch committee also inquire into this? I am, &c., L. PAGE. | 14 May 1908Page 124 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **South Wales Daily News**POLICE VINDICATEDArrested Man’s ProtestSequel to Suffragette RowCARDIFF INQUIRY RESULTAt the meeting of the Cardiff Watch Committee on Wednesday (Councillor J.T. Richards presiding) Dr. Smith said he would like to know what protection was going to be afforded to the public, in the way of public meetings, in Cardiff.The Chairman said he had received a letter of complaint from Mr. Roblin in regard to what happened on Monday night last. Mr Roblin was arrested and brought before the Court on a charge of assaulting the police and was convicted. He, (the Chairman), thought the Committee would agree with him that they were only entitled to inquire into the conduct of the police whilst the man was in custody. They had no jurisdiction as regarded the case heard by the magistrates.Mr Roblin’s Letter, dated 84, Diana Street, Cardiff, May 12th, was ten read by the clerk in the course of which the writer said:-  *there then followed a transcript of the letter – signed by* Geo. F. Roblin – setting out how he thought the conditions of his arrest and search were handled.Mr Roblin’s Solicitor then stated that he was representing Mr. Roblin in regard to any proceedings that might follow his conviction and he wanted to know his position at that meeting and was informed by the Chairman that he was not entitled to be there. As his position was “awkward” – he then withdrew.The Chairman then asked whether the Committee agreed that they should hold an inquiry into the complaint against the two constables.Councillor Morgan Thomas moved that an inquiry be held at a special meeting of the Committee and Dr Smith seconded.The Chairman observed that whatever the Committee decided, they should not magnify the case unduly. Assuming that the police were prepared to admit that Mr. Roblin’s statements were correct, but maintained justification for their action, why should not the Committee hold the inquiry there and then?The Committee decided to do this in the afternoon.The ChargesOnly five members of the Committee re-assembled after the adjournment, when the inquiry was proceeded with as regarded the conduct of P.C. Jones and the clerk in charge at the police station (Sergeant Wheeler). At the Chairman’s suggestion Mr Roblin’s complaints necessitating their investigation were classified as follows:-1. Illegally searched
2. Treated as a common felon
3. Refused permission to go out and look for witnesses.
4. Refused permission to telephone to a friend for the purpose of getting bail, or to send a message to his wife.
5. Refusal to post an important letter
6. Kept in cells one and a half hours

After deliberating the list of complaints – and taking into accounts of the prevailing circumstances the Committee resolved:- “That the Committee, having considered the charges made by Mr Roblin, regret the length of his detention, but under the circumstances are of opinion that the officers are not open to censure”This resolution was not at first acceptable to Councillors Seccombe and Thomas, who still maintained that the police had been negligent in detaining a man of Mr. Roblin’s unblemished reputation, but they eventually agreed to accept it, upon the Chairman’s suggestion that the police should be asked in future to accept bail for respectable people with the least possible delay.Organised HooliganismDr. Smith said that in his opinion something should be done to put down “this organised hooliganism” at the Cory Hall meeting. It was a disgrace to CardiffCouncillor Morgan Thomas: If Dr. Smith is going to raise a discussion on that I shall have something to say.The Chairman: Cardiff is comparatively free from hooliganism of that kind, I am glad to say.Dr. Smith: but here we have an instance of it and something ought to be done to stop it.Councillor Thomas: the hooliganism you speak of was imported from elsewhere by the people against whom this demonstration was directed.Councillor Stanfield moved that they proceed with the other business and this was agreed to. | 14 May 1908Page 125 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **Western Mail**MR ROBLIN’S CASEFurther ProceedingsWe are in a position to state that the case of Mr. Roblin will not be allowed to rest in its present stage, for that gentleman has determined to carry the matter further. Although as yet Mr. Forsdike, his solicitor in the matter, has not decided definitely on the course to be followed it is likely that an endeavour will be made to re-open the matter in the local court and if this does not succeed, consideration will be given to the practicability of instituting other proceedings, it being regarded as essential by Mr. Roblin that no effort shall be lacking in his endeavour to establish his innocence of the charge laid against him. | 15 May 1908Page 126 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **Western Mail**SUFFRAGIST TROUBLEMR. ROBLIN TO APPEAL AGAINST HIS CONVICTIONBefore the Cardiff magistrates (Sir W.S. Crossman and Mr Isaac Samuel) on Monday Mr. G.F. Forsdike explained that he had entered notice of appeal at quarter sessions against the conviction of Mr. G.F. Roblin who was recently charted with an assault on the police following the suffragist meeting in the Cory Hall. He applied to the bench to fix the amount of the recognisances, saying that Mr. G.A. Seccombe and Mr. Samuel Bennett were prepared to enter into the bond.The Bench fixed Mr. Roblin’s own surety at £50 and two sureties of £50 eachMr. Forsdike passed the comment that the amount was a little beyond what was usual, but he was quite content.(same story covered by South Wales Daily News) | 19 May 1908Page 129 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **WESTERN MAIL****SUFFRAGISTS PELTED**HORSE-PLAY OF A HOSTILE CARDIFF CROWDMiss Keegan and Miss Crocker essayed to address a meeting in favour of the women’s suffrage at the junction of Llandaff and Cowbridge road, Canton. Their appearance soon drew a large crowdThe audience were hostile, and amid cries of “Where’s the bell?”, “Jam!” and “Marmalade!” the suffragists were unceremoniously hustled along Llandaff-road.Amid showers of turf clods and other missiles, they firmly disputed their ground and clung to every lamp-post, but ultimately were rescued by the “men in blue” who conducted them to the friendly shelter of a fruiterer’s shop in the Cowbridge –road, and thence to a car travelling townwards. As the car started on its journey Miss Keegan stood in the doorway hurling defiance at the mob and incidentally, dodging clods.  | 21 May 1908Page 133 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****“No You Don’t.”**CARDIFF PARK-KEEPER AND SUFFRAGETTESOn Saturday afternoon the shadow of a policeman’s hand fell across the road which runs through Llandaff Fields Cardiff. The driver of a brougham, which contained Miss Keegan and Miss Crocker, said “Whoa.” The horse stopped, whisked his tail, and winked at the fast gathering crowd.“Have you ever driven a vehicle through here before?” asked P.C. Thomas (Llandaff). “I’m a honly carrying hout hinstructions,” pleaded the Jehu from his perch as he glanced apprehensively at his fare.Miss Crocker and Miss Keegan are very active suffragettes and had driven to Llandaff Fields to address a meeting, but judging from their conversation with the keeper and the policeman they had not secured the necessary permit. The keeper was firm but polite; Miss Keegan was argumentative and persuasive – but not persuasive enough. If they could not speak from the brougham, why, hey would use the grass as a platform she said.“No, you don’t” declared the keeper.”“That’s silly, very, very silly, cooed the suffragette.“Cabs are not allowed inside these gates.”“But my dear Man – (the crowd laughed) – this is a very special occasion. Now look here, while we are talking we could be addressing a –““You have not had permission to bring a cab here and that’s the end of it.”“Mind,” said P.C. Evan Thomas to the cabby on his perch, “mind you are responsible.”“Quite right Sir; quite right,” murmured cabby.“Not at all,” interposed Miss Keegan with a toss of her auburn head. “We are responsible.”“You are quite in the wrong insisted the keeper for the fiftieth time.“But my dear man (again the crowd laughed) we’re doing no harm, no damage.”“Perhaps not’” said the keeper, mysteriously. Again the driver was taken in hand. He was very humble. “I listened to them there ladies, “he cried with a jerk of his hand over his shoulder.“Cabby’s all right, “Chirped Miss Keegan. “It’s nothing to do with him.” Then as though seized with a sudden inspiration, “look here my friend lets have the meeting now and we’ll have the permit to-morrow – exactly the same thing.”Neither keeper nor policeman could see the logic of the argument, and at last Miss Keegan shouted, quite sweetly, and with rare good temper, “We can’t have our meeting. Drive on cabby.And the cabby drove on, but the suffragettes were seized with another inspiration. They alighted from the brougham and mounted a park seat. P C Thomas suggested that they should wire for the necessary permit, but this was met with a scornful “Good gracious, man.” Then the keeper told them that seats were not to stand but to sit upon and Miss Keegan, rather nettled said something about incivility, etc.The end of it was that the two ladies were driven out of Llandaff Fields in the brougham, but they addressed a meeting outside the gates. The crowd was large and good humoured, and on the whole Miss Crocker and Miss Keegan were given an attentive hearing. The national demonstration In promotion of the Women’s Suffrage movement to take place on Sunday June 21st in Hyde Park promises to assume gigantic proportions. There will be 20 chairmen who will include Miss Nelly Crocker at present with Miss Keegan of Cardiff: Dr H. G. Jones, a native of Conway: and Miss Rachel Barrett, B.Sc., born at Carmarthen. A special train will be run from Cardiff calling at Newport for London starting at 9.25 in the morning, ad leaving Padding ton at 7.55 the same night. The return fare is 7s.  | 25 May 1908Page 135 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **WESTERN MAIL** **NOISY MEN KEPT OUT**SUFFRAGETTE MEETING IN CARDIFF.WOMEN INTERRUPTERS IN EVIDENCE.Detectives, plain clothes men and police in uniform, under the supreme command of Chief-Inspector Rankin, surrounded the Howard-gardens Secondary School, Cardiff on Monday night. A Suffragist meeting was advertised to take place there and the local officials of the Women’s Social and Political Union had taken every precaution to prevent unseemly interruption by students and others. It was announced that the meeting would be confined to women and there was an attendance of about 200. The chief speakers of the evening were Miss Keegan and Miss Crocker, of London. Miss Lilian Gillett presided and spoke regretfully of the determination of King Edward to visit the Czar of Russia the oppressor of his people.“If I had the opportunity, I would decline to shake hands with the Czar of Russia,” said Miss Gillett; “they are too red.”Miss Keegan called a resolution calling upon the government to give a definite pledge on the question of woman suffrage. A section of the audience soon showed Radical sympathies, and any reference to the Radical party or members thereof was cheered.There was considerable clamour, and Mrs Keating Hill asked “those young ladies who are making a noise to give others an opportunity of hearing.” Mrs Reed, Cardiff, seconded the resolution, and said that most women were as capable of exercising the vote as many drunken sots who now had the privilege. (Hear, hear.)Miss Crocker rose to support the resolution amid considerable uproar. She soon proved herself a very earnest and eloquent speaker, though a good deal of interruption was encountered I the shape of stamping.Miss Gillett on one occasion addressed the interrupters: “Are there any who don’t want to listen? If the arguments are too deep for their empty brains I should like to point that the suffragettes in Cardiff have never disturbed a meeting in Cardiff, but goodness knows what will happen if they begin. (Boisterous laughter.)Miss Crocker attempted to speak again, but there was more interruption in the shape of feet-stamping, whistling and shrill laughter, and Miss Gillett expressed the opinion that the opposition was organised by the Liberals, and that it was take up by silly empty-headed girls, who thought they would imitate the empty-headed boys who disturbed a former meeting. She threatened to have the interrupters turned out. “Just imagine,” said Miss Gillett, “if one of you women wanted to ask a question of your member of Parliament at a public meeting, you might get a very insulting answer.”When Miss Crocker had concluded her address Miss Gillett invited questions, but not one of the interrupters responded. The resolution was carried by a very large majority.( Same story covered by South Wales Daily news)NO DISTINCTION OF SEXAnswering Mr Keir Hardie in the House of Commons on Monday. Mr Sinclair writes that no legislation is necessary to guarantee to women the same facilities as men for propagating their political opinions, because so far as the administration of the law is concerned, there is no distinction of sex.  | 26 May 1908Page 135 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS**SUFFRAGETTES AND LAUNDRY MAIDS**Mid-Day Meeting at Cardiff**During the dinner hour on Monday the Misses Keegan and Crocker, suffragettes, made an effort to enlist the sympathy of the girls working at the laundry in Minny Street, Cathays. A fairly large crowd assembled , ad as soon as the speakers drove up in a brougham they were saluted with shouts of “Go home,”” What’s the good of you in Parliament?” from a couple of youths perched at a window at the back of a Woodville Road house. The laundry girls did not seem to be so much interested in what the speaker had to say , but were rather tickled by the novelty of the whole thing. Miss Keegan had not been speaking long before she was told to “Go and mend the socks.” Later Miss Crocker spoke and indulged in so much gesticulation that several onlookers imitated her. One man ventured to make a remark, whereupon the speaker levelled her finger at him and with a threatening look, said “Now you keep quiet.” “Don’t you cause a riot,” was the retort. For a time Miss Crocker got a good hearing, but the girls surrounding the carriage were inclined to applaud too much and were asked to be a little less demonstrative. The speakers took the banter in very good part. Question time was filled up by the singing of Three women to every man,” and after much handshaking with the laundry girls, the Misses Keegan and Crocker drive away. | 26 May 1908Page 136 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | WESTERN MAILAFTER THE SUFFRAGIST MEETINGA CARDIFF CONVICTION QUASHED A follow up story from the one covered re: Mr Roblin (see story 19 May 1908 page 129) – same story repeated with the addition of a new verdict.RECORDERS DECISIONIn giving his decision, the Recorder said he had not to decide whether the magistrates were right in their decision on the evidence before them, but this was a re-hearing and he had to decide on the evidence before him, whether the assault was committed. He found it a case of some difficulty. He had not the smallest doubt that the Police were saying what they absolutely believed to be true. On the other hand, one of the difficulties in his mind had been caused by the way in which the appellant gave his evidence. The witness did not make, in regard to certain matters, a favourable impression upon him. At the same time he could not believe that a person of his good character and all his witnesses had committed wilful perjury, and he believed the constables were honestly mistaken. He could not satisfy himself in the face of the face of the evidence called by the appellant, in spite of the obvious animus of his witnesses against the Police that the assault was committed and therefore the appeal must be allowed and the conviction quashed without costs.(Same story covered by the South Wales Daily News) | 6 Jul 1908Page 171 |
| **DCONC/5/32** | SOCIAL CRUSADE AT CARDIFF. The Rev. Stitt Wilson, M.A., addressed two large demonstrations on Sunday in connection with the Social Crusade. These meetings were the culmination of a series held in Cathays Park during the week and the weekly procession through the main streets of the city. At Llandaff Fields in the afternoon a crowd assembled. Mr V.C. Chappell occupied the chair. Mr Stitt Wilson made a spirited attack on the capitalist system, impugning it from the standpoint of Christian ethics. At the Roath Park in the evening 6,000 had congregated. Mr. W. Field presided. Mr Wilson continued his impeachment of the present social structure. The address was frequently punctuated by applause and the reverend gentleman evidently carried his audience with him. | 6 Jul 1908Page 171 |
| **DCONC/5/34** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Suffragettes at Cardiff** The series of meetings held at the Crush Room of Park Hall, Cardiff, and addresses by prominent suffragettes will close on Tuesday afternoon next. Active propaganda work has been carried on at Cardiff during the last week and the leaders of the movement express satisfaction at the progress made. The meetings have been fairly well attended and the speakers have urged the necessity of active and increase- work. | 7 Jul 1909Page197 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **WESTERN MAIL****FAMOUS SUFFRAGETTE TO SPEAK AT CARDIFF**Miss Muriel Matters of Australia who by chaining herself to the House of Commons grille caused the removal of that obstruction, and who has rendered much service to the Women’s suffrage cause, is conducting a campaign in South Wales. She has already had good meetings at Swansea. Porthcawl, Carmarthen, Tenby, Gowerton and Skewen and is to speak at Roath Park at 3pm. and at Llandaff Fields at seven pm. tomorrow (Sunday) So far, Miss Matters has had attentive audiences, and made many converts at all her meetings and even those who do not agree with all she stands for have admired her wonderful personality and her brilliant speeches. | 21 Aug 1909Page 44 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **WESTERN MAIL****FUN AND UPROAR**SUNDAY DISTUBANCES IN CARDIFF PARKS**Suffragist Chairman Badly Assailed**There was great fun at the suffragettes meeting in the Recreation Ground, Roath Park, Cardiff on Sunday afternoon. The chief speaker was Miss Muriel Matters, one of the best known of the Women’s Freedom League propagandists, and there were thousands of listeners composed mainly of young men drawn to the spot by curiosity and the hope of witnessing “incidents.” Miss Matters stood on a horse-drawn dray. Mr Cleaves acting as her chairman, and she delivered her address I a deliberate good-humoured manner, which classed her among the most successful of the speakerson the women’s suffrage platform**.** Guided by experience, Miss Matters bore the interruptions patiently, even when they were too loud to allow of her ow voice being heard, but the chairman called for assistance to “put out” certain youths who were demonstrating near the dray ,and then jumped down into the crowd to do the job himself. The opportunity for fun was too good to be lost and the crowd immediately jostled the self-deposed chairman, and before he could realise his mistake he was forced out of the park into Ninian road. After much hustling the chairman was eventually able to return to the platform. Song and jest drowned Miss Matter’s voice, and when the chairman essayed to make some remarks he was greeted with uproarious laughter, and clumps of turf were thrown at him.On Sunday evening Miss Matters had an equally warm time in Llandaff Fields, where she tried to address a huge concourse most of whom were again out for a lark. She had the same chairman, and he came in for awkwardly close attention, turf, potatoes, and flour being shied at him. | 23 Aug 1909Page 45 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Suffragette Campaign**EXCIING SCENES AT CARDIFF**Roath Park Incidents**Exciting scenes with humorous interludes were witnessed on Sunday at Roath Park Recreation Ground and Llandaff Fields, where open- air meetings were held under the auspices of the Women’s Freedom League.The afternoon meeting in Roath Park attracted a crowd of two or three thousand persons, amongst whom was a large section composed of young men out apparently for an afternoon’s entertainment. The chief speaker was Miss Muriel Matters, and she occupied an elevated position upon a lorry, being accompanied by Mr E A Cleeves, of Swansea who acted as chairman. The meeting proceeded for some time in orderly fashion, and Miss Matters, who is a capable speaker, held the attention of her audience and won a fair amount of applause, but as the crowd grew till the lorry was completely surrounded her voice, strong though it is, failed to carry to the outskirts of the assemblage. Presently some restlessness was displayed and the youthful section of the crowd began to indulge in vocalism, rendering number of choruses. These as a rule started softly, the sound gradually increasing in volume, and finally tailing off into laughter. Miss Matters bore the interruption stoically, stopping when the singing drowned her own voice till she could make herself heard again. By and bye, however she began to rebuke her interrupters, and she had thereafter to submit to a running fire of chaff. Then she adopted the policy of ignoring he vocalists and addressed herself to the crowd on the opposite side, which was quiet and attentive. At intervals, however, the singers again succeeded in causing her to pause. Having succeeded to this extent they indulged in hilarious laughter.**Chairman’s Indiscretion.**The situation did not become really exciting till the chairman began to remonstrate with the noisy section of the crowd. This was playing into their hands, and had the effect of increasing their clamour. Having called in vain for someone “to go in amongst those boys and keep the quiet,” the chairman with more courage than discretion dived from the lorry and plunged into their midst. A scene of great disorder ensued. Mr Cleeves was immediately surrounded by several hundred youths and men, who hustled and buffeted him about the ground to the accompaniment of shouts and laughter. Apparently in order to escape from them he ultimately made for a gateway opening in to Ninian-road. The crowd pressed round him and swept him to the other side of Ninian road, pouring through the gates like a flock of sheep stampeding. A diversion was caused by the arrival of a tramcar and it was thought that Mr Cleeves would avail himself of this opportunity of escaping from his tormentors. Instead of doing this, however, he tried to argue with them, but their shouts and laughter effectually smothered his voice. Then he returned to the park, still surrounded by a pushing, jostling crowd, which played with him as a sportive wind does with a piece of paper. Presently he was heard to exclaim, between a series of gasps “I’ve never had such a day out in my life.” The crowd cheered this declaration, and administered a little more of the same treatment, which, judging from the remark above quoted, he appeared to relish. It was a fortunate thing that he preserved his temper, while the crowd also was in good humour, the opposition being the result of a desire for “a little fun” rather than a consequence of political antagonism. Ultimately Mr Cleeves succeeded in regaining the summit of the lorry, his reappearance there drawing forth ironical cheers. He continued to breathe heavily for some time and to wipe the perspiration from his face, but he did not appear to be aby the worse for the exciting experience.Miss matters meanwhile had been explaining that the Women’s Freedom League had no connection with the Women’s Society whose policy was the interruption of meetings and raids upon the House of Commons. They aimed at the same object as the other society but were endeavouring to attain it by different methods.**No Bones Broken**Finally the Chairman who by this time had quite recovered his composure, remarked, smiling “I wish to say I have not been roughly treated. I’m no worse for it. It was only a little friendly opposition.” This announcement was met by an outburst of ironical cheers.The chairman then invited questions and these were answered in the middle of a fusillade of sods and other missiles. Most of these missed the occupants of the lorry and struck persons in the crowd, Few, however were thrown with any force, and no one was hurt.In the middle of the shower of missiles Mr Cleeves exhibited his disregard by pulling out a cigar and placing it in his teeth. This brought upon him a good deal of chaff. “Does she allow you to smoke?” “Are you under 16?” “Women will stop smoking when they get the vote,” and similar questions and epithets were directed at him, but they were merely received with a smile. One question asked Miss Matters was, “Why is it that so many of those taking part in the suffragette movement are single women?” Before she could answer someone in the crowd replied, “Because they want husbands.” This evoked laughter, into which miss Matter broke with,” No, it isn’t because we want husbands, but because we want votes. It’s not true, however, what the questioner says. If he will examine the list of our members he will find the majority are married women.” This reply was applauded by the sympathetic section of the crowd.Another question was,” why don’t you have patience, seeing that Mr Asquith has promised to put you in the Reform bill?”“No, he has not promised,” replied Miss Matters. “He has said that if an amendment is put down on our behalf he will not oppose it. But if the Reform Bill granted votes to women the Lords would throw it out, lock, stock and barrel. Therefore we must agitate so as to get public opinion on our side. Then the Lords would hesitate before throwing out such a Bill.”2Is the present Government progressive or reactionary?” was another question.“Reactionary so far as we women are concerned was the prompt reply.To the question, “Do you expect to get ore from a Tory than a Liberal Government?” she gave this answer: “We shall not get anything from either unless we can get public opinion on our side and exert pressure.Sods continued to be fired at intervals, and the crowd commented freely upon the questions and answers. By this time a police sergeant and a couple of constables had arrived on the scene. A collection was taken for the cause an a few minutes later the lorry drove off with Mr Cleeves, Miss Matters and two other lady sympathisers. The youngest section of the crowd followed the lorry, shouting and waving flags belonging to the league, of which they had become possessed by snatching them from the lorry. The latter was followed into Oakfield-street, where it was pulled up outside the house where Miss Matters was staying. Mr Cleeves here began to argue with the boys while a police sergeant at the request of Miss matters recaptured the flags and restored them to her possession.In the course of a short chat our representative asked Miss Matters if she had any experiences similar to the one through which she had just passed.“No,” she replied. “We have had splendid meetings in Wales especially at Swansea and Sketty. On Friday I addressed a crowd of about 5000 at Llandrindod Wells. A man tried to capture my meeting and the crowd almost tore him to pieces.”Our representative hinted that Mr Cleeve had been a little imprudent in leaving the lorry. ”Yes,” she agreed, “but it was very plucky.”She added that the League was having a great mass meeting at Swansea on Saturday next, when speeches would be delivered from two platforms.**Meeting in Llandaff Fields**On Sunday afternoon Miss Matters addressed another large meeting in Llandaff Fields where a crowd of about 5000 persons assembled. There was a good deal of interruption of a good natured kind and a few clods of earth were thrown, but little damage was done. The interruption came chiefly from a band of youths who persisted in singing popular airs. A special favourite was one with the line, “Farewell my own true love,” special and pointed emphasis being laid upon this line. Another chorus had the line, ”I’m absolutely on the shelf,” the line being intended to have a special application to unmarried suffragettes. The chief section of the crowd was however, very attentive and sympathetic.Mr Cleeves, in appealing for support to the collection, said the expenses of advertising the meetings, &c, at Cardiff were £4, and by way of encouragement he stated that a collection of £7 was given by a meeting at Llandrindod Wells on Friday last. He also stated that Miss Matters, whose headquarters were at Sketty, was going to speak in various parts of Wales, and would gladly consider requests to visit any town were good might be expected to be done by a meeting.A number of questions were asked at the close. One had relation to Marie Corelli. Miss Matters, after criticising a pamphlet in which Miss Corelli had advocated that women should exercise the art of coaxing and pleasing in order to induce men to give them the vote rather than the militant methods being adopted. said she was glad Miss Corelli had declared she was not a suffragette “because fly catching is not a very edifying occupation, and I don’t think that proper thinking men want us to try and get the vote in that way.”A question that was allowed to pass unanswered was, “Who’s going to look after the baby when women go to vote?”At the close of the meeting a crowd followed the lorry into Cathedral-road, where Mr Cleeves, Miss Matters, and other members of the party left it and boarded a tramcar. | 23 Aug 1909 Page 45 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **WESTERN MAIL****WOMAN SUFFRAGE**ANTI-MILLITANT PARTY MEET IN CARDIFF**Condemnation of Extreme Faction**The Cardiff and District Women’s Suffrage Society’s public meeting in the Cory-hall on Wednesday evening was thoroughly enthusiastic. Mrs Henry Lewis (Green Meadow) had the satisfaction of presiding over a large attendance, and the half a dozen police officers under Inspector Robert Davies had a quiet time. There was a good percentage of male champions present.Mrs Lewis expressed pleasure at the very different reception Mrs Fawcett received that evening from that she had had when she was in Cardiff before. She (Mrs Lewis) wanted to prove that they in Wales were as capable of entering into the subject as the women of England. (Applause) She put forward a resolution asking Mr Asquith to declare his policy on woman suffrage before the date of the next election. (Applause)Mrs Fawcett, who was warmly greeted, opened by a few words of reference to the scenes of violence in Birmingham, and said that a resolution passed by the council of the Women’s Suffrage Society reiterated their deep opposition to politics based upon physical force. (Hear, hear.) She pointed out that Miss Annie Kenny was arrested outside the House of Commons simply because she was Annie Kenney, for when Mrs Despard cried out to the policeman, “That poor child has done nothing,” he replied, “We don’t want you, Mrs Despard; we want Kenny” – a fact which, she held, went to show that orders had been issued to arrest certain persons. The speaker also deprecated the tactics of the militant suffragettes, and remarked, “the women’s battle is lost, indeed, if we transfer it to the plane of physical force. Throwing down tiles on policemen’s heads will never convince people, neither will engaging in personal conversations with Ministers of State.” The Women’s Social and Political Union, went on the speaker, declared that the time for argument had gone, but there was never more need for argument. (Applause.) Concluding, she said she had noticed that the Hon. Ivor Guest was antagonistic to the cause of woman suffrage, and she hoped no woman in Cardiff would be found working for him at the next general election. (Hear, hear.)Councillor Margaret Ashton (Manchester) argued that women were more sober and less evil than men, yet their condition was worse under a democratic country than another. (Hear, hear.) Mr Lloyd George, speaking as a responsible Minister, said, “If women had the vote it would be impossible for the Government to pay their women employees less than the men.” Think what an uplifting that would be to women. Yet the Ministers who were paid by the women refused to listen to them. She who paid the taxes was as much entitled to a vote as her coachman. (Applause.)Dr. Elsie Inglis (Edinburgh) said that she, as a doctor, saw every day prejudicial laws which would not exist if women had a voice in the matter. (Hear, hear.)The resolution was carried.Councillor C. F. Sanders proposed thanks to the speakers.Mr Hammond Robertson (Manchester) seconded, and it was unanimously carried.THE MOVEMENT GROWING.A successful council meeting was held in the afternoon, when a great increase in the members and branches was reported for the quarter. Resolutions were passed condemning violence, and also protesting against the way in which the question had been handled by the Government. | 7 Oct 1909Page 78 |
| **DCONC/5/35** |  **WESTERN MAIL****MANY INTERRUPTIONS**AT SUFFRAGE MEETING AT CARDIFFThe second of the series of meetings arranged under the auspices of the Women’s Social and Political Union was held at the Whitehall-rooms, Cardiff, on Wednesday, Mrs Humphrey Mackworth presiding. In introducing the speaker – Miss Isabel Seymour – Mrs Mackworth said that the meetings would be held throughout the winter season on Wednesday afternoons.Miss Isabel Seymour, in the course of an impassioned address, referred to the important part politics played in the everyday life of women. Such matters as taxes and what the children should be taught all concerned women. Today woman was bound up in the welfare of the nation. Many of them paid taxes –A Voice: How many suffragettes pay taxes?Following this interruption another man rose and said: I apologise for the interruption of my friend. He has, unfortunately for himself, learned the lesson which you yourself have taught him.Several other interruptions having occurred, a lady moved that those gentlemen who were interrupting should be turned out.An Interrupter: I move as an amendment that the lady be put out.Amid a fire of interruptions the speaker continued her address. It was an intolerable state of things, she stated, that women were unable to take their part as citizens in a modern State. The movement, however, was growing, and they were in a far better position than when it was started three years ago. They were receiving great financial help. There was a case in point – a lady who shut up her town house and dismissed her servants in order that she might be able to contribute to the funds of the movement. Last year her donation to the funds was £1,000 –A Voice: “She’s mad.”The interruptions continued to the end of the address, when the speaker invited questions, upon which one of the interrupters rose with a list. In the course of her answer to one question, Miss Seymour said that perhaps the questioner had never been present at a Cabinet Minister’s meeting.“No, madam,” replied the questioner. “I have never attended at Cabinet Ministers’ meetings, and I have not started jabbing hatpins into people yet.”This last sally raised the ire of the ladies, several of them rising and crying, “Turn him out; he’s a nuisance.” During the hubbub the chairman declared the meeting closed. | 21 Oct 1909Page 90 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS**Miss Muriel Matters, who is to address the Cardiff Docksmen today on the question of the woman suffrage movement, has been touring South Wales for some time. Some time ago this lady addressed a meeting of business men in Liverpool, and so pleased her audience that she was afterwards invited to address the members on ‘Change. Miss Matters, however, has not yet secured permission to address Cardiff Docksmen on ’Change. | 17 Nov 1909Page 115 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **WESTERN MAIL**WOMEN’S ANTI-SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT AT CARDIFFCardiff women are at last organising in opposition to the suffrage movement, for a meeting has been convened at the Occidental Café tomorrow (Thursday) evening to form a local branch of the Women’s National Anti-suffrage League. The speaker will be Miss Fothergill, of London, and admittance will be strictly by invitation, in order to avoid any demonstration on the part of local suffragettes.  | 24 Nov 1909Page 128 |
| **DCONC/5/35** | **WESTERN MAIL**CARDIFF SUFFRAGISTS“FOREIGN” AND JEWISH M.P.’S BLAMED.A Suffragette meeting, distinguished by pusillanimous tranquillity, was held on Tuesday night at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, under the auspices of the Women’s Freedom League, Councillor C.H. Vivian presided over a large attendance, and in opening regretted to find so small an attendance of the male sex, because he felt that the men of Cardiff possessed the true sporting instinct and would give a lady preference to fair play.Dr. Robert Smith proposed a resolution to the effect that the Parliamentary vote should be granted to duly qualified women and calling upon prospective Parliamentary candidate to include women’s suffrage in their election addresses. The doctor, in an eloquent address, pleaded that the countries that produced a Boadicea and a Joan of Arc could still inspire warriors with devoted enthusiasm and splendid patriotism.Miss Muriel Matters gave a spirited address, her Australian experience standing her in good stead. She argued that disenfranchised women were in a position analogous to that of outlaws and passed the comment that foreigners in the House of Commons were the first to declaim against the rights of women, instancing in that connection Monsieur Hilaire Belloc, M.P. Also, Jews in the House of Commons, who, if they had lived were the loudest in declaiming against women. The Liberal government had played fast and loose.The resolution was carried unanimously. | 15 Dec 1909Page 151 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **WESTERN MAIL****“ THE MEN CAPITULATING”**PROGRESS OF THE SUFFRAGETTE CAUSE AT CARDIFF.The female suffrage movement in Cardiff has lately been stimulated by the impetus given to it by Mrs Woolf, of the Royal Hotel, who is secretary of the South Glamorgan branch of the Women’s Freedom League. Mrs Woolf is busily engaged with the details of a meeting under the auspices of the league to be held in the Park-hall on Friday night, September 30, with Mrs D A Thomas in the chair. It is understood that the city member, Mr D A Thomas will also be present, with Dr Robert Smith (Grangetown) and others. The chief speaker will be Mrs Teresa Billington-Graig (Glasgow), an active worker and eloquent lecturer, and an address will also be delivered by Mrs Manson (London).Our representative on Friday night asked Mrs Woolf if Cardiff ladies were taking much interest in the progress of the movement.“Oh, yes,” she replied with animation;” and the gentlemen too.”“So the sterner sex, are coming round?”“Most decidedly. We have good friends amongst the gentlemen and some of them occupy positions of influence in the city.”Mrs Woolf mentioned that on Sunday afternoon at three o’clock she will preside at a meeting in Llandaff Fields to be addressed by a Miss Neilans, a prominent suffragette. | 24 Sep 1910, page 12  |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **WESTERN MAIL****INCIDENTS OF THE DAY**SUFFRAGETTE REFUSED A HEARINGA suffragette attempted to address an open-air meeting in the Market-square, Tonypandy, on Wednesday evening. She was surrounded by a huge crowd of over one thousand, and was forced to leave the platform, being escorted through the streets by Police-constables Sawkins and Richard Jones. The crowd awaited her re-appearance, but she did not attempt to come out again. | 10 Nov 1910, page 50 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **WESTERN MAIL**Housewives who are “carpeted” at Cardiff Police-court for beating mats on the pavements are always very “orty”, assuming airs of injured innocence. The law is, and has been for nearly 70 years, that doormats, if beaten on the pavements, must be manipulated before eight in the morning. Why will not the good ladies get up and do it at the time of cockcrowing? If they cannot, then, perhaps, the suffragettes may take some action with a view of repealing a perhaps too arbitrary enactment. | 17 Nov 1910Page 68 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **WESTERN MAIL****THE CHANCELLOR IN CARDIFF****OVERFLOW MEETING**AUDIENCE AGITATED BY THE CRY OF “SUFFRAGETTES”At the largely attended overflow meeting in the American Skating Rink, Westgate-street, Alderman F. J. Beavan presided.During Mr. Sander’s speech figures were seen through the semi-opaque glass moving about on the roof, and there were at once cries of “Suffragettes,” and the audience was instantly cast into turmoil, but Mr Sanders assured the meeting that the figures were only boys. | 30 Nov 1910Page 88 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | WESTERN MAILSUFFRAGETTES AT THE DOCKSMiss Stanfield and Mrs Woolf, of the Women’s Freedom League, were at the Bute Docks on Tuesday just before the lunch hour and addressed a gathering in Mount Stuart Square. Miss Stanfield stood on a chair surrounded by four or five police, in charge of Inspector Ben. Davies. She disclaimed any connection with political parties and said they were not out for mud-slinging. (A voice: “What about the windows?”). Miss Stanfield: Not with us, my friend. She claimed votes on the same principle granted to men. | 7 Dec 1910Page 94 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | WESTERN MAILMRS PANKHURST TO VISIT CARDIFF. Mrs Pankhurst is to address a meeting in the Park Hall, Cardiff, on Friday night. It is four years since Mrs. Pankhurst last visited the city. On that occasion, with Miss Mary Gawthorpe, she addressed a somewhat stormy meeting in Andrews’ Hall. Mrs. Pankhurst plays a prominent part in the militant, as well as the constitutional side of the movement. Since her former visit to Cardiff, when, though leader of a militant movement, she herself had taken no part in militant action, she has undergone imprisonment twice. | 8 Feb 1911Page 155 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **South Wales Daily News**Mrs Pankhurst at Cardiff. MILITANT METHODS DEFENDEDIt was a well ordered and attentive audience that filled the Cardiff Park Hall last evening to hear an address from Mrs Pankhurst, the well-known Suffragist leader. Tastefully displayed round the hall were the colours of the “militants”, who had a small posse of police in readiness in case of need, but the police were not needed, nor were their methods elsewhere criticised. It was a ticket meeting. Mrs Mackworth (Newport) presided and Miss Barrett, a Welsh organiser, first of all addressed the meeting. She raised enthusiasm by mentioning the fact that the new Chairman of the Welsh party had identified himself with their great movement. Mr Ellis Griffith, she said, was thoroughly Welsh, in that he was not afraid of revolution in a good cause. (Applause)Mrs Pankhurst said she justified the militant methods because other methods had failed in a cause which was well worth fighting for, worth sacrificing for, worth suffering for and if need be, worth dying for. They had worked constitutionally for 50 years, and even now their deputations to the House of Commons were quite constitutional. It was not the average voter nor the ordinary member of Parliament who kept the vote from women, but just a few old-fashioned people in the Government – just a few antiquated, obstinate, pig-headed people in the Cabinet, who did not even realise what their own party principles were. She complimented the Welsh Liberal women on the stand they made at the last election, and she hoped that the example of the Cardiff women would be followed all over the country. They had only shown self-respect. | 11 Feb 1911Page 162 |
| **DCONC/5/37** | **Western Mail**HIDING FROM THE CENSUS MANSCHEME OF THE CARDIFF SUFFRAGETTESA NIGHT IN UNOCCUPIED PREMISESOutside London there are but few opportunities on the part of suffragettes to adopt the militant tactics of the Women’s social and Political Union. Cardiff women who object to the perpetuation of a franchise confined to one sex have for the most part limited the scope of their operations to propaganda work in the city and district. They have not infrequently sent contingents to the Metropolis to assist in demonstrations and the other more aggressive methods of impressing Cabinet Ministers. But in their own city they have saved the authorities any inconvenience and discomfort and have given the most complete obedience to the demands of law and order.But when the more militant campaigners in London determined as Mr. “Punch” put it, to “take leave of their census”, the suggestion was mooted that South Wales suffragettes might make common cause with the Metropolitan branches in depriving the Registrar General of some of the statistics. The proposal found ready approval among the local followers of the Social and Political Union, some of whom have already made their names honoured beyond the borders of the Principality for the “sacrificing service” which they have rendered to the cause.The Cardiff District Suffrage society, however, which views with some measure of disdain any form of militant campaigning, did not take official steps to evade or refuse compliance with the requirements of the Census Act; neither did the Women’s Freedom League which also has a branch in the city. Some of the members of both societies, however, intimated that they would be pleased to join company with the Social and Political Union in any measure which would prevent a correct plebiscite of the female population of the city.To carry out their scheme effectually it was important that the greatest reticence should be observed as to where the suffragettes intended to spend the night, for if the police secured information as to their whereabouts a sharp look-out would be kept in order that the persons on the premises might be counted as they left, even if their names and the other information required by the Census Act could not be obtained. What is definitely known is that the Social and Political Union members, as the result of a meeting held some days ago, decided to make arrangements for the use of some unoccupied premises in or near Albany Road. The ladies proceeded so as not to create suspicion and as a further precaution the arrangements in the house had been completed to a detail. The night was spent with what comfort could be afforded by rugs and pillows, but a Western mail reporter was informed earlier in the evening they would have a plentiful supply of refreshments. It was stated by a prominent suffrage worker that over thirty participated in the Census-dodging scheme, and that they would all leave the building in the early morning so as to escape the possible call of an enumerator. Up to the time of going to press the police authorities were not able to report the discovery of the place at which the suffragettes were spending the night and so zealously had the secret been kept that even their relatives and friends did not know anything more definite than that the premises are situated in the Roath district. One of our reporters called at the house of a lady who has been prominently identified with the movement and discovered that even her husband did not know where she had gone or when she was coming back.“Although I was asked to join the party” said a leading official of the Cardiff Suffrage Society on Sunday evening “I have not the faintest idea where the night is to be spent, and if I knew I am afraid I should be disloyal if I gave the secret away. To preserve that is one of the points of the exercise and well I don’t think it will be found out tonight. Our society is not officially concerned in the matter – in fact, we discountenanced the project as unnecessary, but I understand that some of our members have accepted an invitation to join the more militant society”One thing is certain – if the suffragettes were in an empty house in or near Albany Road they were not burning any artificial light.OUR REPORTER’S PREDICAMENTOne of our reporters who endeavoured to find the party’[s whereabouts had an unusual experience. His movements incited the suspicion of some residents in Albany Road, who attracted the attention of a young police officer, and the latter, acting on the information of a lady standing in a bedroom window, informally charged the reporter with leaving unoccupied premises. It was not until a good deal of argument and cross-examination had taken place that our reporter was saved from what appeared at the outset his inevitable fate – a march in custody to the Police Station. The Police Officer afterwards stated that he had heard the sound of voices in the shop – which is near the Council Schools – but there was no response to a knock. | 3 Apr 1911Page 205 |
| **DCONC/5/38** | **WESTERN MAIL****Password of the Ladies**“ESCAPE FROM THE CENSUS IN CARDIFF.”HOW A SECRET WAS WELL KEPT.NIGHT IN UNTENANTED HOUSING.EARLY MORNING CALL BY REGISTRAR.None of the suffragettes who were successful in evading the census was prepared on Monday to give any hint as to the number who spent the night in the untenanted house in Albany-road, Cardiff. Reticence on this point was only to be expected for it was hardly likely that they would give any information which would nullify their all-night vigil. It is definitely known however that the number exceeded fifty, and while the majority of them belonged to the Social and Political Union, some of the members of the Women’s Freedom League and the Cardiff and District Suffrage Society joined in the scheme. Those concerned displayed unrestrained delight that they had kept their plans a secret and had thus been able to “diddle the enumerators” and cheat the Registrar-General.The story of the scheme was related in Monday’s *Western Mail*, but it was not known until the early morning where it was being carried out. It transpires that Miss Barratt of Newport, acting on behalf of the Social and Political Union, had secured the use of commodious premises, part of which is a shop in Albany-road no 34. The ladies turned up singly or in two’s during the evening and, in order not to create suspicion, they made their way to the premises through the back lane. None was admitted until she had given the appropriate password “Escape.”The night was spent in the sitting-rooms of the houses, where fires had been lit early in the evening. A large number of chairs had been secretly conveyed into the building, but those were nothing like sufficient for those who turned up, and many had to lay on the floors. They had, fortunately, taken the precaution of having a good supply of rugs, cushions and pillows.During the night the ladies were visited by police officers, and one of the census enumerators handed two census forms to one of the ladies. These were however refused and the enumerator then threw the forms on the floor requesting that they should be properly filled up. The only reply he received was that they would not be touched and that they should have been delivered on Saturday. The request of the enumerator was not complied with, and when the ladies left, between seven and eight o’clock in the morning- they did so in small batches – they had what satisfaction is afforded in believing that they had prevented a complete census of Cardiff’s citizens. They did not however return to their homes until late afternoon, and after having breakfast at various restaurants, they either took long walks in the country or spent their time in the Free Library.One of the party told our reporter that the night was pleasantly spent, and none of them had the slightest cause to regret their attempt to “spoil the census.” Everybody she said, “brought a stock of refreshments, and after our supper party we talked for hours and when this morning was well advanced we played cards. It was certainly an interesting experience, and if it served to show the ludicrousness of shutting out of the Parliamentary franchise all of the women of the country well -we are satisfied.” **Newspaper “Beds”**HOW THE LADIES SPENT THE NIGHTMrs Keating Hill, interviewed by a *Western Mail* reporter, described the scheme as “thoroughly interesting and more successful than we at first thought it would be.”Asked how many turned up, Mrs Hill replied, “We were a large family of about – well, how many do you think? I really didn’t count them.”Mrs Hill went on to relate how the night was spent. “Although we had before us the prospect of a night’s ‘dossing,’” she said, “everybody was in gay spirits, and the proceedings opened with a ‘reception.’ Then we had to divide forces, because we all could not possibly spend the night in the same room. Things were exceedingly comfortable. There were bright fires in the grates, and we had a plentiful supply of refreshments. We had to be cautious in regard to light, as we knew police would be keeping a sharp look-out for us, but we had treated the window with whiting, and were able to burn candles with some amount of safety. After midnight some of the party wrapped themselves up in their rugs and went to sleep, their ‘bed’ consisting of a newspaper spread on the floor. Others preferred to do some crochet work. In our room we were fortunate enough to have a clever fortune teller, and she provided an interesting entertainment and of course we talked for hours.”“There were certainly some diverting incidents during the night. We soon discovered that we were being ‘looked for,’ and occasionally men peered in through the front window. Then of course we spoke in whispered tones, so as not to give the game up. We could hear and thoroughly enjoyed the heated argument between a police officer and a gentleman who had been peeping into the shop, and who turned out to be a *Western Mail* man. He was certainly well on the scent at that time, but had he continued knocking we should probably not have answered the door just then.”VISIT BY THE POLICE“Later a couple of policemen came and hammered at the door, and demanded to know what we were doing on the premises. ‘The occupier’ was adamant, and a policeman might just as well have endeavoured to get a tramcar to discuss philosophy as to question her. Fancy, the police wanted to go through the rooms, but we would not allow them: and then came two more officers and a lady inspector, but it was all of no avail, and the census man who followed was met with no greater measure of success.”“We all remained at the house until about seven o’clock, and as there were still some of the police about, and we did not want to give them the chance to count us, we had to watch our opportunity to get away. We left in small batches and scattered in all directions. We had a jolly picnic, and we believe we have done a service to the cause we advocate. Some of the party had their first experience of hard suffragetting, and we are pleased to know that they are not in the least bit daunted. They expressed themselves as being ready for greater hardships than that, so that the Government will experience more trouble than they have had before.”“SCHEME A COMPLETE SUCCESS”The census dodging party included Miss Barratt of Newport, who is the organising secretary of the Women’s Social and Political Union for South Wales. Seen by one of our reporters on Monday Miss Barratt remarked that the scheme had been a complete success, and that they had all spent a thoroughly enjoyable night.“We certainly hadn’t a dull moment in the room I was in,” Miss Barratt went on, “and if we were not listening to entertaining discussions on the situation and the cause, we were able to watch some of the ladies playing their best trump cards in whist. Of course we did not play cards on Sunday night- we waited for that until the early hours of Monday morning.”Referring to the visits of the police, Miss Barratt said they appeared to be under the impressions that they had a right of entry to the house and would not credit that the building had been rented for two nights. “They had no search warrant,” added Miss Barratt, “and of course they could not come in, especially as the person in charge explained that she was responsible for the conduct of the house.”Miss Barratt stated in reply to a further query that the majority of the census evaders were educated women, and ranging in age from sixteen to 60. The number also included several married ladies.**Early Morning Call**REGISTRAR’S FRUITLESS VISIT TO ALBANY ROADOn Monday afternoon one of our reporters interviewed Mr Jack Taylor, registrar for East Cardiff, who has control of more than 30 enumerators. Mr Taylor was familiar with the hiding-place of the suffragettes. It was he said, the shop and house, 34 Albany road, formerly in the occupation of a draper, and now vacant and to let.“This morning,” he went on, “at two o’clock, I had some unexpected visitors in the person of Police-sergeant Wootton and Police constable Jack Hudson. They woke me up as registrar and reported that certain females were evading the census. I got out of bed, and foreseeing certain difficulties, I prevailed upon my wife (who acts as my deputy) to accompany me in the hope that she might be able to identify at least some of the ladies. We went together, and immediately I rang the bell three ladies came to the door. They carried ‘candle dips’. I asked one of them ‘Who is the head of the house?’ she said ‘I am,’ but as it was past twelve, she in answer to my inquiries, refused any information.“Were the police with you?”“They were outside listening. I asked the ladies for their names, but as the schedules had not been served upon them before twelve they declined to give their Christian or surnames. I did not know them, and I should not know them again, neither do I know how many were in the house, but those I saw were well dressed. One of the three retired. I served each of the two remaining with a schedule, but they still declined information. I read to them the section under which they are liable to a forfeiture of £5 each. All they said was that they were advised not to give their names or addresses because the enumerator had not served them with schedules before twelve.”“That being so, will they be able to escape the penalty?”“Certainly not,” answered Mr Taylor, with emphasis. He added that at half past eleven on Sunday night some ladies were seen to enter the house in Albany –road and at twenty minutes past twelve the police reported the admission of three others. The officers rang the bell. The trio made a move towards the door but did not pen it. Mr Taylor will report the facts to the Registrar general.“GONE TO CARDIFF TO EVADE THE CENSUS.”A prominent gentleman in the neighbourhood of Cardiff has a daughter who is an enthusiastic supporter of the cause, and this young lady was one of those- chiefly school mistresses and assistant teachers – who passed Sunday night in the house in Albany-road. Her name and all the required details had been included in the schedule at home but immediately her father learned of the cause of her absence he put the pen through the name and wrote:”Gone to Cardiff to evade the census.” The gentleman informs us that a good scolding awaited the young lady on her return on Monday morning.One person only was found by the police wandering aimlessly about Cardiff streets on Sunday night and was enumerated as one of the homeless.**A Voice From The Inside.**HOW THE NIGHT WAS SPENT IN ALBANY ROAD(By one who was present)Late on the eventful night, along a convenient and little known back street, we approached the House of secret Abode. from the other end of the street’s dimness three forms approached, grotesque shapes gradually becoming outlined into the figures of three women, rugs and bundles, panier-like at their sides.“Can they be some of us and don’t know the way to it? Shall I ask?”“Better not,” my companion cautioned. “Perhaps it’s a trap.”With furtive glances we passed them by. With equally furtive glances they passed us by; when “It must be,” said I, and turning after them called, “Are you a \_?”“Yes we are!” came the prompt rejoinder, chorused in unmistakable relief. “Oh where is it? We don’t know where to go, and we are afraid to go anywhere.”“Come along; it’s quite close now. But we must divide.”So in twos, we dived through the little door, that opened noiselessly and readily at our approach into the garden, and then, with many stumbles and “Hushes,” into the House of Secret Abode, giving vent to a sigh of relief that at last we were safely inside.Already there was a good crowd of us. From the “reception-rooms,” sumptuous with a fire, one table and a clean floor, we overflowed into the “bedrooms,” to deposit our rugs in their bareness and select our planks for the night. In many rooms were already stretched on the planks they had chosen prostrate forms, occasioning – for “No Lights” was the order of the House – much stumbling stifled “Oh’s,” and suppressed laughter.“What’s that? Hush! Oh,” with relief, “It’s only gravel thrown at a window. It’s one of us - she can’t find the way in, Quick; fetch her in or she’ll give us away.”Gradually all were got safely in, the stealthy tramping to the bedrooms ceased and all sounds died down.Thunder, thunder, bang –crash!“Good heavens!” and with the shock of it the floor seemed to depart from our shoulders, and like marionettes on strings we sat up with a jerk.“Will you open the door?” Bang, bang, “Open the door, I say,” and the impatient hammering began again.“It’s the police. They’ve found us. Oh!” Then footsteps were heard hurrying down: the door opened and the voice of “She Who Resisted for Us” raised in altercation, alternately heard and drowned in the two angry voices of someone who must surely be two huge, angry policemen. Doors were stealthily opened, and from each issued a bold spirit, to hang in darkness over banisters and report in hurried whispers what she heard.“They want to come in. They want to search the house … They say they will come in … She won’t let them. No, she won’t – protests they have not the right. Oh,” with a gasp that made us all lie back with one accord – flop. “They are coming, I do believe.” And our particular bolder spirit hounded back into our room and fell over all of us in turn in her hurry to hide herself in her rug.“What will they do?” was asked.“They can’t do anything,” we all stoutly agreed.A footstep on the stairs. Coward hearts thumped wildly. “Oh, it’s only one,” And then the re-assuring vision, behind a shaded candle, of Her Who Resisted.“They have gone to get a warrant to search the house. Mind, answer no questions: give no names: just say you are my guests.”With a shriek of inextinguishable laughter at the thought of the luxurious accommodation we “guests” had had provided for us, we buried our heads in our rugs till the excitement subsided into harmless gurgles and gasps.Two hours of suspense. Every creak an alarm: every step in that uncarpeted house the loud step of what we feared. But gradually fear and wakefulness faded, and all rested, save the cricket down in the garden that chirped the night cheerfully away.W-h-i-r-r-r-r-r and a bell like twenty alarums for suddenness and violence rang and rang.“Sh-sh-sh, keep perfectly quiet,” floated up the word from below. Then voices again, not angry, but – argumentative. Snatches were audible:“Well, I admire you for ------““Oh, girls, it’s all right,” came a stifled voice: “he admires us.”“Well, they won’t, if they come up and see us looking like this.”Then again silence till the word came up – “It’s all right. We’re safe.”Then that House of Stealthy Steps and Stifled Voices became the House of Babel. Doors were flung open, and we trooped out and down the bare stairs to hear what She Who Resisted had to tell.“Three policemen, a woman, and the enumerator. Yes, positively. But I refused to take the papers in, and, look; they have had to drop them on the floor. And they are gone. They haven’t the right to search.”“Who wants to give three cheers?” sang out a voice. “No, no, the neighbours. Hush! Now to sleep, and then in the morning we must be up and out before they come for the papers.”So it was done. Soon after dawn a hasty toilet, assembly downstairs, outer door opened, and we filed silently over the dropped census papers out into the street. And, hey, pronto! We are gone: nameless ones, melted away, no one knows where.Along my way later dashed a taxi, windows full of fares smiling at me, of hands waving at me, the last batch of the comrades of that unforgettable night – “The rummiest night I’ve ever spent,” as one had quaintly remarked.And what, after all, is behind it? Not fun, not laughter, not rumminess. Ah, no. It is the spirit of rebellion that is abroad, in growing earnestness and passionate desire for justice and freedom: it is the awakening in women of a new feeling of collective consciousness, of high responsibility for others. And he who reads aright the signs of the time sees therein a tremendous force for good making a higher civilisation, wherein the womanly qualities shall have direct sway in the moulding of the nobler race of the future. | 4 Apr 1911Page 1 |
| **DCONC/5/39** | **TAUNTS FOR THE WELSH**Miss Pankhurst and her HecklersThe Crocodile Tears for Mr. AsquithMiss Christabel Pankhurst was subjected to a good deal of interruption in a speech on the suffragette movement which she attempted to deliver at the Park Hall, Cardiff on Thursday. She was severely heckled and there were constant interjections and occasionally some of the audience broke out into snatches of songs such as “Sospan Fach”. It was only by appealing to the chivalrous instincts of the younger men that she gained a temporary hearing. Answering a question as to why they broke windows, she exclaimed that the object was to make people think and to startle them out of their apathy. (Laughter) “The Welsh” she went on, “are nice people to talk about methods. You can smash property when you get a start! Who did most damage during the railway strike? (Laughter). When your rights are at stake and the way is to smash a bit of property, you don’t stop at it” (Laughter)After further interruption she said they would badger Mr. Asquith until they got something from him. (A voice; “Swank!”)At the close a perfect fusillade of questions was levelled at the speaker, who answered them with spirit. | 1 Dec 1911Page 176 |
| **DCONC/5/40** | **WESTERN MAIL****Scared by Suffragette**INTRUDER IN LADIES ROOM AT CARDIFFAn extraordinary story of an intruder in a ladies bedroom, and his expulsion by a pretty young militant suffragette is reported from 48 Tudor – road, Cardiff. The house is occupied by Mr. J.W Johnson, wholesale confectioner. The family retired on Saturday night as usual, the daughters, Miss Dorothy Johnson, aged 21 and Miss Grace Johnson aged 15, occupying the apartment. On Sunday morning, about half past two, the elder of the two young ladies was awakened by an unusual noise. By the light of the moon she saw a man crouched by the bedside and creeping along stealthily. He was a bulky middle aged man, with a “bushy beard.”“I suppose you daughter screamed with alarm,” asked our reporter of Mr Johnson, who was relating the story. ”Not she,” replied the father. “My daughter is a militant suffragette, and boldly asked the fellow what he wanted there, and was about to spring upon him when he slipped out of the room, and in the darkness she just missed him on the top of the stairs.”“My room is close by” (Mr Johnson went on)” and I followed the man downstairs and I saw him disappear through the scullery window. I was only in my night attire and had no boots on, or I should have given chase.” | 5 Mar 1912Page 62 |
| **DCONC/5/41** | **WESTERN MAIL****Cardiff Man’s boast****LEFT HIS WIFE BECAUSE SHE HAD JOINED SUFFRAGETTES**Warwick Perriman (35) was brought up on Wednesday before the Cardiff Magistrates charged on a warrant with neglecting to pay the sum of £1 19s 6d, arrears and costs under a wife maintenance order. Prisoner’s only defence was his alleged inability to get work.Chief-Inspector Bingham stated that when the warrant for his arrest was issued prisoner declared he would not be taken alive, and he had a knife in his possession. His wife, who had been cast off by her father through marrying prisoner, was assisted to live by friends.Chief-Inspector Bingham: At the interview with me, when you said you left your wife because she had joined the suffragettes.Prisoner complained that his wife had £15 worth of furniture belonging to him.Mrs Perriman said the furniture was worth only £2 or £3.One month, with hard labour. | 6 Jun 1912Page 30 |
| **DCONC/5/41** | **WESTERN MAIL****The Suffragettes**A new rule ameliorating the conditions of imprisonment in certain cases has been in operation since July, 1910 and 415 prisoners have been dealt with under it. Most of these were persons imprisoned for various offences in connection with the so-called “suffragette” movement. The ameliorations refer to the wearing of prison clothing, bathing, hair-cutting, cleaning of cell, employment, exercise, books and otherwise.In spite of the difficulty that has arisen in connection with the treatment of this class of prisoner, we believe the rule to be just and fair in its operation, in the case of prisoners whose offences do not involve dishonesty, cruelty, indecency or serious violence, and who accept it in that spirit in which it is framed. The purpose of the new rule was to mitigate the disgrace and discomfort and the stigma of imprisonment, in cases where the offence and the character and antecedents of the offender do not call for full and rigorous application of the penalty. It was hoped that prisoners profiting by the rule would show their appreciation of the purpose for which the rule was designed by conformity with the rules which have been to so great an extent relaxed in their favour. Unfortunately, for reasons upon which we do not enter, a large majority of the prisoners benefiting by the new rule, have not shown any desire to accept the concessions which it affords in a reasonable spirit. | 13 Sep 1912Page 160 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Mrs Pankhurst****WILL SHE BE ARRESTED?**CARDIFF SPEECH TRANSCRIPTThe police authorities, on instruction from the Home Office, have been directed to make inquiries concerning the speech delivered by Mrs Pankhurst, at Cardiff on Wednesday evening, and a transcript of shorthand notes of the speech has been forwarded to the legal advisers of the Government. The passage in the speech which is considered in some quarters as likely to lead to the arrest of Mrs Pankhurst is that in which she said she accepted responsibility for militant suffragettes, and added – “I have advised. I have incited, I have conspired, and the authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night, because I myself accept full responsibility for it. | 21 Feb 1913Page 98 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL** **Mrs Pankhurst**LEAVES CARDIFF IN EXPECTATION OF ARRESTWhen Mrs Pankhurst left Cardiff on Thursday morning by the ten o’clock train for London she confided in a friend that she fully expected to be arrested as the result of her speech the previous night, in which she accepted full responsibility for the bomb outrage committed on Wednesday a Walton-on-the-Hill.From London the *Western mail*learns that the authorities are earnestly considering the matter*.* | 21 Feb 1913Page 98 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**A SUFFRAGETTE CRIMEWhen Mrs Pankhurst was interviewed on the subject of the explosion at Walton Heath – at the unfinished house of which Mr Lloyd George was the prospective purchaser – she declined to make any statement. When Mrs Drummond was interviewed she described it as “a fine affair,” as “grand,” and as showing “the determination of the women.” An official of the Women’s Social and Political Union declared that the Union had no knowledge whatever of the outrage, adding that Mrs Pankhurst had deprecated any action endangering life. No doubt the disclaimer of the official of the W.S.P.U. was perfectly veracious. Whatever their contempt of the law and contempt for the consequences of their unlawful actions, the authors of the incendiary and other outrages which have disgraced the militant section of the women suffrage party have never revealed themselves as the agents of the W.S.P.U. There seems to have been little material evidence to connect women directly with the outrage – only a hairpin and a hat pin discovered among the debris: yet there cannot be a moment’s doubt, quite apart from Mrs Pankhurst’s remarkable speech in Cardiff last night, that the outrage was intended as a demonstration against the Chancellor of the Exchequer as a member of a Ministry which has failed to give the women the vote. It has been suggested that a certain clumsiness in the conception of the crime is far more conclusive as evidence of authorship than the finding in the debris of certain accessories of ladies’ attire. The outrage must have been intended to inflict loss upon Mr Lloyd George, but that gentleman was actually neither owner nor tenant of the house. It is a very amateurish sort of wickedness which overlooked so important a consideration, and there is no doubt that Mr. Lloyd George will appreciate the humour of it when he hears of what has happened. The police have on a number of occasions shown a laxity in bringing to justice persons who have been flagrantly guilty of incitement to crime in connection with suffragist outrages. Their motive may have been in part chivalrous and in part he outcome of a feeling that it is not politic always to attach high value to wild words. But the Walton heath felony cannot be overlooked. Unless the law of the land is to become dead letter an attempt must be made to bring the offender or offenders to justice. The task of police has been simplified by the public speeches of Mrs Pankhurst at Putney on Tuesday and Cardiff on Wednesday. On the former occasion this lady admitted that “she had been consistently and persistently breaking the law for a long time, and inciting and conspiring and instigating other people to do the same.” She had been prepared at any time during the last six weeks for arrest, “and yet there she was delivering seditious speeches and urging people to break the law. She was a chartered libertine, and yet apparently she was above the law.” She proceeded with a certain grimness of humour, to suggest that it was quite proper that those who are excluded from participation in the making of the laws should not be expected to observe the laws. One might have thought that before the speech at Cardiff that Mrs Pankhurst would hardly have gone to such lengths of bravado in the speech at Putney if she had known that within a few hours there would be an attempt to destroy by explosion and fire, the residence of a Cabinet Minister. But any scruples of accusation are dissipated by the yet more definite statements contained in the speech at Cardiff last night when Mrs Pankhurst categorically assumed responsibility for the outrage not apparently by direct action but by incitement. The admission may not help the police very much in the quest for the actual offenders, but hey can hardly fail to respond to Mrs. Pankhurst’s challenge. **TAKES ALL THE BLAME****Mrs Pankhurst’s Bold step****The Bomb Outrage****“Advised Incited Conspired”****Students’ fun at Cardiff**Perhaps the most dramatic declaration in Mrs Pankhurst’s dramatic speech at the Cardiff Cory-hall on Wednesday night was her acceptance of full responsibility for the recent outrages, including that of placing bombs in Mr Lloyd George’s new residence. It came at the end of the address. And perhaps that was fortunate for the audience received it with a hostile demonstration which was somewhat ominous. But it did not break out until Mrs. Pankhurst had concluded what she described as a personal explanation.“I want to say this,” she declared with great deliberation, “in all seriousness, realising the responsibility of what I am saying. When the Franchise Bill was withdrawn and the chance the amendments gave to the women was destroyed I said we were going to resume our militant methods, and that they would be continued until women were enfranchised, and I said I was prepared to accept responsibility for all the acts that women would feel themselves driven to do by the injustice that was done. I don’t go back upon what I said.I say that for all that has been done in the past I accept responsibility –hat I have advised, I have incited, I have conspired (“Shame.”) The authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night – (a Voice: “You ought to be,” and cheers) – if I am tried and sent to penal servitude – (more cheers) – I shall prove in my own person that the punishment unjustly imposed upon women who have not vote in making the laws cannot be carried out.Mrs. Pankhurst added that if she were sent for a long term of imprisonment she would hunger-strike and they could not keep her life, long by force feeding and if she dropped out of the fight a hundred more would take her place.THE STUDENT REFRAINIt was then that the college students and the other young men whom Mrs. Pankhurst had been twitting throughout the meeting gave their lung power full exercise. But Mrs. Pankhurst had delivered her message, and she was more amused than annoyed by the persistent singing of the refrain borrowed from “Mr Cupid” – Mrs Pankhurst, Mrs Pankhurst,She’s the cause of all the trouble,Causes all of the crime,Those infernal female foxes,They are ruining letter boxes,It’s that wretched Mrs Pankhurst every time.It was a meeting without any unpleasant features. There was the inevitable fire of interruptions and Mrs Pankhurst’s witty responses, occasional attempts by the students to vary the proceedings with music-hall ditties, and now and again considerable disturbance when the police or the stewards remonstrated with some interrupter. Dr. Smith who was chairman, put the audience in a good humour by his opening speech. His assurance that he would not keep them long was received with cheers as loud as the protests of the students when Miss Speed, of Llanishen, presented the leader of the militants with a bouquet.DEFENCE OF MILTANCYMrs. Pankhurst’s speech opened and concluded with a defence of militancy. There had been an insurrection and civil war in England as well as Mexico she said at the outset. “Members of the Mexican Cabinet are in prison,” she added, “and if we have not yet got all the members of the present Government in prison we have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house.” This fiercely delivered remark occasioned the first storm. A brief argument as to the justification for what she continued to describe as the insurrection followed. Incidentally she mentioned Mr, Lloyd George’s name. Promptly came the query “Why do you try and blow him up?”“To wake him up my friend,” was Mrs Pankhurst’s quick retort. We have tried blowing him up to wake his conscience. We sent a deputation of working women to him the other day, and his reply was that while they were going to have a Government measure to give more votes to men who don’t ask for it we must be content with a private member’s Bill. Our answer to Mr. Lloyd George is that we will not.”A passing reference to the salaries of members of Parliament brought the interruption, “What do you get?” Mrs Pankhurst scored again. “I get prison,” she cried, excitedly, and her friends cheered wildly. Mrs. Pankhurst spent much time discussing the principles underlying the militant methods. They regarded human life as sacred. That remark produced a furore of ironical cheers and reminders of outrages. But she said they attacked the “things most valued of men”- property, money and pleasure. They had observed that principle all through. Immediately, came challenges. Mrs Pankhurst answered them seriatim. With regard to the incident at Mr. Harcourt’s house she declared that full inquiry had been made to ascertain that the wing attacked was uninhabited. At the Dublin theatre they waited until all the people had left. GUERILLA WARFARE They had caused the stockbrokers trouble by holding up telegraphic and telephonic communications between London and Glasgow, had prevented play on the London golf links, and a successful piece of guerrilla warfare was that on the unfinished house of Mr. Lloyd George. And her summary of the purpose of it all was. “We want to make the question such a nuisance that they will want to rid of it” She advised them not to get angry with the women, not to argue with them or try to persuade them from that policy.That is our conviction, she declared, and nothing can alter it, and we shall never get this question settled until we make it intolerable for most people in this country.The last quoted remark was, indeed, the kind of defiance that permeated the whole speech.Question-time produced much amusement, and Mrs. Pankhurst scored often. Asked about compensating the owner of the residence wrecked by bombs she said:-The general impression is that the house belonged to Mr. Lloyd George, but whether it does or not we are not going to compensate him.Cries of execration greeted this reply. The meeting ended in a quite orderly way. Mrs. Pankhurst as she got into the taxi which drove her to the station was kept from any possibility of violence at the hands of a great hooting crowd by the efforts of a dozen policemen, who formed a cordon across the road. | 20 Feb 1913Page 98 - 99 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS**MRS PANKHURST ON BOMBS.How Mrs Pankhurst can imagine that she is furthering the cause of women suffrage by accepting responsibility, as she did last night at Cardiff, for the dastardly bomb outrage at the Chancellor’s residence must pass the comprehension of sane people. Where is the sense of such an act? The Chancellor is an ardent supporter of the suffragists’ cause, and has had backed his words by deeds. It is well known that it was chiefly through his influence that the Government tried to give facilities for the discussion of the question in the House. Short of resorting to methods of coercion he has done his utmost for the women’s cause. Why, then, should his residence be wrecked by infernal machines? And how will the crime hasten the day when votes will be won for women? Does Mrs. Pankhurst believe that she can bully and terrorise the British nation into giving women the vote? If so, she imagines a vain thing. You can cajole John Bull, but you can’t bully him. He won’t have it. But Mrs. Pankhurst pleads the divine right of rebellion in certain hard circumstances. She points to history and declares there is precedent for militancy. Men have waged civil wars to win their liberties; why should not women? The argument is plausible, but specious. Men have resorted to civil war when all other means have failed, when they have been oppressed by an oligarchy, and have been denied all constitutional means of redress. But the suffragists are not in this plight. The platforms of the country are open to them. The Press is largely on their side. They have friends in Parliament. There is nothing to prevent their trying to convert the country to their cause. They have the fullest liberty to prosecute their crusade. But they prefer bombs to argument, the methods of violence to reason. They are foolish enough to think that it is possible to frighten the British nation into doing what it has no mind to do. What limit would Mrs. Pankhurst put to her theory of rebellion? If she has a right to organise a civil war, what about the brave Ulster “bhoys” who worship at the shrine of “King” Carson? Have they not also a divine right to break the head of every wicked Papist they chance on? Would they not be justified in opening fire with their wooden cannon on Dublin Castle? And in the event of the Welsh Bill failing again, would she hold that the Welsh nation was justified in arming to the teeth and opening a campaign of fire and slaughter on the Welsh clergy? If these things are wicked and unjustifiable. as all must agree. is not the conduct of the militant suffragists infinity worse? The Welsh Bill has the support of the majority of Welshmen, and the Ulster Unionists are almost in a majority: but the suffragists are in a hopeless minority, and if their cause were submitted to the country it would be overwhelmingly defeated. Mrs. Pankhurst and her friends must play the game. It is no use playing spitfire, no use breaking windows and throwing things about in a tantrum. The fight must be won by fair constitutional means. There is no other way, except such as spelt inevitable failure. | 20 Feb 1913 Page 99 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **MRS PANKHURST**SPEECH AT CARDIFF.DRAMATIC DECLARATION“I Accept Responsibility”TURBULENT SCENESThe following paragraphs are extracts from the speech delivered by Mrs Pankhurst at Cardiff last night:-Last night while a whole army of men were guarding some golf links which are very popular with Cabinet Ministers, the golf links were respected, but a very successful piece of guerrilla warfare was effected by an attack on the unfurnished house of Mr Lloyd George.Mrs Pankhurst said that she had been asked by the newspapers, both in London and Cardiff, for a definite statement about militant methods adopted in this agitation. When the franchise Bill was killed, or rather when it was withdrawn, she said that they were going to resume their militant methods, that they would be continued till women were enfranchised, and that was prepared to accept responsibility for what was done.She did not go back on what she had said. For all that had been done in the past she accepted responsibility. She had advised, she had incited, she had conspired, and she said this – that the authorities need not look for the women who had done what they did last night, because she herself accepted the responsibility for it.If to-morrow she was arrested what had been done last night, if she was tried and sent to penal servitude she would prove in her person that the punishment unjustly imposed on women could not be carried out.If they sent her for five, ten, or twenty years, she would not stay. She would at once “hunger strike”: if they tortured her by forcible feeding, that could not last very long. They would either have to make her die or they would have to let her go. If she dropped out, hundreds of others would take her place. **The Meeting.**MRS PANKHURST’S STARTLING SPEECHMrs. Pankhurst spoke at the Cory Hall, Cardiff, last night. Before the meeting commenced there was abundant evidence of excitement. Under the gallery at the northern end of the hall students, mostly of the male persuasion, had assembled in goodly numbers, and they whiled away the time prior to the opening of the proceedings by singing choruses.There was a strong force of police present at the doors. A large crowd, unable to obtain admission, assembled outside the hall.The entry into the platform a few minutes before eight of Mrs Pankhurst, accompanied by Councillor Dr. Smith, the local organiser, was the signal for an outburst of cheering, mingled with cat-calls, boohs, and laughter.The opening of the meeting was prefaced by a solo, “The March of the Women” by Miss Gwynne, followed by the presentation of a bouquet to Mrs Pankhurst by Miss Speed, on behalf of the Cardiff branch of the W.S.P.U.Dr Smith said he regarded it as a very great privilege and honour (“oh” and laughter) to preside at the meeting for the purpose of demonstrating as far as he could his personal sympathy with the cause. (laughter) He believed it was a cause which would make in the future for a better England, and for securing social and economic reforms.Mrs PankhurstMrs Pankhurst, who was greeted with applause and some jeers and laughter, was repeatedly interrupted with questions and snatches of song. She commenced by comparing “the insurrection in Great Britain, the civil war that the women are carrying on” – (laughter) – to the insurrection in Mexico. They differed, she declared, not in earnestness – they differed only because of the moderation which women were showing as compared with men.“We read in the evening papers,” continued the speaker, “that in Mexico the President was arrested by a trick at a luncheon party and that all the members of the Mexican Cabinet except the Prime Minister, who has run away, are in prison. We have not yet got all the members of the present Liberal Government in prison---“ (voices ; “No” and “Never will”)“But we have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house,” instantly and dramatically retorted Mrs. PankhurstAn outburst of applause, hisses, boos, loud and prolonged, greeted the statement.**The “Insurrection” Explained**When the uproar had subsided, during which she smiled placidly, Mrs Pankhurst went on “Now you have let off all your enthusiasm for the false friend of women’s suffrage, I shall proceed to explain the insurrection to you” (Laughter) Mrs Pankhurst went on to argue that men in the past had resorted to civil war to win freedom, and were said to be justified. (“ Not they” and “Never”) What, were there men to-day who turned on their forefathers and said they were not justified? asked Mrs Pankhurst, amid applause.The speaker went on to liken militancy of the Suffragettes to the war waged for the emancipation of enslaved negroes. In practically every city in the civilised world there was a traffic in human beings, in women, girls, and little children (Laughter).“There are some men who laugh at that –“ Mrs Pankhurst was indignantly saying, when her voice was drowned in applause and the lusty singing of a music hall ditty.Mrs Pankhurst asked if any candidate for Parliament ever said anything about the industrial position of women, and some one shouted “Lloyd George” “If he knows” was the reply.” why doesn’t he deal with this most pressing grievance?” (Bow wow! and laughter.)“Why do you blow him up?” demanded a voice.“To wake him up” (Laughter and cheers)In reply to a query shouted from the hall as to why they did not take a referendum, Mrs Pankhurst said they did not want a referendum, and would not have one. If every man in the country voted against them it would not make the slightest difference.Assailed with shouts of “Pillar boxes” Mrs Pankhurst said the militants attacked property because they knew the only way to rouse men was to touch their pockets, but they did not take human life, as men had done in the past. They valued it more than did the enemy they were fighting.“What about Harcourt’s house? demanded an interrupter.Mrs Pankhurst emphatically denied that they attempted to burn down a part of the house where Mr Harcourt’s children were. The women went to that part of the house that appeared to be uninhabited. They were said to have attacked the very wing that they knew the children were sleeping in. That was the latest Press development.“I challenge Mr Harcourt,” added Mrs Pankhurst, emphatically, “to prove that it was the children’s wing or that his children were in the wing. (“How do you know?”) Miss Helen Craggs had taken every precaution to see that no one was living in the wing. (Applause and jeers).**Property, Money, and Pleasure**In response to repeated heckling, Mrs Pankhurst said that if they wanted to ask her questions about Mr Harcourt’s house, or about their methods she would stay there till midnight. She declared that they did, despite statements to the contrary, attach more value to human life than did their enemies. They looked upon it as sacred, and took every possible precaution to safeguard it, What they did attack was what appeared to be considered the most important things in modern civilisation – property, money, and pleasure. Attacks on these seemed to be the only things to arouse public feeling.Proceeding, Mrs Pankhurst advanced arguments in defence of their militant attitude, The voter was a very apathetic kind of person. They thought at the outset that by attacking the Government they might get something done.“What about the referendum?” cried someone in the body of the hall.“When men obtained votes nothing was said about a referendum,” replied Mrs Pankhurst, “and we do not intend either to have it for women” (Cheers and laughter)Taking up the challenge about the Anti-Suffrage League, the speaker said that this was a very mysterious organisation. (A voice, “so is yours.”)The speaker proceeded to analyse a recent balance sheet of this organisation. (A Voice: “Where does your agitation obtain its funds?”)“you can obtain all you want to know if you buy “A Suffragette,” was the reply.Forthwith the students, as one man, waved copies and cried. “We’ve got ‘em” and then they burst forth in chorus with a refrain.Cheers and laughter followed this outburst, and the speaker waited until a hearing could again be obtained.Mrs Pankhurst was asked if they were going to compensate Sir George Riddell for the damage to his house,She replied “No. Whoever house it is, they can look to the Government for compensation, because they are responsible”At the close of the meeting Mrs Pankhurst left in a motor, being driven through a large cheering and booing crowd, who were kept back by the police.  | 20 Feb 1913 Page 99/100 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**SUFFRAGISM AND CRIMEThe public are indebted to Mrs. Fawcett for the weighty words of protest she has uttered against the tide of criminality which is sweeping over the woman suffrage movement. “These outrages,” she says “are detestable, and deeply injurious to our cause.” She agrees no doubt with the Cabinet Minister who advises that it would not be wise for Parliament to pass a Woman Suffrage Bill during the present phase of the agitation, lest it should be regarded as a concession to violence, and lest it should operated as an incentive to reckless advocates of other unsuccessful causes, This motive of creation will no doubt operate in the minds of legislators. There is certainly no hope of carrying a Suffrage Bill through Parliament until crime has ceased to be the suffragists’ chief weapon of advocacy. But a retardation of favourable legislation is not the only thing for the sincere and law-abiding suffragist to fear. There must be able to the cause who have been alienated by recent excesses, and this revulsion of feeling is certain to be felt in Parliament also. It may be, then, that the cause will be permanently weakened through the latest developments of militancy. There are, however, larger issues than woman suffrage which recent events have brought in question, and Mrs Fawcett is painfully aware of the fact. She declares that the excesses of militancy are injurious to civilisation. “They have induced women who ought to be symbols of civilisation to commit crimes that could only be excusable in primitive people, savages, and children. It is a very serious menace really to our civilisation. It is in the highest degree deplorable that a political agitation should be carried on in a way which sets at naught the moral standards of civilised society. Public security is undermined, and the compact of good behaviour upon which human society is founded is violated and shattered. | 22 Feb 1913Page 100 - 101 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **NO ARREST YET MADE.**AUTHORITIES AND THE BOMB OUTRAGECAUTIOUS ACTIONMRS. PANKHURST GIBE AT CHELSEARACECOURSE FIRETENSION AT SCOTLAND YARDThere has been no arrest yet in connection with the bomb sensation at Walton-on-the Hill, and it will probably be a day or two, before the authorities come to any decision regarding Mrs. Pankhurst’s speech at Cardiff, in which she accepted responsibility for the outrage.A fire took place on Friday on the grand stand at Kempton Park Racecourse, adjoining the Royal stand. At first startling suspicions gained currency, but the outbreak was later officially stated to be accidental.**The Bomb Outrage**NO IMMEDIATE PROSPECT OF ANY ARREST[From our own reporter]For the moment the question of instituting proceedings against Mrs Pankhurst for her admitted responsibility in regard to the bomb outrage at Mr Lloyd George’s new residence – or at least the house which was being built for him – may said to be in suspense, but it is no secret that the matter is being very carefully considered by the legal advisers of the Crown who realise that the time has come when really effective steps must be taken to prevent persistent law breaking.At Scotland Yard there is, naturally the greatest reticence on the subject. Though it is admitted that action may be expected at any minute, there is no doubt about the disinclination of the authorities to institute any proceedings against the militants without the fullest assurance that they can withstand the most subtle of defences, and that ,perhaps, sums up the attitude of the ties in the present instance.They will move suddenly the moment they make up their minds, so that the measure contemplated may be undertaken with the prospect of success.ATMOSPHERE OF TENSIONThere is an atmosphere of tension among the police authorities in London as the result of the recent outrages, and the assurance of Mrs. Pankhurst that the present tactics are not to be relaxed in the slightest degree until the end – whatever that term may mean – has led to the greatest vigilance in every direction.As a well, known Scotland yard officer remarked on Friday night, “We do not know where they will break out next, or where to concentrate our preventative efforts.”The authorities are persuaded of the urgency of steps being taken against the organisers, but for the moment that is all that can be said, and another day or two must elapse before any decision may be expected.THE CARDIFF SPEECHThe Press Association is in a position to state on high authority that there is no immediate prospect of any arrest being made in connection with the Walton-on–the–Hill bomb outrage.Exhaustive inquiries are being pursued by the special department of Scotland Yard under Superintendent Quinn with regard to Mrs Pankhurst’s Cardiff speech.The Home Office is I possession of a transcript, but as yet no definite decision has been arrived at, and the subject is still a matter of consideration by the legal advisers of the Home Office.The passage in the speech to which attention is being specially directed is reported as follows :- The authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night, because I myself accept full responsibility for it.**Mrs Pankhurst**ASKS WHY AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT ARRESTED HER.Mrs Pankhurst speaking at Chelsea on Friday night said it was stated there were clues to the perpetrators of the outrage on Mr Lloyd George’s house. She has accepted responsibility several times and she was there at that meeting. Why had they not taken her?She supposed they knew their business and that it was thought it would be more difficult to manage things if she were in Holloway than when she was outside. Many condemned them, and lifelong supporters came to her stating that their sympathy was completely alienated. Her reply was, “What has you sympathy done for me?” It was better to have them angry than to have them pleased , because sooner or later they would come tote conclusion that this intolerable nuisance must be put an end to. The situation was impossible. How was it going to be ended? (A Voice: Put you in the Zoo.”) **The Legal View**CARDIFF SPEECH NOT SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY PROCEEDINGS.The Law on the matter said Mr. Alfred Fellows the well, known writer on legal problems to the “Evening News” is perfectly plain.“The Explosives Act which was passed in 1883 at the time of the Fenian outrages gives power to the courts to send to penal servitude for life persons committing outrages such as that at Walton Heath, or inciting others to commit them. Section 5 says that any person who ‘in any manner whatsoever procures, counsels, aids, abets, or is accessory to the commission of any crime under this Act shall be guilty of felony and shall be liable to be tried and punished as if he had been guilty as a principal.’”In order to prove that any suffragette leader had incited persons to commit the outrage, It would be necessary for the crown to secure speeches bearing that interpretation before it occurred. A boast made afterwards as to “taking full responsibility,” such as Mrs. Pankhurst’s at Cardiff, is not quite the same thing.The difficulty I this case would be to establish a chain of evidence connecting he outrage with the actual words of a militant leader. |  |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **South Wales Daily News****MRS PANKHURST**ASKS AN AKWARD QUESTION**Prompt reply by “The Voice”**PRECAUTIONS AT ROYAL PALACESMrs Pankhurst speaking at Chelsea Tow hall last night, asked why was she who had taken responsibility for the outrage on Mr Lloyd George’s house free? She supposed the authorities thought it would be more difficult to manage things with her in Holloway. The situation was impossible. How was it going to be ended? (A Voice “Put you In the Zoo,” and laughter.) It was stated here were clues to the perpetrators of the outrage. She had accepted responsibility several times, and she was there at that meeting. She supposed they knew their business. Many condemned the, and lifelong supporters came to her stating that their sympathy was completely alienated. Her reply was, “What has your sympathy done for me?” It was better to have them angry than to have them leased, because sooner or later they would come to the conclusion this intolerable nuisance must be put an end to. NO IMMEDIATE ARREST LIKELY.The “South Wales Daily News” is in a position to state on high authority that there is no immediate prospect of any arrest being made In connection with the Walton-on-the-Hill bomb outrage. Exhaustive enquiries are being pursued by the special department of Scotland Yard under Supt Quinn. With regard to Mrs Pankhurst’s Cardiff speech, the Home Office is in possession of a transcript but as yet no definite decision has been arrived at and the subject is still a matter of consideration by the legal advisers of the Home Office. | 22 Feb 1913Page 101 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Western Mail****WOMENS CIVIL WAR**AUTHORITIES RESOLVE ON ACTIONA COUNTER-STROKE“SOMETHING TO JIT THE LEADERS”POLICE OPINIONIMPRISIONMENT OF NO EFFECTLONDONERS ANGERREPRISAL CAMPAIGN POSSIBLEThe special reporter of the *Western Mail*, writing from London on Sunday night, states that the Home Office and Police authorities intend at a very early date to take action in response to the challenge of Mrs. Pankhurst in her Cardiff speech. The course advised by the law officers of the Crown is at present a secret but the *Western Mail* has authority for stating that it will be directed against the leaders of the militant movement, and will be more effective than imprisonment and subsequent release In consequence of hunger strike. Meanwhile a feeling of intense exasperation is gaining ground in London both against the Home Office for its pusillanimous handling of the difficulty and against the women directly responsible for the suffragette outrages or engaged In incitement. Public indignation, It is apparent will compel the authorities to act swiftly, if it be only to avoid and outbreak even more serious than militant tactics – a savage campaign of reprisal by the suffering public. Signs that the people of London are inclined to try their own methods of suppressing the suffragettes are multiplying and on that account a feeling of relief will be experienced at the authorities assurance of the *Western Mail* representative that he authorities have resolved to act, and will act quickly.**ACTION IMMINENT**AUTHORITIES TO AIM AT THE LEADERS[From our own reporter]LONDON , SundayPerhaps the most important development in connection with the suffragette war - and the *Western Mail* is able to make the announcement exclusively – is the determination of the authorities to accept Mrs Pankhurst’s repeated challenges with regard to the bomb incident at Walton heath last week. Exactly what course of is to be pursued is a carefully – preserved secret, and not eve a whisper can be gleaned at Scotland yard except the official denial of yesterday’s report that the conference between the Home Secretary and the legal advisors of the Crown had resulted In a decision not to prosecute. Beyond that none of the Yard officials would say anything as to the probabilities, but the reticence of Scotland yard nevertheless, there is the highest authority for stating that an important denouncement, which may have a far reaching effect upon the militant movement, may be expected early this week and it will arise chiefly out of the bold utterances of Mrs Pankhurst in the course of her Cardiff speech last Wednesday, when she accepted full responsibility for the wrecking of the house Sir George Riddell was about to sell to the chancellor of the Exchequer. LOST DIGNITYHow the legal advisors of the Crown propose to deal with the difficult position which has arisen remains to be seen, but the important fact is that some effort is to be made to prevent the hitherto unrestrained organisation of what Mrs Pankhurst is pleased to call “an insurrection on modern lines.” There are admitted difficulties to be faced in any prosecution which may be undertaken. While Mrs. Pankhurst takes full responsibility, the authorities are said to realise that this is not all that would be required in order to bring her under the operation of the statute, and none appreciate better than they the possibility of a skilful defence on some abstruse legal point of the kind the militants are always trying to unearth. At any rate, something has to be attempted, if nothing can be done, and a feeling of lost dignity seems to have taken possession of the Scotland Yard men because of the defiant and cynical taunts of Mrs. Pankhurst at their expense.IMPRISIONMENT USELESSMoreover. nobody knows better than those directly responsible for the police investigation work in regard to the suffrage movement how useless is the prosecution and punishment of the individual workers – if that is a legitimate term to use – when those who are organising the law breaking are allowed to escape. Mrs Pankhurst has boasted, as she did in her Cardiff speech that if she were to drop out of the movement a hundred would take her place. That applies with greater force to the rank and file of the movement as the authorities well know. To send to prison and to keep in prison does not seem to be the popular course among police officials. The comparatively few young women who escape the vigilance of the police, does not have any important bearing on the course of the movement. It does not even exercise a sobering effect, but rather the contrary on the others, as perhaps can only be expected in these days when martyrdom has its price in the market.The police and the detective staff of Scotland Yard will continue their unpleasant and almost impossible task of outrage prevention, but hey will know that no measure can be effective except those which would also hit the women who are directing the movement. During this week an effort will be made in that direction, and when the first step has been taken events will probably move swiftly for better or for worse.FERMENT OF INDIGNATIONOne thing is certain. The authorities must take prompt and effective steps – whatever the inconvenience, whatever the cost – to restore some sense of security to the business people and others resident in or having interests in the City. There is scarcely any at present. Business people are experiencing the greatest anxiety, for they have not given up expectation of further window-smashing attacks on as comprehensive a scale as that which opened the campaign of destruction. Hotel-keepers do not know when they may expect trouble, and the custodians and attendants of all kinds of public buildings and institutions are as “nervy” as the police. You cannot go into a restaurant or an omnibus, a theatre or train on the tube without hearing the most vigorous denunciations of the inactivity of the authorities and the delay in even attempting to grapple with a situation fraught with such danger to the community, and poor Mr McKenna is still the most castigated of them all. Indeed, London is in a ferment of indignation about the recent outrages and the probable continuation of them,PUBLIC RETALIATIONIf the forces of law and order do not assert themselves the public will be found taking matters into their own hands on the lines of the example set at Wrexham and Llanystumdwy. Mrs Pankhurst found at Chelsea the other evening much stronger opposition, both numerically and in the spirit of angry hostility, than was her experience at Cardiff on Wednesday last, and a meeting of the Women’s Freedom League held in another suburb last night was broken up.Strolling through Hyde Park this afternoon I found unmistakable evidence of the spirit of intolerance of any further militancy by the attitude of a crowd of some thousands at a suffrage meeting. The opposition element, were determined to break it up, and it was obvious that there were very few sympathisers of the militant movement present. The speaker, belonging to the Men’s Suffrage Society, had to abandon his effort the moment he commenced to refer to the “bravery of the women,” and there were such ominous portents that a troublesome row might have been looked for had he not wisely desisted.WAIT AND SEEThis is the kind of thing which will have to be expected as long as the militancy continues, but it may be that the course the authorities contemplate during this week will restore some degree of reasonableness to the conduct of the suffrage campaign and enable the public of London to breathe freely again. We must wait and see what that course is and whether the law is not sufficiently effective as it stands at present to enable the leader or leaders to be brought to account. We shall not have to wait long. There is the highest authority for stating that action is imminent. | 24 Feb 1913Page 102 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Western Mail****ARREST OF MRS PANKHURST**CHALLENGE ACCEPTED BY POLICETHE BOMB OUTRAGESPEECH AT CORY-HALL, CARDIFFTEXT OF CHARGEMILITANT’S CHANGE OF ATTITUDEINCITING DENIEDSUFFRAGETTES AND THEIR LEADERMrs Pankhurst’s challenge to the police to arrest her for inciting the suffragette bomb outrage at Walton Heath, first uttered at Cardiff and repeated at Chelsea and elsewhere, was yesterday taken up by the authorities at Scotland Yard, who arrested the suffragette leader at her Knightsbridge flat. She will be charged to-day at Epsom Police-court under the Malicious Damage to Property Act of 1861, and remanded until to-morrow, when the case will be fully opened against her.The first act in this response of the authorities to the suffragette defiance took place yesterday morning in the Epsom magistrates’ – room, where a warrant against Mrs Pankhurst was applied for. The sworn information handed in included a transcript of shorthand notes of Mrs Pankhurst’s speech in the Cory-hall, Cardiff, last Wednesday, and there is authority for stating that the case for the Crown against the militant leader rests very largely upon Mrs Pankhurst’s voluntary and unmistakable admission of responsibility for the Walton Heath outrage.The *Western Mail* has, however, good ground for stating that Mrs Pankhurst, who a week ago publicly stated that she had incited the perpetrators of the outrage, will call a large number of witnesses to dispute the contention of the prosecution that she is responsible for the crime, and that the alleged incitement will be strenuously denied.**THE ARREST**MRS PANKHURST’S CHALLENGE ACCEPTEDMrs Pankhurst was arrested at her flat at Knightsbridge, London, shortly after two o’clock on Monday afternoon on a warrant charging her with procuring and inciting persons to commit offences contrary to the Malicious Injuries to Property Act, 1861. The charge is understood to be in connection with the outrage at Mr Lloyd George’s new house at Walton Heath.The arrest was effected by Superintendent Quinn and Chief Inspector McBrien. When the officers entered the flat, Mrs Pankhurst, with whom was Miss Kenney, was preparing to go to the usual weekly meeting of the Women’s Social and Political Union at the London Pavilion. The officers conveyed the suffragette leader in a taxi-cab to Scotland Yard, Miss Kenney accompanying them as far as Piccadilly.While at the police headquarters Mrs Pankhurst was visited by a number of her intimate friends, and at 4.30 she left for Leatherhead, where she will be detained until brought up at Epsom Police-court to-day.TAKEN TO LEATHERHEADThe journey was made in a motor-car belonging to Superintendent Coleman, of the Surrey Constabulary, who arrived at Scotland Yard during the afternoon. Mrs Pankhurst was accompanied in the car by Chief Inspector McBrien, of the special department of Scotland Yard, and Mr Marshall, the solicitor who acts on her behalf, while Superintendent Coleman occupied a seat in front with the chauffeur. Just before Mrs Pankhurst took her seat a large folding cover was extended the full length of the car to protect the travellers against the cutting wind.As Mrs Pankhurst was leaving she turned smilingly to Superintendent Quinn and shaking hands with him, wished him “Good day.”THE CHARGEThe charge against Mrs Pankhurst is as follows :-Emmeline Pankhurst – for having on the 19th day of February, 1913, feloniously, unlawfully, and maliciously counselled and procured certain persons whose names are unknown, to feloniously, unlawfully and maliciously place in a certain building, to wit, a building situate at Walton Heath, in the county of Surrey, certain gunpowder and explosive substances, with intent thereby to damage the said building contrary to the Malicious Injuries to Property Act, 1861.Accused will be brought up at Epsom Police-court to-day, and after certain evidence has been taken there will be a remand until Wednesday, when the case will be more fully gone into.THE PRISONER CHARGEDSuperintendent Coleman, of the Dorking Division of the Surrey Constabulary, and Detective-inspector McBrien of Scotland Yard, arrived at Leatherhead just before six o’clock with Mrs Pankhurst. It was dusk when the car drew up at the police-station, and no one saw Mrs Pankhurst alight. The officers took their prisoner into the charge-room, where the charge was read over to her.Mrs Pankhurst made no reply to the charge, and was placed in a cell pending the hearing of the case at Epsom this morning.**A FORMAL AFFAIR**SUFFRAGETTE LEADER’S SPEECH CLOSUREDOur own reporter wires – Armed with a warrant granted by the Epsom magistrates on Monday, Chief-inspector McBrien of Scotland Yard, has taken Mrs Pankhurst into custody on a charge of inciting and counselling to the commission of damage to the residence at Walton which Sir George Riddell was soon to transfer to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.The leader of the militants was to have been the chief speaker on Monday afternoon at a great meeting of suffragettes to be held at the London Pavilion. Failing an earlier encounter, the Yard authorities had intended to execute the warrant at the playhouse. There were obvious reasons why this course was undesirable, though, perhaps, it would have better suited the dramatic instincts of the militants than the formal affair which the arrest actually was.NOT THE LEAST SURPRISEDThe chief inspector had the pleasant surprise of finding Mrs Pankhurst in when he called at the flat in Knightsbridge. He was accompanied by three other plain-clothes officers, so as to be prepared for any emergencies; but Mrs Pankhurst did not appear to be in the least surprised at the decision of the authorities, and prepared at once to accompany her escort to Scotland Yard.It has been arranged to bring her before the Epsom Bench this morning. That will, however, only be for the purpose of a formal remand, and the hearing of the case is definitely fixed for the following day (Wednesday) at a quarter after noon.Walton-on-the-Heath is in the Epsom petty-sessional division, and the case will, therefore, be heard in its preliminary stages at the little court of the famous centre of British sport.SENSATION IN THE CITYThe announcement of Mrs Pankhurst’s arrest, which had only been foreshadowed in the *Western Mail* of all the papers in the kingdom, has created an intense interest in the City, and particularly when the ladies turning up for the afternoon meeting at the Pavilion at three o’clock learned that their leader had been taken into custody just half an hour before.So what promises to be one of the most sensational trials since the beginning of the militant movement has been launched after a delay of several days since the alleged cause arose. The authorities have been slow to move, despite the clamour of an almost united press and the indignation of the whole City. But they have overcome the initial difficulties and they are now fully prepared.**ISSUE OF THE WARRANT**SCOTLAND YARD’S WELL-KEPT SECRETThere were only half a dozen witnesses to the first stage of the new drama. The scene was a small retiring-room of a wooden building which serves for the administration of justice in the Epsom division.It was the ordinary court day, and the little room was half filled with waiting officers of the law and those whom they had brought to justice. Some of them – not even the local police officers – had the slightest hint of the matter which had occasioned the visit of two or three men from the City, who had been granted an audience of the magistrates. The Scotland Yard people know how to keep their secrets, and so not a whisper of the little magisterial sitting was made to anybody until Mrs Pankhurst was in their hands. There were two magistrates present. Mr Braithwaite, a typical country gentleman, acting as chairman. A venerable justices’ clerk was master of the ceremonies, and the company was completed by Mr William Lewis, the prosecuting counsel of the Treasury.SWORN INFORMATIONTwo documents were sworn to by Chief-inspector McBrien and Mrs Edward James, a member of the staff of the *Western Mail* at Cardiff, the former relating to the damage of the house at Walton-on-the-Heath, and the other to the words used by Mrs Pankhurst in the course of her address at Cardiff last Wednesday night, when she accepted full responsibility for the outrage committed at Sir George Riddell’s house the preceding night.The Magistrates acceded to Mr Lewis’s request that a warrant should be issued against Mrs Pankhurst for having incited the offence.A few minutes later the chief-inspector, who has charge of the prosecution on behalf of Scotland Yard, was well on his way to the City, so as to execute the warrant without any delay. It was naturally his desire to carry out his purpose before the militant leader left her rooms for the suffrage meeting. Before doing that he had to get the warrant backed by a City stipendiary, and after this had been done at Bow-street, he went to Knightsbridge. Circumstances favoured him, and his search for Mrs Pankhurst ended almost the moment it began. | 25 Feb 1913Page 104 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **South Wales Daily News****MRS PANKHURST**Arrested at her FLATTHE BOMB OUTRAGEAnd Her Cardiff speechCHANGED UNDER ACT OF 1861Mrs Pankhurst was arrested at her flat at Knightsbridge, London, shortly after 2 o’clock yesterday afternoon, on a warrant charging her with receiving and inciting persons to commit offences contrary to the Malicious Injury and Property Act, 1861. The charge is in connection with the outrage at Mr Lloyd George’s new house at Walton Heath.The arrest was effected by Superintendent Quinn and Chief-Inspector Brien. When the officers entered the flat Mrs Pankhurst, with whom was Miss Kenney, was preparing to go to the usual weekly meeting of the Women’s Social and Political Union at the London Pavilion.The officers conveyed the suffragette leader in a taxi-cab to Scotland Yard, Miss Kenney accompanying them as far as Piccadilly. While at the police headquarters Mrs Pankhurst was visited by a number of her intimate friends, and at 4.30 she left for Leatherhead where she will be detained until brought up at Epsom Police Court to-day. The journey was made in a motor-car belonging to Superintendent Coleman, of the Surrey Constabulary, who arrived at Scotland Yard during the afternoon. Mrs Pankhurst was accompanied in the car by Chief Inspector Brien of the Special Department of Scotland Yard, and Mr Marshall, the solicitor who acts on her behalf, while Superintendent Coleman occupied a seat in the front with the chauffeur. Just before Mrs Pankhurst took her seat a large folding cover was extended the full length of the car to protect the travellers against the cutting wind.As Mrs Pankhurst was leaving she gave a smile to Superintendent Quinn and shaking hands with him wished him good day.**The Charge**The charge against Mrs Pankhurst is as follows:-Emmeline Pankhurst,For having, on the 19th day of February, 1913, feloniously, unlawfully, and maliciously counselled and procured certain persons, whose names are unknown, to feloniously, unlawfully, and maliciously place in a certain building, to wit, a building situate at Walton Heath, in the county of Surrey, certain gunpowder and explosive substances with intent thereby to damage the said building contrary to the Malicious Injuries to Property Act, 1861.Accused will be brought up at Epsom Police Court to-day. After certain evidence has been taken there will be a remand until to-morrow, when the case will be more fully gone into.**The Cardiff Speech**It will be recalled that on the day following the Walton Heath outrage Mrs Pankhurst addressed a meeting at Cardiff, and in the course of her speech, after declaring “we have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house,” she said:-For all that had been done in the past she accepted responsibility. She had advised, she had incited, she had conspired; and she said this – that the authorities need not look for the women who had done what they did on the previous night, because she herself accepted the responsibility for it. | 25 Feb 1913Page 105 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WOMEN’S “WAR” FOR VOTES**MRS. PANKHURST AT THE POLICE-COURTRELEASED ON BAILPROMISE OF SILENCE AND INACTIONHOOTED BY CROWDSOMETHING STARTLING AT THE TRIALMrs Pankhurst, the leader of the Woman’s Social and Political Union, was brought before a special bench of magistrates at Epsom on Tuesday upon a charge of incitement in connection with the bomb outrage at Mr Lloyd George’s prospective residence at Walton-on-the-Hill.Mrs Pankhurst arrived at the court by motor-car in the custody of Chief-Inspector McBrien, of the special branch of Scotland Yard. She spent the night at Leatherhead Police-station, and a large crowd gave her a mixed reception as she passes through the gates on arriving at the police-court.The suffragette leader wore a motor veil and thick ulster. She looked pale, but smiled at the demonstration with which she was greeted.The gates of the court were shut in the faces of the crowd, and so great was the crush that an accident was narrowly averted when a women became wedged between the wheel of the car and the gate post. The vehicle was promptly stopped and the woman extricated. When the doors of the court were ultimately opened and the large gathering of pressmen was accommodated there remained little room for members of the general public.The charge was one of havingOn February 19 feloniously, unlawfully and maliciously counselled and procured certain persons, whose names are unknown, to place, feloniously, unlawfully, and maliciously, in a certain building – to wit, a building situated at Walton Heath – a certain gunpowder and explosive substance, damaging each building, contrary to the Malicious Injury to Property Act, 1861.Mr Lewis, solicitor to the Treasury, was early present in court. Mr A.E.W. Marshall, defendant’s solicitor, followed shortly after.BOUQUET FOR THE PRISONERMrs Pankhurst occupied a seat in the dock. As she entered Mrs Massey presented her with a beautiful bouquet of violets and lilies of the valley. Mrs Pankhurst stood in front of the dock as the clerk of the court read out the charge to her.Dressed in a mauve costume, with a black hat, trimmed with a large ostrich feather of heliotrope hue, the prisoner presented a striking appearance. She looked pale, but was perfectly composed, and while evidence of arrest was given by Inspector McBrien she leaned easily upon the side of the dock and glanced calmly round the court.Mr Lewis on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions said he only proposed to give formal evidence of arrest, and then ask the court to remand Mrs Pankhurst until today (Wednesday), when the case would be gone into fully.Chief-inspector James McBrien, of Scotland Yard, was called, and said that on Monday, acting on the information of the Director of Public Prosecutions, a warrant was granted at Epsom court charging Mrs Pankhurst with the offence which had been read out. SHE SAID “VERY WELL”“At 2.45 yesterday afternoon”. Inspector McBrien added “accompanied by Superintendent Quinn, I went to 159, Knightsbridge (17, Hyde Park-chambers). I told her I was a police officer, and held a warrant for her arrest. She asked me to read over the warrant. In reply, she said, “Very well: do you want me to go with you.” Subsequently, said witness. He conveyed the prisoner to Leatherhead.Was Mrs Pankhurst formally charged at Leatherhead? – Yes sir.Did she make any reply to the charge? – She did not say anything.Mr Marshall intimated that he had no questions to ask the witness, and the evidence given was read over.Mr Lewis asked the bench to remand the prisoner until the following day.Mr Marshall then raised the question of bail. He said “I am instructed to apply for bail, I have substantial sureties ready, and Mrs Pankhurst authorises me to say that in the meantime she will refrain from doing anything in the nature of the charge now preferred against her.”DEFINITE UNDERTAKING DEMANDEDThe Chairman: If Mrs Pankhurst gives a definite undertaking to take no steps whatever in the meantime we shall not be opposed to granting bail.The Chairman added that bail would bail would be required in £300 from Mrs Pankhurst and two sureties of £200 each.Mr Lewis said the matter of bail rested entirely with the chairman of the bench.The Chairman: We would want a very definite assurance.Mr Marshall: I am authorised to give a complete assurance in any from you may desire, in substance and in fact, that she will refrain from anything in the nature of incitement or anything in the nature of this charge.The Magistrate: And not attend public meetings?Mr Marshall: Oh, no.The Chairman: In these circumstances we are satisfied.EX-M.P. AS SURITYMr Marshall called upon Mr James Murray as one of the sureties. Mr Murray gave his address as 3 Buckingham-gate and said he was formerly a member of Parliament. He smilingly acknowledged that he was worth over and above £200 after all his debts were paid – a formal question which Mr Marshall put to him.Mr Marshall added that he knew the witness personally. Mrs Pott, of Scarsdale Villas, Kensington, the other surety, said she was a householder and a ratepayer. And acknowledge her ability to pay 200 after all her debts were paid. Mr Marshall after putting the questions, said, “I saw you smiling, Mrs Pott. Do you say yes” – Yes.She explained that she had her own separate estate/Mr Marshall assured he bench that the witness was personally known to him. He explained that she had been accepted in other courts for considerably larger sums of bail, and had given satisfaction.At this point the case was adjourned until noon to-day.HOOTED BY THE CROWDSThe court was then cleared, and the vast crowd of people went into the street, where already there had assembled a crowd numbering probably a couple of thousand persons. Extraordinary precautions to prevent mishap or disturbance were taken by the police, and right along both sides of the thoroughfare the people were kept back and a clear way made.Mrs Pankhurst drove away, accompanied by three other ladies and her surety (Mr Murray) in Mr Murray’s car. As it was driven quickly along the street, Mrs. Pankhurst was the recipient of a considerable amount of boos and jeers. She did not seem to be in any way perturbed at this, however, and she repeatedly smiled at the demonstrators.  | 26 Feb 1913Page 106 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **MRS PANKHURST**Charged with IncitementCASE REMANDED AND BAIL ALOWEDHOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS**See article 26 February, 1913****Page 106 (4)** | 26 Feb 1913Page 108 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | Western Mail**THE CARDIFF SPEECH**MRS PANKHURST SENT FOR TRIALBAIL REFUSEDTHE “HUNGER STRIKE” TO FOLLOWSHORTHAND NOTESTHE INCRIMINATING PASSAGESNo indication of Mrs Pankhurst’s defence to the charge against her was given at the preliminary hearing at Epsom Police=court yesterday. She cross-examined the Cardiff pressman by means of whose shorthand notes the Crown hope to nail her to the public avowal of responsibility, but the object of her questions was not to impugn his accuracy, but to suggest that the meeting was so disorderly that he may have failed to take note of qualifying statements made by her.In the end Mrs Pankhurst was committed for trial to the Surrey Assizes at Guildford in May next. She refused to give an undertaking not to participate in the suffragette movement in the interim, and when the offer was made to her refused for so long a period to pledge herself to forego all suffrage work with the exception of addressing meetings. Accordingly the Bench refused to admit her to bail and before she left the dock she said in dramatic tones, “If I am alive when the summer assizes come it will be a dying woman that will be tried.”AT THE POLICE-COURTJOURNALIST AND THE CARDIFF MEETINGRemanded on Tuesday at Epsom on a charge of having incited persons unknown to place explosives in a house at Walton Heath, intended as a residence for the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mrs Pankhurst, the suffragist leader, surrendered to her bail at the local police-court on Wednesday. A crowd assembled outside the gates of the court, but a large force of police was on duty to prevent any possible disturbance. A number of ladies wearing the colours of the Women’s Social and Political Union were accommodated with seats in court.Among the early arrivals at the court were Chief-inspector McBrien, Captain Sant (chief constable of Surrey), and Mr Marshall (defendant’s solicitor). Mr Bodkin attended to conduct the case foe the Treasury, and reached the court shortly before the defendant motored up with her two sureties, Mr Murray and Mrs Pott.There was no demonstration from the crowd who were gathered about the entrance to the court.Mrs Pankhurst, who occupied a seat at the solicitors’ table, busied herself on arrival in opening numerous telegrams which awaited her at the court.A SCURRILOUS LETTERShe repeatedly turned to smile at her friends in the well of the court, and followed counsel’s opening attentively. A letter addressed to “The Magistrates for the suffragists, Epsom”, was opened, at the request of the chairman, by the defending solicitor, who remarked that it was s scurrilous letter which was not worth noticing.Mr Bodkin suggested that it should be consigned to the convenient fire, and the police burnt it forthwith.Mr Bodkin, in opening, said the case was an important and serious one. Mrs Pankhurst was charged as an accessory before the fact to the commission of a felony by some persons unknown. It was not necessary, where a person was so charged, that the person should have been present at the time the offence was committed. If there was evidence that the person charged counselled or procured the commission of a particular offence, that person was just as amenable to the law and punishment as if he or she committed the offence with his or her own hand. It was the submission of the prosecution that the statements of the defendant herself placed her in that position.THE SUFFRAGETTE BOMBIn relation to the felony, which, unquestionably was committed by some person or persons in the early morning of February 19, there would be evidence that on the previous evening the house was left in a proper and safe condition, and that shortly before the time due for the workmen to re-assemble an explosion took place which did damage to the extent of between £400 and £500. It was a very violent explosion of gunpowder, with which, apparently, was mixed a number of rough nails and pieces of metal.In a cupboard a short distance away from the scene of the first explosion were found complete arrangements for the carrying out of a second equally violent explosion. A canister of gunpowder was connected by some specially prepared cloth or linen substance with some shavings placed around a candle which had been partially burned away. In the canister was found a quantity of black powder and a quantity of nails and iron metal things, which would have caused very considerable further damage, and which, if any person had been there, would, in all probability have caused very serious personal injuries, if not death.ABOMINABLE AND CRUELIt would appear that the candle found amongst the shavings in the basin next to the unexploded canister had been lighted, but, in all probability, the force of the explosion had opened the cupboard door and blown the light out. The candle was about an inch or an inch and a half above the level of the shavings, and if the cupboard door had been locked, or had not come open at about six o’clock, it would have burnt out in about another hour, when the men would have been at work in the house.“A more abominable and cruel outrage” said Mr Bodkin, “probably has never been conceived, but, fortunately the blowing out of the candle left merely the wreckage of the house, and, therefore, the charge which was preferred was the proper one”. It was an outrage, counsel continued, carried out in pursuance of a widely announced scheme announced by defendant and carried out by those whom she described as “her soldiers”, in the warfare which she had started against property and against persons, with the avowed object of overawing the public and rendering their lives intolerable and in that way to overawe the Government of the country, with a view of furthering the particular ends of the party of which the defendant was the head and the leader.A FLAME OF LAWLESSNESSFrom the speeches defendant had made in the months of January and February, it would be seen that she personally had been engaged in plotting and conspiring to carry out acts of violence in furtherance of that seditious and illegal scheme. From the date of the withdrawal of the Franchise Bill, said council a flame of lawlessness burst out, and acts of outrage in various parts of the country resulted. The language of warfare was used by the defendant throughout her speeches, and when they had leaders and their soldiers plotting, conspiring, instigating and inciting, it was not expected that they could get witnesses who could speak of the particular assembly at which any individual outrage was planned. The best evidence were, statements by the persons admitting they were so engaged and glorying in the acts which had been done in consequence of the instigation.Mr Bodkin then read extracts from speeches made by Mrs Pankhurst both before and after the commencement of the series of outrages, in which she stated that she took full responsibility for those outrages. On one occasion, observed counsel, it was the Chancellor of the Exchequer against whom defendant showed a particular malevolence. In one speech defendant had directed her hearers notice to the humour of the situation of shopkeepers running to Parliament and demanding that women should have the vote. That said Mr.Bodkin drily was the humour of the situation in a civilised country. THE SPEECH AT CARDIFFCounsel emphasised the passage in defendant’s speech at Cardiff in which she said:The authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night. I accept responsibility for it all.On the speeches he submitted there was a question for the jury to determine at the assizes, and after proving the condition of the damaged house he intended to ask that defendant be committed for trial.The first witness, Mr. Henry Elliott, a carter of Walton Heath, stated that on the morning of February the 19 at about 4.30, he heard a motor- car proceeding from Walton-on-the-Hill in the direction of London.Evidence as to the effect of the explosion was given. Inspector Tudgey spoke to having found a hairpin amongst the shavings at the house.Major A McN. C. Cooper-Key, his Majesty’s inspector of explosives at the Home Office, said the inclusion of percussion caps among the nails and powder in the canister was very dangerous. The linen found had been soaked in oil and made into tinder by means of damp powder, so that it wold spit sparks into the gunpowder.WHAT MRS PANKHURST SAIDMr. Edward James, a member of the *Western Mail* staff at Cardiff, produced a transcript of the shorthand notes take by him of Mrs. Pankhurst’s speech at the Cory-hall, Cardiff on Wednesday of last week.Examined by Mr. Bodkin, witness stated that the meeting, which was held at the Cory-hall, was under the auspices of the Women’s Social and Political Union. Ms Pankhurst was a principal speaker and the transcript was a true and accurate record of her remarks. In the course of the transcript appeared the following sentence, to which Mr Bodkin called the particular attention of the bench:-We read this afternoon in the evening papers that in Mexico the President was arrested by a trick at a luncheon party, and that all the members of the Mexican Government except the Prime Minister, who has run away, ae in prison. Well we have not yet got all the members of the Present Government in prison, but we have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house. (Interruption.) Now, after you have left of your enthusiasm for the false friend of women’s suffrage. I shall proceed to explain the insurrection to you.Later in the speech Mrs Pankhurst asked a question concerning Mr Lloyd George. Someone interrupted with the question: “Why did you blow him up?” Mrs Pankhurst then said : - To wake him up, my friend. We have tried blowing him up to wake his conscience.Another extract the importance of which learned counsel had emphasised was : -We did something last Saturday week which seriously interfered with stockbrokers. We succeeded in doing what those who were shelling Adrianople did not do. There the telegraphs went on. But we entirely held up the telegraphic and telephonic communication between London and Glasgow for several hours last week. Last Sunday – a day which has been taken by many people as a day of recreation as well as devotion – the game of golf was altogether suspended on the golf links near London. Last night, while an army of men were guarding a golf links very popular with Cabinet ministers, to show how really clever our tactics are, the golf links were respected, but a very successful piece of guerrilla warfare was accomplished on the unfinished house of Mr. Lloyd George. Ladies and gentlemen we are firmly convinced – nothing can alter our conviction- we are convinced that this is the only way to get women’s suffrage. “I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY”Towards the end of her speech Mrs. Pankhurst made the following declaration: -When the franchise Bill was withdrawn and the chances the amendments gave to women was destroyed. I said we were going to resume our militant methods, and that they would be continued until women were enfranchised. And I said I was prepared to accept responsibility for all the acts that women would feel themselves driven to do by the injustice that was done. I do not go back upon what I said. I say that for all that has been done in the past I accept responsibility – that I have advised, I have incited, I have conspired. And I say this: - the authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night. I accept responsibility for it, and I tell you people who think this agitation can be put down by force and that women can be punished – my reply to you is that government rests upon consent, and if the weakest woman in our movement withholds her consent not all the powers on earth can govern her. STUDENTS INTERRUPTIONAt the conclusion of the formal roof of the notice Mrs. Pankhurst, asked if she proposed to cross examine the witness, replied, “No, I don’t think there is need of any questions.”A moment later, when Mr. Bodkin had commenced to make an application for the release of the witness, Mrs. Pankhurst said: - “I should like to ask you one question, Mr James. There was considerable interruption in the course of this speech?” Witness: A great deal yes. The college students were there, and there were occasional lively scenes.So that certain portions of your shorthand notes would be difficult to report and might not be quite accurate? – It is quite likely there may be some slight inaccuracies. The whole place was occasionally in a state of disorder.Sir William Vincent; Are you asking these questions Mrs Pankhurst, because you question the note?Mrs. Pankhurst: Yes, there are some inaccuracies which might be due to that.Witness: There were some periods of the meeting during which one could not hear all that was said sufficiently distinctly to take a note of it.MRS PANKHURST LAUGHSMrs. Pankhurst: Quite so. Where that occurs, you use the term “interruption.”Witness: Yes, you may take it that the word “interruption” covers a multitude of interjections – (laughter) – to which Mrs. Pankhurst replied in Mrs Pankhurst’s own style. (More laughter.)Mrs. Pankhurst: In other respects, Mr. James, it was an orderly meeting? (Laughter.) – Yes I think I can describe it as distinctly orderly for a suffragette meeting. (Laughter.) You of course have attended a large number of meetings in the course of your career as a journalist and you can speak comparatively. This was a good meeting, was it not? – Oh yes, it was a distinctly good meeting on the whole.You have been present at many worse meetings in Cardiff? – Yes many – if not in Cardiff certainly in South Wales. Mrs .Pankhurst: Thank you, Mr. James that is all I have to ask you.Addressing the chairman, Mrs Pankhurst added, “on the whole, the report is a very good one, considering the difficulties in the hearing. It is certainly much better than that of the police reporters.”THE POLICE REPORTERS.After the interval Detective Renshaw, of the special branch at Scotland Yard, deposed to taking shorthand notes of speeches by Mrs Pankhurst at Palmer’s Green the London Pavilion, Essex –hall, Strand, Croydon, and Chelsea Town-hall, and produced his transcript, extracts from which had been read by Mr Bodkin in opening.Mrs Pankhurst, cross-examining, asked:Do you swear that this is a verbatim report?* Yes.

Do you call yourself an expert shorthand reporter? – Yes, I think I’m pretty good.Mrs Pankhurst: I regret I cannot compliment you as I did the last witness on the accuracy of your report.Mr. Bodkin: Anybody used to public speaking knows how curiously a transcript reads.Detective Auger, of the special branch, produced his transcript of notes of a speech by Mrs. Pankhurst at Holburn Town-hall.Mrs Pankhurst: What do you mean by the “special branch” at Scotland Yard? – The political department.Mrs. Pankhurst (to the chairman): What I wanted to ascertain is the fact that there is a political branch of the C.I.D.The Chairman: Yes; I think you have got that.Mrs Pankhurst (to the witness): Is it part of you duty to go to Ulster?Mr Bodkin: The Royal Irish Constabulary, look after Ulster as other parts of Ireland.This closed the case for the prosecution.COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.Mr Bodkin asked that Mr. James should be immediately bound over to appear at the Guildford Assizes so that he could now be released. “Mr. James,” he said, “who is a journalist, wants to be back at his work, and has a long way to travel.” The Justice –clerk: Have you got another meeting like this to attend to night, Mr. James? (Laughter)Witness: I don’t think so.Sir William Vincent said the bench readily consented to the release of the witness. The bench then committed the defendant for trial.Mrs. Pankhurst refused to give an undertaking not to attend meetings if allowed out on bail until the Guildford Assizes in May.The Chairman (Sir William Vincent) said that being so, bail could not be granted.Mrs Pankhurst declared that she would immediately adopt the hunger strike.“If, “ added Mrs. Pankhurst, “I am alive when the summer assizes comes, it will be a dying woman that is tried.” She added that at the present time her daughter was in prison in a serious condition.The Chairman said that the intolerable condition of things brought about by the outrages must not go on.Mr Bodkin suggested that the undertaking should not be amended so as to permit the defendant to take part in meetings, but defendant said she could not give the necessary undertaking for so long a period. Before leaving for Holloway she was embraced by her friends in the courtyard, and was “booed” | 27 Feb 1913Page 108 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **South Wales Daily News****SCHOOLBOY’S HOAX**An unfastened envelope containing a slip of paper bearing the words, “Votes for women – Beware!” was found in a pillar-box in the Roath Park district early yesterday morning. The words were written in large, sprawling handwriting, and the authorities are of the opinion that it is the work of a schoolboy, and done merely for mischief. No importance, therefore, is attached to the matter. | 25 Mar 1913Page 140 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Western Mail****THE LAW AND THE HUNGER-STRIKE**Mr McKenna’s Bill for combating the hunger-strike by prisoners was received by the House of Commons without enthusiasm. There was little approval and much criticism, but no attempt was made, except by Lord Robert Cecil, to propound an alternative. Little more was heard of the suggestion that the hunger-strikers should be permitted to starve. It is realised no doubt that the idea is too brutal altogether and that public sentiment would be outraged were it acted upon. Mr McKenna was probably right in saying that those who reproached him for want of courage in dealing with hunger-strikers would be the first to charge the Government with wanton brutality if a “courageous” policy led to a natural consummation in the death of the prisoner. The justification of Mr McKenna’s proposal lies in the fact that it renders an unsatisfactory position somewhat less unsatisfactory. It takes for granted the continuance of the existing state of things – the hunger-strike and the inevitable release – but provides that the release shall no longer operate as an absolute remission of the remainder of the appointed term of punishment. Should the Bill pass, the person released will be liable to re-arrest for the completion of the sentence. The Bill increases the period during which a person is liable to punishment, but does not increase the number of days a person will spend in prison. It has been objected that the measure threatens to produce an “in-and-out” process like that already experienced in regard to habitual inebriates in prison or ne’er-do-wells in the workhouse. What is expected to happen is that a militant suffragist, when released on licence under the Bill after a successful hunger-strike, will, as soon as she has sufficiently recovered from the effects of the hunger-strike, resort to criminal practices and be taken to prison once more. The process might be repeated several times before a term of imprisonment was actually served. Such a process might bring the law into greater contempt, and give to the offender’s greater opportunities for that notoriety for which they crave and upon which the success of their tactics is supposed to depend. This, however, would not occur in all cases, and we may surely hope that the suffragist law-breaking mania will not last longer than other epidemic manias. But the objection loses all merit when it is realised that the “in-and-out” process is possible already. What the Bill does is not to create evil, but to discourage resort to evil by keeping alive a power of punishment which at present is lost the moment the order of release is given. There is, moreover, no abandonment of the power of forcible feeding, and where that process can be applied with satisfactory results there will, as at present, be no release until the sentence has expired. | 3 Apr 1913Page 149 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Western Mail****TRIAL OF MRS PANKHURST**CHANCELLOR’S VILLA EXPLOSIONCARDIFF SPEECHCOUNSEL AND DANGER TO LIFEExceptional interest was manifested on Wednesday in the trial of Mrs Pankhurst, the suffragette leader, who was brought up at the Central Criminal Court. The case is the outcome of the sensational occurrence at Walton Heath on February 19, when the villa which had been built for Mr Lloyd George was partly blown up by gunpowder.Mrs Pankhurst had to answer to a charge of feloniously and maliciously counselling and procuring certain persons to feloniously place in a certain building certain gunpowder and explosive substances, thereby damaging the building.Mrs Pankhurst, who was stylishly attired, wore a long black velvet cloak, edged with grey fur. She pleaded “Not guilty” to the charge, and informed the court that she would conduct her own defence.IN THE DEAD OF NIGHTMr Bodkin, who was accompanied by Mr Travers Humphreys, opened the case for the prosecution. After tracing the steps of the Malicious Damage to Property Act, 1861, Mr Bodkin said the offence was committed in the dead of night, and followed considerable planning and preparation.The person who incited to an offence of this kind was an accessory before the fact. It was not suggested that the defendant was present when the crime was committed, but that she counselled and procured other women to carry it out. The women who committed the outrage were members of the Women’s Social and Political Union, in which organisation the defendant was the moving spirit and recognised leader.He assured the jury that the evidence against defendant would be of the most satisfactory kind, for it would consist of defendant’s own admissions in speeches of having incited and procured the commission of the offence.MRS PANKHURST OBJECTSThe house was really the property of Sir George Riddell, but the crime was intended as an act against Mr Lloyd George. That was clear from the speeches made by the defendant. Some of the phrases quoted by Mr Bodkin were, “War is to be declared,” “The sword is to be drawn and never sheathed again,” and “We are going to make life intolerable to the citizens.”Mrs Pankhurst raised an objection to the police reports of her speeches on a three-fold ground, describing them as inaccurate, ignorant, and ungrammatical.Mr Justice Lush said he could not exclude the reports.Mr Bodkin proceeded to quote from Mrs Pankhurst’s speeches, and came to the assurance that, whatever warfare they might enter, the suffragettes would respect human life.“Perhaps that is a small glimmer of satisfaction,” Mr Bodkin remarked, “but if that candle had burned another half-hour that would have been an empty expression indeed.”They saw, they said, there should be no danger to human life, but yet within half an hour of a carefully-set explosion, twelve workmen would have entered the house.THE SPEECH AT CARDIFFComing to the address delivered by Mrs Pankhurst at Cardiff on the evening following the Walton-on-the-Heath outrage, Mr Bodkin quoted:We have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house.A Voice: Why do you blow him up?To wake him up, my friends. We have tried blowing him up to wake his conscience.A further quotation from the speech was read:I have advised – I have incited – I have conspired – and I say this that the authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night. I accept responsibility for it.Concluding his address, and producing Mrs Pankhurst’s own views on her freedom, Mr Bodkin quoted: “It is wrong, it is hard, it is unjust, it is not particularly British, that you should capture and punish the ordinary soldier of the rank and file when the leader rides about in her motor-car from meeting to meeting, making speeches admitting her responsibility, acting on these emotional followers of hers to do what they have done for months past in London and elsewhere.” The authorities, he added, took the same view as did Mrs Pankhurst, and she was now being charged.THE NON-EFFECTIVE BOMBEvidence was then given by an elderly man, named Elliott, who stated that, on the morning of February 19, at half-past four, he saw a motor-car leaving the vicinity of Sir George Riddell’s house. At six o’clock he heard the explosion in the house.The foreman of the builders of the house was examined by Mr Bodkin. Witness showed the position in which he found the non-effective bomb. The tin of gunpowder stood close to the pan of shavings, on which a candle rested. This had burned to within an inch of the shavings. It was apparently blown out by the force of the explosion in the servants’ bedroom.THE CANDLE THAT WENT OUTMajor Cooper Key, the chief inspector of explosives at the Home Office, in the course of examination by Mr Bodkin, said the draught caused by the explosion in the bedroom sucked out the doors of the cupboard in which the second bomb was placed and blew out the candle. An experiment with the remaining part of this candle showed that in half an hour only half an inch was burnt away.Mrs Pankhurst objected to the suggestion that the second bomb was so placed that it would explode when the workmen came to the house.His Lordship informed defendant that no such suggestion had been made by the prosecution.In cross-examination, one of the police shorthand writers said he took those parts of the speech which, in his opinion, were of a criminal character. He admitted he relied upon his own discretion, and Mrs Pankhurst sought at some length to dispute his discretion.Asked by His Lordship if Mrs Pankhurst spoke quickly, witness, amid laughter, said, “She is fairly mediocre.” She was, he added, a very intelligent and capable speaker.Mrs Pankhurst: “I need not question the witness any further. (Laughter.)The case was adjourned until to-day. | 3 Apr 1913Page 150 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **South Wales Daily News**Trial at the old BaileyINCITEMENT CHARGEAccused’s Cardiff SpeechExceptional interest was manifested yesterday in the trial of Mrs Pankhurst, the suffragette leader, who was brought up at the Central Criminal Court. The case is the outcome of the sensational occurrence at Walton Heath on February 19th, when a villa which had been built for Mr Lloyd George was partly blown up by gunpowder. Mrs Pankhurst had to answer the charge of feloniously and maliciously counselling and procuring certain persons to feloniously place in a certain building certain gunpowder and explosive substances thereby damaging the building.Crowds of people endeavoured to obtain access to the court, but admission was rigorously restricted to those who had secured special tickets. These privileged persons, practically all of whom were women, occupied available seats in the gallery at the rear of the court. They included numbers of well-known members of the suffrage movement.Mrs Pankhurst, who was stylishly attired, wore a long black velvet cloak, edged with grey fur. She pleaded “Not guilty” to the charge and informed the Court that she would conduct her own defence.Mr Bodkin, who was accompanied by Mr Travers Humphreys, opened the case for the prosecution. After tracing the scope of the Malicious Damage to Property Act, 1861, Mr Bodkin said the offence was committed in the dead of night, and followed considerable planning and preparation. The person who incited to an offence of this kind was an accessory before the fact. It was not suggested that the defendant was present when the crime was committed, but that she counselled and procured other women to carry it out. The women who committed the outrage were members of the Women’s Social and Political Union, in which organisation the defendant was the moving spirit and recognised leader. He assured the jury that the evidence against defendant would be of the most satisfactory kind, for it would consist of defendant’s own admissions in speeches of having incited and procured the commission of the offence.Describing the material used in the crime, Mr Bodkin said 10 lbs of gunpowder were contained in two tins which had been carefully prepared for the purpose of doing as much damage as could possibly be done. There could be no viler or more abominable contrivance than this, he added. The house was really the property of Sir George Riddell, but the grime was intended as an act against Mr Lloyd George. That was clear from speeches made by the defendant. Some of the phrases quoted by Mr Bodkin were “War is to be declared,” “The sword is to be drawn and never unsheathed again,” and “We are going to make life intolerable for the citizens.”Mrs Pankhurst raised an objection to the police reports of her speeches on a threefold ground, describing them as inaccurate, ignorant, and ungrammatical.Mr Justice Lush said he could not exclude the reports.Mr Bodkin proceeded to quote from Mrs Pankhurst’s speeches, and came to the assurance that whatever warfare they might enter the suffragettes would respect human life. “Perhaps that is a small glimmer of satisfaction,” Mr Bodkin remarked, “but if that candle had burned another half-hour that would have been an empty expression indeed. They said there should be no danger to human life, but yet, within half an hour of a carefully-set explosion those 12 workmen would have entered the house.”**The “V.C.” if the W.S.P.U.**Mr Bodkin was bitterly sarcastic at another point, when he quoted Mrs Pankhurst’s remarks on the warfare against orchid houses, club windows, and telegraph poles.“What a glorious feat of arms,” he exclaimed drily, “earning the V.C. of the W.S.P.U. in this warfare.” A little later, however, Mr Bodkin paid Mrs Pankhurst the compliment of describing her as a most effective and dramatic speaker who could hold large audiences. Coming to the address delivered by Mrs Pankhurst at Cardiff on the evening following the Walton Heath outrage, Mr Bodkin quoted:We have blown up the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s house.A Voice: Why do you blow him up/To wake him up, my friends. We have tried blowing him up to wake his conscience.A further quotation from the speech was read:I have advised, I have incited, I have conspired, and I say this, that the authorities need not look for the women who have done what they did last night. I accept responsibility for it.**Riding in Her Motor-car**Concluding his address, Mr Bodkin said: It is wrong, it is hard, it is unjust, it is not particularly British, that you should capture and punish the ordinary soldier of the rank-and-file when she rides about in her motor-car from meeting to meeting, making speeches, admitting her responsibility, acting on these emotional followers of hers to do what they have done for months past in London and elsewhere. The authorities, he added, took the same view as did Mrs Pankhurst, and she was now being charged.Evidence was then given by an elderly man named Elliott, who stated that on the morning of February 19 at half-past four he saw a motor-car leaving the vicinity of Sir George Riddell’s house. At six o’clock he heard the explosion in the house.The foreman of the builders at the house was examined by Mr Bodkin. Witness showed the position in which he found the non-effective bomb. The tin of gunpowder stood close to the pan of shavings on which a candle rested. This had burned to within an inch of the shavings. It was apparently blown out by the force of the explosion in the servants’ bedroom.Evidence was given by the police as to what was found after the explosion.**Was it a Woman’s Golosh?**Mrs Pankhurst cross-examined with a view to ascertaining whether a certain golosh which had been found was a man or woman’s size. An inspector described it as a woman’s golosh, but Mrs Pankhurst contended that it could not be worn over a woman’s shoe.Inspector Mac Bryan, of Scotland Yard, was called to prove the finding of a letter written by Mrs Pankhurst. Defendant, however, declared that the letter had previously been published in certain London newspapers.In cross-examination by defendant, witness said he was connected with the political department of Scotland Yard, which, he added, dealt with anarchists, nihilists, and all manner of persons concerned in political offences.Mrs Pankhurst: “And women suffragists. (Laughter.)Major Cooper Key, the Chief Inspector of Explosives at the Home Office, in the course of examination by Mr Bodkin, said the draught caused by the explosion in the bedroom sucked out the door of the cupboard in which the second bomb was placed and blew out the candle. An experiment with the remaining part of this candle showed that in half and hour only half an inch was burnt away.Mrs Pankhurst objected to the suggestion that the second bomb was so placed that it would explode when the workmen came to the house.His Lordship informed defendant that no such suggestion had been made by the prosecution.**Police Witnesses**Police detectives were then called to testify to the accuracy of their reports of Mrs Pankhurst’s speeches.In cross-examination, one of the police shorthand writers said he took those parts of the speech which, in his opinion, were of a criminal character.Asked by his Lordship if Mrs Pankhurst spoke quickly, witness, amid laughter, said: She is fairly mediocre. She was a very intelligent and capable speaker.Mrs Pankhurst: I need not question the witness any further. (Laughter.)The greater part of the afternoon sitting had been occupied in reading and examining transcripts of speeches.A second police officer, who was cross-examined by defendant, said he was instructed to take note of any part of the speech that might be material from the police point of view.Mrs Pankhurst: And omit that which might explain?Witness: Oh no: merely to take the remarks of importance.The case was adjourned till to-day. | 3 Apr 1913Page 151 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Western Mail****BOMB OUTRAGE TRIAL**MRS PANKHURST SENT TO GAOLPENAL SERVITUDEWOMEN’S OUTBURST IN COURT“WAR SONG” SUNGJUDGE ADMONISHES PRISONERMrs Pankhurst, who at Cardiff voluntarily assumed responsibility for the suffragette bomb outrage at Walton Heath and at Chelsea on the day following challenged the authorities to arrest her, was yesterday at the Old Bailey, as the result of her challenge, sentenced to three years’ penal servitude for incitement to outrage.The militant leader, who in her defence pleaded that she did not incite maliciously, immediately on hearing her sentence declared that she would go on hunger-strike, and when she was released from prison would commence militancy again. Her sentence being one of penal servitude, the Home Secretary will, if necessary, be able to adopt the policy provided for in his “Hunger-strike Bill, introduced on Wednesday, the object of which is to give him the same powers in imprisonment cases as he already possesses with regard to penal servitude sentences. That is to say, if he is compelled to order Mrs Pankhurst’s release owing to her self-starvation, it will be with the right of re-arrest at any time.After Mrs Pankhurst had been sentenced there was a remarkable scene in court created by the woman who had been admitted to hear the trial. They marched out of court singing the suffragette “Marseillaise,” defying the police, and disregarding the commands of the judge to behave themselves. As a consequence the judge ordered the court to be cleared, adding that after the indecent and indecorous exhibition no women would again be allowed within its walls without special permission, and the unparalleled scene was over.“I HAVE CONSPIRED”MILITANT LEADER’S CARDIFF SPEECHThere is little diminution in the interest centring around the trial when the case was resumed (before Mr Justice Lush) at the Central Criminal Court on Thursday,The public galleries were again crowded by women, many of whom were closely identified with the suffragist movement.Mrs Pankhurst, looking pale and tired, carried a large number of papers and documents with her as she took her place in the dock.When the case was resumed a police shorthand writer gave further evidence as to the alleged inflammatory speeches by the leader.In cross-examination, the defendant sought to show that the police reports of her speech were inaccurate, and did not convey her real meaning.Mr Edward James a representative of the Western Mail, Cardiff, produced a transcript of his shorthand notes of the speech delivered at Cardiff by Mrs Pankhurst. It was in the course the speech that the defendant alluded to the Walton outrage, and declared:-For all that has been done in the past I accept responsibility. I have advised. I have incited. I have conspired, and I say this – the authorities need to look for the women who did what they did last night. I accept responsibility for it.Mrs Pankhurst intimated to the judge that she would accept Mr James’ transcript as an accurate report of her Cardiff speech. When asked whether she proposed to cross-examine him she replied “No, I shall have no questions to ask Mr James, my lord.”The Judge: Neither have I.THE PRISONER’S DEFENCEWhen the speeches had been exhausted, Mrs Pankhurst proceeded to address the jury. Speaking with some argumentative force, the defendant addressed herself to the main points of her defence carefully and collectedly. She criticised the prosecution and the speech of Mr Bodkin in opening. “Mr Bodkin” she remarked, has quite rightly said that I was accused of a serious crime, and that the whole situation was very serious. I entirely agree with that It is a situation which is unprecedented in this country. Counsel, she continued, had made certain remarks of a personal character, and had conveyed certain suggestions which were quite unworthy of the seriousness of the charge; His words had contained the suggestion that she was a woman flying about in a motorcar, inciting other women to do certain acts entailing imprisonment.SHARED THE PUNISHMENT“I share the punishment these women have to face” she declared with emotion. I have been to prison three times, and two of the sentences I have served for the whole time, I was treated like an ordinary criminal, searched, put in prison clothes, kept in solitary confinement, and fed on prison fare. The motor-car alluded to was not hers, she added: but was one belonging to the organisation of which she was the head. She knew only one trade in which women could afford to keep their own motor-cars, and that was an abominable one. Proceeding to the review of the present state of the law, Mrs Pankhurst described its inequality as intolerable. Defendant began some reference to the tragic death of an assizes judge several years ago, when his lordship intervened and directed her in the real question before the jury.She agreed and went on to state that if she were to be charged with inciting voteless women, then those in authority who had incited the women ought to have been in the dock also. Again at this point Mrs Pankhurst was about to refer to the case of the assize judge when Mr Justice Lush sternly rebuked her. “You have not loyally abided by the direction I gave you.” He said “and you are doing yourself no good”.NOT NOTORIETY HUNTERS“We are not women who are notoriety hunters”, We could get that more cheaply, heaven knows in many more ways. We are adopting the only possible way in which we can get the power to alter this absolutely intolerable state of things.“Whether my sentence will be a long or short one. I shall not submit. The moment I leave this court, whether it be on penal servitude or a light form of imprisonment I shall refuse food and join the women who are already in Holloway on hunger strike. I shall come out dead or alive at the earliest possible moment and once I am out and alive I shall recommence.There is only one way in which you can end this agitation and that is by giving us justice, I ask you to return a verdict of “Not guilty” for my incitement was not malicious.JUDGES VIEWSIn his summing up, his Lordship said the jury would probably agree that the defendant had in her mind a deeply imbedded conviction that she would be discharging a public duty if by, any means, fair or foul, she could bring about a change in the law, which she regarded as essential to the well-being of society and the well-being of women. If the offence had been committed without the previous knowledge or co-operation of the defendant, and if it had been done by persons acting spontaneously, the fact that defendant afterwards admitted responsibility would not make her criminally responsible.The jury, after an absence of half an hour, returned a verdict of “Guilty”, but added a strong recommendation to mercy.Mrs Pankhurst was then asked if she had anything to say.A PRISONER OF WARAdvancing to the dock rail, and speaking in a voice frequently trembling with emotion, she said she would do all that was humanely possible to terminate her sentence at the earliest possible moment. “I have no sense of guilt” she said: “I look upon myself as a prisoner of war. I shall take the desperate remedy every woman has taken.Dashing her clenched hand on the rail in front of her. Mrs Pankhurst exclaimed “I shall make this fight as long as I have an ounce of strength left in me I invited punishment: I deliberately broke the law – not hysterically, emotionally, but seriously – because I honestly feel it is the only way”Addressing Mrs Pankhurst, the Judge said he could not help pointing out that the crime was not only serious, but wicked. It was wicked because she had been luring other people – young women it might be to engage in crimes, possibly to their own ruin. He felt sure she would pay no heed to what he said, but he hoped that for one short hour of discretion she would think over it.NOT A TRIVIAL CRIME“If you could only realise the wrong you are doing and the mistake you are making”, he continued, “and see the error you have committed, and undertake to amend matters by using your influence in the right direction, I would be the first to use my best endeavours to bring about a mitigation of the sentence I am about to pass. I cannot and will not, regard your crime as a merely trivial one. It is not; it is a most serious one. Having regard to the recommendation of the jury, I shall pass the sentence of three years penal servitude”Mrs Pankhurst heard the sentence passed upon her with calmness, but there was an extraordinary scene in court.The women who crowded the galleries and the rear of the court rose, and, in a burst of almost frenzied excitement, shouted, “Shame!” and “Outrage!”The few police inside the court-room were powerless to subdue the excitement.SCENE IN COURTWOMEN SING SUFFRAGETTE “MARSEILLAISE”As Mrs Pankhurst passed from the dock to the cells below the wave of excited enthusiasm and “Outrage!”The few police inside the court-room were powerless to subdue the excitement.SCENE IN COURTWOMEN SING SUFFRAGETTE “MARSEILLAISE”As Mrs Pankhurst passed from the dock to the cells below the wave of excited enthusiasm rolled up afresh. Cheers burst forth, arms were raised and flourishing wildly and the suffragette song, “Marching On” was taken up by a dozen throats, sung to the tune of the “Marseillaise”.The inspiriting air of the song became quite infectious, and it resounded from the gallery to the floor.There was a momentary break, in which the Judge was heard to remark sternly “Upon this indecent and indecorous exhibition I shall have the court cleared of women. I will not have this court turned into an indecent exhibition”The police could do nothing to stamp out the extraordinary outbreak, and had to stand by until the more excited demonstrators passed out slowly.It was a scene unparalleled in a court of law.When the noise had subsided his Lordship said “After what has just occurred, I shall give directions to those in charge of the court that no women are to be allowed into this court without special permission. I won’t allow this court to be he disgrace it was a moment ago” Outside the court the crowd of several hundreds received the news of the sentence with mingled feelings, cheers alternating with hisses, but there was no untoward scene.TAKEN TO PRISONMrs Pankhurst was driven away in a four-wheeler in the custody of wardresses, having left the court by a side entrance, Crowds of suffragettes assembled at the prisoners’ exit rushed in the direction of the vehicle, which was driven away rapidly, and the disappointed women loudly expressed their disapproval. Some entered two motor-cars and started in pursuit, amid booing from the crowd.  | 4 Apr 1913Page 152 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**THE FIRE WOMEN FAIL.ATTEMPT TO RAZE ELY RACE STAND.SUFFRAGETTE NOTES.PREPARATINS FOR A BIG BONFIRE.An attempt to burn down the members’ stand at Ely Racecourse, Cardiff, during Sunday night failed for some reason or other. Possibly those concerned were disturbed when at their work, for a box of matches discovered some distance away suggests a hurried flight. The persons concerned left suffragette messages, which give the clue to the motive of the plot.Had the attempt succeeded the whole of the stands, with the luncheon-hall and other adjoining buildings would have been razed to the ground, for there was a high wind blowing, and there is no water with which to combat a big fire.When Mr. William Taffinder, the caretaker of the place, went to work about seven o’clock on Monday morning he found in the centre of the front of the members’ stand - which is above the club room - a quantity of chopped wood box lids, &c., all soaked with paraffin, with four penny fire -lighters, two spent matches, an empty match-box, part of a candle, and five bottles, four empty and one partly full of turpentine. Three of the other four bottles had apparently contained paraffin. There were also several cotton and wool pads saturated with spirits.The whole were so arranged that once lighted they would have made a destructive bonfire, and the rest would have been easy with the wooden flooring, steps and rails.**Suffragette Messages.**There could be little doubt as to who were the authors of the outrage, for spread out in front of the building were two messages on pieces of paper, left to remind any who might be forgetful. One read: “Release Mrs Pankhurst,” and the other “Blame Mr Hobhouse.”In addition there were several front-page cartoons from the “Suffragette,” the organ of the movement edited by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, as well as a good supply of suffragette literature.Mr. William Taffinder, the caretaker told a *Western Mail* representative that the outrage was not entirely unexpected, and that the police were anticipating that some efforts might be made to wreck the stands.In fact, Police-sergeant Coles, the Ely custodian, had visited the spot at two a.m., when everything was a usual.It was thought that the adjoining and central stand would have been the object of the ladies’ attention, and it was this place that the officer inspected the more minutely.If the suffragettes were there at the time - and there was plenty of room to permit their hiding – the appearance of the officer must have frightened them away, and they were too apprehensive to return.**Path of flight.**J.Hurley, a lad engaged in hauling in the neighbourhood, found a candle and a box of matches lower down the racecourse towards Ely Farm. This pointed to the way the plotters had decamped after being disturbed.Apparently there was a miraculous escape from a big conflagration, for the wind was in the right direction to gather in the whole of the buildings.Immediately after the business at the Llandaff Police-court the chairman of the bench (Colonel Henry Lewis, Greenmeadow) motored over to the Ely Racecourse with the clerk (Mr.Spencer). | 8 Apr 1913Page 155 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **South Wales Daily News****CARDIFF PLOTT**A RACECOURSE RAID**Firelighters and Paraffin**SUFFRAGETTE DESIGN FAILS**Ely Groundsman’s Discovery**In the early hours of yesterday morning a deliberate attempt was made to burn down the grand stand on Ely Racecourse near Cardiff. About 7 o’clock Mr William Taffinder, the groundsman employed on the course, had occasion to walk up the steps of the members’ grand stand, and found piled up at the front part of the stand:-Four bundles of fire lightersSeveral cottonwool pads.Small bottles containing paraffin and turpentine.An empty matchbox.Some paper and two spent matches.The pile was well saturated with paraffin. On the stand he also found a quantity of suffragist literature, including copies of “The Suffragette,” and also two pieces of paper, on one of which was written, “Blame Mr Hobhouse, “ and on the other, “Release Mrs Pankhurst.”The floor of the stand around that spot was stained with oil.**Were Plotters Disturbed?**There was nothing to show however, that any part of the pile had caught fire, and the conclusion is that those responsible for the attempt were disturbed before they had sufficient time to carry out their plot. Had the pile commenced to burn the flames would have soon obtained a firm hold of the stand and of the Members’ Club room below, and wit the high wind prevailing spread to the adjacent stand. Such a fire, too, would have been most difficult to cope with when discovered, because there is no supply of water available in the vicinity.A candle and a box of matches were picked up a distance of about 150 yards, from the stand, which suggests that the attempt must have been made in the dark.Two empty bottles wrapped in paper were discovered in front of the Members Stand and quantities of suffragette literature, was strewn about of the adjacent stand.The police have been keeping the stands under observation for some time and several visits were paid by Sergeant Coles of Ely, during the night, but when he examined the place at two o’clock in the morning he found everything in perfect order.All the materials discovered were removed by the police who are now pursuing inquiries with a view to tracing the offenders.Steps have been taken to guard against a repetition of the outrage.PRECAUTIONS AT CARDIFF.As a result of the sensational occurrence at the Ely racecourse, precautions were taken at Cardiff last night to guard against any possible attempts to set fire to public buildings. A detective was secreted in the City Hall for the night, and arrangements were made whereby the environs of other public buildings should be periodically patrolled.In the case of the General Post Office, there is always someone about the premises all night and with regard to the railway stations, these are securely locked up during such hours as no passenger trains are running. | 8 Apr 1913page 155 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**Oh dear those horrid suffragettes! They make our lives one long fitful quake. A few days ago a worthy Cardiff alderman, who ought to know the ways of women, trembled at the discovery of a compact, suspicious looking package on the tram-track at the Docks. It was carefully handled. Detectives were put in motion. The serenity of the Lord Mayor and the town-clerk was disturbed by the news. A hasty conference was held. The Home Office was communicated with. Hurried instructions came back without delay asking that the package be sent up to London by a reliable official under special precautions. Mr. T. C. Major, chief inspector of explosives, was chosen for the nerve-destroying job, and the Home Office experts brought their wits to bear on the problem. Mr. Major’s return was awaited with the utmost tension, and this was only relieved when the news came that all was well. The disturbing mystery was merely the dry cell of an electric battery.  | 9 Apr 1913Page 156 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**FIRE A CARDIFF POST OFFICE**A Porter overcome by smoke**.An alarming outbreak of fire occurred early this morning at e Cardiff General Post office in Westgate-street, but owing to the promptitude of the post-office staff it was extinguished before any material damage had been done.The fire occurred in a wastepaper store situated in the basement of the building, below the sorting office, a volume of smoke pouring out of a lift shaft about ten minutes past two giving the alarm. Under the direction of the assistant superintendent who was in charge of the night staff the hose was at once attached to one of the hydrants within the building, and a stream of water was poured upon the fire which for a few minutes only had blazed up threateningly. A messenger was also despatched to summon the City fire brigade, but before their arrival the fire had been put out by the office staff. It was then found that about a dozen sacks of waste paper had been destroyed but beyond this no damage had been occasioned.PORTERS NARROW ESCAPE.While the fire was in progress, however, a porter named Curnow ventured into the waste–paper store with the intention of opening a door at the further end. He was overcome by the smoke, but shouted for help before he collapsed. His cry was heard, and he was promptly dragged out and taken into the street, where the fresh-air speedily revived him. The choking density of the smoke is accounted for by there being a quantity of old carbon paper, as well as a good deal of brown paper in the bags which were on fire.The cause of the outbreak is unknown. The Cardiff Post-office is guarded night and day just now against possible attacks by suffragettes and the wastepaper was stored in a chamber where it could not be ignited by a light or explosive throw from the street, hence if the suffragettes were responsible for the fire it would suggest collusion with somebody inside the office, a contingency which the authorities regard as highly improbable. | 11 Apr 1913Page 159 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **EVENING EXPRESS****City Hall Guarded!**Up to the time of going to press, the Cardiff City-hall stands where it did, The beautiful white palace has not been blown skywards, it has not been burned down, and even the Lord Mayor’s parlour remains intact. In other words the sacred building, with its façade of Portland stone, its guardian dragon belching out defiance to the world, and the clock which tells the time by day and hides its face by night are being guarded this day by plain clothes officers against the ladies who never come. The glass cases of wild animals and birds, the ambulance trophies on view In the marble hall, and everything about the premises are receiving the most careful attention of Head-constable Williams and his staff. We cannot answer for what happens after we go to press! | 14 Apr 1913Page 162 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**A”BOMB” OF SAND”**Early Morning Hoax At Cardiff** A peculiar hoax was perpetrated in Cardiff on Wednesday, a “bomb” of sand being discovered on a window-ledge near the front entrance to the Gaiety Cinema, the picture palace in City-road. The discovery was made about five o’clock in the morning by a couple of workmen. It was a sort of canister arrangement, and the contents resembled what appeared to be a kind of dry battery, but it proved to be nothing more dangerous than small coal and sand.Attached to the canister was a label bearing the words “Votes for women.”The manager of the Gaiety theatre stated that he was unable to throw any light on the mystery, which he regarded as a hoax. A couple of detectives called upon him, and as a result a search of the building was made. Nothing further was however found.The “bomb” was taken later to the central police-station and examined by the chief police officers, when it was found to contain sand. It was destroyed by the police who regard the affair as a harmless practical joke. | 24 Apr 1913Page 170 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**“BOMB” FINDS AT CARDIFFAnother “bomb” outrage has been perpetrated at City-road, Cardiff, this time a curious-looking object being found on the window sill of the Liberal Club premises about eleven at night.The attention of a policeman on point duty near, by was called, and the “bomb,” on which was attached a label bearing the words “Votes for women, “was taken to the police station.Upon examination however, it was found to be quite harmless being only a dry cell of a telephone battery and is regarded by the police as another practical joke.A related in the *Western Mail,* a similar “bomb” was found outside a cinema on Wednesday. | 25 Apr 1913Page 171 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****CARDIFF BOMB**A Park Ward CanisterFUSE FOUND SMOULDERINGA sensational and dastardly outrage is reported at Cardiff.Last night, shortly after half-past 11 o’clock, a police constable on his beat through Albany-road and Wellfield-road was passing the bank at the junction of these important thoroughfares when he discovered at the side of the doorway of the bank a large tin canister.Examination showed that it contained explosives and cotton waste. The tin, which was about nine inches in height and six inches in diameter, was filled with cotton waste and gunpowder, the former being saturated with petrol.Through the canister there was a fuse, the end of which had been lighted. The fuse, which was smouldering when the bomb was discovered, was immediately extinguished and the police took charge of the canister and contents.On the outside of the canister was a label with the words “Votes for Women,” and beneath it the letters R.I.P.THE “BOMB” THAT FAILEDAbout 11 o’clock on Wednesday night the Cardiff City Police received information that a supposed bomb had been found on the window ledge of the Liberal Club, City-road, Cardiff.The discovery was made by Mr F. Jeans, of Albany-road, who noticed a black object on the window sill as he was passing. Thinking it was a cat, he was about to pass by when he observed a spark caused by the burning of a fuse. Mr Jeans extinguished the fuse with his fingers and carried the “bomb” into the club. It was an old dry cell of a telephone battery, and in white letters were painted the words, “Votes for women; Cardiff branch,” and something undecipherable, the paint having been smudged. | 25 Apr 1913Page 172 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**ANOTHER “BOMB” HOAX“VOTES FOR WOMEN” CANISTER AT CARDIFFInquiries by the Cardiff police show that the “bomb” found on the doorstep of Lloyds branch bank at the corner of Albany and Wellfield roads is another practical joke.The so-called “bomb” was nothing more than a large tin, such as is used by confectioners and sugar-boilers. It was filled with brown paper and shavings saturated with paraffin, and also the remains of some sweets. There was no connection between the supposed fuse and contents, the fuse being simply a piece of cord, about 2ft. long, which had been tied round the tin, one end being allowed to hang.Outside the canister was a label with the words, “Votes for women,” and the letters, “R.I.P.” | 26 Apr 1913Page 173 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **SOUTH WAES DAILY NEWS**ANOTHER “JOKE” IN CARDIFFFurther investigations in regard to the “bomb” found in the Park Ward district of Cardiff on Thursday night show that the canister did not contain gunpowder, as was first believed to be the case. The police view the latest “bomb” find as the continued exercise of a hoaxing propensity on the part of a playful youngster, whose mechanical knowledge is as crude as his sense of humour.Still, he had better not let the police catch him! | 26 Apr 1913Page 174 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**TELEPHONE WIRES CUTOUTRAGE AT CARDIFF RAILWAY STATIONThe Taff Vale Station in Queen-street, Cardiff, was on Thursday the scene of an outrage believed to be the work of a supporter of the case of the suffragettes.About one o’clock in the afternoon a complaint was made that the public call telephone was out of order, and an examination by a platform inspector disclosed the facts that the wires attached to the instrument had been cut through by some sharp instrument. Pinned in the box was the following note:W.S.P.U. This won’t stop until women get the vote.This message was written in pencil, and the words were printed. So far there is no clue as to the perpetrator.WELSH MILITANTS DETERMINED“What are the militants going to do now?” asked a *Western Mail* reporter of a well-known Welsh suffragette on Thursday.“The movement will go on as vigorously as ever,” was the reply.“Even after the Government’s repressive action of yesterday?”“Yes, of course; that will only stimulate militancy all over the country. You cannot repress a whole sex.” | 2 May 1913Page 179 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS**THE LATEST OUTRAGESSenseless Act at Cardiff Yesterday afternoon the wires in the public telephone call box at the Cardiff T.V.R. Station in Queen-street were cut. A large quantity of Suffragette literature was found on the floor of the call box. In the box was also found a piece of paper on which had been written “W.S.P.U. This will not work until women get the vote.”A fire believed to be the work of suffragettes, broke out about midnight in a boat-house on the Surrey side of the Thames opposite Hampton Court. The structure, as well as a number of boats and a houseboat, were destroyed.Panes of glass were broken during the night in the rooms of the Inland Revenue Offices at Plymouth. A notice was found attached to the building as follows: “Plymouth suffragettes’ message to the Government. You’ve raided our head office, but cannot stop militancy except by giving us the vote.”During the night eighteen telephone wires between Walton Well Bridge and Heyfield Hert, Oxford, were cut. The outrage is attributed to the militant suffragettes.The Hendon fire brigade late on Wednesday night were called to a fire which broke out in a building of two storeys used as a coach-house and stable in Parson-street, Hendon. The premises were severely damaged, part of the roof being destroyed. On one of the doors was found attached a notice bearing the words, “Votes! Votes! Votes! Beware!” | 2 May 1913Page 180 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**PRINTER BOUND OVERUNDERTAKING NOT TO PRINT THE “SUFFRAGETTE”Mr Bodkin then said he proposed to proceed against Mr Drew, who printed the “Suffragette” on May 2, under a summons which was immediately returnable. He said he understood that up to April 30 the defendant had nothing to do with the movement in any shape or form, but when he was approached on the afternoon of that day he undertook to print the “Suffragette.” That afternoon it was stated in court that this newspaper was an incitement to crime, and that as long as it continued in its present course it could not be otherwise than an overt act of this conspiracy to print it. The defendant undertook to print 40,000 copies of the paper and actually published the sheet which contained an article by Miss Christabel Pankhurst and a garbled report of the proceedings in the police-court, which deliberately omitted the warnings which counsel was instructed to give.ADMITTED HE KNEWNobody could be blind to the fact that the printing of the paper was intended to be a defiance of the law, and the defendant admitted in an interview which he had with the representative of a certain paper that he knew of the warning which had been given in the police-court. However, Mr Drew was now willing to give an undertaking to the effect that he would not directly or indirectly take part in printing or publishing the “Suffragette” or other organ of the Women’s Social and Political Union, or in printing or publishing any matter inciting to crime.THE “DAILY HERALD” WARNED“And I shall very distinctly draw attention to the fact, “ said counsel, “that a paper called the “Daily Herald” is also printed by this Victoria House Printing Company (Limited), and that that paper has contained some matter in regard to this prosecution and the proceedings before you which it was absolutely not right for them to have written or have published. This undertaking is intended to cover Mr Drew, so far as being any part in the publication of the “Daily Herald” is concerned, so long as that paper continues to deal with this question of the suffragette and the Women’s Social and Political Union, in the way of advocating it or of supporting it in the knowledge, which is now obvious, that it is an organisation for the carrying on of crime in order to bring pressure upon the Government.”Mr Huntley Jenkins, for the defendant, gave the undertaking requested, and stated that the contract was taken in the ordinary way of business. Under counsel’s advice, he was prepared to express his extreme regret to the court, and to give an absolute and unqualified undertaking that in the future he would not print or publish any matter concerning or undertaken by the suffragette movement.NOT FOR THE NEXT CASEThe Magistrate said the defendant was greatly indebted to the prosecution for the course they had taken. His Worship bound Drew over in his recognisances in £1,000 and two sureties of £500 each.Mr Bodkin: “This course the prosecution will certainly not take in regard to any other case after to-day.” | 6 May 1913Page 183 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **WESTERN MAIL**REBUKE BY CITY MAGISTRATEMILITANTS AND POLICY OF DESTRUCTIONPROVOKING “OPEN RIOT”SUFFRAGETTES’S WARNING AT CARDIFFIt fell to a Cardiff magistrate – Mr Lester Jones – to provide the chief diversion at a suffragette meeting held at the Queen’s-hall on Wednesday evening. Miss Barbara Wylie, who has herself suffered imprisonment for the cause, had been defending militancy, specifically in the matter of destroying property, though she had done so in a more non-committal way than has been the practice of suffragettes.Mr Lester Jones was sitting in the centre of the auditorium. Earlier in the evening he had seen Miss Edith Lester Jones, his daughter – one of the most zealous of the local workers – leading the suffragette choir in the women’s war song. He had heard his niece, a daughter of Mr J. P. Jones, singing in that same choir. But during question time he administered a threefold rebuke. Miss Wylie came in for it for what he described as erroneous references to the Rebecca Riots. Professor Jevons, who presided, was mildly castigated for having sat still to listen to such detestable speeches regarding the destruction of property. And the audience was admonished for having applauded such sentiments as Miss Wylie had been expressing.REBECCA RIOTSIt was a point of fact that he raised with Miss Wylie. He pointed out that the participators in the Rebecca Riots only destroyed the turnpike gates. The Rebecca rioters, he emphasised, did not destroy churches and other property. Miss Wylie denied this. “They burnt down hayricks and workhouses and so on,” she declared, amid the renewed plaudits of the women.Professor Jevons took Mr Jones’s rebuke in good part. “I am at liberty, sir, to have my own opinions,” was all he had to say.Later Mr Jones sought to make it clear that he was in favour of the principle of women’s suffrage, and had been so “long before some of the women on the platform were born” – a remark which raised facetious protestations from the young men in the audience.MILITANTS AND THE CHURCHESA question as to the burning down of churches had led to the little scene. Was Miss Wylie in favour of it? It was a guarded reply she made. “The militants,” she said, “have openly said they will respect no property. A church is property just like other property. I do not know yet that the militants have destroyed any churches. There has been a church burnt, but the last person in that church was the vicar. The she added:Government and other people have such dull brains that to get one man’s consent to votes for women you may have to destroy a hayrick; to get the consent of the second it may be a pillar-box; in the case of a third it may be a museum, and, finally, a church may have to be destroyed. If men have come to such a state of stagnation that these operations are necessary, well, I say if it is necessary to get justice to women – if we cannot get it without burning down the whole of England let’s burn it… You could not burn down the spirit of Christianity if you tried. Therefore, it does not seem to matter whether you burn down bricks and mortar.Miss Wylie went on to point out that when a country went to war the soldiers burnt down anything – even the cathedrals – and when women were conducting a war they had to destroy various forms of property what right had they to condemn them if they had not assisted to get the vote by Constitutional means?Miss Wylie has a rare gift of satire, and she treated the Government to it in abundance. “We are getting something for our money to-day,” she said when she was yielding credit to the militant woman for having forced the Government to take action. She compared the present movement to the Rebecca Riots. “They had matches and paraffin,” she remarked, “just as we have to-day, and they used them to burn down those toll bars.” But that was not condemned because it was the men who were militant. Turn where they would they would find that wherever freedom had come it had come through being fought for.POLITICAL DYNAMICSThe trial of Mrs Pankhurst was the subject of scorn. “When Mr McKenna’s insignificant little name,” she exclaimed, “is totally forgotten Mrs Pankhurst’s will be remembered and honoured.”The time for reason and argument (she went on) has long gone by. Therefore, we are now giving the country and the Government what Mr Herbert Gladstone said was necessary – political dynamics. Well, you are getting it, my friends, and if the Government does not come to its senses you will get still more.“OPEN RIOT AND REVOLUTION”Mr Asquith and his speech the previous evening provided Miss Wylie with great scope for fun-making. His speech was silly, sticky sentiment, she said. “Poor Mr Bodkin” was rebuked for all sorts of things, including defective manners. But the women were not afraid of him. Mr McKenna, too, was trying to do what nobody had ever succeeded in doing – make a woman hold her tongue. Instead, however, of one meeting in Hyde Park on Sunday, they had dozens. He had suppressed the “Suffragette.” (Great cheering.) “And you will get it on Thursday next – I will promise you that.” (Still greater cheering.)In the name of law and order (Miss Wylie added, referring to the policy of repression) the Government is going the very best way to produce worse than disorder – open riot and revolution… Mr McKenna says we must not incite. He has tried to incite. He and the press have tried hard to incite so-called public opinion to lynch the women. But they have not succeeded.Miss Wylie twitted Cabinet Ministers about being guarded by detectives. “When Mr Lloyd George was in Scotland,” she said, “he slept in the middle room of a house; a detective slept in the room on the right and a detective in the room on the left. That’s a proof that these men are cowards. And what makes men cowards? Conscience.”On the whole it was an orderly meeting. There were few questions, and they were a long time coming. People had to pay for admission. | 8 May 1913Page 185 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **MR McKENNA’S VISIT****Cardiff Speech To-day**“Militants” want ticketsThe visit of the Home Secretary (the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, M.P.) to Cardiff to-day (Wednesday) is being looked forward to with more than the ordinary degree of interest.An important conference, representative of the Free Churches, Liberal and Progressive organisations and attended bt about 1200 delegates, will be held in the Park Hall in the afternoon.Militant SuffragettesSeveral militant Suffragettes are known to have arrived in Cardiff, and some have even made application for tickets, but only those ladies who are already members of the Cardiff Liberal Association can attend. Should any disturbance arise, the interrupters will be promptly dealt with, for a large number of stewards have been appointed to assist police. | 21 May 1913Page 197 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **MR McKENNA AND MILITANTS**WARNING O LEADERS OF MOVEMENTADHERENTS REJECTEDPRECAUTIONS AT THE CARDIFF MEETING“BILL AS IT STANDS”CONCESSION MUMOURS ON WELSH CHURCHShe would have been a clever suffragette who could have invaded the sanctity of the meeting Mr. McKenna addressed at the Cardiff Park Hall on Wednesday evening. Such an invasion was anticipated by the organisers of the meeting. But the entrances were well-guarded by police, and before the public were admitted the hall was only tenanted only by a large army of badge-decorated stewards, whose vigilance not the most militant of militants could hope to escape. Ladies had no chance, so far as reasonable probabilities went at any rate, of securing access to the building unless they could produce adequate guarantees of their bona-fides.What the women militants failed to do, however, three male suffragists accomplished. but the incidents they provided were short-lived. The first of them made his presence known about ten minutes after Mr. McKenna had been speaking. A reference to the Government having paid its debt to the four countries was met with an interruption. “When are you going to pay your debt to women?” It came from a man at the rear of the hall. He was outside the building in ten seconds.Whilst the stewards and police were uniting in their efforts to hustle him out another male suffragist made his presence known. He had by some means secured a platform ticket, and he sat among the leaders of Cardiff Liberalism. His exit through the top entrance was vigorously and unceremoniously accomplished. “I observe that we are here in a famous football country where scrimmages are cleverly manoeuvred” observed Mr. McKenna, amid laughter.Scarcely had the Home Secretary resumed his theme when the third suffragist ventured to remark, the words of which were inaudible at a distance. A roar of “Turn him out!” was quickly acted upon. He resisted for a moment, but the stewards were too lusty for him, and he joined his two friends in the open air.From now to the end of Mr. McKenna escaped any interruption. There were evidently no more inclined for the ordeal, though it had been rumoured that a dozen male suffragists had come down from London.Before he concluded, Mr. McKenna took his courage in both hands by discussing what he described as “the criminal and sensational activities of certain women who endeavoured to further a political cause by means of violence.” He pointed out that the women were not furthering their cause by such methods, and appealed for respect to the laws of the country. | 22 May 1913Page 198 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **PILLAR-BOX RAIDS**Outrages in Cardiff COMMITTED LATE LAST NIGHTA Stupid RevengeLate last night Suffragettes or their male supporters made a general attack on Cardiff pillar-boxes, but their outrage were fortunately ill-timed, and little damage was done.The pillar-boxes tampered with were situated at:Cambrian-place, DocksVictoria Park-road CantonWindsor-place (corner of St. Andrew’s-crescent)Plasturton-avenue, CantonNinian-road, RoathIt would appear from the localities at which the outrages occurred that a preconceived plan was adopted, and that one person was despatched to each district.The same method was adopted in regard to each box. Black and violet fluid and gum were poured in, and when the postmen gathered the letters their hands were plastered with the sticky composition.In one case he offence had been detected and reported to the police before the postman came round.By selecting late last evening as the time, the perpetrators – obviously with the intention of marking their displeasure against Mr McKenna – chose the best time so far as the public are concerned.In one pillar-box there was not a single letter deposited, the postman having only just cleared the box before the suffragist arrived. In the other four boxes 33 letters were damaged. On examination at the head post office they were found to be smeared with the liquid and some were sticking together. Every address was deciphered except one, and that letter will be sent back to the person who wrote it.The police, who had been keenly on the look-out all the night for outrages, are following up the matter.The Rev. Lewis M. Robertson, St Andrew’s crescent made the discovery that something was wrong with the important pillar-box at the corner of S. Andrew’s-crescent and Windsor-place. Going out to post a letter about midnight he noticed a black fluid oozing out under the door and running in the gutter. He called a policeman’s attention to the matter, and the Post Office were duly notified. | 22 May 1913Page 199 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | GUARDING MR McKENNAElaborate Precautions at CardiffThe Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, Home Secretary was well protected during his visit to Cardiff. There were detectives from Scotland Yard, and local detectives followed he at every step, while strong detachments of policemen in uniform were stationed at all points of expected danger.But the suffragettes were silent. There were no attacks, and there was practically no disorder.Some stir was caused by a statement made by Rev. James Evans at the Welsh National Conference on the Welsh Dis-establishment Bill yesterday afternoon.“Arrangements for Mr McKenna’s attendance at meetings,” said Mr Evans “have to be made with the greatest of care. He is in Cardiff, but he has not only his own safety to consider, but the safety of this conference as well. He is not acting on his own responsibility, but on the advice of those who know.”This statement seemed to indicate that suffragettes had arrived in force in the city, and that the police were aware of some plot to disturb the conference, but if this was so there was no sign of any militants in the hall, where every precaution had been taken to preserve order.Apparently this statement was made under some misapprehension, as Mr McKenna had intended that the conference should express its views without possible embarrassment owing to his presence. | 22 May 1913Page 199 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **ARSON ATTEMPTED AT CARDIFF**SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGE AT LLANDARNEWORKMAN’S COTTAGECONSPIRACY CHARGE THE TRIAL FIXEDUp to the present the militant suffragettes in Cardiff and district have confined their breaches of law and order to letter-boxes and minor attempts at frightening the peaceable citizens of Cardiff with dummy bombs. It now transpires that attempted arson has been added to the list.The matter has been carefully guarded against publicity, but we are able to state, in detail, that on the evening of the 21st inst. or during the early hours of the 22nd a serious attempt was made to burn down one of the cottages erected, and recently completed, by the Cardiff Corporation on their small holdings at Llanedarne, and there is no doubt that it was the work of female militants.It was evident that entry had been effected through one of the front windows, where a portion of a lady’s feather boa was found torn off – apparently during her hurry in climbing out of the house. In the kitchen was found a lay’s handbag, containing a dessert knife, a table knife, a pocket knife, and a paper knife, together with a pair of lady’s gloves and a pocket-handkerchief. There was also found some cotton waste, saturated with oil, and a local paper bearing the date May 21, and four small bottles that had contained oil were found in a cupboard.FRIGHTENED AND FLEDSo far the clue given by those discoveries has led to no arrest, but the city police have the matter in hand. It is seldom that such important clues have been left behind by the evildoers and everything points to the conclusion that the particular suffragette was frightened during her mission and left helter-skelter.The cottage is situated below Pentwyn, on the road leading to the residence of Alderman William Roberts, the chairman of the small holdings committee, and, in order to dry the walls and to prevent the condensation after the recent plastering of the inside walls, the windows were left slightly open by the workmen before leaving for their homes. When the foreman returned the next morning he found strong evidences of a smouldering fire, and on examination discovered the remains of a fire in a cupboard under the staircase. The shelves had been burnt out, and damage to the extent of about 30s, had been done to the woodwork in the vicinity, but, fortunately, the fire had not spread. | 29 May 1913Page 205 |
| **DCONC/5/42** | **Llanedarne Cottage**SUSPECTED PLOT BY SUFFRAGETTESInformation has come to the knowledge of officials of the Small Holdings Committee of the Cardiff Corporation of an attempt to burn down one of the unoccupied cottages recently erected by the Corporation on the small holding at Llanedarne. The date assigned is the night of Mr McKenna’s meeting in Cardiff. On the following morning a portion of a lady’s necklet was found in the cottage, while in the kitchen was a small handbag, a pair of lady’s gloves, and a pocket handkerchief.On the road nearby were found tracks of a motor-car. In the house, in addition to the articles named, was found some cotton waste saturated with oil. In a cupboard under the stairs were evidences of the remains of a fire which had burned some of the woodwork.Indications point to the “work” of suffragettes.  | 29 May 1913Page 206 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **South Wales Daily News**SUFFRAGIST LEADER AT CARDIFF The Hon. Mrs E.S. Henley addressed a meeting under the auspices of the Women’s Freedom League at the Windsor-place Congregational Schoolroom, Cardiff, last evening. The Rev Oliver Bowen B>A>, presided. Mrs Henley said the League was out for justice for women. “It is not because I think all men bad,” she said. “People who make it a sex war are doing more harm to the cause than anything else.” She was not going to say whether she agreed with the extreme militants, but if they did not agree with them, let them be just, and realise that it was those women and their followers who had got the suffrage ship out of dry dock into deep water.` | 30 May 1913Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **Western Mail****CUTTING OF WIRES**VISIT TO TELEPHONE-BOX AT CARDIFF STATIONThe discovery was made that a wire in the call box on the Taff Vale Station platform, Queen-street, Cardiff, had been cut.The work was apparently that of suffragettes, the usual note, “Votes for Women” being found attached to the telephone instrument. The same call bx was recently the scene of a similar outrage.TELEGRAPH WIRES DAMAGED NEAR LLANWERNA number of telegraph wires alongside the Great Western Railway between Llanwern and Magor were on Friday found to be cut. Close at hand was a print cutting relating to the release of Mrs Pankhurst. | 31 May 1913Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **South Wales Daily News**CARDIFF CALL-BOX OUTRAGEThe public telephone call-box at the Queen-street (T>V>R>) Station at Cardiff would seem once more to have been the object of attention on the part of Local suffragettes. On Thursday the connecting-board wire was found to have been cut through, rendering the instrument useless. On the floor of the box was a quantity of suffragette literature and a piece of paper on which was written, “Votes for Women. Release Mrs Pankhurst.”A similar outrage was committed at this particular box a few weeks ago. | 31 May 1913Page 3 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **Western Mail****ANOTHER CARDIFF BOMB**POSTMAN’S FIND IN PIER-HEAD BOX.Returning to the Bute Docks Post-office after the 10 o’clock collection on Thursday, Postman Vizard approached his superior with a mysterious smile, and then diving into his bag, produced a “bomb.” “I found this in the Pier-head collection box,” he said to the head postman. The news spread like wildfire. Policemen were called off their beat to “arrest” the mysterious article, and Docksmen left the floor of the Exchange to verify the statement. But in less time than it takes to tell the excitement had died down to be followed by laughter.“There is not the slightest need for alarm,” said the postmaster (Mr Groves) to a *Western Mail* reporter. “I believe someone has been trying on a good joke and he nearly but not quite succeeded. The letters are not in the least damaged and the alleged bomb is quite harmless.”Later on our reporter was permitted to examine the “find.” There was nothing deadly about it. The article was rolled in a piece of paper and ted up with cord. “Votes for Women” was written in a large bold hand and the end of the paper had been carefully singed. The “Bomb” itself was about 1.1/2 in long and an inch or so in circumference. The bottom was well soldered, and the other end, contained a cap and close to it a hole, which had been tarred round. This of course was to suggest that a fuse had been inserted. What was inside our reporter was not allowed to know.Postman Vizard treated the affair as a joke. “I found it in the Pier-head box outside the Merchants’ Exchange,” he said with a laugh. “I put it in the bag and carried it on my round for twenty minutes. I had had a good look at it, and, beyond the ends of the paper tied around the canister being signed, there was nothing to upset one’s nerves.” | 20 Jun 1913Page 19 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **South Wales Daily News**Another account of the Pier Head bomb incident as above. | 20 Jun 1913Page 20 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **Western Mail**POLICE AS PROTECTORS**Open Air Suffragette Meeting At Cardiff**The Women’s Freedom League - an organisation under the presidency of Mrs Despard for an extension of the franchise to women – has spread its operations to Cardiff. On Friday night the league’s emissaries addressed a largely-attended open air meeting at the entrance to Victoria Park. Some of the young people among the audience showed an inclination at the outset to interrupt, but an assurance from Mrs. Hill, one of the principal speakers, that the league had no association with the militants, and the presence of several policemen, restrained their outbursts. However a few pieces of turf were thrown at the speakers, accompanied by interruptions.Mrs Hill explained that the object of the league was to bring about a re-arrangement of the domestic service and to improve the living conditions of women. The league demanded the enfranchisement of women so that women could use their votes to raise the age of consent and marriage to protect the lives of young girls, to enforce parental responsibility whether parents were married or unmarried, to make divorce laws apply equally to men and women, and to bring about other reforms affecting women. Other speakers included Miss Trott, the local organising secretary. | 21 Jun 1913Page 20 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **Western Mail**BLAZE IN LETTERBOX**SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGE IN CARDIFF**Militant suffragettes in Cardiff after several weeks “holiday” have again made themselves known, this time in Splott, though luckily not much damage was done.It appears that a suffragette paper was set alight and placed in the private letter box of the University Settlement, Splott, but with the exception of partially destroying one letter, no damage was done.The discovery was made by Mr. Walters on his arrival at the building on Wednesday morning. | 19 Jul 1913Page 36 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | NOTICECARDIFF AND DISTRICT**National Union Pilgrimage. – WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY**NON MILITANTNON PARTY**A MASS MEETING of suffragists**Will be held in**CATHAYS PARK , Priory road,****FRIDAY JULY 11th, 1913 at 7.80 p.m**SPEAKER: **MISS HELEN FRASER.**CHAIRMAN: THE REV W.L. ROBERTSON M.A.…. PILGRIMAGE….**THE CARDIFF SECTION leaves Cathays Park****On Saturday, July 12th 11 a.m.**All Sympathisers who believe in Constitutional Methods of Agitation are asked to join. | 16 Jul 1913Page 37 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **Western Mail****DISGUISED AS AN OLD WOMAN**MISS LENTONS’S VISIT TO CARDIFF.CROSSES IN A YACHT TO FRANCE.From information derived from suffragette quarters it is ascertained that Miss May Denis, the missing suffragette, who is said to be also Miss Lilian Lenton who was concerned in the Kew outrage, and who recently escaped from a private house in Leeds whilst out on licence has this week crossed the Channel to France.It will be remembered that when released on licence after the Kew outrage she disappeared for several months, and re-appeared in a dramatic manner at the Doncaster Police-court where, on her own confession, she was arrested for attempted arson, and conveyed on remand – bail being asked for but not given – to Armley Gaol, from which prison she was once more released on licence and once more disappeared. She has since been traced to Harrogate and Scarborough and thence to Dundee..It now appears that from Scotland she travelled on Monday last to South Wales stopping at Cardiff. No sooner however, had she reached there than she was warned to move on again - that, in fact, she could no longer be regarded as secure in this country. Therefore on Tuesday she took train to London and later in the day crossed to the French coast on a private yacht.DISGUISED AS OLD WOMAN IN CARDIFF. Made up to resemble an aged woman, with a black shawl pinned tightly over her head, and attired almost in rags, she hobbled through the streets of Cardiff on Tuesday morning and took train to London, her ticket being obtained for her by a trustworthy member of the Union, who accompanied her on the journey, but travelled in an adjoining compartment. The “old lady,” of whom she had charge, travelled third class. Whether or not the disguise was changed on reaching London is not known, but it may have been taken for granted that no risks were run. The militant women are clever in the matter of makeup and with the resources at their command it would be comparatively easy for the fugitive to avoid suspicion and travel unnoticed by the boat train to Dover. Instead however, of crossing the Chanel to Calais by steamer, Miss Lenton was conveyed some distance along the South Coast, and embarked upon one of those private yachts, which at this season are always to be seen in the Channel. Having got so far he disguise could now be thrown aside, and she reached the French shore in the evening. | 18 Jul 1913Page 45 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****FLED FROM CARDIFF** **In Rags and Tatters**LILIAN LENTON’S MAKE-UPWe are in a position to state – the information being derived from suffragette quarters – that Miss May Denis, the missing suffragette, who is said to be also the Miss Lilian Lenton, who was concerned in the Kew outrage, and who recently escaped from a private house in Leeds, whilst out on licence, has this week crossed the Channel to France.When released on licence after the Kew outrage she disappeared, and reappeared in a dramatic manner at the Doncaster Police Court, where, on her own confession, she was arrested for attempted arson, and conveyed on remand – bail being asked for, but not given – to Armley Gaol, from which prison she was once more released on licence, and once more disappeared. She has since been traced to Harrogate and Scarborough, and Tuesday we were able to continue the story of her movements as far as Dundee.It now appears that from Scotland she travelled on Monday last to South Wales, and we have reason to believe that her destination was Cardiff. No sooner, however, had she reached there than she took train to London and later in the day crossed to the French coast on a private yacht.Made up to resemble an aged woman, with a black shawl tightly pinned over her head, and attired almost in rags, she hobbled through the streets of Cardiff on Tuesday morning, and took train to London, her ticket being obtained for her by a trustworthy member of the Union, who accompanied her on the journey, but travelled in an adjoining (first class) compartment. The “old lady” of whom she had charge, travelled third class.Instead, however, of crossing the Channel to Calais by steamer, Miss Lenton was conveyed some distance along the south coast, and embarked upon one of those private yachts which at this season are always to be seen in thee Channel. Having got so far, her disguise could now be thrown aside, and she reached the French shore in the evening. |  |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **SOUTH WALES DAILY NEWS****Cardiff Pavilion Blaze**STRUCTURE’S NARROW ESCAPEJust before the conclusion of the Cardiff innings versus Bowden’s XI on the Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday, some excitement was caused by smoke issuing from underneath one end of the pavilion. Mr John Gibson, the well-known football and cricket supporter, with a young man, followed by Groundsman McIntyre and his assistant, rushed to the spot, and found that a quantity of straw and some practice nets were ablaze. They quickly extinguished the flames which, but for the timely discovery, would have speedily led to a big blaze.Spectators who flocked to the scene had visions of militant suffragettes, but it is believed that the outbreak was caused by a lighted match being accidentally dropped between the seats in front of the pavilion. The incident was all over in a minute or two, and the damage done was comparatively insignificant. | 28 Jul 1913Page 57 |
| **DCONC/5/43** | **WESTERN MAIL****SUFFRAGETTE CHANT**WOMEN’S VISIT TO CARDIFF CHURCHSuffragettes continue to make their presence felt in the Cardiff churches. Following their visits to Llandaff Cathedral and St John’s Church, a number of women attended St James’s Church, Newport-road, on Sunday night, and during the service, which was conducted by the Rev William Francis, were heard by those in close proximity to chant something to the following effect: - “Lord have mercy on those who are suffering for conscience sake.”The incident passed off without any undue interference with the service, and the women were kept in close view by the sidemen. | 22 Dec 1913Page 203 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News**CARDIFF RICK FIRES**ATTRIBUTED TO SUFFRAGETTES****Explosives and Petrol**A series of rick fires in Cardiff and district in the last few days has given rise to a strong suspicion that militant suffragists are pursuing a campaign of incendiarism locally.In one instance there appears to be clear evidence of the handiwork of suffragettes and in the second probably only a timely discovery by a farm hand saved another rick from being fired.The last case occurred on Cory’s Farm, Penylan –hill Cardiff. On Saturday an employee went to a large rick to cut a portion, and in doing so he discovered what proved to be several sticks of gelignite, a receptacle containing petrol or some inflammable fluid and a quantity of fat inserted into the rick.**SUFFRAGETTE MISSIVES****“Please Forward”**Suffragettes are believed to be responsible for considerable damage done by fire to a hayrick In the field of Penarth-road, Cardiff, belonging to Mr H.J. Cridland, a master haulier, of Paget-street.The City Brigade, under Superintendent Green, was called to the fire just after 8 a.m. on Saturday, but so firm was the hold of the flames that the fire was not extinguished until about 4 p.m. A third of the rick, which constituted of about 40 tons, was destroyed.In clearing away the debris the fireman found an envelope bearing the written words, “Please forward.” Inside were two missives. One was addressed to “Messrs Asquith and Co,” and bore the words, “no peace for the wicked.” the other note was addressed to “our comrade Rachel Peace,“ and contained the following; - “ Cardiff women are thinking of you No Surrender. Yours Deeds, Not Words.”Pieces of “The Suffragette” for July 4th were also found containing an article entitled “ The broken Windows,” and another on the “Right to Rebel.”LOWER PENARTH FIRE**Not Attributed to Suffragettes.**A rick fire broke out at the Cement Works Farm, Lower Penarth, early on, Saturday morning. Two stacks were totally destroyed and another partially. The brigade, were in attendance until late in the afternoon endeavouring to prevent the fire spreading. In an interview the captain of the brigade said he was unable to assign any cause of the outbreak, but in this instance it was not thought to be the work of suffragettes.It will be remembered that about a week ago suffragette literature was found after two ricks in the same yard were found after two ricks in the same yard were found to be ablaze. | 29 Dec 1913Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **SHOUTED “SUFFRAGETTE!”**CRY WHICH COLLECTED A CROWD AT CARDIFFIn giving evidence at Cardiff on Tuesday against May Jane Mariner (43), who was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Clive-street, a police-officer stated that defendant was in the midst of a shouting crowd of 200 or 300 people. Defendant herself was shouting, “Suffragettes! Votes for women! We will have our rights!” He had moved her on two or three before that.Defendant who wore a large green feather in her hat, said someone had shouted “Suffragette” after her and when she tried to get rid of her tormentors others came, until there was a large crowd.She was dismissed. | 28 Jan 1914Page 33 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News**WOMAN AND HER TORMENTORS.Another report of the above incident. | 28 Jan 1914Page 33 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News** **LETTER BOX FIRE**CARDIFF CARETAKERS ALARM**Suffragettes Suspected**The Cardiff police have been apprised of an outbreak of fire in a letter-box attached to the front door of Messrs Rees and Lewis accountants, 98 and 100. Queen –street, Cardiff.The affair was reported by Mr. Michael Lynch, Scott-street, Temperancetown, the caretaker of the building, who states that he was on the premises about 3.10 yesterday afternoon, and saw smoke issuing from the corridor. He went downstairs and found the box enveloped in flames. I was nearly suffocated by the smoke in the corridor in trying to get to the door (he said) so I opened the front room window and shouted to a passerby to open the door from the outside, at the same time throwing him the key.I was then able to get out, and with the aid of the helper threw the box into the feeder.The smell pointed to the fact that chemicals had been used and he believed it was a case of suffragettes. | 23 Feb 1914Page 62 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **Western Mail****SUFFRAGIST PRAYER**VISIT TO ST JOHNS CHURCH CARDIFFSome half a dozen suffragettes created a “scene” in St. John’s Church Cardiff, on Sunday morning. Occupying a front seat in the nave, they rose in a body after the reading of the lesson and ejaculated the prayer which has now become well known. Apart from this they behaved quite orderly, and remained, it is stated, throughout the service. | 2 Mar 1914Page 66 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **Western Mail****MISS LENTON’S DISCUISES**HOW SHE ELUDED THE POLICE AT CARDIFFA Cardiff incident is recalled by the arrest of Miss Lilian Lenton, the suffragette.In June Miss Lenton (as described by the police, in spite of denials by the accused) was committed to the Leeds Assizes for arson at Doncaster, but while in Armley Gaol hunger-struck, and was released. The house to which she was removed was watched, but the elusive Lilian did the vanishing trick with complete success – dressed as a young man.She went on a motor tour, and led the police a merry dance up and down the country for several weeks while she changed her disguises. Harrogate, Scarborough, and Dundee were a few of the towns she visited.She also stayed at Cardiff. There she was nearly caught, but by disguising herself as an infirm old lady, with a black shawl over her head, she hobbled into the station and travelled to London.Only on Monday was her freedom cut short. She was out for a walk in Birkenhead when she was recognised by a detective named Gordon Hughes, who went up to her and said, “Good afternoon, Miss Lenton.”“I am not Miss Lenton,” was the reply.“Oh, yes, you are,” the officer rejoined. Miss Lilian then confessed to her identity. | 6 May 1914Page 146 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News****Elusive Miss Lenton**REARRESTED ON OLD CHARGEAccused’s Stay at Cardiff Lilian Lenton, authoress of the best-laid plans of the suffragette “mice” for baffling the police, has been caught once more. She spent yesterday afternoon speeding towards London from Liverpool in a fast train in the company of two detective officers. This will enable her to renew acquaintance with the Richmond magistrates to-day.It will be necessary to go into the charge against her of setting fire to the tea pavilion at Kew Gardens again owing to circumstances over which the Bench has had no control.The story is somewhat out of date – the affair occurred in February, 1913 – but Miss Lenton’s absences from London have nullified the previous actions of the magistrates. She was released in March last year while on remand on the order of the Home Secretary, without any reference to the Bench – an omission which provoked the Mayor to protest and led to considerable controversy.She was officially stated to be in danger of death, and was removed to a house which was promptly placed under police surveillance. Accordingly Miss Lily decided to leave, and she rode away one Sunday evening in a motor-car.Some time later her mother received at Bristol the gratifying tidings that she had improved in health.In June Miss Lenton (as described by the police in spite of denials by the accused) was committed to the Leeds Assizes for arson at Doncaster, but while in Armley Gaol hunger-struck and was released. Harrogate, Scarborough and Dundee were a few of the towns she visited.She also stayed at Cardiff. There she was nearly caught. But by disguising herself as an infirm old lady, with a black shawl over her head she hobbled into the station and travelled to London. She soon left for Dover. She was re-arrested at Paddington station in October. Brought up at Richmond, Miss Lenton was committed for trial on the same charge on which Olive Whalley had previously been sentenced at the Old Bailey to eighteen months imprisonment in the second division. About a week later she was released from Holloway after hunger strike.Only on Monday was her freedom cut short. She was out for a walk in Birkenhead when she was recognised by a detective named Gordon Hughes, who went up to her and said “Good afternoon, Miss Lenton.”“I am not Miss Lenton,” was the reply.“Oh, yes you are,” the officer rejoined.Miss Lilian then confessed to her identity. | 6 May 1914Page 148 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **Western Mail****SCENES AT THE THEATRE**ANOTHER GENEROUS ACTION BY MR JOHN LEWIS8 SUFFRAGETTES EJECTEDTense excitement characterised the scenes inside and outside the theatre. Not only the launching of a project which is bound to have far-reaching results in the promotion of a school of Welsh drama, but the presence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was giving a truly Welsh national benediction to the movement, created exceptional interest amongst the people. The advent of a Cabinet Minister nowadays brings in its train the inevitable demonstration of political propagandists on the sex question, and the apprehension of outbursts by the suffragettes combined to charge the air with electricity.Elaborate precautions had been taken by the head-constable (Mr David Williams) to prevent any unseemly molestation of the distinguished visitor and to cope with any interruptions from within the building. No less than sixty members of the city police force were on duty in plain clothes. More than half of them – in charge of the head-constable, Superintendent Harrison, Superintendent Bingham, and Detective-inspector Harris – were inside, dotted about amongst the audience and standing in the gangways. Some were even posted behind the stage.Outside were also cordons of uniformed policemen, who kept back the crowd which waited for over an hour for the Chancellor’s arrival. The parading of a lady selling the official organ of her cause was the only indication of what was to come.LORD HOWARD DE WALDEN’S PARTYMr Lloyd George, who was accompanied by Miss Olwen Lloyd George, had reached Cardiff by the 6.30 train from London, and, after a most hearty welcome at the station, he was the guest of Lord and Lady Howard de Walden at the Park Hotel. Others in the party included Mr W. Llewelyn Williams, M.P., and Mrs Wiliams, Mr Walter Roch, M.P., Mrs Roch, and party, Mrs Henry Webb, Mr Iestyn Williams, and Captain and Mrs Vaughan. It was a triumphal progress for Mr Lloyd George as he walked the short distance to the theatre with the other members of Lord Howard’s party, and no untoward incident marred the enthusiasm of the people in Park-place.Meanwhile, inside the theatre a large and expectant audience had assembled. Many had come from long distances and remote parts of the Principality. It was thoroughly representative of Welsh nationality.MR JOHN LEWIS’S PURCHASEMr John Lewis, of Oxford-street, London (whose friendly co-operation with Lord Howard after the healing of a long-standing family feud has already been recorded in the *Western Mail*, sat in the stalls with Mrs Lewis. During the day Mr Lewis purchased over a hundred circle tickets, which were distributed amongst the headmasters and headmistresses of the district, with the ultimate object of inculcating an interest in Welsh drama among the rising generation. Mr Lewis was accorded quite an ovation as he took his seat. Amongst other visitors from a distance, art was represented by an eminent exponent in the person of Mr Augustus John, who is in the front rank of post-impressionists.CHANCELLOR’S ARRIVALWith the varied interests which had been excited, an atmosphere of tense expectancy pervaded the large audience – a feeling which was accentuated by the stirring national strains played by the orchestra – and the people were now only waiting for Mr Lloyd George and the rise of the curtain. The Chancellor stayed but for a few brief greetings in the vestibule. When he entered his box, overlooking the stage from the right, there was a remarkable outburst of enthusiasm. The audience rose spontaneously, and whole-hearted cheers resounded throughout the building. Then the curtain rose on “Ble Ma Fa?” and its poignant story soon engrossed the attention of everyone. As the musical inflection of the Welsh language, with its pleasing intonation and gentle cadence, fell on the ear, once could not help noticing with what rapt interest the play was watched by Mr Lloyd George, who occasionally turned to his companions with animated gestures to pass some whispered comment on its construction or performance. The reception of the piece was most cordial.THE SUFFRAGETTES STARTThe curtain had fallen on the first play, and it seemed as if the expected was not to happen. Everybody was pondering over the play, which had lulled them into a sense of false security. But suddenly, from the first row of the circle, came strident tones. Suffragette No. 1 had popped up.“Mr Lloyd George,” she began, “is it right for you to come and see a play while women are in prison?”This much she said, for her interruption had come at an unguarded moment, but her feeble protest was of short duration. She was going on to speak of Sir Edward Carson, but the sentence was not completed, for she made a rapid exit, under the guidance of some vigilant stewards, and did not long monopolise the limelight.Mr Lloyd George was very little concerned about the incident, and very soon the audience was in a merry mood over the broad humour of “The Poacher.”“THE VILLAIN OF THE PIECE”By the time this play had made its impression the audience was in a mood for anything, and further interruptions by suffragettes only added to the hilarity. The next woman who essayed to champion the cause of her sex evidently got an inspiration from the play, for she rose, pointed dramatically in the direction of the Chancellor, and exclaimed “That is the villain of the piece!” Just then the light went up, and revealed the features of Mr Lloyd George wreathed in smiles. The people were convulsed.DEACONS AS STEWARDSTwo other women afterwards attempted to speak, but their voices were lost in the general hubbub. All were ejected, and four others who chorused “Bravo!” were asked to leave – making eight in all.It was not until it became necessary to eject the suffragettes that the majority of the audience appreciated the fact that stewards in evening dress were posted throughout the house, and that several of them were prominent Welsh Nationalists. Ministers and deacons were amongst the readiest to eject the interrupters, and Mr Evan Jones, a well-known Welsh Methodist deacon, became the hero of the moment by reason of the firmness with which he carried out his duty as steward.All the interrupters were detained by the police at the theatre, but no charge will be brought against any of them. | 16 May 1914Page 161 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News****MR LLOYD GEORGE**AND WELSH DRAMASpecial Visit to Cardiff Chancellor InterviewedSUFFRAGETTES AT THEATREEight Women EjectedMr Lloyd George had a rousing reception last night when he appeared at the New Theatre, Cardiff, to give his support to the Welsh National Drama, which has had such a successful run in Cardiff this week. On arrival at Cardiff he was received by cheering crowds, and drove to the Park Hotel, where he was the guest of Lord and Lady Howard de Walden. He was accompanied by Miss Olwen Lloyd Gorge, Mr W. Llewelyn Williams, M.P., and Mrs Williams, Mr Walter Roch, M.P., and Mrs Roch, and others.The theatre was crowded when the Chancellor put in an appearance promptly to time, and he was accorded a right hearty national welcome, the whole audience rising and cheering loudly, whilst a few suffragettes in the audience cried out “Votes for women.”There was a strong force of detectives and stewards in the theatre, and no anxiety was felt on account of the suffragettes.“The Villain is in That Box!”At the close of the curtain raiser, “Ble Ma Fa?” a lady in the front row of the dress circle got up and called out “Lloyd George, is it right for you to come and see a play while women are suffering in prison?”Those around her tried to quiet the woman but she persisted, and then there was a howl from the audience of “Chuck her out.” She was seized upon by two stalwart stewards and hustled out with scant ceremony, a strong force of detectives guarding the doors to prevent the audience rushing to the corridors.When the curtain rose upon the second play “The Poacher,” the lights having been switched off and the theatre being in darkness, another suffragette got up in the dress circle and in a solemn voice called out, “The villain of the piece is in that box there.”The angry crowd stopped the play and howled their disgust. She was promptly hustled out by two detectives after the lights had been again switched on, and a few others who called out “Bravo,” were also unceremoniously bundled into the cloakroom.The final interruption came immediately the lights were turned down for T. E. Ellis’s historical episode, “Pont Orewyn.”A woman got up in the first row of the dress circle, but her remarks were soon cut short, and like the previous interrupters she was ejected through the swing doors by three police officers.In all eight suffragettes were turned out. | 16 May 1914Page 162 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **Western Mail**LIVELY SCENE IN POLICE-COURTCARDIFF SUFFRAGETTE’S ARRESTCHARGE OF ARSONFIRING STACKS AND HOTEL AT FELIXSTOWETwo of the liveliest suffragettes who have appeared in court for a long time past, charged with the destruction of property, are Miss Florence Tunks, a Cardiff lady, and Miss Hilda Burkett, alias Byron, who was committed by the Felixstowe magistrates to take their trial at the Suffolk Assizes on May 28 for firing stacks in the neighbourhood of Felixstowe, and also for setting fire to the Bath Hotel, Felixstowe.This latter conflagration created a great sensation two or three weeks ago, as the Bath Hotel was a very large structure and a most costly building.Miss Florence Tunks is aged about 22, and lived with her mother and three sisters at 26, Mafeking-road, Penylan, Cardiff. The two defendants behaved with extraordinary demonstrativeness in court. They turned their backs upon the magistrates during the proceedings, and shouted and declaimed during various parts of the hearing. When the amount of the damage was stated they clapped their hands in apparent glee. Miss Burkett affected to be bored by the dreariness of the proceedings, and pretended to fall asleep. Evidence was given that the defendants were seen in Yarmouth at the time the valuable pier pavilion was destroyed by fire at the end of April, and that the two defendants afterwards went to Ipswich.Another sister of Miss Tunks is also stated to be a suffragette, but the remaining two sisters are opposed to the feminist movement.It is alleged that during the past few days the Cardiff detective staff have been making tactful inquiries concerning Miss Florence Tunks, but it is understood that they have gleaned nothing beyond the fact that Miss Tunks was occasionally seen selling the ”Suffragette” in the streets and outside political meetings. | 19 May 1914Page 164 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **South Wales Daily News**A CARDIFF SUFFRAGETTEMiss Florence Tunks, who, with Miss Hilda Burkett, alias Byron was committed for trial by the Felixstowe magistrates on a charge of firing stacks and also setting fire to the Bath Hotel, Felixstowe, is a young lady belonging to Cardiff, where she is well-known in connection with the suffragette movement. In the course of the magisterial proceedings, Miss Tunks and Miss Burkett turned their backs upon the magistrates and indulged in loud comments upon the evidence. It was alleged, in the course of the proceedings, that both ladies were seen in Yarmouth about the time the pier pavilion was destroyed at the end of last April, and that they afterwards went to Ipswich. The defendants stand committed to the Suffolk Assizes, which open on the 28th inst. | 19 May 1914Page 165 |
| **DCONC/5/44** | **Western Mail****LETTERS FROM READERS**SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGES: A CITIZEN POLICESir – The suffragette problem is daily becoming more acute. The militancy of these women has developed into fanaticism, and a very real and grave danger exists that the disordered minds of these poor creatures may bring about some dreadful tragedy. The authorities are absolutely impotent, as witness the daily farce of the arrest, the fine, and the temporary imprisonment.The time has come when the public should assuredly take a part in the suppression of these criminal outrages. The Volunteer Civil Force, which has a large body of men thoroughly trained in police methods, is prepared to assist in safeguarding national property and preventing sacrilege and crime. None of our great churches, our institutions, our historic buildings, is safe, and it is obviously impossible that the police can protect them all. The Volunteer Civil Force will gladly assist in what it considers to be its duty. All males of 21 years and upwards, both employers and employee, of all trades and professions mentioned in the commercial section of the Post Office Directory are eligible. In addition, every law-abiding citizen opposed to militancy is invited to become a member of this force, and upon doing so will receive necessary instructions, together with his badge of office, which is known to the police throughout the kingdom – I am, etcW. M. POWER, CommandantHeadquarters, Rochester-row, Westminster S.W. | 6 Jun 1914Page 180 |
| **DCONC/5/45** | **Western Mail**Yesterday a series of loud reports brought the police running out of Canton Police station. They thought that the suffragettes had blown up the cinema, the library, or some other building. However, no ruins were to be seen. The cause of the trouble was a class of boys in the chemical laboratory of the neighbouring secondary school, who were in the seventh heaven of delight because they had succeeded in exploding mixtures of hydrogen and air. | 25 Jun 1914 Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/45** | **South Wales Daily News****CATHOLIC POLICY**NATIONAL CONGRESSThe Cardiff MeetingsA WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTSSocial “Masquerade”LABOUR MOVEMENT DOMAINConfederation ProgressTruth Society’s PropagandaIn connection with the National Catholic Congress there was a singularly picturesque procession through the principal streets yesterday.At a meeting of the Catholic Women’s Suffrage Society it was announced that Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, M.P., had been invited to the gathering, but had declined on the grounds that he “was no longer a suffragist.”This announcement was received with cries of “Shame”, and one of the speakers remarked that his Lordship’s absence was a matter of surprise, because “Liberal women had worked for him at the time of his election because their own candidate was not in favour of the suffrage” | 13 Jul 1914Page 37/38 |
| **DCONC/5/45** | **Western Mail****RELIEF OF DISTRESS**CARDIFF AND DISTRICT WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE SOCIETYThe National union of Women’s Suffrage Societies wishes it to be known that it has suspended its ordinary political work for the time being, and is preparing to use the entire organisation of the Union for the help of those who will be sufferers from the economic and industrial dislocation caused by the war.The societies of the national union throughout the country are authorised to offer their services to local authorities, and to assist in any scheme for the relief of unemployment and distress which may be found necessary, and the committee of the Cardiff and District Women’s Suffrage Society has approached the Lord Mayor with an offer of assistance in providing helpers for visiting, the distribution of provisions and clothes, and such other duties as may become necessary.The committee ask the *Western Mail* to allow them to appeal through its columns to the members of the society to volunteer for this service. The office (132, Queen-street) will be open on Monday and Tuesday next from 10.30 a.m. to one p.m. for the purpose of receiving the names of helpers. Members unable to call at the office are asked to send in their names to the secretary. | 8 Aug 1914Page 99 |
| **DCONC/5/45** | **South Wales Daily News****A WAR SITTING****Of The House of Commons****Royal Clemency for Suffragist Prisoners**Mr McKenna said he had advised his Majesty to remit all sentences of imprisonment passed upon persons convicted of assault and all other convictions arising out of strikes, and also the sentences of suffragettes. It was hoped that those whose sentences were remitted would abstain from any further disturbances. | 11 Aug 1914Page 109 |
| **DCONC/5/47** | **WESTERN MAIL**WELSH HOME RULE**The New Parliament**IT’S CONSTITUTION AND POWERS**Votes For Women**The right of voting at Parliamentary elections is accorded to all adult citizens without sex disqualification, and it is proposed that the elections shall be by ballot. The only disqualifications are those existing under the present law, with the exception of the one relating to adult women. The representation of Wales in the House of Commons will be 34, this arrangement being regarded as temporary until English affairs are dealt with by English Legislature. | 22 Jan 1915Page 117 |
| **DCONC/5/47** | **WESTERN MAIL**WOMEN’S PLEA FOR WOMEN**Restrictions at Cardiff Resented****Seeking a Test Case****Suffragists at the War Office**A deputation representing several women’s suffragist societies was received at the War Office on Monday by Mr.Cubitt Assistant-Secretary. The deputation occupied upwards of an hour stating their case in the course of which they protested against military authorities in various centres like Plymouth and Cardiff imposing restrictions on the freedom of women, and contented that the military authorities should control the military leaving the civil population to be dealt with by civil law wherever possible.The deputation also asked for an unconditional withdrawal of the Army Council circular regarding the cessation of payments to women dependents of soldiers in certain circumstances. On this point Miss Nina Boyle said the Army Council had no authority to override or interfere with statutory enactments and added that opportunity was being sought to bring a test case if the objectionable order was not withdrawn.DEMAND FOR EQUALITYMiss Sylvia Pankhurst said they were strongly opposed to the introduction of any orders applying to women and not to men, whether they were to regulate vice, drink, traffic or any other matter. Justice morality and sobriety, she said could only be assured by men and women being treated with absolute equality in these matters. ”We cannot accept for one moment.” added Miss Pankhurst, “ the view that either separation allowances or pensions should be withdrawn for any failure of the recipient to live up to accepted standards. We consider that the pension should become the property of the recipients and should be as safely and absolutely assured to them as though they had themselves invested a sum of money in Consols.”Miss Pankhurst also urged that the increase in the price of bread, meat, \*\*el, and other necessaries had greatly reduced the already meagre allowances, and, in order to meet the increased cost of living, the allowances should rise also.The deputation was promised that their views and suggestions would be transferred to the proper quarter and the members withdrew.**Also reported in the South Wales Daily News 26 January 1915.** | 26 Jan 1915Page 123 |
| **DCONC/5/48** | **South Wales Daily News****WOMEN FOR ARMAMENTS**Hundreds of women have registered at Glasgow Labour Exchanges for war service. They say they are acting purely from patriotic motives, and are discarding domestic duties. They have been drafted to armament works. | 22 Mar 1915Page 69 |
| **DCONC/5/48** | **Western Mail****WOMEN TO REPLACE MEN**T0-MORROW’S CONFERENCE AT CARDFFThe Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Alderman J. T. Richards) will to-morrow (Friday), at three o’clock, confer with a large number of the principal employers in Cardiff and the immediate district on the question of the employment of women to replace workmen who may be released in order to join the Army. This conference is a corollary to that held between the Lord Mayor and the labour representatives on Monday.As a result of these conversations, it is hoped that the many questions involved in the matter will be satisfactorily arranged between masters and men, so that in the near future a large number of the men will be released from their employment with a certainty of reinstatement on their return after the war.The question involves the matter of recruiting generally and of augmenting the skilled labour in workshops which are turning out war munitions. Arrangements are being made with the Labour Exchanges and other organisations for the supply of women who are prepared to undertake positions vacated by these men. | 15 Apr 1915Page 126 |
| **DCONC/5/48** | **South Wales Daily News****2,000 EMPLOYEES****Released by City Council**CARDIFF’S EXAMPLEWork on War MunitionsThe Local Government Board, working in conjunction with the War Office, has been collecting figures of men employed by public bodies throughout the country eligible for service in manufacturing munitions of war. A representative of the Board spent part of last week in Cardiff, and the “South Wales Daily News” understand returns from the various Corporation departments were sent to the Local Government Board on Friday and Saturday.Cardiff has taken a remarkably patriotic course, and the names of no fewer than 2,000 employees have been supplied. The trades and capabilities and all the details required have been included in the list sent to London. Of these over 600 are from the tramways department and 40 from the water works department. The great bulk of the rest are from the city engineer’s department.If the Government need the men the Cardiff Corporation are willing to release them. Manufacture of shells and guns is considered more important than the running of the Cardiff tramcars, or, say, the pruning of roses in our parks and gardens. The onus of curtailing the car service will rest on the Government. The same remark applies to other municipal undertakings which are not absolutely necessary to the life of the city. For example, the men required to keep the water supply and power stations going have been barred.This splendid spirit of patriotism, if followed generally by public bodies, will relieve the Government of much anxiety over the shortage of labour at the new war factories which are being requisitioned up and down the country.It is expected that very shortly females will be seen in the city as tram conductors. | 19 Apr 1915Page 134 |
| **DCONC/5/48** | **Western Mail****CARDIFF AND MUNITIONS**ONLY FEW COUNCIL EMPLOYEES AVAILABLEThe report which was circulated on Monday declaring that 2,000 employees are to be immediately released by the Cardiff City Council in order to assist in the manufacture of munitions of war is entirely misleading. All that the Cardiff Corporation, in common with other municipalities throughout the country, was required to do was to furnish a return showing the number of men of recruitable age in their employment, and classifying the names, ages and trades followed. Though it is estimated that about 2,000 employees come within the scope of the return asked for and furnished, it does not follow, says the Lord Mayor (Alderman J. T. Richards), that even a small percentage of this number will be called upon by the Government.The Board of Trade had been asked to prepare such a return as that indicated at the request of Lord Kitchener. | 20 Apr 1915Page 135 |
| **DCONC/5/48** | **Western Mail****11,000 WOMEN POLICE**Nearly 11,000 women police had been enrolled up to Saturday under the scheme authorised by the Home Secretary. | 25 May 1915Page 198 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail****WOMEN PATROLS**DECLINED BY SWANSEA WATCH COMMITTEE.The Swansea Watch Committee on Monday afternoon received application from Police-sergeant Michael (chief clerk in the chief constables office) and from Police-sergeant Hayes (chief of the detective staff) to be raised to the rank and pay of inspectors and the committee unanimously agreed to the applications.A discussion took place on a question raised by Mr Powlesland on the duties of special constables (whom it was decided to insure).Mr. Molyneux said he saw some special constables employed who were quite fit to be members of His Majesty’s forces, and he asked how they were accepted.The Chief-constable said that in such cases special circumstances were explained to him when they joined.Mr Molyneux: And are you satisfied about them?The Chief-constable: I am bound to be. The chief-constable further explained that he was now taking special constables under 28 years of age.WOMEN PATROLSA further communication was received from the National Association of Women Workers stating that they were prepared to place a force of women patrols on duty in Swansea. This force would be supplied with cards (which they asked should be signed by the chief constable) stating their authority.Colonel Edwards-Vaughan, the commanding officer of the local military area, had expressed the view in a letter that such a patrol would be highly desirable in the interests of good order in the area.Mr Powlesland said the committee had constantly opposed the employment of women patrols, and would continue to do so. He was desired, however, by the committee of his Union to say that the Swansea Docks were at present a hotbed of immorality and that girls from thirteen years of age upwards were to be seen about the docks and on ships with drunken foreign sailors.It was decided not to agree to authorise any women patrols, and on the suggestion of Mr Molyneux it was decided to write to Colonel Edwards-Vaughan calling attention to the statements of Mr Powlesland and to the duty of the military authorities to keep the docks free from women of the class mentioned. | 29 Jun 1915Page 37 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail** **MEN & WOMEN TO REGISTER****Government Bill Introduced**POSITION OF LABOUR**Local Lists of Everybody Between 15 and 65**The bill for the completion of a National Register of every person, male and female, between the ages of 15 and 65, with a view to definitely ascertaining the military and labour resources of the United Kingdom was introduced into the House of Commons on Tuesday and received a first reading.Mr. Walter Long, as head of the Local Government Board, who will be entrusted with the carrying-out of the measure, presented the Bill under the ten minutes rule, and briefly outlined its provisions. The registration will be compulsory, but it is not intended to coerce labour. Its object is to secure complete information in order to be prepared for eventualities, which, it is hoped, will not arise.Those registering will be required to give particulars as to age and employment, and an indication of their preparedness or otherwise to volunteer for work in which they are not normally employed.**THE MEASURE INTRODUCED.**In the House of Commons on Tuesday. Mr. WALTER LONG (President of Local Government Board) introduced the promised Bill for the compilation of a National Register. He said the justification for the measure was contained in a recent statement by the Prime Minister that “we have for the moment one paramount duty to perform, to bring to the service of the state the willing and organised help of every class in the community.” The veteran Sir Evelyn Wood said recently to a member of the Government that his services were at the disposal of the Government if it was only to sweep a crossing. That he (Mr Long) believed was the feeling of everyone in the country. The object of this Bill was not to coerce labour, but to secure a complete and general and satisfactory organisation. Our paramount duty as a people was to maintain our Navy and Army in their heroic efforts, and at the same time to maintain our industries and financial position. The country had no need to be dismayed by the gravity of the present crisis. The Government believed that our resources were sufficient if they were mobilised and organised. The Bill would provide machinery which would give the organisation without which we could not secure the maximum of output with the minimum of cost.The Bill proposed that there should be a compulsory registration of the people of this country, male and female, between the ages of 15 and 65. It would be a local registration but the information would be available to the central authorities. People would be required to give particulars as to age and employment, and whether they would be willing to volunteer for other work than that with which they were normally employed. People would be entitled to receive a certificate stating that they had been registered, and he hoped that certificate would be regarded as a badge of honour. (Hear, hear.) The registration would be under the control of the Local Government Board but it would be conducted by urban and rural sanitary authorities under the advice and control and assistance of the Registrar-General. The cost would be borne by a contribution from the Exchequer.The Bill provided penalties for non-fulfilment of the obligation imposed by the measure. He believed this scheme would enable the Government to take the fullest advantage of the services of everybody for the benefit of the State. (Cheers)Mr.GINNELL (N. West Meath. N.) said he should oppose the Bill unless the Government should give an explicit undertaking that it should not be applied to Ireland. He regarded it as the pilot of conscription.Mr. Ginnell was the only dissentient, and names of the Secretary for Scotland and the Chief Secretary for Ireland were on the back of the Bill, brought in the measure, and it was read a first time.The Bill as amended was reported to the House whilst the War Loan Extension Bill was read a third time.**Also reported in the South Wales Daily news 30 June 1915** | 30 Jun 1915Page 38 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail** TO-DAY’S OPPORTUNITIESThere is an idea abroad that to-day will see the end of the miner’s strike. What substance there may be behind the idea is a mystery which only the events of the day can resolve. It is at least a ground of hope that the idea is widely and cheerfully held. We have no desire to raise vain hope, but we trust that the men in whose hands lie the issues of peace and war will preserve an attitude of faith and expectancy. So that should the opportunity arise for bringing the strife to a close or for arranging an honourable truce that opportunity will be seized and utilised to its fullest possible value. Nothing could be more unfortunate than to resign one’s-self to the view that a hopeless impasse has been reached, and we would add that nothing could be more ill-founded. The resources of diplomacy and conciliation are not exhausted: on the contrary, they have been but slightly exploited. Nor need we despair of the amenability of the miners to patriotic appeal. The great majority of the men are as patriotic as can anywhere be found: the difficulty arises from suspicion and misunderstanding, and anything that can allay that suspicion and clear that misunderstanding is to be welcomed.In her speech at the Ministry of Munitions on Saturday Mrs. Pankhurst declared that women were “red hot,” and she demanded that Mr. Lloyd George should make use of their enthusiasm. The women are not afraid of being placed under the provisions of the Munitions Act, nor do the men who are working in the munitions factories resent the operation of the measure.The Welsh miners are the only workmen who have taken offence – the only workmen who talk of the degradation of forced labour. The Act is not likely to hurt anybody who is willing to work, and the South Wales miners can escape all possibility of inconvenience by working on day-to-day contracts until an agreement is reached. To this course there can be no reasonable objection: on the contrary, there are reasons overwhelmingly strong, which point to that course as required by the most solemn obligations to which a citizen can be subject. The coal which the miners are not raising is needed for the fleet, for the munitions factories for the manufacture of explosives, for the general industries of the country, and for export to other countries in order to help pay for the food and the munitions we are importing. All these claims are urgent: we cannot afford to lose a single day, and each day’s loss brings us nearer the moment when our fleet may be paralysed and when the enemy’s squadrons and transports may make unresisted passage to these shores  | 19 Jul 1915Page 83 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail****WELSH MOTOR NOTES****The Motor Girl**That women are anxious to “make good” in the world’s way is very obvious. Without mentioning their patriotism at the front, where, in addition to nursing work, they are driving ambulances, field kitchens, etc., I will refer to their usefulness in the motor industry at home. Their latest achievement, I imagine, is the driving of his Majesty’s motor mails at Liverpool, which, as “The Car,” points out, “is surely a step towards the much-coveted Government recognition.” In South Wales we have not so far seen any such advancement, yet I see no reason why something of the sort should not take place. There are, I believe, one or two garages in the provinces which are entirely run by the fair sex, whilst “The Car” announces that one enterprising lady in Piccadilly has opened an office there and established a garage in Westminster. It appears to me that there is a big opening for something of the kind in Cardiff or Swansea, for example. For suitable women driving would be a healthy and profitable employment. The lady who is first to take up this question of teaching driving will be sure to reap a rich harvest, whilst by the pallid and overworked assistant in many businesses she would be hailed as a public benefactress. | 3 Aug 1915Page 116 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail****NATIONAL REGISTER****WORK OF ENUMERATION STARTS TO-DAY**23,000,000 FORMSHINTS AS TO HOW THEY SHOULD BE FILLED INThe work of distributing the National Register forms begins to-day, and will be continued during the week. The forms are to be filled up on Sunday next, the 15th, when every man and woman between the ages of 15 and 65 will be required to answer the following questions:-1. Age last birthday.
2. If born abroad and not British state nationality.
3. State whether single, married, or widower.
4. How many children are dependent on you?
5. How many other persons are dependent on you, excluding employees?
6. Profession or occupation.
7. Name, business, and business address of employer.
8. Are you employed for or under any Government department?
9. (a) Are you skilled in any work other than that upon which you are at present employed, and, if so, what?

(b) Are you able and willing to undertake such work?In regard to No. 5: “How many other persons are dependent on you, excluding employees?” it may be pointed out that the question is not meant to refer to wives, the marital relationship being supposed sufficiently to explain the situation. In reply to No. 6 on the woman’s form, a woman engaged in household duties may enter “household duties” as her occupation. No. 9 question: “Are you skilled in any work other than that upon which you are at present employed, and if so, what?” is not intended to refer to accomplishments and hobbies, but more particularly to skilled workers who may have retired or have had other regular occupations.KEEPING IT UP TO DATEArrangements are being made for keeping the Register up to date during the war.An official in the Registrar-General’s department said on Saturday:- “Considering all the circumstances, the machinery of the Act is working most smoothly. The Local Government Board, to whom we are responsible, have had no difficulty in obtaining the labour required. At least 100,000 people, many of them ladies, have volunteered to carry out the registration work, but personally I think our volunteer army is larger than that……” | 9 Aug 1915Page 122 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail****REGISTRTION WORK****WOMAN ENUMERATORS IN THE MAJORITY****SPECIAL FACILITIES OFFERED FOR JEWS**Throughout the country the work of the enumeration in connection with the completion of the National Register is proceeding smoothly.Women form a large proportion of the 100,000 persons engaged in the work of distribution and collection. Voluntary Training Corps are also helping. About 23,000,000 form and explanatory leaflets have been despatched from his Majesty’s Stationery Office, where, for over a week, the officials have been working night and day. At sea-side places some difficulty as to the required number of forms may be experienced, but here again the voluntary workers on ascertaining the extent of the influx of visitors will soon be supplied with further parcels of documents from the Stationery Office. | 10 Aug 1915Page 124 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail****NATIONAL REGISTER****HOW QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ANSWERED****SKILLED WORKER DEFINED****A WIFE NOT TO BE REGARDED AS A DEPENDANT**If the Government are to get to know all they want to know from the National Register it is essential that the forms should be filled up in a way that will render them more than superficially informative. It is not sufficient that a man should just say he is married or single and that he belongs to a certain profession or trade.WHAT DEPENDANTS AREWith regard to information of domestic circumstances, Question 5 may present difficulties. In the first place, if you are a married man, it is not intended that you should put down your wife under column 5 amongst other dependants. If you support your father or mother, brother or sister, or other relative, and are, in fact, providing him (or her) with food and lodgings, or the money for it, then he, or she, is dependant on you (wholly or partially, as the case may be), and the number of such “dependants” must be stated in column 5. It must be understood that servants are not to be included under this column.TO CELEBRATE REGISTRATION DAYArrangements have been made for the holding in London of a great demonstration on Sunday to celebrate Registration Day. The societies which will take part are practically confined to trade and women’s organisations. | 11 Aug 1915Page 127 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **The Police Review****POLICEWOMEN**The reasons advanced by the Commissioner for abstaining from organisation of a Force of Women – for the better police government of the metropolis – are such as had already occurred to us, in common we believe with the majority of impartial persons who have calmly considered the matter. Notwithstanding a sporadic effervescence among the Boroughs, which are more peculiarly susceptible to the influences and agitations of the ladies, and constitutionally sensitive to newspaper notoriety, neither the practicability nor the expediency of the revolution proposed has yet been made manifest. That, however, is the secondary consideration. The primary point to be cleared is that which is put first by the Commissioner, which was indeed explained in our own leading columns a few weeks ago, when we last dealt with this interesting question.There can be no official control of the population by any organisation which is not expressly authorised by statute. We do not mean that all the powers of Policemen are provided by statute law alone, but we do say that the title of Policeman as such to exercise them must be by express Act of Parliament. It would be a very dangerous and intolerable thing if enactments which invest a certain class with powers and privileges in suspense of the ordinary liberties of the subject were to be construed as though their omissions of particularity were allowances.In some Police Acts, as we heretofore showed, the use of terms does not encourage the inclusion of women, in others it can only be contended that they are included by reason that there is an omission to exclude them. But the national custom, without exception, during the prolonged vista of history, the practice unimpaired by the passing of the Acts concerned, the continual assignment of duties, presuming physical prowess, and the purview and provisions of the Superannuation Acts which cover the entire Police organisation, may be called in aid of the proposition that only by Act of Parliament can the subsisting conventions be authoritatively upset. We may agree also that only by the wisdom of the legislature can the proposed reform be introduced without confusion or miscarriage. Why, indeed, should an alteration so undeniably drastic, involving some new monitorial supervision of us all, be withheld from Parliamentary debate? If it be beneficial, let the benefit be made clear and adopted generally, under some considered institution of express law, with duly authorised organisation of executive force, instead of being applied, as now, imperfectly, casually, by the crank.When the opportune hour shall arrive, there may well be set up a representative committee of persons with special experience and insight, to consider and digest the proposed reform. Is the present hour the expedient one for proper consideration of such innovation? If a new permanent order of things is required, we should hardly suppose that the preoccupations of a terrible and all-absorbing warfare could be the reason or occasion. If the proposal is merely to provide an emergency expedient, its utility for that purpose is not quite apparent. When there is little doing anywhere except in the fighting front, the available resources, of Special Constables and other reserves, should suffice to support the depleted regular Police ranks at home. Should a darker day arrive, however, in the fortune of war, the control of disturbed and irritated populations will require a Force in which woman can only be an embarrassment.It is here we get near to the practicability of the proposal. A decision has to be made whether women sworn as Constables – for without the oath they cannot under the existing law have authority and power as such – are to be divested of any of the responsibilities and duties which now attach to Constables sworn; and if so, how can this be done except by statute? The suggestion has seemed to be that only for one purpose can the Policewoman as such be used, since quite obviously for most other purposes they are impossible. The proposal crystallises, in fact, into the institution of a special moral Police, especially authorised and sworn as such, and yet immune from the responsibilities and duties which by law are cast upon all sworn Constables, and relieved of the liabilities to which they are subject. How is this to be effectually and authoritatively done except by statute?The question of the present Police obligations in respect of public decency would then require consideration, even if the doubtful course were adopted of continuing their existing general duties in co-operation with, or in subordination to those of the new feminine moral Police. It may be that the suggestion would be that where male and female are concerned in such offences, so their suppression and discovery should be entrusted to male and female Police together. Possibly the Police obligation as to public decency is being confounded with the social convention of private morality – the Police duty being confounded with missionary enterprise. Upon this and many more most important considerations of practicability which cannot be discussed within our present limits, much remain to be examined by the Committee which may in the fullness of time be authorised to consider the matter. | 13 Aug 1915Page 139 |
| **DCONC/5/49** | **Western Mail** **MRS PAKHURST AT CARDIFF**Mrs Pankhurst is announced to speak in the Park-hall, Cardiff on Wednesday evening, September 22, at eight o’clock on “How to Win the War.” The object of the meeting, as of all those which Mrs Pankhurst has addressed since the outbreak of war, is to stimulate patriotism and the spirit of service and to bring home to all members of the community the magnitude of the issues at stake. | 13 Sep 1915Page 195 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail****THE WOMEN’S MOVEMENT**MRS PANKHURST’S COMING VISIT TO CARDIFFWhat great changes have been brought about by the great war will be evident next Wednesday, when Mrs. Pankhurst will address a big patriotic meeting in the Park-hall at eight pm on “How to Win the War.”The people who heard Mrs. Pankhurst speak on her last visit to Cardiff had the occasion impressed upon their minds by the fact that her subsequent trial and famous imprisonments, hunger-strikes, and releases under the Cat and Mouse Act resulted from her adoption of responsibility for militant action that night. They will find her present war policy as vigorous and resolute as was her “Votes for Women” policy in the past. Since the outbreak of war Mrs Pankhurst has been up and down the country holding patriotic meetings, which for size and enthusiasm are almost historic. Miss Christabel Pankhurst has done the same in America, where all last autumn she devoted her time and talents to stating the case of the allies as opposed to the advocacy of the Kaiser so cunningly and persistently pursued by pro-Germans in the United States. The women’s movement of the moment Mrs. Pankhurst says is to defeat the Germans. | 17 Sep 1915Page 3 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail****WOMEN AND THE WAR**THEIR ATTITUDE TO CONSCRIPTION**MRS. PANKHURST’S VIEWS****A Word On Welsh Miners’ Strikes**Mrs Pankhurst will address a public meeting at the Park-Hall, Cardiff, this (Wednesday) evening on “How to win the war.” Quite apart from her world-wide repute as the irrepressible leader of the women’s suffrage movement, Mrs. Pankhurst has a large following in the country on questions affecting the war, and a crowded audience is anticipated.In an interview with a *Western Mail* reporter at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, on Tuesday Mrs. Pankhurst explained that the Cardiff meeting was to be followed by a series of similar meetings throughout the mining valleys of South Wales.“If the securing of victory for the allies rested with women,” Mrs Pankhurst remarked, the war would have been won before this. The women of Great Britain are enthusiastic in the matter, and there is a general desire amongst them to sacrifice much in order to assist in the victory. They are continually clamouring for guidance as to the ways in which they can serve in order to release men to take their proper place in the fighting line. Although since the commencement of the war I have not been appealing exclusively to women, I have addressed meetings for women only, notably the one at Hull, convened by the Lord-lieutenant of Yorkshire, a little time ago, and the one assembled at the invitation of the Mayor of Hackney last Sunday. The greatest possible enthusiasm has been shown at these meetings, and there is no doubt that the women are determined to see the thing through to the bitter end, whatever their sacrifices may have to be.”“Are the women in your opinion favourable to conscription?”Whilst not giving a direct answer to the question, Mrs Pankhurst said: “People do not seem to like the word conscription in this country, but ever since war broke out I have strongly advocated the national organisation of both men and women in order that nothing should be left undone to win the war, and because I feel that we cannot win it without service organised on national lines. We are fighting a very much stronger Power than most people realise even now, a Power that has been growing methodically for the last forty years.”“Do you attribute our strikes and other labour troubles to a lack of the patriotic spirit?”“No, I do not.” said Mrs. Pankhurst emphatically. “I think they are mainly due to a lack of appreciation of the seriousness of the position which our country is in, and there is a great deal of excuse for that. We in this country do not know what war really is, and we have not known from personal experience for many generations past, and it is because of the special opportunities I have had of going backwards and forwards to France since the beginning of the war that I am moved to come to South Wales to talk to the people of what I have seen and how I feel about it all. The situation is very serious, and I do to think there is any harm in telling the people so, because as a nation, we are at our best when knowingly facing serious facts. I have every faith in the people. They are patriotic enough, and all that is needed is a wider dissemination of the facts of the movement and of the certainties that would follow a victory for the Germans, who are a brutalised nation and unworthy of trust. We women who gave up our militant movement because we felt that the help of everyone was needed to beat the Germans have a special right to speak plainly to our working men just now – particularly those of us who temporarily gave up a demand for something we went very near death to achieve.We have every sympathy with the working men and especially with their wives and children, and whilst we are not party politicians, we want to tell the men what we are certain will be the fate of those they love best if every effort is not put forward to utterly crush the German attempt at world domination. I want to tell the miners of South Wales what has been the experience of those miners in France and Belgium. Those Continental miners have risked death by striking against work which the Germans were trying to force upon them, and strikes of that kind I heartily endorse. But here in Great Britain we must sink all our private grievances in order to achieve victory for our country, and I believe the men of South Wales will listen to me when I relate to them what I have actually seen in France, where the people are already feeling the Prussian boot, and when I tell them what my conclusions are.”Mrs. Pankhurst is enjoying good health again, and said she was looking forward with pleasure to addressing meetings at short notice in South Wales and Monmouthshire almost every day until the end of next week. | 22 Sep 1915Page 11 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail** **WOMEN POLICEMEN**PROPOSED SALARIES AND PENSIONS ON SCALE OF MENThe National Union of Women Workers passed a resolution I London on Tuesday, on the motion of Mrs, G Morgan, appealing to the Government to appoint women permanently to carry out police duty in relation to women and children. A resolution was also carried appealing for the appointment of women police-constables, with powers, salaries, and pensions equal to those of men constables. | 6 Oct 1915Page 30 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail** **STIRRING SPEECHES**MRS. PANKHURST ON READINESS OF WOMEN TO HELP.Stirring addresses appealing for recruits were made during the afternoon and again in the evening in various parts of the city by Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs Dacre Fox, Captain D Watts Morgan (23rd Welsh Pioneers), Mr Ivor Gwynne, Mr John Jenkins ex- M.P. for Chatham, Mr John Chappell, J.P., Mr. F.J .Beavan J. P. Mr. W.T. Beavan, J.P. (the organiser of this part of the programme), Mr James Miles, J.P., Mr John Littlejohns, Mr. Leo Joseph, J.P., Mr A.A Fownes, Mr. A.W . Swash, Lieutenant Hy Davies (5th Welsh Supernumerary) Alderman William Roberts, J.P., Mr. Frewer, Councillor A.J Howell, Councillor Peter Wright (Newport), Alderman IIltyd Thomas. J.P, Mr C.F Sanders J.P., Mr F.H. Lambert, J.P., Councillor G.F Willett, Mr T Vivian Rees, Sergeant-major Pride (Welsh Horse)Sergeant Franklin (23rd Welsh Pioneers), Sergeant major O’Toole (Caerphilly Hospital). Private S.G. Williams (1st British Columbia Regiment, wounded), and a number of other wounded soldiers.Naturally a large crowd gathered near the motor car of Mrs Pankhurst for whom Mr. F. J. Beavan acted as chairman.Mrs. Pankhurst said the procession with its wounded warriors and trained men of war, spoke more eloquently of the call of duty than anything that could be put into words. The men of business could be spared for the women were ready to take their places, and hold them until they came back. Matters had become so serious that the day was near at hand when ladies would refuse to buy at shops where eligible men were kept at home to sell ribbons and laces. (Cheers) Young men who had not yet got into uniforms should realise to what a glorious condition they would come if the Germans got this Country in their hands. Men in the trenches were amazed that there were still left young fellows who were content to stay at home while women were ready to take their places. Little legal war was needed, and the lawyers could be spared, while the school masters - heads or assistants – could leave their schools to the thousands of educated women who could teach the children as well as them – and perhaps get introduced a few of those innovations were needed in their educational system. (Hear, Hear)Men were needed if they were not to become a province of Germany and if their women were not to be treated the same as those of Belgium and Serbia. If she had been a man the great adventure would have called her, and if too old or delicate for that she would have served in some capacity useful to the country. She fully believed that if they did their duty they would come out of the war a better people. (Applause) | 11 Oct 1915Page 36 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **South Wales Daily News****MRS PANKHURST’S ADDRESS**At another platform Mrs Pankhurst and Mrs Dacre Fox were the chief speakers. Mr. F. J. Beavan (the chairman) paid a tribute to the memory of Col. Lord Ninian Stuart.Mrs Pankhurst said many young men failed to enlist because they thought their particular businesses could not get along without them. Women could do the work quite satisfactorily until the men came back. (Hear, hear.) Thousands of women were waiting to do men’s work, the war was not only being fought with sword and bayonet. Money was flowing like water from German sources to weaken the strength of this Empire.Mrs Dacre Fox, in an eloquent appeal for recruits, pointed out the plight of the women of France and Belgium. | 11 Oct 1915Page 38 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **South Wales Daily News****CARDIFF COUNCIL****Training of Women to Fill Vacancies**A letter was read from the Home Office stating that a committee had been appointed by the Home Secretary to consider what arrangement could be made to supply the places of men who were withdrawn from clerical and commercial occupations for services with the forces. As the existing supply of substitutes for unemployed persons over military age or pensioners was limited the bulk of the substitutes would have to be found among women. It was important that steps should be taken before hand to organise the supply of substitutes more systematically.As the needs of any locality would, in the main, have to be met from the reserve of available men in the locality, the necessary arrangements for the organisation of supply must be made locally.The letter suggested that training classes should be organised, and the supply of women clerks organised. The committee were of opinion that they must look in the main to the classes of women who had passed through the secondary schools and institutions for higher education.**Invitation to Conference**It was suggested that in each important town a committee should be formed of representatives of higher education and the business interests of the town, and an invitation was given Cardiff to be represented at a conference at the Home Office on Monday next.The letter was received without discussion, and the Lord Mayor, Councillor H. M. Thompson, and the city treasurer (Mr John Allcock) were appointed to attend the conference. | 30 Oct 1915Page 62-63 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail****COSTLY CAR RIDE**CARDIFF MAN AND A TRANSFER TICKETJohn Stableford was summoned before the Cardiff deputy-stipendiary (the Hon. H. C. Bailey) on Tuesday for travelling on a Cardiff tramcar beyond the distance for which he had paid his fare.Mr Ensor (from the town-clerk’s office), prosecuting, said that because there was a lady conductor on the car defendant appeared to think he could do as he liked. He had a transfer ticket between Wood-street and Tudor-street on October 22, and on arriving at the latter stage refused to leave the car or to pay excess fare.Evidence was called in support of this, and it was also stated that defendant shouted and waved his arms, saying that the lady conductor was “no good for the work.”A fine of 20s., or fourteen days, was imposed. | 10 Nov 1915Page 73 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **South Wales Daily News****DEFIED GIRL CONDUCTOR**John Stableford was summoned before Cardiff Deputy Stipendiary yesterday for travelling on a Cardiff tramcar beyond the distance for which he had paid his fare. Mr Ensor (from the Town Clerk’s office), prosecuting, said that because there was a girl conductor on the car defendant appeared to think he could do as he liked. He had a transfer ticket between Wood-street and Tudor-street on October 22nd, and on arriving at the latter stage refused to leave the car or to pay excess fare. A fine of 20s (or 14 days) was imposed. | 10 Nov 1915Page 75 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail****WOMEN PATROLS**TO PROTECT YOUNG GIRLS IN SWANSEA STREETSA special meeting of the Swansea Watch Committee was held on Thursday, when a deputation consisting of Lady Llewelyn, Mrs Talbot Rice, Mrs Charles Eden, Miss Phillips, and Miss Jones attended to request the committee to allow women patrols in the street. They explained that their object was to protect young women who frequented the streets at night.After a long discussion the committee decided to allow women to patrol the streets for one month as an experiment.A letter was read from the Home Office inquiring the number of police who were still available to join the colours.The chief-constable intimated that he could spare no more men from the Swansea force.It was decided to report this to the Home Office. | 12 Nov 1915Page 78 |
| **DCONC/5/50** | **Western Mail****WATCHNG FLIGHTY GIRLS**FUNCTIONS OF SWANSEA WOMEN PATROLSThe work of the women patrols (which as announced yesterday, are to be allowed as an experiment by the Swansea Watch Committee) was explained by the deputation to consist of watching flighty young girls about the streets, and especially near the military, with the object of preventing them from drifting into questionable paths. It is not intended to patrol the “Strand” or places frequented by foreign seamen and disorderly women. The women patrols have no power of arrest. They will patrol in couples, and their only connection with the police is that they are under the supervision of the head-constable.Miss Phillips (organiser of the National Union of Women Workers) told the committee they had in other towns cleared undesirable streets by simply walking through them.“We don’t want to see evil,” said she, “but we want the people to know we are there.”It was stated also that they did not want to interfere with the military, but they wished to prevent soldiers “being accosted everywhere by silly young girls.” | 13 Nov 1915Page 79 |
| **DCONC/5/52** | **South Wales Daily News****CARDIFF**Miss Sylvia Pankhurst addressed a meeting at the Cory Hall, Cardiff, last evening under the auspices of the Cardiff branch of the Women’s International League. Dealing with the food question, she said they had heard a great deal against the German food ticket system. But it was a fairer system than limiting the consumption by raising prices. Let the war be paid for by those who had a surplus. It was all very well to talk about fighting for freedom and then deliberately sit down and let certain sections of the population starve. Miss M Pallister presided. | 21 Oct 1916Page 52 |
| **DCONC/5/52** | **Western Mail****MERTHYRS NEED OF WOMEN POLICE**Mr L.M. Francis told the Merthyr Town Council that women police-constables would be useful in the town, and the Mayor (Mr. N. F. Hankey) remarked that the chairman of the watch committee( Mr. D.W. Jones) would bear the suggestion in mind. | 29 Nov 1916Page 139 |
| **DCONC/5/52** | **South Wales Daily News****THE WOMEN’S PATROL**SALUTARY WORK IN THE CITYOf the many institutions to which the war has given birth perhaps not the least effective in the character of the work , which is mainly preventative, is the Women’s patrol, an organisation set up in connection with the National Union of Women Workers. The work is entirely voluntary, and working in conjunction with the police, finds its chief scope among young girls and children. A branch of the organisation has been at work at Cardiff for some months past. Upwards of 40 women school teachers, clerks, etc have been enrolled under the leadership of Miss Kate Woodward, one of the teaching staff of the High School for Girls, and patrol duties are taken each evening, the hours generally being from 7.30 to 9.30 or 10 o’clock. The women assemble at the Y.W.C.A. at the beginning of each week, when the week’s rota is decided on. Generally there are about half a dozen sometimes more Women Patrols on duty at a time, the members wearing armlets similar to those of special constables.In a chat with our representative yesterday, Miss Woodward stated that various kinds of duties had been allotted to the patrol by the Head Constable of Cardiff. In the main their work consisted in assisting to maintain order and in the prevention of crime among girls and children. In the summer the parks and open spaces were patrolled, but in the winter months the work was confined to streets of the city, where it was most likely to be of service. Railway stations were kept under observation and a girl who may have lost her train and become exposed to the dangers of the streets would be taken charge of and taken to respectable lodgings for the night. Cinemas are also visited, and films might be objected to in the interest of children and young girls would be reported upon.We have found the managers most willing to receive any criticism we may have to make,” said Miss Woodward, “and there has been a marked improvement in the character of the films shown since we commenced this work.”The restoration of lost children and the detection of unauthorised juvenile street collectors are other phases of the work.  | 4 Dec 1916Page 155 |
| **DCONC/5/53** | **Western Mail****VOTE FOR WOMEN.****OFFICIALLY RECOMMENDED AT LAST****REDISTRIBUTION PROPOSALS**Important franchise reforms – including proposals for women’s suffrage – are recommended by the Speaker’s Committee on Electoral Reform, whose comprehensive report to the Prime Minister was issued on Tuesday night.The report deals with many anomalies which have been generally regarded as crying aloud for a remedy for years, and no controversy is likely to be aroused by any of the recommendations covering these.On every recommendation save one the Committee agreed unanimously. The solitary exception is that of votes for women, which it is easy to see may be the storm-centre of the proposals. FINDING OF THE CONFERENCEThe Speaker’s report to the Prime Minister on the deliberations of the Conference on Electoral Reform, over which he presides, was issued on Tuesday night.The results are summed up in a series of resolutions, the main points of which are as follows:-REGISTRATION OF ELECTORSThe qualifying period for registration as a Parliamentary elector to be reduced to six months.A revision of the register every six months.The qualifying period to be the six months prior to January 15 and July 15 each year.The time between the preparation and coming into force of the register to be shortened in England and Wales.A registration officer is to be appointed in every county and borough – for a county the clerk of the county council, and for a borough the town-clerk.An appeal from the decision of the registration officer to lie to the county court.The cost of registration to be a charge upon the local rates, subject to a State contribution of one-half. [The second third and fourth resolutions are not to apply to Ireland, which owing to different conditions, may require special treatment.]**REFORM OF FRANCHISE**Every person of full age, not subject to any legal incapacity, who for the qualifying period has resided on any premises or who has occupied for the purpose of his business, profession, or trade any premises of the clear yearly value of not less than £10 shall be entitles to be regarded as a Parliamentary elector.No change to be made in the law relating to the joint occupation of business premises.A franchise based upon the foregoing qualifications to be substituted for all existing franchises.Representations of universities to be maintained.Qualification not to be lost by removal to different premises within the same constituency, or from one constituency to another in the same borough or county, or to different premises in a contiguous county or borough.A person not to vote at a general election in more than one constituency, provided that a person shall be entitled to one additional vote in another constituency in respect of the occupation of his business premises or in respect of any qualification he may have as a university voter.The law relating to franchise and registration to codified.**Paragraphs also reporting :-** **REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS****UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATION****METHODS AND COSTS OF ELECTIONS****WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE**The Conference decided by a majority that some measure of women’s suffrage should be conferred.A majority of the Conference was also of opinion that if Parliament should decide to accept the principle the most practical form would be that any Woman on the Local Government Register who has attained a specified age, and the wife of any man who is on that register if she has attained that age, shall be entitled to be registered and to vote as a parliamentary elector.Various ages were discussed 30 and 35 receiving most favour.If Parliament decides to enfranchise women, a woman of the specified age who is a graduate of any university having Parliamentary representation to be entitled to vote as a university elector.Local Government Register in substitution for all existing Local Government franchises.Every person who for six months preceding January 15 and July 15 in any year has occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises in a Local Government area in England and Wales to be entitled to be registered and to vote as a Local Government elector in that area.Neither sex nor marriage to be a disqualification provided a husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same premises.The conference makes no recommendation regarding Local Government franchise in Scotland or Ireland.**SOLDIERS AND SAILORS REGISTRATION.** | 31 Jan 1917Page 36 |
| **DCONC/5/53** | **Above also reported in the South Wales Daily News 31 January 1917** | 31 Jan 1917 Page 37 |
| **DCONC/5/53** | **Western Mail****WOMEN LAWYERS**Lord Buckmaster’s Bill, the purpose of which is to admit women to the profession of solicitor, has created a high degree of interest among those who are prominently associated with the feminist movement as well as among the members of the legal profession. It is unlikely that the latter entertain any longer the hope that the profession will remain a sex preserve, for women are in large numbers exhibiting the requisite degree of academic competences. At a time when war conditions are opening every door to women aspirants it is hopeless to expect that the legal profession can remain closed to them. With intellectual competencies added to social right, the case for the feminists becomes unanswerable. The question whether women have the right type of mind for the work of the legal profession is one which will answer itself as soon as the hindrances to training and practices are removed. Presumably the judgement which leads suitable women to the medical profession will also lead suitable women to the legal profession. | 27 Feb 1917Page 75 |
| **DCONC/5/53** | **Western Mail** **WOMEN AS SOLICITORS**VARIED OPINIONS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.The Bill enabling women to act as solicitors passed its second reading without division in the House of Lords on Tuesday.Lord BUCKMASTER, who moved the second reading, said the objection that some cases were too unpleasant for women to deal with was an echo of times long gone by. It was true that at one time a woman sat on the Woolsack and through lack of legal training administered such wholly unprecedented forms of justice that the City of London rose in mutiny against her.In the early history of the law some women appeared as attorneys before the judges, but for many centuries now no woman had practiced as a solicitor in our courts. He had not the east objection to women entering and practising as barristers. He could see no reason why a system which had produced no alarming consequences in other countries might not be adopted here without any great catastrophe. He looked forward with pleasurable expectation to the day – which he was certain, would come sooner or later – when women would stand at the Bar of that House and plead their client’s cause before the highest tribunal in the land.The LORD CHANCELLOR said he was old fashioned enough to think that the work of the profession of solicitor was not suitable for women, and that their proper sphere as that of wife and mother. If Lord Buckmaster looked to their pleading at the Bar of the House, why not also contemplate the logical consequence of their sitting on benches?The Earl of SELBORNE, in supporting the Bill, said women had shown during the present war that they could do things which very few men believed they could do.The Earl of LOREBURN said all that was wanted for the profession of solicitor was integrity and intelligence. Women were quite equal to men in regard to that. | 28 Feb 1917Page 78 |
| **DCONC/5/54** | MISS CHRIS. PANKHURSTADDRESS ON ANTI-PACIFISM AT CARDIFF.Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the Cory-hall Cardiff, this (Thursday) evening on anti-pacifism. As one of the foremost orators of the day, she is sure to attract a large audience from the loyal citizens of Cardiff. When Miss Pankhurst spoke at the Park-hall Cardiff, some years ago she was severely heckled by college students, and she proved herself remarkably apt in repartee. Should there be any heckling at to-night’s meeting, therefore. The event will be all the more interesting. Mrs Flora Drummond will also speak on industrial conditions in South Wales. | 25 Oct 1917Page 141 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **South Wales Daily news****CARDIFF WOMEN PATROLS**Correspondence has taken place between Miss Woodward, leader of the Cardiff Women’s Advisory Committee of the Association of Voluntary Workers, and the chief constable of Cardiff relative to a statement made by him to the Watch Committee in December last. At a meeting of the advisory Committee held a few days ago a letter was read from the Chief Constable stating: - “In order to remove any false impression in the minds of your patrols as to certain statements made by me, I wish to state that they do not refer to them. I am prepared to say and do say, that the patrols have performed excellent work, particularly in the early stages of the war. My definite statement to which I adhere, was that they were not suitable as substitutes for the regular police. That if they were appointed, they might ultimately prove useful in certain auxiliary forms of police work I do not deny, but the time is not opportune for experimental work.” The letter has been forwarded by Mrs Janet Price- Williams, hon secretary of the Advisory Committee, with the assent of the chief constable to its publications.  | 11 Feb 1918Page 91 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **Western Mail** Correspondence From the Chief Constable D.WILLIAMS relating to above article reproduced under Public Notices | 11 Feb 1918Page 91 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **Western Mail** **WOMENS PARTY: MRS PANKHURST’S CARDIFF MEETING**Mrs Pankhurst and Miss Phyllis Ayrton are the speakers at a meeting to be held by the Women’s Party at the Cory-hall, Cardiff on Thursday February 14 at 7.30 p.m. Alderman Bird (Deputy Lord Mayor) will preside. | 12 Feb 1918Page 93 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **Western Mail****WARNING TO WOMEN**MRS PANKHURST AND AIMS OF THE LABOUR PARTYAlderman C. H. Bird presided over a crowded audience at the Cory-hall Cardiff on Thursday, when Mrs Pankhurst was the principal speaker at an enthusiastic meeting organised by the Women’s Party.Mrs Pankhurst who had a splendid reception said that women at last entered the ranks of citizenship, but there was not much time to rejoice, because with the vote had come pressing difficulties and responsibilities. At the moment the first and last thing was to win the war. To half win the war was to lose the war, which would mean the world would be soon again absorbed in preparing for another military struggle. She strongly advised all women workers not to join the existing Labour party, but to stick to their own organisation. The Women’s Party saw in the coming of women into the ranks of industry that economic independence for women without which women could never be free, even with their political freedom, and so women had better beware of the bids made to them by the Labour party and stick to each other in their own organisation. (Applause.)“GLORIFIED COTTAGES.”Dealing with the housing problem, Mrs Pankhurst aid she had paid a special visit to the City-hall that morning to see the exhibition of housing plans that had been invited by the Local Government Board, and she must sorrowfully admit that she had been disappointed. She had hoped to see some ideas of comfort and Co-operation applied to the new movement, but what she did see were representations of some more or less glorified cottages or attempts at the kind villadom to which they became accustomed for the middle classes in the latter years of the nineteenth century. Miss Phyllis Ayrton also spoke. | 15 Feb 1918Page 96 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **South Wales Daily News****NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN WORKERS**A branch of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland has been formed in Cardiff. Mrs Price Williams, M.B.E., has kindly consented to act as hon secretary pro tem. Miss Janes of Hendon the founder of the Union, and Miss S.A. Smart the organiser for South Wales, were present. At the inaugural meeting, Miss E. P. Hughes, Barry presided. On Monday next Mrs Ogilvie Gordon, D.S.C., D.Ph., will address a public meeting, to be held at St. John’s Hall Priory-road, at 7.30 p.m., when it is earnestly requested that all women will make a special effort to attend. | 23 Mar 1918Page 146 |
| **DCONC/5/55** | **Western Mail**THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN WORKERSOn the 25th March Mrs Ogilvie Gordon. D.Sc. Ph.D., F.L.S., will visit Cardiff ad will address a meeting of the newly formed Cardiff branch at St. John’s-hall, Priory road at 7.30 p.m. Briefly, the aims and objects of the N.U.W.W. are as follows: - To coordinate all existing work among women and children. The Union is over twenty years of age, and has affiliated to it over seventy different societies which exist for the benefit of women and children. It is the largest organised body of women in the country, and has over 2,000,000 members. The first of the objects set forth for the Union is “to promote the social civil, moral and religious welfare of the community”: and the second is “to promote sympathy of thought and purpose among women.” It is non- party and non-sectarian. Above all, it is democratic. To mention a few of the Union’s activities: Women and children’s wards of the hospitals, lodging houses for women, infant clinics, children’s consultation centres, day nurseries, maternity homes, girls clubs, war savings and food control, venereal diseases &c., &c.Now that six million women are enfranchised, it behoves them to become educated politically. With that end in view, the Union is starting a Women’s Citizen Association campaign. Mrs Gordon, in her address, will touch on these various aspects of the work done by the Union in the past, and will outline briefly what it hopes to do in the near future.  | 25 Mar 1918Page 148 |
| **DCONC/5/57** | **Western Mail****WOMEN POLICE**SWANSEA COMMITTEE AND A PROPOSALA letter was read at the Swansea Watch Committee on Tuesday afternoon from Miss Grapell, of the Swansea Citizens’ Union, asking the committee to receive a deputation on the subject of establishing a women’s police force to deal with any question which might arise with women and girls on the streets or at the court.The Chief-constable said they had already a women’s patrol in the town. It worked on its own and he saw nothing of it.A letter was read from the Home Office stating that the Home Secretary was strongly of opinion that women police would be of great assistance to the police and the cost could be charged to the police fund, but that they could not be regarded as among members of the police force, and such limited powers of arrest as they possessed should be exercised with great caution, and in nearly all cases arrests should be made by male members of the police force.It was decided to receive a deputation. | 26 Mar 1919Page 109 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **SOUTH WALES NEWS**WOMEN JUSTICES AND WOMEN POLICEHaving appointed seven women to the magisterial Bench, and these having been formed into an Advisory Committee, the Lord Chancellor seeks their aid in his selection of others who shall become Justices of the Peace. It was obvious that, as soon as women became Parliamentary voters and one of them entered the House of Commons, representing a constituency, the old practice of allowing only men to administer the law must be abandoned. If women are fit to be lawmakers, they are equally fit to be its administrators. Henceforward, therefore, we may expect to see women justices on the commission all over the country; not immediately, as the Lord Chancellor is careful to point out, there being in his opinion a sufficient number of Justices already; but the appointments are to be made as vacancies arise. His caution is not commendable. Work awaits women in the law courts and numerous appointments should be made without delay. For work among women defendants on the part of magistrates there is real need. Many a girl going wrong could - and would – be helped by a lady on the Bench; and numbers would be saved from wreck and ruin, at the outset of an evil career, if the efforts of the Salvation Army and similar representatives were reinforced officially. Chiefly, however, the women magistrates re required for duty in the children’s courts. Most of the advanced areas now deal with children separately from adults, and women are peculiarly fitted to exercise jurisdiction in the cases that come before these separate courts.Following the appointment of Justices, and that without further question or delay, should come women police. There is a curious old-world prejudice against women police, nowhere held more strongly than among the police themselves and among members of Watch Committees. No sufficient reason for that prejudice can be stated; nothing beyond the deadweight of custom or of personal preference. Especially in seaports such as we have in South Wales, and scarcely less in the busy industrial districts away from the coast, the work of women police would be of inestimable value; and it rests with the different authorities to take this next very necessary step, so clearly indicated by the Lord Chancellor’s latest action. | 27 Dec 1919Page 103 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **SOUTH WALES NEWS**WOMEN JUSTICES OF THE PEACETo the EditorSir, - It was with real pleasure, that I read your timely words on the above in your issue of the 27th instant. I am fully convinced of the wisdom of appointing women Justices. Quite recently, a member of our Cardiff Magisterial Bench, informed me that often he, with his colleagues, were at their wits end how best to deal with certain women defendants, many of them frequent offenders and apparently hardened and hopeless cases. I do not question the sincerity of our magistrates in their design to do the best possible for the reformation of such characters and their and their failure to do so none will feel more keenly than themselves, but I do think that it is quite possible if, at the commencement of their wrong life, these women had been helped by the presence and influence of a woman J.P. some at least would not have piled up such shocking records as unfortunately now confront them.Unhesitatingly I state that there is urgent need in this city for a well-trained body of women police, uniformed or otherwise. Our parks and open spaces are in need of being carefully patrolled by a properly instructed and tactful company of women. Then again I hold that an alert woman detective force would be of untold value to many who come to this city in answer to advertisements that often prove to be the snare of the fowler. There are many other matters in which the services of women detectives would be of advantage. I have just to hand splendid testimony from the London Society for the Promotion of Public Morals to the useful work done by the London women police. Cardiff is not so far removed from London in any sense, so that it is quite reasonable to expect that what is found workable there will be equally so here in the Metropolis of Wales. – I am, &c.MAJOR JOHN RUSSELLCardiff and District Citizens’ Union, Royal Chambers, Park Place, Cardiff. December 29. | 30 Dec 1919Page 103 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **WESTERN MAIL**NEED FOR WOMEN POLICETHE MORALS OF COLLIERY DISTRICTSAre women police needed in our colliery districts? Miss Thomas, the only lady member of the Ogmore and Garw Council and a prominent Suffragette before the war, insists that they are“Only a woman could properly deal with the large number of young girls now swarming the colliery valleys at a time when, owing to the war, parental control has been somewhat relaxed” Miss Thomas told a Western Mail representative. “Only a woman could take these girls in hand and discuss with them the dangers that face them. A young male policeman could not to it. Besides, young policemen dislike to interfere with young girls when they are boisterous and indulging in conduct that is likely to encourage unwelcome attention”“As a teacher I speak with knowledge, we are often grieved when we see some of our best girls – bonny, fine girls at school - go under to temptation almost as soon as they have got from the discipline of the school. One cannot attach blame. The girls go home, in the majority of cases, to house-work, and work hard in a collier’s home. Harassed mothers cannot deny them their evening outing and are often unable to provide them with pocket money. Colliers are generous to the girls they admire and spend their money lavishly in little luxuries for them. But there is another side to the story, and it frequently ends in shame for the girl and sorrow for the parents”“There are opportunities beyond number in our colliery districts (where lighting is not perfect) where a woman policeman could do an immense amount of good work. Miners are chivalrous to the majority of women and there is not the slightest doubt that women policemen would meet with respect at their hands – for most of them have sisters. Policemen, I am certain, would not resent the introduction of women police, who would often relieve them of distasteful duties”“I would like to see power given to teachers to give a lecture to girls – and boys too – before they leave school on the perils of loose behaviour, the value of moral character and to make them realise how much more an upright and good man or woman is respected than one who has no moral stamina. Then there are the terrible and permanent dangers of disease, which, I am sorry to say, is not confined to the big towns. There is little so-called innocence in the crowded colliery towns, but much ignorance on questions of vital importance to our national health. Not only do we need women policemen, but women doctors, who could deal adequately with the problems and the dangers of the streets. Also we want women magistrates. Women would be able to bring experience into their magisterial duties which would be of value to the present magistrates”“Girls are so dependent on their boy admirers for their entertainment – cinemas, chocolate, &c. – that I feel something ought to be done to enable them to earn their own living and that would probably make them a trifle more independent and enable them to get a better grip of the problems of life. It is a matter that needs the earnest consideration of all interested in the welfare of our girls and the matter is urgent. The war has made a vast difference and among our young girls and young men what the difference is, is apparent to those who have eyes to see” | 2 Jan 1920Page 113 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **South Wales News****WOMEN POLICE INQUIRY**The Home Secretary appointed a Committee to report as to the nature and limits of assistance which can be given by women in the carrying out of police duties, and as to what ought to be the status, pay and conditions of service. Major John Lawrence Baird- M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, will be the chairman of Committee. | 14 Feb 1920Page 168 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **South Wales News****ADVANTAGES OF FEMALE FORCE****Why not Women Police for Cardiff** The question of the advisability of women police for Cardiff formed the subject at a police meeting held by the Cardiff and District Society for Equal citizenship in the City Hall last evening. Miss Damer Dawson the commandant of the Women’s Police Force in London, was to have spoken, but having been called away on Parliamentary business she deputed Inspector Champneys to take her place and explain the need for women police and the class of work they do.The chair was taken by Councillor T.W. Langman, who congratulated the society on the silent revolution that they and similar women’s societies had so successfully carried through, in that women were now eligible for nearly all professions. One of the branches of social work which they could very well and usefully carry out was that of women police. An analysis of the crime figures for the City of Cardiff alone was sufficient justification for their employment. In the case of lesser crimes there were 480males and 221 females brought before the magistrates during the past year, whilst in cases of actual drunkenness the women were in the majority, the figures being 33 women and 29 men actually convicted.Inspector Champneys opened her address by remarking that she was by no means anti-man, and as regards police work she and the constables under her always tried to work hand in hand with the regular police force. She did not want to dictate to Cardiff but she was convinced that women police were necessary for work amongst women. It was in the hands of every Chief Constable to have women police if he wanted them, subject of course, to the Watch Committee. As women police they wanted to be employed on exactly the same terms as men with the same powers of arrest, and other conditions. If women were employed as police and had not the power of arrest, their hands were more or less tied and they were to a certain extent useless. At the same time they were not out to arrest people but rather to prevent young girls and women going wrong. Miss Champneys gave many instances of were women police were both useful and really necessary.At the close many questions were asked, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the speaker.\*\*Also reported In The Western Mail 3 March 1920\*\* | 3 Mar 1920Page 185 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **South Wales News**THE NEED FOR WOMEN POLICEOne police court case yesterday following the revelations made as to disorderly conduct at the docks – practically the whole of South Wales ports being concerned – brings once more to the front and gives emphasis to the demand for the enrolment of women police. The inrush of disreputable characters is continuous; and the recent tragedy at Swansea gave point to he allegations as to dire results following the freedom that hitherto has been permitted. Swansea’s new by-law has to some extent remedied the evil: but what is wanted is the establishment of a new branch of the police force so that women ( who are so much better qualified) can tackle the loose characters who have to be dealt with, they being able with much greater success to deal to deal with the difficulty. Nothing but antiquated prejudice stands in the way of enrolling women police for the special work that demands attention, work for which men are obviously less fitted; but the activities of police women would not be limited to this particular sphere. In all matters relating to women and children in the streets, no less than at the docks, there is abundant scope for their energy; and police work would be far better performed if the old-world idea of “men only” were abandoned. Indeed the idea is still in vogue chiefly amongst those who, whatever their age, answer to the description of being “old women in breeches.” As a sphere of public service, police work should be open to women; and whilst they would not be fit for the prolonged exposure and certain other details of the police duty, they would certainly discharge more effectively several ranches of that duty which at the present time are reserved exclusively for men. South Wales has a particular interest in this question, for as is made manifest by the crime figures, women in certain districts form one third of the police cases brought into court for lesser crime, whilst as to charges of drunkenness they form a still larger proportion. In all probability, the need of women police will not be recognised until women Councillors have been elected, and it passes comprehension, except upon the principle of accustomed use and wont, why only men are returned on election days as members of the local administrative bodies. | 6 Mar 1920Page 188 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **South Wales News** **WOMEN MAGISTRATES****Cardiff recommendations to the Lord Chancellor**The Cardiff East Division Labour Party (Women’s section) have decided to recommend to the Lord Chancellor the following list for consideration for appointment to the Cardiff Magisterial Bench:- Mrs Clarke, Mrs H Turner and Mrs Thomas. | 8 Mar 1920Page 192 |
| **DCONC/5/59** | **South Wales News****WOMEN Police****(To the Editor.)**Sir- I read with considerable pleasure in yesterday’s issue of the “South Wales News” your leading article entitled “The Need For Women Police.” For many years I have held the view that women could render very efficient and very useful service to the police forces of the country in the detection and in the prevention of those classes of crime which especially affect members of their ow sex. In quarters where I expected to find sympathy I found none, nor was my experience a solitary one.Some two or three years ago the Women’s Advisory Committee through Mrs Price Williams made representations to the Watch Committee to the desirability of, at any rate, considering whether or not the incorporation of women into our police force would be of advantage to the moral and social welfare of the community. I am sure she cannot have any pleasing recollection of the reception which she got from the members of the committee. Certainly she was not received with much cordiality, and courtesy was more conspicuous by its absence than by its presence. She was justified in expecting a cordial reception because she was representative of and organised body of helpers who voluntarily patrolled our streets and parks for a period of about two years we our police force was depleted as a consequence of the exigencies of the war. She was entitled to courtesy because she was an advocate of a proposal which had been adopted with success by other cities in the kingdom. In committee, of which I then was a member, I moved that the whole question should be considered, that inquiries should be made as to how the scheme of women police operated elsewhere, and as to whether its obvious advantages where outbalanced by disadvantages. I suggested that the Chief Constable should furnish a report to the committee on the subject. Mine was a voice crying in the wilderness. No one rescued me from the difficulty in getting a seconder. Not only so, but the Chief Constable himself with a lordly wave of the hand and a contemptuous shrug of the shoulders declared in effect that he was much too busy a man to be bothered with the consideration of a subject of so little importance as women police.A greater authority that our Chief Constable, or perhaps lest our chief should consider I did him an injustice by such a comparison – an officer generally credited with a wider experience of police administration and occupying a more responsible position – Sir Leonard Dunning. H.M. Inspector of Constabulary – did not think the question too small for his weighty consideration or too insignificant, when he satisfied himself of its advocacy. I read quite recently eulogistic tributes paid by bishops, clergy, ministers of religion, chief constables, and public men to the services rendered by women in those police forces in which the experiment had been given a trial.Cardiff has deliberately shuttered herself in – too timid to cast her eyes along the road of progress and much too fearful to set her feet thereon and march ahead with her sister cities. Women police will in due course appear in our streets and parks, our docks and our railway stations, if not as the result of a changed and enlightened policy of the Watch Committee, certainly as the consequence of *vis a tergo* applied by the Home Office. Your able advocacy will be much appreciated by those who wish to see introduced into Cardiff this much needed reform. –I am, etc ROBT. J SMITH.25 Cathedral-road, Cardiff.March 7th | 9 Mar 1920Page 193 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **Western Mail****LABOUR ROUT AT CARDIFF** SIX CANDIDATES BEATEN**Surprises in South Wales****CARDIFF’S VERDICT**A CRUSHING DEFEAT FOR LABOUR**A Woman’s Triumph**The South Ward retained Conservative representatives by electing Mr. Joseph Trott by a majority of 175, and in Splott, Mrs. Rhoda Parker in a 70 per cent, poll, had the most striking success of all by beating Mr. James Lombard an extremist Labour man, in the ward which the extremist section always imagined to be their own preserve. Splott is to be heartily congratulated on its good sense. The poll percentages varied from 55 to 72 per cent, the highest percentage being at Splott. | 2 Nov 1921Page 26 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **South Wales News****IRISHMAN SENTENCED****Close of Conspiracy Trial**WIFE AS MEDIUM**Judge and Feminine Rights**Mr Artemus Jones for the defence submitted there was no evidence connecting the wife with the first six counts relating to stealing and receiving The only evidence implicating her husband was the presence of instruments in his house. That evidence in no way convicted him or the woman.With reference to the charges under the Explosives act, the Crown depended upon certain documents. In order to connect the wife with the crime the Crown must prove that she took an absolutely independent part with the husband. There was no evidence that she did. The mere fact that she was going to Cardiff and had letters addressed to her by Connolly showed she was acting merely as a medium between Connolly and her husband.A long legal argument ensued between counsel and his lordship as to proof of marriage between the prisoners. His Lordship refused to give a ruling, and said it was a question for the jury to decide. He also raised the point whether the plea could be entered that the female prisoner had not acted independently. The jury might say so, but it was more difficult to invoke the doctrine of being under the influence of the husband in these days when women had equal rights with men in Parliament, in law and in everything.Mr Jones submitted the old law still remained.“But,” retorted his Lordship, “the jury might be less willing to apply it now than they were 50 or 100 years ago. The jury have to try the facts.”Counsel said that the whole case as far as the women, was concerned rested upon the fact that she acted as secretary of the Merthyr branch of the Irish Self-Determination League. In every movement they had their extremists who committed violences, but the mere fact that Mrs Evans was connected with a political society was not evidence that she was engaged in criminal conspiracy. | 18 Nov 1921Page 44 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **South Wales News****Employment of Married Women teachers**“That in ordinary circumstances it will be expected that women teachers will tender their resignations on marriage, but that this committee considers it undesirable to adopt any rule which would prevent the employment of married women in any of the Cardiff schools when thought advisable, and especially when it is desirable that such employment should be continued in the interests of the particular school and of the common cause of education.” | 14 Feb 1922Page 127 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **VALUE OF WOMEN POLICEProtest Against Disbandment**On inquiry at the Home Office yesterday we were informed that the recommendation of the Geddes Committee to disband the Women Police is under consideration. “no decision has yet been arrived at,” said an official, “but the probability is that their service will be dispensed with in the near future.Miss Green the secretary of the National Council of Women, interviewed said: - “we have drawn up a protest to the Home Office against the dismissal of the Women Police. We recognise that there is a great need for economy, but we feel that a small force should be kept together as they are very useful, and their work has been recognised by the police authorities.”The Hull Watch Committee have decided to abolish their women police. Only three women are to be retained at reduced pay, and they will be designated police matrons. | 14 Feb 1922Page 128 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **Western Mail** **SCHOOL OR HOME?**QUESTION OF MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS**HUMEROUS VIEWS OF CITY COUNCILORS.**Should married women teachers be retained in the schools? This controversial subject was again raised at the meeting of the Cardiff City Council on Monday when Mr. G. Fred Evans moved that the following minutes of the education committee be refereed back: -  That in ordinary circumstances it will be expected that women teachers will tender their resignation on marriage, but that this committee considers it undesirable to adopt any rule which would prevent the employment of married women in any of the Cardiff schools when thought advisable, and especially when it is desirable that such employment should be continued In the interests of the particular school and of the cause of education.This resolution was carried at the January meeting of the committee on the motion of Mr. C.F. Sanders, seconded by Mr. R.G .H. Snook.Mr. G. Fred Evans said there were over 60 single women teachers in Cardiff who had been trained by the education authority, and he thought it was unfair that any married woman should be retained in the services of the committee whilst single women required posts.Mr. Morgan Willmott seconded the motion to refer the minutes back.Mr. T.W. Langman said that what they wanted was efficiency in education. He did not think that even Mr. Fred Evans would say that married women did not make the best teachers. What he was astounded at was the moderation of the education committee’s proposal.Mr. H. Hiles remarked that the Labour members took up a neutral attitude. If they allowed a resolution of that nature to go forward it would lend itself to a good deal of wire-pulling. (Hear, hear.) People who had the most friends upon the education committee when they became married would remain teachers in the schools. (“No! No!”) The wire pulling and canvassing that went on regarding the last case they had before the education committee of this kind necessitated three special sittings in order to have the matter cleared up. They (the Labour party) would rather see the matter left entirely open to the people themselves, and if they desired to remain on the staff after they were married, let them do as they pleased. Alderman J. T. Richards contended that a principle was involved. It was not a question of whether a woman was married or single, what was her religion, or the colour of her hair – (laughter) it was a question of efficiency.Mr. T. Llewellyn Francis who supported the reference back said a married woman’s place was undoubtedly in the home, and it was not fair that the single woman should be denied the right to live when married women already had a home-made for her and a man to keep her.In the course of a humorous speech Capt. Henry Davies said that one of the most ardent supporters on the council of the dismissal of married women was a medical gentleman, who said that the continuance of married women teachers in the schools interfered with the propagation of the species. (Laughter.) The Roath and Park wards, which had the largest number of resident medical men, had the lowest birth-rate in the city. (Laughter.) Following that line of argument, if they dismissed married teachers from the schools they should fire out doctors from the Roath and Park wards, and there would probably be an increase in the population. (Loud laughter.) As long as those teachers carried on their work efficiently and as long as the committee kept from compulsory celibacy for women as well as men, he did not think they should interfere. Quite a number of those married women had dependants in the way of fathers and mothers.Mr C. F. Sanders thought every question of this sort which arose should be settled on the merits of the case, on the suitability of the woman, and the need of the school for having her services.Replying to Mr Hiles’s reference to canvassing, Alderman H. M. Thompson, the chairman of the education committee, said that that particular case would have been settled perfectly easily under the minute now before them. There was a section of the committee that wanted to lay down a hard and fast rule against any person being employed in that way, and that was why they had an extremely long, controversial debate.The motion to refer back was defeated. | 14 Feb 1922Page 128 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **South Wales News****WOMEN POLICE**Mr Short (Home Secretary), in reply to Mr Malone (C.L.), said he could give no assurance to oppose the recommendation of the Geddes Committee to abolish the Metropolitan women patrols. | 22 Feb 1922Page 137 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **Western Mail****MODERN GIRLS’ MORALS**SIR LEONARD DUNNING’S STERN REPORTSir Leonard Dunning, his Majesty’s inspector of constabulary, in his report for 1921, has some hard things to say about the modern girl.Expressing the opinion that there is a definite place for women in the police force of any place where temptations are many, as they must be in any large town, he says that principally owing to the decay of parental influence the girl of to-day does not attach so much value to chastity, while modern knowledge has deprived the fear of natural consequences of its value as a protection.Immorality does not always lead to the commission of offences within the preventive duties of the police, but it does do so to so great an extent that its prevention cannot definitely be said to lie outside the duties of a police force, and a woman by advice and personal influence can do more than a man to protect a girl from the temptations of her own nature and those held out to her by the other sex.A mere man can only express a man’s view, but his experience as a policeman had made him think for many years that the woman who takes to prostitution for a living is being driven out of business by the amateur. | 28 Feb 1922Page 141 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **Western Mail****POSTION OF WOMEN POLICE****SHOULD THERE BE POWER OF ARREST**BY OUR WOMAN CORRESPONDENTSir Leonard Dunning, his Majesty’s Inspector of Constabulary, who recently criticised the curtailment of women police officers in large towns, is supported in his views by Mrs Commissioner Higgins, wife of the chief of the staff for the Salvation Army, who has had considerable experience in social and preventive work among young girls.“I think any attempt to reduce the number of women police is false economy,” she told me in an interview.“Of course, I quite realise that something must be done to cut down the national expenditure,” she said “but I do not think we should do it at the expense of friendless young girls who might hesitate about approaching a policeman when placed in any difficulty.“I have seen some of the women police at work in London, and I have the greatest admiration for them. They are well chosen, and are certainly not of the ‘Paul Pry’ variety as many people have suggested.”Do you think that the work of welfare societies, such as that of the Salvation Army, for instance, is being duplicated by the women’s police force? I asked her. As you probably know, some of the economists declare that it is a waste of public money to employ police women on preventive work, because it is already being done by women’s rescue societies in various parts of the country?“I do not think such work could possibly be duplicated,” was her reply. “Everyone who has undertaken rescue work knows that there is a very wide field to cover, and that the societies you speak of cannot cope with the work. That is why the police-woman is invaluable.”Mrs Higgins agreed, however, that to a certain extent the work of policemen was being duplicated by their women colleagues, but she thought this state of affairs might be remedied by giving the women powers of arrest.“It seems rather absurd,” she declared, “that an authorised policewoman cannot arrest a female offender. This must entail a great deal of overlapping, I imagine. Still, I am opposed to the suggested disbandment of the women’s force; because I believe they are doing very useful, if unobtrusive, work. Furthermore, I am certain that they provide a long-felt need so far as large towns are concerned. What young girl would dream of asking a policeman – or any other man for that matter – to help her in trouble? I think that she would prefer to keep the matter to herself. But if there is a woman on the spot she is quite likely to turn to her for guidance and chaperonage.” | 3 Mar 1922Page 144 |
| **DCONC/5/62** | **Western Mail****WOMEN PATROLS’ WORK**CARDIFF DOUBT ON EXTENT OF GOVERNMENT DECISIONThe effect of the Geddes Axe on the work of the women patrols was referred to by the Bishop of Llandaff at the annual meeting of the Cardiff Police-court, Prison Gate, and Rescue Mission at the City-hall, Cardiff, on Tuesday. His Lordship expressed his regret at the announcement that the Government intended to abolish women police patrols. He was sure there were wiser means of economy than stopping the magnificent work being done by the patrols in places like London, Bristol, and elsewhere. He sincerely hoped that the Government would re-consider their decision.In an interesting address on “Patrol Work,” Mrs Young (of the Bristol Women’s Patrol) said she understood that the Government’s decision referred only to London itself and not to the Provinces.She appealed to people representing them on public bodies to get to the bottom of matters, and to become so interested as to bring themselves to regard the situation from the same level as the people with whom they were dealing. If people were able to realise the temptations and the trials of these people they would not be so ready to cry them down. They did not want sickly sentimentality, but sympathy with common sense. (Hear, hear.)Sister Childs (of the Cardiff Mission) who also spoke on preventive work, said that as much work was done inside the police-court as outside.The Chairman presented the annual report, which stated that the work of the Police-court and Rescue Mission was becoming increasingly one of prevention rather than cure. The Girls’ Club opened two years ago was doing excellent work. In that connection and in the work of the Haven the committee recorded their sincere appreciation of the services of Sisters Childs, Lilleker, and Wright. During 1921 there were 270 days’ attendances at the police-court, and in 234 cases advice and help were given. Thirty-four girls had passed through the Haven. | 22 Mar 1922Page 177 |
| **DCONC/5/64** | **South Wales News**WOMEN’S TASTE FOR BETTINGStriking DevelopmentLaw antiquated, Obscure and Illogical……..paragraph 16The Hon. Trevor Bingham, Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, was called. The summary of his evidence, laid on the table, said that one of the most striking developments of late years had been the increase of the taste for betting among women, who not only resorted to the bookmaker or his agent themselves, but employed their children as messengers. The children thereby became thoroughly familiarised with the system. | 16 May 1923Page 161 |
| **DCONC/5/65** | **WESTERN MAIL**BETTING BY WIVES AND CHILDRENPOLICE EXPERIENCE IN GLAMORGANEvidence of the prevalence of street betting among women and children in the County of Glamorgan, was given before the Select Committee on Betting on Thursday, by Superintendent Ben Evans of the Glamorgan County Police Force.Witness, who is stationed at Neath, expressed his views as a Police Officer of forty years’ experience. He said street betting had increased considerably during the past eight years, particularly among women and children in the mining villages. Children, whose ages ranged from ten to fifteen years, were, he said, used by their mothers as messengers to take betting slips to bookmakers. Many of these children, when they realised what slips really meant, began to make bets themselves. Bookmakers took bets as low as threepence. | 6 Jul 1923Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/65** | **SOUTH WALES NEWS**WOMEN BOOKMAKERSConvictions at Port Talbot and Cardiff.At Port Talbot yesterday William Henry Smith, a railway ganger of Cornwall Street, Aberavon, was summoned for keeping a house for betting purposes, his wife, Margaret Smith, for using the house for betting purposes and William Ivor John, a ten-year-old boy, for resorting to the house, whilst John’s Aunt, Mary Jones, also of Cornwall Street was summoned for aiding and abetting. Mrs Smith pleaded guilty. Police Sergeant Swaffield said that at midday on June 29 he saw 27 women and 15 girls between 10 and 15 years of age, 12men and one boy enter and leave the premises by the front door. Several of the girls carried pieces of paper.On the following day he saw six men, fifteen women, nine girls and three boys enter the house.In company with other officers he then raided the house and in the kitchen found Mrs Smith in the act of paying money to the boy John. She also pushed a piece of paper into her blouse and when asked to produce it she handed it over. This was a “paying out” slip for the previous day’s racing. She said her husband was working and did not know she was doing this.Smith told the court that he knew nothing at all about it until he came home that night.The Bench ordered Smith and the boy John to pay costs. Margaret Smith was fined £10 and Mary Jones, for sending the boy to the house, was fined £2.For frequenting Sophia Street for the purpose of receiving bets, Susannah Lewis (40) a married woman, was fined £5 (or a month) at Cardiff yesterday. | 6 Jul 1923Page 2 |
| **DCONC/5/65** | **South Wales News****WOMAN BOOKIE FINED**A fine of £5 or a month was imposed at Cardiff yesterday on a woman named Caroline Adams (38) on a charge of loitering in Lionel-road for the purpose of receiving bets on the 26th instant.Evidence was given that observation was kept upon the defendant who was seen receiving slips and money. | 28 Sep 1923Page 88 |
| **DCONC/5/68** | WESTERN MAILGLAMORGAN C.C. AND WOMEN POLICE“A more revealing confession than that so proudly made by the Chief Constable of Glamorgan”, states “Time and Tide”, can rarely have been made. He is incidentally persuading his Council not to employ Policewomen; but the statement includes and betrays all his own thoughts. Having such thoughts, presumably the man is not given to blushing for them, but his friends must be feeling sad. Inanity at its most pompous, a Bottom come to life” |  |
| **DCONC/5/68** | **WESTERN MAIL**WOMEN IN TROUSERSWHY CARDIFF POLICEMAN GOT BOWLED OVERThat he was interested in two young women who were wearing trousers in Bute Street, Cardiff was the reason why Montagu Jones, whilst riding a bicycle ran into a police officer in the centre of the road and knocked him over, explained a witness at the city police court. Jones was fined 10s. and costs.  | 14 Nov 1925Page 147 |
| **DCONC/5/68** | **Western Mail****WOMEN’S CALL FOR MORE WOMEN POLICE**EARLY INCREASE FORESHADOWED BY THE HOME SECRETARYThe Home Secretary (Sir William Joynson-Hicks) on Monday received a deputation of women’s organisations in connection with the Amending Bill, which will be introduced in the House of Commons under the ten minutes’ rule to-day, imposes on watch committees of borough councils the statutory duty of appointing women police.Among those associated with the deputation in support of the Bill were Lady Astor, Miss Eleanor Rathbone ( National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship), Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., Commandant Allen ( Women’s Auxiliary Corps, and National Women’s Liberal Federation), Miss Gray ( Association of Head mistresses), Miss Macadam ( National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship), and Viscountess Rhondda (Six Point Group).It was mentioned that the deputation had been organised by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and was supported by a large number of women’s organisations.FIRST VICTIMS OF GEDDES AXE, Miss Rathbone said that the only women’s organisations not represented had some doubts not to the wisdom of women police nor as to the introduction of women police in large towns being compulsory but merely as to which was the best way to do it.Miss Wilkinson, who is introducing the Bill, said that it had been found that not many corporations were appointing women police. The Bill would give the Home Office that legislative backing which she thought they would consider necessary before taking such a step, and it would give women police where they were most needed. She hoped the Government would not put on their Whips against the Bill so that they could have from the House of Commons some expression of opinion that they approved.Lady Astor mentioned that she was on the irst Committee appointed in regard to women police, and that Committee thought the matter was settled. Then he Geddes Axe came in and the first thing that had been cut down was the women police. She pointed out that a watch committee could tur down the proposition to appoint women police with two votes, although public opinion was for them. They had that case in Plymouth. She also knew that in one town where the chief –constable was in favour of appointing women police the watch committee said he must not do it. There were only a few people who did not want women police.WHEN CHIEFS ARE NERVOUSCommandant Allen made a special point regarding the women who should be chosen for the police. She inquired whether it was not possible to appoint a woman to the Home Office as an inspector of constabulary. Very often chief-constables and superintendents were very nervous about correcting women. They did not want the chief-constables to be coerced, but they did want them to realise that there was a trained and qualified woman at the Home Office who could advise when the question of women police came up.The women police did not want to away from the men any of the work that belonged to them, but they felt that they should be trusted with their own work among women and children.Miss Gray and Miss Macadam also spoke in favour of the appointment of women police being made compulsory.Viscountess Rhondda said that she would like to emphasis the feeling there was on the subject among women throughout the country. She knew of no subject on which they felt more strongly.WHAT THE HOME SECRETARY DID - ,Sir Wiliam Joynson-Hicks said that he realised the representative character of the deputation when he saw Miss Wilkinson sitting side by side with Lady Astor. He did not think it was a question of politics at all; it was a question of what was best to be done. He was not at all opposed to women police, as they were probably aware. The first thing he did when he became Home Secretary was to increase the women police. In the Metropolis they had 46 women police in active work, and he had nothing but good reports on the result of his experiment.The difficulty was that they had two Committees – the Baird and the Bridgeman Committees- recommending an extension of the women police, but also recommending that it should be left in the hands of the local authorities. The deputation had come there really to ask him to dictate by Parliament to the local authorities. That, of course was a serious position, because after all the local authorities were elected by the people and the best way was for the women to use their votes in the elections and see that proper councils, and proper watch committees were appointed. The power was there.They were asking him in their Bill on the morrow to get Parliament to force on unwilling local authorities women police. At present he admitted the experiment had been very unsatisfactory. They had only got 85 women police in the country and 46 in London. That did show that in the minds of local authorities there was a distinct objection to having women police. He would tell them that he had applications from West Riding. Tunbridge Wells and Chesterfield.* AND WILL NOT DO.

He could give the deputation a promise that he would not oppose the Bill on Tuesday (to day) and next session he took it that several of the members would ballot for a Bill of that kind, and he hoped there would be a discussion on the matter. In the meantime if there was anything he could do to promote the appointment of women police by local authorities he would do it.**In conclusion the Home Secretary said the deputation would probably find there would be a still further increase in women police in the future.**SHOULD THERE BE WOMEN POLICEEven if Miss Ellen Wilkinson, the Socialist M.P., secures leave to-morrow to introduce her Municipal Corporation (Amending) Bill, which, is to make compulsory the appointment of women police in all large towns, no progress ca be made with it unless he Government desires to give it facilities. The work is already so congested that it may be taken for granted that no time can be spared for the advancement of the measure especially as the Government has itself to drop some of its own business, including the proposed tariff on packing and wrapping paper. The sense of the House of Commons would seem to be favourable to the Bill which Miss Wilkinson will introduce under the ten minutes rule. This will enable her to state her views on the desirability of women being engaged on police work. While she insists on women police wearing uniform, she makes clear that her intention is not to enable women to do ordinary police duty, but such patrol and enquiry work as women as specially suited for. Mr Jack Hayes, a Labour Whip, formally a Metropolitan policeman, is a backer of the Bill.Also reported in the South Wales News 8 Dec 1925, Page 186 | 8 Dec 1925Page 185 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **Western Mail** **CASE FOR WOMEN POLICE**To the Editor.Sir,- At the recent deputation received by the Home Secretary on the subject of Miss Ellen Wilkinson’s Bill on women police the supporters of the movement were greatly encouraged by his attitude to the question. Sir Joynson – Hicks told the deputation, a which all political parties and 36 women’s organisations were represented, that he was fully convinced of the very great value of women police to the community, particularly for the protection of women and children , and said that he would be doing all in his power to increase the number employed in the metropolitan districts under his control.He said however that in other parts of the country it would be necessary for those who realised the need for women police to take steps, by judicious use of their voting powers and otherwise to convert local authorities to a sense of their value. I venture to appeal to your readers to follow the advice of the Home Secretary in this matter. - I am, etc.,ELSIE E BOWERMANHon. Secretary, Women’s Guild of Empire,24, Buckingham Palace –road S.W.1 | 24 Dec 1925Page 8 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **South Wales News** WOMEN TEACHERS PROTEST“AN INSULT TO WOMEN”Among other matters discussed, the low standard to educational attainments required for elementary teachers was deplored, and a demand made that a University standard with a degree or its equivalent should be compulsory. The divergencies between the salaries between men and women teachers under the Burnham Award were characterised as an insult to women and a mere “sop” to the male sense of superiority.Payment to the headmistresses on the basis of the number of children on the role and no alteration in the grade of the school during the headmistresses tenure was demanded instead of the present system of payment on the average attendance, which often caused serious loss to the head teacher when epidemics or other exceptional circumstances prevented the regular attendance of children. | 31 Dec 1923Page 12 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **Western Mail**CARDIFF AND NSPCCWHAT WOMEN WORKERS ARE DOING TO HELPMrs James Robinson was hostess at her residence, Hillside, Penylan, Cardiff, on Thursday at a drawing-room meeting, over which she presided, in connection with the NSPCC. She was supported by Mrs A. M. Bulloch, formerly organising speaker at the head office of the NSPCC and now of Cardiff, and Mr F. T. Groves, organiser for South Wales for the NSPCC.Amongst those present were the Lady Mayoress (Miss D. Francis), Alderman Dr James Robinson, Mrs Bevan Llewellyn, Mrs John Williams, Mrs Hay, Mrs Coates, Mrs Owen Edwards, Mrs Coles, Mrs Lant, Mrs Marquand, Mrs McKelvey, Mrs Owen, Mrs Jenkins, and Mrs Dawnay.Mrs Bulloch gave an interesting address on the work of the society from its inception, 41 years ago, to the present day.A strong appeal for help was made by Mr F. T. Groves, who paid a warm tribute to the Lady Mayoress and to Mrs James Robinson, who had worked hard and long for the society. Last year, he said, 314 cases were reported in the Cardiff area affecting 834 children, who had received the society’s help.Mrs Bulloch appealed for women helpers in Cardiff to canvass one row of houses each, distributing literature and seeking donations. On the proposal of Mrs Robinson it was decided to form a committee on the matter, and Mrs Bulloch consented to become secretary for one year. | 29 Jan 1926Page 55 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **South Wales News**WOMEN BOXERSHOME SECRETARY’S VIEWSIn view of recent developments the promoter of the meeting between Miss Annie Newton and Miss Madge Baker, at Manor Hall, Hackney, on Saturday, 14th February, has decided to abandon the bout.Regarding the match, which was yesterday afternoon abandoned, a letter had been sent by the Rev. F. B. Meyer to Sir William Joynson-Hicks, and in his reply yesterday the Home Secretary wrote;-“I have considered with great care whether there is any law which I can put into force to prevent it taking place, but if the proposal is to arrange a sparring match in which the object is not to win by reason of the severity of the injuries, such an exhibition would not be illegal, and I should have no power to interfere, mainly, I think, because the Legislature never imagined that such a disgraceful exhibition would be staged in this country. I can only express my entire sympathy with your views and say that I hope and trust that the influence of decent public opinion will prevent such an outrage taking place. – Believe me, yours sincerely,(Signed) W. JOYNSON- HICKS. | 30 Jan 1926Page 57 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **Western Mail**NEW CITY JP’SSEVENTEEN ADDED AT CARDIFFTHREE WOMEN IN LISTLABOUR LEADERS WELL REPRESENTEDSeventeen new magistrates have been added to the commission of the peace for the city of Cardiff, and the names were officially received by the town-clerk (Mr Cecil G. Brown) from the Lord Chancellor (Lord Cave) on Tuesday morning.The list comprises seven Conservatives, four Liberals, and five Labour representatives (each of these sections including one woman), and one representative of the Jewish community in the city.There were already 68 magistrates on the commission so that the number is now increased to 85.WHO’S WHO IN THE LISTMrs Agnes Louisa Davies is associated with Labour party, and as conductor of the Cathays Juvenile Choir and in many ways has been prominent in musical and ameliorative movements. Her husband is Mr. H. G. Davies, grocer, of Brithdir-street, who has contested Cathays Ward as an Independent Labour party candidate.Mrs Sarah Anne Edwards is the wife of the Rev. Dr William Edwards, B.A., the ex-principal of the Cardiff Baptist College, and has for many years been an active worker in religious and temperance movements. Liberal in politics.Mrs Councillor Rhoda Parker represents the Splott Ward on the city council and is also an active guardian of the poor. An ardent Conservative and Church woman, with outstanding qualities as a worker in the public interest. | 3 Feb 1926Page 59 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **South Wales News**NEW MAGISTRATESSEVENTEEN FOR CARDIFFMrs B. O. Davies, of Brithdir Street, Cardiff is better known as Madame Ben Davies, foundress and conductress of the Cathays Juvenile Choir.Mrs Edwards is the wife of Dr Edwards, ex-Principal of the Baptist College. Since coming to Cardiff 33 years ago she has taken a prominent part in temperance and social welfare work in the city.Mrs Rhoda Parker was Cardiff’s first lady councillor. | 3 Feb 1926Page 61 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **South Wales News**ECONOMY OR FUTILITYI hear that, after a pretty hard struggle, the Home Secretary has persuaded his Cabinet colleagues that, however urgent, the call for all-round economy, the police force is dangerously undermanned, and must be recruited up to 1922 strength again. This means putting back the 5 per cent cut made four years ago on the recommendation of the Geddes Committee. But the economists may now press a point long urged by experts, including some experienced police officials. However gratifying to feminists, the women police, whose numbers steadily grow, are very expensive. Can we afford both? | 19 Feb 1926Page 79 |
| **DCONC/5/69** | **South Wales News**PLEA FOR WOMEN POLICETo the Editor.Sir – It has been a matter of disappointment and regret to me that no suggestion was made by the magistrates at the recent Licensing Sessions in the Cardiff and district area on the question of the employment of women police. Some very pointed remarks have been made by certain magistrates when applications have been made for extended hours for dancing – referring to the evil results arising from late hours, as proved in so many police court cases. Owing to the increased facilities and provision made in licensed houses for women drinkers, by reserving a room or space for that purpose, and the facilities provided and the encouragement given to young girls to indulge in dancing, there is a real danger and a necessity for employing women police.These two new features in the social life of women throw a great responsibility upon those who are endeavouring to care for the morals and welfare of the people and their families. In a large number of towns the police are understaffed, as is evidenced by repeated applications made for an increased number. With an enormously increased road traffic of a dangerous kind, the police are very largely engaged in regulating the traffic and have not the necessary time to devote to the evils of drinking, dancing, etc. But women police could exercise an enormous amount of influence for good. – I am etc, JUSTICE |  |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **Western Mail****WOMEN POLICE**CARDIFF WOMEN CITIZENS DEMANDMrs. Rackham, J.P., of Cambridge, addressed a meeting convened by the Cardiff Women Citizens’ Association at the West Grove Unitarian Church Schoolroom, Cardiff, on Monday evening on ” The report of the Departmental Committee on offences against young persons with special references to women police.”Mrs Rackham who is a member of the Committee which presented its report last Christmas, strongly advocated the appointment of women police in every town.A resolution was passed urging the Government to take action as soon as possible on the report of the Departmental Committee.Miss Pethybridge presided, and she was supported by Miss Mary Collin. B.A., Professor Barbara Foxley. J.P., Miss Marshall, and Mrs Agnes Thomas. | 12 Oct 1926Page 28 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **South Wales News** **WOMEN POLICE**PROPOSED DEPUTATION TO CARDIFF WATCH COMMITTEE(BY OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT)Mrs Rackham of Cambridge, one of the best known women magistrates In the country, made a strong defence of women police when addressing meeting of the Cardiff Women Citizens’ Association last night at the West Grove Unitarian Schoolroom.“In Cambridge we were lucky in being able to retain our two policewomen after the war,” she said, “and they have proved very valuable and have become an integral part of our police force. They are sworn in like the men constables, wear uniform, work the same hours and have powers of arrest. They take ordinary patrol duty in the streets, and pay special attention to the open spaces and commons. They attend the police courts every day, so that we are always sure of having one woman in court. The Cambridge branch of the Women’s Co-operative Guild – a body of 200 working women – in their enthusiasm and admiration for the work the two policewomen are doing, passed a resolution that there should be three.”Mrs Rackham was speaking on the report of the Departmental Committee on offences against young persons with special references to women police. She was one of three women who sat on the committee. She said that women police were suggested in the report for two purposes – one for patrol work and the other for taking statements from children and young girls.Mrs Rackham gave an illuminating address on the report and its recommendations, dealing particularly with the legal changes recommended, and also the changes in the manner in which the law is administered.At the close of the meeting a resolution was passed, to be sent to the Home Secretary and local members of Parliament urging that the recommendations of the committee should be put into force as soon as possible.The meeting also passed an instruction to the executive of the Cardiff Women Citizens’ Association to appoint if they think fit, a deputation to the Cardiff Watch Committee to urge the Watch Committee to appoint women police in Cardiff.Miss Pethybridge presided over a good attendance. | 12 Oct 1926Page 28 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **South Wales News****WOMEN POLICE**SWANSEA’S “NO.”THE Swansea Watch Committee (Sir Percy Molyneux, J.P., presiding) yesterday again considered the question of the appointment of women police, and after a discussion again decided to take no action.In pursuance of instructions, the Chief Constable, Mr R.D. Roberts, submitted a report showing the extent to which women police were employed by other authorities.It was stated that eleven forces included women police, and that against their employment it could be asserted that they were efficient only up to a point, and that they were really unnecessary, and that it was difficult to find the right type of women.SEEING THINGSA case for the appointment of women police was put forward by Mrs Councillor H. D. Williams, who said she had had occasion to be out after 11 o’clock on several nights and had seen things she did not feel very proud of as a woman.Following the decision not to take any action, Mrs Williams remarked, “Well I shall try again.* also reported in the Western mail 26 January 1926 -
 | 26 Jan 1927Page 127. |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **South Wales News** **NEWORT AND POLICEWOMEN**The Home Office has written to the Newport Watch Committee pointing out that the need for the employment of police women depended upon local conditions in each force, and that the police authorities should not lose sight of the desirability of appointing one or more police women where circumstances justified that course. | 5 Feb 1927Page 145 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **Western Mail****POLICEWOMEN WANTED**DEPUTATION TO CARDIFF WATCH COMMITTEECardiff Watch Committee on Wednesday received a deputation, representative of the federation of University Women, the Women’s Citizens’ Union, the British Women’s Temperance Association, the Llandaff Diocesan Council for Purity and Preventative Work, and the Presbyterian Church, they were introduced by Mrs. Rhoda parker, and they were welcomed by The Lord mayor (Alderman William Grey,) who presided.The object of the deputation was to induce the watch committee to employ women police.Miss M. Collin said they represented different sides of social work in the city’ but they were one in the idea that order and morality could be helped by women members of the police force. They did not come in any spirit of complaint or dissatisfaction with their excellent police force. But the duties of a police force were becoming wider every year, and it was more urgent to have the assistance of trained women in certain duties, especially in prevention and protection work.Miss Barbara Foxley, spoke of personal knowledge of the efficiency of the patrolling of London streets by women police.Miss E. Barke said women police had been appointed in about fifty towns and in only a few of them had the women’s work in lodging houses, parks, and open spaces been reported on unfavourably.Mrs James Robinson (Hillside) said she was personally strongly in favour of women police.The Chief-Constable (Mr James a Wilson) said he had no reason to alter the opinion he gave in 1924. As far as Cardiff was concerned there was not a serious number of complaints, he was glad to say against children or young persons. In cases of that kind the police were well assisted by the matrons who were always on duty at the law court and by Miss Childs, who was well known to all of them in police-court work. A decision was postponed. | 10 Feb 1927Page 148 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **Western Mail****POLICEWOMEN WANTED**DEPUTATION TO CARDIFF WATCH COMMITTEECardiff Watch Committee on Wednesday received a deputation, representative of the federation of University Women, the Women’s Citizens’ Union, the British Women’s Temperance Association, the Llandaff Diocesan Council for Purity and Preventative Work, and the Presbyterian Church, they were introduced by Mrs. Rhoda parker, and they were welcomed by The Lord mayor (Alderman William Grey,) who presided.The object of the deputation was to induce the watch committee to employ women police.Miss M. Collin said they represented different sides of social work in the city’ but they were one in the idea that order and morality could be helped by women members of the police force. They did not come in any spirit of complaint or dissatisfaction with their excellent police force. But the duties of a police force were becoming wider every year, and it was more urgent to have the assistance of trained women in certain duties, especially in prevention and protection work.Miss Barbara Foxley, spoke of personal knowledge of the efficiency of the patrolling of London streets by women police.Miss E. Barke said women police had been appointed in about fifty towns and in only a few of them had the women’s work in lodging houses, parks, and open spaces been reported on unfavourably.Mrs James Robinson (Hillside) said she was personally strongly in favour of women police.The Chief-Constable (Mr James a Wilson) said he had no reason to alter the opinion he gave in 1924. As far as Cardiff was concerned there was not a serious number of complaints, he was glad to say against children or young persons. In cases of that kind the police were well assisted by the matrons who were always on duty at the law court and by Miss Childs, who was well known to all of them in police-court work. A decision was postponed. | 10 Feb 1927Page 148 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **SOUTH WALES NEWS****WOMEN POLICE****Cardiff Deputation’s request**CHIEF CONSTABLE AGAINSTThe Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Alderman W. Grey) presided at a meeting of the Cardiff Watch Committee yesterday when a deputation was received from various women’s organisations in the city, the object of the visit being to urge that the Committee should employ Policewomen.The Deputation, comprising representatives from the Federation of University Women, the Cardiff Women Citizens’ Association, the Young Women’s Christian Association and the National British Women’s Total Abstinence Union, consisting of Miss E.M. Barke, M.A., Miss Collin, M.A., and Professor Foxley, M.A. (Federation of University Women); Miss M.M. Sanders and Mrs James Robinson (Cardiff Women Citizens’ Association); Mrs Alfred Thomas (National British Women’s Total Abstinence Union), and Miss Coxon (Cardiff Y.W.C.A.).Councillor Mrs Rhoda Parker introduced the deputation and Miss Collin of the Federation of University Women, in making the first speech, said the deputation represented many sided of social work in Cardiff. She believed that the work of the Police and the maintenance of law and morality could be helped by the assistance of Women Police. The deputation did not make any complaint against the excellent Police force in Cardiff – a force which was second to none in the Kingdom – but their duties were so wide and covered such a wide scope that they would derive great assistance from Women Police.PROTECTION OF YOUNGPreventive and protection work could best be done by Women Police. The Departmental Committee on Sexual Offences against young persons had pointed out that protection work could be made much more effective by the employment of Women Police than without them.The members of the deputation were ratepayers, but they still felt justified in raising the question of the employment of Women Police. She was aware that a neighbouring borough to Cardiff had recently dealt unfavourably with a request for the employment of Women Police; but she thought that Cardiff would lead in questions of social progress rather than follow their neighbours.Professor Barbara Foxley detailed instances within her own knowledge in which Women Police had done effective work in London, and said she was certain that having regard to the very grave problems of street supervision the police in Cardiff had to deal with they would welcome the efficient help they would receive from Women Police.It was most important, Professor Foxley continued, that children who were accosted or frightened should complain to someone, so that dangerous persons should be caught before they did any serious damage and children would often go to a Woman Police officer when in difficulty, when they would not go to a man.Miss E.M. Barke remarked that experiments in regard to Women Police had been going on in 50 different places and that there was a good deal of positive evidence of the success of Women Police, though in some instances failures had been reported of the experiment, London, Bristol, Gloucester and Birmingham had found the employment of Women Police satisfactory. Women Police would certainly prevent undesirable practices in the open spaces of Cardiff.The Lord Mayor thanked the members of the deputation for their attendance. After the ladies had retired a letter was read from the Home Secretary in which he stated that where the need for the employment of Women Police was necessary to meet local conditions and where a sufficient volume of work of that type existed, one or more Women Officers should be appointed.In reply to a question the Chief Constable (Mr J.A. Wilson) said he had no reason to alter the opinion he had expressed in December 1924, against the appointment of Women Police, and which had been endorsed by the Watch Committee.It was decided that the Chief Constable should report as to the number of Women Police employed in other Cities and as to the opinions of the Police Chiefs of their work. | 27 Feb 1927Page 150 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **WESTERN MAIL****WOMEN POLICE NOT WANTED**A CARDIFF PROPOSAL REJECTEDGIRLS TRUST MEN MORECHIEF-CONSTABLE’S FRANK CRITICISMWithout debate Cardiff Watch Committee (the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Grey, presiding) decided on Wednesday not to appoint Policewomen on the City Police staff. They were evidently influenced appreciably in regard to the matter by a report presented by the Chief Constable (Mr. J.A. Wilson), which was frankly against the proposal.The matter came before the Committee consequent on an appeal by a deputation representative of various Women’s organisations in the City for the appointment of Police Women to the City force.The advocates for the introduction of Women into the Police service, said the Chief Constable’s report, generally claimed that their value and usefulness were found in dealing with sexual crimes in relation to children, girls and women; that Women Police had achieved success in the prevention of misconduct of crime by members of their sex and that their services were of value in rescue and social welfare work. In Cardiff, under the heading of what might be termed sexual crimes, the aggregate number of such crimes known was 39, with an average of seven per annum. So far as public misbehaviour was concerned, during the year 1926, 100 women were prosecuted for moral misconduct and 53 women for drunkenness. These figures represented the low water mark of proceedings against women for these offences for 21 years and afforded evidence of the effect of control of public order by men. The observations and inquiries of my executive officers and my own experience that preceded the report, lead to the definite conclusion that the uniformed Police Woman is a complete failure. Physically she is adapted for Police duty in its broadest sense. It has not seriously been suggested that women are competent to arrest disorderly women. It frequently requires two or three constables to arrest and restrain the violence of some women.MORE FRANK WITH A MAN“Experienced Police Officers” continued the report “have yet to learn that the presence of a uniformed Policewoman is an effective deterrent to misconduct or crime. Even the Police Constable falls short in securing that desirable end.“As to the interrogation of girls and women in taking statements as to sexual crimes, I am certain that a trained Police Officer is the best person to undertake this, oft-times, disagreeable task. Girls and women will more readily and glibly tell an untruth to a woman than to a man. For some reason they are more frank with a man, in either confessions or misdeeds.PLAN WOULD NOT PAY“I have been forced to the opinion that there are many things in connection with the Police service a woman cannot do and so few that she may do, and then with doubtful efficiency by comparison with a member of the opposite sex. She is an uneconomic proposition.“My experience”, added Mr. Wilson in conclusion, “makes me definitely against the introduction of women into the prevention, detection and investigation of sexual crime.”The chief constable appended to his report, replies from Chief Constables of Cities and Towns situation the coast line of this Country where conditions of life might reasonably be expected to be similar to those prevailing in Cardiff. The weight of opinion was against the introduction of Women Police.(same story covered by South Wale News, 24 Mar 1927) | 24 Mar 1927Page 191 |
| **DCONC/5/70** | **WESTERN MAIL**WHERE THE POLICEWOMEN SCORELONDON REPLIES TO THE CHIEF CONSTABLE OF CARDIFF Two officers of the Women’s auxiliary Service – as the one-time Women Police service are now know – gave their view of the question as to whether the Women Police were carrying out useful work, in an interview with an correspondent of Monday.The subject was raised by the Chief Constable of Cardiff, Mr. Janes A. Wilson O.B.E., who had declared that “the uniformed Policewoman was a complete failure,” and that “girls and women would more readily and glibly tell an untruth to a female than to a male constable”WHAT THE MEN ADMIT“This is entirely contrary to fact” laughed one of the Officers. “Why, it is almost an axiom that a woman is better at finding out if another woman is speaking the truth than a man is. *Men themselves admit that they can easily be taken in by a woman.”*“Uniformed Policewomen are proven preventive agents. They are a protection to young children. women today think they have a right to uniformed Policewomen of their own sex”“The traffic in Women and Children committee of the League of Nations, which has been in session at Geneva lately, has said, more than once, what an important part the Women Police play in the protection of girls and how much more could be done to oppose this traffic if there were more women Police working internationally. Cardiff itself is a port. They may claim that they have no white slave traffic there, but all ports are affected by it in one way or anotherHOME OFFICE ATTITUDEIt was ascertained at the Home Office that the desirability of employing women Police had been suggested from time to time by the Home Office to local police authorities, but that it was left entirely to the discretion of those authorities whether or not they chose to employ women on Police duty.An official of Scotland Yard said; “So far as London Policewomen are concerned in the various annual reports which are presented by the Commissioner of Police, the Women Police are credited with performing very useful tasks, and satisfactorily discharging the special work which has been allotted to them.“In one of the reports it was stated that since the work of the Women Police was decentralised and transferred from Scotland Yard to various divisions, their work had been more effective”.WOMEN POLICEARE THEY A FAILURE?Is the Policewoman a failure?The statement that they are, made by Mr J.A. Wilson, Chief Constable of Cardiff, has aroused acute controversy in Police circles.One Chief Constable said that he was “dead against them”. Another was of the opinion that they had a limited scope of usefulness.It was suggested that the uniform worn by the Policewomen was wrong.While the majority of the Chief Constables asked to express an opinion would not call the Policewomen failures, all agreed, however, that they were not a “success”.The Chief Constable of Bedfordshire was amused to think that anyone could take them seriously.“I agree with Mr. Wilson”, he said. “They are not a great deal of use, and as far as I know, the authorities seldom send one out unless Policemen are near.“They may be quite satisfactory in big cities, like Liverpool, but certainly not in ordinary towns. I am dead against them.”If the authorities want to spend money on the Police – for goodness sake let us have more men!”Other opinions were:-Mr. R.J. Pearson, Chief Constable of Cambridge – “in a town like Cambridge, I find Policewomen most useful. We are a peculiar town, quite different from others, and I find our Policewomen helpful and efficient.CARE FOR CHILDREN“The town is patrolled by women Police – they attend Court, look after the women prisoners, watch them in hospital and care for young children.“I think this question should be answered by each individual town or city”Mr. A.J. Offord, Chief Constable of Essex – “I don’t agree with the Chief Constable of Cardiff’s views. During the war we found them quite satisfactory. They cannot do the work of men, of course, but they can perform a very useful service.“Although we have no need for them now, I do not consider them failures”Mr. C.R. Fox, Chief Constable of Oxford. – “Policewomen would better out of uniform. I don’t agree with them being in uniform, because I think they can do more good in plain clothes.“We have retained the services of one, as a Policewoman is very useful in a University town”Another Police Official said that Policewomen had been given a trial in many Counties and Boroughs without success.“In some towns – Hertford, for instance – they won’t consider them at all,” he added.The Rev. F.W. Newland, superintendent of the Claremont Mission, Pentonville;* “While the present Women police are doing excellent work, they could do much more if they were better equipped.
* “I should like them to have a uniform more in harmony with the Girl Guides for a start”.
 | 29 Mar 1927Page 196 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **South Wales News****POLICEWOMEN**A SLUR RESENTEDLondon policewomen are aggrieved.A serious slur on their efficiency has been made by a Paris police official, who is quoted as saying : - The London women police have proved themselves useless. They are a big joke. Their influence is nil. They merely amuse the public.The official claimed his view is shared by Scotland yard.“It is an unwarrantable insult” was the comment of one policewoman when the observation was brought to her notice. “We are doing a difficult job, and have been commended for doing it well.” | 25 Apr 1927Page 17 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **Western Mail**WOMAN POLICE DOCTORManchester Watch Committee, have decided to appoint a woman police doctor. The appointment will be the first of its kind ever made in Manchester. | 28 May 1927Page 37 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **South Wales News****WOMEN POLICE PUZZLE**CHIEF CONSTABLE DIFFICULTIESCALL TO HOME SECRETARYWOMEN FILM CENSORSThe National Council of the Women’s Conference at Bournemouth yesterday discussed a resolution that the Home Office be asked to issue a circular dealing the duties on which women police would be employed.“ Many chief constables have told us,” said Mrs T Johnston ( Glasgow), “ that they do not know how they would employ a woman if they had one, and they certainly do not know what they would do with two or three women.“We have no definite lead from the Home Office. If women go there on the matter they get an equally non-committal reply.”Mr H .P .Marsh (Sheffield) commented on the different types of chief constables. This caused Miss Munro ( Women’s Freedom League) to ask:“Are you going to wait for all the wrong types of chief constables to die?”She declared that a few chief constables had shown themselves to be progressive in the matter of women police. She asked the conference to make the matter even stronger, but her amendment asking the Home Secretary and the Secretary for Scotland to make it compulsory for Welsh Committees to appoint an adequate number of women police as an integral part of the police force was not put to the conference.Mrs Johnston’s resolution was carried.The National Council of Women is to take up very seriously all questions concerning the cinema and public welfare.Ms Ogilvie Gordon the vice-president of the International Council of Women said that so far they in Great Britain had not begun to consider supervision of pictures and there was a great duty resting upon them.Mrs Long (Bath) said that the women magistrates there had constituted themselves a censoring committee. They met once a month and went through the synopsis of each picture in the forthcoming programmes, and where there was the slightest doubt insisted upon seeing the film. The cinema proprietors welcomed their action and they were building up a very strong public opinion in regard to the right type of film.EAST AND WESTA direct comparison between the women of the West and those of the East was made by Mrs Neville Rolfe of the British Social Hygiene Council. She told the conference that, in practice, in all the Eastern lands women were still treated as chattels. She asked the conference to support a resolution urging upon the British representatives on the Council of the League of Nations that with a view to educating public opinion in Eastern lands on the evils of traffic, the recent inquiry into it should be extended so as to include countries in the Far East. The resolution was carried unanimously. | 14 Oct 1927Page 138 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **Western Mail****PREPARING FOR THE FRAY**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN CARDIFFDespite unmistakable evidence of the growth of a considerable interest in municipal politics in Cardiff during the past few months, and the consequent prospects for a really interesting series of fights in the thirteen wards of the city at the forthcoming municipal elections, the Labour party is the only one so far that has fixed up a comprehensive list of candidates in eleven out of the thirteen wards, and hopes before nomination day to have fixed up in both Riverside and Penylan, where, as yet, the ward organisations have not submitted their choice of candidates.In six of the wards Conservative members are retiring on the three years’ rule, and will seek re-election with every prospect of a successful return to the council, where one and all have a record to be proud of. They are:- South Ward, Councillor H. C. Prickett; Central, Councillor Capt. O. C. Purnell; Riverside, Councillor J. Young; Llandaff, Councillor E. J. Moore; Roath, Councillor W. H. Lever; and Splott, Councillor Mrs Rhoda Parker.The Liberal party has decided to support Mr. C. Stuart Hallinan, who will seek to retain his seat as an Independent for Grangetown, and will have its own retiring candidates in Mr. C. F. Sanders, in Canton; Mr. R. G. H. Snook in Penylan; and Professor Barbara Foxley will fight as a Liberal to capture the seat in Cathays vacated through ill-health by Capt. Henry Davies. They are also expected to support the candidature of Mr. W. R. Wills, who is being brought forward by the Ratepayers’ Federation in Roath. Mr. C. H. McCabe, another Ratepayers’ Federation nominee and member, will seek to retain his seat for Gabalfa.The candidates so far in the field are:- Central Ward – \*Capt. O. C. Purnell (Conservative), J. P. Collins (Labour).South Ward – \*Henry Charles Prickett (Conservative), E. Allan Robson (Labour).Plasnewydd Ward – William Gough Howell (Liberal), Mrs Kerrigon (Labour).Adamsdown Ward - \*William Williams (Labour).Penylan Ward - \*R. G. H. Snook (Liberal).Canton Ward – C. F. Sanders (Liberal), T. C. Major (Conservative), B. Weston (Labour).Riverside Ward - \*John Young (Conservative).Roath Ward - \*William Henry Lever (Conservative), W. R. Wills (Independent), A. J. Phillips (Labour).Grangetown Ward - \*Charles Stuart Hallinan (Independent), Peter Freeman (Labour).Splott Ward - \*Mrs Rhoda Parker (Conservative), Geo. Steele (Labour).Llandaff Ward - \*E. J. Moore (Conservative), R, Phillips (Labour).Gabalfa Ward - \*C. H. McCale (Independent), R. G, Walters (Labour). \*Denotes retiring member. | Oct 1927Page 139 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **Western Mail****LAW OF STREET OFFENCES**NEW COMMITTEE OF INQUIRYTERMS OF REFERENCEFIVE WOMEN INCLUDED IN APPOINTMENTSThe Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to deal with street offences, the members of which are announced below.Commenting upon the decision, a news agency states:-“In well-informed quarters it is considered that the terms of reference are wide enough to permit the Committee to consider cases such as those of Major Graham Bell Murray and Mr Frank Champain, whose convictions for alleged street offences against which they successfully appealed have recently been widely discussed. The Committee’s task will probably be a long one and some months are expected to elapse before any report can be framed.”TERMS OF INQUIRYTHE LAW AND MORALITY IN THE STREETThe announcement that the Home Secretary (Sir William Joynson-Hicks) had appointed a Committee of Inquiry into street offences was accompanied by terms of reference which included the following:- To inquire into the law and practices regarded offences against the criminal law in connection with solicitation for immoral purposes in streets and public places and other offences against decency and good order, and to report what changes, if any, are in their opinion desirable. The members of the Committee are:-The Right Hon. Hugh MacMillan, K.C. (chairman)Sir Charles Biron.Sir Leonard Dunning.The Bishop of Durham.Sir Henry Fairfax Lucy, Bart., J.P.Miss S. Margery Frey, J.P.Rev. R. C. Gillie.Mr. W. A. Jowitt, K.C.Lady Joynson-Hicks.Miss E. Kelly, C.B.E., J.P.Mrs Ella Morison Millar.Mr. A. F. I Pickford.Sir Joseph Priestly, K.C.Mr. H. W. W. Wilberforce.Hon. Mrs Wilson-Fox.The secretary of the Committee is Mr R. L. Bicknell, of the Home Office, Whitehall, London, SW 1, to whom correspondence on the subject of the inquiry should be addressed.WHO’S WHO ON THE COMMITTEEMr High MacMillan, the chairman, was Lord-Advocate (non-political) in the Socialist Government.Sir Charles Biron has been the chief magistrate at Bow-street, London, since 1920.Sir Leonard Dunning, his Majesty’s Inspector of Constabulary, Home Office, was formerly head-constable of Liverpool.Sir Henry Fairfax Lucy has been Inspector of Quartermaster-General’s Services, Headquarters, Scottish Command, since 1918.The Rev. Dr. R. C. Gillie is the minister of Marylebone Presbyterian Church, London, W.Mr W. A Jowitt, K.C., was Liberal member for the Hartlepools, 1922-24.Lady Joynson-Hicks is the wife of the Home Secretary.Miss E. H. Kelly is engaged in social work, and has been a member of many committees connected with the Ministry of Pensions and Ministry of Labour. She is also a member of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation.Mr A. F. I. Pickford is the City solicitor.Sir Joseph Priestley, K.C., is a bencher of the Inner Temple.Mr H. W. W. Wilberforce is deputy-chairman of the London Sessions. | 15 Oct 1927Page 139 |
| **DCONC/5/71** |  **South Wales News****STREET MORALS INQUIRY**HOME SECREATY EXPLAINSNOTDUE TO POLICE CASESSir Wiliam Joynson-Hicks, the Home Secretary, interviewed at his county residence at Newick on Saturday evening, made an important statement regarding the committee appointed to inquire into street morals.“The inception of the committee,” he said, “is not the outcome of the recent police cases. It is the outcome of certain women’s deputations to me many months ago.”On the question of the appointment of his wife as a member, Sir William said she would represent an unbiased point of view. | 17 Oct 1927Page 140 |
| **DCONC/5/71** | **Western Mail****POLICEWOMEN OFN MOTOR-CYCLES**A NEW DEPARTURE IN GLOUCESTERSHIREThe quarterly meeting of the Gloucestershire Standing Joint Committee, held at the Shire-hall, Gloucester, was presided over by Lieut.-Col. Russell J. Kerr (chairman).In the course of a report on the subject of the employment of extra women police in the county, the Chief-constable (Major F. L. Stanley Clarke) said that in April last he was instructed to draw up a scheme for the employment of a certain number of extra women police in the county. He has formulated a scheme for four women to work on the principles desired by those who were anxious to see women employed, so that the county as covered as far as possible. One would be appointed to the head-quarters at Cheltenham, to work in the Tewkesbury Division, but also available, if required, for the Cirencester and Campden Divisions. The second would be stationed at Stroud and available for the Dursley Division; the third at Staple Hill, available for Chipping Sodbury; and the fourth at Lydney, for the Forest Division.They should be able to ride motor-cycles so as to get from one place to another without delay. He did not know whether he would be able to secure women who had had previous training, but it would be better to have young women, even without training, and to train them at head-quarters.In answer to questions, the Chief-constable said no pension would be payable until ten years’ service had been put in. The commencing wage was 50s per week, rising to 70s., with an increase of 2s 6d after seventeen years, and another 2s 6d after 22 years.The chairman said application had been made to the Home Secretary, and he had given approval to the suggestion. The items of the first year’s cost were:- Wages, £520; rent allowances, £104; boot allowances, £10 0s 6d; and outfits, £88 17s 4d. Of the total amount, half would be found from the county rate and half from Government grant. In an ordinary year the cost would be £750.The scheme was adopted with some dissentients. | 19 Oct 1927Page 141 |
| **DCONC/5/72** | **South Wales News****WOMEN POLICE TO TAKE GIRL’S STATEMENTS**On the motion of Miss Smee, Middlesex Justices yesterday agreed that women police should be employed to take the statements of children and young girls in every case of criminal assault. | 29 Mar 1928Page 137 |
| **DCONC/5/72** | **South Wales News** **WOMEN POLICE**THE CASE SET OUTLEAD FROM HOME OFFICE WANTED(By E. PICTON - TURBERVILL,.)*Recent events in our social life have brought once more to the front the question whether women police are needed in our cities. To a vast number of people the idea of women police is still a new one, and I have heard both men and women mock at it under the entirely false belief that only a few cranks advocate the employment of women in the police force. That the Home Office has had the question in consideration for fifteen years, and that already there are a number of police women in the United kingdom, is a fact of which a great many people are entirely ignorant.*The matter is one of extraordinary interest, and indeed, it is not too much to say, one that is closely connected with the moral welfare of our cities.How did the question of women police first arise as a really live one? To explain this it is necessary for one moment to go back to 1914. In the first weeks of the war there was much excitement, intensified by the turmoil of mobilisation and the gathering together of great numbers of men and boys in camps, and the normal daily life of the community was dislocated. Everyone over the thirty can remember the uncontrolled excitement by day and night at that time, which, was a danger to the young of both sexes. To grapple with it, a voluntary body of workers called “Women Patrols,” with the full recognition of the Home Secretary and the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, was formed, and outside the Metropolitan area chief constables concerned gave the same official recognition. I cannot tell the whole story here, but a few years later yet further recognition was given, and the women patrols became Police Women.**COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY**A Committee of Inquiry was set up in February 1920, at which a large number of expert witnesses were heard. Naturally there included those who valued work of women police and those who did not. There are chief constables who sincerely maintain that there is no work for them to do, that cannot be equally well done by policemen. Lord Stonehaven was chairman at the Inquiry. The conclusions arrived at were summed up in these words: -*“After careful consideration of all the evidence, we are of opinion that in thickly populated areas, where offences against the laws relating to women and children are not infrequent, there is not only scope but urgent need for the employment of women police.”* To state the needs for employing women as police quite shortly, I will do it under three heads.1. To befriend women, young girls and children and protect them in the streets, parks and open spaces.
2. To assist them in all their difficulties, recommending lodgings, beds for the night, etc., and
3. To perform those necessary duties which must not only be distasteful to the male police but which woman, understanding the psychology of her own sex better than any man can ever do, is thus better qualified to perform.

**MEN POLICE**At present, the taking of statements from women and children in cases of sexual crime caring for women in custody in police cells and escorting female prisoners are done chiefly by men police. It is unnecessary to go here into details, but when a member of Parliaments was show the list of duties the men police were often called upon to perform in connection with women, he declared it was unbelievable that these duties can be done by men, and he added, “Why don’t you women make this known?”*The present situation is that the Home Office is entirely in favour of appointing women police, and indeed have sanctioned fifty in the Metropolitan area.*More than that it has issued a circular to local authorities recommending that the same action should be taken. Many feel, however, that a mere recommendation is not enough, as local authorities, not always blessed with imagination and sympathy, are apt to say there would not be enough work for the women police to do. That is why those who are convinced of the necessitu of having women police urge the Home Office to go one step further and define their duties for the guidance of local authorities.**NO LEAD**At present local authorities say they have no lead from the Home Office, and the Home Office, while urging that women police should be appointed, says it prefers to leave it to the discretion of local authorities. Personally, I think it is of little practical use for the Home Office to urge the use of women police unless it also indicates in a circular the list of duties they should be called upon to perform. These are duties that must be done by a member of the police force. Matrons, turnkeys, and other women employed are not qualified to undertake the delicate duties that are often necessary, and anyone who has read the list of those duties will see at once that where women are concerned they should be performed by a woman.The League of Nations report on this question gives a list of police duties that should be done by a woman. When once these duties become widely known, the need for an increase of police women will, I am convinced be generally recognised. | 2 Jun 1928Page 183 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****POWERS OF THE POLICE**ROYAL COMMISSION OF EIGHT APPOINTEDVISCOUNT LEE THE CHAIRMANTWO WOMEN AND A TRADE UNION OFFICIAL AS MEMBERSThe Home Office made the following announcement on Monday night:-“His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of a Royal Commission composed as follows to consider the general powers and duties of police in England and Wales in the investigation of crimes and offences:-Viscount Lee of Fareham, ChairmanSir Howard Frank, Bart.Sir Reginal W. E. Lane PooleMiss Margaret BeavanLord EbbishamDame Meriel TalbotMr James Thomas BrownlieMr Frank PickThe terms of reference of the Royal Commission are:-“To consider the general powers and duties of police in England and Wales in the investigation of crimes and offences, including the functions of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the police respectively;“To inquire into the practice followed in interrogating or taking statements from persons interviewed in the course of the investigation of crime, and to report whether, in the opinion of the Commission, such powers and duties are properly exercised and discharged with due regard to the rights and liberties of the subject, the interests of justice, and the observance of the judges’ rules both in the letter and the spirit, and to make any recommendations necessary in respect of such powers and duties and their proper exercise and discharge.”Mr E. E. Bridges, of the Treasury, has been appointed secretary of the Royal Commission and Mr G. D. Kirwan, of the Home Office, has been appointed assistant secretary.Any communications intended for the Royal Commission should be addressed until further notice to Mr E. E. Bridges at the Treasury, Whitehall, SW1. | 14 Aug 1928Page 41 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****WORK OF THE POLICE COMMISSION**EVERY RAMIFICATION OF CRIMEA YEAR’S INQUIRYTHE NON-PARTY PERSONNEL; PUBLIC APPRECIATIONTHOSE WHO WILL SERVEViscount Lee of Farehan (Chairman): Served on many Government Commissions and in other spheres at home and abroad.Lord Ebbisham, formerly Sir Rowland Blades, Lord Mayor of London.Dame Meriel Talbot: Intelligence Officer to the Overseas Settlement Department.Miss Margaret Beaven: Lord Mayor of Liverpool.Sir Howard Frank: Head of the firms of Knight, Frank, and Rutley, and Walton and Lee.Sir Reginal Poole: Head of Lewis and Lewis, Solicitors.Mr J. T. Brownlie: President of the A.E.U.Mr Frank Pick: Managing Director of the London Underground Railways. | 15 Aug 1928Page 42 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****CARDIFF MAGISTRATE**REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONCardiff magistrates on Tuesday, Alderman C. H. Bird CBE, presiding, appointed five justices to represent the bench on the Magistrates’ Association – Alderman C. F. Sanders, Mr W. H. Mayne, Mrs Edwards, Mr W. T. Beavan, and Mrs Richards.Alderman C. F. Sanders was nominated a member of the council of the association.Alderman Sanders and Mrs Richards were appointed to attend the annual meeting of the association on October 17.At a special session of the justices the whole body of the magistrates was appointed to exercise powers under the Lunacy Acts.The following were appointed visitors to licensed houses for mental defectives and institutions: - Mr St. John Francis Williams (stipendiary magistrate), Mr W. T. Beavan, Dr Alfred Rees, Dr Cornelius Griffiths, Mr J. Ash Thompson, and Mrs Richards. In addition, Mrs Margaret Sanders was appointed a visitor.Dr Ralph M. Picken was appointed medical practitioner to the visitors and Mr E. J. Hayward clerk. | 10 Oct 1928Page 75 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail** **WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE WOMEN POLICE?**BY OUR WOMAN CORRESPONDENTWomen police are once more in the limelight. Probably no body of women, with the exception of medical women, have aroused so much controversy or such widely-differing opinions as to their usefulness.Up to the present the Metropolitan Police women officers have been one of the stoutest pegs on which advocates of women police in the provinces have had to hang their arguments! But the present Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, in his evidence before the Police Commission this week, has administered a vigorous shake to that peg. In answer to Dame Meriel Talbot, one of the two women members of the Commission, Sir William said he did not think a woman could be sufficiently well trained to undertake really responsible police work in the same way that a man could.Asked by Dame Meriel Talbot if women police were of service in the investigation of crime, Sir William replied: - “We have had only one or two cases where they have been of use in the detection or prevention of crime. They have been of use in detecting the passing of dope from one person to another.”Commander Mary Allen, chief of the Metropolitan Women Police, has taken up the cudgels on behalf of the women, and declares that: - “It is not the women’s fault at all. When an employer is always complaining of the people he employs it is not so much the fault of the employee as of the employer.”There the matter rests at the moment, but as this Police Commission arose out of the Savidge case, we shall probably hear much more about the abilities and limitations of women police during the course of its sitting, and women’s citizens’ associations and other bodies, who from time to time put forward demands for more women police would do well to watch the Commission’s proceedings very carefully, and also to study the Commission’s report when it is published.QUESTION OF TRAININGSir William Horwood’s opinion cannot be ignored, and it would be well to ascertain whether the state of things to which he alludes is the fault of the Commissioner himself in allocating the women’s duties, the women police (who may be lacking initiative) or the training of women officers.According to Sir William Horwood, they receive identically the same training as the men police. Is this training suitable for their peculiar duties, or would it be better for them to specialise on what Dame Meriel Talbot referred to as “the welfare work that the police are being increasingly used for under modern conditions”? On the face of it, it does seem a little unfair to train women in the same way as male officers and then to reproach them for their lack of usefulness along definitely “female” lines. | 20 Oct 1928Page 79 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****CUPID IN THE POLICE FORCE**WHY A GOOD INSPECTOR AND A WOMAN CONSTABLE LOST THEIR POSITIONS“Police-stations are not very comfortable, but they are homely,” declared Mr T. Davies, chief-constable of Portsmouth City Police, at the afternoon sitting of the Police Commission on Monday when questioned in regard to such places for taking statements.He added that every consideration was shown people making a statement, without any distinction between a witness and an accused person.Questioned in reference to women police, Mr Davies said they had three during the war, but on the whole they were not a success. One of the women went away with one of his best inspectors, and they both lost their positions. Women were splendid for rescue and welfare work, but not for police officers.THE PRICE OF A PARADEMr H. H. Sanders, chief-constable for Plymouth City Police, said that in order to find people resembling a prisoner for identification parade they sent into public-houses near the police-station or outside the labour exchange. Those selected were afterwards given enough to purchase a drink.Women were at one time employed in connection with the Plymouth police, but he did not consider that their services justified the expense. They quarrelled with each other. One was the daughter of a clergyman and the other was a schoolteacher. | 30 Oct 1928Page 83 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****WOMEN POLICE WORTH**HOME OFFICE OFFICIAL’S VIEWMr A. L. Dixon, assistant secretary at the Home Office of the division dealing with police matters, gave evidence before the Police Commission on Tuesday.Mr Dixon, asked about the Home Office view of the employment of women police in the investigation of crime, said there was probably a certain amount of scope for their employment on specialised lines, but it was in an experimental stage.Sir Howard Frank asked Mr Dixon if he thought that it would be any advantage to have one detective force for the whole country. – Mr Dixon: From some points of view, yes. From more weighty points of view, no.WOMEN CONSTABLE ARRESTS MANWilliam Moore (36), bookbinder, giving an address at Kensal Rise, was charged at Willesden on Tuesday with misconduct in Queen’s Park, Kilburn.Evidence was given that prisoner accosted Olive Wilby, a policewoman in plain clothes, in the public park at 7.30am. She held him down until assistance arrived.Moore was fined £5, or one month, the Magistrate remarking that the officer had justified the existence of women police. | 31 Oct 1928Page 84 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **WESTERN MAIL AND SOUTH WALES NEWS.****LAW ABIDING CARDIFF****SHOULD POLICEWOMEN BE EMPLOYED?****EXPERT’S VIEW****“UNHEALTHY” TIMES THAT HAVE PASSED.**Evidence as to the advisability of the employment of policewomen in Wales was given before the Police Commission, sitting in London on Thursday, when Mr. C. de C. Parry**,** an inspector of constabulary for England and Wales, was examined. He said that his views were broadly identical with those of Sir Leonard Dunning, the Chief Inspector of Constabulary. In the matter of taking statements, he said it would be impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule as to whether a witness of a certain type should be cautioned, but if there was any possibility of the witness being involved in any charge the safest and fairest course would be to administer a caution. Generally speaking, he thought the man in the street felt that he was more or less obliged to answer a policeman’s questions.CARDIFF EXPERIENCES RE-CALLEDOn the question of women police, he said there were no policewomen employed in Wales.“What is the feeling in Wales regarding the employment of women police?” asked Lord Lee, the chairman.Mr. Parry said he had had a great deal of experience of Cardiff, as he had been for five years a superintendent in Monmouthshire and in those days things were different in Cardiff from what they are now. Thirty years ago they had a very unpleasant time in Cardiff. There was a certain amount of depravity and conditions were not altogether “healthy”.In spite of the fact that there were no policewomen employed in Cardiff, things were very different now. He had made a practice of walking about the streets of Cardiff at all times, and he had seen a great and growing improvement.“Do you mean that the general attitude in Wales is that there is no need for policewomen” asked Lord Lee.Mr. Parry said he would not go so far as thatLord Lee: Would you advocate employment of women police in Wales? – Yes, in certain places.In what way? – In the C.I.D. departmentsDo you think they could be usefully employed as detectives? – YesMore so that uniformed policemen? – YesWHERE WOMEN ARE A SUCCESSEarlier evidence was given by Sir Charles Haughton Rafter, Chief Constable of Birmingham, who declared that he could see no usefulness in putting women into uniform and stationing them at certain corners, where they stood all day apparently doing nothing, as he had seen done elsewhere. No independent body of so-called women police should be permitted. In all cases they should be members of the regular police force and under the direct control of the chief constable.Sir Charles added: “The women police have been an unqualified success in Birmingham, though their duties are not quite what their advocates wish them to be. We think in Birmingham that we have discovered the true sphere of need more and I hope we will have them when finances permit”Sir Charles, dealing with procedure and the judges’ rules – with which he said he was satisfied – stated that he was rather inclined to the view that no caution should be given to anyone by a police officer. It sometimes had the effect of making an innocent man hold his tongue, whereas if he were not cautioned he might say something which would clear him.THE POPULAR IDEASir Charles later said that the public idea was that a policeman was a villain. “The policeman is a most respectable man”, added Sir Charles emphatically, “for his class of life, as any in the country”Lord Lee: Possibly more respectable than many persons in our professions.In a reference to the press in its relations to the police, Sir Charles Rafter said publicity possibly led detective officers to forget that their principal duty was the prevention of crime. They got kudos for detecting crime by being made heroes, getting their pictures in the papers and having “detective” stories about their cases.SOLICITOR’S VIEWMr Herbert Willison, a Birmingham solicitor, who said he had 30 years’ experience as a defender of prisoners, said he thought no statement of a prisoner should be accepted as evidence except the answer be made after the person had been charged. The terms of the caution should be that given to every prisoner by the justices’ clerk at the conclusion of the case for the prosecution.The next public sittings of the Commission will be held next Monday and Tuesday. | 16 Nov 1928Page 95 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **WESTERN MAIL AND SOUTH WALES NEWS.**POLICE COMMISSIONWOMAN CHIEF’S PLEA FOR MORE POWERThe Police Commission continued its inquiry on Monday, when evidence was given by Commandant Mary Allen, of the Women’s Auxiliary Force, who urged that Policewomen should undertake investigations of all kinds. | 20 Nov 1928Page 98 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **WESTERN MAIL AND SOUTH WALES NEWS****POWERS OF POLICE**(1st column – last paragraph)POLICEWOMEN BARREDMr Wilson said he was opposed to Women Police.“I don’t think it is a Woman’s job”, he said. “There are so many things a woman Police Officer cannot do and so few that she can do.“No self-respecting Police Officer could work with a Policewoman in sexual cases. The whole thing is revolting.”Mr. Wilson added that they had a Police Matron continuously on duty at the Central Police station at Cardiff.Sir Howard Frank (a member of the Commission): You are determined never to have women police? – If my Committee said I was to have them I would have to.But you would do your best to stop it? – I should. | 28 Nov 1928Page 103 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **WESTERN MAIL AND SOUTH WALES NEWS****OFFENCES IN THE STREET****NEW LEGISLATION RECOMMENDED****(**2nd page of article, middle column)WOMEN POLICEThe Committee consider that in the region with which they were concerned they recognise that there is a special sphere of usefulness for Women Police.“We emphasise particularly the value of the preventive work which they are better fitted to perform than men. In the case of young girls entering upon a career on the streets, a woman constable may do much good by warning, advice and assistance and such dissuasion and help is likely to be accepted from, a woman.“We should like to add that it is of the highest importance that women selected for this work should be of good education and standing, with knowledge and experience of the world and should receive special training for this work” | 11 Dec 1928Page 110 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **WESTERN MAIL AND SOUTH WALES NEWS**WOMEN POLICE CRITICISEDMAGISTRATE AND IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL STRENGTHMr Oulton, the magistrate, criticised the employment of women police during the hearing of a Case at Tower Bridge Police court, London, on Tuesday, in which Norah Shea (44) was before him on remand charged with assaulting Woman Police sergeant Cross and Police constable LattimoreAt the last hearing Shea alleged that she had been assaulted by the woman police sergeant.It was now stated that there were 150 convictions against her for assault, drunkenness etc.She was sentenced to four months’ hard labour for the assault on the woman sergeant, and to two months’ hard labour for the assault on the police constable the terms to be consecutive.“This case” said the Magistrate, “should be of significance to all those who are considering the employment of police woman with the power of arrest. Is it not anomalous when, by selection and training the physique of our police force is at the highest level that its level should be lowered by the introduction of a weakening element? Men and women, drunk or sober, think twice about resisting arrest from a policeman. After all, physical strength has its proper uses. Without it there would be much more obstructing and assaulting the police and many more escapes from arrest. If today the protection of women from danger be no longer of paramount importance we may yet hesitate to place policewomen in greater jeopardy than policemen.“In this case the policewoman was assaulted by a woman who was sufficiently combative to assault a policeman also. I suppose she was as dangerous as some men wither 150 convictions, five of them for assault probably more so. At all events, it is fortunate that the policewoman could rely on help from a policeman. | 12 Dec 1928Page 110 |
| **DCONC/5/73** | **Western Mail****CALL FOR MORE WOMEN IN UNIFORM**The Commission state that the time is ripe for a substantial increase in women police.“Women police in uniform, “it is held, “can profitably be employed in cases of offences against public decency, and should be afforded adequate opportunity of doing general as well as special detective work.”WOMEN’S AID“There is scope for the employment of women police in the investigation of crimes and offences on certain specialised lines. Qualified and specially trained women not essentially policewomen, should be made available for taking statements from all young girls and children in sexual cases. In cases where no crime of a sexual character is involved, there is no objection to statements being taken from women by male police officers. Policewomen however, should be considered competent to perform this duty whenever they are available.“For dealing with offences against public decency the employment of policewomen in uniform in considerably greater numbers than at present is to be recommended. The time is \*\*\*\* for a substantial increase in the numbers of women police, more particularly in the cities for patrol work in uniform. | 23 Mar 1929Page 161 |