

THE EXHIBITION DAY BY DAY.

The Exhibition opened on Thursday under the most favourable auspices possible. Large crowds gathered to listen to the opening speech by Dr. Garrett Anderson, the only woman Mayor in England, and the scene in the Prince's Skating Rink was one of great animation and colour. The ceremony took place in a gallery under Sylvia Pankhurst's large design of the Harvest.

In introducing Dr. Garrett Anderson, Mrs. Pankhurst explained that the purpose of the Exhibition was first of all to raise funds to carry on the work of the W.S.P.U., work which was not always associated with such festive scenes as that in the Prince's Skating Rink that afternoon. The promoters of the Exhibition were glad to have the opportunity of proving to society that women who wanted votes could also interest themselves in a practical way in all that made life beautiful and attractive. Among other attractions were the cartoon models, and she would like members of the present Government to be present to see how they were viewed by other people! They might then realise that this campaign was being carried on by people possessed not only of determination, but of a considerable sense of humour. She could hardly express the gratitude of the Committee of the W.S.P.U. towards the women who had worked so hard and given so much of their leisure time to make the Exhibition a success. They would, she knew, feel that the success of the Exhibition was a sufficient reward for all their labour and devotion. Each day it would be formally opened by women who had distinguished themselves in one or other of the

professions into which women were now entering in such large numbers. (Applause.) Mrs. Garrett Anderson—(applause)—was not only one of the most distinguished members of the medical profession, she was also a worthy citizen of the place in which she resided, and was so greatly valued by her fellow citizens that they had conferred upon her the highest civic office in their power. Women also liked to think of Mrs. Garrett Anderson as a woman who performed all those womanly functions of which women were being so constantly reminded. (Applause.)

Little Miss Barbara Lutyens, in a bright little speech, very clearly heard all over the hall, presented a bouquet of flowers in the colours to Mrs. Garrett Anderson. In a sweet childish voice the little girl said that even children had the power to do something in this big movement; when she was grown up she would always remember the day on which she was allowed to have the honour of giving flowers to a distinguished woman doctor. "Will you please," she ended, "accept these flowers with our love and gratitude?"

Mrs. Garrett Anderson, after thanking the little girl for the flowers, said she wanted to tell them why she was a Suffragette. Other people might have their reasons, but hers were:—(1) That it was inconsistent with the ordinary meaning of justice that women who paid taxes at the same rate as men should be denied the very elementary privilege of having a voice in the selection of their Parliamentary representative. Such a state of things was opposed to the very fundamentals of justice.

(2) She felt very strongly that there was a broader reason, namely, that in the present state of things one-half of humanity was left out. Men and women would never stand exactly in the right relationship until they had a somewhat similar basis of justice meted out to them; until the masculine and feminine part of humanity could help each other and have each other's interests as well as their own at heart, humanity would be imperfect. (3) Because of the industrial interests of women. In the factory districts there were something like five millions of women earning their daily bread by handicrafts, and they had scarcely any power of making their wishes known to the House of Commons. A wave of sentimentality was sweeping over the country, nominally in the interests of women; many people thought it was kind to deprive women of their employment—they seemed to imagine that women would be so much better sitting on sofas! But if poor women were to do that, they must have their meals brought to them, as well as the meals of their children. The employment of barmaids had been interfered with, and now flower-girls were threatened by

a sentimental Government. Women themselves ought to have their say in the matter.

She was often asked whether she was really in favour of the militant methods. She always answered quite frankly: "Yes, I am." ("Bravo!") She had belonged to the society started in the days of John Stuart Mill, a society which had worked for many years without making much advance. She did not blame them; every movement had to have a subterranean existence before it came to the front; every great movement must have



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A POPULAR CARTOON MODEL.

its John the Baptist. But the movement initiated by the W.S.P.U. had quickened public interest, and had brought the question of Woman Suffrage within the range of practical politics. This Exhibition was a means of pushing on the cause as well as of raising money. No great work of this kind could be carried on without a great deal of money, and she hoped all present would leave the Exhibition with their hands full, their purses empty, and their hearts full of gratitude to the militant party for the devotion they had given to the cause of women's enfranchisement.

The opening ceremony over, stall holders and buyers set to work at once and kept the ball rolling until closing time.

The Polling Booth.

Great interest centred round the Polling Booth, the subject for the day being the Daylight Saving Bill. The Polling Station having been declared open by Mrs. Drummond, the first vote was cast by Mrs. Pankhurst, with whom was Mrs. Garrett Anderson, immediately followed into the booth by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Tuke. The second group included Mrs. Drummond, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, and Miss Mary Gawthorpe. Crowds were then waiting to vote, and for the next hour polling went on rapidly.

Throughout the afternoon and evening, in the intervals of inspecting exhibits and stalls, visitors crowded into the theatre, where a varied programme had been provided. This included a concert under the direction of Miss Esther Palliser, three