An Appeal to Women
FOR THE VAN.

By "COMRADE MARY."

Published by Socialist Democrat Vanguard, 860 Queen Street, Melbourne.

Every great cause has had its chosen women workers, so to women this appeal for the aid of the Vanguard—our Van—is women. The rest of the appeal is the livid gloaming of the Vanguard.

The Vanguard requests firmly point out that if we, the workers, grapple with problems on our backs, the rich will share us twice a year, and so teach that we can, by banding together and becoming stronger and wiser, see the shares on the rich instead, until all alike share the earth and its fruits.

This lesson of cooperation the Vanguard has scattered over the State in 40,000 handbills, and if one of these movements has brought light to some groping human heart, we have not lived in vain.

The Vanguard has over two hundred members, a clubroom and library, a book depot, and, though still a luminous spot on the far horizon—a Van. To bring that Van nearer, to give it form and substance, we now ask women's sympathy and help.
Seven years ago, in England, Julia Damrosch of the "Clarion" paper, appealed for subscriptions for a "Clarion" Van to spread the fables of Socialism over the land, and in answer to that appeal two "Clarion" Vans now look together the scattered Socialists of England. These Vans are fitted out with seats, and have cooking and sleeping accommodation. Socialists lecture through them, delivering meetings, distributing pamphlets, and carrying the seeds of Socialism to every dwelling place. At meetings the Vans swell their philosophy, and light the enemy with fire to secure the return of Socialist candidates, and wherever one goes it is prepared to tell for life society. Socialist women lecturers often have charge of a Van or two for a winter or a year, and the best of compensation the work they accomplish will be remembered from that Judgment Day.

A Queensland Van will adopt the same position. It will be a Socialist base in a wilderness of Capitalism, calculated to spread the light like virulent materialism, and to cost little for the Van, a pair of horses, and current expenses. Lacking with Socialist literature, it will travel over the State, leaving a broad track of franchise in its wake. The time now is charge will address meetings wherever two or three are gathered together, and give away and sell Socialist books and literature. Few chance services if a basket of ours hit a man in a fawdy str. Let one Van will fold around in the meetings with the milk, and ten at short range.

The "W" Fund is open, subscription cards out, and WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ONE PENNY UPWARDS ARE RECEIVED GRATEFULLY. The Women's Equal Franchise Association started the Fund with 10/-, and we have sold in the banks. For many reasons we venture to hope that women will help in this work of spreading the light.

Socialism is for women a living, inspiring religion. Women in the past have done much for crads that might save slavery, and "consequence in that state of life so which we are called." Our religion, Socialism, teaches that MARITALITY IS THE ONLY MORAL RELATION BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN, and women must not be attack on the roots, and that by working for the progress of all, each woman will best be helped.

The doctrine of slavery and "perpetual" is centered into the heart, in its own condemnation. The great majority of us are at present household slaves and factory and daily wage-slaves, deeply-rooted in the dark nights of competition, to be allowed to toil for bare shelter, food, and clothing, until we marry, when we sink deeper into the economic pit, and become slaves in
the pale. A bride, in my station of life, ought always to be companionable with reservations. A single woman in a factory or at charity work, at least should rise with the early biddies of the industrial laddie by co-operating with her fellow-workers to form a Union to fix wages and prices, but a woman who marries under present conditions, when the dependence of a wife does not employ a man with overweening trade power but inspires to sanitation, not a period of her own emancipation and raise her own status upon the shoulders the brings into the world.

These grudging conditions are artificial, and can be altered if women will once acquaint with them by keeping their wages under $2.50 of domestic duties, and in a tangle of commonplace conversations. To be a good housewife is not the ideal state of womanhood, for domesticity means common sense and judgment, and the untrained housewife is only that of the kitchen.

The house has no set, and there is no need for us to spend much about during an intelligent discussion, to make a foolish contribution to it, if we will heed and think a little. Co-operative kitchens and laundries and meals, and with few domestic duties to attend we, and butter, still, few to talk about woman in the wines will simply have to get out of the body to thank, and then they will invite the care of a woman.

The woman who makes a Vanguard battle not least half-an-hour every day, and dig out one among pure thoughts for herself, will create a contrapuntal, a woman who in herself that will maintain her through all the test of storm and stress, and greater her seat possible by to daily business on a note, and equalize her for equal work and thunders open to us all trade and profession, and public justice and legislation.

Charlotte Stimson points out that physically woman belongs to a fall, vigorous, beautiful, animal species capable of great and virile exertion, but that, through artificial delirium, we have so degraded that we are now the only animal species in which the female depends on the male for food. Happily this approach does not apply to much to one class, but to the whole woman, for woman's career occupies over one fifth of the adult population of this continent. To bridge the gap, from the period when woman was equal with man in body and intellect, we need only read books to make us think, and live, work, and take our pleasure in the men air as much as possible. The average man will be asked to better women, and the same cannot progress with one half constantly nourishing on the other half.
Women are almost ready that it is a fine thing to be a woman. — Woman is the sentimental sex, and humanity's highest expression is emotion. To us, as if in acknowledgment of this truth, Nature has given the trained hand of modeling the plastic minds of the future workers of the world. A socialist motherhood teaching the children to fear no man, to resist tyranny, to respect women, and to resist only men and women of moral worth, WOULD SOLVE THE EXPLOSIVE FURROWED! But, "something that we have the art of human hopes," poor mothers, criticise charity in their children towards the children of the rich, and rich mothers teach their children to expect and demand charity from the children of the poor, and out of sympathy and humanity for unifying generations of capitalists and captured workers. A domestic education formed could be provided from the fact that from where we domestic motherhood will come social salvation. Yet preachers ignore this consistent theme.

Sociability, you, is the Light in the Darkness looking among out of a voice of woe; and I have said, unless it teach women the gospel of co-operation and the trusteeship of what power depends both subject and master, it is in the light by helping all.

Van Veuris asks women to receive this Light, and help us to spread it to others through our work. Van Veuris' mothers have limitations, and can only hope to raise his Light of a million within some of the penny fire, but the Light will raise the flood without of its exaltation. It will be a presiding spirit. Van Veuris is the power for good to all struggling, unhappy souls, and the light point for all Socialists, thus, but surely fulfilling its destiny of spreading up and reawakening the soul.

We value a good work for the Van Veuris woman as much as a small contribution, but we are confident that women will help to spread its influence when they know that it will carry things of hope to lighten the lives of ordering men, women and children. The soul saved by our Van may fall in many places at times, but, somewhere, sometime, it will tastes and flourish.

Van donations received by Van committee, Canada, "May" and "Emark" as 94, Quebec, British.