

## CHARGE OF INCITEMENT AT LEEDS.

At Leeds yesterday, before Mr. C. M. Atkinson, stipendiary magistrate, a charge of inciting to crime was preferred against Mrs. Leonora Cohen, of Warwick-place. Mr. Pearce appeared for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Evidence was given that letters in pillar boxes had been damaged, and that the defendant, as hon. secretary of the Women's Social and Political Union, had addressed meetings at the Miners' Institute and on Woodhouse Moor. She said at the first place:—

"Threepennyworth of paraffin will do a great deal more than all the collections. One good building burned down does more good than all the meetings. I urge you women, every one of you who think we ought to have better conditions, to come and take part in this great fight."

The defendant had at the second meeting said:—

"We are not going to get six weeks for asking questions. I would rather have five years for burning down a mansion. I say every woman in our union is ready for anything that may come along—arson, pillar-boxes, windows, or anything. We raised £15,000 at the great meeting at the Albert Hall. The police have not found that. Oh no. Our local branches are self-supporting, and it certainly does not cost much for threepennyworth of paraffin and threepennyworth of firelighters, and it does more good than all your constitutional methods."

The defence was that the charge was trumped up, and that the context in the speech had been missed by the police reporters. Mrs. Cohen denied the meaning imputed to her, and called witnesses, who testified to a very different construction from that of the police. She was found *Guilty*, and at first declined to enter into a recognisance, "as that would be sacrificing her principles," but eventually agreed to be bound over herself in £100 and two sureties of £50 to be of good behaviour and appear at the Court at the first available date after the decision of the Court of Appeal in regard to Mr. Lansbury's case. The undertaking also laid down that Mrs. Cohen should take no part in the militant movement in the meantime.

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