

SIX SUFFRAGETTES PUT UNDER ARREST

Later Released and Return to
Continue Hostile Demonstration
Against Wilson.

BURN NOTES ON SPEECH

Parade Halted by Police, Whereupon
Millitants Launch Attack with
Banners and Finger Nails.

Carrying banners on which were inscribed "Mr. President, How Long Must Women Wait for Suffrage?" "An Autocrat at Home Is a Poor Champion of Democracy Abroad," and similar expressions, 200 militant suffragettes attempted to stage a hostile demonstration against President Wilson last night, and for more than two hours a cordon of police at Broadway and Fortieth Street had their hands full in preventing the paraders from breaking through the lines. Time and time they attacked the patrolmen and civilians with their banners and fingernails, only to be repulsed by the police, who treated them as patiently as possible under the circumstances.

Six of the leaders of the demonstrations were finally placed under arrest by the police only to be released a short while later by the Desk Lieutenant of the West Thirtieth Street station, who refused to tell who had given him the authority for his action. They returned to the scene in time to take part in a ceremony of burning notes of the President's speech which had been made by suffragettes who had gained admittance to the Metropolitan Opera House.

As the President was leaving the Opera House the women made a final attempt to break past the police, who had been reinforced by reserves. Apparently realizing the futility of further attempts they contented themselves with marching back to the headquarters of the National Women's Party, 13 East Forty-first Street, where they dispersed.

Early in the evening, in accordance with advertised plans, the women met in front of the Women's Party Headquarters, where they received banners and final instructions from the leaders, many of whom took part in a similar demonstration in Boston when the President spoke in that city on Feb. 27. Headed by Miss Margaretta Schuyler, daughter of Dean Schuyler of the Episcopal Cathedral, Portland, Me., carrying an American flag, the women in single file marched up Fifth Avenue, turning into Fortieth Street.

Try to Rush Police.

At Broadway they found their way to the Metropolitan Opera House impeded by a cordon of police, which extended across the street. The leaders stepped forward, and demanded to be allowed to continue on their way. The police repeated their instructions to allow no one to pass by them. The paraders then formed themselves en masse and attempted to push by the patrolmen, but were successfully held back. Confusion resulted in the onslaught, but the police managed to hold their own. Many of the agitators demanded to be arrested, but their pleas were disregarded.

When it became apparent to the women that they could not break past the barriers peaceably they attacked the police with their banners. Those who did not carry banners used their finger nails and several policemen bore the marks of their assailant's fingers.

Six of the women who seemed to be leaders were then placed under arrest and taken away. The police succeeded in dispersing the paraders for the time being. During the attack several bystanders who had come to see the President leave the theatre were struck by the militants. The crowd jeered the six women as they were taken away by the police.

Keep Strict Silence.

At the West Thirtieth Street Station the six women created another scene when they refused point blank to answer the usual formal question put to them by Police Lieutenant Henry Hellmers for entry on the blotter. When the first of the six was brought before

the desk she declined to divulge her name.

"Are you ashamed to answer?" she was asked.

She refused to make any answer, but her friends told reporters that they had determined to maintain silence as a protest against the laws of which they had no part in the making. The prisoner turned her back on Lieutenant Hellmers and the other five started to create a disturbance by loud talking and running about the room. They fought with the policemen who had arrested them.

The other five women followed the lead of the first and refused to answer any questions. Charges of disorderly conduct and assaulting an officer were made against the prisoners. At first it was decided to take the six immediately to the Night Court to be arraigned, but Lieutenant Hellmers said that he would wait for other arrests. The prisoners were placed in cells, where they remained for a short time. Then without giving any reason for his action, Lieutenant Hellmers ordered them released and they left the police station.

When asked if the women had been paroled, Lieutenant Hellmers replied that they had been discharged altogether.

"Who gave you the authority to release them?" he was asked.

"Don't argue with me. I don't have to answer you," he said angrily. "They have simply been discharged."

A few minutes later Dudley Field Malone, who appeared for the militants as counsel in Washington and elsewhere, appeared in the police station and seemed surprised when told that the six women had been discharged.

Names Made Public.

The six women returned to the headquarters of the Woman's Party and their names were made public while they were preparing to make a second attempt to break through the police lines. They were Miss Alice Paul, National Chairman of the Woman's Party; Miss Dora Stevens, legislative representative; Miss Elsie Hill, daughter of the late Congressman E. J. Hill; Mrs. Beatrice Castleton, State Chairman of Georgia; Mrs. Max Bodenheim of New York, and Miss Lucy Maverick of San Antonio, Texas.

Reinforced by thirty more suffragettes, the six marched to Sixth Avenue and Fortieth Street, where they were followed by a crowd of three hundred, composed chiefly of soldiers and sailors. Midway between Sixth Avenue and Broadway on Fortieth Street the police had formed a double cordon. The militants resumed the same tactics as they tried first and knocked off patrolmen's hats, slapped their faces, and struck them with the remains of their banners. Repulsed a second time, they gathered around the stoop of a house, and Miss Elsie Hill set fire to a sheaf of papers, saying in a loud voice to the crowd:

"In the face of the police I now burn the pages of President Wilson's speech which has been taken down by our people inside the Metropolitan Opera House."

The police did not interfere with the proceedings. The sailors and soldiers did not take kindly to the act and they set up a cry of jeers and catcalls. Miss Hill, addressing the soldiers, declared they had demeaned themselves by their jeers. She said that it was the women who made the bandages and Red Cross supplies and they should join with the women in the demand for the vote. Much that she said after that was lost in the jeers.

As the President was leaving the Opera House the agitators made a final rush against the police, and one of the paraders was knocked down. The police had difficulty in saving her from being trampled by her fellow-agitators. Throughout the attack the police conducted themselves in such a manner that one sailor was led to call out:

"Stop treating them like babies. Lock them up."

When the audience had left the Opera House the militants formed themselves in parade formation and marched back to the headquarters of the Woman's party and dispersed for the night.

At the headquarters of the militants it was said that fifteen of their members had gone to the Opera House to take the notes to be burned. They did not say how they had obtained the tickets, but information was given to District Attorney Swann yesterday that they had paid speculators high prices for the tickets. The women did not attempt to make any demonstration in the Metropolitan.