

BAGLEY WOOD, OXFORD

3rd May 1907

To the Electors of the Wimbledon Division of Surrey

GENTLEMEN

I come before you primarily as a supporter of the proposal to

GRANT THE SUFFRAGE TO WOMEN

on the same terms as to men. I consider that the exclusion of women from direct political action is unjust and inexpedient, and that no reason exists for prolonging this exclusion. If elected, I should urge the claims of women to enfranchisement at every opportunity.

Subject to the paramount claims of this question, I shall, if elected, be a supporter of the present Government. In particular, I consider the **maintenance of Free Trade essential** to the prosperity of the United Kingdom, and I believe that the imposition of preferential duties in favour of Colonial produce must raise the cost of living and tend to the disruption of the Empire, while a protective tariff must foster trusts and promote political corruption.

The proper complement of Free Trade is, in my opinion, the

TAXATION OF LAND VALUES

which would, I believe, affect very beneficially the development of suburbs, and remove the heavy burden on industry which is caused by the present rates. As a preliminary to this measure, **I should strongly urge the passing of a Valuation Bill**, by which the value of land should be estimated apart from that of houses or other improvements.

I am in favour of a

UNIVERSAL SCHEME OF OLD AGE PENSIONS

which I hope to see carried out by the present Government.

I am

yours faithfully

Burkhard Russell.

Committee Rooms

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