

The Second Reading.

The Common Cause.

The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

VOL. II. No. 66. Registered as
a Newspaper.

JULY 14, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

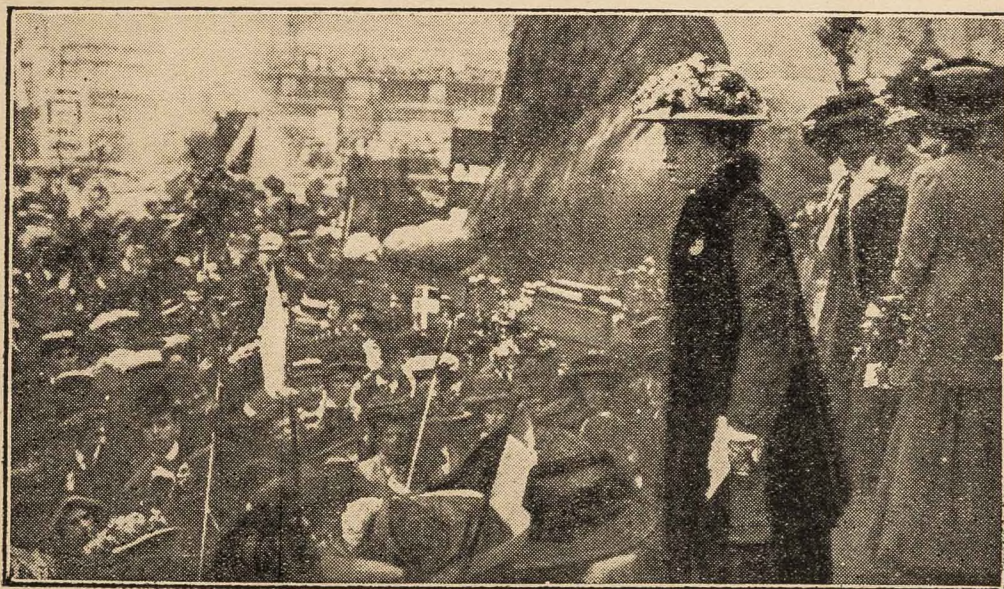
Great Demonstration in Support of the Women Occupiers' Bill, Saturday, July 9, 1910.



NATIONAL UNION PLATFORM NO. I.
REV. ANNA SHAW (U.S.A.) SPEAKING.



PLATFORM III.
INDUSTRIAL AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN.
MISS EVA GORE BOOTH SPEAKING.



NATIONAL UNION PLATFORM NO. II.
COUNCILLOR MARGARET ASHTON SPEAKING

The News of the Week.

The Second Reading.

Going to press, as we do, early in the week we are regretfully compelled to give only the barest figures and names in the great debate on Mr. Shackleton's Bill, and comment must be reserved to next week. Whatever the issue, of this we can be sure: women will have long memories.

The Debate.

It has been impossible to secure admission for a representative of "The Common Cause" in the House. We are, therefore, compelled to rely on the published reports. This week we can only give a very brief account. Next week we hope to publish an analysis of the speeches and also a description of the debate by Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P.

The National Union's Policy.

A public meeting has been arranged to follow as quickly as possible upon the second reading. At St. James's Hall, Great Portland Street, on Wednesday, 13th, at 8 p.m., Mrs. Fawcett will speak on the situation and our policy and work for the future. Miss Mason and other members of the Executive Committee will also speak.

More Democratic than the Democrats.

It is amusing to see certain Anti-Suffragists posing as being more democratic than the Labour party. Mr. Holford Knight, who, like Dr. Massie and Mr. Hart, did not somehow get into Parliament, writes to the "Nation" last week a confused and partisan letter, in which he seemed to imply that he and a few picked Anti-Suffragists were the only real exponents of "progress" and "democracy," and to deny that charwomen, laundresses, and midwives were "in the generally accepted sense" working women. Does Mr. Knight really speak English?

There are rumours that certain academic Suffragists are to oppose the Bill in the House because it does not "go far enough." This would be silly enough in a private member; in a member of the Cabinet it would be absolute proof of dishonesty of purpose. Where three-quarters of the Labour party signed the requisition for an early day; where the People's Suffrage Federation has adjured all those who favour Adult Suffrage to support the Bill, it is surely a work of supererogation for anyone to take up the cudgels for the Adultists. They will not thank the man who so misrepresents them.

Putting His Head in a Bag.

Mr. Middlemore, M.P., has been writing to a constituent about our Bill, and saying: "For my part, I decline to vote for Woman Suffrage without knowing first of all what the whole women of Great Britain and Ireland really wish themselves. A vote given without this knowledge is a vote given in the dark." We presume, as Mr. Middlemore can hardly expect to know what "the whole women" think, he will refrain from voting in the dark, either for or against. We admit that his phrase "the whole women" is rather cryptic, but if, as we suppose, he means "all women," how is he going to find out what "all women" want? Is he making any serious efforts to find out? Or does he, like so many others, put his head in a bag and then say he can't see? It is dark there.

Faith and Works.

Speaking at Brighton last week, Mrs. Lloyd George is reported to have said that she did not know what her husband would do about the Bill, but he was "a great believer in Women's Suffrage." Well, we shall know on Tuesday.

Binnam Wood coming to Dunsinane.

London did not treat very kindly the barbarian hordes which stormed its urbanity last Saturday. The fountains in Trafalgar Square did their best to drown the women's voices, and the House of Commons was closed to visitors and closely guarded by police. Even the weather, which was gloriously sunny in the North, scowled upon the Suffragists in London. But there was no rain, and we had sunshine enough in our hearts. The London Society and the London Police Constable made our way smooth. The Cup Tie brings the men of the North to London; the more frivolous sex is attracted by the desire for emancipation and responsibility; with their forest of staves they seemed to be storming the capital.

Panic.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, in a long letter to the "Times" of July 11th, and a leader in the same issue, take up the ground that a married woman is unfit to vote upon questions of national interest, because in some mysterious and unexplained way her work of bearing and rearing children unfits her for forming sound opinions on the merits of candidates for Parliament; but later on Mrs. Ward, and the faithful leader-writer after her, takes up the position that the practical knowledge which a single woman can have "of men and of things . . . is and must always remain inferior to that of the wives, mothers, and intimate companions of men." So married women may not have votes because they have babies, and unmarried women may not have votes because they have not babies!

The Anti-Suffragists profess to be very much outraged at the notion of married women being "represented" by spinsters and widows; are married women, then, more adequately represented by bachelors and widowers? Does marriage unsex a woman? Has not every wife been a maiden, and may she not fear to be a widow? What means this crazy effort to set men against women, married women against maidens? There are very many married women-Suffragists who think they ought to have the vote but who, unlike Lady Jersey, have not the least desire to play the dog-in-the-manger. They believe that to raise some women will be to raise all women, yes, and all men, too. They believe there is "enough liberty to go round." Really, with its talk of the British Empire as "one of the most delicately poised organisations that the world has seen," and all this whipping up of sex-antagonism, distrust, envy, and detraction, the "Times" is losing its head a little.

The Anti-Suffragists and the Magistrates.

Sir Alfred Lyall said in his address to Mr. Asquith on the 21st: "I do not myself know of any grievances for the removal of which it is necessary for women to have the vote." Distinguished as he is, we think more valuable the experience and judgment of Mr. Cecil Chapman, police-court magistrate, who writes on Monday to the "Times," "I have no hesitation in saying that the absence of the woman's point of view in the root-cause of inefficiency and injustice in the laws which I administer, and owing to natural differences, men are incapable, however well-intentioned, of supplying the deficiency. I know of no remedy except that of giving women the vote."

Mr. Plowden is another magistrate who is not apt to be mealy-mouthed when it comes to giving his opinion as to how men have guarded women's interests: compare these with Dr. Massie's peroration at the Deputation: "The roll of legislation proves that with men in Parliament and in power the cause of women is absolutely safe." Absolutely safe! With our marriage, inheritance, bastardy, maintenance, solicitation, guardianship laws what they are! When men can at any moment take away our means of earning an honest living, and some (there was one—signing Francis Fremantle—in this very same issue of the "Times") actually advocate the compulsory return of women to complete economic subjection, so that they may be turned into breeding machines.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

LONDON AGENT.—Communications referring to advertisements may now be addressed to our London agent, Mrs. H. A. Evans, 10, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C. Friends in London desirous of helping to get advertisements will kindly communicate with her.

THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in England or abroad for the following prepaid payments:—

3 MONTHS	1	9
6 MONTHS	3	3
12 MONTHS	6	6

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to The Editor, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally, they should write to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

Contents.

	Page.
News of the Week	214
Suspense	215
A Gage to the "National Review"	216
Why Women Need the Vote	218
In Parliament	217
National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies:—	
The Parliamentary Situation	219
Trafalgar Square Demonstration	219
A Demonstration in Force	219
Women's Liberal Federation Meeting	222
Anti-Suffrage Demonstration	225
Foreign News	224
Women's Congress	224
Medical Training for Women in Scotland	225
Reviews	226
Correspondence	226
Reports of Societies	228
Forthcoming Meetings	230

Suspense.

As we write, the fate of the Women Occupiers' Bill hangs in the balance. The occasion is unprecedented. The greatest and most far-reaching reform of modern times has achieved its present position quite independently of all the vast, and often corrupt, motives which generally pull the strings of party politics. The great vested interests, being in the hands of men, have all been against the women; the capitalist Press of the country, worked to support and push these vested interests, has been mainly against the women or contemptuously silent about them; successful candidates for Parliament have, not unnaturally, held that an electorate which sent them in at the head of the poll was good enough for them; party agents and the party wire-pullers have almost everywhere looked askance at woman—the dark horse! How strange if she should win the race! How wonderful it would be if, out of a session, surely the most barren and unsatisfactory and bewildering for many years past, were to grow that wonderful flower of light—equality of the sexes! There would be a remarkable fitness of things if only this could be so.

For look at the matter fairly. Our lukewarm friends constantly take refuge in that most cowardly, indolent and selfish retreat—the calm and easy position indicated by the statement: "It is bound to come." Ineluctable is the choice, and therefore we will let the current drift us to the end. What is that current? The current of other people's toil, sacrifice and understanding. The stream of other women's tears; the cries of other women's agony; the wind of all the sorrowful sighs sent up by the needless suffering, degradation and shame of others—not ourselves. Miss Rathbone said, in her speech to Mr. Asquith the other day, that "it is not the way of the average man to feel very acutely an injustice which only affects others"; it is, perhaps, not the way of the

average woman either, though doubtless women are more sympathetic than men. In this particular case, at any rate, women are largely themselves concerned and therefore it is natural they should take more interest than men and, in the House of Commons, composed entirely of men, representing men and responsible to men only, it is (perhaps naturally, though not very nobly) difficult to arouse any warmth of feeling for an injustice affecting primarily women.

But now the situation has so curiously changed, beyond all prediction, that men's interests are suspended, men's quarrels are compounded (except for the trifling Parliamentary game of "pot-calling-kettle-black" in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir Randolph Baker indulged on Friday), there is no work and no likelihood of work for Members this side of the autumn, and they actually have time to attend to the women. That time cannot come again. At a later period the women's voice will be drowned by the shouting of men, concerned for their power, their money-bags, their wars and their pleasures; women's liberty will then be weighed in the scale with men's affairs and the sword of Brennus thrown into the scale; who can doubt that a far more arduous and distressing struggle would be the result? As it is, our claim competes with no man's. It could be settled by mutual consent; in peace and goodwill. If payment of this instalment of a long overdue account is refused now, and by the party that would have itself considered as the party of reform, what hope is there that women will not be driven to revolt?

When Mr. Lloyd George was set upon giving old-age pensions, did he say: "I think all people over sixty ought to have them, and I will give to none until I have the money and the power to give to all?" Would people have believed in his professions of philanthropy if he had postponed the measure to the "dim and speculative future" and told the old people dying of hunger that he was "a great believer in old-age pensions," but he couldn't give them to some because that wouldn't be fair to the others? Mr. Lloyd George fancies himself as a man of compromise and diplomacy; how shall we think him honest if he opposes an instalment of Suffrage to women, accepted by all the Women Suffragists themselves—generously welcomed even by the married women, whom this measure largely cuts out—because, forsooth, it doesn't go far enough? If the Government had desired Adult Suffrage, they should have gone to the country on that question; they should have educated the electors upon it and taken their voice upon it. They have not done so. Adult Suffrage has not been before the country. But Women's Suffrage has been before the country till there is not a man, woman or child that is not familiar with it. The country wants a measure of enfranchisement for women; the women have accepted this instalment; they will not hold that man honest who picks up the Adult Suffrage stick to beat them with and then throws it into the lumber-room again to moulder.

The question of Women's Suffrage is either a party question or it is not. Mr. Lloyd George cannot have it both ways. "Heads I win, tails you lose," is a game that can only be profitably played with those in the most fresh and young stage of greenness; many women have got past that stage; all non-party Suffragists have had, and more and more Liberal women are having, their eyes opened. When Mr. Lloyd George talked about Queen Elizabeth at the Albert Hall meeting eighteen months ago, he showed a remarkable lack of political intelligence. He dallied then with the past; the mishandling he received on that occasion seems to have driven him to take refuge in the future—"Anywhere, anywhere, out of the world!" But women are the practical sex, and the sentimental Chancellor of the Exchequer must be brought to see that women cannot feed on air, promise-crammed, and that, as long as the Prime Minister will not make the enfranchisement of women a Government measure, so long must the women themselves treat it as a non-party measure and insist on its being given a fair chance on non-party lines. We shall hold no man an honest Suffragist who, having nothing immediate to offer, yet obstructs the passage of this measure of compromise.

A Democratic Measure. CORRECTION.

Last week under the above heading we published an article in which the following passage occurred:—"An occupier is a person who uses his or her premises as a dwelling-house or as a place of business, and for the purposes of voting the clear yearly value must be not less than £10." A correspondent points out that this is not correct: the Household and £10 Occupation qualifications are distinct things. For the first there is *no limit of value*. A woman who paid 1s. a week or less for a room would get the vote, if she had full control of the room. The £10 limit applies to business premises and land, and also to joint occupancy in dwelling-houses, but it has nothing to do with the single householder.

This being so, of course the Bill is even more "democratic," in the sense that more poor women would be enfranchised by it.

A Gage to the "National Review."

In the "National Review" for June, sandwiched between articles dealing more or less efficiently with Imperial politics and matters of literary interest, there appeared a short paper bearing the unepithetous title: "Is the New Woman Helping Woman." The writer, Beatrix Tracey, stands for all that is limited and retrograde in the feminist cause.

At this hour of the day one hardly expects in a Monthly of any importance to find the old parrot-cries re-echoed, domestic service described as the only womanly occupation, and the attraction of man and child-bearing as the only intention of female existence. One almost expects to find "Is the New Woman Helping Woman" to be an unacknowledged reprint from the pages of that "Eighteenth Century Magazine" so amusingly described in "The Englishwoman," wherein it was asserted "Females should not be admired for their literary or scientific attainments, but commended for their domestic qualities." Even if the law enforced "one Man, one Wife" (and these "domestic" writers do not yet advocate polygamy, I think) owing to the present state of the population, the surplus could scarcely all be accommodated as servants, and for these superfluous women no one has yet ventured to recommend a lethal chamber.

The habit of denouncing a system for which you have no remedy to propose, is as unfair as it is stupid. Beatrix Tracey needs reminding when she deprecates the idea of women invading occupations once reserved to men, that men have returned the compliment, and the domestic service which she finds so "womanly" has never been entirely confined to the female sex. In the East, and even in Europe, housework, which she apparently associates with women only, is more often performed by men. The theory that occupations should be determined according to sex at all, is a false one, it were as sensible to determine them according to the colour of people's eyes and hair. A theory which denies all regard to individuality has no place in the modern world, where the complex machinery of progress is rendering it more and more impossible. The ideal of to-day is that work should be done by those most capable of carrying it out. The origin of the older theory is part of that colossal fallacy which endows all women with talents for cooking, sewing, and nursing, and all men with the understanding, generosity, and forbearance which alone would give them the right to control the lives of others. It is a fallacy which denies individuality, and is the cause of friction all the world over. There is no monopoly of talent.

We are further informed by the writer in "The National Review" that a disastrous state of affairs has been caused by the "New Woman Movement." "It has led woman, whose only grave care should be for the life of the next generation, into a struggle for her own existence." Until the State endows all women on account of their sex, the struggle for existence appears to present as pressing a need to the average woman as to the average man. Few, if any, women work solely for their own pleasure and glorification, and the necessities of life are required in an equal degree by both. The

struggle for existence has placed only one profession at woman's command; it is a profession which bears an ugly name, and no man or woman who is not prepared to recommend the adoption of that profession has the right to limit the opportunities for women's work, or the advancement of women's education. To-morrow has its roots in to-day. The care for the next generation is always with us, we need the courage to face the physiological and psychological facts of life; in study lies the only hope of understanding them; in work the only means of improving them.

"Life is filthy with sentimental lying," a modern writer has very truly told us, and the supreme cant talked about woman's sphere finds a natural supporter in Beatrix Tracey. "Woman's value is so closely associated with the home, that away from a home, or the hope of a home, she is a lost unit in the calculations of a nation's riches." It is gratifying to British subjects to learn that an obscure writer places such women as Florence Nightingale, Agnes Weston, and Octavia Hill, among the "lost units" of the Empire's riches. These are great names, but there is surely a "lost legion" of such women, who have spent, and are spending, their celibate lives in working for that fine creed,—the greatest good of the greatest number,—and whose "home" is in the hearts of the people they have served. "A good woman enshrined in a home," as this writer has it, is a fine sounding phrase, but the element of shrine in an over-crowded slum or disease-infected hovel is far to seek, nor do the Reports of the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, or Waif and Stray Societies inspire a "lost unit" with much idea of the universal sanctity of motherhood.

Like most writers of her class, Beatrix Tracey does not enlighten us as to whom we are to regard as these dangerous New Women. She says that "within the memory of this generation the voice of the New Woman was first heard demanding freedom and sex equality, and the rights to share in the work and the struggles of men." That voice was already old in the days of Plato:

In the administration of a state, neither a woman as a woman, nor a man as a man has any special function, but the gifts of Nature are equally diffused in both sexes.

And it is the realization of those equally diffused gifts, which has throughout the ages raised rebellion against artificial restrictions. The woman may be new in every century, but the voice is old, and that which she claims as her own by right is but the echo of the demand she has always made.

ALIX EGBERTON.

Why Women Need the Vote.

XIII.—The Lesson from Experience (continued).

2.—Benefits of the Vote.

In regard to the lessons we may learn from experience we may now ask, what benefits have specially accrued to women from the vote?

Mrs. Napier (delegate from New Zealand to the International Conference of Women Workers at Berlin in 1903) reports: "No revolution but a steady evolution"; the legal standard of morality and the conditions of divorce made equal for both sexes. Women enabled to obtain recompense for slander without having to prove special damage. The profession of the law thrown open to women. . . . A Family Maintenance Act which prevents a man willing away his property without making suitable provision for his wife and children, etc.

So ardent an Anti-Suffragist as Mrs. Archibald Colquhoun, speaking in 1904 on Emigration, was forced to testify as follows:—

"There are many inducements to ambitious women to make the Colonies their home. In New Zealand women have the franchise, and, contrary to expectation, it has not turned their heads. . . . The legal position of women in Canada and Australasia is distinctly better than at home. The laws as to the protection of women's property are in advance of our own. . . . there are more liberal provisions on points connected with marriage, the custody of children, and the rights of married women."

In the "Times" itself we read last month:—In Toronto two years ago the Woman's National Council carried on a strong campaign for pure water, and probably was the determining element in carrying a by-law for filtration. The recent victory for municipal honesty in Montreal was owing partly to the good work of Montreal women.

How is it possible logically to contend that such good results may be achieved by the municipal vote, and no corresponding benefit accrue from the Parliamentary?

One of the most useful things the women of South Australia have obtained is a law which enables the father of an illegitimate child to be proceeded against before the birth, and on due proof the Court orders him to arrange for a doctor, nurse, lodging, and clothing for the babe. This law is said to have effected a distinct diminution of seduction and infanticide, and to have contributed to the fact that illegitimacy in South Australia is only about 3 per cent. ("Englishwoman's Review," October, 1906.)

The "Melbourne Age" recently stated: "The first Australian women to receive the franchise were also the first to conceive and adopt a practical scheme for stemming the appalling death-rate of babies, which is common to all civilized countries to-day."

The baneful influence exercised by the Anti-Suffrage attitude on women's thought is illustrated by an article in the "Anti-Suffrage Review" for June by this same Mrs. Archibald Colquhoun, on the legal position of mothers. Only six years ago, this lady (presumably before she became an "Anti"), made the statements quoted above; to-day she constitutes herself the whole-hearted defender of the English law as it stands, and sneers at "the great Suffragist myth that woman must get the vote in order to become the legal parent of her child."

The Bill to Extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women Occupiers.

The text of the Bill promoted by the Conciliation Committee is as follows:—

Be it enacted:—

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification, or of a ten pound occupation qualification, within the meaning of The Representation of the People Act (1884) shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and, when registered, to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.

2. For the purposes of this Act, a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same property.

3. This Act may be cited as "The Representation of the People Act, 1910."

This Bill does not give the vote to women on the same terms as men, for it does not give the vote to owners of property (unless they also occupy the property) nor to lodgers nor to servants nor to graduates, and it specially provides that husband and wife shall not qualify as joint occupiers.

In Parliament.

The Time of the House.

Last week, when the House had before it the new Budget and the Regency Bill, the times of rising were as follows:—July 4th, 11.5 p.m.; July 5th, 8.40 p.m.; July 6th, 11.30 p.m.; July 7th, 11.10 p.m.; July 8th, 5.25 p.m. It will be seen from these hours and those given last week how hollow is the pretence that there is not time to pass the Women's Suffrage Bill.

Debate on the Second Reading of the Parliamentary Franchise (Women) Bill.

Mr. Shackleton (Lab., Clitheroe), in moving the Second Reading, explained the provisions of the Bill. He justified it on the grounds that taxation and representation should go together, and that those who obeyed the laws should have a voice in making them. He laid

emphasis on the democratic nature of the Bill, which would enfranchise an overwhelming majority of working women.

Sir J. Rolleston (U., Hertford) seconded the motion, speaking with admiration of the self-sacrificing effort of the women promoting the cause.

Mr. Lloyd George then submitted two questions of order. If this Bill receives a second reading, will it be competent for any member of the House, either in Committee or on the Report stage, to move amendments (1) to omit the proviso in Section 2; or (2) to extend the franchise to women whose husbands possess a household qualification? The Speaker replied that this was in the hands of the Chairman of Committee, and he would say nothing to bind him, but that as at present advised his answer would be in the negative to both questions.

Mr. F. E. Smith (U., Liverpool) moved the rejection, in a new rôle, as the champion of democracy against Liberals and Labour. The Bill, he said, was "profoundly undemocratic." Every Liberal who believed in democracy was bound to oppose it. He denied women's desire for the vote but declared that if we were convinced that every woman in England wanted a vote, he should not be influenced in the least. As to the position of women, he affirmed that women (especially married women) occupied to-day a position so preferential that no parallel could be discovered in any civilized country in the world. He lightly dismissed the economic question, and contemptuously rejected comparison with any country in which women had votes. No "first-class" country, he said, had enfranchised its women. He approved the work of women in local government, but suggested that had women the Imperial vote they might send men to war against their will, or, still worse, insist on peace.

Mr. J. A. Bryce (L., Inverness Burghs) seconded the motion. He declared (as indeed did nearly every opposition speaker) that women were intellectually capable of voting. He even expressed his opinion that they would vote more intelligently than men, but feared that they indisposed to compromise. If they "descended into the arena" they must sacrifice the "chivalrous indulgence" hitherto accorded to "their weakness"—that their enfranchisement would give impetus to social reform. Mr. Bryce admitted, but he prophesied that the power of the Church would be enhanced.

Mr. Haldane insisted on the magnitude of the question, and the immediately practical nature of the debate because "if this House of Commons expresses itself very strongly upon the principle, then it is reasonable that an effective opportunity should be given at some time for the House to translate its opinion into a concrete form." He warned the House against the relegation of the Bill to a Committee which might be disastrous to the measure in another place. He described the arguments of the opposition speakers as having "come too late," since women were already active in public life, and social questions of vital interest to women were continually brought forward. Whilst not liking the form of the present Bill he affirmed: "I would rather have this Bill than no Bill at all, and would certainly vote for it in all its stages rather than go without the principle." He believed that were the legal disabilities of women removed, "nature would do the rest," and men and women respectively find their appropriate work. Whilst thinking that in many respects the enfranchisement of women would affect political life very little, he expressed his belief that there were questions which would receive attention and classes that would come to the front in a way unknown before.

Mr. Walter Long (U., Strand), whilst acknowledging women's intellectual capacity, did not think they suffered from the lack of a vote, and demanded much further evidence and inquiry before so momentous a change was made.

Mr. Lyttelton (U., Hanover Square) made a very noble speech, basing his support of the Bill on reason and justice in opposition to his prejudices. He reminded members of the political assistance gratefully accepted from women, and of women's work in the State, which made their exclusion from "elementary political functions" contrary not only to justice but to honour.

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Foreign News.

FRANCE.

The Socialists who have been returned to Parliament at the last election have taken up a definite position with regard to Women's Suffrage. They wish "to complete the organization for universal Suffrage, extend it to women, and protect it vigorously against all violence and fraud."

GERMANY.

A proposal to give the communal vote to women was defeated in the Baden Parliament in June, but it has again been brought forward by a member of the Social Democratic Party, and after a lively discussion and hearty support from the Social Democratic and Progressive parties and some individual members it was lost, by a small majority.

In response to a petition from the Women's Suffrage Society Württemberg women have been granted eligibility to the Chamber of Agriculture in their State.

Under a different title, and on rather different lines, there seems to be an equivalent in Berlin to our Workers' Educational Association. The fundamental idea is the same—namely, to bring together the scholar and the worker for mutual benefit and better understanding. The W.E.A. never made any sex distinctions, but the Guild of Home-workers in Berlin is only now opening "academic courses of study" to working women. The teachers are women University students, and the curriculum includes Arithmetic, German (grammar and composition), Geography, Citizenship, and Hygiene. A fee of 50pf. (6d.) admits to all classes. It is an excellent idea, and ought to be productive of much good to both parties.

SWITZERLAND.

A revision of the laws for the administration of justice is taking place in the Canton of Zurich, and women have just been admitted to sit on the bench in commercial courts, but a motion to admit them to eligibility for juries was defeated by 119 votes to 21.

After four hours' heated discussion, the Synod of the Independent Churches in the Canton of Neuchâtel granted Church Suffrage to women by 76 votes to 25.

Boarded-out Children.

A deputation from the Women's Local Government Society waited on Mr. Burns on Thursday afternoon to ask that a new order may be issued by the Local Government Board to make better provision for the carrying out of the Board's

regulations as to the homes and care of children boarded-out within the Union.

Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P., introduced the deputation, and Lady Strachey read and presented the memorial. Other members of the deputation were Miss Henry, R.D.C., Mrs. W. N. Shaw, Mrs. Maitland (formerly an active member of the London School Board), Miss Kilgour, and Miss Leigh Browne (hon. secretary of the Society).

The representations of the deputation were directed towards showing the need for the speedy issue of a new Within Union Boarding-out Order to provide:

For the regular visitation of every Within Union boarded-out child by a woman or women.

For the inclusion of a proportion of women members in every Boarding-out Committee.

For the co-optation, where necessary, of women members, and for the status of such members.

That, in any locality where the voluntary services of a sufficient number of well-qualified women cannot be obtained, a paid woman official shall be appointed by the Guardians.

And that Within Union Committees authorised by the Local Government Board may retain the power of employing at their discretion a medical practitioner other than the local Medical Officer of Health.

The deputation made a further representation as to the need for increasing at an early date the number of Local Government Board women inspectors of boarding-out, and as to the desirability of including among the qualifications for inspectorship knowledge and experience of the requirements of healthy children as well as of sick children, and an acquaintance with different social classes and with the various aspects of country and provincial life.

Mr. Burns received the deputation sympathetically, and said that he would consider the points contained in the memorial.

The Women's Co-operative Guild.

The Annual Congress will be held at Oxford on the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th, and the programme is full of interest. The report shows a wonderful record of progressive work, and resolutions are to be submitted upon Divorce, Law Reform, the Enfranchisement of Women, the Economic Position of Married Women, School Clinics, and Child Labour and Education, besides others more particularly relating to the Co-operative movement. At a public meeting on the evening of the 12th the subject is to be, most appropriately, "The Higher Education of Working Women," and the speakers include Fru Anker, from Norway; Dr. Stefansson, from Iceland; and Miss Bondfield and Mrs. Barton, of the Workers' Educational Association.

The Women's Congress.

The Women's Congress resumed its sittings at the Japan-British Exhibition on Monday, July 4.

On July 4 the subject for discussion was the Technical and Domestic Training of Women and Girls. The Marchioness of Tullibardine was in the chair. Miss C. R. Gordon (London County Council Domestic Economy Inspector) dealt with domestic economy in its relation both to life and to earning a livelihood. She said the limitations of time and money must necessarily affect the curriculum of those who were being technically trained in domestic subjects, but the educative advantage of such training, apart from specialisation, was very great. In the first place it created resourcefulness, and brought science into relation with the details of life; and, secondly, in demanding the whole attention of the pupil, it caused the brain to co-operate with the hands.

Mrs. Despard, speaking on "The Waste of Young Life," contrasted the way in which civilised people use their scientific knowledge in converting weeds into beautiful plants and in domesticating wild animals, and the way in which they leave the development of human life to chance. She said, living as she did in a poor neighbourhood, she was conscious of the enormous waste of young life that went on, of the appalling ignorance of boys and girls when they left school, of their total unfitness to become good fathers and mothers. Mrs. Despard described the school clinic established by herself in her own neighbourhood, and very warmly advocated the establishment of school clinics all over the country.

Mr. F. G. Mackereth dealt chiefly with the scheme about to be set on foot by the Women's Industrial Council, by which a training school for young girls of the working-classes is to be combined with a day nursery for the children of working-mothers. Miss Helen Smith (superintendent of the Borough Polytechnic) read a paper on trade schools, and Miss Adler (London County Council) spoke of the work done in evening classes for women.

On Tuesday, July 5, the subject for discussion was "Women in Horticulture." Miss Jessie Smith dealt with the profession on general lines. She dwelt on the need of at least two years' practical and scientific training.

Mr. H. Inigo Triggs read an interesting paper on garden design. Mrs. Bryant Sowerby spoke on lady florists.

"Women in Agriculture" was discussed on Wednesday, July 6. There were papers on Bee-keeping by Miss Bertha de la Mothe, on Pony Breeding by Miss Colmady-Hamlyn, on Lady Farmers by Miss V. Courtauld, on Dairy Farming by Miss M. Brown (Lancashire C.C.), on Poultry Keeping by Miss N. E. Edwards, and on Fruit Preserving by Miss Edith Bradley.

On Thursday, July 7, the subject was "Women and the Fight Against Destitution." Miss Deane (H.M. Inspector of Factories) was in the chair. Mrs. Sidney Webb, the principal speaker, said that everybody was agreed that destitution must be fought against, and that it was a problem that was going to occupy us for the next fifty years; but everybody was not agreed as to the best method of doing this. For the last ten years the community had been growing richer, the income of the income-tax-paying class had increased two hundred millions a year, and that of the working-class ten millions a year. In that time the number of destitute persons had remained the same—about two millions, this number including only those who actually applied for relief. She said we, as a community, were responsible for the degradation of character caused by destitution as well as for the physical suffering involved. It was impossible to stop destitution by merely relieving the destitute person after he had become destitute. She enumerated briefly the methods suggested by the Minority Report for dealing with three of the evils at present dealt with by the Poor Law—sickness, neglected childhood, and feeble-mindedness. Instead of waiting until all these were accompanied with conditions of destitution, it was proposed to build up an organisation for preventing them before destitution set in.

Mrs. Barnes read a paper on drink as a cause of destitution, and remarked that every practical worker knew it was more correct to speak of destitution as a cause of drink. She said no one could deal with the drink problem at all if the moral factor were neglected, and they must therefore insist that in no human life shall there be any material impediments to moral growth.

Miss Murby dealt with unemployment as a cause of destitution, and pointed out certain lines on which, under the Minority Report, it could be approached and ameliorated.

Mrs. C. J. Hamilton spoke on behalf of the Majority Report, basing her defence of the Poor Law system mainly on the danger of increasing the burden of taxation for the class immediately above those who were being relieved.

In answering a question, Mrs. Webb pointed out that although the recommendations of the Minority Report would cause more immediate expenditure of money, this would be spent in prevention rather than in relief, and therefore would mean far less expenditure than at present when a few years had gone by.

On Friday, July 8th, the subject for discussion was "Women in Philanthropy." Lady Bell was in the chair. Lady Henry Somerset spoke on temperance. She said she was afraid that while open drunkenness was far more rare than it used to be, secret drinking was on the increase. She contended that women drank because their conditions made them hopeless, and said that when life was a dreary round of toil, one way to stop a woman from drinking was to put more amusement into her life.

Mrs. Humphry Ward spoke on play centres, which she was the first to start in London five years ago. These play centres were provided to prevent children being obliged to play in the street. The first year seven of these centres were formed, with a weekly attendance of 5,000. Last year there were thirteen centres, with a weekly attendance of 30,000 during November.

Mrs. John Acland read a paper on prison work among women. She spoke enthusiastically of the good the Borstal system had done for young offenders. She paid a warm tribute to the Church Army for its help in finding work for ex-prisoners.

Medical Training for Women in Scotland.

The negotiations and disputes in connection with the Muirhead Trust in Glasgow have lasted so long and been the subject of so much misunderstanding, that we have obtained an account of the state of affairs from one who is thoroughly versed in all the details, and we feel sure that it will interest those who follow the steady development of the movement for the training of women.

Dr. Henry Muirhead's Trust and Medical Education for Women in Glasgow.

The recent Provisional Order promoted by the University Court, the managers of the Royal Infirmary, the governors of St. Mungo's College, and the Muirhead Trustees, will result in the establishment of four professorships in the Faculty of Medicine (of which two were previously located at the Western Infirmary) at the Royal Infirmary. These will be the University professorships, and will provide all the classes required for the last two

years of the five years' course for students of medicine. The classes will be open to women and men equally, and women will be eligible to the professorships. The promoters of the scheme have aimed at securing for women medical students advantages which they have not hitherto possessed in Glasgow, and which may lead to a notable development of women's medical education in Glasgow.

So far as the Muirhead Trustees are concerned, the scheme which has been adopted is the last of several schemes for which they have worked during the last nineteen years, and is the only one which under the present circumstances they judged to be practicable and likely to carry out the main object of Dr. Muirhead's will—viz., to secure for women the means of good solid education in physical and biological science, such as would enable them to become medical practitioners, dentists, electricians, chemists, etc.

The first scheme proposed by the Trustees was the erection of a memorial school in proximity to the Victoria Infirmary, and, to avoid overlapping, it was suggested that the curriculum should be divided into two parts—the earlier years of study to be provided for by the then recently established medical school for women at Queen Margaret College, while the latter part of the course in medicine was to be entrusted to a Muirhead College with clinics in the Victoria Infirmary. This proposal was rejected by the Queen Margaret College, and the Muirhead Trustees then decided to establish a complete medical school in connection with the Victoria Infirmary. They obtained powers to acquire Rawcliffe House, to be used partly as a residential hall and partly for classrooms, but several formidable obstacles arose. Some of the neighbouring people had a legal right to object to Rawcliffe House being used in the manner proposed, and, in spite of prolonged negotiations, the Trustees were unable to induce them to withdraw their objections; and in the meantime the governors of the Victoria Infirmary, who had at first seemed ready cordially to support the Muirhead scheme, raised difficulties about guaranteeing the necessary facilities for women students, and soon made it evident that they were not disposed to give that scheme the support which would have made it a practicable one.

In 1901, when Queen Margaret College had been incorporated as part of the University, the Trustees approached the University Court again, and after some conferences the University authorities intimated that they were willing to agree to a proposal similar to the first scheme of the trustees, by which the last two years of study should be provided for by the Muirhead Trustees at the Victoria Infirmary. A petition was, however, drawn up by the women medicals, expressing dissatisfaction with the proposed arrangement, and it was not carried out.

A year or two later it was suggested that if the Muirhead Trustees were to contribute £10,000 towards the building fund of the Western Infirmary, one or two wards there would be open to women. This proposal was seriously entertained by the Trustees, but was ultimately rejected because the University Court would not bind themselves to open all the University classes to women students.

In 1905 the governors of St. Mungo's College, which is an extra-mural medical school in connection with the Royal Infirmary, were contemplating a reorganization of that College, and at a conference of the governors and the Muirhead Trustees a new proposal was discussed. It was proposed that St. Mungo's College should be reconstituted as a "Muirhead College of St. Mungo," to be a complete medical school, open to all students irrespective of sex. The Muirhead Trustees would then, by assisting in the endowment and management of the new College, obtain valuable facilities for women, while St. Mungo's, thus strengthened, would be able to claim admission to the University as an *Affiliated College*. This scheme appeared hopeful, but was killed by the attitude of the Royal Infirmary managers, who would have none of it.

Eventually, the present scheme was evolved, by the co-operation of the bodies named at the beginning of this article.

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