

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] *Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*

[NON-PARTY.]

VOL. VIII., No. 391.]

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1916.

[PRICE 1D.
Registered as a Newspaper.]

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

Electoral Reform and the Speaker's Committee.

A Committee of members of the two Houses of Parliament, representing various political views, is to meet, we understand, shortly after the re-opening of Parliament, on October 10th. The Speaker will summon, and also preside, over the Committee. The terms of reference fall under four heads:—

1. Reform of the Franchise.
2. Basis for Redistribution of Seats.
3. Reform of the Electoral Registration System.
4. Method of Election, and Ways in which Election Costs are Borne.

It is expected that the Committee will consist of some thirty members—six peers, and twenty-four members of the House of Commons. Every party and group will be represented, including Unionists, Labour, Irish Nationalists, and of course Scotland and Wales. The selections made by the party Whips have been ratified by the Prime Minister and the Speaker. The appointment of the peers is, as the Lobby Correspondent of *The Daily News* says, "somewhat of an anomaly, but it is hoped that the Commons will not take exception to this, because it is an act of expediency which may tend to commend the conclusions which the Committee will arrive at, not only to the Commons themselves, but also to the other House, which will finally have to sanction the measures which will result."

"The Wholesome Contagion of the Cause."

When the President of the United States stood on the platform in Atlantic City and spoke to his packed audience of women of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, he told them: "I sometimes get a little impatient by a discussion of the channels and methods by which Suffrage is to prevail. It is going to prevail. That is the vital fact. Its growth has gone on, not because women are discontented. It is because women have seen the vision of duty. And that is something which we not only can't resist, but if we be true Americans we do not wish to resist. What we have to realise in dealing with a force of this sort is that we are dealing with a question of life itself. What I felt as I sat here to-night was the wholesome contagion of the cause."

The fact that the President was addressing the Forty-eighth Annual Convention of Women, gathered to seek their own and their sisters' enfranchisement, gave these words peculiar

point. After his speech, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw was called upon by Mrs. Catt for a response. Frail and white from illness, and bearing marks of her forty years' struggle to gain the ballot for the women of the United States, Dr. Shaw turned towards the President as she said: "Mr. President,—We have waited, waited, waited long enough. The time is now. And I have only one prayer, Mr. President, and that is to have the crowning hour within your administration."

The President's recognition that the forces of "life itself" are felt by those dealing with the question of women's enfranchisement, will be felt over here to be profoundly true. Perhaps we women of the Commonwealth of Nations feel that strength even more deeply, in the ordeal through which we are passing; and we see clearly that dedication to the State which upholds our ideals is the ultimate test of citizenship.

Elementary Right.

In an article on the "Present and Future Position of the Parliamentary Franchise," in this month's *Contemporary Review*, Mr. W. H. Dickinson says: "It has always been the fact that, quite apart from the war, women's work has in reality been of equal value to the State with that of men, and this has been made more apparent than ever by the experiences of the last two years. . . . Under these circumstances, it seems almost impossible that any intelligent body of men in this country will deny to women the elementary right to citizenship embodied in the Parliamentary franchise. The announcements of the Prime Minister and of others hitherto even more hostile to Women's Suffrage are evidence that amongst statesmen, at any rate, opinion has been altered by the events of the war."

The War-Workers' Reward.

Speaking at Plymouth recently, Sir John Spear said: "The soldiers and sailors who had done so magnificently, and who had displayed such courage and perseverance and self-sacrifice, must have their voice in the future government of the country. The vote could be taken of men on active service. It has got to be done. It is unthinkable that the men who have done so much for their country should have no voice in its future government. They ought to have the voice of the people indicated before the terms of peace were finally settled. There were big questions to be dealt with."

And, then—Did the reporter drop something out just there? Or did the speaker lapse? Turning to the women-workers, he who had just been saying that courage and perseverance and self-sacrifice must have their voice in the government of the country, dropped beneath his theme, and, stumbling about among ideas of reward, or protection, or other irrelevancies, fell straight into anti-climax. "The women, who had done nobly—ought not to be shunted when the war was over! There must be more work so that men and women alike should have good opportunities." As a reward, it seems, for her services, the woman-citizen is not to be hounded out of the workshop, but to receive some amount (undefined) of State protection. What a vivid light is thrown by nonchalant utterances such as these on the stark and bitter need for giving women a voice in the settlement of national problems.

Just so might some noble, before the Revolution, have urged, in all kindness, that the French peasant (like the British woman, politically a cipher) was, after all, a good creature, who should not be permitted to starve by having his work taken away.

Missing Half the Nation's Brain and Three-quarters of its Heart.

In an article on "London in War-Time" in this month's *Fortnightly Review*, Mr. James Milne declares that the way in which women have "risen from the fireside," not merely to do their best to fill men's empty places, but to fill them well, has been "indeed a revolution." The war, he considers, will mean a new faith, or rather a new birth of the old faith which has kept England strong for centuries. It should have a new tenderness, and perhaps the rise of the woman into more activity in every sphere of life will ensure this. She is a more sensitive vehicle for the expression of tenderness than a man—tenderness and suffering. There is a music of consolation in her voice which one does not expect in that of a man. We hear that voice far more than we did, and we believe that its greater use will not spoil its natural music. Some wise man once said that to keep our women out of our life, as once they were kept out, was to miss half the nation's brain and three parts of the nation's heart. The war has taken care that this is not going to be, and the knowledge should be a consolation to us as we go on fighting by sea and land to a righteous end."

The Headship of the Herd.

Among a herd of cattle there seems to be no such waste of female brain-power and initiative as in the human race, but full use is made of grandmother cow's sagacity, while grandfather bull is an asset to the herd by reason of his mighty strength and courage.

"When animals live together in a herd there is usually a certain one among them exercising authority over the rest," says Mr. R. B. Townshend, in an article in *Chambers's Journal* (Sept. 1st). Among wild cattle, he explains, there is a "boss bull" who is, in a sense, master of the herd; but the real leadership, the initiative which settles when each bunch should move in to water, and when and by which road it should move out to graze, rests elsewhere; that is the special business of the boss cow in each bunch.

When the boss cow is lost or killed, if there is one masterful individual among the herd she will at once take the place of the lost leader, but, if none is willing to lead, the bunch will probably join itself to another herd with a competent head. In ordinary circumstances the leadership never devolves upon a male. But when danger from outside arises, then it is the turn of the bull to take command. "Be it wolf, or panther, or grizzly, the bull comes to the front and stands ready to take him on."

University Women and Administrative Posts.

"It seems strange," says the writer of an article in *The Daily Telegraph* on "His Majesty's Civil Service," "that while

at the present time there should be a scarcity of suitable women applicants for ordinary clerical work, the supply of University women exceeds the demand. This raises the very interesting question whether more openings and wider opportunities should not be provided for the latter. University women have been battering in vain at the doors of the Civil Service for years, contending that, as they have got a similar education to the Class I. man, they are equally competent to take their part in the higher administrative work. The opportunity has now come to test this claim and at the same time to make a very interesting experiment. . . . So far, in the limited field in which they have been employed, the Girton and Newnham girls have done admirably, and have earned excellent reports. As great numbers of Class I. clerks are serving with the forces, and others are eager to go, it is to be hoped that the authorities will throw open the doors wider to University women. That the supply should exceed the demand hardly appears creditable to the initiative and enterprise of our departmental chiefs, not to speak of the lack of appreciation it shows of the wonderful part women are playing in this war for the nation's life."

The Women who Work in Tri-Nitro-Toluene.

Hundreds of women are now working on "T.N.T." in the munition factories. It is a disagreeable and even a dangerous trade, to judge from some very interesting notes contributed to *The Lancet* by Dr. Agnes Livingstone Learmonth and Dr. Barbara M. Cunningham. An irritating rash, nausea, sore throats, and toxic jaundice are among the symptoms now definitely recognised as warnings to discontinue the work. Anæmic girls, persons of lowered vitality from over-fatigue or malnutrition, and alcoholics, or persons even slightly addicted to alcohol, are peculiarly susceptible to the toxin. Only healthy women in the prime of life should take up the work, and even so, the total daily exposure to the poisonous fumes should not in any case, the doctors report, exceed eight hours; and no worker should continue after showing signs of over-fatigue. "Not absence of exposure to danger, but strength of resistance keeps us well." Plentiful ventilation is also necessary, but the two doctors lay great stress on the need for sufficient food.

"The average working-woman does not eat a workingman's breakfast, because (1) It is not her habit; (2) the hour of rising to catch the train is too early; or (3) the food has to be prepared by herself. To start work after a hasty cup of tea and a long journey is too often the practice. The doctors advise a cup of fresh milk or cocoa on arrival at the factory, a "snack" in the morning with a ten minutes' interval, and, if possible, a hot dinner with milk puddings and stewed fruit and plenty to drink. "Canteens for T.N.T. workers are indispensable," the doctors say; and, indeed, none of our war-workers have a better claim to such service as we can render.

The Value of the Vote.

Prior to any consideration of obtaining the vote is the question of the value of the vote.

It is not too much to claim that too little consideration has been and still is paid to the individual vote, and this has permitted the professional politician to use the voter as a pawn in his game of ambition to lead him to power. The franchise has been looked upon as a means to stampede opinion in certain predesigned directions at the will of those who seek to gain a benefit for themselves or their class, and rarely is an election fought upon issues from which fear and prejudice are eliminated.

Political economy is a science as able to be regularised and systematised as any other science. That it is still in the melting-pot is due to the fact that its principles are interwoven with things they should be freed from, and this interweaving is brought about not by accident but by design—the design of those who to attain their ends know they must prevent and obstruct the proper working of these laws.

It is possible to fill the minds of the voter with right judgment and a knowledge of the laws governing the nation's economy, so that when the time comes for new representatives to be chosen to put into effect the decision of the people, each voter will know what are likely to be the results that will follow, should one or other of the candidates be chosen, so far as regards the successful candidate's endeavours to further the views he has presented to his electorate, when he reaches the House of Commons. National intelligence may be stimulated by intercourse and a lively interest in national and local affairs. The greater the admixture of types of mind and intelligence

the greater certainty that the level will be raised. It is a well-known fact in human nature that the natural tendency is rather to rise to the level of the higher than fall to the level of the lower, given moderate comfort and security. It is this natural tendency which is at the basis of all national progress.

As things are, the absence of the right to vote by women removes from the national mind one great element of interest and consequently of power. The grant of this right could not fail to stimulate general interest in politics in the widest sense, and to turn out of the electoral arena those whose only hope of winning an election is by means of appeals to prejudice, passion, and pretence; while it would attract candidates for the suffrage, men of well-matured thought with schemes to offer such as the time required.

Is it unfair to liken an election to-day to a field of sheep, and when the gates are opened the man who is most successful in creating panic is he who will induce the greater number to pass to the side he desires? Did the field of sheep give way to a nation of individuals, who considered their power to vote at an election one of the most important functions of their life, who knew the principles which govern social life and commerce, whose aim was to raise the general level of humanity by every act they caused to be placed upon the statute book, elections would no longer be exhibitions of stampede, but quiet and thoughtful processes by which those most suited to carry on the national business would be selected, and every effort made to allow them to carry out their duties free from the distractions which are now used to check and not to further good legislation.

ARTHUR HAYWOOD.

Patriotism in the Prison.

The Report recently issued by the Commissioners of Prisons shows that there has been a great diminution since the war in the number of persons admitted to gaol. On March 31st last there were only 5,321 males and 1,575 females in prison, as compared with 11,531 males and 2,049 females at the outbreak of war, in August, 1914. The three main causes for this diminution are the enlistment of many habitual petty offenders, restrictions on the sale of intoxicating liquor, and the great demand for labour, making employment well paid and easy to find.

"Receptions are now for the most part confined to the physically and mentally weak." Men of the criminal classes have, like others, responded well to their country's call. "A young burglar, one of a gang of five, told the chaplain of a London prison that his four pals had enlisted: two had been killed and two wounded. He said he meant to go and 'do his bit' as soon as he got out of prison—a promise which he faithfully observed."

Prisoners have also shown their patriotism by a keen desire to do their utmost to increase the output of war stores manufactured in gaol. They have submitted cheerfully to longer hours of work, and to new regulations made to increase individual output. "This keenness has been very noticeable among the female prisoners at Holloway, and it is evidence of the good quality of the work turned out that not a single mailbag out of 95,000 supplied was rejected by the Postal Authorities."

NO INCREASE OF DRUNKENNESS AMONG WOMEN.

The stories that have been circulated with regard to the great increase of drunkenness among women are not borne out by the figures published in the Report. Commitments for drunkenness among women have fallen from 14,045 to 9,519, or 32 per cent., a very considerable drop, though not so great as the decrease of convictions among males, which have fallen from 27,284 to 11,880, or 56 per cent. It must be remembered, however, that several millions of men are now abroad or under military discipline at home, so that it is impossible to make a fair comparison. As we have frequently maintained in *THE COMMON CAUSE*, the drunkenness among women that has provoked so much comment, proves to be chiefly among those who were of inebriate habits before the war. An inquiry made by the Lady Inspector of Prisons into the effect of the war upon female prisoners committed for drunkenness to Holloway Prison shows that whereas in 1913 1,092 women were responsible for 2,768 convictions, in 1915, 813 women were responsible for 4,189 convictions. A group of twenty-five had each received ten or more convictions. First offenders dropped from 113 in 1913 to 37. The inquiry at Holloway thus bore out the observations of several governors and chaplains at other prisons, that a smaller number of women were contributing a greater number of convictions per head than before the war. If the same proportion holds good throughout the country as at Holloway there must be "not only a considerable decrease in the total receptions into prisons, but, what is more important, a decrease of over 60 per cent. in the individuals responsible for the convictions."

Unfortunately, the Report seems to show that there is no adequate effort being made to deal with habitual inebriates. "In connection with this increased rate of convictions for drunkenness per individual," states the Report, "it is notable that during the years in question (1913-1915) there should have been a great fall off in the number of habitual drunkards committed to inebriate reformatories. So far as the Metropolis is concerned, the numbers fell from 95 in 1913 to 9 in 1915. . . . the failure of the Inebriates Act, 1898, to deal with the problem of habitual alcoholism must, we are afraid, be admitted."

A DECREASE OF CONVICTIONS FOR SOLICITATION.

Convictions given in the Report under the heading Prostitution, fell from 6,805 to 4,386, or 35 per cent., a decrease largely due, no doubt, to the greater ease with which women can now obtain a living wage.

The Report states that treatment for syphilis by the latest methods is being carried on in a number of prisons, and that it is hoped to complete a scheme in the near future for utilising certain prisons for the collection of all suitable cases to undergo the treatment. It is also hoped that arrangements may soon be made for the continuation of treatment of prisoners discharged in an infectious condition in clinics established throughout the country under the scheme promulgated by the Local Government Board.

THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

As regards the treatment of defectives received into prison,

the position is also unsatisfactory. 204 prisoners (130 males and 74 females) were certified during the year, as compared with 248 last year. A large number of the 248 certified during 1914-15 have been received again, many several times, on re-conviction, and many were either kept in prison or discharged and handed over to local authorities (presumably the Poor Law Guardians) because there was no available accommodation for them in certified institutions. "The absence of institutional accommodation for defectives, and particularly State accommodation for males, exercises a paralysing influence on operations under the Act as regards the disposal of criminal defectives." Let us hope that after the war it will be found possible to make arrangements so that unfortunate people who cannot be held responsible for their actions need no longer be either kept in prison or released, to the danger of others.

In the Borstal Institutions, as well as in prisons for adults, the number of admissions has fallen off since the war began, many lads of the type from which these institutions are recruited having joined the Army. That these lads have good stuff in them is shown by the fact that out of 1,000 ex-Borstal boys known to have joined the Army, two have been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and ninety-one have received non-commissioned rank.

Even among the older and more hardened criminals the war has brought out capacity for patriotism. "A curious little incident," states the Report, "showing that the general exhortations to thrift do not pass unheeded, even behind prison bars, occurred at a prison where a man offered to forego, as an economy, the extra supper supplied for extra work performed. There is justification for the opinion expressed by one of our chaplains in a large convict prison that if those people who are disposed to grudge the use of public money to reform criminals had been working among convicts at the present time they would find good cause to reconsider their opinion. 'It would,' he says, 'convince them beyond a doubt that under these broad-shouldered garments beats many a heart still responsive to the loftiest sentiments of loyalty and patriotism.'"

French Women in War-Time.

The Small Shopkeeper's Wife in France.

Our issue of June 9th contained an earnestly-written account of the part played by the "Small Shopkeeper's Wife" in this country. It is with much pleasure that we put before our readers a special article by a French lady well acquainted with the conditions of life among the "petite bourgeoisie" of her country.

It is with the greatest astonishment that the French woman has been seen equal to the new duties war has imposed upon her. She has done it quietly, silently, as the most natural thing in the world, and she has perfectly well succeeded. Till now she had only been given credit for her good taste in the art of dressing; people were satisfied to look upon her as a well-dressed doll, as a spoiled child, incapable of a serious task, or as a frivolous, heartless, unprincipled woman, ready to ruin remorselessly the man who, attracted by her charms, fell into her power. Our literature has, no doubt, to bear the blame of this erroneous opinion, and till now French women have been too indifferent to fight against it and to assert their merit. In consequence, foreigners ignore totally that by the side of this coquettish, frivolous, light woman, lives the serious woman-worker, conscious of her duties, accomplishing them without fuss, and from whom everything may be expected, as the event has proved.

The little French "bourgeoise" does not live at her husband's side indifferent to his aims or business; she takes an active though silent part in them, and helps him with her advice and effective assistance. In many large stores the man produces, attends to the workshop, manages the workers; the wife presides over the sales, fixes the prices, and is the administrator. It is true she stands in need of her husband's assistance, and she must have his signature at the bottom of a commercial document or to conclude a bargain, but she does not mind that; she knows that her husband will approve of what she has decided, being persuaded that nothing better could be done. And then it is that, thoroughly acquainted with the necessary work, she has found in her love for her country, husband, and children the energy needed to take his place when killed or wounded, and to rise to the emergency. The result lies now before our eyes, and it is splendid. France has been able to bear up during this horrible period of nameless sufferings, brought on by two years of war, and will hold on during the time needed for the final and decisive victory. The thought of this gives our "Poilus" the strength to go on with the fight with unabated courage.

After the war women will reap the benefit of their long patience

and untiring sacrifices. No doubt, having proved themselves worthy of it, not by self-advertisement but by solid acts, they will obtain the vote, the acknowledgment of all their rights, equal salaries for equal work, and so many other important desiderata. Already they have obtained without useless fuss the right to act as witnesses in civil transactions, to place and withdraw deposits in the savings banks without the assistance of the husband, the personal administration of their own salary, and some few other improvements. All this was obtained without fuss or clamor; the French woman hates noisy manifestations, apt to be covered with ridicule by her ungenerous male partner; she will not make herself ridiculous. This is perhaps the reason why she has progressed more slowly in the revindication of her rights; but the war, which has caused so many evils, will surely in the end bring happy results for her. It has been necessary to employ women in places till now reserved to men exclusively; since the men were nearly all mobilized, and nobody found time or occasion to wonder at the Government and various administrations having recourse to feminine brain power to supply the want of the other. After the war, no doubt many will return to the home to occupy the place true women will always prefer; but men will have learned that a woman can, in case of emergency, do without his assistance, and he will be more disposed to let her have "a place under the sky." He will no more consider her as a rival, always ready to prejudice his interests by working for a starvation wage. If woman has a part in the making of laws, many abuses will not take long to vanish; in the matter of alcoholic abuse, for instance, man will no longer be the absolute master; near him will be woman, his equal if different, ready to assist him in everything promoting the welfare of the family, and having acquired all the development she is capable of, thanks to education which will be within her reach in future without any hindrances.

It will be the honour of our third Republic to have felt that education was not only due to men alone; that is to say, to one half only of the human species, but to have rendered it compulsory, free, and secular for all. This by no means implies the absence of moral teaching, but leaves the family at liberty to choose the kind of religious teaching they intend to impart to their children. The Government has not and cannot have, a right to interfere therewith, without fearing to revive the religious wars of older times. The results of this system, applied since 1882, may be judged now.

H. MAIRIN, B.A.

Work for the Wounded.

The *Revue des Deux Mondes* for September 1st has an article on "Women and the War" by Mademoiselle Louise Zeys. The first part of it gives some interesting information as to the work of French women for the wounded and other sufferers by the war. These efforts Mlle. Zeys divides into "work for combatants, work for non-combatants, work for refugees, and work to meet various needs." Under the first heading she describes the work of the three French Red Cross Societies—the Société de Secours au Blessés Militaires, founded in 1864; the "Union des Femmes de France," and the "Association des Dames Françaises," both founded between 1881 and 1883. These societies, which work independently but are united by a central committee, have, of course, enormously extended their work in the last two years. In the work for non-combatants is included maternity and infant-welfare work, work-rooms, employment work, &c.

The "Conseil National des Femmes Françaises" (described as the feminist and Suffragist organisation of France) has taken an important part in these patriotic efforts. It has initiated "an information office for dispersed families," and has done a great deal to organise women's labour.

In the second part of the article Mlle. Zeys deals with women's work among the Allies of France, and gives her chief attention to Great Britain—the Scottish Women's Hospitals and women's service naturally take the most important place in her account of British work. One regrets that she does not state that each of these endeavours is the work of a part of the N.U.W.S.S.

London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, W.C.

The extensions of the London School of Medicine for Women were opened by the Queen on October 2nd. A short address was given by the Dean, Miss Aldrich-Blake, relating the history of the School since it came into existence forty-two years ago; and Dr. Winifred Collis, Lecturer on Physiology, thanked the

Queen on behalf of the staff for the many proofs of interest she had manifested in the undertaking. A telegram of congratulation was read by Mr. Acland, Chairman of the Council, from Dr. May Thorne and the twenty-nine other women physicians and surgeons, formerly students of the School, now at Malta under the Royal Army Medical Corps.

By its new extensions the London School of Medicine for Women is made one of the largest medical schools in the Metropolis.

Part of the new half-basement is used for an extension of the Physics Laboratories, and bears the name of the Consuelo Duchess of Marlborough Physics Department. The Pathological Research Department in connection with the new Pathological Department of the Royal Free Hospital is also housed here. A fine panelled union room, for the use of the clubs and societies of the Students' Union, adjoins the colonnade. The "Maude du Cros" Organic Chemistry Laboratory and a Clinical Research Laboratory connects with the present Inorganic Chemistry Department.

The whole of the first floor is occupied by an extension of the Physiological Department, and is a memorial to the late Miss Julia A. H. Cock, M.D., Dean of the School from 1903 to 1914. It comprises a large Advanced Physiology Laboratory, galvanometer room, research room, demonstration theatre, and lecturers' research and private rooms.

The second floor is an extension of the Anatomical Department, including a dissecting room, preparation rooms, demonstration theatre, and research laboratories.

The whole of the £30,000 required to build and equip this extension has been subscribed in response to an appeal first issued by the Council on December 10th, 1914.

It is now possible to give a complete course of medical instruction, including the clinical course which is pursued at the Royal Free Hospital, and, under a temporary agreement, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to a total number of about 450 students—that is, to provide for an entry of about ninety students each year.

THE SUPPLY OF NURSES.

The Secretary of State for War has now added to the Supply of Nurses Committee the following members:—

Miss E. H. Becher, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Territorial Force Nursing Service; The Countess of Airlie; Miss L. V. Haughton, Matron of Guy's Hospital; Miss R. Cox-Davies, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Free Hospital; Miss C. Lloyd Still, Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital; Miss A. McIntosh, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Miss A. M. Gill, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Miss E. C. Barton, R.R.C., President, Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association, and Matron No. 3 London Territorial General Hospital.

So far, the demand for direct representation of the nursing profession made on behalf of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Union of Trained Nurses has not been met.

Viscount Knutsford has withdrawn from the Committee owing to inability to attend the meetings for some time.

The Committee have been appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the resources of the country in trained nurses and women partially trained in nursing, so as to enable them to suggest the most economical method of utilising their service for civil and military purposes.

They have no power to deal with applications for employment.

For "The Common Cause."

This week we acknowledge with grateful thanks the following amounts and the kind letters sent with them:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Already acknowledged	401	8	0	Miss Mary Blathwayt	...	1	0	
Miss Lamont	...	3	6	Miss F. M. Kirby	...	1	0	
Miss Margaret Rackham	...	5	0	E. A. W.	...	2	0	
Mrs. Morris	...	10	0	Anonymous	...	10	0	
Mrs. Aubrey Dowson	...	1	0	Miss I. C. Forster	...	10	0	
Mrs. Methuen	...	1	0	"A Friend," per Miss Gibb	...	6	0	
Miss M. T. G. Bachelor	...	2	0					
Mrs. Tudor Jones	...	5	0					
Miss D. C. A. Paine	...	5	0					
						£418	17	6

"I enclose a cheque for THE COMMON CAUSE FUND. I am not rich, but I want to do what I can, and I think it is one of the most urgent things that THE COMMON CAUSE should be supported just now."

"I enclose cheque for THE COMMON CAUSE. I have noticed with great pleasure how very much THE COMMON CAUSE has improved the last few months, and I see it now regularly."

Donations should be sent to THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. All cheques and postal orders should be crossed Williams Deacon's Bank, and all Treasury notes should be sent in registered envelopes.

Reviews.

FEMINISM IN GERMANY AND SCANDINAVIA, by Katharine Anthony. (Constable, 4s. 6d.)

This book will be found very interesting by all who care to understand the varying forms taken by the Women's Movement in different parts of the world. The author, an American woman, considers that though the goal of the movement is always the same, namely, "the emancipation of woman, both as a human being and a sex being," it advances in two main streams, the struggle for political liberty carried on by English and American women, and the struggle for moral autonomy, which has fallen to the share of the German and Scandinavian women.

While English-speaking women have been concentrating all their energies on the Parliamentary vote, believing that full citizenship was the best means towards the recognition of complete personality, German and Scandinavian women have struggled first of all for the endowment of maternity and the protection of the illegitimate child. Germany is, of course, far behind Scandinavia in feminism. As regards Government recognition, the Scandinavian countries are the most advanced in Europe, and Germany is among the most backward. But the German feminists have been greatly influenced by the Scandinavians, especially by Ellen Key.

This remarkable woman, who was first denounced as a "corrupter of youth" and then honoured and rewarded by the Swedish Government, may be regarded as the greatest upholder of the idea of "Mutterschutz," an idea which Miss Anthony thinks is as difficult to translate by any English word as it would be to find a German phrase which would convey all the implications of "Votes for Women." She carried her devotion to this aspect of the women's movement so far that in 1896 it led her to attack the Suffragists, and accuse them of forgetting all else in their struggle for political rights. In spite of the retraction made nine years later, the discussions aroused by this speech have hardly yet died out of German feminism. In Miss Anthony's words, "Ellen Key's service to Continental feminism was that she helped to crystallise a new and necessary thought, which had been too long obscured and evaded. Her dissidence was her failure to realise that the emancipation of woman as a sex-being could only be achieved together with her political enfranchisement and economic independence." In the history of German and Scandinavian feminism, she stands in the forefront as the messenger of a very important truth. But she has always occupied an isolated position, and her lack of associative discipline is reflected in the impracticable quality of many of her ideas. Her genius and her incompetence together have made her the 'wise fool' of the woman movement.

How closely the political and social rights of women are bound together can be better understood by a comparison between the stages reached in both by the two groups of countries treated of in this book. In the Scandinavian countries, women are rapidly winning political freedom, and at the same time they are making advances in social freedom, which seemed far enough away at the time when Nora left her doll's house. German women, gallant as their struggle has been, are still held fast in the iron prison of "virile" Prussian discipline. Finnish women won the Parliamentary vote in 1906, Norwegian and Icelandic women in 1907, Danish women in 1915. Sweden is the only Scandinavian country which still limits Women's Suffrage to the Communal vote. In all these countries, the progress of reform in the laws relating to marriage, illegitimacy, and other domestic matters has been extremely rapid. One of the most determined attacks ever made on the legal recognition of the double standard of morals was that carried through by the Norwegian Department of Justice in 1909. The "Law concerning children whose parents have not married each other" was framed by the department with the advice of women experts, and under the supervision of Johann Castberg, Minister of Justice. It won the whole-hearted support of the women of the country and of the labour movement, and has had a widespread influence in countries not so forward as Norway in civilisation. Germany is almost as far behind Norway in "Mutterschutz" as in democracy. She was, indeed, the first country to institute maternity insurance, which, in its earliest form, was a minor detail of the complex scheme of industrial insurance put forward by Bismarck to conciliate and check socialistic yearnings. But even now, when the war has given it a new stimulus, it only insures the wage-earning mother and the soldier's wife, the one because she is attached to national industry, and the other because she is attached to national defence. Nevertheless, a long and very courageous struggle has been carried on by German feminists, a struggle which, as Miss Anthony points out, is too little known to English and American Suffragists. Now, when we have begun to understand how much of the future depends on the forces which may react against Prussian militarism within as well as without the German-speaking peoples, this book should be read with attention. It may inspire hope that Germany will not always be the enemy of civilisation.

J. B. O'M.

The October number of THE ENGLISHWOMAN contains a thoughtful article on "The Health of School Children." The writer considers that Dr. Newman, in his view that "one in every five of the elementary school pupils in 1914 are curable," is "at once too much and too little of an optimist." "Children," says the writer, "cured of grave and long-standing disabilities will generally have lost something in vigour, in endurance, and in self-reliance; the past is not quite wiped out by any doctor or hospital. But, on the other hand, we see a prospect that this stream of invalids which trickles into town and village schools at the age of three, four, or five years may be arrested at its source by baby clinics, by training in mothercraft, by the better home conditions which have in many districts followed on good wages and adequate separation allowances. . . . It is by no means certain that while funds and medical services are severely limited by war requirements, it would not be more useful in the long run to concentrate our efforts upon giving infants a good start in life, rather than upon extending medical treatment for children of school age."

Other articles are: "The Tragedy of Ireland," "The Training of Women Police and Women Patrols," "Round the Serbian Camps," by Major Claude Askew, "Rumania a Year Ago," "The Order of St. John of Jerusalem," "Folk-Song in East Africa," and "Not Too Well Brought-up for the Land."

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THE BIRTH RATE, by Sylvia Pankhurst [Workers' Suffrage Federation, Old Ford Road, E. 1d.] is a footnote to the report of the National Birth-rate Commission of 1916, in which facts and illustrations, from the writer's experience and other sources, are put forward to show that "under present conditions an increasing number of women feel that the world is not fit to receive their children." The almost overwhelming burden laid upon the mother among the wage-earning classes in large towns and cities is responsible for an amount of needless suffering among women, which is now for the first time being revealed by insurance statistics. And perhaps one of the most startling things to which Miss Pankhurst calls attention is "the fact that miscarriages were more frequent amongst the mothers engaged in housework than among those industrially employed" (workers in lead excepted). Though the numbers from which Dr. Reid and Sir Thomas Oliver compiled the figures are not large enough to furnish statistical proof, this is still a very important piece of evidence, though, as Miss Sylvia Pankhurst says: "One wonders whether in these cases the women who went out to work in factories were originally stronger than those who stayed at home, and what part of the factory workers used a part of their wages to pay some one else to do the heaviest work of the home during their pregnancy? It is not always realised that there is a great deal of heavy work in a home," and if it is widely true that there are five miscarriages to one live birth among working-class mothers, it is clear that "turning the women out of the factories" will not necessarily improve matters.

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(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.)

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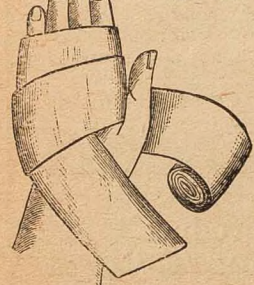
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The Women and the War Bonus.

The circular recently issued to Civil Servants by the Secretary of the Treasury is in several respects a highly instructive document. Having set forth, in brief preliminary, that: "In view of the continued increase in the cost of living from the war, His Majesty's Government has decided to grant an increase of wages by way of war bonus to the Civil Service," the circular continues: "The amount of war bonus to male employes of 18 years of age or upwards, who are employed full time, and whose ordinary remuneration (inclusive of all emoluments save overtime) does not exceed 40s. a week, the sum of 4s. per week. To employes (male) earning over 40s. but less than 60s., the sum of 3s. per week."

So far, so good. The third clause provides for women—"female employes and persons below 18 years of age, within the same limits of remuneration, and subject to the same conditions as in the case of male employes, one-half the amount of war-bonus allowed to such male employes!"

Let us consider what these provisions mean. Is it to be assumed that in some mysterious manner the male wage-earner is particularly hard hit by the rise in the price of bread and breakfast bacon? Or that the work performed by the "female" is of a less exhausting nature, so that she is not affected in the same degree by dearer food and less to eat? The second alternative appears to be summarily disposed of by the circular itself, which lays down that the women workers are "subject to the same conditions," and by the fact (elicited on inquiry) that large numbers of women are doing the same work as that previously done by men, and now done by men in the same office. The work is the same, but less is to be paid to women because they are women, and on that ground alone.

Remains the first excuse, that a woman's needs are less: first, because she has no dependents (*sic*), and only herself to keep; second, because a woman usually is, and therefore always should be, paid less than a man; third, as she is more economical, and can exist on less, so, out of her scrapings and economies a shrewd employer, even a Government, can manage to pick a bit of profit for himself. No doubt the Secretary of the Treasury, who is paymaster to thousands of women in the Civil Service, feels complacently that he has, at any rate, saved the Treasury from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per week per head on some ten thousand "females." Some thousands of pounds per annum have been judiciously saved to the taxpayer by a turn of the screw applied to women only. The "female employes," if they make a fuss, which perhaps isn't very likely—considering how very nervous the "heads" among the clerks are of losing their jobs if they dare to complain on behalf of the rank and file—have, after all, no votes, and therefore no member of Parliament would be fool enough to take them seriously. No—it is a pretty safe policy: pay the men well, and save a bit on the women. Our congratulations to the Lords of the Treasury!

This discrimination is the more significant because, as is remarked by the writer of a well-informed and very able article in *The Times* of September 27th, "Small Pay and no Prospects," is the motto of the Government in their dealings with educated women. If the Civil Service had deliberately set themselves to discourage educated women from entering Government employ, and then to disgust them with the work and conditions of pay offered, they could hardly have succeeded better. Though salaries were low to begin with in the case of the permanent female staff, the rise in prices apparently affects them only 50 per cent. as compared with the male. The bonus paid to temporary female clerks, by-the-bye, is left to the discretion of the heads of departments—perhaps the rise in the cost of living has affected them not at all!

The idea or superstition that a woman can live where a man starves, and that privation, in some fashion, is only hurtful to

the race through its males, is deep-seated, and has been hard to eradicate. Very, very slowly and dimly, however, under a heavy pressure of anxiety as to the future generation, it has been at last brought home to the British mind that short-commons and over-work, borne uncomplainingly from generation to generation by our women, does, after all, "matter." It did not matter at all so long as it appeared to fall only upon the women. The male Briton, like the Secretary of the Treasury, bore their privations with equanimity—"All the world over the women go short"—until at last it dawned on him that if the child-bearer was underfed and over-strained, in the end the child suffered. The luminous thought has been the great discovery of recent years. You cannot have healthy children, stout and intelligent boys, if the mother of the family must live on the scraps and leavings from the family table. You cannot have healthy and efficient mothers if you cut down the young girl's rations and stint her during her growing years. If the woman suffers, all the nation suffers with her. Gradually, we hope, this new, strange, unaccustomed thought will work like leaven. Public attention is being focussed on it, philanthropic societies are formed, private charities, sometimes on a large scale, endeavour to palliate the evil among working-class mothers, but the evil itself spreads beyond the wage-earners upwards and downwards.

Women are underpaid—because some man, parent or husband, is supposed to be actually supporting, or ready to support, every woman. We hear it said that the reason why men are paid higher wages is in order that they may support their dependents—women and children. It is more than doubtful how far this is a correct economic statement, indeed, an interesting inconsistency is to be found, without looking any further, in the Treasury Circular itself, where it is provided that a lad of 19

is to receive exactly double the amount of the bonus paid to a girl of 19—because he is a "male employe." Clearly the bonus paid in respect of the increased cost of living is not always a payment made on account of wife and family.

What is, or should be, equally clear is that each time a woman is paid less than a "male" engaged in the same occupation on a given piece of work, her employer is exacting a fine for her offence of being a woman.

"Guv'ment does it, so where's the harm? It's only right a woman or a girl should get less than a man or a boy." This pick-pocket system receives fresh sanction from the Secretary of the Treasury.

When will this economic fallacy be sufficiently exposed? It will be exposed when the British "male," employe or otherwise, realises, as he is beginning to realise in the case of the underfed mothers, that wherever the women suffer, he has in the end to suffer too—and with interest. The father who looks on while his daughter is paid less than a man's rate for the same unit of work in a Government or other office, and is content that she should thus work for less than market rate, because he is partly supporting her, will grow tired of this economic adjustment. He will begin to suspect that in the end, it is best to pay the wages to the worker; that to give extra bonuses to brothers and not to sisters is economically and logically indefensible. And, when once he is convinced that pick-pocket economists are actually picking his pocket—not merely the pockets of "female employes"—he, being a voter, will have something to say. And then there should be a sudden end of excuses and of theories that somehow Jack is being paid for Jill, and Jill gets less because she is living on Jack's earnings.

Getting Into Training.

These are, of necessity, days when most of us find it easier to live in the present and not to look to the future for fear of what it may hold for us. And surely this is not to be wondered at, for to go on from day to day, looking neither before nor after, is the only way in which many are able to live at all.

But this is not sufficient; more is asked of us and more is expected. We must look to the future, not for our own sake, but for the sake of others—of those who are to come after us, and, above all, for the sake of our country, her interests, and her welfare. While her men are fighting in her defence, surely it is not too much to ask of her women that they should give thought to the future.

That is why I am writing to-day on a subject which I have very much at heart, namely, the question of urging the necessity for thorough and complete training for our young people, so that they may not only be in a position to undertake successfully the branch of work for which they are best fitted, but also may be able to raise and maintain the standard of pay for competent work.

When the war broke out, the most immediate need was to fill the places of those who had joined the forces, and so help to carry on without a break the work they had been doing and had, perforce, to leave, and every nerve was strained to find women and girls ready and willing to offer their services.

Short emergency trainings were instituted, and classes were held in all parts to give insight into the work to those who were eager to enter the ranks of the "war-workers." These trainings were of great benefit, and served their purpose because time did not admit then of anything on a more extensive scale. The immediate need was the need of the present, and all thought of everything else had to be suspended until that need was supplied.

Now, however, the great rush is over, the demand is not nearly so insistent, and we must, therefore, look to the future and to what is going to happen after the war.

One of the results of the war will be that many will have to earn who hitherto have not done so, and it is to those especially I appeal to-day.

The only really successful worker is the worker who has been trained and has made herself efficient in her own special branch. Anyone who considers the question at all must realise that after the war the labour market will be flooded with half-trained workers, who will be a danger to themselves and to those who are highly efficient and trained. Therefore, it is easily understood that the greater the number of these highly efficient and trained workers the greater their power to uphold the highest

standards of work and pay, which otherwise the half-trained, by sheer force of numbers, would tend to lower.

The country at all times requires our very best, and though it has been compelled by force of circumstances to accept in many cases the services of the untrained, there is no reason why this should continue, if only our young people could be persuaded to consider the best course to follow—that of equipping themselves now for the needs of the future and of avoiding short emergency trainings as against national interest.

To look at the matter from another point of view. The services of the trained will not be dispensed with even after our soldiers and sailors return. They will be kept to work side by side with the men whose places they have helped to fill in a time of stress, and to fill, alas! the places of those who will not return.

It must also be remembered that many of those who, feeling they would like to do "something to help," offered themselves for clerkships, &c., will not, even if they could afford to do so after the war is over, be content to remain at home again more or less idle.

Yet it requires little imagination to realise that hundreds of these will be the first to be thrown out. Therefore, they cannot be too strongly urged to have definite training now for whatever profession they wish to enter, instead of waiting till the war is over.

Then, again, take the position of the untrained at present receiving small salaries which do not constitute a living wage, but which, after all, are a fair equivalent for the work done. They have little idea of the routine of an office or, indeed, of office methods and organisation, and however good their intentions they must come short of much that makes for a really good worker.

I do not wish to imply that we do not owe a great deal of gratitude to those who have so whole-heartedly thrown themselves into the breach and have helped at a time when their help was most needed, but I do desire to point out the danger in the future if "thorough training" is not now taken as our motto.

CONSTANCE HOSTER.

The following resolution has been passed by the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association:—

"That this Committee reaffirms its adherence to its chief aim—to obtain the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is, or may be granted to men, and believes that now, more than ever, the claim of women to citizenship is abundantly justified; and this Committee therefore urges upon the Government the necessity for including women in any scheme formulated for the future government of Ireland."

Correspondence.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSEKEEPING.
MADAM,—In addition to schemes for Co-operative Housekeeping, such as Miss Black describes in her very interesting series of articles, it seems to me that there is scope for co-operation on a small scale between families or individuals. For instance, by sharing in the rent of a house or flat, two or three women workers can have a comfortable little home at a much smaller cost than if they lived quite alone, and, while obtaining a certain amount of companionship, can keep a large degree of independence.

The mistake, I think, that women often make when they join forces in this way, is to begin by too great a degree of intimacy, and to cling too closely to the conditions of ordinary family life. The result is that the tie soon becomes irksome. Members of a joint household of this kind must be free to come and go as they like, without comment or question; there must be no feeling of soreness if one is left to spend a solitary evening while the others go out, or if friends are entertained in a private room instead of in the common sitting-room. One of the most irksome features of family life to a grown-up woman, in a small home, is the lack of privacy—the want of a place where she can enjoy the society of her own friends without the presence of other people. This element introduced into a joint household spells almost certain failure.

It may interest some of your readers to hear particulars of a little experiment in co-operative housekeeping which I have embarked upon with two friends. We took the premises over a small shop—three floors, with two rooms on each (including a bath-room and kitchen), with a separate entrance outside the shop. One room we furnished as a common sitting-room, where we have meals together, and we each have our own bed-sitting-room. A woman comes to get breakfast and tidy up, and in the evening we either cook our own dinner or bring it across from a little restaurant almost opposite, beautifully cooked, piping hot, and very moderate in price. This restaurant caters especially for people of small means living in flats in the neighbourhood, and does a good trade. I am convinced that a similar enterprise would pay in other districts, especially if combined, as this is, with a confectionery business; and it would be the greatest boon to many.

Our living expenses, including rent, service, food, gas, coal, and electric light, work out at about 30s. a week each, and in ordinary times should be considerably less. Rent is a comparatively big item, as our little abode, though in a side street, is in a very good neighbourhood; so three friends sharing a similar dwelling in some other parts of London or in a provincial town, should be able to reduce their weekly expenses still further. We take it in turns to do the housekeeping, each a month at a time, having first discussed the way in which we meant to live, and decided on some general principles.

MADAM,—As a constant reader of THE COMMON CAUSE, may I refer to the articles on Co-operative Housekeeping by Miss Clementina Black. They are very ingenious and interesting, but seem to me like castles in the air, while we poor mortals are fighting with giants down below. What we want is some relief now for weary mothers of young children, and useful companions for the aged and sick people. If Miss Black could devise a scheme for well paid infant schools and holiday homes for the young children of the professional and monied classes, I believe they would pay well if properly equipped and carried out. The holidays now last so long (eight weeks in the summer) that they are a terror to the servantless homes, and by the time they are ended, the mothers are worn out, and if they could get a few weeks' rest it would be worth any money they could afford to pay. Surely there must be people who could adapt themselves to hiring some of the good seaside boarding-schools and use them for such a purpose as I allude to. Anything that makes for family life is welcome now, but one does not wonder that young people shrink from increasing their responsibilities when help is so difficult to get.

MADAM,—The articles on Co-operative housekeeping which recently appeared in your paper have been helpful in these days of high rents and difficult conditions. The domestic servant problem in the past has, I think, been made almost impossible by the lack of organising ability on the part of the mistresses who have been exacting in their demands, and who in most cases have failed to show any sympathy with those waiting upon them.

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The reprint from *The Observer* on "The Future Basis of the Franchise" has sold so well that the Literature Department has issued a second edition. We would advise all societies who intend holding meetings, either on "The Present Political Situation" or other subjects, to order some of these leaflets either for sale or distribution. They may be obtained at 3d. per copy.

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The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units.

Dr. Daisy Stepney reports that the scarlet-fever ward for refugee children at Kazan is filling up quickly. Scarlet-fever seems to be a far more serious illness in Russia than it is at home. The children keep their doctor on a perfect rack of anxiety with their high temperatures and delirium and very septic throats. They do not seem to be nearly so recuperative as English children, and do not respond so readily to treatment. Another little Jewess—the fifth of that nationality, all from different refugee families—has been admitted to the hospital, and fresh cases are expected every day now that the malady has really started amongst the refugees. Dr. Alice Benham inspected the hospital in passing through Kazan, and was much struck by the beauty and orderliness and general attractiveness of the wards, which looked their prettiest at night, like a nursery full of English children. "The shaded electric-light makes the whole place look cosy; the white washing-table, and sister's writing-table in the centre, with a glimmer of glasses and lotion bowls just discernable in the shaded glow from the light, and the little beds arranged around the white walls, with the little cropped heads on the pillows—at least, more or less on the pillows, for when one is feverish and stuffy in one's nose and throat it is very difficult to lie still in bed, and one child or other is constantly getting entangled in his sheet and staring up in terror: 'Oh, mamma!' with eyes too heavy to notice that it is by no means 'mamma' who lays him down and strokes his forehead until he is asleep again."

Nurse Percival reports many amusing difficulties from the Tchistopol district. A patient whom they had carefully put to bed with a fractured femur decided, after being set, to go home before Nurse Percival and the others were up and doing the next day. "Imagine our feelings to be told she had got up and undertaken a journey in a jolting, springless, peasant's cart! Before noon a chastened woman returned, and the men implored us to re-admit her." She has been re-admitted, of course, much the worse (poor soul) for the expedition—Nurse Percival undoubtedly making a mental note of a new possibility of surprises through the Russian peasant's ignorance of what is common-sense to English patients. Their kindness, too, takes unexpected turns. "I was awakened at 4.0 a.m. by a sweet, coaxing voice the

other morning, and had a sack with two live hens hurled on to my bed." "The people are affectionate, and quite easy and pleasant to deal with; fearfully surprised we do not speak Russian. They wanted to know where our husbands were, and we told them our men-folk were all at the front, and through an interpreter said fine things of Russia. The people are so patriotic and full of love of their country, it is small wonder, for in spite of its difficulties something appeals to me from it."

Mrs. Alys Russell, the Hon. Secretary, will be in the Russian Units Office, at Headquarters, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W., every morning now to answer letters and to make arrangements for meetings during the autumn and winter. The Settle Society has already had a meeting for Miss Cooke, and will probably arrange another meeting for Mrs. Elborough later on. Miss Cooke is also speaking to the Carlisle Society on our work in Russia. Portsmouth hopes to arrange a meeting in November, when Lady Selborne will kindly take the chair and Mrs. Elborough will give an account of all our undertakings in Russia, as she has seen them herself this autumn.

THIRTY-SIXTH LIST.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged ... 8,740 0 3	Mrs. Tudor Jones ... 1 0 0
Per Treasury, Wellington, New Zealand ... 42 8 0	Bridlington W.S.S., per N. & E. Ridings Federation ... 2 2 0
Mrs. Percy Thompson ... 5 0 0	Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany, New York ... 2 0 11
Oxford and Lymington W.S.S.—3rd instalment to adopt a nurse ... 14 0 0	
Settle B.W.T.A. and W.S.S.—Joint Meeting—Collection, per Miss G. Cooke ... 3 6 0	£8,809 17 2

Further donations should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, or to Miss Sterling, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. Cheques and postal orders to be crossed "London County and Westminster Bank, Victoria Branch."

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

A very successful drawing-room meeting was held at Claridge's Hotel, on Thursday of last week, in aid of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service. The chair was taken by Lady Emmot, in the place of Lady Brassey, who was unfortunately absent owing to recent bereavement.

Miss Cicely Hamilton spoke of the work of the Scottish Women's Hospital at Royaumont, which, she said, had done much to endear the name of Britain to the people round, who had been greatly touched by the fact that English and Scottish women had come to care for their "little soldiers." When the war was over she was sure that if anyone from this country went to that district the people would try to do them any kindness they could for the sake of Royaumont. Sometimes she used to go for bicycle rides, when there was a lull in the rush of patients and things were slack, and if she came to an inn she would find the very best of everything put at her disposal as soon as her uniform was recognised. The French were a most grateful and appreciative people, and it was a pleasure to do anything for them.

English hospitals had an extraordinary reputation in France, because they were so well organised and equipped and the standard of nursing was so high. The confidence which both French and Belgians placed in them was very touching. One day a Belgian soldier stopped her and asked if she belonged to an English hospital, and he then asked for its address. He had been, he explained, in an English hospital, where he was so well looked after that if he were wounded again he should ask to be sent to Royaumont.

The relatives of patients were most grateful for the care taken of their men. On one occasion a man died very suddenly, and it was thought advisable to bury him without delay. His relatives had been telegraphed to, but did not arrive till after the funeral. It was, of course, a great shock to the poor mother and sister, as they did not even know the boy was dead, and they became almost distraught with grief. "I took them to the curé," said Miss Hamilton, "who had always been one of our best friends. He did what he could to comfort them, with many assurances that everything possible had been done for their boy. They expressed their relief at learning that he had been in an English hospital, as they were sure he had had the best of care." Another mother who came to see her son, and found him happy and convalescent, told Miss Hamilton that she meant to take upon herself the care of the graves of four British soldiers who had been buried near her home. Their resting-place should always have flowers upon it in memory of what Royaumont had done for her son.

When it first started Royaumont had only one hundred beds. It had to start on its own merits and win recognition by its efficiency. This it soon did, and by the end of the three months it

had been increased to two hundred beds. This year it was raised to three hundred, and, when the push on the Somme came, to four hundred. Altogether two thousand to three thousand patients had been received.

When Royaumont was not full of soldier patients it took in civilians, and this work was a very great benefit to the district, as the people suffered terribly sometimes for want of medical attention. Nearly all the hospitals had been taken over for the military, and many were forbidden to accept civilian patients at all. Several children near Royaumont had died before they could be attended to, and one old man went about for days with a broken arm.

Miss Hamilton had some interesting things to tell of the early days, when her advance party was preparing the old Abbey to receive patients, but many of her experiences have already been related in THE COMMON CAUSE. There was only one tap in the whole place, and one dilapidated old stove on which they managed to make tea, so they found themselves tempted to economise in washing. There was the greatest difficulty in getting help of any kind. Immense was their joy when one night someone knocked at the door late at night, and they found it was the plumber's wife with the welcome news that her husband had been rejected for military service and had returned home.

Miss Lowndes spoke of the splendid work of the Serbian Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, which had made for goodwill between Britain and Serbia, just as the hospitals at Royaumont helped to increase the friendship between Britain and France. The staffs of these Units had suffered terrible things during the great retreat through Serbia, but they were eager to go out again to the help of that gallant little nation. A Fresh Unit, equipped by the London Society for Women's Suffrage, had been sent out, under Dr. Elsie Inglis, to work with the Serbian Division with the Russian army. It was a splendid Unit, and with it had gone a Transport Column, in charge of Mrs. Haverfield, equipped with motor-ambulances, lorries, and motor-kitchens. There was a personnel of eighty-five members. Money was urgently needed for the upkeep of this Unit, which the London Society had pledged its honour to maintain.

The London Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals urgently needs subscriptions for the maintenance of the two Field Hospitals and motor transport section which have lately been sent to Russia. Contributions should be sent to the Joint Treasurers: The Lady Cowdray, and the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, Scottish Women's Hospitals, 58, Victoria Street, London.

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Owing to our having a large reserve of colours at the outbreak of the war, we are in a position to dye in all the following colours:—Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Purple, Mauve, Dark Violet, Navy Blue, Royal Blue, Dark Green, Scarlet, Crimson, Claret, Plum, Dark Grey, and Black.
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Instructions by Post or Telephone command immediate attention.
TESTIMONIALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

Table with columns for Name, Amount, and Total. Lists various donors and their contributions to Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further donations to carry on the work.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Table listing names of beds donated to the hospitals, such as 'Victoria Iron and Steel Works' and 'Coatbridge (4th Serbian Unit)'.

ERRATUM.—Worcester W.S.S., Mrs. E. Moore £2 2s., in our last list, should have been Mrs. Moore Ede £2 2s.

The Bristol Metropole.

(HOSTEL FOR WOMEN.)

An hotel for women workers is, I think, the most comprehensive description of this hostel which has recently been opened at 21, Portland Square, Bristol.

The hostel is worked by the Salvation Army officers, under a House Committee, and it is to their work that we owe the ability to describe it as an hotel.

It has been asked, "what class of women come to the hostel?" We have all kinds of workers—munition workers, charwomen, needlewomen, domestic servants looking for situations.

When arrangements were being made for the hostel, it was felt by the committee that, while the house was for an hotel and not a refuge, there would be cases seeking admission that, while hardly suitable, yet could not, in the true interests of womanhood, be turned adrift.

One very interesting case has been dealt with. A woman of the educated class, who had given way to drink, came one night to the shelter.

Two young Irish girls were stranded in Bristol owing to the agent in Ireland not having furnished them with passports for Canada.

With regard to finance, all money received is paid weekly into the hands of the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Frank Rose, who pays all accounts.

To carry on adequately all the work, a yearly subscription list of at least £200 is needed, but to those who will go and see for themselves the work that is being done, it will, we are sure, seem a small outlay in comparison with the result.

The committee confidently appeal to all who have the Woman's Cause at heart, feeling that every helper in this work may say, in the words of Ella Wheeler Wilcox, "I did not wholly build in vain."

- Officers: Hon. Secs.: Mrs. Frank Rose, Mr. Channing Watkins. Treasurer: Dr. Frank Rose. Chairman of Committee: Sir Frank Wells. Chairman of House Committee: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

Cheltenham W.S.S.

Although the unfortunate weather prevented so good an attendance as had been hoped for, quite a fair muster of members and friends came to hear Miss Annie Cooke on "Prospects of Women's Suffrage" on Wednesday, September 27th.

Chipping Campden, Glos.

A drawing-room meeting was held on September 28th, at Mrs. Welsh's kind invitation, at her house, at which Miss Annie Cooke spoke on the Present Political Situation in regard to Women's Suffrage.

WESTERN-SUPER-MARE.—An exceptionally interesting conference was held in Brown's Café, on Friday last, when Miss Cooke (Head Office) discussed the present critical condition of Women's Suffrage.

After tea the Committee held an informal meeting to decide what course the Society should take as to the omission of the half-yearly council.

North Cowal, Blairmore.

A very successful fancy fair was held in Strone Public Hall in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. The amount raised was £65.

Kentish Federation.

Miss Moseley, through illness, is compelled to resign all work, and cannot conduct correspondence, which should be forwarded to the treasurer of the Kentish Federation, Miss Druce, Thornhill, Sevenoaks.

VALKASA THE TONIC NERVE FOOD. An Invigorating Nutrient for BRAIN, NAG, DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE. 1s., 3s., and 5s. 6d. of all Chemists. James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd. MANCHESTER.

WHY KEEP USELESS JEWELLERY? The large London Market enables ROBINSON BROS. of 8, Hampstead Rd. (nr. Maple St.) W. & 127, Fenchurch St. E.C. To give best prices for OLD GOLD and SILVER JEWELLERY, GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, PEARLS, EMERALDS, SILVERPLATE, ANTIQUES, &c., in any form, condition, or quantity. Licensed valuers and appraisers. Telephone, Museum 2036. ALL PARCELS receive offer or cash, by return post.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- OCTOBER 9. Birmingham—Beanwood Co-operative Guild—Motherhood—Miss Palmer. Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street 3.0-5.0. OCTOBER 10. London Society—Southwark—25, Trinity Square, Borough High Street, S.E.—Speaker: Miss Halford, on "Infant Welfare"—Chairman, Miss Philippa Fawcett—Hostess: Miss Lockwood—The Chairman will make a statement on the "Present Position of Women's Suffrage" 7.0 p.m. OCTOBER 11. Brixton—Drawing-room Meeting, at 5, Hayter Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.—Speaker: Miss May Curwen on "Scottish Women's Hospitals"—Hostess: Miss Edith Briant—Chairman: Miss Helen Ward—The Chairman will make a statement on the "Present Position of Women's Suffrage" 5.30. OCTOBER 12. London Society—Quarterly Council, at Caxton Hall, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.—Chairman, Miss Edith Palliser—Members of the Society are cordially invited to be present 7.30.

Items of Interest.

Arts and Crafts Exhibition.

Many people will doubtless flock to Burlington House on Monday, October 9th, to see the Royal Academy in its new guise, its galleries having for the first time in its history, been lent to the Exhibition Society for the purpose of an Arts and Crafts Exhibition on an unwonted scale.

The Exhibition is under Royal patronage, and will, it is hoped, be opened by no less a personage than M. Anatole France, and it is felt that place, circumstance, and time combine to make the occasion one of capital importance, for the future evolution of national handicraft.

The German Government was induced to send a series of representatives to study and report on the English craft revival. Students came to study in the Central School of Arts and Crafts and other centres. Having assimilated our designs and methods, these students returned to their own country, where special courses of instruction were organised, at which the attendance of the principals of all art and technical colleges was compulsory.

After tea the Committee held an informal meeting to decide what course the Society should take as to the omission of the half-yearly council.

One of the chief methods of propaganda adopted by the "Werkbund" has been the organisation of exhibitions directed to the revitalisation of art, design, and industry.

Everything has been organised for the capture of the world market, in the decorating and furniture trades, in textile industry, leather work, book production and printing, glassware and pottery and metal work; every artistic industry, in fact.

This state of things is hardly likely to end with the war. The efforts of the "Werkbund" will not be relaxed, but intensified. Our task, therefore, is at once to organise our own industries. The Arts and Crafts Society, as its contribution to a solution of the problem before us, is arranging this Exhibition, which, it is hoped, may do something to draw attention to the vast wealth of creative and inventive power latent in Great Britain.

We would remind our readers of the splendid course of training in mothercraft which is just beginning at the St. Pancras School for Mothers, at 1, Amptill Square, Hampstead Road. A practical training is given in sewing, cooking, baby weighing, visiting, &c., with excellent lectures from the doctors and superintendent. The charge for the three months' course (five days a week) is only £9, and daily dinners and teas are provided. It is especially suitable for voluntary workers, or for assistant-paid workers, for whom good posts are always found if they show a real gift for mothercraft work.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Table with columns: WORDS, ONCE, THREE TIMES, SIX TIMES. Shows rates for different word counts and frequencies.

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Public Meeting in the N.C.S. Hall, Park Mansions' Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W., on Tuesday, October 10th, at 3 o'clock. Miss Damer Dawson, Chief Officer, W.P.S., will speak on "Women Police." Admission Free.

FOR WAR WORK.

WAR SERVICE FOR WOMEN. WANTED, Strong, Capable, Educated Women, TO TRAIN FOR FARM & GARDEN WORK, to take the place of men who are doing War Work. WOMEN'S FARM & GARDEN UNION, 45, QUEEN ANNE'S CHAMBERS, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

POSITIONS VACANT.

AN ELDERLY LADY WANTS two friends, or mother and daughter, to do the work of small house and wait upon her.—Houseman, Broadstone, Dorset. CARETAKER WANTED by the sea, Kent, able to wait on family when in residence.—M. S., Croom's Hill House, Greenwich. ENERGETIC GIRL WANTED to run small house, with some outside help. Gentlewoman preferred.—Box 6, 163, COMMON CAUSE OFFICE.

POSITIONS WANTED.

GENTLEWOMAN seeks post as lady-cook or house-keeper-companion. First-class certificate; no rough work; no cards.—Frederica, Box 6, 100, COMMON CAUSE OFFICE. THE LADY ALMONER, St. Thomas's Hospital, strongly recommends useful help. Unable to follow former employment as cook owing to partial failure of eyesight; could do cleaning and part house-work, or take position of responsibility—London or suburbs. Excellent references.

BOOKS, REVIEWS, Etc.

THE BETTERMENT BOOK ROOM, 40B, ROSSLYN HILL, HAMPSHIRE, N.W. DEMONSTRATIONS IN MEATLESS COOKERY, Every TUESDAY, at 3 P.M. COURSE OF SIX LESSONS, 5s.

EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL.

FRENCH lady gives lessons; recommended.—V., 21, Hogarth-rd., Earl's Court. MORE MONEY TO SPEND (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustments).—Send postcard for this booklet to Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. Phone, Central 6049. MRS. WOOD-SMITH, M.P.S., Chemist, coaches women students for the Apothecaries Hall Dispensers Examination.—Apply 9, Blenheim-rd., Bedford-pk., W. TREATMENT SPEECH DEFECTS, Stammering, &c. Experience, St. Thomas's Hospital; certificate, Miss Elsie Fogarty.—Enid Andrews, 33, Bath-rd., Chiswick.

TUITION BY CORRESPONDENCE.—For Matriculation, B.A., and other Examinations. Single Subjects taken. Latin, Greek, French, Mathematics, Logic, &c.—Address, Mr. J. Charleston, B.A. (Hons.), 14, Elsham-rd., Kensington, W.

MOTORING.

WARWICK SCHOOL OF MOTORING. 259, WARWICK ROAD, KENSINGTON. Telephone 946 WESTERN. Officially appointed and recommended by the Royal Automobile Club. Individual Tuition given to Each Pupil. Call and inspect our mechanical class rooms, which are fully equipped for practical training. Driving and mechanism is thoroughly taught by a competent staff.

(Continued on page 332.)

Continued from page 331.]

INSURANCE.

INSURANCE.—On all matters appertaining to Insurance, Life, Endowment, Annuity, Women's Insurances, Write H. W. Wicks, Pembroke House, 133-135, Oxford-st., W.

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Telephone: Regent 774.

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39, St. James's St., S.W. (corner of Piccadilly).
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TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.—E. Crombholme, General Manager. Enquiries solicited.

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CONSULTATION FREE. Telephone: North 3795.

DRESSMAKING, MILLINERY, &c.

ARTISTIC hand-embroidered dresses, coats, and jibbans. Special prices during war time. Designs, &c., on application.—Maud Barham (late 186, Regent-st.), 33-34, Haymarket, S.W. Facing Piccadilly Tube Station.

LACE cleaned, mended, transferred. Many testimonials.—Beatrice, "C.C." Office. (No postcards.)

MILLINERY.—Hats made own material, or trimmed, reblocked at small charge.—The Hat Doctor, 7, Lower Porchester-st., Marble Arch.

PERFECT FITTING Corsets made to order from 15s. 6d. Also accurately copied to customers' own patterns.—Emilie, 17, Burlington-arcade, Piccadilly.

TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.—Latest styles to measure; best workmanship and smart cut guaranteed; prices moderate.—H. Nelissen, 14, Great Titchfield-st., Oxford-circus, W.; patterns sent on application.

LAUNDRY.

BUSH HILL PARK STEAM LAUNDRY, 19-20, Second-Avenue, Enfield. Proprietor, Miss M. B. Lattimer. Best family work, under personal supervision of trained experts. Open-air drying. Hand-done shirts and collars. Specialities: flannels, silks, fine linen, laces, &c. Prompt attention to parcels sent by post.

PROVISIONS, EGGS, etc.**ARTHUR'S STORES**

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GENERAL PROVISIONS. HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY
All Cakes and Pastries of finest ingredients by own Baker

DELICIOUS "SALUTARIS" DRINKS.—Orangeade, Gingerale, Lemonade, and do. home-brewed. Economical, healthy, and free from all impurities; made from pure distilled water.—Salutaris Water Co., 236, Fulham-rd., London, S.W.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

A THEENIC UNDERWEAR is all wool, comfortable, durable, and guaranteed unshrinkable.—Write to-day for free book with patterns, and buy direct from the makers, Dept. 10, Atheenic Mills, Hawick, Scotland.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH (OLD) BOUGHT—MESSRS. BROWNING, Dental Manufacturers, 63, Oxford-st., London, THE ORIGINAL FIRM who do not advertise misleading prices. Full value by return or offer made. Call or post. Est. 100 years.

"COMMON CAUSE" Fountain Pens, price 5s. 6d. each. Non-leakable, can be carried in any position. Solid 14-carat gold nib. Apply, sending P.O. for 5s. 8d. (2d. being for postage), to the Manager, "Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

ELECTROLYSIS (for removal of superfluous hair, moles, &c.), face massage, and electrical hair treatment. Lessons given and certificate granted.—Address, Miss Thearleton, 54, Devonshire-street, Portland-place, W. Hours, 11 to 5.

ELECTROLYSIS.—Seymour needle leaves no scar; Mon., Wed., and Fridays, 10.30 to 5; advice free.—Mrs. Seymour, 169, Piccadilly, W.

GOLD, SILVER, AND BRASS can be cleaned in half the ordinary time by the Ayah Polishing Cloth. This cloth is used by jewellers in restoring lustre to the finest jewellery. No soiling of hands. 1s. 3d. post free from The Pioneer Manufacturing Co., 21, Paternoster-sq., London, E.C.

IRISH PILLOW LINEN in bundles of Remnants, sufficient for six full-size Pillow Cases, only 9s. 6d.; postage, 5d. Send postcard for this month's Bargain List, free.—HUTTON'S, 159, Larne, Ireland.

MADAME HELENE, 5, Hanover-rd., Scarborough, gives generous prices for ladies' and gentlemen's worn suits, dresses, boots, furs, lingerie, and children's garments; separate price for each article; carriage paid; cash by return, or parcel promptly returned if offer not accepted.

OLD GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY BOUGHT.—Watches, chain rings, bracelets, cameo brooches, trinkets, gold coins, &c. Any kind, broken or otherwise. Highest value given. Cash offer by return. If offer not accepted, parcel returned post free. Satisfaction guaranteed. Bankers, Parr's.—S. Cann & Co., 69a, Market-st., Manchester.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued, and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Baby-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne

FOR HOLIDAYS.

BRIGHTON'S NEWEST PRIVATE HOTEL, Cavendish Mansions, Cavendish-place; ½ minute pier, sea, and lawn; luxuriously furnished; drawing, smoke, and dining-rooms; separate tables; terms from 22 ½s. per week. Telegrams: Meadmore, Brighton.

COTSWOLD HILLS.—Food Reform Holiday Home; 600 ft. above sea level, delightful scenery and woods, invigorating air, sheltered, good cooking, home comforts. Vacancy for permanent guest.—Apply Manageress, Hillside, Pitchcombe, nr. Stroud, Gloucestershire.

MEMBER recommends comfortable rooms, one sitting-room, two double bedrooms, good cooking; beautiful part of Gloucestershire.—Mrs. Gardner, Golly-y-y-harryd, Oakridge Lynch, nr. Stroud, Gloucestershire.

WENSLEYDALE, The Heugh, Aysgarth, S.O.—1,250 ft. above sea level; faces south, magnificent views; a few boarders received; recommended for restful holiday and to convalescents; station, Askrigg.—Apply, Miss Smith

TO LET.

A LADY wishes to hear of another to share her small house in a pretty part of Dorset.—Barlston, Broadstone, Dorset.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED Bed-sitting-room to Let to lady; contains closed-in sink, gas cooker, gas fire, 10s. 6d. weekly. References required and given.—Apply, mornings only, Miss Wardlaw, 125, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, S.W.

KENSINGTON.—Well-furnished flat to let; three rooms and kitchen; gas stove; first floor. One minute from Notting Hill Gate. Rent 25s. Write first.—Miss Tunks, 8, Lancaster-rd., Swiss Cottage, N.W.

MEMBER strongly recommends furnished bedroom and sitting-room; attendance; very clean and quiet.—Apply 133, Pinner-rd., Oxhey, Herts.

THREE MINUTES from South Kensington Station. Two or three furnished rooms to let; suit students or social workers; rent moderate.—Box 6,116, COMMON CAUSE Office.

TO LET, FURNISHED.—Upper part in Chelsea; 3 bed, 2 reception rooms, geyser, bath, kitchen, &c.—Apply, Mr. Kelland, 80, Royal Hospital-rd., Chelsea.

TO LET, in professional woman's house, two unfurnished rooms, top flat; small rent; Chelsea.—Apply, Elm, Box 6,123, COMMON CAUSE Office.

UNFURNISHED.—Two large, bright, communicating rooms (second floor); suitable for private lady, or any private business; separate gas metre; no attendance.—L. L., 38, Chapel-st., Belgrave-sq.

VERY convenient self-contained Flat, 3 rooms, bath, first floor, gas stove; Chelsea; rent 25s. weekly, or near offer.—Write Box 3,903, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WEST NORWOOD.—Two minutes station; bed with breakfast 2s., 12s. weekly; two sharing 1s. 9d., 10s. 6d.—Apply, Box 6,124, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WANTED.

WANTED.—W.C. District. Bed-sitting-room about 7s. weekly. Breakfast and use of bath.—Box 6,117, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WHERE TO LIVE.

A LADY starting scheme for solving domestic problems, has large double bedroom, small single, and sitting-room to let, with board, 25s.; bed-sitting-room, 23s.; half-hour from Piccadilly; lady housekeeper kept.—M., 5, Chiswick-lane, W.

A LADY engaged in business wishes to meet with a lady similarly occupied as paying guest in her flat in Westminster; terms moderate.—Address, E. W. Allen, 39, Lombard-st., E.C.

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Printed (and the Trade supplied) by the NATIONAL PRESS AGENCY LTD., Whitefriars House, Carmelite St., London, for the Proprietors, THE COMMON CAUSE PUBLISHING CO. LTD., and Published at 14, Great Smith St., Westminster. London: George Vickers. Manchester: John Heywood; Abel Heywood & Son; W. H. Smith & Son. Newcastle-on-Tyne: W. H. Smith & Son. Edinburgh and Glasgow: J. Menzies & Co. Dublin and Belfast: Eason & Son.