Mrs. Fawcett in East Lothian.

The Common Cause.

The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

Vol. II. No. 77. E

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SEPTEMBER 29 1910.

ONE PENNY.

The News of the Week.

Keeping the Bill Alive.

Members of Parliament will be coming back to their constituencies during the next few weeks, and will be meeting their constituents both in public and in private. We urgently remind secretaries that this is the occasion for getting our friends among them to speak for us at public meetings, and for reminding every one of them that the Conciliation Bill is alive, and that we expect them to insist that it shall pass. Our agitation must

had voted for the Second Reading, also voted aye in the second division, thereby, as some thought, deliberately "shelving" the Bill. Now, it was clear from Mr. Haldane's speech that this was not his desire, nor was it the motive of Mr. Balfour and other distinguished Conservatives, who opposed the sending of the Bill to Grand Committee, because they hold that the whole House should decide such important questions as the extension of the franchise.

In order to give men of this way of thinking the opportunity of helping to get the Bill considered, the Conciliation Committee is getting the following statement



MODERN CHIVALRY.

take on a more distinctly political aspect than ever before. Where Federations have been formed, the Federation Secretary should see that the Societies within the Federation do this work; deputations of local representative people should be got up, and the replies of the Members carefully noted and sent to headquarters. We strongly recommend the public questioning of Members by an elector, and where a Member professes to be friendly to the principle, but to object to this particular Bill, the question should be so worded as to extract from him a pledge as to what sort of Bill he would be prepared to support.

The Second Division.

It will be remembered that on the second division, for referring the Conciliation Bill to a Committee of the whole House, a considerable number of Members who signed: "The undersigned Members of the House of Commons, who were unable to adopt the view of the promoters of the Parliamentary Franchise (Women Occupiers) Bill, that it should be considered by a Grand Committee, desire to associate themselves with the request of the Conciliation Committee that facilities may be granted for its consideration by the Committee of the whole House."

The Payment of Members.

Signs are increasing that a serious effort may be made in the autumn session to get the Government to introduce a measure for the payment of Members. Mr. Sidney Webb actually proposes that such a measure should be embodied in a vote of Supply, and whether this be possible or no, a note in the "Nation" suggests that, in a friendly House, the procedure with regard to such

We express no opinion on the merits of such a measure, but no one will deny that it is one of first-class importance, and that women are concerned equally with men. The taxes to provide for payment of Members will come out of the pockets of women as well as of men, and until they have their due share in representation, this would be mere robbery.

When is An Occupier Not An Occupier?

The action of revising barristers is constantly revealing fresh anomalies in our municipal electoral law. Here are two fresh cases. A correspondent writes from Wallasey:—"This district has up to the present time been an urban district, and consequently married women have voted. It is now incorporated as the 'Borough of Wallasey.' Mrs. Mahood, who has her own business in the place, and whose husband has a quite distinct business elsewhere, put in a claim under the 1907 Act to be on the new burgess roll. The revising barrister, Mr. Williams, refused to hear her at all, on the ground that two years ago he had decided married women could not be on a burgess roll. It is particularly hard in this case, as through incorporation a right has been taken away which had been constantly exercised.'

Having It All Ways.

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Another curious case comes from Montgomeryshire, where a woman landowner and ratepayer, judicially separated from her husband, is refused registration as a voter for the County Council on the ground that 'although she is in the position of feme sole for certain purposes (such as contract, etc.), she is not so in respect of the franchise." The monstrous absurdities of coverture and its corollaries are surely sufficient to warrant the sweeping away of the whole of the mediæval lumber, and declaring once for all that a woman is a woman, whether married or single, and should have the rights and responsibilities, the duties and the protection, of an adult person. How on earth can it be equitably supposed that a woman who is separated from her husband on account of his faults of cruelty and infidelity, is yet feme couverte and "represented" by the defaulter?

The Chancellor and Women's Grievances.

Mrs. Despard has, in the name of the Women's Freedom League, requested an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to lay before him the grievances of women with regard to the income-tax levied on married women, and the new land taxes as applied to women landowners. She states she can prove definite breaches of the Married Women's Property Act and of the Income

We think it extremely likely that Mr. Lloyd George will find himself in a rather foolish predicament when he has to meet the "sentimental objection" that women are beginning to feel at being fleeced.

The Speaker's Condescension.

Mr. Lowther recently addressed a meeting in Penrith on the Red Cross Movement. This is the way he spoke of women:-"Ladies were allowed to help. (Allowed! Think of Florence Nightingale!) They were anxious nowadays to take part in affairs. They had some experience of that elsewhere. There was a grand opportunity for them. There was no necessity to parade the streets or to hold meetings in Hyde Park. They could, by learning home nursing, become useful members of the State." The condescension of it! The Speaker will "allow" women to nurse men, but let them not dare to poach on the Speaker's preserves and ask for representation in the Speaker's House.

The Cotton Dispute.

This dispute seemed in a fair way of settlement—but fresh difficulties have arisen. When one reads the interminable discussions as to the rights and extricate him.

a measure should be "as brief and expeditious as Mini-sters can reasonably make it." wrongs of this quarrel and of other industrial dis-putes of late, — whether this particular job was We express no opinion on the merits of such a measure, part of a man's work, whether it should be paid for separately or done in certain hours, or with certain tools, and so forth, - one wonders what justice there is in the sneer that ladies in particular cannot 'manage'' their servants. The work of a domestic servant is infinitely more various and more difficult to arrange and allot than any work done in a factory. We are quite prepared to admit that employers and employed are often very stupid and selfish, and mean and tactless. but we cannot see that women are any worse than men, and the fact that so many women employers of servants are, as it were, middlemen, with little real power, with perhaps no money, and with a definite prescribed style to keep up, makes their work peculiarly difficult.

Rearing Thieves.

On the 19th of September two small girls of eleven and twelve were charged with picking pockets, and their father was also charged with loitering "with intent" and with receiving. It came out in evidence that the children were regularly engaged in this work, and that their father received the stolen goods. They were sent to an industrial school. The man was sent to prison for six months, three months on each charge. It seems a light sentence for such use of parental power.

Poor Women and Motors.

It has been stated that the cottage women's petition to the Queen with regard to motor traffic has been signed by 10,200 women living in cottages on much frequented roads. It runs as follows :-

May it please your Majesty,-The village women of the United Kingdom humbly beseech your Majesty to help us to get some relief from the motor-cars. We are sure your Majesty cannot know how much we suffer from them. They have made our lives a misery.

'Our children are always in danger, our things are ruined by the dust, we cannot open our windows, our rest is spoiled by the noise at night.

"If they could be made to go slow through the villages it would be a great thing, but we are only poor people, and the great majority of those who use motor-cars take no account of us. We do not know what to do, so we appeal to your Majesty to use your great influence on our behalf.

When one realizes that the women have the care of the children and the cleaning of the home, it becomes evident how much this is a woman's question.

Welsh Liberal Women and the Suffrage.

We hear that Cardiff Liberal women are arranging for a Welsh Women's Conference on the Conciliation Bill on November 30. Mr. Brailsford is going to speak.

A Distinguished Australian.

We hear from Melbourne that Mrs. G. H. Hope, one of the vice-presidents of the Australian Women's National League, is coming to England for over a year, and would be glad to give any required information about Australian women. She is president of the Geelong Branch, with a membership of 1,000, and is a practised Address: c/o the National Bank, Bishopsgate Street Within, London.

Our Cartoon.

Suggested by the speech of the German Emperor upon the "real duty of womanhood," our cartoon shows the womanly woman "marching in spirit before the ban-From another point of view, the unfortunate White Knight may represent the modern politician, endeavouring vainly to legislate for the home, his horse encumbered with paraphernalia of the household, and Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1910.

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

LATERARY 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

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.

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Modern Chivalry.

A few weeks ago the German Emperor delighted the Anti-Suffragists by putting woman in her place again; last week the Speaker of the English House of Commons sneered at women who "parade the streets or hold meetings in Hyde Park"; and we have always with us the writer of letters to the newspaper, who deplores women's lamentable folly in "bartering their birthright" of men's chivalrous worship and protection for the empty glory of a vote. The recent dispute in the Edinburgh printing trade gives us an admirable illustration of how men's chivalry acts as a protection to women.

The quarrel arose from the jealousy of men as to the employment of women in the printing trade, and the men have definitely stated that their object is the "ultimate total elimination of women compositors from the trade." Of course the bare statement of the real motive is too ugly for public opinion, which likes its ugly facts dressed up in an appearance of justice and sentiment, so we are told: "The women have undercut the men." This is true. But it is well-known that unorganized labour is helpless, and the men have refused the women admission to their union. Further, unskilled labour commands less than skilled, and the men throw every obstacle and discouragement into the way of women becoming skilled. Further, legislation makes restrictions as to night work for women which are not made for men, so that artificially, by man-made law, women's labour is made less valuable to the employer. If this excuse were honest, the remedy is plain: let men

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The insist that only Trade-union labour shall be employed, and let them admit women to their Trade Unions; wages and apprenticeship would then take the normal course, and women would get the same wages as men for the same work; where the work is different, lighter, less skilled or less varied, they would rightly get less.

There could only be one moral justification for the action of the men in trying to drive the women out of the trade, and that would be, if it were unsuited to them and injurious to them or the race; and we should remember that we must compare any employment not, as sentimentalists are so fond of doing, with some purely imaginary and rose-coloured "sphere of woman," the work which the actual woman of flesh and blood, here and now, is likely to get; and we must ask ourselves, too, what makes it so certain that men know so much better than women what is, after all, mainly a woman's own business.

Now what is this work? We may admit that a good deal of the work that girls and women have to do at present is unsuited to them, that it is too hard for them, and should be done by men. It is not right that nurses in hospitals should do the heavy work of polishing yards and yards of floor, or of carrying the weights they often It is not right that working-men's wives should have to do heavy washing in the home, within a few weeks of the birth of a child. It is not right that girl children should drag about heavy babies before their own bodies are full grown, or that the "slaveys" (well-named) in lodging-houses, and often even the servants in wealthy houses should have to carry large buckets of coal and cans of water up innumerable steep flights of stairs. All this is "unwomanly" work in the true sense that it is injurious to women's bodies; even the fearful rapidity with which some women are forced to bear children is "unwomanly" in this sense, and in the sense that it is out of accord with a woman's knowledge and instinct. Yet we hear no outcry on the part of men against such serious crippling of women's bodies. What is the nature of the employment out of which the printers are so anxious to drive women?

A practical printer wrote last week to the "Nation" as follows:-"In my opinion the work is of a character eminently suitable for women to do, being, in fact, no more or less than operating on a system of keys laid down in exactly the same way as an ordinary type-writer, and in which the most notable difference is that the action of the keys, instead of imprinting the form of the letter upon a piece of paper, perforates holes in a roll of paper."
Another branch of the trade from which the women are to be excluded, if this can be accomplished, is that of proof-reader.

Now, what can we think of the "chivalry" of men who do such things? Men who keep women's wages low by refusing them the benefits of training and combination, and then combine to exclude them altogether, on the plea that they "undercut" men. Men who make the law and manipulate it so as to drive the weaker to the wall. Men who make no scruple of doing work for which women are eminently fitted (are not men found even to measure yards of ribbon and to inspect infant schools?), and of leaving to women work which overtaxes their bodies. No excuse of equity or justice, still less any pretence of care to protect women's tender bodies can disguise any longer the ugly fact, that, if there be sex war, it is men of this type who are waging it against women, and that whatever they may say with their lips, to the women's desperate cry of "Il faut vivre!" they answer cynically, in their hearts, "Je n'en vois pas la necessite.

Of course, we know quite well that few men would go to such a length if they understood women's case as they understand their own. They cheat themselves by one of the following sophistries. The more extreme, like the German Emperor or Mr. Lowther, deprecate any public or combined action on the part of women. The womanly woman does not, in their view, need to hold public meetings, and if she combines it can only be against man, and therefore horrible. Let her speak to her husband at home, and all will be well. Are we, then, to suppose that men's combinations, from which they exclude all women, are worked in the interests of women?

Then there are those who say women can get all they want without legislation, by mere combination, and they say, "Why don't you combine?" They are mostly those who do not lift a finger to help the sweated, ignorant, untrained women to combine, but they are quite certain that if only women did combine they could get all they needed without legislation. Strange, how different must be the needs of men and women! Men need all the protection not only of combination, but of legislation, while women can do without all support from the law!

And finally, there are those who say that men are always ready and anxious to legislate in the interests of women, and therefore women do not need the vote. We are asked to believe that the very men who have resisted the combination and the training of women, who fight every inch of the ground in the endeavour to keep women out of well-paid trades and professions for which they are well adapted, will, when it comes to legislation, act purely in the best interests of women.

In the "Forerunner" of August is the following

rhyme:—
""We are weak'! said the Sticks, and men broke them;
"We are weak'! said the Threads, and were torn.
Till new thoughts came and they spoke them:
Till the Faggot and the Rope were born."
Now faggots and ropes are good to burn and bind the weak, and in all ages have been so used. Let women learn, and be strong.

Mrs. Fawcett in East Lothian.

On Thursday evening a large and particularly representative meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, Haddington, at which stirring addresses were delivered by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., and Miss E. Lamond. The Lady Frances Balfour, presided, and, besides the principal speakers, was accompanied to the platform by Mr. John D. Hope, M.P.

The Lady Frances Balfour, in a few introductory remarks, said she felt it a great honour to preside on that occasion, as it was the first time they had had their leader, Mrs. Fawcett, amongst them. (Applause.) Had Mrs. Fawcett been a man she (Lady Frances) supposed she would have referred to her as "a veteran, scarred in many a fight," but if she said that in this case, no doubt it would be reported that Mrs. Fawcett was covered with scars as the result of her contests with their opponents. (Laughter.) She did not believe there was anyone who spoke upon the great cause with more reason, with more weight, or more convincingly. How she managed to do it as freshly, and with the life and energy which she carried into it, considering the long time she had been at work, she (Lady Frances) did not know, unless it were just because Mrs. Fawcett was a woman. (Applause.)

Mrs. Fawcett, who had a very hearty reception, said she had the honour that evening of moving a resolutiona resolution which was particularly addressed to the highly respected member for the county, Mr. Haldane, the Secretary of State for War. In the debate which took place in the House of Commons in July on Mr. Shackleton's Women's Franchise Bill, Mr. Haldane made a most interesting speech. He had long been a convinced sup-porter of the movement that brought them together that night-a convinced supporter of the extension of the franchise to women, -but said in the course of the debate that he was going to vote in the second division for sending the Bill to a committee of the whole House. Now, many of them were of opinion that to do so would be practically to shelve the Bill for the rest of the session, but Mr. Haldane contested that view, and as he had so immeasurably more Parliamentary experience they had bowed to his opinion. Mr. Haldane said he did not consider that sending the Bill to a committee of the whole House would necessarily delay legislation on the subject. Accordingly the resolution she was about to propose was based upon that remark by Mr. Haldane. The resolution was :- "That this meeting of the inhabitants of Haddington welcomes the assurance given by Mr. Haldane in the

House of Commons that sending Mr. Shackleton's Women's Franchise Bill to a committee of the whole House need not cause delay in the subject becoming law, and respectfully requests him, in furtherance of this assurance, to exert his influence as a member of the Cabinet to ensure facilities being given in the coming autumn session for the further stages of the Bill in the House of Commons.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1910

Mr. Haldane had recently written to Dr. Elsie Inglis, the hon, secretary of the Scottish Federation for Woman Suffrage, and in that letter he was declining an invitation to take part in a political meeting on the subject. "Moreover," he added, "I doubt whether I should do you any good by making a speech at this moment." They would see the modesty of Mr. Haldane in thinking that a speech from him now would do no good. (Laughter.) They thought it would do a great deal of good. Mr. Haldane continued:—"This matter must develope on its own lines, and I do not think that the prospect is bad." It rested with the Government and the Government alone to decide whether Mr. Shackleton's Bill was to have any further chance whatever of making progress during the autumn session. Sketching the history of Mr. Shackleton's Conciliation Bill, Mrs. Fawcett declared it was a mis-statement to say that the measure was drafted in the interests of any political party. It was the result of a meeting of members of Parliament called to see what Bill they could support, they being in favour of some form of Woman Suffrage. It was a Bill based upon the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to those women who already for forty years had been exercising the various municipal and local franchises. There were those who attacked the Bill, and said it was undemocratic. Some even said it was anti-democratic. But what did democratic mean? It meant government by the people; and surely the people consisted of both men and women, and it was more democratic to enfranchise some women than to keep all women outside the pale of the constitu-If it were an undemocratic Bill, why did the Liberals introduce this very same basis for the basis of the municipal franchise throughout the country some forty years ago? If it were undemocratic, why had they not sought to change the basis for local franchise? They had not sought to do so, and therefore she thought it was something very much like political cant and political hypocrisy to attack the Bill on the ground that it was undemocratic. If it were undemocratic, why was it supported by the vast majority of the Labour party in the House of Commons? When the Bill came on for the second reading in July last it was supported by 161 Liberals; 60 Liberals were against it. It was supported by 31 Labour men; only 2 were against it. It was supported by 20 members of the Irish Nationalist party; only 14 were against it. The only party in the House of Commons at the present moment that did not give a majority in favour of the Woman Suffrage Bill introduced by Mr. Shackleton was the Conservative party, which voted 87 for and 113 against. The movement was making progress all along the line. They never expected to win in a hurry, but she thought the time had come when the country was ready and willing to listen

to the advocacy of the question.

People sometimes asked, "Well, after all, are you not making a fetich of Woman Suffrage? Are you not making a fetich of votes?" She contended they were not making a fetich of votes. They knew from the experience of their own countrymen what the possession of the Parliamentary Suffrage meant. They believed their fathers were right in making the great struggle they did to secure the representation of the people—in 1832, in 1867, and again in 1884. They believed they were carrying on that same struggle in the same spirit and with the same desire; that they were fighting strictly on the lines laid down for them by their fathers before them. (Applause.) They asked themselves what would be the practical effect of Woman Suffrage. She believed one of those practical effects would be very considerably to strengthen and raise up the industrial position of women in this country. She knew that this had been denied by many very eminent men on both sides in politics. She

knew it had been denied by so eminent a man as Lord Cromer. She had no desire to be otherwise than respect-ful to Lord Cromer, a man who had for many years served his country in Egypt and in India. For many years he had occupied the position of a benevolent despot over a large group of Oriental people, doing, she believed, his work faithfully and well, but she did not think that sort of training was the best possible to enable him to form a correct judgment of the politics of this country. (Applause.) She thought that to a certain extent Lord Cromer's mind on this subject of Woman Suffrage had been orientalised. They knew what the position of women was in the East—that it was very inferior indeed as to liberty and other things to what obtained in the

Referring to the settlement in the Edinburgh printing dispute, by which until 1916 no new female learners shall be taken on in the compositing trade, and all mono-type keyboards shall be given to male operators only, she contended that that was very injurious to women, and in direct contravention of all the principles of individual liberty which were supposed to be held dear to British hearts. (Applause.) Women had not entered that trade for the fun of the thing, but because economic circumstances made it absolutely necessary for them to gain a living, and if they were forced out of that trade they were necessarily forced into other trades, probably already overcrowded and already underpaid. Having related the starvation life of an old Irish woman who was employed making breeches for the Territorials, Mrs. Fawcett said they all knew that if she had been a young woman there was another alternative open to her than suicide, which she had attempted. There was a very close connection between that of the terribly low wages paid to women and the moral question that lay at the root of so much that was evil in the national life. She thought this should appeal to all women and all rightminded men to think what could be done to raise the industrial position of women trying to earn wages by honourable toil. (Applause.) How would the possession of the vote affect such questions as this? In all Government contracts which dealt with the employment of men a clause was introduced to the effect that the highest

be paid. No such clause, however, had been inserted with regard to women. Women had not got the vote behind them to force pressure as the men had been able to do in order to promote their industrial well-being. Women who went into the labour market to earn their living should also have the power of self-protection and the power which the vote would give them in raising the general position of women in the labour market. (Applause.) When people said that Woman Suffrage would have no effect she thought they must have been keeping their minds tied up in a black velvet bag and not looking at the world as it existed before them. To the men present, Mrs. Fawcett pointed out that they could render great assistance by making their Parliamentary representative feel that the more he worked and spoke in support of the vement for Woman Suffrage the more he was meeting with their wishes. She concluded by moving the resolution

Miss Lamond having seconded the resolution, it was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

Mr. John D. Hope, M.P., proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Lamond. There were, he said, in all great causes three different stages. The first was the apathy of the general public. The second was that of ridicule and abuse. That was when its opponents were beginning to see that the cause was making headway. The third stage was the stage of success. He thought the Woman Franchise movement had gone through the first stage; he thought it was getting through the second; and he hoped they would live to see it arrive at the third and last. In the whole range of practical politics there was no question that did not affect and interest women equally with men:—education; the conditions of the sweated industries, where women were actually stitching out their lives for bread; the great cause of temperance. etc. He believed the passing of this Conciliation Bill, which was a very moderate and very modest Billpersonally he was in favour of something much more drastic and much more thorough,-would broaden the basis of freedom, which would make for home happiness, would expand the bounds of justice, and, lastly, make for national righteousness. (Applause.)

Miss Howden, Boggs, Pencartland, proposed a voto trade-union rate of wages prevalent in the district should of thanks to Lady Frances Balfour for presiding.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS EDITH DIMOCK.
MISS BERTHA MASON (Parliamentary).

President:
MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Treasurer:
MISS BERTHA MASON (Pro Tem.)

Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." Secretary: Miss T. G. Whitehead, M.A. Telephone: 1900 Victoria.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Treasurer's Notes. CONTRIBUTIONS

September 19th to September 24th,	1910.		
Already acknowledged	£ 2,168	s. 9	d 5
Miss Dalby, Birkenhead W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0	6	0
Scarborough W.S.S., per Miss Gibb (collec- tion for Trafalgar Square Demonstration)	1	5	6
Birmingham W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0		
Penrith W.S.S. (donation to Election Fund, being Profits of Garden Sale)	2	3	3
ceeds of a Suffrage Fête) Miss M. Radford (sub.)	1	1 5	0
white the contract of the cont	£2,173	16	2
MILLION SHILLING FUND.	3,513		
Already acknowledged Miss Wheelwright Per Mrs. Stanbury	1,5	s. 594 20 35	0
	1,6	49	9

NOTE.—"Tennis Prize," acknowledged last week, ought to have been 1s., not 1s. 6d.

BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

Provincial Council.

The first of the recently established Provincial Councils will take place in Keswick on Saturday, October 9th, and the Keswick Society has sent out a most comprehensive

On Friday, October 7th, there will be a reception of Provincial Councillors at 8 p.m., in the Queen's Hotel, with sp eeches by Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, and Miss I. O. Ford.

I. O. Ford.

On Saturday, October 8th, at 10.30 a.m., the Provincial Council meets at the Queen's Hotel, and again at 2.30, if necessary. That evening, at 8 p.m., there will be a public meeting in the Queen of the Lakes Pavilion, Mrs. Fawcett in the chair, the speakers being Miss I. O. Ford and Miss A. Maude Royden.

On October 11th Miss Bertha Mason is to give her lantern leature.

lecture.
Excellent arrangements have been made by the local

Society for the entertainment and comfort of visitors, who should write to Miss Knight, North Bridge House, Keswick, for a programme, which we have not space to print in full.

Work in Mid-Buckinghamshire.

I came down here on September 5th to break ground in parts of this constituency where little or no work has been done. For this reason I did nothing in Wendover and Aylesbury,

where a good many meetings have been held. My head-quarters were at great Missenden, where Miss Courtauld had kindly placed her house at the disposal of an organiser. The greater part of my time I spent in visiting all sorts and conditions of men and women in Missenden, Amersham, and Chesham, and the outlying villages. I found a good deal of sympathy in quite unexpected quarters, and much indifference where one might reasonably have expected interest. Miss Raleigh, who was working for the new Constitutional Society, very kindly co-operated with me and gave me a great deal of help. On the 8th I had a very successful openair meeting at Chesham. Miss Raleigh and others canvassed the town and chalked the pavements, and we had a gathering of about 200 people. Mrs. Piggott took the chair, and I spoke. Miss Raleigh made a short speech on the "Physical Force Objection," which led to a little discussion. On the 12th I had another outdoor meeting at Amersham. We sent round the town crier, and in addition did a good deal of personal canvassing. We had another very good gathering. Dr. Morley Davies kindly took the chair, and made a short speech. I spoke, and had a very attentive hearing. I was pleased to see a great many women there. On the 19th I had a drawing-room meeting at Ballinger. Mrs. Benison kindly lent her room, and Mrs. Davies and others worked vigorously to get an audience. A good number were present, and I found them a most sympathetic audience. Mrs. Savory read a paper after my speech, and made some very telling points from her own experience of the difficulties of getting suitable legislation for women. We enrolled several new members, and sold a good deal of literature. I think there will be good work done during the autumn.

Work in East Cornwall.

Work in East Cornwall.

We have continued to break up new ground in the hills and dales of this district. On Monday we went over the moors to the village of St. Cleer. We did a house-to-house canvass of the cottages and farmhouses to advertise our evening meeting. The people responded splendidly, and an audience of quite a hundred stood round my wagonette for over an hour, in spite of the bitter wind. We sold out all the "Common Causes" we had with us. On Tuesday we went to Menheniot, where a splendid reception awaited us, largely owing to the energetic work done by Miss Batten. The oeople were most enthusiastic, and it seemed as though all the countryside had assembled to hear about the woman movement. Two men in the audience who proposed and seconded a vote of thanks, proved to be strong supporters of our cause. As we drove away amid hearty cheers we all felt Menheniot was going to yield good Suffrage fruit in the future.

future.

A meeting had been arranged by Miss West and Miss Glubb in the Institute at St. Neots for Wednesday. We were surprised to find more men than women present; but it is always good work to be able to talk to the voters. Mrs. Hermon, the President of the East Cornwall Society, took the chair, and appealed to all present to support this movement and help to bring the day of victory a little nearer. A number of questions were asked at the close of the meeting. The usual resolution was carried, with one dissentient. The people stood in groups discussing the questions for a long time after the meeting had broken up. The two dozen "Common Causes" we had with us were very soon sold. On Thursday four of us went out and canvassed the scattered district round Merrymeet and Pengover Green; at the 'atter place we held an open-air meeting at 6.30. It was well attended.

On Friday Mrs. Wenmoth kindly invited a few friends to On Friday Mrs. Wenmoth kindly invited a few friends to her house who had not heard about our aims and ideals before. We had an informal talk, which resulted in several new members for the local Society and one for the Bristol Society—a lady who was staying here with friends.

On Saturday I went to Bodmin, and made plans for a further campaign in that district. The Misses Williams and Mrs. Blight have worked splendidly. Their enthusiasm is a tower of strength in this pioneer work.

M. Norma-Smith.

The Bristol Demonstration.

Last week the name of Mr. F. W. Rogers, the hon. sec. of the Bristol Mon's League, was unintentionally omitted from the report of the Bristol demonstration. He had been mentioned the week before as giving much kind and valuable help, and on the day itself he greatly contributed to the success by his untiring efforts. Bristol Suffragists owe much to the kindness of the president, the hon. secretary, and the members generally of the Men's League.

Federation Notes.

North-Eastern.

There has been active propaganda work in the Hexham Division, chiefly at Rothbury, Hexham, and Corbridge. Open-air meetings have been held at the two last places, and at both Miss Mein and Miss Gordon secured a very attentive

hearing. This week we have with us Mrs. Fawcett, and there is every hope that a Hexham Society will be one outcome of her visit. The Federation Committee met at Darlington on Saturday, the 24th, and appointed Mrs. Broadley Reid as their representative from the Executive Committee, and Miss Hardcastle (hon. sec. to the Federation) and Miss Robinson (Durham) as delegates to the Provincial Council. Representatives were present from four of the six societies in the area—viz., Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, and Newcastle; but we hope for a full attendance at the next meeting, at Durham, on October 11, when the constitution comes up for ratification, and our scheme of work for the ensuing months will be under discussion.

C. M. Gordon.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants. Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

Ringwood has risen to the occasion, and has formed a splendid committee, which will have held its first meeting before this appears in print. Mrs. Gordon has undertaken the secretaryship, and Mrs. Lacy, Mrs. Parkin, Mrs. Penington, Mrs. Poore, and Miss Grant Robertson have promised to help on the committee. The place is most promising, and, in conjunction with Burley, it should soon have a most flourishing association. The success of the meeting we held in the Market Place on Tuesday was a good omen.

Midland.

Representatives from eleven of the Midland Societies met in Birmingham on September 22nd for the second committee meeting since the formation of the Federation, and a plan of autumn and winter work was drawn up. It was decided that Miss Phillips, the Midland organiser, should, if possible, visit Birmingham, Nottingham, West Bromwich, Burton-on-Trent, Warwick and Leamington, Shrewsbury, Oxford, Mansfield, Leicester, Derby, Rugby, and Olton during the next six months, and work in the societies already formed in those places. And, further, that the Federation should, if possible, engage an extra N.U. organiser for a short time, who, with one of their own members, should work in Stafford and form a society in that town before the winter is over. It was also decided that some of the other towns within our area which have at present no societies, such as Banbury, Lichfield, Ludlow, and Bridgnorth, should, if possible, be worked from the nearest strong society during Miss Phillips' visit. It was proposed that the annual meeting of the Federation next summer should be combined with a demonstration of all the Midland Societies. Miss Phillips is now working in Birmingham for a few days before leaving for a series of short visits to four societies that she may help them to work up their public meetings, which are to be held before the opening of Parliament.



Manchester and District:

Manchester and District:

Work in Burnley.

A week's work in Burnley has resulted in the formation of a Branch Society, for which 118 men and women have given in their names as full (or associate) members. A meeting of the members is to be held on Tuesday, September 27, when the committee and officers will be elected.

Miss Robertson went to Burnley for a day or two the week before last, saw the police, press, etc., secured a hall, and advertised a series of meetings for last week. The campaign of six meetings occupied three days—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday,—a dinner-hour and an evening meeting be ng held each day. Many warnings were given as to the roughness of Burnley people, and the brickbats, fish heads, etc., which might be expected at open-air meetings; indeed, the market superintendent could scarcely be persuaded to let us hold a meeting on the market ground, so sure was he that serious damage would be done. As so often happens, these fears proved absolutely groundless. There was no suspicion of rowdiness at any one of our six meetings (at only one were the children even troublesome), and at each one we passed the resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill without a single dissentient.

the resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill without a single dissentient.

Our indoor meeting in the Co-operative Hall on Wednesday night, at which Alderman Hough took the chair, was a great success. The Burnley people had been looking eagerly for Miss Ashton's coming, and her magnificent speech carried everything before it. At the close of the meeting, thanks to the most efficient help of Miss Thornton, Mrs. McNally, Miss Waddington, and other Burnley ladies, the names of 86 members were enrolled. Splendid help was given by Mrs. Aldersley, of Nelson, who came over every night and helped with the meetings; also by Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Müter Wilson, and Mrs. Jackson, who spoke for us; by Miss Wetherall and Mrs. D'Auquier, who gave invaluable help in organising.

A strong local committee is in process of formation, and we hope that Burnley, which has hitherto been behind its little neighbours, Colne and Nelson, will now forge ahead and prove itself, what it seemed last week quite inclined to become, a real Women's Suffrage town.

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

40, Museum Street, W.C.

40, Museum Street, W.C.

On September 24, at a special general meeting of the Men's League, the following resolution was moved on behalf of the committee by Mr. J. M. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. H. N. Brailsford, and carried by a majority of 136:—"That, in view of the refusal of the Prime Minister to grant facilities for Mr. Shackleton's Bill, this League decides to oppose the Government until a Woman's Suffrage Bill be carried into law, and that, accordingly, the Executive Committee shall at by-elections oppose all official Government candidates, and at a general election oppose all candidates except sitting Liberal members who have rendered effective support to the Conciliation Committee."

Conciliation Committee."
Mr. W. S. B. McLaren, M.P., moved, and Mr. Goldfinch Mr. W. S. B. McLaren, M.P., moved, and Mr. Goldfinch Bate seconded, the following resolution:—"That in view of the refusal of the Prime Minister to grant facilities for Mr. Shackleton's Bill, this League decides to oppose all Government candidates unless they pledge themselves to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee to support Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons, whether as a separate Bill or as an amendment to a Government Reform Bill, and to use their influence with the Government to obtain facilities for passing such a Bill into law."

This being lost, Mr. McLaren resigned his membership, but expressed at the same time his firm intention of continuing

expressed at the same time his firm intention of continuing his lifelong efforts in the cause of Women's Suffrage.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Suffrage.

Last week was spent in preparation for the Church Congress campaign at Cambridge, where a committee room (10, Emmanuel Street) is open daily, under the charge of Miss Susan Burnett; outdoor meetings are held under the direction of Miss F. M. Canning. The chairman for the Cambridge meeting on Friday is the Rev. A. S. Duncan Jones, Fellow and Lecturer of Caius College. Successful meetings were held in Bath on September 19th—i.e., a drawing meeting (hostess, Mrs. Long), and a public meeting in Holy Trinity Church Room (chairman, the Rev. E. G. Whittaker). The speakers on both occasions were Miss Maude Royden and the Rev. C. Hinscliff. Tickets for the "At Home" at Steinway Hall, October 26th, 8 p.m.—speaker, Miss Olive Christian Malvery (Mrs. Archibald Mackirdy),—can be obtained from the C.L.W.S. Offices, 11, St. Mark's Crescent, N.W., price 1s. 6d. and 1s. A meeting will be held at Hove on October 11th. October 15th is the proposed date for the inauguration of the Greenwich and Lewisham branch. Work will be begun in Warwickshire in November. As these campaigns involve very heavy expenditure, funds are urgently needed,

and those interested in the development of the League are requested to do their utmost to help in this direction.

CHURCH LEAGUE MEETINGS.

CHORCH IEAGOR MIBITATOR

Rev. A. S. Duncan, Fellow and Lecturer, Caius.
Oct. 4: Clergy Conference, 11, St. Mark's Crescent, N.W. 4.0.
Oct. 11: Hove Town Hall. Chairmann. Rev. V. A. Boyle. Speakers: Mrs. H. W. Nevinson, Rev. O. Hinseliff. 8.0.

CHORCH IEAGOR OF THE HALL THE

Foreign News.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Miss Plaminkova, writing in "Jus Suffragii," for Bohemian Suffragists, proposes that the paper should make an inquiry as to the position of women in different countries, especially on the following points:—

1. To what extent do women join political parties: (a) their numbers; (b) their function.

2. What are the relations between the women in parties and the Women Suffragists outside parties?

3. Do the Auxiliaries of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance stand apart from political parties (a) as to leaders and officers; (b) as to members?

It is suggested by the Editor that at the Steckholm Convention, delegates from each country should come prepared with a report on the lines of answers to these questions. Our readers will remember that the Convention is to be held next year from June 12th to 17th.

Posts for Women Doctors.

Applications were received last week for the post of resident medical officer at Crumpsall Workhouse. Two men and one woman applied, and the woman was admitted to be far the best applicant. The usual difficulties about accommodation were raised, but were surmounted. Another difficulty lay in the fact that certain work in the men's wards, usually done by a junior officer, was held to be not suitable for a woman, and this would necessitate a slight rearrangement of the work, giving an equal amount of similar work in the women's wards to the medical woman—instead of to the medical man. This would deprive the junior male officer of experience in that particular department of work in the women's wards, and this was considered an overwhelming objection to the appointment of a woman. The meeting was adjourned to consider the situation; another male candidate was allowed to apply, and was forthwith appointed, the Guardians deciding that the work was unfit for a woman. Similar posts are held by women up and down the country, one being no further away than Withington Poor-Law Hospital. Three questions will occur to the inquiring mind: If this particular work among men is unsuitable for a medical woman, how is it that corresponding work among women is not unsuitable for a medical man? Also, if it is a disadvantage to a medical man to be deprived of certain experience among female patients (he having male patients reserved to himself exclusively), is it not a still greater disadvantage to a medical woman to be deprived of all experience among female patients? Finally, on what grounds except the most narrow and selfish and callous protection of their own pockets do medical men deny to women the privilege of being attended by doctors of their own sex if they wish it, and Applications were received last week for the post of resido medical men deny to women the privilege of being attended by doctors of their own sex if they wish it, and how can medical women qualify except by the same experience as men?

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Snowden.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Snowden sail for the United States on Tuesday, October 4, and will be away until the New Year. Will correspondents please note that between October 2nd and December 7th letters may be addressed to them c/o Dr. Aked, 2, West 86th Street, New York, U.S.A. Mr. Snowden's engagement was made long ago. He says he never would have arranged to leave England this autumn had ke known what would be before the House.

The National Vigilance Association

The twenty-fifth annual report of this Association thands, and we earnestly recommend all who wish to help in the suppression of the White Slave Traffic, all who wish to promote the freedom of women and purity of life, all who know of individual cases needing advice or help or inquiry, to remember that this Association is the best and the safest, that "The Shield" is its organ, and that the address is: St. Mary's Chambers, 161a, Strand, London, W.C., with branches at Cardiff, Sunderland, Manchester, and Liverpool.

National Association for Women's Lodging Homes.

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Mrs. Hylton Dale writes that as the result of the publication of her article in our issue of the 15th, she has received between £11 and £12. She also asks us to publish the name and address of Mrs. Higgs (author of "Where Shall We Live?"): Bent Cottage, Oldham.

Editorial.

We should be very grateful if our correspondents would remember that our space is limited and would endeavour to make their reports and letters as pithy and short as possible. We are very unwilling to cut or suppress opinions or views, but space compels us to do so, unless our friends will kindly do the work for us.

do the work for us.

With regard to "Forthcoming Meetings," we should be very glad to publish all the notices we get, but again we are obliged to select, and we must, as a rule, select meetings held by Societies within the National Union, of which this paper is the organ.

Reviews.

September Magazines.

The Englishwoman has an analysis of the Anti-Suffrage "arguments," which is useful, and an admirably stimulating article by Miss Margaret Ashton on "Women Councillors." Mr. James Haslam writes on "Mantlemakers," Mrs. Tooley on "Florence Nightingale," and Miss Lowndes on "Banners and Bannermaking."

The Majestic Unity of Woman is published by the Christian Commonwealth Company, Limited, 133, Salisbury Square, E.C. (price ld, by post 14d.), and its nature is well indicated by its title.

Correspondence.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the recovery of the contract of the correspondence.

paper only.

Correspondents are regasted to that the Correspondents are regasted to that the Correspondents are regasted to that the Correspondents are regasted to the Correspondents are repeated to the Correspondent and the Correspondents are repeated to the Correspondent and the Correspondents are repeated to the Correspondent and the Correspondents are completed in this week's Press that a couple of Inland Revenue officials laid their hands upon her in a public place and threatened her "in the King's name" with immediate arrest for non-payment of income tax. This was nothing but a piece of "bluff," as these men would not have dared actually to carry out such a ridiculous and empty threat. It is illegal to charge any married woman with income tax or super tax, a fact which was confirmed by Mr. Lloyd George (in reply to a definite inquiry by Mr. Philip Snowden) as recently as July 28th last, and I have the official copy of his reply before me now. As a married woman cannot legally be charged with income tax or super tax, it follows that she cannot legally be held liable for payment, and neither her money, her goods, nor her body may be seized. These officials, therefore, knowing full well that the lady in question was a married woman, were guilty of illegal threats, and of a piece of intimidation.

Another married woman has recently had the Inland Revenue officials breaking into premises rented by her, during her absence on holidays, and carrying off her goods, for non-payment of a tax for which, as I have shown above, she is not liable. An action is pending in respect of this high-handed performance.

high-handed performance.

Another bad case came into my hands early this year, in which two old ladies, in very feeble health and penurious circumstances, had received a threatening letter from Somerset House, demanding immediate payment of legacy duty, with compound interest at 3 per cent. per annum, on the real estate left by their father, who died in 1876—that is, thirty-four years ago. An intimidatory footnote warned them to give instant attention to this demand, as no second application would be made or further explanation given. One of the ladies was lying dangerously ill with a complication of diseases, and quite unable to understand anything, while the other was literally frightened out of her senses. But the unspeakable irony of this demand lay in the fact that the estate in question was wholly real estate, which, under our man-made laws of inheritance, cannot descend to women; at no time and under no circumstances could these ladies ever have participated in, or had any claim upon, their father's property, and of this fact the authorities either were or ought to have been aware. The estate had of course passed intact to the only brother (also long since deceased) of these ladies, while they had been left penniless. In these circumstances a demand for legacy duty, made thirty-four years afterwards, was adding insult to the original injury which they had suffered; yet if a Suffragist had not come to their rescue and provided them with expert advice and assistance, they would have been the helpless victims of illegal threats and demands, and the officials would have proceeded to intimidate them into compliance.

I must apologise for writing at such length, but I wish earnestly to warn all women to be on their guard where the Inland Revenue is concerned. I have just had to make complaint of being unable to obtain repayment of income tax due to my clients, and the official reason given to me by Somerset House is, "delay caused by the unusual difficulties." They did not cause them, or want them. They were not consulted by anyone in

money.

Why do men go and make the trouble and then expect women meekly and tamely to put up with the consequences? They are quite surprised when women resent these consequences, and will not submit to be the sufferers by men's muddleheaded goings-on.—Yours,

ETHEL AYRES PURDIE

(Women's Tax Resistance League).

Craven House, Kingsway, W.C., Sept. 23rd, 1910.

"A STRIKE OF LIBERAL WOMEN."

To the Editor "The Common Cause." Madam,-With reference to the letter of September 22 Madam,—With reference to the letter of September 22 above quoted, may I point out how vitally useful to our cause it would prove if not merely Liberal women but women workers for every political party would "strike" work until their party would espouse our cause? So thoroughly do I believe this that—as an object-lesson—I have struck work for my own political party; and, knowing that the party would as far as possible "keep dark" the reason of my resignation, I carefully took measures to ensure all possible publicity being given both to my action and motives. I sent my letter of resignation not only to my local chiefs but to the London headquarters, and got the local newspapers of both political sides to publish the same, with the result that much discussion has ensued; and, as I have been informed recently, my action has "made quite a stir." I enclose cutting from the leading Liberal organ here, which the

F. LUDICKE.

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editor has kindly headed as "Fighting for Principles." Perhaps you may care to re-publish it for the information of other Suffragists who may be engaged in party political work.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1910.

A. M. STREET, (Late hon. sec., Burton Women's Suff. Soc.).

To the Editor of the "Burton Evening Gazette."

Dear Sir,—The accompanying letter has been forwarded to Grand Council of the Primrose League, and to the Ruling Councillor and the hon. secretary of the Burton Habitation:—
"It is with regret that I write to resign the office of Ward Secretary of the Broadway Ward of the Burton Habitation of the Primrose League.

of the Broadway Ward of the Burton Habitation of the Frimrose League.

"But the position of women with regard to the State is altogether too anomalous for a woman who thoroughly realises that position to continue to do political work under present conditions, if she would retain her own self-respect.

"While our political pastors and masters'—with the notable and noble exception of Mr. Balfour and a few other honourable exceptions—insist that political matters, relating to the State's welfare, are 'no concern of women,' there remains no possible justification for their employment of women in the drudgery of political work for the strengthening and assistance of political parties, or even of the State itself, inasmuch as women receive no State recognition, either in Honours Lists, or as a portion of the electorate.

"At any rate, I, for one, refuse any longer to do work which the Employer—whether Party or State,—while requiring it and benefiting by it, strenuously assures me is no business of mine!"

I am, yours faithfully,

The Hollies, 258, Branstone Road, Burton-on-Trent,

The Hollies, 258, Branstone Road, Burton-on-Trent, August 31st, 1910.

CANVASS OF WOMEN MUNICIPAL ELECTORS.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I am afraid I am rather late in writing to endorse most heartily all that Miss Eleanor Rathbone says in her letter in the issue of September 1st re the canvass of municipal woman waters.

in her letter in the issue of September 1st re the canvass of municipal woman voters.

I have been absent from home for some little time, and am only just realising what it means to try and get the opinions of the municipal women voters on the Conciliation Committee's Bill. The chief value of such a petition must surely lie in the addition of the voting number, and this addition, we are told, is quite unnecessary. In the short time at our disposal, for I gather the petition will be required by the opening of Parliament, the propaganda work resulting from a general petition of adult women will be greater than that resulting from a petition of a certain class of women.

When the Wallasey Suffrage Society was first formed, we spent endless hours in trying to get at the women voters, and found it a hopeless task owing to so many of them being engaged in business.

and found to a hoperess task owing to so hany of them being engaged in business.

There is another point, which does not perhaps affect many places, but is rather prominent here at present. The Conciliation Bill enfranchises those married women who are voters under a district (urban or rural) council. The burgess roll does not, in most cases, contain these women, owing to the various interpretations of the Act of 1907. Here, where we have just been incorporated as the Borough of Wallasey, a large number of married women have been struck off the roll (not without emphatic protests). My small experience goes to show that it is these women who are the easiest to get at, and are the most interested in affairs generally and Suffrage in particular, and yet in the towns we shall be unable to get their signatures.—Yours,

ELEANOR F. McPherson. 16, Newland Drive, Liscard, Cheshire.

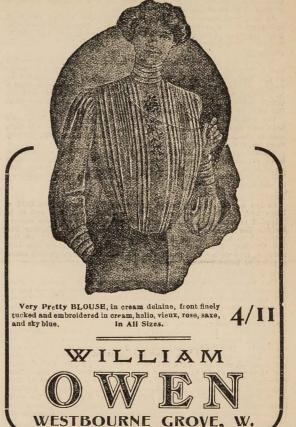
[It is interesting, in view of the frequent statement that the Conciliation Bill would enfranchise chiefly "rich women," to note that one of the difficulties in the way of the canvasser is that so many women occupiers are out at work. With regard to the latter point in this letter, it is regretable, but true, that the present local government franchise is so confused and so variously interpreted that in many cases married women are not allowed on the roll of burgesses; and, therefore, although they would, if they were "occupiers," have votes under the Conciliation Bill, their names are not to be found on any existing lists.—Ed.

WOMEN AND THE PRIESTHOOD.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Your correspondent, L. R. Taylor, begs the whole question. He writes:—"A laywoman is not a priest for exactly the same reason that a layman is not a priest, and that is that neither of them has had the inward call from God to the work." We reply that in many cases God, Who "is never negative or exclusive," has called women to the priestly office, but they have been denied it by the ordinances of men. This is our grievance. It may "not matter to others what the Church's rules are for her members," but to many who are, like myself, Churchwomen and Catholics, it matters profoundly that women should be given the priestly vocation by God and denied the priestly office by men.—Yours,

September 24th, 1910.



of the two scoundrels who conspired to procure four girls for immoral purposes, and I wondered whether your readers had compared the sentence of a woman, in an issue of a few days previous, for "petty theft under great temptation." She stole a mat, sold it for 3d., and bought food. She was an old offender, and was sentenced to four years' penal servitude. The ratio is instructive. Four girls (value £1,137?): one doormat (value 3d.):: 6 months: 4 years. Probably the men were old offenders too!—Yours,

Bessie F. Barrett.

Lincoln. Sentember 25th, 1910.

Lincoln, September 25th, 1910.
[Yes, the men were said to have had "an infamous record."—ED. "C.C."]

Reports of Societies within the National Union.

Secretaries would simplify the work by sending in notices of FORTHCOMING MEETINGS, endorsed with those words, with time, place, and speakers legibly written, on one side of the paper only, and on a sheet of paper separate from other matter.

We feel that our work has been strengthened in many directions by the meetings of the Church League. Two drawing-room meetings were held, at one of which the Rev. Arthur Finlayson, vicar of a parish fifteen miles from Bath, did us the kindly service of coming to take the chair, and his strong beautiful speech was much appreciated. The Rev. C. Hinseliff made a special effort in coming to address two meetings for us on September 19th, and we are most grateful to him and to Miss Royden for their splendid help. We have now twelve members of the Church League among us. The Rev. C. E. Whitaker gave us his support, on two coessions.

gave us his support on two occasions.

On September 21st Miss Royden gave the first of two addresses which had been arranged for her in the Town Hall, Wells. No Suffrage meeting had apparently been held there before, and her beautiful, inspiring speeches made a deep impression upon her audience. We hope that the work, thus begun, will be followed up

Fourteen of our members went to the Bristol demonstration and greatly enjoyed the day.

September 24th, 1910.

RELATIVE VALUES.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Your paragraph headed "Money In It" reminded me that I had seen in the "Daily News" the account

September 24th, 1910.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

For reasons of health, Miss Street has resigned the post of Hon. Secretary to the Burton Women's Suffrage Society, which she has still continue to work with active interest for the Society, but she will still continue to work with active interest for the Society and for the promotion of Women's Suffrage, of which she was publicly a

DUNDEE.

As reported last week under Federation Notes, Mrs. Fawcett's visit to Dundee was very successful. The two drawing-room meetings at Dr. Emily Thomson's and Mrs. James Halley's were attended by audiences numbering amongst them those who, if not antagonistic to Women's Suffrage, were at least indifferent, and probably had not before heard the subject discussed, and so may be regarded from the point of view of propaganda as being particularly important. The two public meetings at Lochee and in the Gilfillan Hall were both well attended, and copies of the resolution passed at each were sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, and Mr. Wilkie, from whom acknowledgments have been received.

We are gratified by having received from Mr. Wilkie a courteous letter explaining the reason for his seeming defection from our cause on 11th July last, his name not having appeared in the voting list. We are glad to be assured by Mr. Wilkie that he is a steady supporter of the Conciliation Bill.

EDINBURGH.

At the end of last week Miss Low and Miss Lisa Gordon held a large and successful meeting in the open-air in Leith, and it is intended to hold at least one such weekly meeting during the winter, besides the usual ones at the office. Lady Frances Balfour has promised to speak for us in the Café Hall, Princes Street, on the 7th October. This will be the first meeting of the Society this autumn, and we hope all those who are back in Edinburgh will make a point of being present.

WEST CALIDER.

WEST CALDER.

The meeting here on Wednesday was most successful. Mrs. Fawcett spoke splendidly to an interested and attentive audience of 700, and she dealt with the Conciliation Bill and the political situation in such a masterly manner that those who came to scoff, and they were not a few, went away convinced, and are now added to the long list of our supporters. The resolution begging the Government to grant further facilities was passed with hardly a dissentient voice. Dr. Elsie Inglis presided and Miss Lamond spoke, seconding the resolution. Dr. Venters kindly lent her car to take the speakers out from Edinburgh, and she also supported Mrs. Fawcett on the platform. A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Rae, of West Calder, and at the close of the meeting both he and Mrs. Rae joined the Society. "The Common Cause" sold well, and a good deal of free literature was distributed, including the Conciliation Bill leafets. In this work we received much help from Mr. Inglis, who not only gave us a great deal of assistance in the hall, but motored the organizers and helpers from Edinburgh, thus saving them much fatigue. WEST CALDER

GLASGOW.

The Glasgow and West of Scotland Association for Women's Suffrage have sent us their most interesting winter syllabus. They contemplate a great deal of active work, and in addition to a number of public meetings, for which they have obtained a splendid list of speakers, they are holding weekly At Homes on Fridays at four o'clock in their offices, 58, Renfield Street. On November 23rd there is to be a large meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, at which the speakers will be Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL-D., Miss Abadam, and Lord Lytton. This Association has applied for a stall at the Scottish Historical Exhibition which is to be held in Glasgow from May to October, 1911.

An open-air meeting was held in Victoria Square on Saturday night, and the resolution urging facilities for Mr. Shackleton's Bill was passed. The voting was smaller than usual, but there was no opposition at all, and a fair number of "Common Causes" were sold by Mrs. Kirlew and Miss Hargrove.

On Sunday morning we had a delightful meeting in Harehills Park—quite new ground. The speakers were Miss S. L. Foster and Miss Fielden, and Miss Foster and Mrs. Mandefield, who never fail us, came to help. The audience, composed mainly of men, was most sympathetic. One woman told us it was her first Suffrage meeting, and later on she joined the Society. There was a goodly show of hands in support of the resolution, and not a dissentient. We left with a very pleasant feeling towards Harehills Park, and hope to go there again.

LINCOLN.

LINCOLN.

On Saturday, September 24th, a delightful meeting was held at the Old Palace, by kind permission of Mrs. Hicks. There was a very good attendance. Miss Hicks made a charming chairman, and Miss Corbett and Mr. Crawfurd spoke admirably. Miss Corbett dealt chiefly and most lucidly with the Conciliation Bill and its opponents. Mr. Crawfurd gave a remarkably fresh and able speech, one of his many telling points being that it was not the enfranchisement of women (as some said) which was "a revolution"; the revolution had already taken place. Women's status had changed, and we were only ratifying the change by giving them the vote. He pointed out the place women now occupy in the mercantile world, giving among other illustrations that in the cotton industry the women workers stand to the men in the ratio of three to two.

There was a generous response to the collection, after which Mrs. Monks, chairman of the local Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. and Miss Hicks for so kindly entertaining the members.

LIVERPOOL.

A very successful meeting was held in the Yamen Rooms on Friday afternoon last. Miss Morris, a member of the Actresses' Franchise League, wrote offering her services and those of three other members of the Blue Bird Company to our Society. The offer was, of course, gratefully accepted, and, in spite of the very short time available to make the necessary arrangements, the result more than exceeded our most optimistic articipations. Mr. Hield, the editor of the Conservative paper, took the chair; Miss Ethel Foreman sang several charming songs; Miss Enid Rose received warm applause for her beautiful recitation, "High Tides on the Coast of Lincolnshire";

keen advocate for years before any of the Suffrage Societies attempted to break ground in the district.

As her successor an ardent and indefatigable worker has been appointed in the person of Mrs. Percy Mellor, Downend, Woodville, near Burton-on-Trent, to whom all official communications should in future be addressed.

DUNDEE.

As reported last week under Federation Notes, Mrs. Fawcett's visit to Dundee was very successful. The two drawing-room meetings at Dr. Emily Thomson's and Mrs. James Halley's were attended by replaced with much enthusiasm and appreciation. After a short interval the Rev. John Wakeford gave a most convincing speech on the justice, commonsense, and wisdom of our cause. Miss Rathbone, in moving a vote of thanks, made a very urgent appeal for funds and workers, pointing out that the new Federation scheme opened out a large field of work for which we felt largely responsible. "The Common Cause" sold splendidly; the interval coming to an end just prevented us from selling out.

We feel deeply grateful to those members of the Actresses' League

spiendidly; the interval coming to an end just prevented us from selling out.

We feel deeply grateful to those members of the Actresses' League who by their generous offer enabled us to hold this meeting, which has materially assisted our funds and been a most encouraging start to our winter's work.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

MEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Meetings for workers will recommence on Friday, September 30th, and will be held every week throughout the winter, at Hunstanworth, at 7.30. Miss Mein hopes that a very large number of members will attend and bring their friends.

NORTH OF ENGLAND.

NORTH OF ENGLAND.

At a members' meeting held on September 23rd, the representatives of Manchester on the Federation Committee were elected, and the question of changing the name of the Society was discussed. Now that there is a North-Eastern and a North-Western Federation, as well as a Yorkshire Organization, it is felt that the name North of England no longer applies, and it will probably disappear after the annual meeting in December.

Mrs. Swanwick sketched the work proposed for the autumn and winter, and appealed to members to make the meeting in the Free Trade Hall on October 25th a great success. The price of tickets will be 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. Those willing to sell tickets and vouchers are asked to apply at once to the office.

Miss Darlington gave an interesting account of her work in Salford, and also appealed for helpers. Ten thousand voters must be called on before Christmas, and to make the work the success it promises to be every member of the Society is urged to give at least a few hours every week. The fact that ten public meetings have been arranged between now and Christmas, besides three and sometimes four regular weekly meetings, will show the need for adequate help.

NORTH OF ENGLAND—EAST MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

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NORTH OF ENGLAND—EAST MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

On Thursday, September 22nd, in the United Methodist Church, Hyde Road, Ardwick, a meeting of the above branch was held. Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., made a strong case for Women's Suffrage from the point of infant mortality, and clearly proved that had woman a votive voice in legislation, this terrible national calamity would be considerably reduced. Miss K. D. Courtney spoke of the organization of the North of England and the National Union. As she was speaking to a new branch, this was most interesting and helpful to the 51 people present. Mr. Richard Bates took the chair.

(We are obliged to hold over some Reports of Societies.)



Altrincham-Downs Lecture Room, Bowdon-Members Only-Miss

Other Societies.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

On Friday, September 30th, a debate is arranged to take place at 3, Bedford Street Studios, Strand, at 3 p.m. The subject will be: "That the Granting of Votes to Women will be Beneficial to the Nation and the Empire." Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley will take the affirmative, and Miss Inez Bensusan the negative; Miss Maud Hoffman will be in the chair. This debate is only open to members of the League and their friends of the theatrical and musical profession. It is hoped that many will take part in the debate, and so begin to accustom themselves to speaking, and thus enable the League to further assist other Suffrage Societies by providing speakers, and also to extend its own activities.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

A large audience filled the Town Hall, Leek, on Thursday afternoon, September 15th, for the meeting organized by Mrs. Kineton Parkes for the New Constitutional Society. Mrs. Fagan and Mrs. Beith were the speakers, the chair being taken by Mrs. Kineton Parkes. Enthusiastic interest was aroused by Mrs. Fagan, who went over the ground of the whole movement in a very able speech; Mrs. Beith spoke on behalf of the New Society. At the conclusion of the meeting several members of the audience expressed themselves strongly in support of the movement, and the resolution calling on the Government to afford facilities during the ensuing session for the passing of the Conciliation Bill was passed with unanimity.

Forthcoming Meetings.

SCUITISH FEDERALION	FIATURES.
LADY FRANCES BALFOUR	
October 5: Chirnside, 2.30, Bazaar.	Lady Low.
October 5: Kelso. 8 p.m.	
October 7: Edinburgh, Café. 4 p.m.	
October 17: Melrose. 8 p.m.	
October 18: Galashiels.	
MISS ABADAM.	
November 16: Dennistoun, Glasgow.	8 p.m.
Belgrave Church Hall.	
November 17: Whitenich Burgh Hall	l, Glasgow. 8 p.m.

Govan Burgh Hall. 8 p.m. Maryhill Burgh Hall. 8 p.m.

November 21: Govan Burgh Hall.
November 22: Maryhill Burgh Hall.
November 24: Greenock. 8 p.m.
November 25: Edinburgh. 8 p.m.
November 28: Peebles. 8 p.m.
November 29: Kilmalcolm. 8 p.m.

LORD LYTTON AND MRS. FAWCETT.
November 23: St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow; and Miss Abadam.
8 p.m.

October 17: Aberdeen. 8 p.m. October 21: Dingwall. 8 p.m. SEPTEMBER 29.

Hexham—Town Hall—J. T. Dunn, Esq., D.Sc. (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett.
Shrewsbury—Ridgebourne—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Cock (Hostess).

SEPTEMBER 30.

Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Miss
M. B. Todd on 'The Duties of Servants and

M. B. Todd on 'The Duties of Servants and Mistresses.' 8.0

New Forest—St. Catherine's, Barton-on-Sea—Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Duncan.

Stocksfield—The Red House—Mrs. Adams (Hostess), Mrs. Fawcett. 3.0

Birkenhead—Nurses' Institute—Mrs. Raffles-Bulley. 3.30

Warwick and Leamington—Masonic Rooms—Members' Meeting. 7.0

Plymouth—Drake's Circus—Public Meeting—Miss Norma Smith. 8.0

Strand Green—Station—Open-air Meeting—Miss Cockle, Mr. T. Simpson. 8.0 OCTOBER 1.

London—Highgate—High Road, E. Finchley—Open-air Meeting. 8.0 Bodmin—Mount Folly—Miss Norma Smith. 7.0 OCTOBER 2. Leeds—Adult School, Mill Hill—Miss Fielden.

Leeds—Adult School, Mill Hill—Miss Fielden.

OCTOBER 3.

Carnforth—Co-operative Hall—Miss Royden, Rev. J. Whiteside
(Chairman).

Altrincham Society—Drill Hall Lymm—Miss Stirling.
London—Camberwell—Collyn Place—Mr. Simpson.
London—Blackheath—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Yapp
(Hostess), Miss J. Thomson.

London—Clerkenwell—Open-air Meeting.

Huddersfield—Women Liberals—Miss Fielden.

7.30

OCTOBER 4. Cirencester—Debate—Miss Mildred Ransom, Miss Mabel Smith

(A.S. League).

Farnworth—Moor Hall—Miss Robertson.
Leeds—The Institute—Debate—Mrs. Archibald Colquboun, Miss
Fielden.

Farnworth—Public Meeting—Miss Stirling, Mrs. Cooper.
Leigh—Public Meeting—Miss Robertson.

Altrincham—Downs Lecture Room, Bowdon—Members Unly—Miss Courtney.

Penrith—Alhambra—Public Meeting—Mr. Crackanthorpe, K.C. (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett.

Milnthorpe—Miss Royden.

Fallowfield—Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Stirling.

Salford—Women's Meeting—Mrs. Cooper.

OCTORED 6. OCTOBER 6.
Dublin-Irish W.S. and Local Government Association-Com-Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting.

North Herts.—Letchworth—Drawing-room Meeting—Mr. Laurence Housman.

North Herts.—Letchworth—Pixmore Institute—Suffrage Entertainment.

Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Hart (Hostess), Miss Fielden.

London—Highgate—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Seekings, Mrs. Arthur Gillett.

Liphook—Vicarage Hall—Mrs. Stanbury.

London—Clerkenwell—Open-air Meeting.

Salford—Women's Meeting—Miss Stirling.

Afternoon Salford—Social—Miss Stirling.

OCTOBER 7. OCTOBER 7 OCTOBER 7.

Haslemere—Educational Hall—Meeting for Rate-paying Women

3.0

Edinburgh—First Weekly Meeting.
Glasgow—58, Renfield Street—Annual Meeting.
Edinburgh—Café Hall, Princes Street—Lady Frances Balfour.
North Herts.—Stevenage—Cake and Candy Sale.

OCTOBER 2.

2.30 OCTOBER 8. Hollowith C. Haslemere—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury.
Warwick and Leamington—Rummage Sale.
Norwood—Suffrage Offices—Lady Onslow—Miss Abadam.

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OCTOBER 5.
Hyde—Public Meeting—Mrs. Cooper, Miss Stirling.
Radcliffe—Public Meeting—Miss Robertson.
London—Enfield—Constitutional Club—Debate—Miss Rinder. Miss
Mabel Smith (A.-S. L.).
Chirnside, Berwickshire—Grand Variety Sale—Lady Low, Lady
Frances Balfour.
Radcliffe—Co-operative Hall—Miss Robertson.
Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Dr. Mary Phillips (Hostess), Miss
Fielden.

Knutsford—Ruskin Recreation Room—Women's Meeting—Rev.
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