

JUS SUFFRAGII

MONTHLY
THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN



ORGAN OF
SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 10. No. 4.

JANUARY 1, 1916.

PRICE PER YEAR, 4 SHILLINGS; 4 MARKS; 5 FRANCS; 2½ FLORINS; 3 KRONER 60, SCANDINAVIA; 5 KRONEN, AUSTRIA; \$1; SINGLE COPIES, 4d.

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NOTICE.

In the present critical position of affairs, when any reference to political conditions may hurt national susceptibilities, it must be clearly stated that the International Woman Suffrage Alliance maintains a strictly neutral attitude, and is only responsible for its official announcements. Reports from affiliated societies are inserted on the responsibility of the society contributing them. Other articles are published as being of general interest to our readers, and responsibility for them rests solely with their signatories.

The Index from July, 1913, to October, 1914, is now ready, and will be sent out with the February Number to all who previously send 6d. Subscribers in European countries can send two International Postal Coupons.

NOTES.

Jus Suffragii.

Readers of *Jus Suffragii* have supported us well during the past year, but we must now call upon them for further help. Other Suffrage papers, which are the organs of national societies, have various means of arousing interest—meetings of all kinds, and intercourse among members. In the ordinary course of events the International Woman Suffrage Alliance gains members and subscribers by its biennial congresses. The Congress which should have met at Berlin in 1915 would have been a splendid opportunity for gaining fresh support both in writers and subscribers. That opportunity having fallen through, it is urgently necessary that active steps should be taken to increase the circulation of *Jus Suffragii* and to fill the unavoidable vacancies caused by the war. We appeal to our readers to help us by sending out sample copies to their friends with a request to subscribe.

Sample copies may be had for this purpose free of charge on application to the Office, 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

Fru Johanne Munter.

The veteran Danish Suffragist, Fru Munter, having seen the successful accomplishment of all she has fought for, and the vote conferred on her countrywomen, has retired from active work, and published a farewell number of her paper. The good wishes and gratitude of all Suffragists will follow her, with the hope that she may long remain among them and enjoy her well-merited repose.

The Ceylon Association of Professional Women.

Women living in the East, whether Europeans or not, find the need of strong women's organisations to protect their interests.

An association has recently been formed in Ceylon for women holding University degrees (or their equivalent), or holding positions of responsibility with regard to women. A number of teachers and medical women have joined, and it is hoped to extend the association by degrees.

War and Alcoholism.

Alcohol drives nations on the downward track into poverty, crime, and physical degeneration. The war has emphasised the fact to which social reformers tried in vain to call attention, that no nation can afford to neglect this root cause of disease and inefficiency. In Russia the Government has taken the drastic step of prohibiting the sale of spirits, without any sex discrimination. In Great Britain at first a limit was put to the hours at which women could be served, although women are notoriously the more sober sex. English feminists protested emphatically against this sex discrimination, which encouraged the mischievous "double standard," condoning in men what condemned in women. The difference in national points of view is shown by the different attitude adopted by French feminists to a somewhat similar sex discrimination. French and English Suffragists are at one in desiring temperance reform, but as an instalment the French support the proposal that restrictions on the sale of liquor should be enforced on "soldiers, women, and children."

Farm-school for Women at Argeronne.

A women's farm-school has been established in Normandy especially for the daughters of farmers and land-owners. The instruction includes all branches of agriculture, dairy, gardening, forestry, housekeeping, book-keeping, cookery, laundry, needlework, and the necessary elements of chemistry, botany, social economy, and hygiene. The pupils are of three grades: (1) Pupils above the age of eighteen, a two years' course; fees, 1,500 francs a year. (2) *Professional pupils*; two years' course; fees, 1,000 francs the first year, 500 francs the second year. At the end of this time the professional pupil may become a student teacher or a pupil farmer. As a student teacher she earns a salary of 800 francs, and later, as an agricultural teacher, 1,200 francs and all expenses paid. The pupil-farmer becomes manager of one of the farms in connection with the school, and receives 600 francs the second year and 1,200 francs the third year, with full use of farmhouse and buildings for herself and her family. At the end of this time she can take a farm on her own account, for which the school will advance money. She still maintains a connection with the school, and sells her produce through it. Thus a women's co-operative farm is established in a district. (3) *Assistant housekeepers* (aides ménagères) are received at fifteen years of age, and stay two years. They assist in farm-yard and dairy. They pay 350 francs the first year, receive free board and lodging the second year, and the third year a salary of 300 francs. They can get excellent situations as farmhouse assistants. A few additional pupils are taken during the summer at 200 francs a month.—*La Française*.

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THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN INDIA.

It ought not to be necessary to apologise for the organised effort which is being made to promote the cause of female education in India; it ought not to be necessary to point out that such action is neither ill-timed nor superfluous. Those workers who have devoted time and energy to the service of women's welfare in its different aspects will best realise the kind of criticism which such a movement is likely to evoke; will understand that opposition comes less frequently from convinced antagonism than from honest misconception of the aims of reform and the conditions with which it is proposed to deal. To begin with, the word "education" has suffered much through long misusage, and is apt to conjure up false associations in the public mind. Hence the mere suggestion of "educating" the girls of a country where domestic life forms the chief occupation of the women is too often interpreted as a wanton attempt to stir up strife in peaceful homesteads, and to substitute unrest for primitive contentment.

The women of India, let it be stated, are neither primitive nor contented. They are surrounded by conditions of life which they can neither understand nor approve; nor has any effort been made to reconcile them to these conditions. The Indian boy is brought up under a system and in obedience to laws which are not indigenous to the country or in harmony with the conditions which mould the life of the women. Estrangement of interest and sympathy is bound to follow, the men, out of conviction or from motives of self-interest, going with the times; the women, conservative by instinct, as always, wedded to the worst as well as to the best of customs which are theirs by inheritance, championing the old order against the new by ceaseless protestations or sullen resistance, as temperament dictates. For the belief that meekness and docility are among the beautiful qualities of an untrained mind may find credence among the readers of fairy-tales, but is not confirmed by a study of feminine psychology!

It is likewise contended that, as the "literate" male Indian is by no means always the best example of his kind, it would be wiser to leave the female Indian child in her native ignorance. A simple expedient; but neither politic nor just. The "literate" male Indian is the product of a system of education designed originally by the Government to train up boys for Government service. Those, the great majority, who fail to reach the requisite standard of efficiency, find that the information they have so studiously amassed will stand them in little stead in any other calling in life. The comparative lack, at the present time, of any real national system of education for boys is not an argument which should justify us in keeping nine-tenths of the female population in a condition of baneful mental darkness.

It may be urged that the need for providing an education for the women of India is one which can be well deferred to a "more convenient season." I would ask if there is anything which could justify delay when thousands and tens of thousands of the population die yearly from lack of a rudimentary knowledge of the laws of sanitation and hygiene; when it is reckoned that out of the 150 millions of women in India not more than three millions are within the reach of medical aid; when "the immense mortality and suffering among women and children" (to quote the words of Dr. Annette Benson, head of the Cama Hospital, Bombay) "is a startling fact, and the medical

woman, doctor, or nurse is an isolated unit working under chance conditions"; when the average Indian woman has no knowledge of how to nurse even the simplest ailments, and regards a charm or amulet as the most effective means of treating infectious diseases; when mothers of all classes allow their children to eat when and what they like, to sleep when they will, and roam where it pleases them, without guidance or correction; when the girl-widow, in deference to an uneducated superstition, leads a life of drudgery and bondage; and when the custom of child-marriage, guarded by the conservatism of ignorance, tends to produce an undersized, ailing, and degenerate population. There exist families and communities which have evolved for themselves more fitting and harmonious standards by which to regulate their lives; there are households of the upper classes throughout India which have always possessed some system of home education—suitable enough for the requirements of past generations—for the daughters of the family; but it is of national and not of exceptional conditions that I would speak—of the masses of the people who look for protection and guidance to those who are set in those who are set in authority over them, whose needs and hardships constitute a sacred charge upon the conscience of their rulers.

The question then arises: "What kind of an education do you propose to give the women of India?" There can be but one sane answer to such a question. If education ought to have one aim in view above all others, that aim must be to fit the individual for the particular sphere in life which it must be his or her duty to fill. Therefore, the education will vary according to age, rank, and individual taste or capacity. Seeing that the majority of Indian girls look forward as a matter of course to a domestic life, a suitable education for such would be one which would train them—mentally, morally, and physically—for household administration or the various duties of the home. For mental training the first need is to awaken interest and to stimulate the faculties of intellect; moral training can be begun by stories of lives or historical deeds and the application of the theories which result therefrom to everyday life—i.e., by illustration and example rather than by rule or precept; whether games or drill (in which music should form an essential part) be the means employed for physical training, the purpose is the same—to encourage the sense of rhythm or time in bodily movement, which develops co-ordination of brain, senses, and muscles, in addition to promoting bodily health. For the theory of this simple curriculum it is not necessary to lay down a special set of subjects. The lessons of discipline, order, method, and economy, which mental, moral, and physical training combine to produce, can be taught in any sensible system of class instruction, provided that the teachers are properly qualified and chosen with care. The main purpose of education—a general education, that is to say—is not to supply information on a given set of subjects, but to assist the individual towards a sane, balanced, and responsible maturity of mind and judgment.

The English public asks in some surprise: "Do no such facilities exist for giving girls a sound general education, if only for a few years during childhood?" No; speaking generally, the means of any kind of education for girls are not provided for the great majority of the population in British India, whatever may be the conditions in many of the Feudatory States. Certain sects have, with admirable zeal, provided for the education of girls as well as of boys, but their range of influence is necessarily limited, and their methods are not of general application. If the education of girls in India is to be universal and not local, an organised general movement is essential. Such an organised movement can be undertaken only by Government or by a strong body of representative opinion acting in sympathy and with united counsels. The last word of the Government of India on the subject (expressed in a resolution dated the 21st of February, 1913) was that "the education of girls remains to be organised."

The chief and most immediate need is clearly that of securing properly trained Indian women teachers, by whom the conditions, requirements, and, it may be, prejudices of Indian home life are duly understood and respected. To provide for this need, on however small a scale, is one of the first aims of the Indian Women's Education Association, which is prepared and determined to carry on this urgent and patriotic work until such time as the Indian Government may feel itself in a position to redeem its ancient promise, and to satisfy these demands of an elementary justice.

E. AGNES R. HAIGH.

DENMARK.

Gratis Courses on Economical Cookery for Poor Housewives.

Though Denmark has preserved its neutrality, it has, like other neutral countries, suffered from the consequences of the war—amongst others, from dearth.

In August, 1914, a great depression was prevailing; our pedagogic organisation, the "Association of Housewifery and Cookery—Centre Instructresses," then made an attempt to gather poor housewives, in order to teach them cookery with cheap victuals, and how to use the haybox, which is too little known. Seven courses of this kind were arranged, and became a great success in benefiting the housewives and giving pleasure to the teachers.

In the summer, 1915, the Health Committee of the Danish National Council of Women took up the idea in co-operation with the above-mentioned Association, which is affiliated to the Council. In order to carry out the plan on a greater scale, the Committee applied for and was accorded a grant of 1,000 kr. from the "Magistrat" (governing board) of Copenhagen. Privately a sum of 900 kr. was raised.

Through the elementary schools invitations were sent to the mothers of the children, and were joyfully accepted. About 1,700 housewives entered their names. They were divided into 44 classes, taught by 48 teachers.

Each course consisted of three evenings from 7.30 to 10, in the course of three weeks, and was carried out as a practical demonstration of cookery.

Every evening four different dishes of cheap and quite simple food were cooked. The preparations were demonstrated from the first to the last; when a dish was ready to be put into the haybox, the same dish, previously prepared, was taken out ready boiled, and was served to the pupils. Besides this, every evening a short instruction in the nutritive value and the importance of nutrition was given.

The pupils each received a printed copy of the dishes prepared, together with a printed guide in the use of the haybox.

The instruction was given in the kitchens of the elementary schools by certificated cookery instructresses, engaged in the service of the municipal schools. Two teachers worked together every evening, in order that the demonstration might be performed quickly and precisely, and that all preparations might be done in time.

There were housewives of different ages, even up to sixty years. They were glad to get information on many things in housewifery which they had not hitherto understood. At home they put into practice what they had learnt, and made the other members of their families interested in it. They enjoyed the cosiness of the nicely laid tables and the treat of being spared for once the washing up of the dishes and clearing away.

There were many skilful housewives who gave good advice and suggestions from many years' experience, so that the teachers felt that they, too, were benefited by their work.

A haybox was given to each class by a trader in kitchen utensils in Copenhagen, and lots were drawn for it on the last evening.

Many housewives have expressed their wish to continue; others who did not join the classes are hoping that the instruction may be taken up again next year. In fact, the school kitchens are not at disposal in the winter, as continuous courses for young women from 14 to 25 years are held from October to May. These courses are frequented every year by 1,200 to 1,300 pupils, at the expense of the community. The greater part of the courses are held from 7 to 10 in the evening, and are attended by young women of the working-class: domestic servants, women working in business houses and stores, factory hands, shop assistants, and female clerks, who get a training here preparing them for their duties as future housewives.

ELINE HANSEN,
School Cookery Inspector.

"Kvindevalgret."

Kvindevalgret, the Woman Suffrage paper, which has done such splendid service for the cause under the editorship of Mrs. Clinnny Dreyer, has now ceased publication. We hope shortly to publish an account of the organisation of enfranchised women in Denmark. Mrs. Clinnny Dreyer's portrait appeared in the June number of *Jus Suffragii*.

FRANCE.

Several letters have been published in *Jus Suffragii* in answer to the open letter of the Committee of the "Union Francaise pour le Suffrage des Femmes" to Mrs. Catt (October number, 1915).

As some of these letters claim that the organ of the Alliance should not be strictly confined to Suffrage work—which is at the moment so scarce,—the Committee of the U.F.S.F. wishes to declare that it entirely agrees to the insertion in *Jus Suffragii* of everything that concerns the improvement of women's conditions, or her work, in every sphere of activity. As a proof of this wish the French members have lately sent articles on the new laws regulating work, on the establishment of an hotel school, and they send to-day an article on the important reforms demanded in the new Bill on guardianship and family councils.

All that the French Committee demands, but which it demands insistently, is the strict application of the principles of the International Suffrage Alliance, which prohibit the discussion of all subjects which might lead to dissension and discord among the members of the Alliance. It takes this opportunity to thank those who have supported it.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of the
Union Francaise pour le Suffrage des Femmes,
DE WITT-SCHLUMBERGER, President.

Bill on Guardianship and Family Councils.

Among the legislative reforms demanded by French women, one in particular has up to the present roused neither curiosity nor indignation, scarcely interest; it was still necessary for a domestic incident to reveal its importance to those who only consult the code when they have to submit to its rules. This reform is the right of women to take part in family councils, and to be the guardians of children other than their own. Only a woman of whom the child is a descendant to-day possesses this right, so that it is frequently found that an orphan receives as its guardian a cousin or a distant relation, who hardly knows of the existence of his ward, when perhaps an elder sister or an aunt would have been prepared to discharge the duties with enlightened affection. Family councils meet on which lawyers' clerks meet each other who can only be figureheads, whereas the nearest relations—if women—are excluded. Often women wishful to harmonise the code with justice and custom have drawn the attention of legislators to this paradoxical situation, and their wishes have been echoed by many of the latter—in the Senate by M. Louis Martin, and in the Chamber by M. Maurice Violette, who had proposed Bills with this object.

For this reform it was no longer necessary to break lanes as for some other reforms. Formerly it might have been possible to find timid souls to say that women have not the knowledge necessary to administer the property of their wards, but to-day, when women are administering properties and directing business and industry, the objection is no longer raised. Moreover, the Civil code has protected the administration of the property of minors with such guarantees, and has gone so much into the details of the investments to be made, and the manner of transfer, that it is really enough to respect these children's property in order to be able to administer it. Only the indifference of public opinion and legislative inertia had delayed until the last few months the debate and the vote on the Bills of MM. Martin and Violette. The war has given them a strange reality. On the one hand the number of orphans is growing without ceasing; on the other hand the absence of the men makes women's activity indispensable. In many cases it is no longer a question of increasing the number of candidates who are qualified. There being an absence of candidates, substitutes have to be found.

Thus the Chamber was unanimous on July 1 in voting for the Bill of M. Violette giving women the right to be guardians and members of family councils.

Will the Senate delay in supporting this vote? We have reason to hope the contrary. The reporter of the Commission, M. Guillier, who has given numerous proofs of his interest in feminist reforms and in particular on the occasion of the vote on the "Recherche de la Paternité," on the homestead, etc., has undertaken to conduct this latest reform quickly to a successful conclusion. Therefore, once more the old prejudice of feminine incapacity will be demolished. It has already often been defeated, and will now suffer a serious reverse.

The equality of father and mother is recognised by the two following Articles:—

"The mother as well as the father can nominate a council of guardianship, without the consent of which a father cannot carry out any action relating to guardianship, or any of those that the pre-deceased wife has indicated with limitations."

Up to now the father had the right by his will to impose upon the mother a council to assist in the exercise of guardianship; women think that this right might be abolished, as it is so difficult for anyone in their lifetime to foresee the future, but that if the Chamber prefers to preserve it, there is no reason to refuse it to the mother: she may be as anxious and mistrustful as the father. The Chamber has accepted this point of view, and has recognised that—

"The father as well as the mother, when acting as guardian of one or several children, must, if he or she wishes to remarry, before the marriage call a family council, who will decide whether the guardianship should be retained by him or her. If not, he or she loses it as a natural consequence."

In our code a new marriage on the part of the mother makes her liable to lose the right of guardianship of her children, whereas that of the father does not affect his exercise of paternal authority.

If these two amendments are voted, it will be, we think, the first time that in marriage the equality of parents with regard to their rights over their children has been established.

We should have been still better satisfied if the principle of marital authority had also been abolished. Unfortunately, Articles 407 and 442, as they have now been drawn up, sanction it once again:

"Article 407: In case of marriage, except in the case where there has been separation of goods, or separation or divorce, the wife must be authorised by her husband."

"Article 442: Except in the case of separation of goods, the married woman cannot be appointed guardian or administrator, except with the authorisation of her husband."

Some people justify these Articles by saying that it is preferable that a married woman should not undertake any engagement which may affect the life of the household except with the authorisation of her husband, but the real reason why they have been included in the law is quite different. The fortune of the wife being guaranteed of that of the minor, and her fortune being administered by her husband, except when there is separation of goods, it is by right of and indirectly by the good administration of the husband that the fortune of the ward of his wife is guaranteed. In order to emphasise this object, the legislator has insisted that the consent of the husband will render his own fortune as well as that of his wife guarantee of that of the minor.

This concession to the old rules of marriage is intended—and its effect is—to doubly secure the property of the orphan.

The practical inconvenience of authorisation has been to a certain extent got rid of by the following regulations: "The authorisation given by the husband to his wife to accept guardianship will permit her to carry out alone and without further authorisation all the actions appertaining to it."

For these various reasons the different feminist societies which have been interested in the question, whilst expressing their regrets with regard to this concession, support the Bill and earnestly desire that it may pass. They hope that it will not only do justice to women, but be of service to society. They hope to see women gradually transforming the exercise of guardianship, which under the code is simply administration of property, but really includes other duties. We have reason to hope that women led by their maternal instincts will show to the orphan the interest that they show in the development of their own children, and will become more and more attached to their wards, and that the latter will find at the hands of the guardian the home of which he or she has been deprived.

Warmer still will be the affection shown to the war orphans. The gratitude of French women to those who defend the existence and liberty of our country against the aggressor will be expressed first of all in the protection and solicitude shown for their children. This law will confer on them sufficient authority to fulfil the urgent duty which the war has brought to women.

M. PICHON-LANDRY.

Sweated Women Workers Championed in the French Senate.

In the debate in the Senate on the law for a minimum wage for garment workers, M. Jénouvrier made the following observations:—

"The majority of home workers are condemned to forced labour. For work that hardly knows a respite they receive a

wretched wage, some centimes an hour; the luckiest earn 1 to 2 francs per diem. Every day from all the pulpits and platforms in the country we hear exhortations against the degeneration of family life; everywhere women and girls are exhorted to virtue. *Let society provide them with the means!* (Loud applause.) How is it possible for a woman or girl to remain virtuous, when on the one hand honest work is paid as you have heard, and on the other side the wages of dishonour are vastly superior to those of work?"

"The evil is incontestable, crying. It is not only a question of social justice; it is a question of national preservation. These women and girls are the mothers of the future. By insufficient wages you injure their motherhood; you destroy home life; you ruin the health of future citizens and soldiers. We recognise the supreme importance of the birth-rate and the safeguarding of infant life, and nothing can relieve us from this duty."

The speaker then gave examples of the sweating of the woman worker, and her exploitation by the army contractor. The law was then voted establishing Minimum Wage Committees.

Labour Section of the National Council of Women.

In a report on some of the special problems of women's work in war-time, the Labour section of the National Council of Women points out evils that have occurred in every belligerent country:—

(1) The evil effect of the intervention of untrained well-to-do women, who at the outbreak of war set to work to make garments instead of paying unemployed skilled workwomen.

The committee issued a warning against this, and the result was the opening of workshops.

This led again to other evils, and the committee urged:—

(2) The publication of a list of workshops, with terms of work.

(3) Payment in money of the work-women in the shops, and the establishment of canteens.

(4) A maximum wage, so as not to pay one work-woman much more than another.

(5) No undercutting of prices in the market.

(6) That employers who are obliged to reduce wages, should also reduce hours of work.

Later on, in February, further recommendations were made, viz.:—

(1) That no orders should be accepted (Government or otherwise) unless they allow of the payment of a reasonable wage.

(2) That no work should be given out to sub-contractors.

(3) That all relief societies should confine their orders to disinterested organisations paying a good wage.

The National Relief Fund took up the suggestions of the Labour section and regulated the workshops accordingly. One central body bought all the material required in the workshops, and divided the work between them. A central representative committee directed affairs, and handled 20,000 women workers.

Next a joint campaign to raise wages was undertaken by the National Council of Women, the Ministry of Labour, and the above-mentioned federation.

The Government departments were approached, and articles inserted in the press.

The military authorities were induced to fix a minimum wage for the making of soldiers' under garments at piece rates.

It was next attempted to get a minimum time-rate wage for all articles of military equipment.

The result was the formation of a joint board of manufacturers and workers, who fixed a minimum wage.

The next effort was the establishment of a minimum piece rate for home workers, and the clear marking on every garment given out as home work, the name of the responsible contractor too often being lost in the maze of middlemen and sub-contractors. The minimum-wage law was passed by the Senate in July. (See *Jus Suffragii*, November.)

Another problem successfully tackled by the Labour section was that of children over school age, to whom apprenticeship is now closed; it also succeeded in getting State subventions for apprenticeship of girls. It undertook, too, an inquiry into the best openings for women's work after the war, with a view to training women beforehand. Finally it undertook a campaign for equal pay for equal work, in which it was supported by the Trade Union Committee.

GERMANY.

Family Policy and Woman Suffrage

At the present time the population question is much to the fore, as witness the many meetings at which the subject is discussed. Up to the present wholesome family life has been proved the best institution for the healthy upbringing of the rising generation. Therefore the best population policy must be in the widest sense a family policy—i.e., in legislation and administration, national and municipal, those arrangements must be promoted which help both parents to fulfil their responsibilities in bringing up and educating their children.

The war has proved that the father's influence in education is most important. The report of the Central Bureau for the Care of Youth shows that the loss of the father's authority has had a serious effect in leading to child neglect and demoralisation. Wives of mobilised men often apply for help with their growing-up children, as they find themselves unequal to the task. Dr. Polligkeit says that in future the solution must be:—

"We must go beyond efforts to shield youth from crime, neglect, and poverty, and must arrive at a social policy which will secure to every child the most favourable possible physical care, mental development, and formation of character. In the last few decades our social reform policy was chiefly devoted to economic development and employment; in the future it must serve the furtherance of cultural values. It can not be doubted that this social policy must aim, above all, at the strengthening and maintenance of family life, as our whole social life depends on the family as the nucleus of national life."

Rudolf Goldscheid, in 1911, had laid down the principle that family research and family policy must be the basis of social policy, and moreover showed that such a development of social policy is only possible if women through enfranchisement get power to co-operate in the protection of the family. He writes as follows:—

"Family research in family policy is not yet recognised as the essential nucleus of social policy, therefore women's claim to political rights is not yet appreciated as a claim whose satisfaction is an essential preliminary for the welfare of the family and of society. These rights are denied on the pretext of dangers that might arise from them for family life. And yet it is certain that women's lack of rights up to the present is largely the cause that by the side of abstract human rights, the much more concrete rights of the family are never mentioned."

What would be necessary for such "family protection"? First of all, far-reaching legal protection for wage-earning wives and mothers [Factory Acts, etc.], but also shortening of working hours for the man, so that he may have time for family duties; all efforts for rise of wages must be supported, so that the man may have means to create a home for wife and children; housing improvement; an education policy which will give opportunities to ability to rise; child-protection; care of infants; all that belongs to family policy. The difficult problem of population is spoken of everywhere. That points to the need of family policy in legislation and administration in Empire, State, and community. But in order to overcome all the present opposing influences, women's voice and votes of women must be thrown into the scale—of all those women who suffer most now from the want of family protection. The lessons of the war and insight into the economic significance of healthy family life must guide us. Therefore we must not slacken in our work, so that women's votes may fall into the scale in the solution of these important problems.

From the *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, November 1, 1915.

Women at Universities in War Time.

During the past summer there were at the twenty-two German Universities 4,575 women students, compared with 4,130 in the previous year. Two hundred women students are on leave serving in the sanitary department of the Army. Philosophy, philology, and history have 2,258 women students; mathematics and science, 860; medicine, 1,150; dentistry, 42; agriculture, 172; law, 73; theology, 7; pharmacy, 12. The Technical High Schools (University rank) have 106 students.

The German Society for Fighting Venereal Disease.

This Society held an important meeting on October 24. Amongst other things, it issued an appeal drawing attention to the terrible dangers of a great increase of disease in consequence of the war. Not only does the danger threaten the Army and civilians, but the next generation, and unless

checked will prevent the places of the dead being filled with healthy posterity. The Society has issued millions of leaflets among the soldiers, and helped the authorities to fight the evil. Since its foundation, thirteen years ago, the Society has done much educational work, and has influenced legislation and administration, sick insurance, and the preparation of reforms.

Complaint is now made that whereas funds are readily subscribed for the fight against alcohol and tuberculosis, they are not forthcoming for fighting this social scourge.

Married Women Teachers.

The gaps in the teaching ranks due to the war have been mainly filled by reinstating married and widowed women teachers. An inquiry into the conditions of their employment shows that the widows with families, who receive the pay of an unmarried woman, are obliged to eke out their salary by undertaking private lessons, and are thereby greatly overworked, and, being unable to employ help for their housework, have that additional burden after school-hours.

The *Verein Frauenwohl* recommends that such widow teachers should be paid according to the men's scale. The married teacher is not overworked to the same extent, but suffers from the conditions of her engagement, as she is not allowed to hold a permanent situation, and is mostly transferred from one school to another, and paid at the junior rate. She can claim no sick-pay or pension, and receives no rise of salary.

Thus an unmarried teacher who after ten years' service earns 2.50 marks an hour, receives only 1.25 marks if she marries.

From *Frauenbewegung*.

The War and Education.

Professor Fredk. Förster, of Munich, in a lecture in Vienna on the educational handling of the war, said:—"We must begin at once to prepare our children for the future co-operation of the nations. The most painful and the worst feature of the world-war is the flood of hatred which drowns all the relations uniting the nations. It seems to me of the greatest importance to keep our children who have not to fight, free from the brutalising effects of this national hatred, from the brutalising effect of this one-sided judgment, of this windbag condemnation of whole nations. I would draw on the blackboard, with chalk, a broken-down railway bridge as they are blown up now in war, and by its side I would show the engineers repairing such a bridge. I would say to the children, 'That is your task. In the future you must build up the bridges between the peoples.' I think that, in education, justice to the enemy is of the greatest importance, and to teach the children to repeat no slander or unfair judgments of their opponents. In my family I would never allow nasty, unfair jokes. There is no better discipline than the exercise of fair play towards opponents. And do not glory in the war, or forget what it destroys in moral power—that it is a terrible blood-guilt, which has brought inexpressible suffering to the nations. Children should be encouraged to redeem the world-guilt and the human soul."

Women's Task.

In spite of what appears to be the death of all friendship and fellow-feeling between the hostile nations, little signs of life show that the apparent death can be only temporary paralysis: in the body of the nations faint tones of brotherly union can be heard. In one case it is the Russian prisoner who, in his employer's house in the country, held out a friendly hand to the son of the house on his return from the war, crying, "Well, comrade, do you bring peace?" Or again, the French child writes to the German child that its father is considered no enemy, but a kind-hearted human being. Or again, an Englishman shelters in his own house Germans who are threatened by the mob. Or again, a German reservist shares his bread with an exhausted prisoner, or a Turk under cover of night moves a wounded British soldier within reach of his comrades.

Let it be women's task to discover these frail blossoms under the snow so that their sweetness may overcome the poison of hatred. And let them pledge themselves to preserve their solidarity as women, to help women of all classes, of all opinions, of all nationalities, the broken, and the wretched. Every atom of love may hasten the longed-for harmony by the fraction of a second, and the sinister mysticism underlying the cruelty of war give way to the joyful tidings: "Peace on earth, goodwill towards men."

AUGUSTE HAUSCHNER.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE PARLIAMENT BILL.

Early last month there were rumours that the Parliament Bill to be introduced by the Government would be virtually a measure for granting Manhood Suffrage.

The Executive Committee of the National Union sent the following letter to Members of Parliament and the Press:—

Dear Sir.—We have seen in the Press that fears have been expressed that it is probable that the Government Parliament and Registration Bill will be equivalent to a Manhood Suffrage measure to the exclusion of women.

We cannot believe these fears to be well founded, for we are convinced that it would be impossible for such a Government as this, and in such a time as the present, to introduce a Bill fundamentally to alter the basis of the Parliamentary Suffrage.

We have, moreover, the definite promise of the Prime Minister, given to all the Suffrage Societies in November, 1911, and reiterated in his place in Parliament in January, 1913, that in any Bill introduced by his Government for the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise "a full and free opportunity" for the introduction into it by amendment of Women's Suffrage should be afforded to Parliament. This promise has never been redeemed, but it still holds good, and it must certainly bar the way to the introduction by the Government of Manhood Suffrage under circumstances which would preclude any chance of a "full and free opportunity" for the consideration of the claims of women to share in the privileges as they share in the burdens of citizenship.

As is well known, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies has suspended its ordinary political activities, in the sense that it is not pressing for a Bill for the Enfranchisement of Women during this time of national crisis, but it has not abandoned its principles nor the right to take action should necessity arise.

Alterations of the franchise involving the continued exclusion of women would be the occasion for such action.—Yours, etc.,

(Signed) MILlicENT GARRETT FAWCETT (President).

HELENA AUERBACH (Hon. Treasurer).

EVELYN M. L. ATKINSON (Hon. Secretary).

RAY STRACHEY (Hon. Parliamentary Secretary).

Fortunately, the rumours proved to be untrue, for the Bill, since introduced, makes provision only for the prolongation of the life of Parliament, and the question of franchise reform is not raised.

It is almost certain that the question will have to be dealt with before a general election, and when that time comes the National Union will be prepared to take action.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

Royal Mount is busily preparing for Christmas. A special appeal for gifts for the French soldiers was made in the organ of the National Union, the *Common Cause*, and a large consignment of plum puddings and offerings of various kinds has been sent out. It is hoped that every soldier will receive a present.

The second French unit has left Gevgjali (Serbia), and is now at Salonika, hard at work attending to the French wounded from Serbia.

There is no definite news from Serbia yet as to the fate of Dr. Elsie Inglis and her unit. It is believed that Dr. Hutchison's unit retreated with the Serbian Army from Pojeza, and there it is known that the units of Mladanovatz and Sazaravatz had ample time to evacuate their hospitals, and are probably doing excellent work amongst the refugees. From many quarters we hear of the courage and resource of the Scottish women. An eye-witness said that whenever the stream of refugees halted our units found a building for them and set up a temporary dressing station or hospital. A member of Dr. James Berry's unit, lately returned from Serbia, said our women "were splendid," ready for every emergency, heedless of their own discomfort, with all their energies concentrated on giving aid to and lessening as far as possible the hardships of the Serbian soldiers.

ENGLISHWOMEN AND AGRICULTURE.

Women have hitherto worked less in agriculture in England than in other countries. The war, with the consequent shortage of male labour, is making a difference. Numbers of educated women and girls have worked this year in the fields. The women students of Birmingham University spent their summer vacation picking fruit, peas, and beans, on the same terms and under the same conditions as those of the ordinary agricultural woman worker. They persevered in their useful work in spite of the worst weather conditions, and the fatigue of unaccustomed exertion, starting at 4 a.m. and working till sunset for a wage of two or three shillings a day.

Other women of the professional middle class undertook fruit-picking in Scotland, and by organisation and striking succeeded in getting greatly improved conditions, both sanitary and economic. Women are now employed at ploughing and in agricultural work of all kinds. In one of the Eastern Counties a relief society took an experimental farm, and started

a number of women at work who had previously worked in factories. After six months decided success could be recorded. Not one of the women wanted to leave; indeed threat of discharge reduced them to tears; girls who had proved unruly and disorderly in the town found a wholesome outlet for their vitality in managing horses, and turned out excellent workers. At a meeting at the Mansion House the Women's Political Union described their efforts to get women on the land. One of the most hopeful and interesting enterprises is that of the Co-operative Women Farmers at Burwash, Sussex. Pupils receive a thorough all-round practical training in farming, and can then, if they like, take up a small holding in connection with the central farm. A number of ladies are working holdings of two or three acres each, living in a good modern bungalow on their holding, and raising fruit or chickens or vegetables. Each holding is in telephonic communication with the central farm, and from it can be hired men's labour, horses, and implements. Produce is sold also through the central farm. The holdings are let on terms very advantageous to the tenants, and women have the advantage of co-operation and company instead of the solitary life which too often discourages the woman farmer.

WOMEN AND THE MUNITIONS ACT.

The Government have brought in a Munitions Bill Amendment Act, which makes provision for the appointment of women assessors in all cases coming before the Munitions Courts where women workers are affected. The National Union, together with other women's societies, had called the Government's attention to the need for women assessors, and this change has been welcomed by all who have the welfare of the women munitions workers at heart. They also note with satisfaction that the Government is taking power to enforce the rate of wages, not only in Government factories, but in all "controlled" establishments.

WOMEN REMOUNT DEPÔTS.

Another branch of war work undertaken by women is the care of sick horses. Three large remount depôts, under the War Office, are entirely staffed by women, who carry out all the work of attending to these convalescent homes for army horses. The women meet the horses at the station, and do everything necessary for their well-being, and when the horses are once more fit they take them to the station and send them off to their units. The inspectors visiting these depôts say they have never known horses so well cared for by men. The women begin work at six in the morning; they feed, exercise, and groom the horses and clean the stables.

Women are being employed as gardeners in a public park in Manchester, and it is announced that women will also be employed in the London parks.

In Dublin and Belfast the leading Suffragists and some other ladies have started workshops for the manufacture of dolls and other toys, with very good results. Most of these new toy factories are selling toys as fast as they can be produced, and hopes are entertained that the toy industry will soon be firmly established in Ireland.

The *Times* has had several remarkable articles on the question of women as war workers—remarkable because *The Times* is by no means a feminist paper. In one of these articles, December 15, on the subject of women as farm workers, the following words occur: "With regard to labour the largest potential source is women, and farmers are said to be much more favourably inclined towards female labour than they have been, not merely from the pressure of necessity, but partly from experience. . . . We have been among those who doubted their readiness to take up farm work in any considerable numbers; but here again the prospect has changed. Women have responded so well to the call, and have proved such a tower of strength in other unexpected quarters, that they may be equal to this demand. They can do it if they will."

UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S WORK AND WAGES.

The problem of suitable work, carrying with it a suitable salary, is one which must be faced by every organisation which attempts the task of placing and registering the woman "war-worker." It has been faced by Miss Ethel Sargent, compiler of the War Register of the Federation of University Women, which has found varied work for a very large number of university women, from posts as draughtsman in an aeroplane factory to a post in the actuarial department of an insurance office. Miss Sargent states that "the enthusiasm of these highly educated women is so great that they would often

work for almost nothing. Patriotic motives are inducing women of great attainments to accept a mere pittance. It is sheer waste of splendid material which is of great value to the nation for these women to take minor positions at ruinous wages." The rule laid down, therefore, by the Federation is that if a woman chooses to enlist like her brother—i.e., undertake direct work, such as munition work, under Government,—she has a right to do such work at a lower rate than the University rate, provided she does not undercut the regular worker. If, however, a university woman takes work for private employers or municipalities, she must only work for the university rate—beginning at £100 or £120 a year.

E. PALLISER.

N.U.W.S.S., affiliated to I.W.S.A.

Church League for Women's Suffrage.

A prayer has been issued by the C.L.W.S., in view of the Three Days' Intercession proclaimed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The Lord Bishop of London was the preacher at the monthly War-time Intercession Service in St. Martin-in-the-Fields, arranged by the League in November, and in December Dr. Scott Holland preached. The services in January, February, and March will be taken by the Bishops of Lichfield, Stepney, and Willesden, respectively. The collections at these services are divided between the Church Funds and the Stobart Hospital Unit in Serbia.

CANADA.

For some time Suffrage literature issued by the Church League has been crossing the Atlantic, and last month the Ontario Equal Franchise Association sent a request to the C.L.W.S. to allow some of its instructive pamphlets and articles to be reprinted in Toronto, for propaganda work among Church people.

AUSTRALIA.

The Rev. F. M. and Mrs. Spencer, as C.L.W.S. members, have been instrumental in bringing before the Government of Victoria proposals for the protection of children from sexual assaults, and one of the most important—namely, that women should take depositions from girls and women in sexual cases—was accepted by the Ministers interviewed without hesitation.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A member of the Executive Committee of the C.L.W.S. was present at the conference held by the Women's Enfranchisement Association of South Africa last year, when a resolution was passed urging that women were entitled to hold the same offices as laymen in Church life.

ANNE GILCHRIST.

Women's Work in War.

The Joint Committee of the Fabian Research Department and the Fabian Women's Group is engaged on an inquiry into the new position of women in industry. Among the members are Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb, Miss Mary MacArthur, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Miss Susan Lawrence, L.C.C., and prominent trade unionists, in addition to representatives of other important bodies. In a letter explaining the objects of the inquiry, reference was made to the difficulties of the re-arrangement of industry. Now that such large number of women are employed in work previously confined to men, processes have been readjusted, so that, although the women are accomplishing the same result as the men, no woman is engaged on exactly the same process as any one man. Meanwhile the regulations of the men's trade unions are thrown to the winds, while the women are employed at rates that threaten the whole position of labour. Unless the position is understood and faced, the probabilities are that labour will awake after the war to find itself powerless, while the women may well be worse off than they were. The objects of the present inquiry are (1) to inquire how far and in what occupations and processes female labour is being introduced for the first time, or is increasing, or is replacing male labour; (2) to find out at what rates and under what conditions women are now working, and what is the cause or explanation of any differentiation between grades or sexes; (3) to inquire how far the readjustments of processes have facilitated the introduction of female labour, and how far they are likely to secure its permanence after the war; (4) to inquire into the rules and customs which restrict the employment of men or women or influence the line of demarcation between their work, and to inquire in what way any alteration is likely to affect them. An appeal is made for the funds to carry out this inquiry.

Women's Freedom League.

The W.F.L. has been very active during the past month. In common with other Suffrage Societies, we felt perturbed by the various and conflicting rumours that were current as to the real aim and scope of the Parliament and Registration Bill. A letter was addressed to the Prime Minister, signed by the W.F.L. and many other Suffrage organisations, demanding that no attempt should be made to touch the franchise for men till women's claim to equal treatment has been fully recognised.

A campaign is also being started with the object of bringing the M.P.'s to a sense of the situation as we feel it. It is desired that wherever there is a branch of the League a deputation should be formed to wait upon the Member for the constituency in order to find out what action he is prepared to take if an attempt is made to alter the franchise without including women.

In addition to our Wednesday afternoon meetings we held a "Votes for Women" Rally at the Bijou Theatre on December 5, when the speeches were all on Woman Suffrage pure and simple. The enthusiasm of the audience, which quite filled the theatre, showed conclusively that women are as determined as ever to cast off the humiliating shackles of political subjection.

A Green, White, and Gold Fair, in aid of the funds of the League, was held in Caxton Hall on November 26 and 27, and was a great success from every point of view.

32, Wynne Road, Brixton, S.W. KATHLEEN TANNER.

To the Rt. Hon. H. H. Asquith, M.P.

DEAR SIR,—The statements which have appeared in the Press with regard to the Parliament and Registration Bill, taken in conjunction with Lord Lansdowne's announcement in the House of Lords, on November 4, of a Government measure to revise the electoral register, give Suffragists grave reason for apprehension as to the intention of the Government so to deal with the franchise as to bring in large numbers of new male electors. We, the signatories of this letter, representing large bodies of Suffragists, feel that any attempt to touch the franchise for men without granting the franchise to women would be a dishonour to men as well as an injustice to women, and would create a grave situation. We therefore beg for a definite assurance from you, as the head of His Majesty's Government, that, if such a measure is drafted, women, whose claim to enfranchisement has been, not lessened, but intensified by the war and all that it entails of suffering and service, shall be included in its provisions on equal terms with men.

We approach you in this way, being fully aware of the great pressure upon your time. But, failing a definite and satisfactory assurance from you upon the grave matter in question, we should feel obliged to ask you to be good enough to receive a deputation on the subject from representatives of our organisations, or to depute a member of the Cabinet to receive us on your behalf.—We are, yours faithfully,

C. DESPARD, Women's Freedom League.

B. AYRTON GOLD, United Suffragists.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST, East London Federation of Suffragettes.

JANE STRICKLAND, Free Church League for Woman Suffrage.

EDITH R. MANSELL-MOULLIN, Forward Cymric Union.

M. ARNCLIFFE-SENNETT, Northern Men's Federation for Woman Suffrage.

B. GADSBY, Catholic Woman's Suffrage Society.

SUSAN A. VILLIERS, Church League for Woman Suffrage.

J. BEANLAND, Manchester Men's League for Woman Suffrage.

ANNA M. HASLAM, Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association.

ESTHER G. ROPER, National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society.

Women's War Work and War Wages.

The figures of the Women's War Interests Committee show that English women on armament work are paid 15s. for a 53 hours' week; the corresponding wages to men are as high as 45s. Women workers have received as little as 11s. 6d. and 10s. a week. For typing and routine work the Government pays women clerks 18s. to 20s. a week, and 21s. to 25s. for ordinary clerical work. Protests have been addressed to the Press by members of the Women's Industrial Council and Co-operative Guild insisting on decent labour conditions for the women engaged in war work.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

The amalgamation has recently taken place under the above title of two societies which in the past enlisted a noble band of workers in a great cause—the British Branch of the International Abolitionist Federation, and the Ladies' National Association for the Abolition of State Regulation of Vice and for the Promotion of Social Purity.

The story of this movement if fully told would be the story of many devoted lives, among which one shines supreme—the life of Josephine Butler. In Professor Stuart's words, she "was one of the great people of the world. In character, in work done, in influence on others, she was among that few great people who have moulded the course of things. The world is different because she lived."

The greatest work of her life began in 1869, when the last of the three iniquitous Contagious Diseases Acts was passed by the British Parliament. These Acts introduced into certain military and naval towns in England and Ireland the methods in vogue on the Continent of registering prostitutes and compelling them to submit at short intervals to surgical examinations. Those who submitted were to all intents and purposes licensed by the police, while those who refused to submit were liable to imprisonment. The Acts placed the reputation of women and girls at the mercy of the police, from whose word appeal was made almost impossible. By implication the Acts virtually legalised brothels so long as they complied with the hygienic requirements of the police.

Those who flocked to the standard raised by Josephine Butler included Sir James Stansfield, Mr. Sheldon Amos, Professor Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Wilson, while amongst the distinguished Vice-Presidents of the Society were Herbert Spenser and John Stuart Mill.

The movement, begun in 1869, culminated in this country in the total abolition of the Acts in 1886, but in its early years it spread rapidly on the Continent, and led to the foundation in 1875 of the International Abolitionist Federation for the Abolition of State Regulation of Vice, of which the newly renamed Society remains the British branch.

The Federation is independent of party, creed, or race. It declares principles and entrusts the methods of their application to its national branches. It condemns all systems of regulating, tolerating, or legalising vice as destructive of that sense of personal responsibility which is the foundation of morality. It protests against the idea that there are different standards of morality for the two sexes, and against burdening women only with the legal consequences of a mutual act.

Positively it holds that the simple fact of personal and private immorality is a matter for the conscience only, which, as experience has proved, cannot be made a legal offence; and that, in matters of sexual morality the State should intervene for the punishment of (1) immoral acts accomplished or attempted against minors; (2) immoral action, accompanied by violence or fraud, against any person, irrespective of age or sex; (3) public indecency; (4) public provocation to debauchery; and (5) procuration.

The polestar of the Federation has always been that no human being—no matter how degraded—must ever be thought of as beyond the pale of humanity; and that consequently not even the commonest prostitute must be treated by the State as an outlaw or chattel, excluded from the operation of the ordinary law. Such exclusion is the essence of slavery and of regulation, and as Dr. Bloch, the eminent specialist, has shown, the regulation of vice by the State is a direct survival from pre-Christian civilisation in which prostitution and female slavery were almost synonymous terms.

The designation of the Federation is explicit enough and adequate enough wherever the regulation system still exists, for its demolition is the very first step. But in Britain the name "Abolitionist" has been found of late to be a hindrance rather than a help; it implies that British Abolitionists are dealing with a problem of long ago or of far away, and it repels those who are eager to join them in removing the evils which surround us to-day, and who cannot be expected to recognise as clearly as they do that their work is the true sequence and continuation of Abolitionism, properly so called.

It was therefore decided to incorporate with the British Branch the Ladies' National Association, a society whose scope of work was practically identical with the other, and to rename the amalgamated body "The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene."

The objects of the Association as defined in its constitution are "to raise the standard of character and conduct in sexual relations, to secure the recognition of an equal standard of morality for men and women, and to eradicate prostitution and kindred evils. It will oppose and seek to overthrow all forms of official regulation and commercial exploitation of vice, and it will endeavour to study and promote such legislative, administrative, social, educational, and hygienic reforms as will tend to encourage the highest public and private morality."

The Association will continue to publish its quarterly review, *The Shield*, the title of which will, however, probably be changed. The review deals with the problems of prostitution and venereal disease, and considers how far any suggested solutions are in accord with the principles of morality, equality between the sexes, and true hygiene.

It reports what is being done in various parts of the world for the diminution of venereal disease and the reduction of immorality. Every care is taken to ensure accuracy in its reviews and articles, most of which are written by experts.

The Hon. Secretary is Dr. Helen Wilson, of Sheffield, and the offices are at 19, Tothill Street, Westminster, where full particulars can be obtained.

BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

Canada.

In addition to the various and unparalleled activities incidental to the present-day conditions, the members have accomplished definite and concrete work along Suffrage lines, knowing full well that when women have a voice in national and international affairs, war will cease for ever.

REFERENDUM ON MUNICIPAL VOTE.

Last fall an open letter was written concerning the advisability and importance of requesting the various municipal councils throughout Ontario to submit a referendum at coming elections to the electors, *re* votes for married women.

In Renfrew the local Council of Women convened December 29, 1914, and passed the following resolution:—

"That this Council approve of the advisability of granting the municipal franchise to married women otherwise qualified to vote. Knowing well the progressive spirit of the voters of Renfrew, the local Council of Women feel sure that a large vote will be polled in favour of this change in the law of Ontario."

For votes for married women	316
Against votes for married women	170

Majority

In London, Ontario, referendum carried by a majority of 1,309.

Kingston reported that the municipal council passed a resolution in favour of the referendum, but it has not as yet been submitted to the electors.

Ottawa Municipal Council passed a resolution in favour of the referendum, without a dissenting voice; the referendum to be submitted at the next election. Another item of interest is the appointment of women to the Municipal Committee of the Board of Trade.

Hamilton Municipal Council passed a resolution in favour of votes for married women; the question to be brought up at the next election.

In Toronto referendum work was unnecessary on account of the large vote polled in 1914. The members decided, therefore, to organise a Women's Ratepayers' Association, and appoint committees of women for each ward, whose duty it would be to attend the sessions of the legislature and the municipal bodies of the city. Letters were written to the secretaries of various organisations, soliciting co-operation in organising, but the matter was finally postponed on account of the infelicitous conditions.

In St. John the question of Municipal Suffrage for all tax-paying women received a majority of 915. In pursuance of this vote, the municipal councillors of St. John sent a Bill to the Legislature, asking that Municipal Suffrage be granted to all tax-paying women. This request was granted.

The Civics Committee of Montreal Local Council has no special work to report, as there were no municipal elections this year. Propagandist work is left to its affiliated societies, and the Suffrage Society of Montreal is always willing to co-operate in municipal or legislative reforms.

In Halifax a Civic Improvement League was formed, whose object was to assist in the elections, and if possible secure the election of honest candidates for municipal offices.

The women of the city were canvassed, and informed that as women desired sanitation in their homes, pure food, better roads, public parks and playgrounds, it was their duty to vote, and give their Suffrages to men of ideals, possessing sound business sense.

On election day the members escorted the women voters to the polls. Greater numbers of women voted, and a superior class of men were elected. The result justified the effort. Voting privileges unchanged.

PROPAGANDA IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, report that their work has been mainly along educational lines—as, for instance, distributing literature on the subject of Woman Suffrage, writing newspaper articles, arranging for public speakers and public meetings. Particularly have they endeavoured to interest organised bodies of young men and women. They also formed a club for the purpose of discussing woman. At the opening meeting woman was discussed in her entirety; at subsequent meetings woman was discussed in her limited capacity—as artist, novelist, poet, musician, in business, in agriculture, home, and last, but by no means least, from the viewpoint of mother.

The programme was excellent, and must have elicited much interest, as well as being very instructive.

The members of Fort William and Port Arthur report that, believing the teaching of "Civics" in our public schools was of the greatest importance to the growing youth, they directed inquiries as to this question, and ascertained that "Civics" was already part of the public school curriculum, introduced by one of their women principals, Mrs. J. M. Sherk, who also in 1906 had initiated the public playground system.

The married women's municipal referendum carried by a large majority in both cities.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE PROMISED IN MANITOBA, ALBERTA, AND SASKATCHEWAN.

In Manitoba the Liberal Party have promised full Parliamentary Suffrage for its women.

In Saskatchewan the Government have indicated their intentions to introduce a Bill for full Parliamentary Suffrage for women at the coming session.

In the city of Edmonton, Alberta, all women of 21 years, irrespective of property, have the municipal vote, and the good word has come that Premier Sifton is having a Bill drafted advocating full Parliamentary Suffrage for women. The present outlook indicates that the women of Alberta will all win the dignity of citizenship ahead of the other province.

How long before Ontario will recognise the worth and ability of her women, and be in accord with the Provinces of the West? One does not need the gift of prophecy to know that as the aftermath of this war woman's true place will be defined and acknowledged. Women—the home-makers, the constructive force of mankind, the preservers of life, the mothers of men—can no longer be debarred from their intrinsic position in the mind and heart of the world. In truth, woman's untiring hand will be absolutely essential to the conduct of national and international business.

The love, wisdom, and idealism possessed and contributed by women will have to be supplemented by the power to enforce that love and that wisdom, and make idealism practicable in the conduct of human affairs. This is the one hopeful note shining throughout the surrounding darkness. May we be worthy!

AUGUSTA STOWE GULLEN.

Woman Suffrage Association, affiliated to I.W.S.A.

Canadian Notes.

The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada at its recent Convention passed a unanimous resolution urging the Enfranchisement of Women throughout the Dominion of Canada. Other resolutions of interest to women were: (1) One calling for the abolition of all child labour under sixteen years; (2) the adoption of the principle of equal pay for equal work as between men and women; (3) one asking for the prohibition of the employment of white women in Chinese places of business; (4) asking for mothers' pensions.

MARRIED WOMEN'S HOME PROTECTION.

The Alberta Legislature has passed the Married Woman's Home Protection Act, which provides for the filing of a caveat with the registrar, which prevents the transfer by a husband of property in which the wife has an interest until the matter has come before a judge, and has been decided by him. This was passed to protect the interests of married women in homesteads. "Homesteading," or the taking up of free land, is not yet allowed to women.

Nova Scotia has recently passed a Workmen's Compensation Act, based on that of Ontario. These are the only two provinces with such Acts, and they apply only to scheduled trades, of which very few are those employing women. Domestic servants are not included, as in England.

Nova Scotia has also raised the legal age to employ children to sixteen years, except the child has a certificate of having passed the seventh grade at school.

WAR WORK.

A Suffrage War Auxiliary has been formed to unite the Suffragists of Canada in doing war work. They will take up different needs as they occur. At present energies are being directed to recruiting, Serbian hospital funds, registering voluntary workers, etc. The Auxiliary seems to meet a real need, as Suffrage energy was felt to be dissipated in spite of the fact that every Suffragist is working in one, if not in many, fields of war work.

The National Council of Women of Canada, at their Annual Convention, passed a resolution instructing the National

Executive to ask for the Franchise for women from the various Provincial Legislatures. Hitherto it has given permission only to local Councils to approach the Legislatures of the Provinces where they are located, and it is felt that the National Council will have more influence, and has also more definitely taken an active interest in the question of votes for women.

NEWFOUNDLAND PROHIBITION.

Newfoundland has just held a province-wide prohibition campaign, the vote being 24,965 *for*, and 5,348 *against* prohibition. The actual polling was very high, and this was fortunate, as one of the conditions of the voting was that at least 40 per cent. of the possible votes must be polled to bring prohibition into force. Now Newfoundland will go "dry" on January 1, 1917.

EDITH LANG,

Corresponding Secretary, National Equal Franchise Union, Canada.

Australian Notes.

LABOUR WOMEN'S PROGRAMME.

The Biennial Convention of Women of the Victorian Labour Party passed resolutions dealing with the care of infant life, State maternity hospital, founding hospital, domestic and technical training of girls, juvenile labour, women magistrates, jurors, and police, equal pay for men and women, widows and orphans' pensions, retention by married woman of her own nationality, venereal disease, juvenile street trading, pure milk, and declaration of peace terms.

WOMAN PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE.

The New South Wales Political Labour Council has selected Mrs. Gallagher as candidate for Parramatta. This is the first time that a political party in Australia has adopted a woman candidate.

WOMEN POLICE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The Chief Secretary announces that the arrangements for the appointment of women police are practically complete.

THE WOMEN'S POLITICAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

This Association has opposed the war from the beginning, and carries on active peace propaganda. Miss Adela Pankhurst (the English militant) contributes to its organ, the *Woman Voter*.

The British Dominions Women's Suffrage Union.

The British Dominions Women's Suffrage Union was established in July, 1914, to act as a link between all the free, self-governing British Dominions. The outbreak of war changed its outlook as it has done that of other Suffrage societies. Last Christmas a day was set apart for prayer, and it was decided to observe in a similar way the last day of this year, 1915. The vigil lasts for two days—from mid-day on December 30 till mid-day on January 1, counting from dawn on the 31st in New Zealand to the last hour of the year in Vancouver.

The Union has done a great deal in extending the circulation of women's political papers. The Hon. Secretary arranged to have copies of all the chief Suffrage papers published in English, including *Jus Suffragii*, sent to the leaders of all women's societies and to other influential women overseas, and sent at the same time letters to New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and Canada, calling attention to these papers. The result has been a large extension of the sale of Suffrage literature in the Dominions, and much has been done in the distribution of books and pamphlets. The work of the International Women's Congress at The Hague was made known to the British Dominions, which received only garbled accounts from the ordinary newspaper resources.

The Union has devoted itself to war relief work, and published a report for the period 1914 to July, 1915. At a public meeting held in London in July, an exhibition was made of clothing, contributed by twenty-seven Societies in the Dominions for the relief of Belgian and British sufferers from the war. The Hon. Secretary of the Union sent out an appeal in August, 1914, which met with immediate and hearty response. The gifts have consisted principally of underclothing for little children and some for women. Immediately after the outbreak of war the Dominions began to pour gifts upon the homeland with unparalleled generosity. Hospital ships, hospitals on land, ambulances, Red Cross work, money for

the relief of Belgian refugees, food in great quantities, and clothes were supplied freely and at once, although the Dominions suffered from the great economic dislocation caused by the war and unemployment. The Women Suffragists immediately responded to the call of the Suffrage Union. Canada, being the nearest, was the first to respond, and supplies of clothing arrived as early as October, 1914. Great gifts came from the West, as well as from the East. Many of them had charming messages attached to them, and Christmas cards. All these were sent to the poor in London. Gifts from South Africa began to arrive in November, 1914. Thousands of beautiful and useful garments came from British and Dutch women alike. The Johannesburg consignment of thirty-eight great cases was directed to the East London Federation of Suffragettes, and that from Port Elizabeth and Bloemfontein to Mrs. Despard's work in Nine Elms. The cases from Natal were destined for Belgians, and were distributed among refugees in England and Holland. Each garment was usually accompanied by a message, of which one from a South African mother is typical. She wrote of: "The love which can bridge over 7,000 miles of land and sea." The Australian and New Zealand gifts began to arrive in January, 1915, and are arriving still. Their Governments defrayed all charges of transport and delivery. Lady Stout, the well-known Suffragist, of New Zealand, has sent beautiful clothing specially suited for families formerly well-to-do. Another consignment included over 1,000 bags, each containing a handkerchief and a coin. School children had co-operated in sending these gifts, accompanied by messages and letters—most of them for Belgian refugees. New Zealand also sent over 500 yards of beautiful flannel. Some of it has been made into shirts for wounded in hospital; some for Belgian women and children, Serbian and English poor. Large consignments came from every State in Australia, and, besides containing clothes, included toys, coins, and sweets. Hand-knit socks and stockings had in each case a small store of wool for mending tucked in, and sympathetic letters and messages. One Sunday school had given up its annual treat to help the funds. One Society in New South Wales sent a huge case of infant outfits. Besides this, a box—a splendid gift of specimen layettes—was received from Canada and Tasmania, and the Sydney Babies' Cots Society and the Queensland Society have also sent splendid supplies of infant clothing.

The report adds: "Greater even than the gifts is their significance. The motherhood of the world is speaking, but the cry of the women to save the world on behalf of the coming race cannot be silenced." These babies' outfits, prepared from the instructions of a woman doctor, and carried out with exquisite daintiness, are finding their way to the relief of Belgian, French, and Serbian motherhood, and take the great message of love from mother to mother, even where our language is unknown. Some special gifts have been prepared for those who were once well-to-do, and have gone to the hostel for the wives of Belgian doctors and other sufferers of the professional classes. It is evident that the tragedy of Belgium has sunk deeply into the hearts of women overseas. One organisation working behind the ranks of the armies in Belgium relieves the distressed country people. Much of the clothing from Victoria and Tasmania is being used by the nuns of dispossessed convents working among refugees.

Much of the money so generously sent has been given by children. It is evident that the most sympathetic interest is taken by the young people overseas in the tragedy of Europe, and much has been spent upon the provision of milk for the babies of the poor, and some money has been spent in convalescent aid for poor children of soldiers and sailors.

It has been a great joy to feel during the war the bond of union existing between the members of the women's movement all over the world. The gifts from overseas are reminders of this precious bond.

The wife of the Premier of New South Wales arrived in San Francisco in the middle of September to visit the Panama Fair. She was addressing the Convention of Women Voters within a few hours of her landing. She confessed that she could not stop herself from coming to tell them what a success Woman Suffrage had been in her country during the fourteen years it had been in operation.

Women, so she said, were still darning their husbands' socks, still nursing their babies, in Australia, even though able to vote; but she advised her hearers that it would be worth while to neglect for a time even husband's socks if by so doing that could hasten the day of full Suffrage for women in America.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. H. P. Gordon recently addressed the members of the Krugersdorp Women's Reform Club on "Women's Suffrage in Australia."

Mr. Gordon (editor of the *Standard*) said that twenty-four years ago he was a candidate for a Parliamentary seat in New South Wales. In his campaign he had advocated Woman's Suffrage, which was then becoming an election issue in that country. It had so distressed the episcopal mind that the bishop of the diocese wrote him beseeching him to abandon such a pernicious crusade. That reflected the attitude of the church twenty-five years ago in Australia. To-day Australia and New Zealand opinion was overwhelmingly in favour of the enfranchisement of women. The Anti-Suffragist had been completely silenced by the test of actual results. The democracy of those countries viewed the question from the standpoint of the present day, when the intellect was the test of fitness in the management of human affairs. In the olden days, at the dawn of history, the supreme test of superiority in all things was physical strength.

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES.

When an Anti-Suffragist argued that "Women's Suffrage would destroy the home," and that "Women's Suffrage is not practical," an Australian or New Zealander was dumbfounded at the audacity or ignorance of such an assertion. The most convincing answer to the musty theories of the Anti-Suffragist was furnished by the examples of those countries where women are enfranchised. In New Zealand, for instance, between November, 1893, when women first voted, and 1914 there had been seven general elections. In the Commonwealth of Australia from 1903 to 1914 there had been four general elections at which women voted. In the six individual States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, each having its own Parliament, there had been an aggregate of sixteen general elections since women had been enfranchised. Besides which there had been innumerable by-elections. Surely if home life were prejudicially affected, or if Women's Suffrage was not practical, there would be some clear and unmistakable manifestation of it as a result of all those elections. But not a single voice of complaint had been raised throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth or New Zealand that the granting of the vote had led to a diminished interest in domestic affairs or had in any way impaired women's influence in the home or had caused her to neglect her home life in her pursuit of politics. The verdict of the whole people was unanimous in its endorsement of the wisdom of the Legislature in enfranchising women. And no public demand has been made from any quarter for a repeal, or even a modification of the law. The opinion of the Commonwealth was visualised by the terms of the resolution passed in December, 1909, by the Commonwealth House of Representatives (the Lower House of the Parliament of Australia). On the motion of Mr. Alfred Deacon, then Prime Minister, it was unanimously resolved that the grant of the vote to the women of Australia had been fully justified, and had proved an unqualified success. That motion was carried in a House of seventy-five members, representing all shades of political opinion in the whole of Australia, without a single dissentient voice. That gave the Australian view in concrete and tabloid form. What possible answer could the Anti-Suffragist make to it?

PROGRESSIVE OPINION.

It should be remembered that the development of public opinion favourable to Woman Suffrage in the several States of Australia was influenced by practical considerations. The State of Victoria, for instance, did not give women the franchise until 1908. That State was the last to amend its electoral laws so as to include women as electors. It therefore had the advantage of being able to scrutinise at close range the effects of the enfranchisement of women in the neighbouring States and in New Zealand. More than that, it was compelled to observe the demonstrable results of women's voting under the Commonwealth electoral law, by which the women of Victoria became enfranchised as electors of Federal Australia. The women of Victoria were voters for several years under the Commonwealth (Federal) Constitution before they became entitled to vote for a candidate for their own State Parliament. Was it likely, then, that the Victoria Legislature would have passed a law giving women the vote in Victoria, as a State, with the experience that Legislature had of Victorian women as voters of the Commonwealth Parliament if any indications of failure of women's enfranchisement had been observable?

To-day, in each of the States of Australia, adult suffrage was the sole qualification of an elector. Surely it was time for Anti-Suffragists to give facts to justify their opposition rather than vague generalities of an academic kind and the speculative forebodings of biased minds. That would be a mere instructive and edifying course, and one better calculated to convince.

AN ILLUSTRATION.

In 1909 he was an eye-witness of what actually took place at a by-election in which women voted. What first struck the stranger were the orderliness and the good conduct that everywhere prevailed during the progress of the campaign. On election day women go to the polling places and record their votes, and then return to their homes or places of business just in the same way that men do. In those cases where a woman is her own mistress, she conducts herself on election day much in the same way as a man does who is his own master. If her interest in the contest is lukewarm, she merely goes to the poll and votes, and then goes about her business. Or, it may be, she will not vote at all. If, on the other hand, she feels deeply interested in the candidature of one of the parties in the contest, she perhaps may exercise what personal influence she is able to exert on that candidate's behalf by a quiet and orderly canvass. That applied to the case of a woman who is her own mistress. In the case of a woman who is an employé or domestic servant, the elector records her vote under much the same circumstances as the male elector who is an employé—that is to say, in her intervals of leisure. The recording of her vote does not trespass on her employer's time. The agents of the candidate ascertain from her, approximately, the exact time at which it will be convenient for her to go to the polling place, and at that time a motor-car or other vehicle is at her disposal to convey her to the poll, unless, indeed, she prefers to walk. In such cases the voter records her vote, and probably thinks no more about the matter, over and above the ordinary curiosity of a woman, and a man, too, to learn the result of the contest. Then there was the keen woman politician, who, in the lecturer's opinion, did not exceed 10 per cent. of the enrolled female voters. As to such woman, she acts on election day very much after the manner of the lords of the creation who are keen politicians. She is a hustler, and resorts to all the arts of canvassing and persuasion which electioneering has made familiar to us. But we have the same sort of thing in this country, despite the fact that women are denied the franchise.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE AS A VOTER.

Mr. Gordon gave several instances of the beneficial influence women had exerted upon the public life of Australia and New Zealand. Their participation in active politics had given the quietus to the mere charlatan and mountebank. It had compelled politicians to take a deeper interest in economics and in matters of social reform. And it had stimulated the activities of male electors as voters. In the Commonwealth general election of 1903 the percentage of males who voted for the Senate was 53.09 per cent. and 56.47 for the Lower House. In the 1913 general election that vote had increased to 77.2 per cent. and 77.01 per cent. respectively. The Commonwealth statistician (Year Book No. 7, p. 840) states that "the electors are beginning to set a higher value on the privilege of the franchise." The percentage of women who voted between the years 1903 and 1913 increased by over 26 per cent. In the latter year it was 69.56 per cent. He submitted that the increase in both cases was very largely due to the part women had played in the organisation of electoral campaigns and the work of propaganda. Lord Rosebery had deplored the apathy of the British voter. In the United Kingdom 30 per cent. of the enrolled voters did not vote. Lord Rosebery had called this 30 per cent. the "silent vote," and had pointed out that the result of a general election might be conceivably completely reversed if this "silent vote" became fully inarticulate. Considering the vastness of many of the electoral areas, and the great distance that often separates the voter's domicile from the polling place in Australia, the 69.56 per cent. among women who actually recorded their votes must be regarded as very high testimony of their appreciation of the privilege of the franchise and of their interest in public affairs.

ADVANTAGES TO THE COMMUNITY.

Referring to the material advantages the grant of the vote had established, the lecturer said there was the added interest in economic questions and in matters of social reform which politicians had been compelled to take by women's influence. To-day in Australia a candidate for a Parliamentary seat must necessarily have some knowledge of political economy, and must have studied more or less intimately those questions

which really affect the health, happiness, and progress of the people. When, for instance, a woman voter stands up at a public meeting and questions a candidate on matters in which women are particularly interested, he must be able to answer intelligently or run the risk of losing votes. Australia or New Zealand are notoriously ahead of the whole world in social and economic legislation, and that state of things is very largely due to women's active participation in politics, and to the influence exerted by them on public men.

After speaking of the need for an enlightened electorate as the chief means whereby an efficient Parliament may be obtained, Mr. Gordon continued:—

With us in South Africa there are the clearest indications on every side of the substantial progress made by the Woman's Suffrage movement. As the body of instructed opinion grows larger, so will it continue to increase in greater ratio until the whole realm of womankind will be embraced. It will be then a rare thing to meet a woman who does not understand what the privilege of the franchise to women will mean to them. And just as that is so in the case of Women's Suffrage, so it may become so in the case of all other questions of public concern. The average voter would be gradually elevated to a higher plane as an instructed unit in the general body of voters. I believe it is part of women's province to be the medium by which this educative process may be carried out. The average man has too much pride to be content to take a back seat when questions of vital public interest are being discussed. And when he realises that his wife or sister has a more thorough grasp of social and political problems than he himself has, he naturally will turn his mind to a deeper study of such problems. An enlightened constituency will then become a reality. To-day Parliamentary government is on its trial. Mr. Balfour is reputed to have said that the Parliamentary system of the present time requires remodelling. It has ceased to be efficient; has failed to respond to the varied requirements of modern exigencies. It is absurd to suppose that we can reach the perfection of wisdom and knowledge in our Parliamentary rulers so long as there is such widespread ignorance in the constituencies. Either the constituencies must be enlightened or the Parliamentary system must be reformed. I believe that the first step towards the enlightenment of the constituencies is to give women the vote.

In a letter to the *Christian Commonwealth*, London, Rev. Wm. Kingscote of Greenland says:—

"One thing at least this war has knocked on the head forever—the vaunted superiority of masculine over feminine wisdom. If the condition of Europe to-day represents man's political wisdom, then, for God's sake, let us try the wisdom of our women. They could not have done worse. We men have brought civilisation to the ground. Why not try Stateswomanship next time? It is no use clamouring for liberty while we keep our women in domestic and civic bondage. The peace that will come ought to include the honourable settlement of this age-long sex-jealousy and rivalry. Let us be men, and not civic and domestic bullies and tyrants and great moguls and Turks. The amused contempt of the average Englishman for the business capacity and common-sense of his wife and sisters is a disgrace to us all. We call her "the missus," but she is not; and we take jolly good care, if she is, we are the boss and the master.

"Personally, I would ten million times over rather trust the destinies of Europe to a brilliant and wise and just and resourceful-minded woman like Mrs. Fawcett, or Mrs. Ackland, or even Mrs. Pankhurst, than to a gang of aristocratic sycophants and diplomatists and money-mongers. Which knows best what the worker needs—the mothers, or the stock exchange gamblers, the gilded *attaches*, the professional war-makers, and the office-seeking politicians? The pulse of the world is the pulse that beats in women's wrists. . . .

"For our own sakes, let us give our women their due. No, I hate the word "give." Who are we to give them anything? We are not God; we did not create our women. They get their rights from the same source and the same authority as we do ourselves. . . ."

First Able-bodied Male: "Woman's place is in the home. As I was tellin' my wife—"

Second Able-bodied Male: "By the bye, Bill, what's your wife doin' now?"

First Able-bodied Male: "Workin' just now in the cannery."

NETHERLANDS.

GOVERNMENT SUFFRAGE BILL.

More than two years ago—in September, 1913—the Queen of Holland's Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Staats General announced that a measure would be introduced to give Universal Suffrage to men and to remove the constitutional obstacles to extending the Suffrage to women. Ignorance of the Constitution of the Netherlands caused this to be reported in many foreign countries as a promise to introduce a Woman Suffrage Bill. This was not the intention of the Government.

To explain the position of Woman Suffrage in Holland it is necessary to make clear the difference between: (a) An ordinary Act of the Dutch Staats General (Parliament); and (b) an Act altering the constitution.

In Holland there is a written constitution, and the procedure necessary to alter that constitution is different from that necessary to pass an ordinary Act. They are as follows:—

(a) An ordinary Act of Parliament must be passed by each of the two Houses by a simple majority.

(b) An Act altering the constitution must pass twice. First, it requires to be passed in each of the two Houses by a simple majority; and, second, after a general election has taken place, it must again pass, and this time by a two-thirds majority in a joint session of the two Houses.

The outbreak of war caused the abandonment of the introduction of the promised Government Bill, so that when the Queen's Speech of September 22, 1915, again announced the intention of introducing a measure to give Manhood Suffrage and to remove the constitutional obstacles to giving Woman Suffrage, the women had immediately to begin to organise their campaign, which to some extent had been in abeyance for the last sixteen months. The Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht, the Dutch Society which, under the presidency of Dr. Aletta Jacobs, is affiliated to the Alliance, at once asked for an audience with the Prime Minister, M. Cort van den Linden, and presented to him a petition in favour of the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as it is or may be extended to men.

The 165,000 signatures to this petition had been collected in the four months immediately preceding the outbreak of the war, but its presentation had been postponed to a more opportune moment. In making the presentation the deputation from the Vereeniging reminded the Prime Minister that their demand was equal Suffrage for women. If the new Bill was to extend the Suffrage to all men, they asked that it should at the same time give the Suffrage to all women. They drew attention to the fact that the work for their petition had been interrupted by the war, but in spite of this they had been able to collect 165,000 signatures, whereas the Social Democrats in three times the time had been able to collect only twice as many signatures for their petition asking for Man and Woman Adult Suffrage.

The present Bill, introduced on October 31, 1915, deals with the qualification of electors and eligibility for election—that is to say, with passive as with active Suffrage. It refers to Parliamentary and to local government elections. It proposes to extend the active Suffrage for Parliamentary and local government elections to all men over twenty-three years of age, thus removing certain low property, tax, or educational qualifications. With respect to women's active Suffrage, or right to vote, it proposes to lay down that such women as may in future be defined in ordinary Acts of Parliament shall be qualified to vote. It further specified, however, that it shall not be possible to discriminate between different sections of women on the ground of their worldly possessions. That is to say, it suggests the possibility of women voting, but contains no clauses enabling any section of women to vote.

With respect to eligibility, or passive Suffrage—and this is the curious thing,—it proposes to make eligible: (a) To Parliament, all men and women over thirty years of age; and (b) to local governing bodies, all men and women over twenty-five years of age.

Fully to understand the position, however, it must be explained that the Government puts forward not only the Bill, but an official explanation or argument in its favour. "Toelichting" it is called. The Woman Suffrage arguments in this toelichting are so strong as really to amount to an invitation to members of Parliament to introduce Woman Suffrage amendments. The curious thing is that although the eligibility of women is already in the Bill, only one very poor argument is put forward in its support, whereas the strong arguments are applicable to women's right to vote.

It is said, for example: "Let the Anti-Suffragists not forget that there is more advantage than disadvantage to a State in giving the women a share in the Government of a country. In future the intuitive faculty of women will be of great value to every Government."

Prime Minister Cort van den Linden recently spoke in Parliament of the blessing it would be if the whole Suffrage question could be settled now. He knows well, as do all politicians, that there is no settling the Suffrage question without the inclusion of women.

It is this belief which makes it necessary for the Dutch women to use every possible effort to secure the adoption of the necessary amendment to this constitution Bill.

Of the different Dutch Parliamentary parties the Social Democrats (15 members) and the Radicals (7 members) are unanimously in favour of aiding the women. Several of the 22 Liberal members are in favour, as are also some of the 10 Conservative Liberals. The attitude of the Clericals (21 members) tends to be Anti-Suffrage, but that of the Catholic Party (25 members), which until recently was supposed to be against the women, is now, as shown in its Press, veering round in their favour. It is widely stated in the general Dutch Press that the Catholics are prepared to vote for Universal Man Suffrage, and even for Universal Suffrage for both men and women, if they can be assured that the supporters of these measures will vote for the same grants for denominational schools as for Government undenominational schools. The feeling in the country is growing that, as the question will have to be settled soon, it may as well be settled now.

The Press is not unsympathetic, and it reports fully and seriously the woman's campaign. If the Government does not itself collapse—and there are not wanting signs that it may not live to put this measure through,—the women have a good fighting chance of success.

The Vereeniging, which has now a membership of 19,000, is holding meetings all over the country in support of an amendment to give women the vote on the same terms as men, and prominent Members of Parliament are offering their services as speakers. CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

Amsterdam, December 18, 1915.

SWITZERLAND.

The University of Zürich, always progressive in the interest of their women students, has recently issued new regulations which make it possible for women to pass practically the same examinations as men. The regulations contain a clause which might appear as if the authorities meant to give with one hand and to take with the other—namely, that these examinations now open to women, and, indeed, to men students, too, who, in their own countries, are subject to similar disabilities, are not to be considered as constituting on the part of the candidate a claim to be ordained. In reality, however, these examinations are a clear gain to the women students, for should there be anywhere a demand for their services they are thereby enabled to prove that both on the practical and the scientific side they are fully equipped and able to meet all requirements. This might have great practical consequences in Switzerland herself. There is one "Kanton," Graubünden, where women are not barred out from the ministry (as in all the other countries) by the law of the land. Should any parish in Graubünden desire to have a woman as their rector the women students of Divinity would at once be eligible, having passed the necessary examinations.

WOMEN'S WAGES IN SWITZERLAND.

During the first shock and panic that followed the outbreak of war, women's wages were in many cases reduced, and these reductions have been persisted in in spite of the recovery in trade, the profits of the employer, and the burden of high prices on the wage earner. One firm made its employees sign an undertaking to accept 50 per cent. reduction of wages until the end of the war; this same firm has made large profits and contributed to war charities. Another firm has reduced wages from 40 francs a month to 27; another from 120 to 55. The reductions concern mostly shop assistants and clerks, who are said to have had their wages reduced 31 per cent., though in many cases the reduction is 50 per cent.

It has been shown that there is no justification in diminished profits for these reductions of wages, and that whereas the workwomen are reduced to the lowest pittance, the employers have not suffered any reduction in their standard of living. A great meeting of protest has been held, at which three deputies, from different parties, spoke, and the shop assistants' trade union is carrying on a vigorous agitation.

J. GUEYBAND, in *Le mouvement féministe*.

AMERICAN NOTES.

A TYPICAL ANTI-SUFFRAGIST.

Judge Cullan, of the New York Supreme Court, laid it down that it was unconstitutional for the New York Legislature to protect women against long hours of labour. Speaking as an Anti-Suffrage lecturer, he said that women got all they need from men, and could rely on men's chivalry! Yet (though receiving half his salary from women's pockets) he forbids the Legislature to pass a law protecting women from long hours of labour at night, saying that for this purpose woman is to be considered on an equality with man!

There was something entertaining and at the same time tragic in the recent spectacle in New Jersey, when the women presented their arguments to the voters in every sort of bizarre language. "Yes, we talked in every tongue from Yiddish to Choctaw, and then some of the voters couldn't understand," said one of the street-corner orators. The immortal 57 varieties were reproduced to the life in the New Jersey literature. New Jersey is New York's back door, and the emigrant population there is more than sufficient to account for the 56,000 votes which defeated the amendment. How it is possible for American men to force native-born American women to go on their knees and beg for liberty from these illiterate foreigners and then to be rudely repulsed by them is hard to understand. . . .—*Maryland Suffrage News*.

A VETERAN LAWYER AND SUFFRAGIST ON WOMEN'S VOTE.

Mary Walker, a surgeon in the Union Army in the Civil War, and the first American woman to study law, maintains that women's right to vote is inherent in the Constitution, and that the recent vote of a male electorate on the subject is unconstitutional. When the U.S. Constitution was framed, it commenced, "We, the people, . . ." Women in New Jersey had been voting twelve years before the Constitution, and in Maryland before 1747. Margaret Brent, Lord Baltimore's agent in Maryland, had a vote, and claimed more. The U.S. Constitution, according to Dr. Walker, established Republican government, gave equal rights to all States, and to all the people; there was no curtailing of rights on the sex question. All laws made by the States were null and void if they did anything to prevent women citizens from exercising the same rights as men. New Jersey women voted until 1844, when their Legislature prevented them voting.

A FEDERAL AMENDMENT.

Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, daughter of the pioneer, E. C. Stanton, declares that she, as leader of the Women's Political Union, is opposed to working for another referendum in New York. For the future she will not try to gain the individual voter, but will work upon the Legislatures. "There, at least, we know the kind of men we're dealing with, and we know, too, how they vote and how we can punish them. I am determined to work for Presidential Suffrage, which the Legislature can confer upon women. I mean also to push the Federal work. The simple and reasonable plan is to strive to get the word 'male' out of the fourteenth amendment." The Political Equality Association and the Congressional Union are also concentrating entirely on a Federal amendment. The National American Woman Suffrage Association is refusing future support to the Shafroth amendment, and concentrating entirely on the Susan B. Anthony or Mondell amendment.

PENNSYLVANIA "BLOCKED BUT NOT BEATEN."

The Suffragists have started a new war cry, "Blocked but not beaten!" Mrs. Roessing, President of the Pennsylvania W.S. Association, says their opponents have managed only to postpone Woman Suffrage a few years. "From our standpoint," she said, "the fight has been well worth while. We have shown conclusively that there is no apathy on the subject in Pennsylvania, and that at least in thirty counties in the State—the thirty we carried—the majority of the men believe in political justice for women. We thank these men for their splendid support, and we ask them to continue this support when the amendment comes up again in 1920. Our campaign is already under way."

CAN'T HAVE WOMEN POLICE.

Twelve thousand women members of the Ladies' Tailors and Dressmakers' Union asked to have policewomen to handle their strike, which was scheduled to take place on September 20. Police-Commissioner Woods, of New York, refused to grant their request in a letter to the Strike Committee.

AMONG THE SUFFRAGISTS.

In Equal Suffrage Kansas the only question the State asks is: Is there a child the mother can't provide for? It doesn't waste time asking how it happened. Whether the father died, deserted, was divorced, or unable to earn money, Kansas considers irrelevant to the point, which is: That a State can't afford to neglect its children, for of such citizens are made.

New York asks the child: If your mother can't keep a home for you, why not? And, if the father is dead, the State does its duty; but, if the father has failed, the State makes that failure an excuse for failing itself.

The minimum wage commission of Massachusetts has just handed down a decision that women in stores ought to have 8.50 dollars a week. "There," exclaims the Anti-Suffragist; "don't you see that the wage-earner does not need the vote?" But the Anti forgets to say that the Massachusetts Wage Commission is powerless to enforce the rate. It can only recommend.

Estelle Lindsey, a member of the Council of Los Angeles, was chosen by her fellow councillors to act as mayor during the absence of Mayor Sebastien. Things continued normal, and even the price of city lots remained firm.

YOUNG WOMAN LAWYER WRITES SUCCESSFUL MANUAL.

The legislature of South Carolina has adopted for the State a "Manual for Magistrates," a book written by a young South Carolina girl, Miss Ruth Durant Evans. Miss Evans' "Manual for Magistrates" was pronounced by the judiciary committees of the two Houses complete in every respect. The legislature bought one thousand copies for the magistrates of South Carolina. Miss Evans is deputy county clerk of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

WOMEN IN WAR TIME.

One way in which France is making use of her women to-day is to send them to foreign countries to buy materials of war. Mme. Doroco Millerand, an accredited agent of the French Government, is in America purchasing steel and steel products for her country. She closed a contract with one steel company for 50,000 tons of steel for use in the manufacture of high velocity projectiles. Mme. Millerand has been in the service of the French Government, in one capacity or another, for five years.

SUFFRAGE GENEROSITY.

Women have contributed enormous sums to the stirring Suffrage campaign now going on. Amongst all the sums subscribed in the four campaign States, a donation to each of one hundred dollars stands out as a symbol of the devotion of the pioneer women. The money comes from a bequest left by Mary Anthony, a sister of Susan Anthony.

Mary Anthony saved every penny from her small salary as an elementary school teacher. She taught for thirty years, and made it a rule to save something from every dollar she earned. Every cent of these savings went to Woman Suffrage. At her death she left it all to carry on the work of winning votes for women.

"There are many women to-day," says Dr. Anna Shaw, "who are giving every penny they can spare from their hard-earned money to help Woman Suffrage. That is one great reason why the Suffrage cause cannot suffer ultimate defeat. It has behind it the devotion and the self-sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of women who are following the example of this little school teacher of years ago."

"I am unwilling," said a Southern man, "to force woman into the vortex of politics, where her sensitiveness and her modesty will often be offended." The women of North Carolina are attempting to have the age of protection for girls raised above fourteen years. In the course of their struggle their sensitiveness and modesty will often be offended. The question is, Should they protect their sensitiveness or their daughters?

In every State where women vote men are in the majority, and there is not a movement on to take the vote away.

There is not a statute book on which women have written that does not contain more humane laws as a result.

In no single State have they failed to bring a better, cleaner, and more independent note into politics.—JUDGE BEN LINDSEY.

STRONG ENOUGH TO VOTE.

Mrs. Agnes Frisinger, formerly of Hull House, Chicago, has proved what one woman single-handed can do in cleaning up the vice forces of a city. In Hoopston, Illinois, where she was appointed city matron, she revolutionised an unscrupulous police department by forcing the resignation of the chief of police and all his subordinates. She raided two gambling-houses by herself, and captured six inmates at the point of her gun. She drove all street-walkers from the streets, and compelled young girls to respect a curfew regulation. She has successfully resisted all efforts of the opposing forces to oust her, and has firmly entrenched herself in the city's government.

EQUAL WAGES A SUFFRAGE ISSUE.

Women Suffragists are rejoicing over the recent decree of the Illinois State Board of Administration that women employed in State institutions shall receive the same pay as men for the same work. Mrs. Grace Wilbur Trout, president of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association, says that the new recognition of the equality of women is a compelling answer to those who express doubt of the value of the franchise to women.

Suffragists everywhere now hope that the equal wage—in other words, a living wage—will soon be the rule in every kind of business, as well as in State institutions. Committees appointed to investigate the wage question, as compared with the cost of living, have found that under present conditions a woman cannot maintain a healthful standard of living on less than 9 dollars a week. In New York the Committee of Industries and Labour reported this estimate of the expenditures of a girl who receives a wage of 8 dollars a week:

Average for clothes, 1 dollar 50 cents; room rent, 2 dollars; seven breakfasts and seven dinners, 2 dollars; six lunches, 90 cents; car fare, six days, 60 cents; allowance for insurance and medical care, 25 cents; dues, reading, and amusement, 50 cents; savings, 25 cents; total, 8 dollars.

To raise the wages of the 5,000 women in the large department stores in New York City to the 9 dollars, which would mean something more for food, and something for the prevention, as well as a minimum for the cure, of illness, those who have made a study of the subject say that all that would be necessary would be to sell for 1 dollar those articles which are priced now at 99 cents, or for 50 cents those which attract bargain hunters at 49 cents.

NEW YORK POSTMEN ENDORSE SUFFRAGE.

Six hundred men representing in convention the 3,500 letter carriers of New York City, voted without one dissenting voice to stand by the Woman Suffrage amendment in November. The points brought out in the discussion were: That the Church Association, full of women, had secured for the postmen Sundays off; that at Christmas-time they found women more patient and more apt to extend a greeting; that postmen going from door to door have lots of chance to observe human nature, and they think mighty well of women. The national body of postmen have also endorsed Suffrage.

EVEN THE SCARLET WOMAN.

By a closing act of the Pennsylvania Legislature, the jurisdiction of all cases of street walkers will be put under the Municipal Court. This means that a new era—the era of merciful scientific understanding—is to befall the "scarlet woman"—the one person from whom it has hitherto been withheld.

It means, specifically, that Philadelphia will take the lead in treating the fallen woman as "a patient in need of medical attention." Before a woman is sentenced as a criminal she will be taken into the laboratories, which are to be installed in the old Vaux School at 12th and Wood Streets, Philadelphia, and a thorough medical and physical examination will be made. If she is physically in need of care she will be sent to the Lazaretto at Essington, which is to be turned into a hospital for the treatment of these cases. If she is mentally deficient she will be given treatment, and, if incurable, will be sent to a home. In any event she will not be turned over to a world which predetermines her downfall, but employment will be found for her by the Court Aid Society. This new ideal for the Magdalens and Delilahs of the cities will mean prevention of disease and a breaking up of a recognisable "graft system." "But the broadest effect of the system," says the *Philadelphia Ledger*, "is the official recognition it gives of the long-evaded fact that a fallen woman is a person to be helped, not punished."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RELIEF COMMITTEE

The relief committee, formed by the Headquarters Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, to help women of all nationalities who were in temporary distress owing to the outbreak of war, finished a year's work and closed in August, 1915. It met with generous support in gifts of money, gifts in kind, and in voluntary work, and was able to relieve much distress. Full accounts of the work done have appeared in previous numbers of *Jus Suffragii*. We now append the audited accounts showing how all money received was expended and the use to which the balance was put.

CASH STATEMENT

FROM AUGUST 14TH, 1914, TO DECEMBER 4TH, 1915.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
GENERAL FUND—							
Donations		621	18	8			
Sale of Rail and Steamship Tickets, Fees for Joining Parties		1059	4	10			
					1681	3	6
RELIEF FUND FOR BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND—							
Donations					4528	19	0
REPATRIATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM BELGIUM—							
Donations		274	3	9			
Enquiries		31	5	1			
Special Cases		876	10	4			
					1181	19	2
BELGIAN WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT FUND—							
Donations					30	0	0
					£7422	1	8
PAYMENTS.							
GENERAL FUND—							
Maintenance and Temporary Relief, Board, Lodging, Meals, and Fares		221	4	8			
Maternity Cases		21	5	6			
Assisting Persons to Join Red Cross		8	0	6			
					25	10	8
Travelling Expenses and Conductors' Fees for Germans and Austrians Repatriated					122	16	6
Salaries		99	8	0			
Stationery		33	1	8			
Postage and Telegrams		76	8	4			
Petty Cash and Sundries		60	0	9			
					£6	18	9
RELIEF FUND FOR BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND—							
Bread		1420	17	8			
Milk		250	0	0			
Chocolate		86	4	3			
Blankets and Garments		147	16	6			
Cash remitted to British Vice-Consul, Amsterdam Central Committee, M. de Bruyere, Flushing		2415	0	0			
					4319	185	
Wires and Postage		7	17	7			
Carriage and Packing		144	4	2			
Petty Cash and Sundries		53	12	0			
					205	13	9
REPATRIATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM BELGIUM—							
Travelling Expenses and Conductors' Fees, etc.		795	19	0			
Cash Returned on Account of Special Cases not traced		246	7	10			
					1042	6	10
BELGIAN WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT FUND—							
Cash remitted to Madame Brigode, Brussels		25	0	0			
Sundry Expenses		5	0	0			
					30	0	0
Surplus Funds handed to Commission for Relief in Belgium, per Mrs. Hoover		50	0	0			
Union internationale des Amies de la jeune fille, per Miss Schuurman, Rotterdam		27	16	9			
					77	16	9
					£7422	1	8

I have examined the foregoing statement of the International Women's Relief Committee with the books, accounts, and vouchers relating thereto, and have found it to be correct and in accordance therewith.
 ETHEL AYRES PURDIE, Auditor,
 5, 6, and 7, Hampden House,
 Kingsway, W.C., 10th December, 1915.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dublin, December 15th, 1915.

The Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—May I add my voice to a protest against any "change of policy" in *Jus Suffragii*?

It has been an unpleasant surprise to me to see by the December issue that there has been even an attempt to "restrain *Jus Suffragii*" from publishing articles which strengthen the international element of our movement." Is not the international and neutral tone of the paper its very essence and *raison d'être*, so to speak? Again, is it not inevitable that at a time when national and patriotic feeling is at so high a level, any change of policy which might tend towards making your paper less neutral in tone would be disastrous?

To take sides at the present juncture is to invite controversy; and a paper like *Jus Suffragii*, which reaches readers of so many different nationalities, is bound to preserve a detachment of outlook in order to succeed.

Woman has a blessed freedom from direct responsibility in this war; but she has a distinct and definite responsibility in the construction of peace and the ultimate reparation of war's devastations: so that the ideal organ for the representation of women's aim would be—(1) one which is thoroughly anti-militarist in policy—not directing its energies against the militarism of any one nation, about which its readers would not be likely to agree, but against the militarism of war itself, which is clearly manifest, with all its attendant horror, in the awful misery of this so-called civilised era. Women alone can preserve the spirit of goodwill, even in war itself: it is women alone who can face their sisters of other nations and be unabashed, because the guilt of bloodshed is not theirs. They alone can now work towards binding together the hostile nations, and promoting a spirit of universal toleration and fellowship. Let them do it.—Yours truly,
 L. O. KINGSTON.

Plas Uchaf, Abergele, N. Wales, December 12th, 1915.

The Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—May I add my small voice to the representative one of my countrywoman—Louie Bennett—in her approval of your tone and policy during the war?

If these had been other than they are, you would cease to fulfil your duty—viz., to reflect faithfully the spirit of contemporary feminism throughout the world.

That spirit is, unhappily, divided. How can it be otherwise, when the spirit of nearly every separate feminist is torn between devotion to her country and a passionate desire to evince it in some other way than that of violence?

You reflect that division in passing on to us, with equal authority, Romain Rolland's stirring optimism, and the exceeding bitter anguish of the disillusioned French pacifists. It is true that the former spirit has veiled itself oftener in your columns than the latter. Is not the reason just that merciful psychology, which often makes bitterness inarticulate, while it goads hope to cry aloud with the voice of a prophet?

May we, to whom that voice is a consolation, not implore those to whom it is for the time meaningless, not to deprive us of it?

Above all, may we not assure the "Femmes Françaises" that our admiration for their faith, valour, and energy is not less, but more, because we are vowed to end a way of life in which such nobility can be put to so infamous a trial?—Yours truly,
 (Dr.) C. S. WARNER.

Woodside, Tivoli, Cork, December 11th, 1915.

The Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Madam,—May I say—if you care to have the wish and opinion of your men readers—tho' I for one should not dream of continuing to read *Jus Suffragii* if it descended to the silly, deadening jingo stuff of any country's smashing to a finish, or if it spoke nothing of ideals of peace? Some of us like to read sense, and to get information making for knowledge of human beings, as they were before the war and as they are—without any nonsense on perverting of one's judgments about so-called alien enemies in this country or in that.—Yours faithfully,
 W. F. P. STOCKLEY.

December 11th, 1915.

The Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Editor,—I very much hope *Jus Suffragii* may be kept at its present level, and not toned down to insipidity, as some seem to desire. It has been such a great help to many who desire international reconciliation.—Yours sincerely,
 MARION CHADWICK.

Berlin, November 6th, 1915.

Dear Editor,—I have received the October number of our dear *Jus Suffragii*, with the open letter of the French Suffrage Union. I hope the other national Suffrage Societies will not agree to their wish to exclude all pacifist articles. We must all admit that in every national organisation at present there are different currents, of which some are more inclined to pacifism and some less. I have received the impression from *Jus Suffragii* and the *Common Cause* that that is so in England. I believe it is so with us, and it is sure to be exactly the same in other belligerent countries.

I will admit to you quite openly that I personally do not agree with all the pacifist arguments that have appeared in our *Jus Suffragii*. Nevertheless, I think that no difficulty should be put in your way in accepting pacifist articles. For if even the organ of an international women's alliance should not come forward in the interest of a good understanding of the nations and the overcoming of national hatred, who in all the world would be more called upon to do so? At the next Congress of our beloved Alliance—and we must all long for that first meeting after the conclusion of peace—we, of all countries, will only be able to thank you for

always having put in the foreground what unites us women, and for having suppressed everything that could embitter us mutually.

If we wished to limit *Jus Suffragii* to Suffrage news and articles, there could only be a quite small, thin leaflet, for in the belligerent countries there is, unfortunately, not much to report.

If I may be allowed a suggestion for the attitude of *Jus Suffragii* in war-time it would be this: To admit reports and articles on how social relations in the different countries develop under war conditions, whether the social political legislation makes a forward movement by war necessities, and such like. In Germany, in this department, several steps forward have been gained, and we earnestly wish that we may retain them in peace time; but probably the same is true in other countries, and it would be valuable to have facts relating to this in *Jus Suffragii*, and to spread them internationally.

It is true that this brings into consideration not only women's achievements and work in the Suffrage societies, but in general social politics. I think, too, that such social-political articles would not contain anything to divide us, but, on the contrary, something to unite, and would therefore serve the purposes of *Jus Suffragii*.—Yours truly,
 ELSE LUDERS.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—In view of the adverse criticisms passed upon the policy of *Jus Suffragii* during the war, it seems but right that those who approve of that policy should give expression to their support. For myself, a member of the Alliance since the London Congress of 1909, I may say that not only have I found myself in complete accord with the line taken by your paper, but that I see in it one of the few glimmerings of light which are lessening the prevailing darkness and showing hope for the future. At a time when the tendency is to slacken hold on all international ties and to be drawn into the confines of national partisanship, it is invaluable to have a journal open to all nations which stands firm for the principle of internationalism. For, in my opinion, an international paper must be something more than a mere chronicle of individual separate national action and effort. It is of little real value internationally if it does not aim to uphold the basis of union between the nations, and more especially at times when external forces tend to drive these apart.

It seems to me that those who object to the advocacy in your columns of possible ways and means of securing a permanent peace, holding such discussion outside the province of even an international Suffrage paper, are somewhat limited in their conception of the full significance of the Women's Suffrage question. The true value of the vote for women lies in its possession by them, in the public recognition of the equality of the sexes and its consequent effect upon the mental attitude of the peoples concerned, thus bringing eventually into all national and international life the presently lacking feminine element, in the incorporation of which alone lies the hope of a lasting peace.

Whatever the immediate causes of this great world catastrophe, it is merely the natural and logical culmination of an exclusively masculine civilisation, based upon the idea of external control and direction, and the presumed right of more advanced sections to enforce their ideals upon others. If civilisation is indeed to remain, such mechanical methods of settling its affairs must give place to a more human conception of life, and as man has proved incapable, so far, of rising to that level alone, it is to woman's co-operation we must now look for the *humanising* of society.

This is all that the so-called "pacifist" is seeking and striving for, sadly hampered by the opposition of those who persist in regarding him or her as a mere suppressor of war's outward manifestations.

If women have nothing higher and greater to offer society than tinkering "reforms," the Suffrage agitation will be a failure in the uplifting of humanity. It is because I believe that its true mission is that of restoring the true human balance in society, and opening the way to a fuller descent of the divinity in man, that I rejoice in all that tends to maintain the international solidarity of women for which your paper stands.—Sincerely yours,
 (Mrs.) T. D. PEARCE.

Glasgow, November 11, 1915.

Dear Madam,—May I say how warmly I agree with the letters of "Sarah Scott" and "Louie Bennett" in the issue of December 1? Since the war began *Jus Suffragii* has indeed been an inspiration and a consolation. It seems to keep the soul alive in our movement. I should feel it very much if the paper were restricted to accounts of relief work, etc., only, and trust that those who feel the urgent wish to work for international reconstruction may be allowed to express their views.—Yours faithfully,
 (MISS) CONSTANCE CRICHTON-STUART.

Victory Is On the Way.

Eight States of America have given votes to women within the last six years. Before that, during the fourteen years from 1896 to 1910, we did not gain a single new State; yet we were not discouraged, but kept right on working. We shall certainly not be discouraged now because a single year has passed without adding another State to the list.

It has been the exception when any State wins upon the first submission.

In Kansas, the first time a constitutional amendment for equal Suffrage was submitted to the voters, it got only 9,100 votes; the second time it got 95,302; the third time it got 175,376, and carried.

In California and Colorado it was defeated the first time and carried the second. In Oregon it was defeated five times and carried the sixth.

Arms and the Woman.

"You prate of peace? Mean fools, beyond
Your country's warning!
Defend your cause!" "Our cause is just:
A Europe's mourning."

"Let Europe mourn! Europe must fight!
Later we'll keep
Peace revelries—" "Enough! I heard
A mother weep.

"Mothers for sons; while death doth still
On love encroach.
The terror of the things that are
Disarms reproach.

"Yea, Europe, mourn; together mourn
With her and me.
Let Europe mourn; she knows, she knows,
What war may be."

—L. E. M.

WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILD AND CONSCRIPTION.

This Guild consists of about 30,000 working women. Its Central Committee has passed the following resolution:—

"That the Central Committee of the Women's Co-operative Guild protest against the introduction of compulsory military service. They believe it would be a national disaster (1) because it would impose, not only now but probably permanently, one of the worst forms of militarism on our country; (2) because it could be used, as it has been in other countries, to suppress the efforts of men and women workers to secure better conditions; and (3) because the right to freedom of conscience as regards actions involving the taking of human life should be respected and protected by the State."

THE WOMEN'S PEACE ARMY OF AUSTRALIA is working hard against military and industrial conscription, against the employment of boy labour in the harvest, and is inviting the co-operation of women in the U.S.A., Canada, Japan, and China in opposing all preparations for war in the East and for the mastery of the Pacific.

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MEETINGS.

WED., JAN. 26, 8 p.m.—G. B. BURGIN. "How Novels Are
Written." Chair: Mrs. Gilbert Samuel.

WED., FEB. 2, 8 p.m.—Right Hon. Sir JOHN COCKBURN.
"The Mystery of the Alphabet." Chairman: Mr. R. F.
Cholmeley.

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Signed by LADY SELBORNE and LADY ARAN.

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HOSTEL AT ROLAND GARDENS.

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ITALIAN WOUNDED, &c., &c.

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THE REVIEW AND MONTHLY NEWS.

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Printed by PERCY BROTHERS, LTD., The Hotspur Press, Manchester; and 20, Bucklersbury, London.