

The Common Cause,

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Women's Suffrage

Societies.

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ONE PENNY.

Notes and Comments.

The King's Speech.

The King's Speech will be known by the time this paper gets into the hands of its readers, but as we go to press it is still unknown. We presume, however, that it is an open secret that Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, and the Reform Bill will be the great measures for 1912, and with the necessary business of Finance this promises to be a very full session. It will be for women, of course, to keep their measure actively and increasingly before the country, since we know from experience how full men's minds will be of their own point of view of affairs.

Our Albert Hall Meeting.

February 23rd is the date of the meeting to be held by the National Union, and full particulars will be found on p. 767.

Rumour.

We are sorry to see Mrs. Pethick Lawrence suggesting in the *Standard*, February 12th, that the Government is going to break its pledges by introducing a Reform Bill which is to be "named and framed so as not to admit of any woman suffrage amendment, and the torpedoed Conciliation Bill will be salvaged. There will be," she continues, "of course, a new parleying with the suffragists, and a new set of 'offers' and 'inducements' will be brought forward, all cunningly devised to provoke discussion and to gain time."

We are sorry, because we have met people who believe that Mrs. Lawrence has special and exclusive information, and these will not carefully consider what may be her motives in lending her influence to this rumour, but will at once believe it and act in accordance with their belief. We ask our readers to note that it is not a fact, it is merely a rumour, and a rumour spread abroad by the enemies of the Government and the enemies of women's suffrage. It is without foundation, and when Mrs. Lawrence comes to know this, we hope she will do her best to prevent such misunderstandings recurring. We of the National Union who accepted the pledges given by Mr. Asquith in the name of the Government did so believing that you get the best out of men by taking them at their best. Mrs. Lawrence believes that she can best serve the cause of women's suffrage by creating an atmosphere of distrust, but she cannot wish to create such an atmosphere by the circulation of false rumours, once she knows they are mere rumours.

How to Alienate Support.

Last week we cited an instance of the gross intolerance of an anti-suffragist Liberal at Macclesfield. This week we see in the *Standard* of February 12th that the Mid-Oxfordshire Women's Liberal Association is being shattered because it has refused even to discuss a resolution approving Mr. Lloyd George's promise "to support, both inside and outside the House of Commons, an amendment to the Reform Bill to enfranchise women." Constitutional Suffragists, whether they belong to a party or not, are willing to treat the matter on non-party

lines, but certain Antis are actually refusing to allow the question to come to the vote, thereby betraying their fear of how the vote would go. We are glad to note that Suffragists are revolting from such intolerance, and the list of the Mid-Oxfordshire Liberals who have seceded from the party, as given in the *Standard*, includes Mrs. Sidney Ball ("Oona H. Ball"), wife of the senior tutor of St. John's College; Miss Sidgwick, daughter of Dr. Arthur Sidgwick, Fellow of Corpus Christi College; Miss Rhys and Miss O. Rhys, daughters of the Right Hon. Sir John Rhys, principal of Jesus College; Miss Drummond, daughter of Dr. James Drummond, principal of Manchester College; Mrs. Hughes, a Liberal councillor of the City of Oxford; Mrs. Lewis, the Misses E. and C. Lewis, Miss Mabel Rose and Miss Holda Dorn (the late honorary secretary).

Manufacturing History.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, who not long ago discovered that the Women's Suffrage movement was dead in America—since when two more States have enfranchised their women, and Mrs. Ward has pointed out that after all it is only for "local government"—Mrs. Ward has now been pursuing her investigations in England, and has amazed Newcastle folk by her statement that the men in the "great shipbuilding concerns" there, as well as their wives, evince "strong hostility towards Woman's Suffrage." Far be it from us to say there are no Antis in the shipyards of Newcastle, but we venture to think Mrs. Harrison Bell, of Newcastle, herself a member of the Labour Party, knows rather more about Newcastle working men than Mrs. Ward, a Unionist who lives in Hertfordshire, and Mrs. Harrison Bell writes to the *Standard* :—

I have made careful inquiries and have failed to discover that Mrs. Ward inquired of any of the people in a position to supply authentic information on the subject. Had she done so her inquiry would have had quite other results. Our city council passed—without a division—a resolution asking for the enfranchisement of women. Three M.P.'s live in this city who are also officials of great trade unions. All of them are our strong supporters, one—Mr. Wilkie—is the Shipwrights' secretary, and in his case it is very unlikely that he would be known as a Suffragist if the men he serves—and their wives—were hostile. Hundreds of meetings have been held at shipyard and factory gates as well as by invitation at trade union branches—always a friendly audience, always the will to help, and always, too, one objection to the various Bills, "That Bill would not give my wife a vote as long as I am alive," or "I want my wife to have a vote."

The chief objection to the form is now removed, and the working men of Newcastle—and their wives—are still in favour, albeit getting somewhat impatient at delay. As the wife of one who is the chief officer of one of the largest unions of unskilled labour in the kingdom and having had over twenty years' close connection with the work-folk of Newcastle, I occupy a position which gives me accurate knowledge of the facts, and I regret exceedingly that Mrs. Ward had not access to the same sources of information.

Queen Mary's Hostel.

We are glad to hear that the whole of the large sum of £100,000 has been found for the new "Queen Mary's Hostel," to be established for teaching "Home Science" in connection with King's College. We have nothing but approval for every effort to make domestic work better, more health-producing and labour-saving. But we regard the notion that there can be a "degree standard" for "Home Science" as simply delusive.



Councillor ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.A.

(Member of the N.U.W.S.S. Executive Committee.
President West Lanes. Federation.)

The mental discipline of taking a degree course often results in producing a woman who can turn her mind readily to many things, including domesticities of various sorts, but that is because if she has a naturally agile mind, training in the use of it makes it available for many purposes, not because she has added a lot of scrappy recipes to her mental furniture. Some of the modern universities have "professors" of weaving and dyeing and so forth; there can be no objection to having "professors" of cooking and cleaning if they teach better under that name, but we do not wish to see established anything so delusive as a degree in housekeeping.

Death of Miss F. N. Pringle.

All Suffragists, but especially those of North-East Yorkshire, mourn the death of Miss Frances Nelson Pringle, which occurred in a nursing home near London, on February 8th, at the age of 45. She was an enthusiastic worker for the Cause, one of the founders and the first Hon. Secretary of the Whitby and District Society, and the originator of the Yorkshire Organisation Committee—that forerunner of the present Federation system. She also started the Scarborough Society. Those who have worked in and near Whitby will remember her zeal and generosity—how she would rise at daybreak to prepare the caravan, or start the organiser, and how she would always be ready to help as a speaker when called upon. Apart from Suffrage, her work was that of hostess of the Co-operative Holidays Association's Guest-House (the "Abbey House") at Whitby—work of a strenuous and exacting nature, which called forth all her great powers of organisation and her self-sacrificing kindness. In October, 1910, she resigned the Hon. Secretaryship of Whitby, and in the following May took over the Association's Guest-House at Matlock. Though her presence is denied to us in the final struggle, the memory of her example and her spirit will still be with us. There can be little doubt that very often Miss Pringle overworked herself in her eagerness to help the Suffrage cause, and in this way truly "gave her life" for it.

Mrs. Hunter on the Insurance Act.

Mrs. Hunter, the President of the North of Scotland Federation, has been appointed one of the two women speakers for Scotland, under the Scottish Commissioners to explain the National Insurance Act specially as applying to women. The Federation will miss her very much in its work during the next two months whilst she is thus engaged, but they appreciate the honour conferred on her and are glad that her great abilities should be thus publicly recognised. Mrs. Hunter lives in the constituency of Mr. Annan Bryce, and readers of this paper will remember that after she had dealt faithfully with that gentleman's speech on the second reading of Mr. Shackleton's Bill, there was not much left of it.

Presentation to Miss Emily Davies, LL.D.

An interesting little ceremony took place on Wednesday, February 7th, at the residence of Miss Emily Davies, when a cheque for 700 guineas, to be disposed of as she might think fit, and a small volume, containing an address of congratulation and the names of all donors, were presented to her in commemoration of fifty years of work on behalf of women. This sum was raised by the various groups of women who had profited specially by the labours of Miss Davies, in particular medical women, teachers, women in Local Government, past and present students of Girton College, members of the University Club for Ladies, and of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and a few old friends and co-workers. The presentation was made by Miss Jones, Mistress of Girton College, who read the address and also informed Miss Davies that a tablet, inscribed "Emily Davies Court," had been put up over the oldest part of the College building in her honour. Miss Davies expressed her pleasure and appreciation, and entertained her guests with some interesting reminiscences of her work in early days.

Women in Education

The *Educational News* records that the Glasgow Provincial Committee has, for the first time, elected a woman-teacher, Miss Hamilton, L.L.A., to be a member. She was nominated by the Women's Educational Union, an association of recent date, formed of women-teachers and women interested in education.

We hear that at Frankfurt-am-Main three women have been co-opted as members of the Municipal Educational Committee; this is a notable advance.

The Anti-Suffrage Campaign.

Lest the Anti-Suffragists should "forget" to record, we beg to inform our readers that in Preston on February 9th they lost their resolution by a large majority. The speakers were Mr. MacCallum Scott, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Harold Norris, and a Mr. Martin, of London. Local support was lacking. The *Lancashire Post* headed its report "Resolution Lost," and said that "though a large body of Suffragists was present, the proceedings were always orderly and sometimes humorous." About 600 were present.

At Bolton the Anti-Suffrage meeting showed strong opposition, and the resolution was carried only by a small majority.

At the Co-operative Hall in Manchester Mr. Stephen Forrester states that the resolution "seemed hopelessly lost," yet the Chairman declared it carried, and refused a count. When Mr. Forrester remonstrated with him afterwards he said he had only counted the men's votes; but he had not announced beforehand that only men should be allowed to vote.

At the Burton meeting many people in the hall declared the vote was lost and demanded a count, which was refused. It is instructive to note that the Antis, who profess to want a referendum, are now being driven by public opinion to take votes at their meetings, and refuse to count them when challenged. We have never heard of a pro-suffrage meeting where the resolution was lost; when we tell them this they say: "Oh, it's easy to pass a resolution at a meeting convened for the purpose"; but they are finding it not so easy when the meeting is open.

Checking Robustness.

In an article in the *Times Educational Supplement* of February 6th, a correspondent discusses whether hockey is a suitable game for girls. It is, of course, a game that may be overdone, as all exercise may be; if it be played when a girl is not fit or until she is exhausted, of course it is bad. But the author makes some revelations of a curious point of view. She quotes, apparently with approval, a gentleman who said, "I want my daughter to be a gentlewoman and not a tomboy, so no hockey for me." It seems a pity that no one was there to suggest to this gentleman the cruelty of trying to put old heads on young shoulders, of wanting a child to be a woman—even a gentlewoman. A child may have good manners, and yet have the manners of a child and not of a woman. "Hockey," says this writer, "is a robust game, and its robustness is apt to be reflected in the player's manner, unless this tendency is carefully checked by the elders in charge." Oh, Goddess Hygiene! Fancy wanting to "check" robustness in the future mothers! Our author proceeds to explain that "a boyish temperament can be easily encouraged in a girl by allowing her to play violent and boisterous games." She begs the whole question by the use of the word "boyish." Many young creatures of both sexes enjoy intensely using their physical capacities to the full, and it does not make for their health, either of mind or of body, to restrict girls merely because of some genteel notion that vigorous action is "boyish." There is absolutely no necessary connection between robust health and bad manners; all good things, including good manners, are more easily compassed by the strong than by the weak.

Methods of Civilization.

A dreadful account is given of the burning of yet another Yoshiwara (licensed house) in Japan. This time it was in Osaka, and the women, two thousand in number, were driven out. "Many," we read, "were led out by their proprietors, and then, fastened together in gangs of a dozen, were driven out of the danger zone." And Japan is a "civilised" country!

Miss Susan Wordsworth.

We are exceedingly sorry that, misled by a newspaper report, we allowed it to appear last week that Miss Elizabeth Wordsworth, late Principal of Lady Margaret Hall, had died. It was her sister, Miss Susan Wordsworth, of the "Gray Ladies," who died last week.

Our Portrait.

We publish this week a portrait of Miss Eleanor Rathbone, a member of the Liverpool City Council, whose work, civic and philanthropic, as well as pro-suffrage, is as the work of three persons.

The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage.

What is it that women are seeking by means of the Parliamentary Vote? Merely to follow the

NATURAL LINES OF PROGRESS.

necessary to the continuous and harmonious development of humanity.

In the old times the woman, the child, and the home were an inevitable part of each other. They still are and must ever be, in the highest sense of the meaning of the words. But some people seem unable to realise, when thinking of women, that we are not living in the old times now, when all the spinning, weaving, baking, brewing, sewing and teaching—practically everything necessary to the maintenance of life and development of the new citizen—were the work of women in their homes. The world outside the home—controlled by men—moved on, social and industrial development proceeded, and in their progression they have

ALTERED THE CONDITIONS

of home life.

Nobody, at the present day, could get a living by his own exertions, and we might stay in our homes and perish, if we depended on our own exertions for food. The combined work of thousands of people is necessary before we can even get bread to eat, clothes to wear, and a house to live in; and in the making of the citizen, how many hands and brains are engaged! Yet there are people who would have women, who are half the human race, and the very fount of life,

REMAIN BEHIND

in the march of progress, bidding them to go back to what has ceased to exist! The duty of woman, say the wiseacres who would deny her a vote, is to devote herself to her home and children. We who mean to have the vote do not deny or repudiate that definition of our duty. But we recognise that as times change, so must women, else they hinder instead of help progress.

To come to details: It is the duty of a woman to see that the

CHILDREN ARE PROPERLY FED.

It is. And to-day they are not properly fed and the women in the homes are powerless to alter this, which is why they must come out to vote. A woman's duty in this connection is more than to be merely a cook, to place upon the table what others have produced and earned. She wants to know the conditions under which it has been produced; what are the laws governing its price and quality. And more than all, she wants to know why so many children do not get properly fed, in spite of father's toil and mother's privation. She has learnt that these things—which are part of the government of the country—are

INFLUENCED BY VOTES.

So of course she must have a vote or fail miserably in one of her most important duties.

"Women," we say when inclined to be sentimental, "have the making of the child—what more can they want?" But have they? Poor women have to bear children under conditions none of

their choosing, in houses none of their building, under laws none of their making, and the children are early taken from them and put into schools over which women have very little control.

Is this, really, our highest ideal of citizen-making? Are we willing that our babies shall be taken out of our arms at the age of five, and that we shall not know or care anything about the making which is done by others? The government—of men—

COMES BETWEEN MOTHER AND CHILD

continuously, and the child is moulded and influenced in many ways of which the mother knows nothing. She is not consulted when educational systems are made and altered, but she is compelled by law to submit her child to them. In the world outside the home, into which she turns her child to be educated, and later to earn a livelihood, she is as much a cypher as is her baby. What would the mother be doing, if she were content with so low an ideal of her mother-work, actually content to

DELEGATE HER DUTY TO MEN?

No wonder that they have thought that "home duties" are all a woman is fit for, when the most important factor in progress—mother-force—has been so "cribbed, cabined and confined" that there has been no means of convincing them otherwise.

So much for the mother at home, who, in order to keep step with progress, must now either come out to vote for her children or else prove to be a drag on their advancement. But social progress has made other changes in the life of women. Many of them

HAVE NO HOMES

provided by a male relative and are obliged to provide their own. Which means, of course, that they have to submit to exactly the same industrial conditions as do men, and to meet exactly the same kind of responsibilities. Nay worse: Most of them, as a matter of fact, have to put up with much worse conditions, whilst meeting the same responsibilities. It is of no use to say they should be in their homes. The work they do is

NO LONGER DONE IN HOMES,

and since they must live and nobody is willing to keep them they have to follow their work outside their homes.

Why do men want a vote? Because they find those who rule can only be influenced by this means, and that this is the means to improved conditions of life. Well, does not exactly the same argument apply to women? Men and women together can accomplish much more than men alone. Whilst women remain politically powerless—their hands are tied, and their efforts in all directions are crippled.

The time has come when the woman's vote is necessary. This year gives an opportunity never before accorded us. Men and women who earnestly believe in democratic progress should seize this opportune moment to give one long, strong, pull all together and the Vote will be won.

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LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

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

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and book-stalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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"Rumour Full of Tongues."

"Upon my tongues continual slanders ride."

The emotion of contempt for any fellow human being is not an agreeable emotion. Those who really enjoy indulging in contempt are not of an amiable or a generous nature; nor are they people who are really constructive and civilising. One cannot build up, nor reconcile, above all, one cannot understand upon a basis of contempt; there is no emotion, not even that of hate, which is so deeply dividing; therefore we must pray to save ourselves from it and do all in our power to avert it. Some deeds and some characters invite it irresistibly. It is not possible altogether to avoid contempt for Adam when he made his pitiful excuse, for Jason when he taunted Medea for her love of him, for the "Campaigner" when she tortured and bullied the harmless household of Clive Newcome. Meanness and cruelty above all other qualities invite it, and if these qualities are combined with weakness and hesitation it is impossible to avoid suffering the agonies of contempt in contemplating the ignoble combination.

It is significant of the unreality of politics, of the divorce between reason and morality on the one hand, and the conventions of party politics on the other, that responsible editors of papers and Members of Parliament, who should feel some responsibility, are capable of suggesting that they and the Government might be guilty of all three contemptible qualities—meanness, cruelty, and vacillation—and some of them go so far as to suggest that it would be good business to be so guilty. It is impossible not to feel some contempt for the writers and speakers who make these sinister suggestions, but we would infinitely prefer to believe them isolated instances; we cannot believe them truly representative of the commonsense of the men of the country, and that is one of the reasons why we are so anxious that men generally should be well informed concerning the position of the Women's Suffrage question, for, if only they knew, we do not believe they would tolerate any further shuffling and delay.

What is the nature of some of the current proposals? The *Times*, in its Political Notes of February 8th, invites Unionist supporters of the Conciliation Bill to consider that Bill as dead, and then suggests that they should follow the lead of Mr. F. E. Smith in opposing Women's Suffrage amendments to the Reform Bill. The *Observer* of February 11th suggests that "the Electoral Reform Bill will be gravely mentioned in the King's Speech, and there will be an end of it, at least so far as this session is concerned."

With regard to the suggestions made by the *Times*, we are at a loss to imagine why any Suffragists, least of all Unionist Suffragists, should imagine that the Conciliation Bill is

"dead." Mr. Asquith's pledges with regard to this Bill are plain and categorical: it is to be allowed an "elastic week" of Parliamentary time this year, and Sir Edward Grey has pledged the Government not to allow it to be defeated by obstruction. True, Mr. Lloyd George, in an ambiguous phrase at Bath, declared it was "torpedoed," but he explained subsequently that it could only be "torpedoed" by the actual passing of an amendment to the Reform Bill, which would render the Conciliation Bill superfluous. If this amendment, or if the Reform Bill itself did not pass the Conciliation Bill would not be torpedoed; the torpedo would have been launched, but it would have exploded before it reached its destination. Why should Unionist Suffragists be asked to follow the "leadership" of Mr. F. E. Smith, and not that of Lord Selborne? On the Suffrage question, the "leaders" are Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage, not Liberal and Unionist. The question is not a party question, and since the Anti-Suffragists would consider it unfair of Suffragist members to behave as if it were, they should have the candour to admit that it is equally unfair of Antis to do so.

With regard to the *Observer's* suggestion that the Government will abandon the Reform Bill, we should like to draw attention to a misrepresentation which, though it would not form a valid excuse for a breach of faith, yet puts the case for the fulfilment of the pledge less strongly than it ought in justice to be put. In his endeavour at all costs to "brighten" the pages of the *Observer* of February 11th, Sir Henry Lucy was tempted into some bold inventions. He wrote:—

On the 17th November last a deputation of Women Suffragists waited upon the Premier with intent to extract from him assurance that when the Reform Bill is brought in opportunity shall be provided for attempt to embody in it a clause enfranchising women. This was generously given, and the deputation were about to withdraw, when a dreadful thought struck a member, probably not unfamiliar with man's duplicity where woman is concerned. Turning upon the Premier she asked: "Is it the intention of the Government that the Electoral Reform Bill shall go through all its stages in 1912?" "Certainly," replied the unblushing Premier; "that is our intention. We hope to carry it through in that year."

Now the fact (as all those who undertake to write about Women's Suffrage should know) is that this was no sudden afterthought of "a member" at all. The question was the very first out of four questions put by Mrs. Fawcett. These questions had been drawn up the day before by the National Union Executive, and were, as a matter of fact, sent typewritten, the day before the deputation, to Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, in order that they might have time to give a considered and responsible reply. We know Sir Henry Lucy has a pretty invention, but he really should not be allowed to use it in order to suggest that the Government pledge to proceed with the Reform Bill in 1912 was an unconsidered and hasty reply to a chance "happy thought" on the part of an individual. It was a considered reply from the Prime Minister to a question carefully thought out by the National Union, as part of the plan upon which to conduct its campaign in the country. The National Union is democratic in the true sense of the word, and it has done everything in its power since this memorable deputation to lay before the country the Parliamentary position in which it placed Women's Suffrage. Some newspapers and some party politicians do their best to cloud the issue by raising first one cry and then another, but the simple fact remains that the real situation is not more complicated than it was when Mr. Asquith gave his pledges, and the National Union and the Women's Liberal Federation accepted them. He knew and we knew that the situation was a complex one, and he knew and we knew that it had been impending ever since the summer of 1908, when he first announced his intention of bringing in a Reform Bill and allowing the House freedom to pass or reject a Women's Suffrage amendment to it. If any members of the Government did not like his announcement of 1908 it was up to them to protest then, and to demand the withdrawal of the pledges he and Mr. Lloyd George then made. They did not do so, and if ever in the world silence gave consent, it did in this case; for the Liberal women have always built upon the pledge, although they lately showed considerable restiveness at the long delaying of its fulfilment, and when it was renewed and made definite for 1912 the National Union accepted it as a pledge in the name of the Government by the responsible head of the Government.

What does the *Observer's* suggestion mean? It means that, because they are opposed to the Government in power, they are willing to suggest that it is capable of all the three qualities which we cited at the beginning of this article as being qualities pre-eminently calculated to invite contempt—cruelty, meanness, and vacillation. They suggest that the Government is prepared to reward all the devoted service of Liberal women by cheating

them; to meet the deep need of sweated, degraded, helpless women by cynical disregard of their sufferings, and the self-sacrificing and heroic labours of the flower of English womanhood in the cause of justice by the callous remark that they find "there is not time to attend to the women's needs." The men's needs are clamorous! They always will be while men alone have the voice wherewith to clamour! When this Government first came into power, women were told to wait while they dealt with drink, education, and devolution. We know with what success they did that! Then we were told to wait until the House of Lords had been settled, and then—oh, then the men would give us their best attention! What followed upon the passage of the Parliament Act? The introduction of an Act more intimately and vitally affecting women and the home than any Act of recent years. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has himself declared how much he became aware, during the discussions on the Insurance Bill, of the injustice and wrong inflicted on women by their lack of representation; yet, after all, it was he who brought it in and forced it through. And now—now at last—comes a definite pledge that we are to have our long-delayed chance in 1912, and the Government is being urged to inflict the unspeakable cruelty of further delay and heart-sickness upon women. And it is urged to do so by the added meanness of treachery. And it is further invited to do so because it is too weak to oppose frankly and too vacillating to keep to one mind for the period of even one quarter. How could we refrain from contempt should such counsels be listened to? How can we refrain from contempt for such counsellors?

We do not believe that this Government could be guilty of such short-sighted folly. The *Observer* speaks of "that Old Woman of the Sea, Female Suffrage." The old woman would not be shaken off by any such paltry struggles. The question is one which a statesman will face with deliberation and intention; it can never be killed by wriggling. But other things could be killed, things worth keeping and worth making sacrifices for—the goodwill and respect of women are worth earning and keeping. Women are staunch, women are loyal, they will not forget truth and loyalty, even in opponents; they will requite them in their allies. We know Mr. Asquith for an opponent, but we believe him an honourable opponent, and we think him quite clever enough not to take the advice of his disinterested enemies. It is a dirty business, this underhand endeavour to cover with ignominy your political opponents, and we would prefer to see even our opponents clean and scrupulous. We would rather respect the Anti-Suffragists.

As for our allies, one of them at least, Mr. Lloyd George, has done more than any Cabinet Minister has yet done for us—he has spoken twice in six weeks on this very measure of reform; he is to speak in the Albert Hall on February 23rd at a great meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—the first time a Cabinet Minister has ever done so. By this he will unite all the women who are determined to pass some measure of Women's Suffrage through the House of Commons this year, and pledge them to support his endeavours on their behalf as he has pledged himself to lead their cause to victory. By this he will put good heart into the National Union; by this he will make it easy for Liberal organisations all over the country to support the women's demand, since at last it will be seen that there is nothing hostile to the Liberal Party (as, indeed, to no party) in their demand for liberation.

In Memoriam: Miss Rosa Morison.

(Born 1841, died 1912.)

Women's Suffrage, women's education, and every movement for the uplifting of womanhood and manhood to a higher plane have lost a stalwart and loyal ally in the death of Miss Rosa Morison, which took place very suddenly while she was at her work in University College on Thursday afternoon, February 8th. Her interest in and enthusiasm for our common cause was unflinching, and was constantly made manifest in generous gifts and in readiness to help by every means in her power. Death came very swiftly as she sat at her work. "Terribly sudden" say many voices, "Blessed and happy ending" say others; to go on full of work, full of interest, full of vigour to the very last seems enviable rather than piteous. For nearly thirty years she had occupied the post of Superintendent of Women Students at University College. She loved young women and sympathised with them, and invariably approached all problems connected with their presence in the college in a spirit of generous and understanding confidence in them.

For many years she was vice-principal of College Hall, Byng

Place, of which her devoted friend, Miss Eleanor Grove, who died in 1906, was the principal. These two were united in the bonds of no common friendship, and those who knew and loved them both feared that Miss Grove's death would be such an overwhelming blow to Miss Morison as almost to paralyse her for further work and effort. But these fears were misplaced. She bore her great loss with courage. Miss Grove's name and work were constantly on her lips and in her heart, and her chief desire for herself was to go on working for those great causes to which her beloved friend had devoted herself. Their two names will always be linked in our remembrance. "Their works do follow them."

M. G. FAWCETT.

Women's Suffrage: A Survey.

1908—1912.

[We give below a connected account of the steps by which the suffrage movement has reached its present position—a position which may well inspire alike hope and confidence in the minds of its supporters. Dangers there still are in abundance before them, but they rely on the definite pledges which have been given them, and the fairness with which they have been met even by a declared opponent like the Prime Minister.]

Since 1867, when the first Women's Suffrage Society was formed, the demand for the political enfranchisement of women has been articulate. Since 1886 there has been a continuous majority in favour of Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons whatever party was in power. Women's Suffrage Bills have passed second reading seven times (in 1870, 1886, 1897, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911). The Bill which passed its second reading in 1908 (known as Stanger's Bill) was one to give women the vote on the same terms as men now have it, but was not allowed time to proceed any further.

On May 20, 1908, in reply to a deputation of Liberal members of Parliament in favour of Women's Suffrage, Mr. Asquith said he regarded it as the duty of the Government to introduce before the end of this Parliament an effective scheme for electoral reform. That being the intention of the Government, it would clearly be within the competence of those present to seek to introduce by amendments or by extensions the object they desired. The Government could hardly resist such an amendment, for the simple and sufficient reason that probably some two-thirds of his colleagues in the Ministry were in favour of it. If it were approved of by the House it could not be part of the duty of the Government to oppose such an amendment, and therefore the matter must be left to the decision of the House. He must give them one word of warning, however. It must be a distinct condition that any such proposed change must be a change upon democratic lines. Subject to that condition he could not oppose such an amendment, even if he desired to do so, having regard to the state of opinion in the Liberal party on this question. In conclusion he pointed out that a measure of Women's Suffrage such as he had touched on, to be accepted, must have behind it the overwhelming support of the women of the country no less than the support of men. Mr. Leif Jones asked the Prime Minister whether the Electoral Reform Bill would be drafted on sufficiently wide lines to admit of an amendment proposing Women's Suffrage being moved. Mr. Asquith is understood to have replied that it would be a breach of the understanding if the Bill were not drawn on lines wide enough to admit of this.

On March 19, 1909, a Bill introduced by Mr. Geoffrey Howard to give the Parliamentary vote to all men and women on a three months' residential qualification was read a second time by 157 votes to 122.

On December 10, 1909, on the eve of the general election, Mr. Asquith said in the Albert Hall:

Nearly two years ago I declared on behalf of the present Government that in the event, which we then contemplated, of our bringing in a Reform Bill we should make the insertion of a suffragist amendment an open question for the House of Commons to decide. Through no intention and no fault of ours, that opportunity for raising the matter has been taken away. Our friends and fellow-workers of the Women's Liberal Federation have asked me to say that my declaration survives the expiring Parliament and will hold good in its successor, and that their cause, so far as the Government is concerned, shall be no worse off than it was in the new Parliament than it would have been in the old. I have no hesitation in acceding to that request. The Government, notwithstanding the deplorable and suicidal excesses of a small section of the advocates of the change, has no disposition or desire to burke this question; it is clearly one on which a new House of Commons ought to be given the opportunity to express its view.

Suffragists all over the country held this to be a definite placing of the question before the country, and the National Union organised a great voters' petition, names of voters only being taken, and these mostly at the actual polling-booths. In two or

three weeks about 300,000 signatures of voters were obtained, asking for the vote to be given to women "on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men." At the same time candidates were publicly questioned and urged in every possible way to declare their views on the subject. It was never known exactly how many mentioned the subject in their election addresses, but it was over 250; it was possible to ascertain that over 400 of the new members were distinctly favourable, while only 51 could be reckoned as certainly unfavourable, the remainder not having pledged themselves categorically.

THE CONCILIATION COMMITTEE.

In 1910 was formed the Conciliation Committee, composed, with the exception of the hon. secretary, Mr. H. N. Brailsford, and Lord Lytton, entirely of members of the House of Commons. The general election of January, 1910, had greatly reduced the Liberal majority, and it was clear that a Bill of the nature of Mr. Howard's, which had only passed by a majority of 34 in a very much more Liberal House, would have no chance whatever in the new House. It was the object of the Committee to ascertain what kind of Bill would command the support of Suffragists of all parties, and it was found that many Conservatives and some Liberals who approved of enfranchising women on the same terms as men would not support such a Bill as Mr. Howard's. Some Liberals, on the other hand, objected to an extension of the "property vote." The present franchise being taken as the basis, it was resolved to eliminate the ownership, graduate, and lodger franchise, to meet objections from the Liberal side, and leave only the householder and occupier.

This was the text of the Bill commonly known as the Conciliation Bill of 1910:—

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification or of a £10 qualification within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884) shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
2. For the purposes of this Act a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same property.
3. This Act may be cited as "The Representation of the People Act, 1910."

The title of the Bill was purposely restricted so as to prevent the moving of widening amendments, which, it was feared, might wreck it: this title was "A Bill to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women Occupiers."

This Bill was introduced by Mr. Shackleton (Labour member for Clitheroe) on 14th June, 1910, and passed its second reading on July 12 by a majority of 110. Time for the second reading was given by the Government in response to a memorial signed by 106 members of Parliament, because, as Mr. Asquith said in the House on June 23, they

recognise that the circumstances of the case are exceptional, from the fact that under the conditions which govern private members' proposals the House of Commons has never had an adequate opportunity of discussing so momentous a change. They are therefore prepared to give time before the close of the session for a full debate and a division on the second reading of the Bill which has been introduced. In view of the exigencies of other Parliamentary business and their own announced decision not to prosecute contentious legislation they cannot afford any further facilities to the Bill this session. The Government recognise that the House ought to have opportunities, if that is their deliberate desire, for effectively dealing with the whole question, and the course of the debate may be expected to throw instructive light on Parliamentary opinion both in regard to this Bill and to other proposals.

The debate took two whole nights, and front-bench men from both sides took part in it. It was opposed by Mr. Asquith mainly because "ultimate political control must be in the hands of those who possess physical force," by Mr. Churchill and Mr. F. E. Smith because it was "undemocratic," by Mr. Lloyd George because it was not open to amendment, by Mr. Annan Bryce, Mr. Long, Mr. Belloc, Mr. Arnold Ward, and Mr. Austen Chamberlain; it was supported by Mr. Balfour, Sir John Rolleston, Lord (then Mr.) Haldane, Mr. Lyttelton, Lord Hugh Cecil, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Runciman, Mr. W. McLaren, Mr. Ponsoby, Mr. Leach, Mr. Kettle, Sir Alfred Mond, and Mr. Philip Snowden. Mr. Lloyd George said he would vote for the Bill if it would be taken as a mere "affirmation of principle." Mr. Churchill said a vote on the second reading "means, really, except in minor details, a vote for the third reading of an ordinary Bill." Members who voted for it, he said, were saying: "I want this Bill passed into law this session, regardless of all other consequences. I want it as it is, and I want it now. I am prepared to fight the House of Lords if they reject it." And it passed its second reading by a majority of 110.

The Bill was referred to a Committee of the whole House by a majority of 145 and Mr. Asquith refused to give time for any further stages, saying his pledge to give facilities for "effec-

tively dealing with the whole question" was not for this session, but for this Parliament, and that the title of the Bill precluded its being a treatment of "the whole question." The Conciliation Committee presented a memorial to Mr. Asquith in November showing that 4,220 meetings had been held between then and July, most of them within the last eight weeks, the Albert Hall being twice filled in one week, and in many other ways an unprecedented campaign had been held in support of the Bill. Just before the dissolution of Parliament on November 22, 1910, Mr. Asquith said in the House, "The Government will, if they are still in power, give facilities in the next Parliament for effectively proceeding with a Bill, if so framed as to permit of free amendment."

THE BILL OF 1911.

The new House contained about the same number of pledged Suffragists as the last, and the Conciliation Committee was re-formed and promoted a Bill which met Mr. Lloyd George's objection by having a title which allowed of amendments to the Bill, and also met two other objections from the Liberal side of the House. It was called "A Bill to confer the Parliamentary franchise on women," and the text was:—

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884) shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
2. For the purposes of this Act a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage from being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be registered as voters in the same Parliamentary borough or county division.

Sir George Kemp (Liberal member for North-West Manchester) won first place in the ballot for private members' Bills and took charge of the Bill, which passed its second reading on May 5th, 1911, by a majority of 167, being committed without further division to Committee of the whole House. Meanwhile an inquiry, conducted with scrupulous care, revealed that in Bangor, of the women who would be enfranchised by the Conciliation Bill only 9 per cent. were of independent means and 288 were widows, as against 116 spinsters; in Carnarvon 77½ per cent. worked for their living; in Dupdee only 7.5 per cent. were of independent means. These places were chosen because they were in the constituencies of Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill, both of whom had characterised the Bill as "undemocratic." Mr. Lloyd George voted for the second reading on this occasion; Mr. Churchill abstained. The votes when analysed showed voting and pairing for the Bill 170 Liberals, 78 Unionists, 31 Nationalists, 31 Labour; against the Bill 48 Liberals, 86 Unionists, 9 Nationalists, and no Labour.

On May 29, in reply to a question in the House as to whether facilities would be given for the passage of the Bill that session, Mr. Lloyd George said the Government "will be prepared next session, when the Bill has been again read a second time, either as the result of obtaining a good place in the ballot or (if that does not happen) by the grant of a Government day for the purpose, to give a week (which they understood to be the time suggested as reasonable by the promoters) for its further stages." Sir Edward Grey made clear in a speech at the National Liberal Club on June 1st that the Government would interpret the "week" in an elastic sense, and give more if the House showed "a combined determined majority, substantial and united, anxious to proceed with the Bill," and he also said that it was intended that "those interested in the Bill, its promoters and supporters, should have a fair chance which any people ought to have of defending themselves by the means which the rules of the House place at the disposal of majorities for defending themselves against obstruction." Mr. Asquith made it plain in a letter to Lord Lytton dated June 15th that he endorsed all that Sir Edward Grey had said, and on August 23rd, in another letter to Lord Lytton, he categorically named the "Conciliation Bill" as the Bill for which full facilities were promised in 1912.

On June 1st Mr. Arnold Ward asked the Prime Minister "whether the Government, before giving facilities for the full consideration of a Women's Enfranchisement Bill in the House, would afford an opportunity to the electors to give a verdict on that issue." Mr. Asquith replied, "I am not able to give any such assurance." Mr. Ward then asked, "Is it the intention of the Government to connive at the disposal by Parliament of a first-class constitutional question which has never been before the country?" to which Mr. Asquith replied, "It is the intention of the Government to fulfil the pledge which they gave before the last General Election." On July 25th Captain Faber asked the Prime Minister "whether, with a view to ascertaining the views of women on their desire to have the Parliamentary vote,

he could cause the Referendum to be used amongst women only with that object." Mr. Asquith replied that "the course suggested would require legislation, which he was not prepared to propose."

THE REFORM BILL.

On November 7th, 1911, Mr. Asquith announced to a deputation from the Parliamentary Council of the People's Suffrage Federation that it was the intention of the Government "next session" to introduce a measure giving the vote to every man who was a *bona-fide* resident, and that such a man should be put on the register "automatically, without any effort of his own and by the machinery of a public officer, and at the public expense." As for women's suffrage, his views had suffered no modification, but his pledge for the Conciliation Bill stood.

On November 17th Mr. Asquith, with Mr. Lloyd George, received a deputation from a number of suffrage societies, and answered four questions put to him by Mrs. Fawcett, of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. They were as follows:—

1. Is it the intention of the Government that the (Reform) Bill shall go through all its stages in 1912?—Certainly it is our intention. We hope to carry it through that year.
2. Will the Bill be drafted in such a way as to admit of any amendments introducing women on other terms than men?—Certainly.
3. Will the Government undertake not to oppose such amendments?—Certainly.
4. Will the Government regard any amendment enfranchising women, which is carried, as an integral part of the Bill in all its stages?—Certainly.

Mr. Asquith said:

It is perfectly consistent with the self-respect and the best traditions of our public life that in relation to a question which divides parties, not only the head of the Government but the Government itself should say that if the House of Commons on its responsibility is prepared to transform or extend a measure which we are agreed in thinking necessary—a measure for the franchise as regards men—and to confer the franchise on women, we shall not only acquiesce in that proposal, but we shall treat it as the considered judgment of Parliament and make ourselves responsible for carrying it out.

Mr. Lloyd George, a few days later, sent a message to the National Union through THE COMMON CAUSE, in which he said, "The Prime Minister's pronouncement as to the attitude to be adopted by the Government towards the question seems to me to make the carrying of a women's suffrage amendment on broad democratic lines to next year's Franchise Bill a certainty. I am willing to do all in my power to help those who are labouring to reach a successful issue in the coming session." He spoke to the Liberal Federation at Bath on November 24th and to the Women's Liberal Federation at the Horticultural Hall, London, on December 16, with Sir Edward Grey. The latter indicated in a letter addressed to Lord Lytton on November 20th, 1911, that the amendment he would favour would be one to give the vote to women who would have obtained a vote under the Conciliation Bill and also married women, and at the Horticultural Hall he said, "Let us unite on household suffrage for women!" Other prominent men have also supported the women's amendment—Mr. Birrell, Mr. Runciman, Lord Beauchamp, on the Government side—while Lord Selbourne, at Liverpool, on November 2nd, said: "If manhood suffrage is forced upon us, the greatest mitigation of that risk would be the admission to the franchise of the most fit among women." Mr. Balfour had in 1906 said very much the same thing.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

Hon. Secretaries: Miss K. D. COURTNEY. President: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
 Miss EDITH PALLISER (Parliamentary). Secretary: Miss GERALDINE COOKE.
 Hon. Secretary to Press Committee: Miss EMILY M. LEAF.
 Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." Hon. Sec. to Literature Committee: Miss I. B. O'MALLEY. Telephone: 1960 Victoria.
 Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

From Headquarters.

ALBERT HALL MEETING.

Mass meeting to claim the Enfranchisement of Women in 1912, Royal Albert Hall (near South Kensington Station, Subway Free) Friday, February 23rd, 8.30 p.m. Chair, Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.; Speakers, Mrs. PHILIP SNOWDEN, THE EARL OF LYTTON and the Rt. Hon. D. LLOYD GEORGE, M.P. Doors open 7 p.m. Suffrage Songs 7.30 p.m.

TICKETS, Numbered and Reserved, Amphitheatre Stalls 5s. and 2s. 6d.; Arena 5s., 2s. and 1s.; Balcony 2s. and 1s.; Unreserved, Balcony 6d. Ten per cent. allowed off the price of

All the great national suffrage societies with the exception of the Women's Social and Political Union have recognised that it will be possible to proceed by way of amendment to the Reform Bill, and so get women on the voters' register; the Women's Liberal Federation is enthusiastic.

THE REFERENDUM.

With regard to the recent suggestion made in the *Westminster Gazette* and other papers that the House of Commons might itself pass an amendment subject to a Referendum, we have already quoted Mr. Asquith's answers to Captain Faber and Mr. Arnold Ward. On December 14th, 1911, in reply to an anti-suffragist deputation, he said that while there was a good deal of plausibility, at first sight at any rate, in the suggestion that the Referendum should be used for women's suffrage, he considered that if a Referendum were made to men only he did not believe it would allay the agitation but rather "inflammate and accentuate and embitter it." If, on the other hand, some women were to be qualified to vote on the Referendum, where was the line to be drawn?

In the Horticultural Hall, Mr. Lloyd George said:—

I am told we have no mandate for carrying it in the present Parliament. Why not? How is the House of Commons to receive a mandate? There is only one way by which a House of Commons can get a mandate for carrying any Bill, and that is that each member should get it from his own constituents. I forget how many members of the House of Commons there are who are pledged to Women's Suffrage, but they were all pledged within sight of their constituency. Most of them have voted at the last election, but at previous elections. They were pledged not to all pledged within sight of their constituency. Most of them have voted for Bills, and since they voted for them they have gone twice to their constituents and been returned. The Prime Minister in the year 1908 declared that it was an open question, and that if it were carried by a majority of the House of Commons and incorporated in a Government Bill the Government would accept responsibility for it. From that moment it ceased to be a pious opinion. It became an issue of the first practical importance, and the constituencies, when they returned men, after that declaration, pledged to support an amendment in favour of the inclusion of women, must have known that they were voting for something with which they would be confronted for the first time afterwards as an Act of Parliament. Therefore there is nothing in the cry of no mandate.

But then, we are told, this is a question that you ought to submit to the Referendum. Well, as Liberals we have opposed the Referendum. We have opposed it on questions like Irish Home Rule. We have opposed it on questions like Welsh Disestablishment. Why? We have opposed it on grounds of general principle, but we have opposed it also on this ground, that it is unfair that you should refer to an electorate of 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 questions which only specially interest a small portion of the electorate like Ireland and like Wales. But what about Women's Suffrage? Are they going to submit it to men alone? Or are they going to have a special register of women? If they are they might as well allow it to remain for other questions. A Referendum, which the Liberal party has repudiated for other questions, would be doubly unfair for Women's Suffrage, and I cannot see how any Liberal statesman who opposed so strenuously the application of the Referendum to other questions can with any sense of fairness or decency extend it to questions like Women's Suffrage.

During the past eighteen months over 140 town and other local councils have passed resolutions in favour of the Conciliation Bill, and these include Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Bradford, Derby, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Glasgow, Bangor, Cardiff, Dublin, Cork, and Limerick. This may be taken as a valuable indication not only of public opinion among business men, but among those women who possess the municipal vote.

[Reprinted by kind permission from the "Manchester Guardian" of February 12th, 1912.]

Ten Tickets and upwards paid for at one time. Admission Free (Gallery).

We quote the price of tickets at the Albert Hall meeting, but there are now very few tickets to be obtained. At the time of going to press we hear that there only remain 100 tickets at 6d. and 80 at 1s. Those who wish for tickets are, however, still advised to apply to Miss Strachey, 58, Victoria Street, S.W., as a waiting list will be kept so that returned tickets may at once be distributed, and it may also be possible to arrange for an overflow meeting.

Once more we have to reply to inquirers that the meeting is a genuinely public meeting, that we demand no pledges, and anticipate no disturbances, and that the stewards will all be women,

The National Union regards as preposterous the suggestion that any other suffrage society is likely to disturb a suffrage meeting, more especially a suffrage meeting held within a week of the great effort of the Anti-Suffragists.

The following is a list of members of the House of Commons who have accepted platform tickets:—

Mr. F. D. Acland.	Mr. A. Sherwell.
Mr. Atherley Jones.	Mr. J. H. Thomas.
Mr. J. S. Ainsworth.	Mr. J. C. Wedgwood.
Mr. A. W. Barton.	Mr. T. Wiles.
Mr. W. Brace.	Mr. E. Crawshay Williams.
Mr. G. N. Barnes.	Mr. W. L. Williams.
Dr. Chapple.	Sir James Yoxall.
Mr. J. H. Edwards.	Mr. W. Abraham.
Mr. J. Norton Griffiths.	Mr. H. T. Cawley.
Mr. F. W. Goldstone.	Mr. E. Marshall Hall.
Col. J. W. Creig, C.B.	Mr. J. D. Millar.
Mr. J. D. Hope.	Mr. G. Hay Morgan.
Mr. F. Hall.	Mr. T. O'Donnell.
Mr. T. E. Harvey.	Sir Charles Rose Bt.
Mr. W. Hudson.	Mr. Watson Rutherford.
Mr. E. T. John.	Mr. W. R. Rea.
Rt. Hon. T. Lough.	Mr. J. W. Gulland.
Mr. A. Lynch.	Mr. D. Maclean.
Mr. G. Lansbury.	Mr. H. J. Glanville.
Mr. J. M. McCallum.	Sir G. Baring.
Mr. Munro.	Mr. E. Jones.
Mr. W. S. B. McLaren.	Mr. A. Rowntree.
Sir Henry Norman.	Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones.
Mr. J. P. Nannetti.	Dr. J. Esmond.
Mr. J. J. O'Shee.	Mr. R. C. Lambert.
Mr. J. O'Grady.	Mr. T. D. Holmes.
Mr. R. Pearce.	Hon. F. W. S. McLaren.
Mr. G. Palmer.	Mr. A. Smith.
Mr. A. Rendall.	Mr. J. Chambers.
Mr. J. Rowlands.	Mr. J. T. Baker.
Mr. E. Shortt.	

The following is a list of those Members of the House of Commons who support the extension of the franchise to women, but are unable to be present on February 23rd:—

Sir Edward Grey.	Sir George White.
Mr. W. Runciman.	Mr. H. G. Chancellor.
Mr. J. T. Agg-Gardner.	Sir W. H. Davies.
Col. Burn.	Mr. Edward Goulding.
Sir John Emmott Barlow.	Mr. A. Henderson.
Rt. Hon. T. Burt.	Mr. H. Hope.
Mr. W. P. Beale.	Mr. J. Ramsey Macdonald.
Mr. R. Cameron.	Mr. J. S. Hancock.
Mr. J. A. Dawes.	Mr. W. T. Roch.
Mr. W. Field.	Mr. P. Snowden.
Mr. S. L. Gwynn.	Mr. G. Wardle.
Mr. S. L. Hughes.	Mr. H. Law.
Mr. J. S. Higham.	Sir J. Rankin.
Sir Arthur Haworth, Bt.	Mr. J. M. Robertson.
Mr. J. Hodge.	Mr. H. J. Tennant.
Sir Alfred Mond.	Mr. H. W. Carr Gomm.
Mr. J. Pointer.	Mr. H. B. Lees Smith.
Rt. Hon. R. Rea.	Visc. Wolmer.
Mr. P. W. Raffan.	Mr. T. C. Taylor.
Mr. A. Stanley.	Sir Rufus Isaacs.
Sir George Toulmin.	Mr. A. St. G. Hamersley.

A further list will be published later.

The following are amongst the distinguished men and women who have accepted tickets for the platform:—

Right Hon. Earl Russell.	Dudley Buxton, Esq., M.D.
Right Hon. Lord Emmott.	V. H. Veley, Esq., D.Sc. F.R.S.
Right Hon. Lord Aberconway.	L. A. Bather, Esq., D.Sc., F.R.S.
Winifred Countess of Arran.	R. R. Marett, Esq., M.A.
Muriel Countess De La Ware.	John Galsworthy, Esq.
Lady Winifred Gore.	Herbert Trench, Esq.
Sir George and Lady Gabb.	Henry V. Esmond, Esq.
A. M. Langdon, Esq., K.C.	Mrs. Alice Meynell.
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Chapman.	Professor Gilbert Murray.
J. R. Falconer Esq., K.C.	Harold Spender, Esq.
Sir Thomas Barclay.	W. Pett Ridge, Esq.
D. S. Maccoll, Esq., M.A., L.L.D.	Rowland Prothero, Esq.
Rev. A. Caldicott, D. Litt. D.D.	Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy.
Rev. F. W. Bussell, D.D.	Mrs. Kendal.
H. L. Henderson, Esq., M.A.	Miss Ellen Terry.
J. M. Henry Hughes, Esq., M.A.	Richard Whiteing, Esq.
L. Herbert Stead, Esq., M.A.	Ernest Bell, Esq.
Professor W. M. Geldart.	John Snead Cox, Esq.
Surgeon-General G. J. Evatt, C.B.	Hon. John Collier.
Dr. Josiah Oldfield, M.A., D.C.L., M.R.C.S.	Sir Herbert and Lady Maud Parry.
Professor H. H. Turner, D.Sc., F.R.S.	H. R. Ricardo, Esq.
	Mr. Eustace Miles.

Many others are unable to be present, but express sympathy with the objects of the meeting. A full list of names will be

LONDON SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES,

58, Victoria Street, S.W.

PUBLIC RECEPTION, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

At the Empress Rooms, Kensington (High Street Station), from 3.30 to 6 p.m. Chair:—Miss CLEMENTINA BLACK.

Speakers:—The LADY FRANCES BALFOUR, Miss H. D. COCKLE (on "Christina of Pisa"), and Mrs. MAY WRIGHT SEWALL. DISCUSSION INVITED.

published later. It includes:—The Rt. Hon. Lord Morley, The Rt. Hon. Lord Haldane, The Right Rev. the Bishop of Lincoln, K. D. COURTNEY.

The Political Situation.

Before this number of THE COMMON CAUSE is in the hands of its readers, the King's Speech will have been read and the 1912 Session of Parliament will have begun. It may perhaps not be out of place to recapitulate the policy which the National Union intends to pursue, a policy which was formulated at the Special Council meeting held on December 7th, and which has not been shaken by the rumours which have been disturbing the newspapers during the recess.

The resolutions referring to policy are as follows:—

(1.) That this Council continues to support the Conciliation Bill, and regards the reiterated pledge of time for its discussion given by the Prime Minister as of the greatest importance.

(2.) That the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies reaffirms its position that women are citizens no less than men, and should be enfranchised on the same terms as men. As means towards this end it urges its members to ensure the enfranchisement of women in 1912 by working both for the Conciliation Bill and for an amendment to the Reform Bill to include women on the widest basis for which a majority can be secured in the House of Commons.

The National Union holds to the pledge given by Mr. Asquith that the Government would grant time for the consideration of the Conciliation Bill in the Session of 1912. This pledge has been reiterated on several occasions, and it is of vital importance that the Conciliation Bill should be vigorously supported, as well as an amendment to the Reform Bill for which we have the even more valuable pledges given by Mr. Asquith to Mrs. Fawcett in reply to the questions asked by the National Union on the occasion of the deputation of November 17th. The question and the replies will be found in the special article dealing with recent history on page 767.

The policy of the National Union was based on the conviction that the answers to our questions were given in good faith, and to this conviction we adhere. There is no surer sign of weakness and demoralisation than the cry of treachery; the cry which, as any soldier can tell us, is raised by a disheartened regiment or a routed army. During the last few weeks certain sections of the Press have been diligently working to rouse the treachery cry, but they have been notably unsuccessful. If treachery there should be, no one will be quicker to resent it than the National Union; but do not let us see a phantom behind every bush, and let us do justice both to ourselves and to the Government in respecting the pledges which we have obtained; it is manifestly useless to ask questions if we intend to disregard the answers. The political situation demands the utmost watchfulness, but it is full of promise for the enfranchisement of women in 1912. We urge our supporters throughout the country to be wary, but not to allow their wariness to generate an atmosphere of mistrust, which makes all constructive work impossible. We face the Session of 1912 with the confidence which is alive to the possible dangers of the situation, and is determined to conquer them.

K. D. COURTNEY.

Literature Department.

SIMPLE LITERATURE.

We have had a good many requests lately for very simple literature, suitable for distribution among people who know little or nothing about the suffrage movement, and need to be told in easy language why women want votes. It is encouraging that there should be such a demand, for it shows that our propaganda work is continually spreading over new areas and addressing itself to new sets of people.

In London, where there is always a widespread distribution of free leaflets, Miss Philippa Fawcett has recently initiated a special campaign by giving away handbills of the Albert Hall meeting, together with leaflets containing elementary arguments in favour of Women's Suffrage. Miss Fawcett and many other members of the London Society are spending their week-ends in this way. It is found that in a crowded place

1,000 sets of leaflets can be distributed in less than an hour and a half. Members of the London Society who cannot do the distributing themselves have in many cases paid the cost of the leaflets distributed by others, and thus helped in the work.

In country districts, where members of the National Union are doing canvassing among cottage people, or holding village meetings, the need for simple literature is equally felt. One of our National Union organisers told me the other day that even such a leaflet as "Are Women Citizens?" was too complicated for some places, where people hardly knew the meaning of the word "citizen."

To meet this demand for simple literature, the National Union has combined with the London Society to publish a very large quantity of cheap leaflets. These leaflets will be ready next week, and will be sold for the present at the special price of 4d. per 100 and 2s. 6d. per 1,000. One or two are reprints, but most of them are quite new. The names of the new National Union ones are "Women and the Home," "Let the Women Help," and "Where Women have the Vote." The names of the new London ones are "The Tool" and "A Wider World." I invite criticism on these leaflets from those who are doing organising and propaganda work, and who can tell me whether these are the kind of thing they really want. In order to meet some of the criticisms before they are made, however, I should like to say that no one who has not tried knows how difficult it is to write anything really simple enough for everyone to understand. I hope members of the National Union who are doing organising and other propaganda work will help us not only by suggestions, but by trying their hands at writing short leaflets 300 to 500 words long, and sending them in as examples of what they want, or for use on some future occasion.

A longer leaflet containing a simple statement of most of the chief arguments for Women's Suffrage, and suitable for giving away to people who wish to sit by their own firesides and read about it, will be ready shortly. By kind permission of THE COMMON CAUSE, a good deal of the material collected in the A. B. C. pages is being used for it, and it is hoped that those who find these pages useful will also send for the leaflet. It will be announced in THE COMMON CAUSE as soon as it is ready. In the meantime, we hope all the Societies will buy our short ones.

JOSEPHINE BUTLER.

The National Union is now stocking the new edition of Mrs. Butler's "Personal Reminiscences of a Great Crusade." They are published in a very attractive and convenient form, and cost 2s. each.

RECENT PAMPHLET.

Women and the Reform Bill, by H. N. Brailsford (1d.).

RECENT LEAFLETS.

Women's Suffrage and the Referendum (6d. per 100). Is the Law Unjust to Women? (9d. per 100). Mr. Balfour on Franchise Reform (1s. 6d. per 100).

ALBERT HALL MEETING.

More sellers of literature and THE COMMON CAUSE are still required. I shall be very grateful if members of the National Union willing to help with this work will write to me at 14, Great Smith Street.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

Press Department.

It cannot be urged too strongly at this juncture that no effort must be spared to render the Press throughout the Federations of the National Union as effective as possible. The policy of the National Union should be emphasised and widely represented in the smaller papers as well as in the more influential. The support of Cabinet Ministers and the presence of Mr. Lloyd George at the Albert Hall, on February 23rd, is a matter of the greatest importance, and the presence there of the representatives of every society with the display of banners will create great local interest in the provinces; the Press will doubtless welcome descriptive accounts and letters from those who have been able to attend.

Particularly good reports of Press work have reached us from the following Federations:—The Press Secretary of the Manchester and District writes:—"It can be said without hesitation that the attitude of the Press towards the Women's Suffrage Movement has very greatly improved during the year. The jeering disparaging tone of many papers seems, in comparison with a couple of years ago, almost to have disappeared and the tacit boycott has almost entirely broken down."

The man who invariably takes Mustard with his viands is usually a man with a good appetite and a good digestion.

People do not eat Mustard because of its own taste; they eat it because it brings out the flavour of the meat and makes it more appetising, because it excites and sharpens the appetite itself. "Good digestion" naturally "waits on appetite" if it is good Mustard, best Mustard

Colman's
D. S. F. mustard

STANSFELD TRUST.

The Scrutineer issues Reports on all Bills, Public and Private, as they are introduced into Parliament that

- (1) affect men and women differently.
- (2) are of special interest to women.
- (3) deal with children and education.

Subscription for one Session's Reports 6/6 post free; 5/- for each additional set of Reports sent with the first.

Apply, Hon. Secretary, Kingswood, Shortlands, Kent.

The Secretary of the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation reports:—"That out of a total of 75 papers only 7 are Anti-Suffrage, whilst 24 are favourable."

In the North-Western Federation 4 papers are reported as hostile, while 10 are "entirely for Women's Suffrage."

The work of the Press Secretaries in these areas is particularly well organised, and it is to be hoped that this will rapidly become true of all the Federations.

Throughout the country it is apparently now becoming comparatively easy to effect the insertion of news, but this only increases the work we have before us, and the scope of the Press work grows daily greater.

In London, the daily papers are watching the situation keenly, and the air is full of rumour.

"P. W. W." writes in the *Daily News*, on February 9th:—"The Referendum will receive no encouragement from the Government—in fact, there are three conclusive reasons against it. First, women would not have a vote on the Referendum. Secondly, the Government could not defend the Referendum for Women's Suffrage after having denounced it for the Parliament Act; and thirdly, the Prime Minister, whatever his views on the Suffrage, is a man of scrupulous honour, who would hesitate long before adopting what would be regarded by the Suffragists as a trick. It is not the sort of game that the Liberal Leader has ever played at any stage in his career."

The *Westminster Gazette*, reverting to a more normal tone this week, has also some interesting remarks on the subject of the Referendum:—"Whether we could write a new constitution which would definitely rail off a few questions for this method of settlement while leaving all the rest to the existing Parliamentary system is another matter about which we have no wish to express any obstinate opinion, but we are inclined to think that the experiment promises more trouble than profit." Referring to the proposition that it should be applied to the whole field of legislation *vice* of the House of Lords, the *Westminster Gazette* says "Here, in our view, we encounter the fundamental incompatibility between plebiscitary and representative government. The Referendum so applied must depose a Government from its place of honour and responsibility,

and make it the registrar rather than the exponent and interpreter of public opinion."

Much evidence is afforded of the stimulus which the Standard is giving to papers in various parts of the country.

The Oxford Times, a Unionist organ, has arranged to set apart from henceforth one column for the discussion of the Women's Suffrage question.

The remarks of the "Lobby Correspondent" in the Standard on the subject of Women's Suffrage have lately been interesting.

An excellent article has appeared in the Nineteenth Century, dealing with the Suffrage and the legal position of women in Norway.

Mr. Lloyd George and Welsh Suffragists.

To a man of strong local patriotism like Mr. Lloyd George, it must be stimulating to feel he has the support of his "own people," and we are glad to hear that he has received the following letter from the President and Hon. Secretary of the Bangor and District Women's Suffrage Society, which is a member of the National Union:—

6th February, 1912.

DEAR MR. LLOYD GEORGE.—We understand that you will be in your constituency towards the end of this month for the formal opening of the N. Wales Counties Training College at Bangor.

Could you, when you come to open the Normal College, or at any other time in the near future, spare a few minutes to receive a deputation of women representative of the eight Suffrage Societies in the county, and of women from other bodies interested in the furtherance of the cause of Women's Suffrage?

We remain, yours faithfully, EVELYN LAMPART, President. CHARLOTTE PRICE WHITE, Hon. Sec.

Contributions to General Fund.

Table with columns for names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Already acknowledged since Nov. 1st, 1911', 'Received from February 3rd to 10th, 1912', and various individual names with their respective contribution amounts.

* The South Western Federation has received the following donations:— Budleigh Salterton W.S.S. ... £ 9 0 0 Exeter W.S.S. ... 8 15 8 Miss Leigh Browne ... 5 0 0

Manchester and District Women's Suffrage Bazaar.

Our great bazaar is over, and we have well exceeded the result at which we aimed. We asked for £2,000, and we have already realised £2,600.

The whole thing has been, in all ways, an enormous success. Thanks to Miss Darlington's extraordinary forethought, and unfailing grasp of every detail of organisation, all the arrangements have gone through without a hitch.

The Midland Theatre is admirably adapted for a bazaar and the stalls, built in green trellis-work, with simple draperies of red and white looked charming.

The first opening when the Vicountess Castlereagh spoke was crowded, and a very good number assembled on Friday when Lady Frances Balfour made an entirely delightful and appropriate speech.

Lest the pleasure of purchasing alone might not attract enough people a continuous series of entertainments went on in the large banqueting hall and the reception room.

Mrs. Stanbury and the Labour Party: A Personal Explanation.

Mrs. Stanbury, who is standing for re-election to the National Union Executive, asks us to explain that, owing to a misunderstanding on her part of the questions sent to candidates, it would appear from the nomination papers that she belonged to no political party.

Treasurer's Notes

Who will help to complete £2,000 for the 1912 Campaign Fund before the Albert Hall meeting? There is not a great sum wanting, and a week yet to do it in.

We hope, on that great occasion, for a fine collection and promises to enable us to be sure of our needed £10,000 at Headquarters for the year's work.

I hope all Suffragists will be very busy doing arithmetic this coming week. We must all be Chancellors of our own Exchequer, and calculate nicely on how little we can manage our year's expenses; then we shall know how much we can promise at Albert Hall.

The yearly subscriptions of our 30,000, and more, of members and the balances already in hand at Headquarters, and in most of our Societies, make a good sum to start with and, of course, we shall not want the whole paid into the bank directly.

Is there any reason why we should not get the rest in due season and promised at once? If those budgets are carefully made up, countless friends will see their way to gifts at monthly or quarterly intervals, and others to a good sum on the 23rd, with a promise to repeat it in August or September.

F. M. STERLING (Treasurer, pro tem.).

and Mrs. Schröder. There was also an old English marionette show, which the Rev. T. Horne kindly came from London to give; the little pupils of Mr. and Miss Haines gave delightful exhibitions of fancy dancing, and Mr. Livingston-Eccles, with his versatile genius, charmed audience after audience with his shadow shows, his Dickens' recital and his "Thirty Heads Under One Hat."

The arrangement of the stalls was, on the whole, territorial, several societies combining for each (with the exception of Manchester, which had three besides the Salford Working Women's Stall)—but there were also some special stalls—Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Liebert (becomingly dressed in green linen with white caps and aprons) made a great success of that sticky joy, a produce stall—they were absolutely sold out and realised £56.

of all, perhaps, was the spirit of the bazaar—the unruffled good temper and cheeriness which prevailed. People had tried to alarm us beforehand by warnings of the inevitable discords and squabbles associated with bazaars.

the unruffled good temper and cheeriness which prevailed. People had tried to alarm us beforehand by warnings of the inevitable discords and squabbles associated with bazaars.

All parties were there—all classes—all creeds, both sexes—all ages. We had pioneers of the movement, such as Mrs. Petrie Mills, one of Lydia Becker's original committee, and we had tiny children being brought up from the beginning in the way they should go.

In one instance at any rate we had three generations—Mr. R. P. Hewitt, more than 80 years old and still, as ever, a staunch supporter of the Cause—his son, Mr. Forrest Hewitt—who, with Mr. Brookes and Mr. Walter Arnold, carried out the arduous duties of treasurers to the bazaar—and Mr. Forrest Hewitt's daughter, Margaret Hewitt (aged 6), who, on the second day, presented a bouquet to Lady Frances Balfour.

We feel that the bazaar has been not only a financial success, but a social, and in a sense, a political one. For it has made Women's Suffrage the talk of the town, and has interested a vast number of people whom we should otherwise be unlikely ever to reach.

Miss Helga Gill's Tour in Ireland.

The Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation were most fortunate in having Miss Helga Gill to address meetings in various parts of Ireland. She has done much to strengthen the cause of women's suffrage in Ireland.

She has done much to strengthen the cause of women's suffrage in Ireland. Her youth and brightness made swift appeal to her Irish audiences; and perhaps not the least of her attractions was the fact of her Norwegian birth.

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London Society.

WEST END RECEPTIONS.—On February 6th, the third Empress Rooms' Reception took place. The Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves being unavoidably absent, the chair was taken by Miss Helen Ward.

EAST END RECEPTIONS.—On February 5th, the first of a series of Monday evening receptions was held at the Ratcliffe Settlement by kind permission of Miss Scott, Miss Helen Ward in the chair.

BETHNAL GREEN.—By kind invitation of Mrs. Field, Miss Goddard addressed a large meeting of the Young Women's Club in St. Paul's Institute, Gossett Street, on January 30th.

FULHAM.—In spite of the extremely uninviting weather a large number of people assembled at the West Kensington Lecture Hall on February 5th to listen to the speakers on women's suffrage.

gave a very clear explanation of the political situation and dealt with the various red herrings the anti-suffragists are trying to draw across our path.

SOUTH KENSINGTON.—On January 24th a most interesting meeting was held at 8, Queen's Gate Terrace, by kind permission of Mrs. Brinton.

LAMBETH, NORTH.—On February 8th an open-air meeting in Lambeth Walk, was addressed by Miss Helen Ward and Miss M. Goddard.

MUSWELL HILL.—A meeting of this branch was held in St. James's School, Fortis Green, on February 2nd.

PADDINGTON, NORTH.—On January 30th a social meeting was held at 11, Lauderdale Parade.

WEST SOUTHWARK.—On January 30th a debate took place in St. George's Parish House, by kind permission of Rev. J. Somerville.

WINDSOR.—On February 2nd a successful meeting was arranged by Miss Street at the Mission Hall, Spital, which was addressed by Mrs. Everett, the Rev. Bernard Everett being in the chair.

Federation Notes.

NORTH EASTERN. SEVERAL DEPUTATIONS. Further deputations have taken place in the area during the past week.

On January 30th, Col. Ratcliffe, M.P. for the Burton Division of Staffordshire, received a deputation from the Burton W.S.S.

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Women's Suffrage, and Liverpool, Wirral and district branch of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, introduced by Alderman Churton, waited upon Colonel Holdsworth (the prospective Conservative candidate for Chester) last week at the Conservative Club.

Colonel Holdsworth said he believed in taxation, and representation going together, and that as women had responsibilities towards the State they should not be deprived of the privileges of citizenship.

He returned to Parliament he would support the Conciliation Bill. When asked if he would support an amendment to the Reform Bill that would enfranchise a greater number of women than the Conciliation Bill, Colonel Holdsworth replied that in view of the fact that a large number of men would be added to the electorate he would very favourably consider a wider measure of enfranchisement for women.

The deputation thanked Colonel Holdsworth for receiving them and then withdrew.

DEPUTATION TO EDWARD PAUL, Esq., J.P. A deputation from the Chester Women's Suffrage Society, introduced by Councillor H. F. Brown waited upon Mr. Paul (prospective Liberal candidate for Chester) at the Grosvenor Hotel on Friday, February 9th.

The President of the Society spoke on the economic position of women, explaining the necessity of the vote for women workers; Miss Crosfield, vice-president, dealt with the question from the Liberal standpoint, mentioning that about two-thirds of the Cabinet were in favour of Women's Suffrage; she also reminded Mr. Paul of the beneficial results of the enfranchisement of women in Australia.

Mr. Noel Humphreys said that the ideal for the Nation should be the same as for the home, that men and women should work together as comrades; Mr. Brown maintained that the elementary principle of Liberalism was that taxation and representation should go together, also that it was for the opponents of Women's Suffrage to prove why women should not have the vote.

Mr. Paul said that he had listened to the speeches with much interest, and if returned to Parliament would support the Conciliation Bill. It was explained to Mr. Paul that the Reform Bill might be introduced before the Conciliation Bill, but as the amendments were purely speculative at present, the deputation would wait on him again—if agreeable to him—when the amendments were definitely known.

The deputation thanked Mr. Paul for his courteous reception and withdrew.

The newly formed North Wales sub-committee met on January 9th at Bangor, when six societies were represented. It was decided that in future the sub-committee should meet prior to the quarterly Federation meeting, and amongst other proposals discussed was one to hold a mass meeting in support of Women's Suffrage, and to invite the co-operation of other women's societies.

The SEAFORTH Branch held a well-attended "At Home" in the Waterloo Town Hall on the afternoon of February 3rd. Major Dalrymple White, M.P., spoke on the advantages of the Conciliation Bill, and urged all present to work for its passage into law.

Miss Evelyn Deakin explained the present situation, and was followed by Miss Chubb, who gave some valuable hints on "How to help."

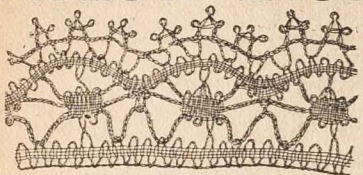
The CHORLEY Society held its first members' meeting in the Arcade Cafe on February 3rd. A business meeting, at which Miss Gauge and Miss Butler were elected respectively Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, was followed by tea and an address from Miss C. Leadley Brown.

The PRESTON Society, through the generosity of two of its members, held an "At Home" on January 23rd, when over 100 members and friends witnessed a capital performance of "Lady Geraldine's Speech."

On February 6th a public meeting was held in the LISCARD Concert Hall, J. T. Chester, Esq., took the chair, and Mrs. Philip Snowden and Mrs. Duckworth were the speakers.

A most successful meeting was held in the Cambridge Hall, Southampton, on February 2. The Mayor was in the chair and the speakers were Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. Arnold Rowntree and Mr. J. J. Cockshott. The room which holds between one and two thousand was

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Handkerchief, centred lawn, at 2/10 each.

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Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE desiring information as to the conditions under which women work, should read the columns of

THE LABOUR LEADER

in which Factory and Public Health Law is explained by an expert.

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Valley End is in the middle of the "Heather Country," with every opportunity for a healthful and interesting life for young people.

Postal Address—

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quite full. The Southport Society organised the meeting and invited other societies to join in it, but only the Women's Liberal League accepted the invitation. After all expenses were paid there was £10 in hand.

West of England.

DEPUTATION TO MR. JOSEPH KING (North Somerset).

On Wednesday the 7th inst., Mr. King, member for North Somerset, received a deputation organised by the local branch of the N.U.W.S.S. Mr. Hallett introduced the members of the deputation, and Miss Lloyd, Miss Clayton, Miss Lury, Mr. Brett gave evidence of local support and the opinion of Clevedon generally on the present situation. I explained the attitude of the N.U.W.S.S., and to the questions asked Mr. King gave satisfactory replies.

Mr. King will support the Norwegian amendment, and as far as he can tell at the present moment he will oppose any suggestion of the Referendum. He would not bind himself to vote against the third reading of the Reform Bill if it did not include women. Mr. King promised to support the Conciliation Bill, should it prove impossible to get any wider measure of enfranchisement for women, but he believes that the Conciliation Bill can never get through in its present form. He pointed out how the support of Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Lloyd George should be valued. The cause they united to support and actively advocate had a better chance than any other proposal which could be put before the country. Mr. King said that he was in favour of Adult Suffrage, and would support an amendment to the Reform Bill on these lines. It was only within the last fortnight that any of his supporters had protested against his attitude towards Women's Suffrage, although Women's Suffrage had always been included in his election address. K. M. S. ROBERTSON.

WE HAD a very successful week of suffrage work in Clevedon. On February 5th, Miss Baretta spoke to a fairly representative gathering on the subject of "Women under the Insurance Bill." Her explanations were clear and concise, and consequently easily followed. She drove home the Women's Suffrage moral with great skill, and with marked effect. I followed her with a short explanation of our non-party attitude.

On February 6th we had an afternoon meeting for women, when Miss Edith Robertson and I both spoke. The addresses were followed by a discussion, which proved most helpful to all of us. In the evening, through the kindness of the East Clevedon Debating Society, I was able to open a debate there on "Women's Suffrage." The only other lady present, Mrs. Hallett, also spoke, and we left at the end of the debate feeling that good work had been done for the cause that evening. It is wonderfully easy to gain a sympathetic hearing in a place like Clevedon, where the local Society was being stuck to the hard and unsparring spade work with what must have been really wonderful energy. K. M. S. ROBERTSON.

Oxford, Bucks and Berks.

FORMATION OF A NEW SOCIETY.

BRACKNELL.—A new society was started here as the result of a meeting held in the Victoria Hall on January 23rd, at which Mrs. Robie Umacke took the chair and the speakers were Mr. Cameron Grant and Mrs. Merivale Mayer. About 120 were present, though it was one of the worst nights of the year. The resolution was passed with three dissentients. Members were gained and Miss Bradford and Miss Mary Bradford undertook the posts of hon. sec. and hon. treasurer respectively. Since then an informal meeting has been held, and the society has affiliated. This is particularly gratifying as the meeting of January 23rd was the first Suffrage meeting ever held in Bracknell.

OSBORN'S CROSS.—Since the society was started in November, three drawing-room meetings have been held, at the houses of Mrs. Adeney, Mrs. Dowson and Mrs. Morris respectively. The first meeting was for the purpose of general discussion as to the policy of the society and its activities. At the second meeting an address on "Historical Precedents for Women's Suffrage" was read by the President, Miss Stevenson of Hedgerley. At the third meeting, Miss J. H. Thomson, B.A., of Highgate, gave a most interesting talk on "The effect of the vote on the status of women." Great interest in the cause has been aroused by the formation of a society, and the membership is now nearly forty. Arrangements are being made for a public meeting during February.

BARNBY.—A very successful and well-attended "At Home" was held on January 26th, at the Town Hall, Mrs. Haverfield, gave an interesting address on the suffrage question and the political situation to-day. Two new members joined the society, and others have promised to become members.

MAIDENHEAD.—A very well-attended drawing-room meeting was held at "Fernley" by kind permission of Mrs. Oldershaw, on January 19th. Mrs. Robie Umacke presided. Mrs. K. D. Courtney delivered an interesting and stirring address, in which she touched on the legal and economic disadvantages of women to-day. After several questions, Mr. Upson proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Courtney, which was carried unanimously.

On Tuesday, January 16th, Mrs. Umacke was the chief speaker at a meeting held at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Hornby-Lewis near Great Marlow. The National Union resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Cameron Grant, was carried unanimously. On February 2nd a public meeting was held, addressed by Mrs. Fawcett, Mr. Atherley Jones, K.C., M.P., and

Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Hon. Sec. of the Men's League for W.S. Mrs. Robie Umacke was in the chair. There were 400 present, and the resolution was enthusiastically carried with only one dissentient. Fresh members were gained both for the N.U. and the Men's League. The Maidenhead Society started life only in November last, so this response is felt to be most satisfactory.

READING.—Miss Fielden spent a fortnight here, from January 17th, and Mrs. Cooper was also here from January 22-29. A shop was taken at No. 9, Duke Street in a central position in the town, and attracted a good deal of attention, various people coming in to ask for literature. Much help was given by members of neighbouring societies. Miss Fielden and Mrs. Cooper held dinner-hour open-air meetings besides evening meetings, both open-air and in the shop, but the weather was bad, and these efforts were only partially successful.

A good drawing-room meeting was held in the shop on Monday, January 29th, with Colonel Kensington in the chair and Miss Fielden and Mrs. Cooper as speakers. The resolution was carried nem. con. despite the fact that one or two present had come as professed anti-suffragists. Sixteen new members joined the society. At a smaller meeting in the shop on February 1st, much interest was shown in speeches from Mrs. Merivale Mayer and Mrs. Basset. Miss Fielden also addressed various meetings of special societies. A good deal of interest has been aroused by Miss Fielden's visit, and it is hoped that further meetings may be arranged in the near future.

PANGBOURNE.—A meeting was held on January 30th in the Brecon School with Mrs. Garrett Jones in the chair. Mrs. Merivale Mayer gave a very interesting address on Women's Suffrage in general, and its results in Australia. Questions were asked, and Mrs. Secret of the Reading Society also spoke. Five new members joined the society which now numbers forty. On February 1st Mrs. Merivale Mayer addressed the members of the Men's Liberal Association. The meeting was a small one, but may be considered very successful, as there were anti-suffragists present, and a lively discussion and many questions followed the address. Finally a suffrage resolution was passed nem. con. A drawing-room meeting was held by Mrs. Charles Jones at Jesmond Hill on February 2nd, and was attended by prominent anti-suffragists whose questions added greatly to the interest of the proceedings. Mrs. Merivale Mayer was the speaker, and although none of our antagonists confessed themselves convinced, many had never before heard the subject discussed, and were much interested.

South Wales and Monmouthshire.

FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT SWANSEA.

I have spent about ten days in Swansea, and found the Parliamentary situation here satisfactory. The W.F.L. has done excellent work. The Liberal Women's Federation, numbering 1,400-1,500 members, is commonly regarded as a Suffrage Society. The capable hon. sec., Mrs. Salmon, is a keen Suffragist. Sir Alfred Mond, the Member for Swansea, has promised to address a meeting on "Women's Suffrage."

On February 3rd I was joined by Miss Julia Marett, who has been a great help, and last week Miss Marjorie Bowen expressed her willingness to do the work of hon. sec. if you could get someone to share the responsibility of it with her.

On Wednesday, February 7th, we had a meeting in the Y.W.C.A. rooms. Miss Marett took the chair, and the history of the movement, with special reference to the National Union, was briefly dealt with. A resolution in favour of starting a Society, proposed by Miss Glascodine, and seconded by Mrs. Salmon, was carried unanimously. Rules were drawn up, and a committee elected.

The Society starts with 26 members, and every prospect of growth. Miss Glascodine is hon. treas., and Miss Marjorie Bowen hon. sec.

On Saturday, February 8th, the South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation had its meeting of delegates at Swansea, instead of at Cardiff. The business meeting was followed by a reception, to which Swansea Suffragists were invited. L. F. WARING.

North of Scotland.

TWO highly successful meetings of the INVERNESS society have been held. (1) On January 26th, at St. Margaret's. Subject—"Five Minutes Speeches on Laws I wish Amended." There was a crowded attendance, Mrs. J. Fraser presiding. A number of ladies took part and either read short papers or spoke on the several laws they desired amended, including franchise, industrial, inheritance and intestacy, parentage and illegitimacy, divorce laws, etc. A short discussion followed and all agreed it was a most instructive and delightful evening. (2) On February 9th, at St. Margaret's. Subject—"Olive Shreiner's 'Woman and Labour,'" by Mrs. J. Fraser. Mrs. Critchley presided. The lecturer in a very able paper gave a complete and skilful summary of the author's theme and arguments, reading some of the more powerful passages from the work. There was a large and appreciative audience. At the close several members spoke and Mrs. Fraser was heartily thanked for her address.

INVERNESS society also reports two interesting meetings. (1) In the Congregational Church Hall in January. Mrs. Stewart Lockhart presiding. Mrs. J. Fraser, Inverness, addressed the meeting taking as her subject "Why Women Need the Vote." She touched upon the inequalities of the various laws relating to women, and gave, in a most convincing and eloquent manner, a great deal of information regarding these laws. There was an appreciative audience and an animated discussion followed. (2) In the Congregational Church Hall, on February 1st. Interesting papers were read by several members on "Why I am a Suffragist," and an informal discussion followed. It was decided that the next meeting should be a social gathering.

N. and E. Riding (Yorks).

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FEDERATION, JANUARY 17th.—This took place in King William's College, York. Mrs. Edwin Gray was elected chairman, Mrs. E. R. Cross (Scarborough) and Mrs. Knowles (York) vice-chairmen; Mrs. de Bunsen and Mrs. Cudworth were co-opted as

members of the executive committee. The hon. sec., hon. treas., press and COMMON CAUSE correspondents were re-elected. Miss Edith Bateson read her most interesting annual report, showing an excellent record of work. Much was due in the first six months of the year to Mrs. Merivale Mayer's dauntless work as organiser, especially at Malton, Middlesbrough and Richmond. In October, November and December Miss Sheard did capital work, amongst other things forming a society at Northallerton. The Town or Urban District Councils of Scarborough, Harrogate, Hull, Bridlington and Filey all passed the Town or Urban resolutions in 1911. Fifty pounds has been promised for the salary of an organiser in 1912.

Miss Elphick is at present working for the Federation in Grimsby.

DRIFFIELD.—Jan. 25.—A public meeting was presided over by Dr. Mary Murdoch of Hull. Miss Margaret Ashton, M.A., C.C., Manchester, put the case for Women's Suffrage eloquently and forcefully to a large and representative gathering. The whole meeting was noticeably sympathetic, and a resolution calling upon the Government to include the enfranchisement of women in its measure of electoral reform was carried unanimously.

FILEY.—Jan. 10.—A theatrical performance in aid of the funds was given in the Grand Hall, the play being "Nohe, all Smiles"; the cast consisted of members and friends. The hall was packed and the play much appreciated. The proceeds amounted to £22 4s. 6d., of which about £14 was profit.

FEB. 6.—A public meeting, well attended in spite of inclement weather, was held in the "Grand." Mr. W. Foster Smith, from the chertsey and convincing address. A resolution was passed, of which copies were forwarded to various "Anti" arguments, after which Miss Abadam held the interest and attention of her audience for upwards of an hour. She spoke of the effect of the vote upon wages, and also of sweated work and workers, referring especially to the embryoid linen trade of Belfast. She quoted, as proof of the approval of the enfranchisement of women, the fact that those States in the U.S.A. which had given women the vote bordered on the first State which had granted it, and had, therefore, best been able to observe its working. The resolution, moved by Miss Abadam, was carried with one dissentient. Fraulein Knaust added to the success of the evening by her playing.

MALTON.—Jan. 15.—At a successful public meeting Miss L. O. Ford gave a stirring and convincing address. A resolution was passed, of which copies were forwarded to Lord Helmsley, M.P., and Sir Luke White, M.P. Five new members joined.—Miss Elphick was working in Malton, Jan. 9-11, during which time she held a public meeting in Slingsby and paid many calls on doubtful sympathisers.

SCARBOROUGH.—Feb. 7, St. Nicholas House.—A crowded room greeted Miss Abadam when she came to speak on Women's Suffrage and its relation to the moral question. Her audience was evidently intensely moved by her eloquent address. Several new members joined, and there was a large collection.

WHITBY.—Feb. 2.—A joint meeting was held under the auspices of the Whitty Branch N.U.W.S.S. and the C. and U.W.F.A., in the Temperance Hall. The speakers were Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Mercer, organising secretary C. and U.W.F.A. Mr. Donald Corrie, of Goathland, was in the chair. Many of the audience, to whom the subject was new, were very strongly impressed by the arguments put forward by Lady Frances.

YORK.—Jan. 17.—Mrs. Ward invited her friends to hear an excellent address from Mrs. Edwin Gray. Mrs. Meyer also spoke, and several new members joined. Jan. 24.—Mrs. Falconer was "At Home" to her friends, and Mrs. Davies gave a most interesting address on "Why Women Want the Vote." Several ladies were so convinced that they joined the society at once. A discussion followed over the tea-cups. THE COMMON CAUSE sold well at both these meetings.

North Western.

DEPUTATION TO SIR WILFRID LAWSON, BART, M.P. On Saturday, February 18, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P. for the Coker mouth division, received a representative deputation of his constituents and the hon. secretary of the Workington W.S. Society and a member of the Maryport W.S. committee and me.

Canon Pollock introduced the deputation, and spoke on the local interest in and support of Women's Suffrage. Mr. Pape (Coker mouth) gave the reasons why he thought women should be enfranchised. Mrs. Holden spoke briefly on the urgency of the question. I asked Sir Wilfrid the questions which we are asking all Members, and added another regarding the referendum.

Sir Wilfrid answered "Yes" to all our questions, except the one asking him to vote against the 3rd reading of the Reform Bill, if women were not included. He said he could not pledge himself to do that as he had always stood for the principle of votes for all men and all women. He should like to support a Bill including both, but if women were left out he could not refuse to help to give votes to all men when that was one of the things he stood for. He did not think, however, that position was likely to arise. He hoped and believed the Liberal Government would be true to the policy that taxation and representation should go together. He thought women's enfranchisement was in a better position to-day than it had ever been, but if the Liberal Government did fail the women and the measure was brought forward under a Tory Government, he himself would turn Tory for that occasion.

One of the reasons why he hoped to see votes given to women in the near future was because he felt so strongly on the Temperance question. He should strenuously oppose any proposal to submit Women's Suffrage to a referendum.

Sir Wilfrid said he had been glad to meet the deputation and to hear our point of view given, he thanked us for the friendly way in which we had approached him—he assured us he would lose no opportunity in or out of Parliament to do all he could for the enfranchisement of women in the near future.

Canon Pollock thanked Sir Wilfrid on behalf of the deputation for his sympathetic speech, and his promise of whole-hearted support in the future.

MARGUERITE NORMA-SMITH, Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

The annual meeting of the Eastbourne Society took place at the Saffrons Rooms on Jan. 29, Miss Gregg presided. The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of £5 5s. 5d. The following officers were elected on the proposition of Miss Secretan, seconded by Mrs. Beckett: President, Miss Gregg; hon. secretary, Miss Gatliif, committee, Miss Boldero, Mrs. Channer, Mrs. Bunbury, Miss L. M. Cooke, Miss G. Gemmill, Miss Farnell, Miss J. Glover, Miss J. M. Harvey, Miss A. Iredell, Miss Payer, Miss C. Stewart, Mrs. Stracey and Miss L. Vignoles.

Mrs. Swanwick then gave an address on the present situation.

Cardiff Progressive Liberal Women's Union.

The formation of the above union was of much interest to all suffragists. It was with much regret that we heard its activity was interrupted owing to the serious illness of Mrs. Glen Wade, the organising secretary. She is now at work again and the first conversation of the Union was held on February 9th at the Art Gallery, when Mrs. Cecil Chapman, President of the New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, spoke to the following resolution:—

"That this meeting of the members and friends of the Cardiff Progressive Liberal Women's Union, issues its strongest protest against the proposed application of the Referendum on the question of Women's Suffrage, and urges the Cabinet to keep to their promises upon this subject, and further, that the Government shall make it possible to place women upon the Parliamentary Register in 1912."

We are glad to know of Mrs. Glen Wade's recovery, and look forward to further news of the progress of this Union.

Foreign News.

Sweden.

The situation here rivals that in England in interest. We now learn that Women's Suffrage was not only mentioned in the King's speech, but actually took the place of honour as the first of the reforms mentioned. The speech points out that while the introduction of "Universal Suffrage" has given the men of the country new rights, the women still lacked the chief rights of citizens, and in the interests of justice as well as the advantage of the whole country it was desirable that this disability should be removed. The promised Bill will be introduced some time in March. "English Ministers please copy," seems the appropriate comment.

Italy.

The proposal to introduce so-called universal suffrage, i.e., complete manhood suffrage with the abolition of the education test which has hitherto been obligatory, naturally arouses great indignation among Italian suffragists, and if it should be carried would give a strong impetus to the movement which is growing fast.

Quo Vadis?

A mass meeting has just been held in Birmingham under the auspices of the National Society of Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics, "to consider the unhealthy character of brass polishing generally, with a view to securing substantial advances in wages, and to adopt a resolution asking the Home Secretary to grant a public enquiry, with a view to preventing women continuing to be employed in this dirty and unwholesome trade, and to ask that it might be scheduled under the Factory Acts as an unhealthy occupation." The chairman said what they asked for were "better conditions, higher wages, and the abolition of female labour." "Not long ago," he continued, "some firms discharged the whole of the women polishers in their shops," a statement which was greeted with applause. He did not go on to say what had become of the women so discharged. Others speakers referred in affecting language to the bad conditions existing in the trade, to the prevalence

To Thinking Women

The Parliamentary Session which began on Wednesday promises developments of national importance to the interests of women.

In such circumstances the thinking women of Britain naturally look to their own organ—to "Woman's Platform"—for guidance. And this has not been lacking. Beginning with its issue of February 5th, "WOMAN'S PLATFORM" in

THE STANDARD

has been publishing a series of pronouncements on the crisis in the Woman Suffrage Movement from the recognised women leaders of the day.

When it is mentioned that these messages include statements from Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Mrs. Humphry Ward, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Gladys Pott, Mrs. Despard, Miss Violet Markham, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Selborne, Mrs. Frederic Harrison, etc., it will be seen at once that no thinking woman in the country can afford to miss them.

Order "THE STANDARD" to-day, and tell your News-agent that you will require "THE STANDARD" EVERY DAY, for its NEWS FOR THINKING WOMEN IN "WOMAN'S PLATFORM."

of consumption, and the dirt and dust which were degrading to women. "They were determined to have cleaner shops and healthier conditions," they said, but they were equally determined that no women should remain in the trade to benefit by these advantages. The Secretary of the Society declared that "they were not against women working in fair competition with men; yet he proposed to work for an advance in men's wages, and instead of advancing the women's to exclude them altogether. Women he declared were being paid half the wages men would receive for the same work; yet no one suggested that the obvious and just means to bring women into that "fair competition with men," to which they said they had no objection, would be to equalise their wages

GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Every Evening at 7.30. Matinee Saturday at 2 o'clock.

MISS DARRAGH'S SEASON,
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
Preceded by "ALIAS MRS. FAIRFAX."
Feb. 19. "THE FOUNTAIN." By Geo. Calderon.
Preceded by "SUSANNEN'S GEHEIMNIS"
(Susanne's Secret).
Intermezzo in One Act by E. Wolf-Ferrari.



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IN SOAP.**

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with those of men. "There were plenty of occupations which women could follow," he said; unfortunately, most of these have the same disadvantage as the metal trades, namely, that the women in them receive only half and often less than half the wages paid to men. This fact, however, all the speakers ignored. The Secretary was sure that if an enquiry was ordered he could bring evidence to prove that Brass Polishing was "a shameful traffic." Now suffragists have in their minds another trade "degrading to women," "an unhealthy occupation," "a shameful traffic," against which no mass meetings are held, to prevent which no adequate legislation is engineered, and towards which women are almost irresistibly driven as trade after trade is closed against them by men with whom they are in competition, who alone elect that tribunal (of men) on which they are not represented, and who have absolute power to deprive them of one method of earning an honest livelihood after another, without their consent.

"The women must be protected because they are the mothers," declaimed a speaker at the Metal Workers' meeting; protected from working under bad conditions which they declared they were going to improve, but not protected, it seems, from unfair wages, from starvation and loss of work, from being driven in ever-increasing numbers into the overcrowded sweated trades, from selling themselves into slavery that they may live.

Towards the end of the meeting the heartless pretence of a sham chivalry was abandoned and the real motive of the resolution openly avowed, "They did not disguise that while they did not want women to be employed in such an industry, they also wanted women out of the trade in order that men's wages might be increased, that they might be rid of unfair competition, and that employment might be more regular." (Applause.) Oh, the protecting chivalry of the men of the "weaker" and voteless sex! Did the echoes of that applause reach the ears of the women working at the pit brow with the cold fear at their hearts that at any time it may be proved that their work "might prove injurious" to them, and that therefore they must go? Go whither? F. C. RING.

Letters to the Editor

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

Correspondents are requested to write on ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY.

POLICY.
In view of the attitude of the militant party towards the Government's Reform Bill, would you grant me the courtesy of your columns to ask them three questions?
1st.—Do they wish to carry women's suffrage against the wish of the majority of the people's representatives? and, if not, why do they object to the Government leaving it to the House of Commons to decide?
2nd.—If they do object to the House of Commons deciding, how can they claim to be democratic?
3rd.—The majority of the Conservative Party, leaders and rank and file, being opposed to women's suffrage (as shown by the rejection of the Conciliation Bill at the annual conference), how can women's suffrage be helped by breaking up a Government the majority of whose members are in favour of it, and who are pledged, if the House of Commons passes it, to defend it as an integral part of their Bill? DAVID A. PEAT.
3, George Place, Ashton, 5th February, 1912.

Forthcoming Meetings

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.
(The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

- FEBRUARY 15.
Lancaster—Friends' Hall, Fenton Street—White Elephant Tea 3-4
- Shotley Bridge—Miss Walton Wilson's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Abbott 2.45
- Consett—Swainston's Café—Mrs. Abbott 7.0
- Sunderland—St. George's Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden, R. A. Bartram, Esq. (chair) 7.30
- Llandudno—Town Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden, E. E. Bone, Esq. (chair) 8.0
- Knutsford—King's Coffee House—Mrs. Annot Robinson 8.0
- Camberley and District—The Rectory, Frimley—Annual meeting 3.0
- Monkwearmouth—The Rectory—Mrs. Brown's drawing-room meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden 3.0
- Birmingham—The Lea, Harborne—Mrs. Godlee's drawing-room meeting 3.0
- Marlow—Mrs. Tindell's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Robie Unmack 3.0
- Bedford—14, The Crescent—Social evening, music, etc. 8.0
- Keswick—Town Hall—Miss M. Norma-Smith, Miss Newling, Mrs. Slack (chair) 8.0
- Tunbridge Wells—Mrs. White's "At Home" 2.30

- Newport, Salop—Town Hall—Miss W. Elkin, Miss Eva Ward, J. Collins, Esq., J.P. (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 16.
Gateshead—Mrs. Spence Watson's drawing-room meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden 3.0
- Huddersfield—Town Hall reception—Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Siddon (chair) 7.30
- Letchworth—Paxmore Institute—concert and dramatic performance (A.P.L.) 8.0
- Worthing—The Literary Institute—"Middle Class Women"—Councillor Margaret Ashton, Councillor Ellen Chapman (chair) 8.15
- Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, The Avenue—"At Home" 4.6
- Bath—Post Office Chambers, Northgate Street—"The Vote as it affects Wages"—Miss Williams 4.0
- Oxford—Osney Parish Room—Miss Helga Gill, A. D. Lindsay, Esq. 8.0
- LONDON.
FEBRUARY 15.
Central and S. Hackney—St. Augustine's Hall, Victoria Park Road—Committee "At Home" 8.0
- Southwark—Marshalsea Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Dawson 8.0
- Windsor—Clever Hall—H. Baillie Weaver, Esq. Highgate—3, Holy Terrace—Suffrage song practice conducted by Mr. A. J. Hadrill, F.R.C.O. 3.30
- E. Molesey—Conservative Hall—Rev. C. Hinseliffe, Mrs. Stanbury—Miss M. Martineau (chair) 8.0
- Fulham—The Medical Institute, 247, Lillie Road—Women's Co-operative Guild—Miss Goddard 8.0
- FEBRUARY 16.
Lambeth—Free Church Schoolroom, Paradise Road, Clapham Road—Mrs. Rogers 8.30
- FEBRUARY 19.
Melton Mowbray—Mrs. Atter's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Renton 3.30
- Colwyn Bay—Café Royal—annual business meeting 7.30. Address by Miss Lamport
- Aldershot—West End Girls' School—Miss Frances Sterling, Colonel Kensington, Sir Wm. Chance, Bart. (chair) 8.0
- Gateshead-on-Tyne—Mrs. Warden's drawing-room meeting—Miss Foley 7.30
- Middlesbrough—Mrs. Pentony's meeting—"Women's Suffrage and the present political situation." Mrs. Rackham, Miss Purvis (chair) 8.0
- Nottingham—Office, 54, Long Row—"At Home"—The Temperance Aspect—Mrs. W. B. Hamilton 7.30
- Threlkeld—Miss Norma Smith, Miss Sidney Knight, Dr. Goodchild (chair) 7.0
- FEBRUARY 20.
Southport—Town Hall—Lecture, "Joan of Arc"—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0
- York—Mrs. Wilkinson's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Rackham 3.0
- Bristol—111a, Whiteladies Road—Lecture, "Unjust Laws"—Miss J. M. Baretti 3.0
- South Shields—Victoria Hall—Miss C. M. Gordon Gateshead-on-Tyne—Mr. and Miss Temperley's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. G. D. Bittliffe 7.30
- Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Choir practice Grimsby—Primitive Methodist Schoolroom—Mrs. Rackham, Miss Hicks (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 21.
Thetford—Public Hall—Mrs. Heitland, Mr. Mirclees, Mrs. Rackham 8.0
- Bath—Post Office Chambers, Northgate Street—"The Albert Hall Demonstration"—Miss Wheelwright, Miss Johnson 4.0
- Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, The Avenue—"At Home" 4.6
- Letchworth—Howard Hall—"The Sex War"—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A. 8.0
- Portsmouth—Ashburton Road Schools—E. Davison, Esq., Miss Hattrell (chair) 8.0
- Gateshead-on-Tyne—Mrs. Armstrong's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. G. D. Bittliffe 7.30
- Sutton Coldfield—Town Hall—"at Home"—Lady Isabel Margesson, Councillor E. Rathbone 8.0
- FEBRUARY 22.
Leamington—Town Hall—"A Reply to the Antis"—Mrs. Cecil Chapman, J. Cameron Grant, Esq., Lady Willoughby de Broke (chair) 8.0
- Accorington—Town Hall—Miss Ashton, The Lady Beatrice Kemp, Professor de Sumichrast 8.0
- Oxford—Mrs. Geldart's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Helga Gill 3.0
- Central Sussex—Station Hall, Burgess Hill—"Why Women Want the Vote"—Mrs. Dempster, Miss Chute Ellis (chair) 3.0
- Hayward's Heath—Liberal Club—Debate on Government Reform Bill—Mr. Eric Stevens, Miss Spooner 8.0
- Bath—Mrs. H. H. Johnston's drawing-room meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden 3.30
- Bath—Assembly Rooms—Men's meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden, Mr. W. G. H. Cross, The Archdeacon of Bath (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 26.
Birkenhead—Neston Town Hall—Joint meeting with C.U.W.F.A.—Mrs. Scoonesby Routledge, M.A., Mrs. Duckworth, A. K. Bulley, Esq., Lady Norman Hill (chair) 8.0
- Stevenson—"The Chestnuts"—Miss Susan A. Villiers 8.0
- Eccles—Morton St. Andrew's School—"The Church League for Women's Suffrage"—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0
- Nottingham—Office, 54, Long Row—"At Home"—"Madam Roland"—Mrs. Hickling 7.30
- FEBRUARY 27.
Peterborough—The Grand Assembly Rooms—Mrs. Fawcett, Miss I. O. Ford, The Dean of Peterborough (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 28.
Camberley—Drill Hall—Sweated Industries Exhibition, 2.30. Speeches—Miss A. Maude Royden, J. Cameron Grant, Esq. 3.0

- Camberley—Drill Hall—Lantern Lecture on Sweated Industries—J. J. Mallon, Esq., Mrs. Basset (chair) 8.0
- Portsmouth—Drayton Road Schools—Rev. E. F. Piggott, Mrs. Laphorn (chair) 8.0
- Worthing—31, Warwick Street—Miss Carr's and Miss Pender's "At Home"—Shop Assistants and Sweating—Miss Nicholas 4.0
- Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, The Avenue—"At Home" 4.6
- Bath—Post Office Chambers, Northgate Street—"The Vote as it affects Wages"—Miss Williams 4.0
- Oxford—Osney Parish Room—Miss Helga Gill, A. D. Lindsay, Esq. 8.0

LONDON.

- FEBRUARY 15.
Central and S. Hackney—St. Augustine's Hall, Victoria Park Road—Committee "At Home" 8.0
- Southwark—Marshalsea Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Dawson 8.0
- Windsor—Clever Hall—H. Baillie Weaver, Esq. Highgate—3, Holy Terrace—Suffrage song practice conducted by Mr. A. J. Hadrill, F.R.C.O. 3.30
- E. Molesey—Conservative Hall—Rev. C. Hinseliffe, Mrs. Stanbury—Miss M. Martineau (chair) 8.0
- Fulham—The Medical Institute, 247, Lillie Road—Women's Co-operative Guild—Miss Goddard 8.0
- FEBRUARY 16.
Lambeth—Free Church Schoolroom, Paradise Road, Clapham Road—Mrs. Rogers 8.30
- FEBRUARY 19.
Bermondsey—The Triangle, Grange Road—Open-air meeting—Miss H. D. Cooke, Miss Glyn 8.0
- Tower Hamlets—Ratcliff Settlement—"At Home"—Miss Susan Lawrence—Recitation, music 8.0
- Crouch End—Parish Hall, Edison Road—Mrs. Fawcett, Mr. Henry Vivian (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 20.
Kensington—Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel—London Society's reception—The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss H. D. Cooke, Miss Janet Thomson, B.A., Miss Clementina Black (chair) 3.30
- East St. Pancras—89, Camden Road—W.L.A. women's suffrage meeting—Mrs. Rogers 3.30
- FEBRUARY 21.
Lambeth—Bowlwall Road, Lambeth Road—open-air meeting—Mrs. Merivale Mayer 8.0
- Deptford—Hall of Hatcham Liberal Club—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A. 8.30
- FEBRUARY 22.
S. Kensington—Mrs. Egerton Hensley's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A. 3.0
- Penge—Men's Conservative Club, Beckenham Road—W.S. meeting—Miss H. D. Cooke 8.30
- Bermondsey—The Triangle, Grange Road—Miss Dawson, Miss Goddard 8.0
- FEBRUARY 25.
Holloway—Ethical Society—Miss Ruth Young evening 8.0
- FEBRUARY 26.
Tower Hamlets—Ratcliff Settlement—"At Home"—Miss Ruth Young, Mr. Urwick (chair) 8.0
- FEBRUARY 27.
Kensington—Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel—London Society's "At Home"—Miss K. D. Courtney, Mrs. Hartley, Miss G. Dykes Spicer, Miss Helen Ward (chair) 3.30
- Southwark—"Sons of Temperance" Hall, Blackfriars Road—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., S. Pascall, Esq. evening 8.15
- Ealing—37, Uxbridge Road—Mrs. Debar's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Stanbury 8.0

SCOTLAND.

- FEBRUARY 16.
Glasgow—Office, 202, Hope Street—Mrs. Hunter's "At Home" 4.0
- FEBRUARY 17.
Dunbar—Miss Aspinwall's drawing-room meeting—Dr. Inglis 5.0

- FEBRUARY 19.
Dundee—Office, 12, Meadowside—"At Home"—Miss Sheard 3.30
- FEBRUARY 21.
Stirling—Y.M.C.A. Hall—Miss Cotterill 3.0
- Perth—Mrs. Roy's drawing-room meeting—Miss Miss Beauchamp 3.0
- FEBRUARY 23.
Glasgow—Office, 202, Hope Street—"The Insurance Bill"—Miss Dalziel 4.0

IRELAND.

- FEBRUARY 23.
Dublin—23, Molesworth Street—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—"Some Conditions of a Possible Utopia"—T. J. Haslam, Esq. 8.0

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

- FEBRUARY 15.
Leeds—Central Liberal Club, Quebec Street—League of Young Liberals—Mrs. Renton 8.0
- FEBRUARY 16.
Oldham—Lyceum—Class Teachers' Association—Dr. Olive Clayton 8.0
- Bedford—Co-operative Buildings, Midland Road—Co-operative Guild—Miss M. Fielden 7.15
- FEBRUARY 18.
Birmingham—Bristol Street A.B.C. School—Mrs. Ring 3.0
- FEBRUARY 19.
Birmingham—Tyburn—Mrs. Watson's Women's meeting—Mrs. Ring 3.30
- FEBRUARY 20.
Birmingham—Digbeth Institute—Men's Liberal Association—Mrs. Osler 8.30
- Oldham—Queen Street Literary Society—Miss Healey, L.L.A. 7.45
- FEBRUARY 31.
Peterborough—Co-operative Hall—Women's Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Renton, Miss I. S. A. Beaver 7.30
- Bristol—16, Brunswick Square—League of Young Liberals—Debate—W. C. H. Cross, Esq., L.L.B. v. H. Trapnell, Esq., L.L.B. 8.0
- FEBRUARY 22.
Bristol—Memorial Hall, Clifton—West Bristol Liberals—Miss J. M. Baretti 8.0

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