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The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage Societies.

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OCTOBER 19, 1911.

ONE PENNY.

Notes and Comments.

Fighting it Through.

It was not perhaps the moment most likely to find Mr. Lloyd George in an accommodating or sympathetic mood, when he must have been exhausted by his great effort in speaking for two hours and eighteen minutes on the Insurance Bill, and his reply on Saturday last, to the gentlemen who have so often heckled and interrupted him, was marked with considerable tartness. He had said, of the Insurance Bill, that he would "fight it through or fall." He said to the deputation that the Insurance Bill would have "an infinitely better chance of passing into law if women had the franchise," and one cannot but feel, sadly enough, that if only Mr. George had said a year ago that he would "fight through a Women's Suffrage Bill or fall"—why, he would have been able to have practical demonstration of women's opinion of the Insurance Bill.

Raising a Laugh.

Mr. George raised the kind of laugh that always comes from a friendly audience when the speaker makes a statement in a certain tone of voice, and when he remarked that women were "better off" under the Insurance Bill than men, and added, "I have been trying to persuade them, but you know that is an impossible task," he got the laugh he was bidding for. But how are we to reconcile this remark with that other, quoted in our first paragraph? He said men were to pay 4d. and women only 3d., while the State paid 2d.

for each; but he did not state that it is only for wages over 2s. 6d. a day that men had to pay 4d., and when they get 2s. 6d. or less, men pay the same as women, but the employer has to pay more for men.

He raised another laugh when he spoke of the opponents of the Bill who "approved the principle." We know that kind of opponent, too, but we have had him so long with us that we find it hard to laugh any more.

Mr. George suggested that the Government may admit women earning under 9s. a week to benefit without contribution.

Liberals and the Conciliation Bill.

The growing support for the Bill among party men and women is of very happy augury. Last week the General Council of the Scottish Liberal Association and the Carlisle Liberal Association; this week the Executive of the Women's Liberal Federation and the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of W.L.A.s.

Educated Women and the Bill.

Further support that is well worth having comes from the London Graduates' Union, and we should like to call special attention to the altruism of these women, for they are supporting a Bill which has cut out of the category of voters these very women, who have earned the vote by their study and acquirement of learning. It is good also to hear of the N.U.T. being well on the way with the resolution for their next Council meeting. We confidently hope many towns will follow Cardiff.



Photo. F. A. Swaine, 106, New Bond Street.

MRS. AUERBACH,

Hon. Treasurer of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Dependents.

We have been reading one of those sad human documents which give the lists of persons applying for some dole or pension, and relate their pathetic qualifications for our sympathy. The Governesses' Benevolent Institution has 201 applications, and has 13 annuities to give. To one point we particularly wish to draw attention, and that is that out of 201, there are 141 of whom it is written that they helped their families in some way or other. "Helped her orphan nephews and nieces," "supported her widowed mother," "helped to educate her younger brothers and sisters," "entirely supported an invalid sister." These and phrases like them occur with mournful reiteration, and are constantly given as the reason why, out of a woman's small salary, these ladies could not save, and are now past work and destitute. Is it not time we left off saying women have smaller salaries because they have "no family dependent on them"?

California Enfranchises Women.

One reads with some trepidation the news cabled from San Francisco, because lately the referendum has given such startlingly variable results from day to day. But we are assured the vote is won for women in California, and if so it is the most important victory women have yet had in America and will probably—as victories do—bring others. Six stars now in the women's flag! It must come quite expensive to flag-makers to add them so fast!

The New Industrial Council.

In the new Council set up by the Board of Trade to prevent strikes, several trades in which women work in large numbers are represented, but by men. Sir Charles Macara for cotton spinners, Mr. R. Thompson, M.P., for the Ulster flax spinners, Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., for the printers, and Mr. W. Mullin for textile workers. We hope they will "remember the women," and by that we mean remember to ask the women what they want.

Still Thinking of Eve.

Some of the Scottish opponents of pitbrow women pointed out how much more suitable it was for women to pick fruit (were they still thinking of Eve?) rather than screen coal. Now there comes from Norfolk a lurid description of the wicked conditions under which women pick fruit. Now there is nothing inherently wicked in the natural products of the earth, whether above it or below it, and we do wish that philanthropists would devote themselves to securing good conditions and good pay instead of prohibiting employments when their quite remediable conditions are bad.

The Glory of Motherhood.

The Bishop of London has been preaching about the glory of motherhood. It is a curious fact that here in England we only talk about the glory of motherhood while the husband is alive. As soon as he dies, the first thing we do—government and philanthropist alike—is to take all her children away from the widow and put them under Poor Law Guardians or in institutions. When a woman has lost her stay and support, her dearest, for whom she has abandoned father and mother, we comfort her sad heart by depriving her also of his children and sending her out to earn her own wretched, lonely pittance. Last week in the High Court, Mary Kenealy made a pathetic protest against her daughter being sent to Canada by the Guardians, and the two clung sobbing together in court "until removed." Not unmeaning is the conjunction of words in the Litany, "fatherless children and widows and all that are desolate and oppressed."

Mrs. Fawcett's Literary Work.

Messrs. Jack, of Edinburgh, will shortly publish a little book by Mrs. Fawcett on Women's Suffrage in the United Kingdom. Mrs. Fawcett is also revising her primer on Political Economy, which has introduced so many students to what used to be called "the dry science." Many a schoolgirl has not found it dry when initiated by Mrs. Fawcett.

Church Congress.

The Church Congress at Stoke seems to have been rather a dull affair, but the question of Women's Suffrage at least was well and persistently set forward. It was a little surprising to hear from the President of the Church League that the Church, as such, has "no particular message" to Suffragists. We should have thought that a body which drew so largely upon women for its revenues, workers, and congregations might have had a message for women now. After all, our cause is the cause of the weak, of those on whom the world bears most hardly, and who are least able to defend themselves; a cause, too, whose upholders have been ridiculed, scorned, vilified, misjudged. Is it not for such as these that the Church of Christ should have "a special message"?

Death of Two Friends.

Suffragists have lost two life-long supporters of their cause in Mr. E. H. Pickersgill, late Member for S.W. Bethnal Green, and in Sir W. J. Crossley, late Member for Altrincham. In both these gentlemen the warmth of their desire for public service was the measure of their desire for women's enfranchisement.

Women Candidates.

From Carlisle we hear that two women are standing for election to the Town Council. Mrs. Buchanan, chairman of the local suffrage society, and Miss M. H. Matravers, a former member of its executive. It would be interesting to know the views of all the women engaged in local government, and we think the result would perhaps surprise some simple folk who accept the calm assumption by the antis that they have a kind of essential connection with local government which is denied to suffragists.

George Meredith's Letters.

We are immensely interested to hear that letters by George Meredith are to be published, and that Lord Morley (the subject of a noble sonnet) is engaged in writing notes to them.

Death of a Distinguished Portuguese Lady.

Our readers will remember that Donna Carolina Beatriz Angelo, last year, made a determined stand upon the right of the head of the house to vote, whether the head were a man or a woman, and she carried her point and was the first woman to vote in Portugal. She was a woman distinguished in medicine and fervent for all liberty and progress, and her untimely death is a grave loss.

Our Portrait.

This week we give a portrait of the popular Hon. Treasurer of the National Union, Mrs. Auerbach, who, besides being Hon. Treasurer of the Union, does an immense amount for her own Society (Reigate) and Federation (Surrey, Sussex and Haats.).

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

An anti-suffragist was asked in a public debate the other day—"What is the use and value of the vote to men?"

He replied—"It enables a man to choose the Government

FOR WHICH WE WILL HAVE TO FIGHT."

Is this true?

Is the average voter called upon to bear arms for his country?

No! Fighting is a specialised and

PAID PROFESSION

which no Briton need enter unless he desires to do so. We have not universal service (and we have now no press gang!)

Is the Government then chosen by that body of men who are paid to be prepared to fight for it, if need be?

No! Far from the vote being given

TO SOLDIERS ONLY.

Soldiers, as a rule, *have no votes*. Living in barracks and frequently moving about they are *unable to qualify*. So the two-fold absurdity of our opponent's reply is revealed, and we find that

(1) The men who choose the Government do not have to fight for it.

(2) The men who fight have no share in choosing the Government.

"But," our opponents might add, "in a

LAST RESORT

all men would be called out—to defend their country." An exception would always have to be made for the

AGED, CRIPPLED AND INVALID.

Yet they are not disqualified from voting. Moreover, in that scarcely imaginable emergency which would call out *all* the able-bodied men, would the women take *no* part? Let the anti-suffragists read the story of any siege in the history of the world. They will find the women fighting and dying beside the men. Were there no bodies of

BOER WOMEN

found in the trenches?

Women, as a rule, take no share (except that of mending what the men break, and alleviating the suffering they cause) in active warfare because the State recognises that their lives are, speaking broadly, of more value to the State than those of men. For they are the

MOTHERS.

Without them we should have no nation. Moreover, death takes toll of them in their task of *creating humanity* just as it takes toll

of men in their task of *destroying humanity*. In the four years of the South African war we lost, by wounds or disease, 20,000 men—a heavy enough death-roll! But, in those same four years, at home, we lost, in child-birth, 23,000 *women*.

If then we are to compare the service rendered to the State by men and women, we must admit that the women's part is more universal, more dangerous, and at least as valuable.

To return to our question—"What is the use and value of the vote to men?"

It does not enable a man to choose the Government for which he will have to fight, but it *does* enable him to choose the Government

FOR WHICH HE WILL HAVE TO PAY.

In time of war he is not called upon to enter the battlefield, but he *is* called upon to *pay the bill*.

Why, then, did the anti-suffragist not make this reply?

Because it would have entirely given his case away, seeing that

WOMEN, TOO, PAY,

and in exactly the same proportion as men. Women are taxed like men, and women have to pay for all the men's blunders.

They are paying to-day for the South African war. They are paying for the PRISONS, LUNATIC ASYLUMS AND WORKHOUSES,

which are the outcome of intolerable social conditions which women have little power to touch. They are paying the

SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for whom they are not allowed to vote.

They are taxed without representation. They are governed without their consent. They want the vote that they may have *power to alter social conditions*, to fight poverty, vice, misery, disease and death. (Infant mortality is one of your most pressing problems—and you shut the women out of its consideration!) They want the vote for a *protection* against unjust social and industrial legislation. They want the vote for a recognition of their *honourable citizenship*.

This is why women want the vote and

THIS

is "the use and value of the vote to men."

THE WEEK'S MOTTO.

"Those to whom the miseries of the world Are misery, and will not let them rest."
—KEATS.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

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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 possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 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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Mr. Lloyd George and a Larger Scheme.

Before our next issue appears, Parliament will have assembled again for the autumn session, and it is well known that the Insurance Bill is the object of such a session. The disturbed condition of European politics and of industry at home will, however, furnish considerable matter for discussion, and every such subject touches women as vitally as men. In the report of what Mr. Lloyd George said on Saturday to the deputation from the Men's Political Union, he is stated to have acknowledged the even paramount interest of women in the Insurance Bill. "He would like," he said, "to see the women of the country have the vote, for the reason that the Insurance Bill would have an infinitely better chance of passing into law if they had the franchise, as that measure affected them so much more intimately than the men of the country." We have always maintained that the Insurance Bill will touch women much more closely than men; the payments will, one way or another, be generally most felt by the women (whether in actual contributions, in less "spending money" from husbands, or in raised prices), and most people admit that women get far less than men from the Bill as it stands; as the "Nation" puts it, in an article this week:—"Servants, clerks, shop assistants, governesses, and all people earning fixed salaries, which continue during short periods of illness, gain less than the mass of organised workers on weekly wages. Considerable bodies of women will gain comparatively little."

Of course, it is quite possible that, out of their regard for men, women would sacrifice their own interests and vote for a measure which leaves women so much out, as far as benefits are concerned, yet taxes them with the rest of the community, and Mr. Lloyd George says he thinks they would. It would then have been better business to enfranchise women last year, even regarding the measure only as a Bill to be passed; but when we regard it as an Act to be worked, the reasons for getting on your side the very people of whom you are asking a great sacrifice are far greater and deeper. For, though the doctors and friendly societies and trade unions are emphatically worth propitiating, so, no less,

are the women. It is one thing to sacrifice willingly, with open eyes, knowing what you do, and another to have your sacrifice forced from you by superior power, and this, be it noted, a power which actually admits that you were entitled to be asked for your consent. A considerable number of men are complaining that neither have they been asked, but the remedy is in their hands if they care to use it.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald declared last week that the Labour party was prepared to vote for the Bill if some of their main requirements were accepted, and Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P., at the meeting of the North Staffordshire Trades and Labour Council at Stoke, on October 11, mentioned among the demands of the Labour Party that "women insured before marriage should be continued on special terms, and women generally should have more advantages under the Bill." This is vague, and we shall watch with interest to see what amendments the Labour party insists upon in the interests of women.

The remark we have quoted above about the Insurance Bill was part of a statement in which Mr. Lloyd George said he "would work for the larger scheme (of suffrage) until he was convinced it could not be carried in this country," and later on he is reported to have said that the supporters of the Conciliation Bill would "turn round and call us traitors if we succeed in getting the larger Bill through." Herein Mr. Lloyd George shows a most interesting remoteness from actuality, an ignorance of affairs that is startling. He talks of his resolve to continue working for a "larger scheme," but the country at large would be puzzled to say when, where, and how Mr. Lloyd George "works" for women's suffrage. His beneficent deeds are done in secret and alone, so much alone indeed that he knows not what his fellow suffragists do, say, or think. One would suppose, to hear his phrase, "if we succeed in getting the larger Bill through," that Mr. Lloyd George and a powerful majority in the Government had addressed masses of converted meetings upon adult suffrage, and had introduced in the House of Commons a "larger Bill," which the imbecile suffragists had wrecked! The fact is, Mr. Lloyd George is rarely so eloquent in advocating a wider franchise as he is in denouncing a more moderate instalment.

When he came to mention the sort of franchise which he favoured he said some curious things. He said he wished it to be given "as it had been given in New Zealand and Australia"; but there it is "on the same terms as men." He went on to say "he was not aware of any civilised country where anything like the Conciliation Bill had been carried"; but really, does Mr. Lloyd George know of any "civilised" country which has enfranchised its men as England has done? As a matter of fact, in Norway something analogous obtains, where all adult men have the vote, and only all tax-paying women. We do not say this is ideal; we say it is a step which the majority of Englishmen and their representatives in Parliament are prepared for. Meanwhile, the amendment which Mr. Lloyd George is said to favour is one to give women the vote on their husbands' qualifications; does Mr. Lloyd George know of any European country which has done this?

Mr. Lloyd George says he will work for a wider measure. When is he going to begin? Lest we should be accused of using language of harshness "unbecoming in a female," we will conclude with some words spoken by Mr. Lloyd George in 1885, and quoted by Mr. Snowden with much relish in the "Christian Commonwealth" of October 4:—"Whatever may be said about the ultimate aim of the Irish party, there can be no two opinions about the success of their Parliamentary tactics. That is the policy for us. I do not believe in the long run it pays us to send our representatives crawling up the backstairs of the Government offices in Westminster to fall on their knees before every scribbler there who draws his pay from the public purse in order to beseech as alms for concessions which we ought to demand as our right. As a Welshman, I protest against my fellow countrymen merely picking up the crumbs that fall from the Government tables,

when they have a right to partake of the feast; hanging about the gate to snap the leavings of the banquetting hall may be good enough for dogs, but it is the privilege of free men to enjoy a seat at the board."

And we—do we not wish to be "Mothers of the brave and free"?

The Laws of Inheritance of Married Persons.

With some exceptions, conditioned by old customs in certain localities, the laws of inheritance are the same over England and Wales. Those of Scotland are radically different, not so much in cases of intestacy, as with regard to the right of a man or woman to will away his or her property from the surviving spouse and children. The remarks below refer to England, Wales, and Scotland, except when otherwise stated.

Before setting forth the legal details, it is necessary to be clear on two points, namely:—

1. Property is divided into two classes, which are subject to quite different laws. These are:

(a) Landed property, including certain securities in land. In the majority of cases, with respect to this type of property, the rights of males are preferred to those of females; and

(b) Personal or movable property, which includes everything not comprised in "land"—that is to say, furniture, money, stocks, shares, etc. With certain very important exceptions—notably that a father is almost always preferred to a mother—males and females are treated equally with respect to this type of property.

2. The second point which must be borne in mind is, that every distribution of the property of a deceased person detailed below, is conditioned by any or all of the following types of contract where such exist:—

- (a) Ante-nuptial contracts of marriage.
- (b) The conditions of the entail of the land in question; and
- (c) Deeds or contracts entered into by the deceased during his or her lifetime.

The distributions of property given below are subject to further variations if either the husband or the wife marry twice, and they are subject to considerable modifications with regard to women who married before the passing of the Married Women's Property Acts (English law 1882, Scots law 1881).

I.—Where the deceased has left no will, intestacy.

The following general rules regulate the distribution of the property of an intestate:—

- (a) A widow, whose husband leaves neither

children nor grandchildren, has the right to £500 out of her husband's estate, in addition to certain amounts from his landed and from his personal property. This right, enjoyed under English law since 1890, was given to widows under Scots law in the last session of Parliament, 1911.

(b) Landed Property.—A widow, or widower, receives a certain revenue from the land of a deceased spouse, but the land itself goes, in most cases, subject to this burden, to one individual, who is called the heir. Where the deceased leaves sons, the eldest is the heir; where the deceased leaves daughters, and no sons, the land is divided between them as co-heiresses.

By English law, failing descendants, the land would go to the father and his relatives; all his relatives must fail before it would pass to the mother, or any of her relatives.

By Scots law, failing descendants, the land goes to the father's relatives, and, failing them, to the Crown; land may, failing sons and their issue, go to daughters and their issue, but it may never ascend to a mother; nor, through her, to any of her relatives. For example, if a Scotswoman had two sons, half-brothers, the elder of whom had inherited land from her, on his death it would pass not to her other son, but to some relative of the first son's father, and, failing relatives of the first son's father, to the Crown.

(c) Personal or Movable Property.—The general rule is—there are important exceptions—that personal property goes to the individual who is next of kin to the deceased, or, if there are several individuals who are next of kin—that is in the nearest degree of relationship—the personal property is equally divided amongst them, whether they be males or females. This rule is generally applicable in cases of property descending, but in cases of property ascending, the exceptions come more into practice than the rule. For example, by English law a mother is taken to be in the second degree of relationship instead of the first, when it is a case of property going to herself; and, by Scots law, a mother is not considered to be a relative of any degree at all, in that personal property cannot ascend through her to her relations, although a special law of 1855 conferred on herself the right to receive a part of her deceased child's property in certain cases.

The following schedules give the distribution of property in a selected number of average cases. The brothers and sisters referred to are full brothers and sisters, other cases being too elaborate to state, and the children referred to are legitimate.

SCHEDULE A.

INHERITANCE AS BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE, WHERE THERE IS NO WILL. BOTH ENGLISH AND SCOTS LAW.			
HUSBAND DIES LEAVING WIFE AND CHILDREN OR GRAND-CHILDREN.	WIFE DIES LEAVING HUSBAND, CHILDREN OR GRAND-CHILDREN.	HUSBAND DIES LEAVING WIFE, BUT NO CHILDREN OR GRAND-CHILDREN.	WIFE DIES LEAVING HUSBAND, BUT NO CHILDREN OR GRAND-CHILDREN.
WIFE GETS— (1) One-third income of husband's land, during her life, and (2) One-third of husband's personal property.	HUSBAND GETS— (1) Whole income during his life of wife's land if she has inherited that land and if they have had a living child, and (2) Whole of wife's personal property (English law), or (2) One-third of wife's personal property (Scots law).	WIFE GETS— *(1) £500 taken proportionally from her husband's land and personal property. If he leaves less than £500 altogether, she gets his whole property. (2) One-third of the income of the remainder of her husband's land, during her life, and (3) One-half the remainder of her husband's personal property.	HUSBAND GETS— (1) The whole of the income during his life of his wife's land if she inherited the land, and if they have ever had a living child, and (2) The whole of his wife's personal property (English law). Or (2) The half of his wife's personal property (Scots law).
* With the omission of this item and the "English Law" items Schedule A becomes a complete statement of the proportions of a husband's or wife's property which, by Scots law, is allocated to the survivor, that is to say, it sets forth the proportion of the property of a husband or wife which they have not the power to dispose of by will. † and * With the omission of these two items and the "English Law" items, the Schedule becomes a complete statement of the proportion of the property of the guilty spouse handed over by Scots Law to the innocent spouse, in cases of divorce.			

SCHEDULE B.

INHERITANCE FROM CHILDREN TO PARENTS, WHERE THERE IS NO WILL, BOTH ENGLISH AND SCOTS LAW.		
This Schedule shows how property ascends, and applies only to cases where the deceased person leaves no descendants. If the deceased person leaves a widow or widower such widow or widower takes his or her share of the property as per Schedule A, and what remains is dealt with according to this Schedule B.		
	ENGLISH LAW.	SCOTS LAW.
A child dies leaving a father, a mother, brothers and sisters; or A child dies leaving a father, brothers and sisters, but no mother.	Father gets (1) All the land. (2) All the personal property. Mother gets nothing.	Father gets half the personal property. Mother gets nothing. One brother gets all the land. Brothers and sisters get half personal property.
A child dies leaving a mother, brothers and sisters, but no father.	The mother, brothers and sisters share the personal property equally among them. One brother gets all the land.	The mother gets one-third of the personal property. One brother gets all the land. Brothers and sisters get two-thirds personal property.
Child dies leaving father and mother, but no brothers, sisters, nephews or nieces; or Child dies leaving father, but no mother, brothers, sisters, nephews or nieces.	Father gets (1) All the land. (2) All the personal property. Mother gets nothing.	Father gets (1) All the land. (2) All the personal property. Mother gets nothing.
Child dies leaving mother, but no father, brothers, sisters, nephews or nieces.	Mother gets all the personal property. A paternal relative gets all the land.	Mother gets one-third of the personal property. A paternal relative gets all the land. Paternal relatives get two-thirds of the personal property.
Child dies leaving four grandparents, but no other relatives.	Paternal grandfather gets all the land. The four grandparents share the personal property.	Paternal grandfather gets— (1) All the land. and (2) All the personal property.

II.—Where there is a Will.

The English law, in this case, is simple. Any person, man or woman, may will all his property as he sees fit. A man has the absolute right to disinherit his wife, children, and other relatives, and a woman has the corresponding right to disinherit her husband and other relatives.

Scots law, on the other hand, gives to a surviving spouse and children an absolute legal claim to a large proportion of the property of the deceased spouse, or parent. The maker of a will—man or woman—can dispose of that portion of his land or personal property only which is not by law allocated to the surviving spouse and children. Schedule A above, with the omission of the item marked (*) and the English law items, is a complete statement of the proportions of the property of a man or woman which, by Scots law, is bound to go to the widow or widower and cannot be willed away. In cases of divorce, too, according to Scots law, the innocent spouse receives from the property of the guilty spouse almost the same proportion as if the guilty spouse had died. See Schedule A, note †.

General Remarks.

The right to make a will, however, is conditioned by the rights in property during life, and, in this respect, the Scotswoman is in a very inferior position to her English sister. Under English law, a woman, even if married, can dispose of her property during her lifetime, whether income or capital or earnings, whereas a Scotswoman cannot give, or sell, her capital without her husband's consent. She has the right to use only her earnings and the income of her capital. It is in the power of a Scotsman, by changing his permanent domicile to England, to make both his own and his wife's personal property come under English law, and *vice versa*. Landed property follows the law of the country in which the land is situated. A wife has no corresponding power, because she ranks as of the same country or domicile as her husband. It is well to remember that marriage revokes a will, so that, unless a person has signed a will after marriage, he would rank as an intestate.

CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

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.

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Treasurer's Notes

The Finance Committee is very much obliged to those societies who have sent donations to our central funds, for we fully appreciate the sacrifice that it means to them, and we look upon it as a very substantial proof of the strength of their activity and of the value of their co-operation. Other societies, not in a position

to do as much at present, have held out hopes of being able to raise money by some special effort on our behalf in the near future, and we wish them every success in this undertaking.

If there are any individual members who would like to know in what way they could best help us at the present moment, I would suggest their sending us a donation for the Keighley by-election, which will absorb

as much as we can possibly afford throughout the remainder of this month.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GENERAL FUND.
October 5th to October 12th, 1911.

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Press Department.

Our thanks are due to Miss Marshall and the Press Secretaries for the valuable suggestions forwarded to the Press Committee after the Provincial Council. The discussion on Press work was most helpful, and light was thrown on many points which needed definition and explanation.

We wish to draw attention to the excellent report of a lecture given on Sunday, October 8th, by Mr. Laurence Housman which appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* of October 9th, on "What is womanly?"

The favourable change in the attitude of the provincial Press is becoming very marked. The *Scarborough Evening News* and the *Daily Post* deserve special mention this week for the prominence given to the mass meeting on October 6th.

The action of the *Standard* appears already to be giving a stimulus to the rest of the Press. Conspicuous notice has been given during the last week to the activities of women generally by papers which before appeared comparatively indifferent.

Besides the contributions on the woman's page, much information and some excellent articles bearing on the movement have appeared in other portions of the *Standard*, notably that by Madame Sarah Bernhardt on the "Suffrage and the entente cordiale" on October 10th.

EMILY M. LEAF.

The Common Cause.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS AND SECRETARIES.

In a letter which we are glad to publish in this issue, Miss I. O. Ford again urges on busy people to spare a few minutes in which to send us notices of their intentions. We realise that, more and more in the next five months, much of the work of the Union will be directed to addressing political and other associations at meetings organised by them. We propose, therefore, to have two columns of "Forthcoming Meetings," one of meetings organised by the National Union, and the other of meetings to be addressed by members of the National Union, but not organised by them.

We appeal to everyone to make these as complete as possible, and not to forget (1) date, (2) time, (3) place, (4) name of association. Labour would be saved if correspondents would write the two sorts of meetings on separate sheets of paper. For the present, and simply out of considerations of space, we shall not include "Mothers' Meetings," or any of the many classes and mutual improvement societies where we know much good quiet propaganda is done.

THE MANAGEMENT.

We should like to remind those who are interested in making the paper known that we are glad to receive complaints of anything which goes wrong, provided definite particulars are given. Then the matter can and will be set right, and it is a true kindness to afford the management an opportunity to do this. It is, however, useless to send vague complaints of matters which are weeks or months old. We receive scarcely any definite complaints, and are glad to think the business runs so smoothly, but if there are any to be made, we should like to have them and deal with them as best we can.

We have been obliged to raise the price of odd numbers of Volume 1 to 3d. each (by post 3½d.), on account of their extreme scarcity. There are, however, still a few bound volumes to be had. There are no unbound copies for sale of Nos. 1 to 20.

By-Election.

Keighley.

Candidates (Mr. W. M. Acworth (U.)
Mr. S. Buckmaster, K.C. (L.)
Mr. W. C. Anderson (Lab.)

Liberal unopposed at last election.
COMMITTEE ROOM:—93 Cavendish Street, Keighley.

POLLING DAY.—October 27th.
We are in the full swing of election activity, indeed we seem a great deal more active than the political parties themselves. The committee room is in a prominent position, and is surrounded at most hours by a crowd largely sympathetic. All three candidates have made satisfactory answer to question two, which relates to the Conciliation Bill and wrecking amendments. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Buckmaster have promised to introduce the matter in their election addresses, and to vote against any Bill extending the franchise to men unless it includes the extension of the franchise to women, while Mr. Acworth excludes the question from his address to make room for "questions of more interest to the constituency," and propaganda work has been decided upon.

I have had valuable help from Mr. Cooper in outdoor meetings. The first on Monday in Keighley was favourably mentioned in the *Yorkshire Observer*, and they have given us good notices daily, while our proceedings have also been noted in the *Leeds Mercury*, the *Yorkshire Post*, and the *Keighley News*.

We have had mid-day and evening meetings each day, the week ending with an afternoon meeting at Oakworth House, kindly arranged by Mrs. Alfred Illingworth, and a magnificent open-air meeting on Town Hall Square, where the speakers were Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Cooper, while I acted as chairman. About 1,000 persons were present, and a resolution calling upon the candidates publicly to announce their support of the Conciliation Bill was carried with one dissentient, while others were neutral. There were several amusing sequels to the meeting.

One quite considerable crowd of men gathered round Miss Clarkson, and a soldier wanted to know why women should have a vote when he had not. She found a number of supporters, and finally emerged smiling radiantly at her success. Another woman supporter came to welcome the news which she had read in the local paper, that we were holding a meeting in the village, where for some time she had been flying the flag alone.

Everywhere we are meeting with remarkable sympathy, with a little amiable chaff thrown in. The committee room is under the charge of Mrs. Bauer, hon. secretary of the West Riding Federation, with local help as well as some from Bradford and Leeds.
C. E. COWMEADOW.

The London Society.

PLAN OF CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCILIATION BILL.

The London Society is arranging a series of five important demonstrations during the next four months, to culminate in the great N.U.W.S.S. meeting at the Albert Hall, in which it is co-operating next February.

The demonstrations, arranged by joint committees specially formed for each district, are to be made thoroughly representative of the constituencies in each area, and are to be held in the best and largest halls available in North, South, East, and West London respectively, and in those Surrey suburbs worked by the London Society. The scheme is rapidly developing, and hand-bills will soon be ready. The *East London* gathering is arousing keen interest among social workers, and many people of influence among them have consented to serve upon the special committee. It is to be held on *November 23rd*, and already many working people, for whom it is specially intended, are asking for tickets. The *South London* meeting, under the direction of another excellent committee formed from those with a knowledge of local conditions, is to be held at the *Camberwell Baths* on *November 30th*. For both these meetings the help of members in reaching working people, whether as individuals or in organised bodies, is earnestly asked, as well as funds for the necessarily heavy expenses.

A very large number of associations of a political and social character have already applied to us for speakers, and each gathering affords us an opportunity of speaking of the approaching demonstration.

The London branches in the Surrey suburbs have decided that their demonstration shall be held on Saturday, January 27th, and shall take the form of a procession in Richmond, followed by a meeting. Further particulars of the great scheme and its development in the five districts will be announced in the COMMON CAUSE and in the general Press.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON RECEPTIONS.

In addition to the above arrangements for great popular meetings, a series of public receptions is to be held on Tuesdays (exclusive of November 14th), from October 24th to December 12th, from 3.30 to 6.15, at the *Empress Rooms*, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington High Street, at which our leaders and other eloquent speakers will be heard week by week, and at which discussion is invited. Among the speakers on Tuesday, October 24th, will be Mrs. Henry Fawcett (engagements permitting), Mrs. Swanwick (who will speak on "The Opening of Parliament"), and Miss Edith Palliser. Lady Frances Balfour will also endeavour to be present if possible. Christmas crackers in the N.U.W.S.S. colours, literature, etc., will be on sale, and tea will be obtainable at 1s. The rooms are easily reached by "Underground" to High Street Station, or by Hammersmith and other omnibuses, which pass the door.

Organisation.

Work in Dunmow and District (Essex).

Suffrage propaganda in Dunmow and district is progressing favourably. On Thursday, October 12th, a well-attended meeting was held at the vicarage, by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. J. Evans, who also presided. The Rev. Claude Hinscliff, a founder of the Church League for Women's Suffrage, gave an interesting address, in which he pointed out that reforms which were urgently needed to deal with the disgraceful conditions under which so many women of this country struggled for existence would never be properly carried out until women had political representation. A discussion followed, and the meeting having declared itself by a majority of 19 in favour of Women's Suffrage, a resolution was passed to that effect, and urging the member—Colonel Lockwood—to support the Conciliation Bill in its passage through the House of Commons next session.

In expressing his appreciation of Mr. Hinscliff's speech, Mr. Evans said that no one could fail to realise the justice of the enfranchisement of women, and that should the Conciliation Bill lead ultimately to a wider extension of suffrage for women, he felt quite certain that the progression of events would ensure the sympathy and support of the men. The greatest opposition, he thought, lay in the apathy of the women themselves, and that once that was dispelled they would be certain of success.

A Meeting at Sudbury (Suffolk).

Under the auspices of the National Union, a public meeting in support of the Conciliation Bill was held at the Sudbury Town Hall on October 4th. The chair was taken by Mrs. Salmon, of Bury St. Edmund's, and the principal speakers were Mr. Mirrlees, Miss Elkin, and Miss Eva Ward. Mr. Mirrlees said the common argument used against women having the vote was that the woman's proper place was in the home. In regard to this he entirely accepted the premise, but he emphatically disputed the conclusion. The woman's proper place was in the home, and therefore, he said, she should have the vote. The speaker went on to urge that the refusal of the vote to a very large extent took women away from the home.

Miss Elkin pointed out that the majority of Bills passed by Parliament affected women just as much as men, and she instanced the Insurance Bill.

Miss Ward said that though women undoubtedly suffered from the legislation of men, they suffered far more from the mistaken generosity of men. They did not want indulgence, and they did not want sentimentality. She alluded to the pitrow girls.

A resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill was passed without a dissentient. Eighteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, a good collection was taken, and eighteen people joined the National Union.

South Wales.

I am organising in South Wales, and should be glad of the names of sympathisers at Bridgend, Llanelly, Neath, Pembroke, Lampeter. Address c/o Mrs. Thomas, 74, Grove Road, Bridgend. Women's Colleges please note.

L. F. WARING.

Federation Notes.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT EASTLEIGH.

Mrs. Dempster, the Federation organiser, has been breaking new ground at Eastleigh, Hampshire. Three open-air meetings were held near the Railway Institute on the 28th, 29th and 30th September. Mrs. Dempster organised the campaign, and the meetings were addressed by Miss Nora O'Shea of Cosham, Mr.

Staples of Woking, and Mr. McKinlay of Islington, respectively. As a result of the campaign a society has been formed at Eastleigh, with Miss Mary M. Bugden, 48, Newton Road, as hon. sec.

Oxford, Berks, and Bucks.

The first Committee meeting was held on September 23, when the following officers were elected:—
Chairman, Mrs. Robie Uniacke, Woodleigh, Sunninghill, Berks.

Secretary, Mrs. Haverfield, Headington Hill, Oxford.

Treasurer, Miss Dunnell, Chesterton, Banbury.

Mrs. Uniacke and Mrs. Keeble, of Reading, were elected as representatives at the Provincial Council. The agenda of the Council was discussed.

East Cornwall.

Great gloom has been cast over the East Cornwall Branch of N.U.W.S.S. by the death of the Rev. G. Hermon (our President's husband), who helped us very much in the last election. We must miss one and all feel his death as a great loss to the Suffrage cause in this little Cornish branch.

JESSIE WILLIAMS, Hon. Sec.

Scottish.

Last week the "Women's Parliament," as the Press styles the National Union of Women Workers, was meeting in Glasgow. The final day of the Conference was Thursday, but the visitors stayed for the most part over night, and Friday was marked by a rallying of the hosts of Suffragists and anti-Suffragists alike. "Suffrage Day" was celebrated by no less than five meetings, largest of which was the great gathering in St. Andrew's Halls, arranged by the Scottish Federation and the Glasgow and West of Scotland Association for Women's Suffrage. The speakers were worthy of the audience. Mrs. Philip Snowden was at her best, and earned frequent outbursts of applause by her oratory and her magnetic sincerity, and by her wit and good humour in answering her hecklers. Mrs. Edwin Gray, ex-Lady Mayoress of York, and a former President of the Women Workers, kindly delayed her departure from Glasgow to help our platform with an earnest and impressive speech. Lord Rowallan, better known in Glasgow, as Mr. Cameron Corbett, the popular ex-M.P. for Tradeston, presided. In his introductory remarks he emphasised the fact that "the basis of physical power had never in any connection been mixed up with arrangements for the franchise." (We hope that Mr. McCallum Scott, the Liberal anti-member for Bridgeton, will note this!) A resolution calling on the seven members for Glasgow to support the Conciliation Bill through all its stages was passed with only two dissentients.

An outstanding feature of this meeting was the appearance of the platform, lavishly decorated with palms and ferns lent by a Glasgow firm, Messrs. Malcolm Campbell, amongst which rose the beautiful banners of the National Union and the Glasgow and Edinburgh Societies. Organ music, kindly rendered by Mr. Pullar, beguiled the long time of waiting before the speeches began. The Press table was crowded with reporters, from the *Standard*, *Scotsman*, and *Glasgow Herald* downwards. We were delighted to have on the platform the Hon. Mrs. Campbell (wife of the Bishop of Glasgow), Mrs. Wickham (daughter of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone), Miss Marjory Lees (Mayoress of Oldham), and many other friends.

We hope that our cause in Glasgow will be strengthened by so large and inspiring a gathering. A. C.

West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and N. Wales.

The Liverpool Society has started a Municipal Women's Association, having the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women as one of its chief objects. Meetings have been held in two wards, and two branches have in consequence been formed.

It is hoped that this will lead to a great awakening of interest on the question of Women's Suffrage amongst women municipal voters.

Miss Deakin and Miss Colquhoun organised the meetings, and the speakers were Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Miss Harriet Johnson, Miss Chubb, and Miss C. Leadley Brown, whilst Mrs. Egerton Stewart Brown took the chair on both occasions. Piano solos by Miss Machin and humorous recitations from Miss C. Leadley Brown also formed a part of the evenings' programmes.

The series of meetings held during the last week in Carnarvonshire, at which Miss Rathbone has been the chief speaker, gave proved even more successful than those held six months ago. The first was in the Pwllheli Town Hall on Monday, October 9th. Dr. Shelton Jones, a well-known Conservative, was in the chair, and he was supported by members of both political parties. There was an audience of over 500, composed equally of men and women, and everyone listened with the greatest attention to Miss Rathbone. The resolution was moved and seconded in Welsh by Mr. Hugh Pritchard and Miss M. Price, both active Liberal workers, and was carried without dissension. As a result of this meeting, and of work done in Pwllheli earlier in the year, what promises to be a vigorous and active society is now established, and it is hoped that in co-operation with the already established societies at Criccieth and Portmadoc good work may be carried out during the winter, which will show Mr. Lloyd George how many people in his constituency are working for the passing of the Conciliation Bill. The great success of the meeting was really due to the fact that an active band of ladies had assisted in thoroughly advertising it by house-to-house visitation, and our thanks are due to those, and also to the friends who spoke for us in Welsh.

At Portmadoc, on October 10th, an afternoon meeting was held chiefly for members and their friends. Miss Greaves presided,

and it is believed the meeting will result in greater activities in the society. Portmadoc is in Mr. Ellis Davies' constituency. He is the only member for North Wales who did not vote or pair in favour of the last Bill. He, however, declared to one of our supporters that if he found his constituents really wanted the Conciliation Bill he would have to vote for it. Portmadoc and Penygroes, the only other centres of population in South Carnarvonshire, are therefore both important strategic positions. It is not easy working a Suffrage Society in such a small town as Portmadoc, and it has been suggested that the three societies of Criccieth, Pwllheli, and Portmadoc should confer, and make a common plan of campaign for the winter, and so strengthen each other.

The Criccieth meeting, held on the evening of the 10th, was undertaken entirely by the local society, and though not as large as the others, showed as good an attendance in proportion to the population.

In Penygroes the Town Hall was quite full on October 11th. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Elias Jones, the chairman of the Liberal Association, and the whole meeting was conducted in Welsh, with the exception of Miss Rathbone's speech. Penygroes, in common with other parts of Carnarvonshire, has very grateful memories of the late Mr. William Rathbone, who was for so long their representative, and this accounts in part for the keenness with which people came to hear his daughter speak on Women's Suffrage. Still, the house-to-house canvassing beforehand revealed the fact that most people in this part of the world are in entire agreement with us on the subject of women's votes.

Several questions were asked in Welsh, and, after interpretation, Miss Rathbone answered them apparently to the satisfaction of the audience.

At the four meetings 10 dozen COMMON CAUSES were sold, and we could have sold more, but they were not to be obtained. EDITH ESKRIGGE.

Deputation to Mr. Lloyd George.

After his speech at Whitefield's Tabernacle last Saturday, Mr. Lloyd George received a deputation from the Men's Political Union. Mr. Lloyd George objected to being cross-examined as to what he had said to a private meeting of Liberal members of Parliament.

He was certainly in favour of Women's Suffrage, and he did not think that he had heard a serious argument against it yet; but he was in favour of the suffrage only upon the terms on which it had been given in any other democratic country. He was in favour of it as it had been given in New Zealand and Australia, and he was not aware of any civilised country where anything like the Conciliation Bill had been carried. Therefore, because he believed the effect of it would be to put undue and unfair weight in certain directions and not attain a fair representation,



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as it were, of the whole of the women of this country, he thought it was the very worst way of proceeding. The deputation would say that that was establishing a principle. He thought it did it in a way which would make it very much more difficult to extend it, and for that reason he was not convinced yet that it was easier to carry the Conciliation Bill than to carry a larger Bill. He agreed that, if, after a very fair trial, it was found absolutely impossible to carry anything else, he should consider that as one of the effects, but if he were to say so now, it would be a way of preventing the larger Bill being carried. He should work for the larger scheme until he was convinced it could not be carried in this country. They had never tested the other scheme yet. There were men who had come to the conclusion that it could not be tested. He had not come to that conclusion. Next year they would have a fair test, and he would judge upon the circumstances, but they might take it from him that he was not a member of the conspiracy which it had been said had been formed to thwart the women's movement. He would not enter a conspiracy of that kind. He would like to see the women of this country have the vote for the reason that the Insurance Bill would have an infinitely better chance of passing into law if they had the franchise, as that measure affected them so much more intimately than it did the males of the country. He should not depart from the position which he took up upon the question at his election until he was convinced that the Conciliation Bill was the only practicable method of getting recognised Women's Suffrage in this country for some time.

Later on, he said: If I may say so, the supporters of the Conciliation Bill are behaving in such a way that I honestly believe that if we succeed in getting the larger Bill through, they will turn round and call us traitors. Don't you hinder the women's movement. That is what you are doing. We are trying to get millions enfranchised, and you say "No, we only want a million."

(This report is taken from the "Manchester Guardian.")

Women's Liberal Federation and the Conciliation Bill.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Women's Liberal Federation, held on October 10th, the following resolution was carried on the motion of Mrs. F. D. Acland, seconded by Mrs. E. Stewart-Brown:—"That in view of the resolution of the last W.L.F. Council Meeting, pressing on the Government and on Parliament the urgent importance of passing the Conciliation Bill into law, and having regard to the fact that the Prime Minister's letter to Lord Lytton of August 23rd declares 'the promise in regard to giving facilities for the Conciliation Bill will be strictly adhered to in letter and in spirit,' this Committee is of opinion that every effort should be concentrated on urging the Liberal members to ballot for the Bill, and to take such advantage of the Government promises as may best secure a third reading majority for the Bill."

NESSIE STEWART-BROWN.

The Lancashire and Cheshire Union of W.F.A.s.

IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS.

The annual meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Women's Liberal Associations was held in the Parr Hall, Warrington, on the 11th inst., and was attended by a large number of delegates. The President, Mrs. Egerton Stewart-Brown, was in the chair, and the speakers included Miss Bertha Mason, Lady Howarth, Miss Cicely Corbett, Mrs. F. Ellis, and Mrs. Barton. A resolution was moved by the President, and unanimously passed, calling upon the Government and Liberal M.P.s to oppose the clause in the Coal Mines Bill which would prohibit the employment of women at the pit-brow. A resolution urging the Government to introduce a Bill to enable persons of both sexes to be made eligible for election on all Local Governing Bodies on a residential qualification only was unanimously approved, and a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill, urging "all Women's Liberal Associations to work for this Bill, so as to ensure its passing through its final stages in the House of Commons," was carried on the motion of the President, with one dissentient only.

NESSIE STEWART-BROWN.

The Scottish Liberal Association and Women's Suffrage.

At the annual meeting of the General Council of the Scottish Liberal Association, held at Dunoon on Saturday, October 7th, a deputation from the Women's Liberal Federation was received, and Mrs. Crossthwaite, in an excellent speech, urged the General Council to exercise its great influence with the Members of Parliament on behalf of the Conciliation Bill. There were two resolutions on the agenda dealing with the question of Women's Suffrage, one dealing with the general principle and one with the Conciliation Bill. On the suggestion of County Councillor Ballantyne, J.P., the two resolutions were merged into one, as follows:—"That this Council approves the principle of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women on democratic lines,

and would strongly urge the Scottish M.P.'s to support the Bill drawn up by the Conciliation Committee as the best solution of the question meantime, and thanks the Government for the assurance they have given that facilities will be granted for dealing with the question during the next session of Parliament." After a very good debate, taken part in by Mr. Ballantyne, Professor Paterson, Mr. Pringle, M.P. (the last in opposition), and others, the motion was carried by 80 to 32 for the previous question.

Carlisle Liberals and Women's Suffrage.

The Carlisle Liberal Association held its annual smoking concert on October 3rd, in the Assembly Room of the Liberal Club. The speakers were Mr. Denman, M.P., for the city, and Miss C. E. Marshall, chairman of the North-Western Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies, who had been invited to give an address on the Conciliation Bill. Miss Marshall's speech was well received, and was reported almost verbatim in the local Liberal paper. Mr. Denman said he was not going to speak about anything but the Insurance Bill, but when he said early in his speech that "it was well that situations should be taken seriously; it was well to debate measures, not merely from an academic point of view, but as if they were going to pass," he found himself involved in the Women's Suffrage question before he knew it. The following quotations are taken from the *Carlisle Journal*, October 3rd:—

"Miss Marshall would like to apply that remark to Women's Suffrage" . . . (He went on to say he was quite willing to apply it to Women's Suffrage) . . . "He agreed with Miss Marshall that the Bill was overdue. (Hear, hear.) He was amongst those who voted for the first Bill to be sent up to a Grand Committee, which would have enabled it to pass. His amendment to which Miss Marshall had referred was out of order and could not be moved." . . . (He went on to explain his reasons for wanting the wives of male householders to be included in the Bill.) He said it was too soon to prophesy about the course of the Bill when it came before Parliament again next year, or to pledge himself so long beforehand to any definite course; such action at this stage might even endanger the prospects of the Bill. "But he would work in such a direction as seemed most likely to get a Women's Suffrage Bill upon the Statute Book." (Cheers.)

It will be remembered that at a meeting of the Liberal Suffragist M.P.s last year Mr. Denman urged the abandonment of the Conciliation Bill in favour of a new Bill on the lines of his amendment; so that the above pronouncement, which was cheered by the members of the Liberal Association, is a satisfactory advance from his former position.

Speaking later of the Insurance Bill, Mr. Denman said: "It did not purport to be a perfect Bill; it only purported to be a beginning . . . and he would do what he could to assist in its passage, although he was conscious it was in an imperfect form, rather than sacrifice the whole thing." In a letter to Miss Marshall the next day he said, "May I venture to assure you that I was perfectly conscious of the applicability of my remark on the Insurance Bill to any Women's Suffrage Bill."

General Meeting of the London Graduates' Union for Women's Suffrage.

There was not a single note of dissent on October 13th at the meeting of the London Graduates' Union for W.S., when the following resolution was moved:—"That this general meeting, convened by the London Graduates' Union for Women's Suffrage, desires to support the action of the Conciliation Committee, and to promote by every means in its power the passing into law of the Conciliation Bill in 1912. That since the Conciliation Committee considers that any widening amendments will hamper the progress of the Bill, this meeting is of opinion that pressure for the extension of the University Franchise to women should be postponed in favour of the Conciliation Bill. That this meeting therefore calls upon the representative of the University in Parliament to support the Conciliation Committee."

Mr. Gerald Gould moved the resolution, and his speech turned entirely on the fact that it was necessary at this critical juncture to support the Bill as it stands. In connection with "wrecking amendments," he quoted some notable words of Mr. Lloyd George, delivered in the House of Commons on July 15th, 1908. Mr. Lloyd George said on that occasion, in relation to the Old Age Pension scheme:—"I would warn those who are sincerely friendly to Old Age Pensions that if they will take the trouble to peruse the criticisms directed against, not this scheme merely, but any scheme of Old Age Pensions, by its honest and sincere opponents, they will find that use is made of those disqualifications, not in order to widen and liberalise the scheme, but in order to destroy it. I invite the supporters of Old Age Pensions not to fall into this trap, but I ask their support not merely on the general principles of the Bill, but also in disqualifications which may seem harsh and unjust for the moment." With regard to any amendment on Women's University Franchise, Mr. Gould advocated strongly the policy of the self-denying ordinance. The Government was openly hostile to the University Franchise. To insist on this qualification in the case of women at the present moment might be disastrous.

MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

PUBLIC MEETING IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCILIATION BILL

WILL BE HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA,
ON
Thursday Evening, November 2nd,
AT 8 P.M.

Speakers:

Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

The EARL RUSSELL.

The Hon. Sir JOHN COCKBURN, K.C.M.G.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN, Esq.

Chairman:

HERBERT JACOBS, Esq.

ADMISSION FREE. A few reserved seats in the front rows, 2/6 & 1/- Tickets to be obtained from the Head Office, 159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, 254, Wall, and also at the offices of the various Suffrage Societies.

ACTRESSES FRANCHISE LEAGUE MATINEE. LYCEUM THEATRE.

Friday, October 27th, 2.30 p.m.

Prologue by Mr. ZANGWILL.

Miss MARIE TEMPEST. Miss LENA ASHWELL.

Miss LOTTIE VENNE.

Song and Tableau: "THE AWAKENING."

Miss MARIE STUART. Miss LILY BRAYTON.

Miss CECILIA LOFTUS & Mr. BEN WEBSTER in "A Doll's House."

ALICE IN GANDERLAND. By Laurence Housman.

Miss EVA MOORE. Mr. LAURENCE GROSSMITH.

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INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP. FIVE SUNDAY EVENING AT HOMES.

OCT. 22nd. "Ju-Jutsu and the Physical Force Argument." By Mrs. EDITH GARRUD & others. Course Ticket, 2/6.

ON TUESDAY EVENINGS.

SIX LECTURES on "The Policy of My Suffrage Society." OCT. 24th, MRS. HOW-MARTYN, A.R.C.S., B.Sc. (Political Department, W.F.L.). "The Policy of the Woman's Freedom League." Chair: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield. NOV. 28th, MRS. SWANWICK. "The Policy of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies." Chair: Miss Muriel Matters. Course Ticket, 3/.

STRAND LECTURE ROOM, 15, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

THE CONCILIATION BILL.

To counteract MISREPRESENTATION, Suffragists and the general public should be made acquainted with its provisions and effect. Broadcast distribution of the two-colour explanatory leaflet just drawn up by Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., is the best means of doing so. To be had only from THE WILLIAM MORRIS PRESS, LTD., 42, ALBERT STREET, MANCHESTER, at the prices following:—250 3s. 6d., 500 5s., 1,000 9s., 2,000 17s., 3,000 24s., 5,000 37s. 6d., all carriage paid.

SUFFRAGE PLAY:

"MAN & WOMAN:"

All Sorts and Conditions: The Question of the Day.
By Mrs. JAMES WARD.

New Version, in Two Acts; Copies 6d. net, plus 1d. Postage; obtainable from M.W., 6, Selwyn Gardens, Cambridge. Copies (minimum six) supplied to Suffrage Societies on sale or return.

Dr. Willey, M.D., M.S., showed wide knowledge of the difficulties experienced by the various parties in connection with the Conciliation Bill, but insisted that they should be sunk in view of the present emergency.

Dr. Garrett Anderson urged the society to use its influence to procure support from the member for the University, who had already declared himself in favour of the vote for University and medical women.

The resolution was then moved and carried unanimously. Among those present were Dr. L. Garrett Anderson, Mrs. Ayerton, D.Sc., Mrs. Willey, M.D., M.S., Mr. D. Owen, B.Sc., Lady Bush, B.Sc. E. M. LEAF.

A Federation of Irish Suffragists.

A meeting of the above Federation was held at 27, Dartmouth Square, Dublin (by kind permission of Mrs. Manning), on Saturday, October 7. The chair was taken by Miss Day, hon. sec. of the Munster Women's Franchise Association. Delegates from Belfast, Lisburn, and Armagh were present. Letters were read from the secretaries of the Derry and Bangor Suffrage Leagues, regretting inability to attend the meeting, and expressing strong sympathy with the Federation. After an interesting discussion, the constitution of the Federation was drawn up, and it was decided that a meeting of representatives from every affiliated society should be held every year, and that half-yearly conferences should be held, to which delegates from independent suffrage societies and from organisations existing to further social and moral reforms should be invited.

In the "Irish Notes," which it is hoped will be published in the issue of November 2, further interesting details regarding the Federation will be given.

Local Councils and the Bill.

Penrith Urban District Council.

When Miss Norma Smith was working in Penrith, during the last week in September, she interviewed most of the members of the Urban District Council on the subject of passing a resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill. As a result of this the Council, on October 11, passed the following resolution unanimously:—"That the Penrith Urban District Council, while appreciating the promise of the Government to give time next year for a full discussion on the Conciliation Bill, urges the members in the House of Commons to support the Bill in all its stages, so as to enable it to be placed on the Statute Book next session."

"The Englishwoman's" Exhibition.

"The Englishwoman" Exhibition of Handicrafts, which will be held at the Maddox Street Galleries, 25a, Maddox Street, W., from November 1st to 14th, will be opened by the Lady Frances Balfour on Wednesday, November 1st, at 3 p.m. Exceptionally interesting craftwork will be seen in jewellery, embroidery, lace, miniatures, weaving, artistic dress, etc., and connoisseurs will, moreover, have an opportunity of seeing exhibits of some of the foremost craftsmen of the day in branches but little recognised as feminine, such as stained glass, house planning and decorating, sculpture, "castings," colour printing, lithography, and bookbinding, etc.

The fact that "The Englishwoman"—which is the only serious monthly review for women, and a powerful advocate of Women's Suffrage—is organising this exhibition should lend it an additional interest; and all good Suffragists should seize this opportunity of purchasing their Christmas presents, since they will find an equally attractive selection of small as well as large gifts.

International Women's Franchise Club.

The annual dinner of the International Women's Franchise Club will take place on Thursday, October 26, at the Criterion Restaurant, at 7.30. The chair will be taken by Sir Alfred Mond, M.P., and speeches will be made by the Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., Mr. Israel Zangwill, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss Gertrude Kingston, and others.

The National Union of Teachers.

(Cardiff Branch.)

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE RESOLUTION.

The Cardiff Branch of the National Union of Teachers met on Saturday, October 7th, to discuss the Suffrage resolution sent down by the Executive Committee. There was a record attendance of teachers. An amendment was on the agenda paper in the name of Mr. W. H. Murray, stating that "this meeting protests against the Executive sending resolutions to the branches dealing with subjects neither academic nor educational in character." Miss Bale, in an excellent speech, moved the Executive resolution, which was formally seconded, and then the amendment was moved and seconded.

A lively debate ensued, taken part in by both men and women, the suffragists having much the best of it. The amendment was withdrawn by Mr. Murray and two other amendments were

moved, both additional to resolution, one "instructing our parliamentary representatives to vote for any measure of Women's Suffrage," and the other that "married women should be enfranchised on their husbands' qualifications." It was pointed out in an able speech by one of the men teachers that these amendments were unwise and spoiled the original resolution and both were withdrawn.

The original resolution, which runs as follows:—"That this conference expresses its sympathy with those members of the National Union of Teachers who desire to possess and exercise the parliamentary franchise, but because they are women, and for that reason alone, are debarred from it," was then carried with two dissentients.

H. F.

National Union of Women Workers.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

The meetings of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland were held in Glasgow last week. The Conference, held in connection with the Annual Business Meeting of the National Council of Women, had for its subject "Public Opinion: its Formation, Influence, and Effect." It was treated in its relation to several important social questions—namely, Public Health, the Penal System, Women's Lodging Houses, and the Press.

Mrs. Greenlees, president of the Glasgow Local Union, reminded her hearers that woman, as woman, had something distinct to bring to the sum of human knowledge. Speaking later on the subject of the Press, she evoked sympathetic applause for her trenchantly expressed criticism of the newspaper *Woman's Column*. Woman claimed a freer and wider world, the same as that inhabited by her fellow man.

In her able presidential address, the Lady Laura Ridding pointed out that some laws foster public opinion, but that laws fail unless they are moulded by, or are moulding, public opinion. Pressure from equals was not to be confounded with compulsion from superiors. Reformers, one step in advance of public opinion, often succeeded where the more advanced fail. It must not be forgotten, however, that the contributions made by reformers to human thought are immortal, however little their apparent success has been.

Dr. Mary Murdoch spoke of the need for a more dynamic public opinion on the housing of the people, on the control of the feeble-minded, on temperance, on the regulation of the milk supply, on women's municipal lodging-houses, citing Glasgow as the pioneer municipality in having founded such a lodging-house in 1871.

Dr. Marion Andrews spoke of the difficulty of arousing the sanitary conscience of the nation, while the truth regarding many important facts is withheld from women. If a few simple facts regarding their own diseases and those of their children were known there would be such an awakening of the public conscience that these evils would be swept away.

Dealing with the Penal System, the speaker urged the need both for preventive and reformatory treatment. Here, too, as in the papers on Public Health and the later papers on the Woman Tramp and the Unmarried Mother, the need for habitable houses, decent women's lodging-houses, and legislation on the lines of the Report for the Care and Control of the Feeble-Minded was urged. The discussion on the unmarried mother brought out the need for more effective legal machinery for receiving affiliation orders in the first instance, and also for ensuring that the father pays his share towards the upkeep of his child regularly.

The evening of Tuesday was given to "The Press in Relation to Public Opinion." In an able paper Mrs. Heitland, speaking more especially of the London daily press, traced its history from 1840, when the editor created and controlled his paper, to the present day, when "every part of a newspaper has its own financial reason for being there." "The Press has descended from its throne to scramble for coppers, and has lost its throne in the effort." The speakers were agreed as to the great power of the Press as an educational force for good or evil; opinion was divided as to whether the public got just what it wanted, and therefore deserved, or whether the financiers were in a position to thrust upon the public what it did not want.

In place of the usual summary of the business of the week, Mrs. Creighton, at the closing meeting, read a paper on "Responsibility in Thought and Opinion." She touched on many aspects. Some people have an undue modesty about their opinions, and do not recognise their responsibilities. It is often things which arouse animosity which help to form opinion. How wrongly the world estimates the standard of values! We have all our share in creating the public opinion which makes war possible. Ought we not to say that war between this country and Germany would be the greatest disgrace that civilisation had ever seen?

George Adam Smith, Principal of the University of Aberdeen, showed how the tabulation of the facts about women's work and its conditions, undertaken by the Scottish Council for Women's Trades, during the last twenty years, had contributed largely to the more enlightened public opinion of to-day. There is nothing more pregnant for the prosperity of a country than the way the Government treats its women. Human prejudice will not die so long as there is human selfishness. He recapitulated the legislative reforms passed for women during the seventeen years of the existence of the Union, and in closing reminded his hearers that in working for the material reforms that are so necessary the sacredness of human personality and the value of individual character must never be forgotten.

At the business meetings of the National Council of Women—the governing body of the Union—it was decided that the whole

basis of representation on the Council should be considered at a special meeting in London. The growth and expansion of the Union since its formation in 1895 has been such that a redistribution Bill had become necessary. An interesting discussion took place on a possible change of name, it being advocated on the one hand that the name National Union of Women Workers was a misnomer, tending to confuse the Union with bodies of wage-earning women who, in common parlance, are generally designated as women "workers," and, on the other, that the Union was now so well known under its present name, having grown and become a power in the country under that name, that a change was inadvisable. Emphasis was also laid on the fact that it was well not to encourage the belief that only the wage-earning women were workers. By a large majority the meeting decided to retain its present name. A resolution was passed urging the Government to give facilities for the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, which provides the authorities with greater legal power to deal with the growing crime of White Slave Traffic. Another, dealing with the Insurance Bill, was also carried. It did not enter into the details of the inequality of the treatment of women, especially married women. It referred such details to the Special Committee for Safeguarding Women's Interests under the Bill, which had been appointed by the Executive some months before, and urged that amendments should be added to the Bill securing that "at least one of the Insurance Commissioners, one-fifth of the Advisory Committee, and one-fourth of every Health Committee should be women."

One of the most interesting reports was that presented by the secretary of this Special Committee, Miss Potter. The committee had included a number of members of Parliament and women from outside bodies. A deputation from the committee had been received by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and several of the amendments advocated had been adopted. Others, such as that recommending that provision be made for some modified form of insurance of married women who were not wage-earners were still under the consideration of the Government.

A resolution advocating that "all women to be appointed as Health Visitors should be duly qualified as Sanitary Inspectors; that Town Councils should be urged to make such appointments, and that legislative steps should be taken to enable District Councils to do similarly," did not receive the two-thirds majority necessary to carry it.

On Friday morning a service was held in Glasgow Cathedral, when the Reverend Macadam Muir, Ex-Moderator of the Church of Scotland, preached from the text: "Arise, ye women that are at ease, hear my voice ye careless daughters."

Receptions for the delegates were held during the week by the Lord Provost and Town Council of the City, by the Local Executive Committee, by Miss Frances Melville, M.A., B.D., Mistress of Queen Margaret College, and other public bodies.

Mr. Cecil Chapman on Penal Reform.

A most interesting discussion was held at the International Women's Franchise Club, Ltd., 9, Grafton Street, W., at one of their usual fortnightly meetings, when Mr. Cecil Chapman, J.P., put forth his views on Penal Reform.

The chair was taken by Miss Georgina Brackenbury, who stated that the prisons set apart for women were looked upon as not being in need of so much reform as those for men, and that the illusion arose simply because more attention was paid to matters concerning men than to women's affairs. This state of things, she said, would not be remedied until women obtained the vote.

Mr. Chapman said that the matter of Penal Reform was one of very grave concern to the country, and one which had hitherto been very much neglected, and he hoped that when the Suffrage was obtained by women much would be done to remedy the present criminal system. Formerly severity of punishment was intended to be a deterrent, but experience has proved that it was not so, and undue severity merely led to sympathy for the prisoner and wrongful acquittals by juries. The aim of justice should no longer be to take revenge on the prisoner, but should be directed towards his reformation. We should aim at turning out good citizens, and avoid imprisonment as much as possible to the furtherment of this end. Our prisons for women were not worked on the right principle. They could not be satisfactory as long as they were regulated by men and governed by man-made rules. In his opinion they should be regulated from the women's point of view. There were great defects in our prisons for men. The treatment of habitual drunkards was one of the most noticeable. The punishment, instead of falling on the drunkard, fell upon his wife and family, who were left without support. He suggested that the drunkard should be set to work under the supervision of proper persons; that he should be paid a wage, and that this wage should be handed over to his wife. He said that the root of the evil in many cases was the prisoner's surroundings, and his home, and that much could be done to lessen crime if the criminal was followed to his home, and something done for his betterment there. He advocated a greater measure of co-operation between the prisoner and the magistrate on the lines of reformation, and did not believe in the system of ticket-of-leave. Much could be done by a period of observation, training, and work. Fines he regarded as very unjust in many cases, for, whereas the rich man paid a heavy fine without a thought,

the smallest of fines was often a serious matter for the poor man. He contended that offences against the person were most inadequately dealt with by our laws as compared with offences against property, and his experience was that for crimes which he regarded as equally serious as those against property, a first offender got off without punishment, while had the offence been burglary, he would have been sentenced to penal servitude for some years. He advocated one system of morality for men and women, and remarked that the false idea that men could not be as moral as women was responsible for many prostitutes. In conclusion he hoped that when women's suffrage came into force many important changes for the better would be brought about in the reformation of our penal code.

There was a good discussion on the points raised by Mr. Chapman. Mr. Norman contesting his statement that offences against the person were more lightly punished than offences against property, and Mr. Mitchell, from New Zealand, pointed out that in that country many of the reforms advocated by Mr. Chapman had been adopted. He mentioned that over there power was given to the magistrate to enforce what he called "week-end sentences," whereby the prisoner was let out during the week to earn his wages, which he handed to his wife and family, and then returned to prison for the week-end, thus meeting the suggestion raised by Mr. Chapman that sentences very often inflicted a greater measure of punishment on the wife and family than on the prisoner.

The Position of Domestic Servants.

The letters which every Editor receives as soon as any aspect of "the servant question" is touched upon are a standing witness to the widespread interest in it, and to the state of transition in which domestic labour finds itself. It is a great pity that in the past the subject has been treated mainly with facetiousness by men and with helpless exasperation by women. It is one which will have to be tackled seriously, wisely, and patiently by women themselves, and we therefore welcome the establishment of Trade Unions for this class of labour, and investigations of the nature to be set on foot by the Women's Industrial Council, which has just appointed a Committee with the object of improving domestic service as a career for industrial women. The first step which they will take will be to institute a widespread inquiry into existing conditions, and into the desirability of such reforms as have been proposed in domestic service generally. A somewhat similar investigation was made, it will be remembered, about ten years ago, and the results published in an article by Miss Catherine Webb in the "Nineteenth Century" for June, 1905. In that case, however, the replies to the questions asked were chiefly from mistresses and heads of institutions, whereas, in this case, the opinions of servants themselves are also to be obtained through the agency of the Girls' Friendly Society, the M.A.B.Y.S., girls' clubs, and kindred institutions.

The reforms which are about to be suggested are in three directions:—

- (1) Towards greater efficiency on the part of the employed.
- (2) Towards their organisation and co-operation.
- (3) Towards improved material conditions of service.

With these ends in view, they will probably try to obtain the following changes in the existing state of things:—

- (1) That the school age shall be raised to 16.
- (2) That additional practical domestic training shall form part of the curriculum.
- (3) That "time off" shall be given to servants up to the age of 18 for attendance at compulsory continuation classes.
- (4) That, after examination in domestic economy, certificates shall be awarded whereby the holders are entitled to a definite minimum wage according to grade.
- (5) That institutions for specialised technical training shall be provided.
- (6) That an Association of certificate holders for the purposes of after care, mutual help, further grading, etc., shall be formed.
- (7) That the "feeble-minded" shall be excluded from service.
- (8) That kitchen and sleeping rooms shall be visited by the Sanitary Inspector.

If these reforms are carried through, there is no reason why the status of the domestic servant should not be raised as quickly and as notably as that of the sick nurse. In the 'fifties "Mrs. Gamp" received as little respect as does "Mary Ann" to-day, but training and co-operation have made the nursing profession one of the most highly honoured, and there is no reason why in the future the much-despised cap and apron should not be worn as proudly as the nurse's neat uniform.

Anti-Suffragists in Manchester.

A correspondent writes:—Miss Cordelia Moir, of the local league, spoke on October 6th to the Moss Side Literary Society against Women's Suffrage. The room was full to overflowing, and then she came, and she waxed eloquent, as she told us how, as Rome and Greece owed their downfall to their women, so would our Empire be ruined when women had the power to vote. She told us women's ideals were too high, the laws made through them would be too good to be obeyed, and chaos would result. After predicting in

a most charming manner many more dire things that would happen once women were enfranchised, she sat down amidst applause from the audience. Immediately up jumped a man, a suffragist, and pointed out several inconsistencies in the speaker's address; then another jumped up, also suffragist; then another, and yet more men and women, all eager to pull Miss Moir's arguments to shreds, and our spirits rose as they levelled their deadly questions and facts at the poor young lady, who had asserted that England's greatness would be over and the race degenerate once her women were recognised as full citizens of their country. And we went home well satisfied that though the speaker's charm and eloquence had roused the applause of her audience they still voted three to one against her resolution, and in the debate only one, her seconder, had said a word in favour of Anti-Suffrage.

The League of Isis.

The Secretary writes:—This league has been formed to band together those men and women who have at heart the betterment of the race, and who realise that it can best be attained by holding and teaching the highest ideals of parenthood. All who are interested in this great subject are cordially invited to a public meeting to be held in connection with the League at the Green Salon, Eustace Miles Restaurant, Chandos Street, W.C., on Friday, October 27th, at 3 p.m. There will be a lecture by Miss Hoskyns Abraham, M.A., on "The Psychic Powers of Women," after which discussion will be invited, led by Mrs. Frances Swiney, the President of the League. Admission free.

Reviews.

THE FAMILY LETTERS OF RICHARD WAGNER.

(Translated, indexed, etc., by William Ashton Ellis. London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 3s. 6d. net; pp. 307.)

It is difficult to estimate what precise value such a collection as this of Wagner's letters to his family may have: difficult also to judge whether the collector is wise in including in his publication all the available material. Mr. Ellis has already translated and annotated four volumes of letters, including those to Wagner's first wife, Minna Planer, and those to Mathilde Wesendonk. In his preface to the present volume he pleads that these *Familienbriefe* show their writer "in the most levelling of all human relations, that of a member of a numerous middle-class brood . . . and so," he adds, "we get a picture of the naked human spirit in the driest and most neutral of lights." That they do give a very vivid picture of Wagner's life and struggles is the excuse for publishing them. They also give us once more the unpleasant story of his first marriage and its subsequent miseries, though the letters to his wife are omitted from the present collection.

The letters date from 1832, when he was 19 years old, to 1874, and thus include nearly all his life. They show his deeply affectionate nature, particularly in the few letters addressed to his mother, and in those to his half-sister, Cäcilie Avenarius, and her husband. They show his indomitable will and his determination to write music only as he felt he ought to write it, not as the fashion of the moment might dictate; they show his constant struggle against poverty; and they show his supreme egotism. In a letter to Cäcilie, giving his reasons for first of all refusing the appointment of Musik-director in Dresden, in 1843, he says, "True, I know I am thereby exposing myself to continued worry and straits for the present, but a man like me oughtn't to fear anything. Even should the circulation of my operas go slowly—as everything does in Germany—yet they cannot fail to spread throughout the breadth of Germany in the long run."

Mr. Ellis deserves the thanks of all who are interested in every piece of writing that may throw light on the character of one of the greatest musicians of the world. But those whose love for Wagner does not deprive them of a love of literature will grieve that he did not bestow a little more care on the technique of his own work.

Our feelings on finishing these letters are difficult to define. On the one hand is disgust at the man who could see only faults in "this unhappy woman who bootlessly is torturing herself and me to death," never in his own conduct to the woman; on the other is love of the musician who pleaded, "I ask nothing of the world, except to leave me leisure for the works that are to belong to it hereafter; may it therefore judge me mildly."

G. H. CHETTEL.

MAGAZINES AND PAMPHLETS.

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE REVIEW publishes an excellent number this month. Mrs. Fawcett has an article on "Women and Representative Government," and Lord Robert Cecil writes on "The Political Outlook." Perhaps one of the most impressive of the contributions by experts on their various subjects is Mr. Cameron Grant's "Women Wage-Earners and the Vote."

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE sends a pamphlet by J. Malcolm Mitchell, in which the answers given by Colonial statesmen in England for the Conference to specific questions

addressed to them by the League are recorded and tabulated. A most useful list of reforms carried in Australia and New Zealand since the granting of the vote to women is also given.

THE FABIAN SOCIETY (WOMEN'S GROUP) have published a revision of their excellent pamphlets on the Insurance Bill, revised and brought up to date.

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.

INFLUENCING EMPLOYEES.

One of your correspondents has lately called my honour into question.

(1) Because I have asked anti-suffragists to distribute protest postcards to the men working under them, and

(2) Because I have asked anti-suffragists to use their influence against the suffragist movement.

Will you kindly allow me to explain that it has always been understood (and mentioned) between a manager and myself that there was to be no coercion? The man could sign or not as he chose.

(3) Mr. Boulton, an anti-suffragist, explicitly told me that he could not bring any pressure whatever to bear upon his employees, but I might speak to them if I liked. The heads of departments, being anti-suffragists, will naturally "use their influence against the suffrage movement." No mention was made of their using it especially on the girls working under them. Most of them already belong to our League.

An uninitiated reader would really imagine from Miss Jordan's righteous indignation that no suffragist ever tried to persuade others that she was right in demanding the vote—that they all go about saying, when they meet another suffragist, "Hush! don't say another word about it—you might persuade someone to agree with you, and that would be so dishonourable!"

Believing, as I very honestly do, after years of study, that "Votes for Women" means the downfall of our Empire, I shall continue to use my influence against the movement; and I fail to be convinced that addressing meetings, asking anti-suffragists to join our League, or even asking them to sign protest postcards are dishonourable methods of propaganda.

GWLADYS GLADSTONE SOLOMON, Org. Sec., N.L.O.W.S.
Consuelo, Wordsworth Walk, Hendon, N.W.,
12th October, 1911.

[Of course, suffragists use their "influence"; it is all they have to use. But when employers use their influence with employees there is always a danger that it may become coercive, and it is, therefore, safer not to proselytize among dependants.—Ed. C.C.]

NATIONAL UNION MEETINGS.

I feel very grateful to Lady Constance Lytton for pointing out how few meetings our N.U. seems to hold, according to the announcements made in "Common Cause." I hope her words will make our secretaries send their notices properly filled up, with the name of the hall, etc., to their Federation secretaries. Most of us seldom see more than half of our meetings announced, and it would be extremely convenient to everyone—speakers as well as audiences—if all meetings were to be found in our paper. Of course, many meetings, I know, cannot be advertised, as they are held in Liberal clubs, Adult Schools, Co-operative Guild halls, and so on, and therefore the immense work our N.U. is doing can never be wholly known, but our excellent secretaries are not entirely guiltless in this matter!

ISABELLA O. FORD.

"PREVENTION."

I read your comment on the above in last week's COMMON CAUSE. Having also from time to time read the objections of some of your readers to mention in THE COMMON CAUSE of subjects which are tabooed by many of the organs of the general Press, may I urge on all our readers to try and extend the circulation of THE COMMON CAUSE, because it is opposed to silent acquiescence or concealment of vital truths about which all serious-minded and good women must be informed if they wish to be equipped for the battle in the fight against vice and wrong. I know from experience how it is impossible to get a platform in the general Press. The average newspaper is quite averse to calling a spade a spade. Let us try and strengthen and extend the circulation of the organs of the women's movement, which deal so courageously with these questions. I hope THE COMMON CAUSE will never be tied by the ideas of past conventions, but will speak out with no uncertain voice, withal "never taking a step which has not been approved by reason."

A PRESS WORKER.

DOMESTIC WORKERS' UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

I also am very glad to see the subject of domestic service and the conditions which are enforced on the workers has come up for discussion in a paper like the "Common Cause." We so often hear it said that women are anxious to leave the home, and that the girl of to-day is above domestic service, but one rarely, if ever, hears of the conditions still imposed on domestics. No other worker puts in 52 afternoons off to herself, and a domestic does, or is allowed only 52 afternoons off to herself, and we domestics do not often get more than one afternoon and evening off a week. Moreover, we are always on duty, never able to get away from our work. Can it be wondered at that girls will work at a very small wage at anything they can get rather than endure the awful monotony of service? What does it matter that a girl is lowering the rate of wages for men and women, if she has that priceless treasure, her liberty, which a domestic never has? Not only do you lose freedom of action in service, but freedom of thought, and speech is denied to you. I am referring now to the present unjust system as regards the character. The employers are not compelled by law to give a character, and in this way the servants are absolutely dependent on them for their livelihood, and must often endure intolerable conditions for the sake of their reference. In my opinion the character question is the worst injustice we servants have to fight, and it is the chief object of the Domestic Workers' Union; for under this system the white slave traffic is not only condoned, but supported. I am particularly glad for this reason that the "Common Cause" will give publicity to these letters, for though the D.W. Union has both sexes as its members, the character question falls hardest on the woman, and while we women are content to have it so, the lot of our sisters, who through it have lost the best of life, must ever be a shame and a disgrace to ourselves.

As to service being well paid, it depends on what one calls well paid. Taking £20 per annum, a very fair average, it works out at 1d. per hour. I am aware that board and lodging are included; but what board and lodging! Insufficient and often bad food is provided, even though, as it is part of our wages, the employer has no more right to give us bad food than bad money. Even taking these items into consideration, our services cannot be called well paid, for wages would average 2d. an hour—surely a fair specimen of a sweated wage! I am, of course, aware that many employers offer fair conditions to their workers; but while even some places exist which offer conditions such as I have described, it is necessary for us to organise. Our Union has been formed just over 18 months, and has among its objects a compulsory character note, the regulation of hours, a fair wage for services rendered, and a fund for members in distressed circumstances. That the employers are aware of its value is proved by the fact that they already wish to engage Union servants. I hope that both a "Greenwich Domestic" and a "Domestic Servant," who realise the need of bettering our conditions, will join our Union. The entrance fees is 1s. I will gladly send any information in reference to our Union.

GRACE NEAL,

Secretary, Domestic Workers' Union.
211, Belsize Road, Hampstead.

THE PIT-BROW GIRLS OF FIFE: AN APPEAL.

At the great meeting to be held in London on October 31, under the auspices of Miss Eva Gore-Booth and Miss Esther Roper, to protest against the amendment to the Coal Mines Bill, prohibiting the further employment of women as pit-brow workers, it would be well that all the sections of pit-brow girls should be represented. In Scotland the measure would affect some 2,000 women in the districts of Lanarkshire and Fifeshire. Arrangements have been made for Lanarkshire, but so far Fife has been unable to organise its forces. I venture, therefore, to appeal to the readers of THE COMMON CAUSE for help:—

1. To raise the £10 needed for the expenses of organisation and the journey of two pit-brow girls of Fife to London.
2. To give hospitality during the week-end of October 31 to these two girls.

All contributions and all offers of hospitality will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Mrs. R. K. Hannay, 61, North Street, St. Andrews, Fife.

J. E. HANNAY.

81, North Street, St. Andrews, Oct. 16, 1911.



THE "LOTUS"
TEA ROOMS,
25, HIGH STREET,
GLASTONBURY.
Food Reform Restaurant.

"Everything Pure and Dainty."

Most comfortable accommodation for Visitors.
Home-made Bread and Cakes, Preserves, &c. Home-grown fresh
Vegetables and Salads. Reading and Rest Room free to Boarders
and those taking Refreshments. A Room to Let for Meetings
Write for full particulars to the Secretary (see above).

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REGULATION OF VICE BY AUTHORITY AND OUR INDIAN ARMY.

I have come across, quite by accident, a state of things of which I was entirely ignorant. I was out returning a call in Cantonments (the district of the Station which is entirely under military management) when a sudden storm of rain came down, and, as you may have heard, rain in the hills of India is often a deluge, and not the gentle descending rain of old England. I looked out for a place of shelter. I was in my rickshaw, with my four men, and as they had on new liveries of scarlet and white I thought it a pity to let them stay out and be drenched. I directed them to take me to the next bungalow. They rushed off with me up to the entrance of a small house in the centre of a badly-kept garden. I saw no one about, but I shouted "Koi hai!" ("Is anyone at home?") as our manner is. There appeared a woman of about twenty-five coming from the back of the bungalow. I asked for shelter, and she beckoned me into the verandah. My men drew the rickshaw in and crowded beside it, hiding their heads from the rain. I thought the woman regarded me with astonishment. She was German, evidently, from her accent. I stood where the storm slanted in under the verandah, and looking at me, and then at the pelting rain, she said in a sudden voice, opening a door into the inner room, "Come in." There I found three other young women in various stages of dishabille. They did not rise, but stared at me with the same surprised, curious look which the first woman had bestowed upon me.

I tried to be as civil as I knew how, all the while wondering at their strange manners. I asked them if they knew Simla well. No; they had been there for a month only; they did not go out. Where did they come from, I asked. Two of them nudged each other, and then said, "Amballa," and the youngest, a good-looking, dark-haired girl, with Jewish features, volunteered, "We are army women."

"Ah! soldiers' wives," I said. They laughed, and the first said: "If you must know we are registered women—our names are on the army books at Amballa," and then, suddenly, "if you don't believe me you can see for yourself." I did not understand what she meant, and said, "Have you many friends in India?" "I don't know why you want to know. English ladies think us dirt; you are the first we've spoken to."

I turned scarlet! It had dawned upon me what they were! My heart began to beat; I hardly dared to speak, and yet I felt that I must say something. I was on the point of saying "I was ignorant," when the first woman went on: "Yes, they say we are necessary to the health of the army; if so, they should not treat us like dogs!"

I was dumb; I wanted to run away, but the wind and rain still raged without. Then a sudden thought of how the Lord treated the woman who was a sinner came to me, and I said: "Why, oh! why do you live this life? Can't I help you to leave it?"

This seemed to open their hearts. One put her hands over her face, another got up and walked away, but the first woman and the young Jewish girl poured out to me their tale of woe and shame—how the elder was an English soldier's widow who was penniless, and taken to it for a livelihood; and the younger had been brought out by a Jew as his wife and then sold in Calcutta to a man who had deserted her; she had drifted into living this life of shame. They told me how they were inspected every eight days by a doctor, with a woman over them to see that they were kept in health. "And who pays for this?" I broke in. "The British Government," they said. I arose and left them, my heart burning within me. The rain had lessened, and my men rushed me home. No other thought but of my discovery could find a place that day. In the evening I poured it all out to my husband. "Did you know all this?" I demanded. "Yes, dear. I am sorry to say this arrangement must exist."

"Must exist!" I exclaimed. "Can't you and Christian officers get this awful protected vice abolished?" "My dear, don't upset yourself. I have told you before that we have to obey orders; we soldiers are like children at school, and not allowed to criticise authorities. It has been decided that it is necessary, so it has to exist." "Good heavens!" I said, "necessary to arrange for evil?" My poor husband tried to soothe me, and when I saw how my indignation distressed him I said no more.

I went next day to see the wife of a clergyman who is very earnest in social work, and I asked her to tell me all she knew. She was aware of this "blot upon our administration," as she called it, and informed me that Government officials, civil and military, could and would do nothing because it was an "order" supported by authority. A handful of missionaries—lay, clerical, and medical—had memorialised the new Commander-in-Chief, but it still went on. "And as to the health of the army?" I asked her. "Is it necessary?" "We strongly assert that it is not, and statistics have been published which declare its intility. The health of the army in India," she went on to say, "has greatly improved of late years, but it is due to the greater interest shown in the men, better education, more recreation, and the widespread temperance reform."

She showed me copies of letters written to her from the late Commander-in-Chief, in which he declared that he considered this arrangement necessary.

Our hope lies, she said, in the rousing of women in Great Britain to protest against this state of things in India. What can be done? Think of our poor soldiers here! They are so young—the majority from nineteen to twenty-five years old—

about the same age as our men at Cambridge. Suppose we had this kind of thing there? Should we not say it was infamous—a school of vice—making it easy by its so-called immunity from the Nemesis which follows after? This admission of the necessity of it is the point of the whole matter. Why, think what the natives say when they see us—Christians—making careful provision to protect the vicious. In these days of "liberty" think of women being liable to arrest and to forced medical treatment for this purpose. The clergyman's wife told me that the white and coloured slave traffic (for there are also cantonment houses for Indian and Japanese women who are registered) will go on while this hateful arrangement lasts. She says a standing army in India should be composed of older men, who should be allowed to marry; that in the Indian regiments vice is much less frequent, because the native soldiers are married men. I ventured to speak of this matter to the wife of one of our majors here—a good woman whom I admire. She said: "Abominable creatures, these women! Why should you trouble yourself? They sell themselves; they deserve nothing but contempt?" "But," I said, "if it is abominable to sell, what can we say of those who buy? Is not the buyer as much a danger to the public as the seller? Shall we judge one and not the other?"

Remembering that India is ruled from Westminster, it is of the utmost importance that women in England, especially those who are asking for the Suffrage, should know that the White Slave Trade is being encouraged in our great dependency. Hindu and Japanese women are also involved in these regulations.

FRANCES S. HALLOWES.

India.

CONVERSION.

I have always felt we Suffragists should be grateful to Mr. Lloyd George for creating such an object lesson as the National Insurance Bill for the necessity of the vote and the helplessness of the voteless, but that our anti-friend, the "Daily Mail," should have taken the lesson so much to heart I was not prepared for until I read the following words in a leading article from the issue of Saturday, October 14th:—"The widows and orphans, having no votes, were quite unaccountably forgotten." Well done, the "Daily Mail"! We shall soon have another well-known paper offering a daily page of suffrage news, for surely when once convinced that the voteless are suffering injustice, the next step must be to help to remove that injustice.

KATHERINE M. HARLEY.

Work of the Societies in the Union.

N. AND E. RIDINGS YORKSHIRE FEDERATION.

WHITBY AND DISTRICT.—The annual meeting of this Society was held on Thursday, October 12th, in the Lecture Hall, Silver Street, Whitby. In the absence of the President, Mrs. Channing Heron, and of the Vice-President, Mrs. Sewell, through illness, Miss Wiseman took the chair. The reports of the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary were read and adopted, and the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. After tea, Mrs. Lucan-Davies, M.A., gave a very interesting address.

HARROGATE.—Mrs. Cowmeadow had begun work for us at Harrogate, when she was immediately called away to the by-election at Keighley. The National Union has, in her place, sent us Miss Sheard, who began work at Matton on October 16th, where she will remain until Saturday, when we hope to visit Acomb. We are looking forward to a series of meetings from Miss Abadam at the end of October and the beginning of November at Hull, York and Filey.

Our report, among many others, was read at the Provincial Council, which has been, of course, the chief event in our area for some time.

LONDON SOCIETY.

THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE of members took place at 58, Victoria Street, on October 11th. Miss Palliser from the chair opened with a general review of the work necessary for the Conciliation Bill during the next few months. Miss Davies then opened the discussion on the plan of campaign, which is to take the form of five great demonstrations leading up to the Albert Hall meeting in February (referred to elsewhere). After a few words from Miss Deverell, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Nott Bower and Miss Ward an interesting discussion on various practical points took place, and Miss Lowndes said a few words in regard to the "Englishwoman" Crafts Exhibition at the Maddox Street Galleries, opening on November 1st. A spirit of keen enthusiasm and readiness to take up the burden of work pervaded the meeting.

CAMBERWELL.—Enthusiastic open-air meetings were held in Camberwell on September 30th and on October 6th, Miss Gloyd in the chair. At the former meeting, Miss Ruth Young's speech proved most interesting, and, with Miss Lockwood's stirring words, aroused the large crowd to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Copies of the COMMON CAUSE sold exceedingly well. Mr. McKinley, of the Men's League, addressed the meeting on October 6th. At first the audience was rather small, but before the end a large and interested crowd gathered. The second of the monthly meetings for members was held at 38, The Gardens, and was remarkably successful. Miss Lockwood was in the chair. The meeting was opened by all present singing "The March of the Women." Miss Janet Thomson, B.A., gave a lecture on Olive Shreiner's book, "Women and Labour," which was much appreciated. An interesting discussion followed, and it was decided that Olive Shreiner's book should be bought so that members may borrow it at the rate of twopence a week, the book to remain the property of the Branch and to be kept at the Suffrage Shop. During the evening Suffrage songs were contributed by the Misses Jenks, which greatly added to the pleasure of the evening. Literature and badges sold well and several new members were enrolled.

HACKNEY CENTRAL.—On October 3rd a drawing-room meeting was held at Upper Clapton, by kind invitation of Mrs. Corby. Mrs. L. Challis presided and Miss Cleary Corbett was the speaker. Mrs. Challis in her opening remarks laid stress on the necessity for hard work in the immediate future. Miss Corbett then followed, and in an eloquent speech impressed on her hearers women's need for political power. Mrs. Gingham (local sec.) gave a short statement of the work done in Central Hackney and made an appeal for helpers. Two new members joined, and several of those present expressed their interest and desire to know more about the Suffrage movement. Thirteen COMMON CAUSES were sold.

HIGHGATE.—Thanks to the kind hospitality of Mrs. Garnett, on October 2nd some of the members of our Branch heard a delightfully vivid account of the International Suffrage Congress from Miss Alice Zimmern, who had attended as one of the British delegates. Miss Zimmern said one often heard controversies as to who started the Suffrage agitation, but it was only necessary to attend an International Congress to realise that such a movement could not have originated with any one man or woman. Education had given women what Euripides described as the "power of the lyre," the gift of expression, and, in consequence, in every civilised country there is this uprising among them to gain a fuller freedom and a wider life. Then followed a graphic description of various scenes in Stockholm. Miss Clementina Black, who presided, added a personal word to the vote of thanks to Miss Zimmern, and it is much hoped that her stimulating address will be repeated in another part of the constituency.

EAST ST. PANCRAS.—An invitation meeting was held on September 27th at Luck's Restaurant, at which Miss Ruth Young gave a most able and stirring speech on Women's Suffrage and the Industrial Worker. Mrs. Rogers took the chair and Mr. A. J. Clements most kindly gave us a violin solo. "The Awakening" was charmingly sung by Miss Gladys Huxtable, a pupil of Miss Amy Tyndalls, and the audience joined heartily in the chorus of some Suffrage songs which were rendered with much feeling by Mrs. Hancock. The attendance was good, some COMMON CAUSES, badges and literature were sold, and two new members joined the Branch.

SOUTH PADDINGTON.—Mr. C. Stanley Krauss, of the Paddington Borough Council, took the chair at the Ethical Hall, Bayswater, on October 14th, when Miss A. Maude Royden lectured on "The Disabilities of Educated Women." Miss Royden said that these disabilities began with the education itself. The education of girls was hampered at every stage by two suppositions—first, that all girls would marry; and second, that if you were married, it did not matter what kind of an education you had had. A girl was at a disadvantage all through her school career and entered the University handicapped. In the professions she was either excluded altogether, or excluded from all the best posts. As not all women were fitted for domestic life this meant that a great many of them were condemned to the cruel suffering that comes from the sense of wasted powers. Women's work suffered from a kind of emaciation because they could never be at the head of things, while their economic dependence on men produced insincerity fatal to great creative art. Women had very little choice or command over their own work or happiness. Now that life was growing more and more political, their exclusion from politics meant that they were prevented from governing not other people but their own lives. Mrs. Merivale Mayer made a short amusing speech and a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill was carried unanimously.

OXFORD, BERKS, AND BUCKS FEDERATION.

Mrs. Renton came to the Federation as organiser on October 2nd, and spent a week in North Berkshire, where she paid many visits, and held some drawing-room and other meetings. She came to Oxford on October 9th, and has held two drawing-room meetings, and addressed the East Oxford Women's Liberal Association, and the Women's Co-operative Guild. On Saturday night she spoke at Bicester, at a meeting arranged jointly by the Oxford Branch of the National Union, and the Church League. She then left our Federation, to work in the East Midlands, where she will carry with her the good wishes of the Oxford, Berks and Bucks Federation, where her stay has, unfortunately been so short.

We shall be very glad to welcome Miss Gill, who is coming on the 16th to take Mrs. Renton's place. Miss Gill is well known in Oxford, and throughout much of the area of the Federation, and has many friends and admirers among us.

WEST LANCAHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

The **LEANGOLLEN** Society held its first annual meeting on September 15th, and elected Miss Eleanor Rathbone president. After the usual business had been transacted the Honorary Secretary presented the society with a banner in memory of her aunt, Miss Jessie Stewart, bearing the motto, "The daughters of Wales desire to serve the State," in Welsh. Though not then completed the banner was used in the great procession in June. The business meeting was followed by an address from Miss Rathbone, to which the public were admitted. Councillor G. H. Davies presided, and the meeting was well attended and pronounced by all to be a great success. The expenses were more than covered by the collection, and 20 copies of the COMMON CAUSE were sold.

The **WALLASEY AND WIRRAL** Society held its last open-air meeting on August 3rd, when Miss E. Deakin and Miss Rudkin addressed a good sized crowd which stayed to listen in spite of rain. The Society's annual meeting was held on September 20th, when Miss Eskridge presided. Miss McPherson, the Honorary Secretary, reported on the past year's work, and announced the plan of campaign for the winter, which included two public meetings at which Miss Francis Sterling and Mrs. Philip Snowden would be the chief speakers. Several debates and drawing-room meetings had also been arranged, and it was decided to carry on the work begun in the West Kirby district. This Society has been particularly active in leaving copies of the COMMON CAUSE at the railway stations, hotels and convalescent homes.

The **WEXHAM** Society, assisted by Miss Eskridge, organised a most successful open-air meeting in the town on September 20th. The speakers were Miss Eskridge and Miss C. Leadley Brown, and the crowd, which listened attentively, was a large one.

Societies Addressed by Members of the Union.

London.
CENTRAL HACKNEY.—A debate on Women's Suffrage took place at the Enfield Road L.C.C. School, Kingsland, on October 2nd, under the auspices of a Branch of the Anti-Suffrage League, opened the debate. Mr. H. B. Samuels of the Anti-Suffrage League, opened the debate. He brought forward various arguments—that women had no grievances under the law, but were favoured by it—that the vote was useless to them—that they had enough to do at home—and that they were so handicapped by nature that they lacked the necessary mental capacity for the exercise of the vote. Mrs. Gingham, who replied, denied that women had no grievances and instanced several. She contended that the vote would help women in the labour market. In countries where the woman's vote was in operation it was universally admitted to be a success. During the ensuing discussion two speeches were made against and six in favour of the extension of the Franchise to women. A vote was then demanded, but Mr. Samuels objected. He stated that he had only consented to be present on condition that no vote was taken. Comment is needless.

EAST ST. PANCRAS.—On September 19th Miss Gladys Rinder addressed the East St. Pancras Women's Liberal Association on Women's Suffrage and Labour Unrest. Miss Cooper took the chair, and at the close many questions were asked in reference to the Insurance and Conciliation Bills.
HOXTON.—A most successful meeting of 50 girls, followed by another meeting of 90 women, was held at Hoxton Mission Market Ragged School on October 12th. The women were all most interested, and received Miss Ward's speeches at both meetings with the greatest enthusiasm. At least 100 women asked for tickets and particulars of our larger meeting in the East End, which is to take place on November 25th. We have arranged (at the request of their Secretary) to speak to the Hoxton women again on November 16th. As this is the first speech on Women's Suffrage ever heard at the Ragged School meetings the result was most gratifying. We are most grateful to Mr. Lewis Burt (Secretary of the Hoxton Mission) for our very cordial reception. Mrs. Corke's help was invaluable, and Mr. Corke was a splendid chairman. We are indebted to Misses Rosen, Brav, Davenport, Alice Mansell and Mr. Moscow for a very excellent musical programme.

ISLINGTON WEST.—On October 2nd, at 3.30 p.m., the opening meeting for the winter session of the West Islington Women's Liberal Association took place. Mrs. Lough, wife of the Right Hon. Thomas Lough, member of Parliament for the Division (in the chair) opened the proceedings with an interesting review of the present situation in general politics, and said that the winter programme could not be more fittingly begun than by a discussion upon Women's Enfranchisement. She then introduced the invited speaker, Miss Helen Ward. After discussion and questions, a resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill as an "instalment of justice" was carried unanimously and ordered to be sent to the Prime Minister and the Member of Parliament for this Division.

WANDSWORTH (STREATHAM).—On October 4th Miss Helen Ward addressed the Elizabeth Parker Society, Mrs. A. Coles being in the chair. After discussion a unanimous resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was passed and ordered to be sent to the Prime Minister and to Sir Henry Kimber, Bart., M.P. for Wandsworth. Mrs. Walsh, of T. Colens Street, made a most delightful hostess and entertained her guests with tea. She also, in proposing a vote of thanks, spoke feelingly of the interest that the Society and such discussions as that of the afternoon had brought into her life and the lives of her friends present.

A meeting was held at the Adult School, on October 4th, speaker Miss J. Hamilton Thomson. The following resolution was passed *nom. con.* by a most sympathetic audience: "That this meeting calls upon Sir Henry Kimber to vote for the Conciliation Bill in all its stages." The resolution was forwarded to Sir Henry Kimber, M.P., for the constituency.

Other Societies.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.
On Tuesday, October 24th, Dr. Ethel Bentham will speak at THE OFFICE "AT HOME" on "Some Impressions of the Bermondsey Women's Strike," and Miss Letitia Dixon will act as hostess.

On the 19th, Mrs. Cecil Chapman will speak at a drawing-room meeting at Bourne End, arranged by the Bourne End and District Women's Suffrage Society, and on October 21st, at Mrs. Kenny's meeting, at Folkestone.
Mr. Baillie Weaver has very kindly consented to speak at Hythe on November 1st, at the evening meeting at the Institute, at which Lady Brassey will preside.
The Christmas Sale has been fixed for Tuesday, December 12th, at the Office.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

President: The Bishop of Lincoln.
Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W.
Oct. 20.—Hove: Drawing-room Meeting, 17, "The Drive," 6 p.m., Miss Allen and Miss Kate Close, on "Prison Reform."
Oct. 24.—Paddington: Drawing-room Meeting, 8, Warwick Avenue, 3 p.m., Mrs. Mumford. Discussion meeting.
Oct. 26.—Mid-Bucks Campaign begins. Secretary, Mrs. Sitchell, Lindholme, Wendover.
Nov. 2.—Kenington: Queen's Gate Concert Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Percy Dearmer's Reading of "The Soul of the World." Music by Mr. Martin Shaw. Tickets, 2s. and 1s., from the Offices.
Nov. 8.—Hampstead: Town Hall, 8.15, Mrs. Mansell-Moullin, Rev. Percy Dearmer, Rev. S. Healey, Mr. Laurence Housman, Mr. R. H. Pott (chair).

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

All Suffragists should see Mr. Laurence Housman's delightful play, "Alice in Ganderland," for which a splendid cast has been secured, including Miss Eva Moore and Mr. Laurence Gosmith. The piece concludes with the singing of Dr. Ethel Smyth's "March of the Women," conducted by the talented composer herself. A pageant has been introduced into the play, and in it most of the Suffrage Leagues will find themselves represented by characteristic groups of single figures, symbolic of the various features of the movement. The pioneers of the 'sixties lead the way; then comes Enlightenment with the National Union, bearing torches of green, white and red. The militant societies follow; the warrior maidens of the W.S.P.U., led by Miss Charlotte Marsh; the Figures of Liberty in the green, white and gold of the Freedom League. The Writers, Artists and University Women succeed them, all symbolic figures, and undertaken by beautiful and well-known actresses; then the Britannia of the Conservative League; the St. George of the Church League; John Hampden for the Tax Resistance League, and so on. The Free Church, Catholic, Irish and Welsh women are also depicted, and a group of Tragedy, Comedy, Music and Dancing (typifying the Actresses' Franchise League) brings up the rear. In addition to the names already mentioned, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Annie Hughes, Mrs. Russ Whytall, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Janette Steer, Miss Elaine Inescourt, Miss Christine Silver, Miss Edith Craig, and many others will appear in the pageant. Mr. Zangwill's brilliantly witty prologue will be spoken by Miss Fay Davis.

The next Members' "At Home" will be held on Friday, October 20th, at the Offices of the Actresses' Franchise League, at 3 p.m. The speeches will take the form of short anecdotes or accounts from various members on "How I came to join the Suffrage Movement." Amongst the speakers will be Mrs. Ben Webster and Miss Inez Bensusan. Tea at 4 p.m.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Every effort should be made to make the public meeting at the Small Queen's Hall, Langham Place, on October 26th, at 8 p.m., a great success. Mrs. Walter Koch, the wife of the member of Parliament for Pembrokeshire, will be in the chair, and Miss Abadam and Mr. Clayton, both splendid speakers, have kindly consented to speak for us. Will members write at once to Miss Monica Whately, 75, Harcourt Terrace, The Boltons, S.W., saying in what way they can help—distributing bills among their friends, selling tickets (1s.), having a poster shown to advertise the meeting, giving away bills at the church doors after the Sunday services. All must help. Members may be interested to know that our Society is to be represented in the pageant given by the Actresses' Franchise League on October 27th.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

At short notice the spirited policy of invading the Congregationalist assembly at Nottingham was decided on, and was justified by a meeting not only crowded, but notable for enthusiasm and plain speaking. It was held at the Victoria Hotel, about 500 attending, including a large number of the Congregational Union delegates, who were personally invited. Much sympathy for the movement was aroused and without one dissentient a resolution was passed, asking both the Congregational Union and the National Free Church Council to deal officially with the subject at their Spring assemblies. The Revs. Rhonda Williams and Ernest Barsen spoke to their fellow-ministers. Mrs. Holman presided and Miss Christabel Pankhurst supported the ministerial appeal and appeared to win over a good many who at first voiced disapproval. Mr. Clayton, followed by Rev. C. Fleming Williams and Miss W. Cullis, D.Sc., were speakers. On Tuesday, 24th inst., at Little Ilford Congregational Church, at 8 p.m., there will be a public meeting addressed by Miss Hatty Baker, Mrs. Edith M. Rogers, Rev. C. H. Poppleton, chair, Rev. W. T. Boyce. The East Ham branch continues its weekly outdoor meetings.

Forthcoming Meetings.

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.

OCTOBER 19.
Manchester.—Downing Street Co-operative Hall—J. E. Sutton, Esq., M.P., Miss Robertson. 7.30
Compton (near Guildford)—Watts' Picture Gallery—The Earl of Lytton, Professor Urwick, the Viscountess Middleton (chair). Tea (kindly provided by Mrs. G.F. Watts.) 4.30

Godalming—Borough Hall—The Earl of Lytton, Miss D. Hunter, Hon. A. Davey (chair). 8.15
Pembury—Church School—Miss Scott, P.L.G., Miss Dutton, the Rev. W. R. Holman (chair). 7.30
Seaton Carew—Mrs. Thompson's Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 3.30
Birmingham—23, Highfield Road, Edgbaston—Violin recital in aid of funds—Mrs. Priestman. Tickets, 1s. 8.15
Longtown—Mechanics' Hall—Miss M. Norma-Smith. 8.0
OCTOBER 20.
Tynemouth—Mrs. Charles's Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 7.30
Altrincham—The Downs Lecture Room, Bowdon—Annual Business Meeting, 7.30; Open Meeting, Miss Hester Bright 8.0
Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30
Gerrards Cross—Mrs. Goodbody's drawing-room meeting—Chair, Miss Tanner (Clifton). 8.0
Brenchley—Schoolroom—Miss Dutton 8.0
Silloth—Assembly Rooms—Miss M. Norma-Smith, Rev. R. A. Humble (chair). 8.0

OCTOBER 23.
Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Mrs. Angus Watson's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 8.15
Weston-super-Mare—Brown's Café, High Street—Annual Meeting—Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross. 3.0
Crowborough—Oddfellows Hall—Miss Evelyn Sharp, Lord Brassey (chair). 8.0
Leighton Buzzard—Corn Exchange—Lord Lytton, Miss Margaret Ashton. 8.0
Whitehaven—Masonic Hall—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall 7.30
OCTOBER 24.
Manchester—85, Deansgate Arcade—Concert. 7.30
Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Speakers' Class—Miss C. M. Gordon. 8.0
Newcastle-on-Tyne—Miss Atkinson's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 3.15
Grange—Public Hall—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Bristol—111a, Whiteladies Road—Lecture on "Sordello"—Miss J. M. Baretti. 5.0
Romsey—Town Institute—Mrs. Rackham—Debate. 8.0
Egremont—Town Hall—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall. 7.30
OCTOBER 25.
Bristol—49, Royal York Crescent—Working Party. 3.0
Portsmouth—Albert Hall—Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Cooper, Countess of Selborne (chair). 8.0
Dover—Town Hall—Miss Abadam. 8.0
Shanklin—The Institute—Lady Frances Balfour, Mr. Harold Stables, Miss Aston (chair). 8.30
Gateshead—Co-operative Hall—Mrs. Harrison Bell, Councillor R. Elliott, J.P. (chair). 7.30

Leitchworth—Howard Hall—"Suffragists and the Winter"—Miss Courtney, Miss Hope Rea. 8.0
Penarth—Mrs. Carlake Thomson's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser. 3.30
Fringington—St. Paul's School—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall. 7.0
OCTOBER 26.
Haltwhistle—Mechanics' Hall—Miss C. M. Gordon. 8.0
Dinas Powis—Public Hall—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Fareham—Portland Hall—The Lady Frances Balfour, the Countess of Selborne (chair). 8.0
Crowthorne—Mrs. Reid's Meeting—Mrs. Robie Uniacke, Mrs. Renton 8.0
Cleator Moor—Montreal Infant School—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall. 7.30
OCTOBER 27.
Baldoak—Town Hall—Mrs. Rackham, Rt. Hon. Earl of Lytton, Mr. H. C. Hardy (chair). 8.0
Newport (Isle of Wight)—Medina Hall—Lady Frances Balfour, G. D. Hall, M.P. (chair). 8.0
Hitchin—Workman's Hall—"Education and the Need of Women in its Administration"—Miss Ruth Young, Miss Tuke, M.A. 3.15
Barry—Mrs. Giberber Jones's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser. 3.30
Seascale—Mrs. Armes's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall. Afternoon.

OCTOBER 28.
St. Bees—Hodgett's Club—Miss Norma-Smith, Miss C. E. Marshall. 7.0
OCTOBER 30.
Oldham—Music Room, Werneth Park—Social evening—Tickets, 9d. 7.30
Hull—Oddfellows Hall—Miss Abadam. 8.0
Brandon—Paget Hall—The Lady F. Balfour, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Eva Ward, Rev. Dr. Tennant (chair). 8.0
OCTOBER 31.
Birmingham—Cotteridge—Open-air meeting—Miss Morrison. 7.30
Cardiff—Mrs. Jones's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss H. Fraser. 3.30
Llanishen—Public Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
NOVEMBER 1.
Guildford—Borough Hall—Sweated Industries Exhibition—Opened by Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.—Mrs. Panfiter Reeves. 3.0
Guildford—Lantern Lecture on Sweated Industries (Mr. Mallon), followed by Suffrage Speeches by Miss Reddish and Mrs. Pamfer Reeves. 8.0
Wakefield—Institute—Lord Lytton, Miss I. O. Ford. 8.0
York—Assembly Rooms—Mrs. Jalland's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Abadam. 3.0
York—Exhibition—Miss Abadam. 7.30
Knutsford—King's Coffee House—"At Home"—Miss Reddish. 8.0

LONDON.

October 19: Hampstead, Mrs. Bellord's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Dykes Spicer, Miss Emily Davies, LL.D., Miss Clementina Black. 4.0
October 20: Central Hackney, Mrs. Card's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Chrystal Macmillan. 4.0
Camberwell, Collyer Place, Open-air Meeting, Miss Helen Ward. 8.0
Sutton, Clanciarde, Brighton Road, Annual Meeting, Miss M. Sheepshanks. 3.0



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- Southwark, Mrs. Davies-Colley's Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Theodore Williams (chair), Mrs. Stanbury, Highgate, Mrs. Seeking's Drawing-room Meeting, "Some Notable Women of the Middle Ages," Miss Lena Eckstein. 3.30
- October 21: Muswell Hill, corner of Queen's Avenue, Open-air Meeting, Mrs. Malcolm Mitchell, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. McRae. 3.30
- October 23: Hampstead, Mrs. Thompson's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Abadam. 8.15
- October 24: Fulham, 20, Talgarth Road, W. Kensington, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair). 8.0
- Camberwell, Tintagel Crescent, Dulwich, Open-air Meeting, Speaker from the Men's League. 4.0
- Sutton, Mrs. Stuart Davies's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Mildred Watson. 3.15
- October 26: Small Queen's Hall, Miss Abadam. 8.0
- October 27: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Abadam, Miss Emily Green. 8.0
- Camberwell, Grove Lane, Open-air Meeting, Speaker from Men's League. 8.0
- October 31: Camberwell, The Tabernacle, Rye Lane, Open-air Meeting, Speaker from Men's League. 8.0
- SCOTLAND.**
- October 20: Haddington, Parish Church Hall, Sale to be opened by Lady Betty Balfour, J. D. Hope, Esq., M.P. (chair). 3.0
- October 21: Edinburgh, St. Cuthbert's Hall, Fancy Fair to be opened by Lady Betty Balfour. 11-8.45
- October 23: Falkirk, Lesser Hall, Miss Hilda Cotterill. 7.0
- October 24: Perth, Guildhall, "At Home." 7.30
- ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.**
- LONDON.**
- October 19: St. George's, Hanover Square, Liberal Association, Debate, Miss Ruth Young. 8.0
- West London Co-op. Guild Medical Institute, Miss Helen Ward. 8.0
- October 23: Stratford, Grove House Literary and Debating Society, Miss Helen Ward. 8.0
- Stepney, B.W.T.A., East End Council, Latimer Hall Bridge, S.W., Miss Rinder. 7.0
- Harlesden, Tubbs Road Adult School, Miss Cocker. 2.45
- Sutton, Congregational Church Rooms, Mothers' Meeting, Miss Martineau. 3.0
- October 25: North Hackney, Constitutional Club, Debate—Opener, Mrs. Gimingham, M.A. 8.0
- October 19: Cardiff, Canton Parochial Hall, Midwives Association, Miss Helen Fraser. 4.0

- October 20: Cardiff, Free Church Auxiliary, Miss Helen Fraser 7.30
- Oldham, Reform Club, Liberal Union, & Young Liberals, Miss Robertson, B.A., W. Barton, Esq., M.P. (chair). 8.0
- October 23: Cardiff, Junior Conservative Club, Debate, Miss Helen Fraser, V. Mr. D. A. Harries. 8.0
- October 25: Oldham, Y.M.C.A., "Should Women Have Votes," Miss Mabel Sharples. 8.0
- Bristol, W. L. A., Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross 8.0
- October 26: Cambridge, March, Meeting for Women Ratepayers, Mrs. Rackham. 7.30
- October 30: Cardiff, Women's Labour League, Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
- Norwich, St. Mary's Women's Adult School, Miss E. Brodrick. 2.45
- IRELAND.**
- October 19: Dublin, Annexe Hall, 35, Molesworth Street, Irish W.S. and Local Gov. Ass., Committee Meeting. 11.30
- October 25—November 2: Portsmouth Society, Special Meetings, Mrs. Cooper.

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LIST OF LECTURES—AUTUMN SESSION, 1911, at 8.30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 26. ANNUAL DINNER, Criterion
Restaurant.

Chairman: Sir Alfred Mond, M.P.

Speakers: The Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G.,
Mr. Israel Zangwill, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss Gertrude
Kingston, and others.

Wednesday, Nov. 15. WOMEN IN TURKEY.

Miss Isabel Fry. Chairman: Mr. H. W. Nevinson.

Wednesday, Nov. 29. PLAYS OF TO-DAY. Mr. J. T.
Grein, dramatic critic of the "Sunday
Times" and "Ladies' Field."

Chairman: Mr. Goldfinch Bate.

Wednesday, Dec. 13. Resolution for Debate: THAT
WOMEN ARE FAVOURED BY
THE LAW.

Proposer: Mr. Graham Mould, Barrister-at-Law

Opposer: Earl Russell, Barrister-at-Law.

Chairman: Miss Otter.

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