

The Common Cause OF HUMANITY.

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

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

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

Notes and News.

The Select Committee.

A Select Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to consider the Franchise and Registration questions on Wednesday, July 19th. Sir Edward Carson's motion—"That, in the opinion of this House, it is the duty of the Government without further delay to introduce legislation to prepare a new register of parliamentary voters and to confer the parliamentary franchise on all sailors and soldiers who are serving or have served in His Majesty's forces during the present war"—came therefore on the motion to appoint the Select Committee. We deal elsewhere with some aspects of this matter as it affects Women's Suffrage.

Wanted--More Chemists.

"We suffer in this country from the want of experts," said Lord Haldane, in the debate on National Education, of July 12th. "It is no use saying to manufacturers, 'Employ more chemists.' We are not training them. On inquiry, I found that there are only 1,500 trained chemists in this country. On the other hand, four German chemical firms, who have played havoc with our trade, employed 1,000 trained chemists. Take another instance. Experts calculate that by proper means we could produce in this country the whole of the motor power now used from one-third of the coal consumed in doing so. It is also calculated that we waste, in the various stages of consumption and the making of by-products, as much coal as would pay the interest on £500,000,000 after the war. It is a great mistake to suppose that we have not in this country got men of the highest science and knowledge, but we have not enough individuals possessing that science and knowledge to go round." To which we would add, we want more women to take up chemical work. We hope shortly to announce the results of our Chemistry Scholarship.

Rate of Pay for Women Munition Workers.

The new Orders issued by the Ministry of Munitions provide for the payment of a minimum of 4d. an hour to women over eighteen years of age engaged as piece-workers or premium-bonus

workers on munition work "of a class which prior to the war was not recognised as men's work in districts where such work was customarily carried out." Girls under eighteen and over seventeen are to be paid at a rate of not less than 3½d. an hour, girls between sixteen and seventeen at 3d., and under sixteen at 2½d. When employed on time rates women of eighteen years and over are to be paid 4½d. an hour, girls between seventeen and eighteen at 4d., between sixteen and seventeen at 3½d., and under sixteen at 3d. "The approximate time rate shall, in the case of any woman or girl on piece-work, be guaranteed irrespective of her piece-work earnings." Therefore, on piece-work a quick worker should be able to earn a good deal more than the minimum rate. The Order lays down that "the foregoing rates shall not operate to prejudice the position of any person who has better terms and conditions, nor prevent employers from recognising special ability or responsibility."

Women's Part in Victory.

"Women are now part and parcel of our great Army," declared Lord Derby, speaking, last week at the Queen's Hall, in support of the work of the Y.W.C.A. for women workers in munition and other areas. "Without them it would be impossible for progress to be made, but with them I believe that victory can be assured." The men in France, he continued, were doing their duty and doing it successfully, but they would not be able to do it successfully were it not for the work the women of England were doing at home in keeping them supplied with munitions. When the history of the war came to be written he wondered to whom the greatest credit would be given, to the men who went to fight or to the women who were working in a way that many people hardly believed that it was possible for them to work. At the same meeting, Lord Sydenham added his tribute to the help of women. Without their untiring labours, he declared, the great advance of our splendid Army could not have been accomplished. They might fairly claim that they had helped to save thousands of lives, to change the aspect of the war, and to launch our Army on the new road that leads to victory. Wherever intelligence, care, and close attention had been needed women had distinguished themselves; for the first time they had been able to play a direct part in war, and the country could not be too proud of what its women were doing.

The "Push" of Our Scottish Hospitals.

Our readers will see with interest the great news on page 187. A Unit of two hundred beds, fully staffed and equipped, with a fleet of motor-ambulances, a laboratory, X-ray apparatus, &c., is all ready to go out to Salonica, under Dr. Agnes Bennett, while Mrs. Harley will take out a Flying Column, with ambulances and motor-kitchen. And yet another Unit—also to work for the Serbians—will soon be ready to start, under Dr. Elsie Inglis.

A Nurse's Will as a Soldier's Will.

In the Probate Court Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane admitted to probate as a "soldier's will" a letter written by a nurse on a British hospital ship. This is the first time, it is believed, that a nurse has been classed as a soldier for the purpose of making a war-will, which needs no attesting witnesses,

Penalising Marriage.

At the Annual Conference of the Postal and Telegraph Clerks' Association, held at Leeds last week, Mdlle. P. S. Le Croisette gave some interesting notes (reported by *The Leeds Weekly Citizen*) of the French Conference, held at Lille just before the war. "The French women members were very much surprised that compulsory retirement on marriage should be enforced over here." "C'est terrible," was their verdict. But when Mdlle. Le Croisette asked how it was that Frenchwomen had gained the right to stay in the service after marriage, they explained that after all it was due, not to an act of justice, but of expediency. The French Government, being greatly dissatisfied with the low birth-rate, women were not dismissed on their marriage, but encouraged to retain their posts. About fifty per cent. of the French postal women are married. If they should have children, they are allowed certain times "off" during the day to feed them. But—great capital is made out of these "concessions," for they are arguments against equal pay! After metaphorically going on its knees to the women and begging them to increase the population (and incidentally proving that in the last resort the State or community depends on the women), the Government makes a virtue of expediency, and tells them they are not worth so much salary as the men, owing to the services which they have been implored to render.

V.A.D.'s Wanted.

The Women's V.A.D. Department of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John, at Devonshire House, is appealing for V.A.D. members to nurse in military hospitals both at home and abroad. Volunteers must possess both the First Aid and Home Nursing certificates, and preference will be given to members with hospital experience. The age limit is twenty-three to forty-two for foreign service, and twenty-one to forty-two for home service. Members volunteer for one month's probation, and, if considered suitable, sign a contract for six months' service in the same hospital. They can sign on for a further period of six months if asked to do so by the matron of the hospital in which they are serving. They will

Women Suffragists in South Africa.

The Parliamentary elections at the end of 1915 were followed by municipal elections, which resulted, on the Witwatersrand (Transvaal), in the return of nine women councillors and one for Pretoria. The position of women as citizens in the four provinces of the Union of South Africa was dealt with in four papers, two of them written by women councillors, for the Conference of the British Dominions Suffrage Union in London. Representatives of the Enfranchisement Association of South Africa attended the Conference with the object of sending reports upon the excellent subjects chosen for discussion. They did not attend as voting delegates, the W.E.A.U., of South Africa, being in the strictest sense a Suffrage Society, and, consequently, not able to pledge its members to decisions upon matters outside its immediate scope. Great interest is being shown by the members of the South African Association in the B.D.W.S. Conference and in the proposed International Women's Suffrage Alliance Conference to take place after the war.

The Conference of the W.E.A.U. took place on June 29th and 30th, and July 1st, Lady Steel, the acting-President, presiding, at Maritzburg, Natal, and reports of the work done during 1915, in every direction by the twenty-seven Leagues affiliated to the Association appears in the June Number of *The Woman's Outlook*.

A number of measures affecting women have come before Parliament now sitting at Cape Town, and the Association has worked hard to influence members of Parliament in their attitude towards the Bills under consideration. Dr. Watkins's "Girls' and Mentally Deficient Women's Protection Bill" has passed Senate and House of Assembly, and raises the age of consent to sixteen for the Union. The Electoral Bill has an amendment yet to be brought forward to grant the Suffrage to women. Great efforts were made to introduce an amendment to the Bill for the Reconstitution of the Law Society of the Cape, admitting women as solicitors and notaries. This, however, was ruled out by the Speaker as impossible in the case of a private member's Bill. Mr. Patrick Duncan's Bill for a Minimum Wage for Women and Girls, the first of its kind in Africa, will be introduced at the beginning of next Session. Women's Societies

be required to live in the nurses' quarters, and will be absolutely under the control of the matron. Salary is at the rate of £20 a year, with quarters, food, washing, and travelling expenses, and £4 a year is allowed for upkeep of uniform, which members have to provide themselves.

It is to be hoped that this appeal will bring in a sufficient number of competent volunteers; but many women who thought earlier in the war of joining a V.A.D., were given the impression that their services were not likely to be required, and took up other work. If there is now a shortage of women with V.A.D. training to assist in nursing our soldiers this is due to want of foresight on the part of the authorities, who certainly have not in the past made it clear to the nation that there was any danger of such a shortage. An appeal six months ago would have brought numbers of recruits to the V.A.D.'s throughout the country, who by now would be competent to undertake many of the simpler duties of nursing.

The Men and Women Munition Workers Reply to the Soldiers.

Five hundred delegates of organised trades at the Caxton Hall Conference, under the presidency of Mr. Arthur Henderson, sent this message to the men in the trenches:—

"To General Sir Douglas Haig.

"This meeting of representatives of organised trades, including both men and women, engaged on munitions work and in other occupations, assure you, and through you the British Army, that we will not relax our efforts to maintain and increase the supply of ammunition, guns, and other war material which is necessary to enable you and the Army to bring to a victorious conclusion the great task which you have so gallantly and successfully begun.

"For this purpose we have resolved to recommend the postponement of all holidays, general and local, which involve interruption of production until such time as we are assured by you that military exigencies permit of the postponed holidays being taken."

will be urged to do all possible to strengthen Mr. Duncan's hands in respect of this Bill. A Bill to amend the Education Act of 1907 was introduced in the Provincial Council of the Transvaal in order to put the vote for school boards on the municipal basis, involving the vote for women, and was defeated by a few votes only. The Labour members voted for it, the Dutch members against, being, in the main, anti-Suffragists. The reason given by the Administrator, however, for defeat was on grounds of the increased expenditure involved. The anomaly remains that women may sit on school boards but may not vote for candidates!

Through activity of the W.E.A.U. it has been possible for the Government to see its way to extend the scope of the Juvenile Advisory Boards, established in connection with the Labour Bureaux, with a view to the industrial education of boys after school age, to include girls. Besides this, women are now admitted on the advisory boards, and Cape Town and Durban have elected members of the W.E.A.U. to represent the Association on the local board. The Government are to be congratulated on this progressive step to take advantage of women's experience and interest in the rising generation.

The Woman's Reform Club, Johannesburg, is carrying on a splendid work through the "National Service Fund" for women and children. In addition to a scheme for the care of expectant poor mothers, and one for babies' welcomes, which have proved a great success, a toy industry, and exhibition of South African-made toys have been established, and bid fair to lay the foundations of lasting occupation for poor white women, and to be a contribution towards solving the "poor white," and especially Dutch white, problem.

Rhodesia has established a Suffrage Society at Buluwayo, the only new Society formed during this year in South Africa. Active Suffrage propaganda has given place to work-for-war funds in some Leagues, and for social reform in others: all are active in one or other direction.

A report of the W.E.A.U. Conference will be forwarded in due course.

Laura Ruston
(Secretary, W.E.A.U.)

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service.

During the last week considerable activity has been experienced in all the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and the work at Headquarters has been increasingly heavy.

The French military authorities asked Dr. Ivens if Royaumont could be extended to accommodate more patients, and accordingly more wards have been opened. There has been a steady influx of badly wounded men, and the motor ambulances have plied increasingly between Creil station and the hospital. The staff, as usual, has responded splendidly to this large increase in work. In the X-ray department the work has been very heavy. So great has the surgical work been that our C.M.O. has scarcely had a moment to herself. No pains, we know, will be spared to relieve the great suffering at present to be found within the walls of Royaumont.

News travels slowly from Salonika these days, but the last letter received informed us that the hospital was full, and the Unit was busy. Members returning home tell us that the work out there is being greatly appreciated by the French authorities.

At Headquarters (Edinburgh) extensive preparations are being carried on. The American Unit (so called because it has been paid for by money collected by Miss Burke in America), is now ready for departure to Salonika, under the charge of Dr. Bennett, and only awaits the sailing of the transport. Mrs. Harley's Flying Column will leave with Dr. Bennett's Unit, both travelling out together.

In order to avoid any misunderstanding that might arise from the account which appeared in last week's issue of *THE COMMON CAUSE*, of another Transport Column which is being organised, we must explain that there are two Transport Flying Columns for Salonika, No. 1, under Mrs. Harley, and No. 2, under the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, which will follow later.

A new Unit under the leadership of Dr. Inglis, is likewise being equipped, and the London Committee, in addition to giving £2,000 towards Mrs. Harley's Flying Column, is very generously paying for the equipment of the second Transport Column.

Our readers will see from the foregoing that our expenses for the present are very heavy. There is much work to be done among our wounded allies. We appeal to all our readers to stimulate interest in the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and to send to Mrs. Laurie, our Honorary Treasurer, what financial aid they can.

At Royaumont.**Glasgow City Chamberlain's Staff Bed.**

I was called to the colours on the second day of our mobilisation, and joined the 14th Territorial (Reserve) Regiment, at Abbeville. Six days later the regiment started for the front, being attached successively to the armies fighting round Arras, at Neuport, in Belgium, and in Artois. Although our corps was composed of men who were no longer very young, it was, none the less, always in the post of honour in the first line, and our men supported their fatigues and privations without murmuring. And, after all, what are bodily and mental sufferings; what even are losses, heavy though they sometimes are, to men who are conscious of the ideal for which each of us should be ready to lay down his life?

Whether one is French, English, Russian, Belgian, or Serb—or even only a neutral on the watch—the word of command for each and all is the same. Down with German militarism, which for twenty-five years has been a perpetual menace to the freedom of civilised peoples, an enemy of justice and right.

To reach this noble end, let us persevere in our determination, let us keep intact our confidence in our chiefs and our will to conquer, which is so finely seconded by the calm of our civil population.

Let us hope that 1916 will see the triumph of the Allied Armies over the barbarism of the Central Empires.

(Signed) JULES MILHAN.
[Milhan is thirty-six years of age, and a sergeant-major. In civil life he is a foreman artificer.]

Montrose Girls' Club Bed.

I cannot possibly tell you all the things that happened to me from the beginning of this sad war up to the time of my arrival at Royaumont, but I shall give you a short account of the events which led to my getting the Croix de Guerre. On March 24th two companies of the 74th Infantry were sent for a few

days' rest to a little place in Champagne, where we were supposed to be out of reach of the daily bombardments by the Boches. But about two o'clock in the afternoon we were surprised by a regular avalanche of shells (our position had been ascertained by spies), which did considerable damage, wounding many of us. The others sought refuge in caves. When the commander asked for volunteers to carry the wounded under cover, five sergeants—myself and four others—went, and we were able to save about a dozen and to take them to a post of safety. Sergeant L. was badly hit, but refused to be attended to until we had looked after all the others. I was wounded on September 25th, and carried to a wood, where I remained for seven hours without help, as the enemy were firing all round.

I was sent to Aubigny and from there to Royaumont.
(Signed) GEORGES DELANNAY.
[Occupation: Works in a factory.]

"Elizabeth" Bed.

We began to fight on August 14th, in Reichilcourt, and, after three days, we forced the Germans to retire. On the 20th we arrived at a place near Morhange, where we suffered very heavy losses, as we were only three corps against six. We put up such a good fight, however, that their 15th Corps fled, hardly firing at all, and leaving all their arms and baggage behind them.

After a struggle which lasted for two days we were obliged to retire, and to leave our captain dead on the field. Then followed a great deal of fighting in other places, until we were sent for a few days' rest to Royaumont. Later, at Bray-sur-Somme, we advanced considerably. On October 5th we again lost our captain. Then we marched by night further north, where we spent a month. I remember once, when we stopped to get a few hours' sleep in a barn, we were roused by the sentries and hurried on; had we remained for five minutes we should have been killed or taken prisoners.

I was sent to Royaumont on January 29th; both my arms were broken, and I had many wounds.
(Signed) CHARLES BUCHWEILLER.
[Aged twenty-four; left arm amputated.]

Central Counties' Federation Bed.

I joined the 134th Territorial, and for five months I was at an instruction camp, making trenches and helping to fortify the town. A great misfortune befell me during March: I lost my only child, a boy of three years old, who was only ill for eight days. In a single month I had lost my child, my wife was ill, and I was ordered to go with my regiment to Pas de Calais.

We arrived at five o'clock in the morning, and took up the defensive for ten hours. In spite of the sufferings and the fatigue we all endured, the regiment was in excellent spirits. On June 16th I was in a first-line trench, and three shells fell three yards away from me; the shock threw me into the air. I was slightly wounded on the leg and on my left ear.

After that we held the trenches under a terrible bombardment until September 28th, when we attacked in Artois, starting at two o'clock in the morning. Later on that same day I found two wounded, whom I cared for as well as possible, although it was dark and shells fell all round me. One of them happened to be the commander of my company, and I was gratefully thanked by the officer-in-charge for having had the courage to attend to him and bring him out of danger.

In spite of the trials and the sufferings I hope I shall be able to go back and to fight until the end.

(Signed) EMILE MARIS.
[Aged thirty-eight. Occupation: has a café.]

Paddington I. Bed.

An orphan since the age of two, I had never known a parent's care. I was soon to know the horrors of war. I joined the army when I was scarcely nineteen, and I arrived at the front on March 14th, 1915, and took part in an attack in Belgium, where we took two lines of trenches in succession. On September 25th, at another attack near Arras, the increasing fire of the Boches killed at least two-thirds of our regiment. On November 8th we reinforced English troops who had taken Loos at a terrible cost, and who were in danger of being completely annihilated owing to the superior numbers of the enemy. However, with our help they managed to hold the position. Next month passed fairly calmly. I was sent to Beauvais and then to Royaumont, where, thanks to the devoted care given me, I soon forgot the sufferings I had endured in the trenches. I am now able to return to the front and I shall always remember Royaumont. I know that we must conquer or die.

(Signed) DUIGON JEAN (aged 21, farmer),

In the Garden of England.

Chaff Cutting.

It was a supreme moment when, having been duly "sworn in" of H.M.'s Forces, we were presented with our precious khaki armlet, whereon the legend "Land Army" on a white ground with purple facings is emblazoned. Then, being fully invested, our guide, philosopher, and friend, Miss F., issued "marching orders" as follows: "You must be at Victoria at 4 p.m. on Monday (22nd May), where you will be met, as one of a party of seventeen going to Bat and Ball Station, Seven-oaks; chaff cutting."

At the appointed time we duly assembled at Victoria, with our distinguishing badge of honour, and some minutes later our party began to assemble. With the freemasonry of good comradeship, we quickly "chummed up," and a delightful journey came to an end at Bat and Ball Station, where we were met and welcomed, escorted to our billets, and received with hospitality and rejoicing which even the Prodigal Son might have envied.

Our first essay on active service was a series of military evolutions under the instruction of Company Sergeant Major C., one of the smartest non-coms. in Kent, and what we didn't know of "right turn, left turn; eyes right, eyes left; one, two, one two; advance; retire; quick march; halt!"—well, no one could tell us until the final—

"First parade, half-past six in the morning. DIS-MISS"—and we swung round in gallant style, left foot forward, to our several billets.

To be a member of the Land Army is a liberal education. We note everything that gives trouble (or stops short, like our machine sometimes) is "she." Well, our alarm clock, "she" screeched out at 5.15 a.m., and held on without a break till we got on our feet. Then there was early breakfast, and off we went, our C.S.M. awaiting us.

"Fall in!" (quoth he), we lined up. "Stand at ease!" we stand. "Shun!" our heels clicked, and so did the sergeant's spurs; whilst we jingled the coppers in our pockets (when we had any) to make the requisite music.

"Right, count." We began in a loud voice, getting louder along the line—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, and, in the strongest fortissimo, seventeen. We were all there. "Fall out for work."

We "skelped" and seized hold of our implements. And here, at once, became apparent the adaptability of the British female. An astonishing revelation to herself, as well as to others. On the platform, feeding our "Clipper" safety chaff cutter, stands a strapping, young East-end dressmaker; the way she plays about with one of Vaughan Brothers' elastic prong pitchforks, and wheels half-a-hundredweight of hay or straw into the machine is a study. A little further off is our champion lady swimmer, captain of her team, swinging up 80 lbs. of chaff on the Balance, and then hoisting it on her back and across the yard, to the chorus of "Carry on the business."

"Hurry up with the good work." But here the O.C. comes along; she's "not to carry a load on her back." "All right," she does not until his valiant form disappears, when away goes another sack across the yard. Then

WHAT IS CHAFF CUTTING?

Let me enlighten you. It is not the chaff you cut, but the hay and straw you, or rather the machine, cuts into chaff. Sometimes the hay is old—we'll say no more; and then, well, it is not wildly exhilarating; but the upland meadow hay, the fragrant clover, we consider a specific for any number of ailments. We have only to look round on the whole strength of the company to see the ruddy cheeks, sparkling eyes, and general air of well-being since our arrival in beautiful Kent.

To appreciate our work it is only necessary to note ten-ton railway wagons of baled and trussed stuff dispatched in our shed like magic. First it is unshredded, the tarpaulin hauled off and rolled up, the bales hurled from on high, dumped on our floor, and nipped with pliers (if baled), and the wires carefully coiled and put into a bag (for the least scrap would make "her" stop), or cut with a jack knife (if trussed). Then begins a general shaking up of the raw material, with pitchforks a-flying in the air, and presently the ten tons are beaten out of all recognition, and reduced to harmless sacks of chaff. Why, the Chicago pig, which walks into the stock-yard and in twenty minutes comes out in sausages, is only a myth to our performance (even if we say it as shouldn't).

A long train-load of wagons similarly reduced in a mar-

vellously short time, is no more to us than a "fly in the Glen of the Downs."

We back our party to be every one a Trojan on her own account, to say more would be superfluous; and some of us have played many parts—putting eyes in Charlie Chaplin, heads on teddy bears, sewing coats for soldiers, cooking, nursing, blouse-making, cigarette-making, and various other occupations.

A. DE C.

For "The Common Cause."

Few Suffrage meetings are held nowadays, and members of the National Union are all busy with "war work"; but however busy they are it is important that the Societies of the Union should keep in touch with one another and with Headquarters. This "The Common Cause" enables them to do.

Like other publishing ventures, however, THE COMMON CAUSE has had many difficulties to contend with during the two years since the outbreak of war. These have been met, to a large extent, by care and foresight on the part of the management and the loyalty of thousands of faithful friends. But we are now obliged to appeal for AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS to enable us to continue publication.

We acknowledge with grateful thanks to our readers the sum, now reached, of £189 towards the total that we need; and we wish also to thank the many writers of kind and appreciative letters:—

"I have pleasure in enclosing cheque for £2 2s. towards the fund to continue the publication of THE COMMON CAUSE. One realises more and more the necessity of keeping alive the organ which, in these times of changes and innovations, voices the woman's point of view, and I sincerely hope you will succeed in your effort to do so."

"I have much pleasure in enclosing £1 1s., a small contribution towards keeping THE COMMON CAUSE going, which I feel is most important."

"I am enclosing our cheque for £3 3s. I think it would be a calamity if THE COMMON CAUSE was given up. I have taken it for many years, and have always found it most interesting and especially so lately."

"I enclose £5 for THE COMMON CAUSE Fund, with much pleasure, and trust the necessary amount may be subscribed, as it would be a sad thing if, after all these years, we were deprived of our interesting and valuable paper."

"I enclose £5 for THE COMMON CAUSE Fund. I think it would be disastrous if that could not keep on."

"I enclose cheque for £1 for your COMMON CAUSE Fund. I find the paper intensely interesting, and think it deserves our most generous support now more than ever, and hope you will soon get the £500 you ask for."

"It is little I can do for THE COMMON CAUSE, to which I owe so much light and leading."

"I enclose a small donation towards THE COMMON CAUSE Fund. It is a really interesting paper now—it is a pleasure to take it. I am ordering a second copy for the Students' Common Room."

"I enclose a cheque for £1 1s. as a small donation towards the publishing of THE COMMON CAUSE. I always take in three copies every week, and should be very sorry if for lack of funds the paper had to be discontinued now when it is needed so much."

"I send £5 for THE COMMON CAUSE fund. THE COMMON CAUSE, of course, is indispensable and contains news of value not to be found in the daily papers, as well as valuable articles."

"Enclosed please find a P.O. towards the fund for THE COMMON CAUSE. Of course I have taken it regularly myself for some years, and find it full of interest and instruction."

"I earnestly hope that THE COMMON CAUSE will go on. I enclose 5s. towards its support—much regretting that I can give so little."

From France.

"I herewith enclose a cheque for £1 towards the expenses of THE COMMON CAUSE, and I am very sorry not to be able to contribute a larger sum for I fully recognise the value of your paper."

"It is the best paper I get sent me from England," writes an English lad in West Australia.

Several societies have also sent special subscriptions, and we remember with pleasure and pride as well as gratitude, that the small societies have been among the first to help. Will not the larger ones continue to follow the lead? We want THE COMMON CAUSE to be in readiness for the day—coming who knows how soon?—when we shall all be asked to go "full steam ahead." When that day comes, we hope that all the stores of information accumulated week by week will be handy for use, all records ready to hand, THE COMMON CAUSE prompt and eager to do any and every service for the societies of the Union. Who will help us to keep in commission?

| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|-------------------------|-----|----|----|
| Already acknowledged | 152 | 2 | 8 | Miss E. M. Lancaster | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss E. D. Higginson (Gs.) | 4 | 15 | 0 | An Edinburgh Reader | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| already acknowledged | 1 | 10 | 0 | Mrs. Bernard Davis | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. G. C. Thompson | 2 | 20 | 0 | Mrs. Flügel | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Egerton | 1 | 10 | 0 | Miss Eleanor I. Kelly | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Miss B. Moseley | 1 | 10 | 0 | Miss Hertz | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Oxford and Limpfield W.S.S. | 1 | 10 | 0 | Miss A. J. Hertz | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss A. Shannon | 1 | 10 | 0 | Camberley W.S.S. | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| The Committee of Selborne | 5 | 0 | 0 | Miss V. Partington | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Ascot W.S.S. | 1 | 10 | 0 | Mr and Mrs Frank Thomas | 2 | 20 | 0 |
| Mrs. Churchill | 2 | 6 | 0 | Miss I. M. Warrington | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss A. J. Churchill | 2 | 6 | 0 | Miss Briggs | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Sheila Robinson | 2 | 6 | 0 | | | | |
| Mrs. Duncan | 3 | 3 | 0 | Total | 189 | 6 | 2 |

Reviews.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS, by Doroshevitch, with an Introduction by Stephen Graham. (Constable 2s. 6d.)

THE PEOPLE WHO RUN, by Violetta Thurstan. (Putnam 2s. 6d.)

POLAND RAVAGED AND BEREAVED, by Countess Julie Ledochowska, with a Preface by Henryk Sienkiewicz. (St. Catherine Press. 6d.)

In the early days of the war the sympathy of all England went out to the homeless Belgians who took refuge among us; but few people in this country have any notion of the prolonged torture suffered by the refugees from Western Russia, driven out of their homes by the German advance in August and September of last year. Old men, women, children, and invalids journeyed hundreds, even thousands, of miles, into the interior, taking with them what they could save of their most cherished possessions, and parting with these, one by one, as necessity compelled. The path they traversed is marked with crosses, where those who fell by the way were hastily interred. And thousands fell by the way, perishing of cold and sickness and hunger. Babies were born, and died like flies. In the crowded halting-places families were separated never to meet again, and friend lost friend. There was no privacy; men, women, children were herded together in conditions of indescribable squalor and filth; disease was rife.

A terribly poignant picture of this wholesale shifting of the population is given by the well-known Russian journalist, M. Doroshevitch, who, says Mr. Stephen Graham, in his introduction, went from Moscow to meet the coming flood of refugees, and travelled right through to the rear of the Russian Army. "At first he met the sparse survivors and first comers, those who were furthest ahead in the procession; afterwards they became thicker and thicker, till they were a great, moving wall. He tells how they camped in the forests, how they died by the way, how they put up their crosses by the side of the road, how they sold their horses and abandoned their carts." "With what desperation," says M. Doroshevitch, "did they cling to the possession of their horses." Having parted with these, many became hopeless and apathetic, feeling themselves no longer "muzhiks" but hopeless outcasts, dependent on charity even for their bread.

This charity was freely given all along the route. The Russians are a kind-hearted people, and M. Doroshevitch relates that he scarcely heard a murmur about the damage done by the refugees, though in some districts they swept the villages bare—digging up potatoes, and burning wood. "They've got to eat," say the peasants philosophically. "Perhaps we shall have to do the same ourselves. They take things in extremity. They ask for more, and we make them a present of it."

"Not once," says M. Doroshevitch, "did I hear the word which would be applied to beggars—*Podzem*, we grant. But *Daem*, we give. Or, more often, *Dareem*, we present."

Miss Thurstan's account of the fugitives completes that of M. Doroshevitch. She tells how they were received in the big cities—in Petrograd and Moscow and Kiev, and of the refugees in the far interior, at Kazan. Coming from England to inquire into the conditions in which the refugees were living, and ascertain what was the best form of help that British women could offer, Miss Thurstan had special opportunities for visiting the barracks in which they were housed, and learning the plans that were being made for their future.

Some of Miss Thurstan's experiences have already been related in THE COMMON CAUSE, including her visit to Kazan, as a result of which the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies sent out a Unit for a Children's Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

Miss Thurstan was particularly struck with the sufferings of the young mothers and children. "The most urgent of the many problems connected with the refugees is how to avert the terrible infant mortality among them. Even before the war the percentage of infant mortality in Russia reached an abnormally high level in comparison with the rest of Europe; now it has reached terrific proportions—and there are a still larger number stunted, crippled, and injured for life, owing to their unhygienic surroundings. The adults—even the old people, in some cases—have stood their privations very well, but the babies have a very slight hold on life; they soon tire of the unkind world they have come into and float back to Paradise without a single regret on their part for the smelly, noisy barracks and tenements they have left behind."

Such barracks! some of them; the worst slum area in this country has nothing to compare with them. Petrograd and Moscow are shockingly overcrowded, and the refugees are herded together in disused houses and hastily erected huts, where privacy is impossible, and disease breaks out and spreads. "Illness is supposed to be reported," says Miss Thurstan, "and serious cases taken to the hospitals; but this is rarely done. The thing these poor people dread more than anything else is to be parted from their friends, so they conceal illness as much as they possibly can. No germ could wish for a better soil to flourish; and so the moment infectious disease appears, in the twinkling of an eye, it is wafted all round the place."

Much has been done by the municipal committees of different towns, and in some the organisation is excellent; but the difficulties have been so enormous that it was impossible in most places to improvise adequate means of coping with the situation.

Miss Thurstan gives an interesting description of the various schemes that have been set on foot, including the Maternity Hospital, the staff of which was sent out by the National Union. "A revelation of cleanliness, light, and purity to these women who come out of the dark, noisome barak to give birth to their child."

Countess Ledochowska writes of devastated Poland: "A land of tombs and crosses," whose fugitives wander through the forests and hide in trenches, feeding on wild roots and carrion. In an interesting little historical survey, she shows what a debt the rest of Europe owes to Poland, and urges that such a country has a right, in its present misfortunes, "to knock at the door of every sympathetic heart and ask for help in its indescribable suffering." Countess Ledochowska, too, dwells especially on the sufferings of the children. "The Rockefeller American Commission," she says, "which visited Galicia in the summer of 1915 reported that you could search in vain for a child less than ten years old. Any of these little ones who laid themselves to rest in the snow never woke again."

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The following letter appeared under this heading in *The Times* of July 18th:—

Sir,—If the Committee on Registration is appointed, and finds, as it is bound to find, that its real subject-matter is the franchise, the country will, I think, be fully prepared to include in it the woman's vote. There is no antagonism between the women's case and that of the soldiers who have lost qualification. A new register would be a mockery if it left out the Armies; it would be equally unreal if, in view of all that has happened since the war broke in on the nation, it omitted half the community.

The Times has not been slow to record the part that women have played in the war. Without it there could have been no nation in arms. The Armies could not have held the field for a month; the national call to arms could not have been made or sustained; the country would have perished of inanition and disorganisation. If indeed it be true that the people have been one, it is because the genius of women has been lavishly applied to the task of reinforcing and complementing the genius of men. So far as I know, the qualities of steady industry, adaptability, good judgment, and concentration of mind which men do not readily associate with women, have been conspicuous features of their service.

This was not surprising to those who knew the long travail of their apprenticeship to public life; their work in education and local government; their skill in the professions open to them; the unselfishness of their choice of hard and uninteresting detail; the freshness and conscientiousness with which they joined themselves to the work of directing or being directed. The excellence of this self-training appeared in August, 1914, and the country now knows that it has at its disposal not an emergency service, but a permanent and varied enrichment of its energies, when they are again restored to the normal uses of civilised being.

There has, I am sure, been a real process of conversion in regard to woman franchise. The Government and the House of Commons have only to reflect this change of opinion and temper.—Yours, &c.,

London, July 17th.

H. W. MASSINGHAM.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The appearance of three women travellers in a remote part of North Siberia, so astonished the Russian colonists, says Miss Czaplicka, the well-known anthropologist, that they took the new arrivals for self-exiled Suffragists, driven by man-made laws to take refuge in comparative freedom on the bank of the Yenesei.

The question of the minimum wage for women munition-workers in the Falkirk district, where Circular L2 issued by the Ministry of Munitions is disregarded, and many women are being paid 9s. per week, with a war bonus of 1s. 6d., was raised by the Rev. H. M. Ross before the Presbytery, which remitted the matter to the Joint Committee of Life, Work, and Social Progress to investigate and report. We hope the excellent example set by Falkirk will be followed elsewhere.

They ARE Starving

"You can't imagine what a help they are, in these hard times." (From a Lance-Corporal.)

IT has been definitely stated in Parliament that our fighting men captured by the Germans are being deliberately kept short of food. These brave fellows are ever on the verge of starvation.

"If it had not been for parcels of food sent from this country the prisoners would in many instances have starved."—Mr. Tennant in the House of Commons.

Mr. Tennant is hopeful that there will be no relaxation of the efforts being made to send parcels to British Prisoners of War. The warm-hearted public will not need to be reminded of this truly national obligation.

The more generous support of the Fund of the Royal Savoy Association (which sends 300 parcels of food each week to British Prisoners of War) will make it possible to extend its scope and bring relief to more men in their pitiful plight. British prisoners are really starving. You'll never permit this!

The R.S.A. parcels (value 7/6) include everything that is known to be necessary for the welfare and comfort of the prisoners. Any sum, large or small, will be gratefully received by



REV. HUGH B. CHAPMAN,
ROYAL SAVOY ASSOCIATION,
7, SAVOY HILL, LONDON, W.C.

"I was in prison and ye came unto Me."

A Nurses' Union.

THE WORK OF THE N.U.T.N. IN PEACE AND WAR.

By MRS. GILLIES CAMPBELL.

A great deal has been written with regard to the energy and self-sacrifice of voluntary nurses in this time of national strain. Professional nurses most willingly recognise that without the aid of vast numbers of partially trained helpers it would not have been possible to solve the huge problems in human suffering with which the world has suddenly been faced. Yet there are onlookers who think that very bare justice has been done to the work which the fully trained nurse has been doing with all her might, usually at a rate of payment far below that which she received for ordinary civil work; sometimes, by a curious anomaly, for a sum less than that paid to the so-called "voluntary" helper. And while the trained nurse as an individual is throwing all her energies into the service of her country abroad, the National Union of Trained Nurses, known otherwise as the N.U.T.N., is doing its utmost to represent its members worthy in the life of the nation at home.

The N.U.T.N. is, above all, a union of nurses for nurses. Like the old craftsmen's guilds, at their best, it seeks to combine idealism with efficiency, and to impress upon its members that the good and sympathetic work of each individual is of the highest importance to the well-being of the nation at large; while, at the same time, it upholds the status of the professional nurse, enables its members as a body to bring questions which concern their profession before the proper authorities, and provides them with opportunities for post-graduate instruction and the study of social questions, as well as for that mutual intercourse which is so helpful to members of the same calling.

To such an association nothing that concerns the public health is unimportant, and in times of peace one of its chief activities is its valuable propaganda work—by means of pamphlets, posters, and post-card cartoons. The posters issued by the Union are both striking and practical, and deal faithfully with many popular errors with regard to the bringing-up of children, food, cleanliness, and home care in general. Patterns for sensible baby clothes, simple and reliable knitting directions for making woollies, economical cookery books, leaflets on moral education, and text books on points of law and other matters likely to affect the nurse are provided for a few pence. The Union is thus enabled to meet needs revealed by the special experience of nurses in a way which places advice and help within reach of the poorest.

MOBILISING THE NURSES.

On the outbreak of war, the Executive Committee, while not suspending its ordinary activities, at once placed its services at the disposal of the nation by throwing open its central offices as a clearing-house for nurses desiring to serve in any capacity. It may thus claim to have taken the first professional measure to mobilise the nursing community for national service. More than 2,500 names have been placed on its register, of whom a large number have been utilised either for military or refugee nursing abroad—in France, Russia, Armenia, Egypt, and other countries—or to meet the extraordinary pressure of work in our home hospitals. With regard to this registration of names, the greatest care is taken; not only are references taken up, but all candidates are interviewed by Matrons connected with the Union. Thus only fully trained, efficient nurses are sent abroad; a precaution for which all who have friends in the fighting line will be deeply grateful. Partially trained nurses, however, find equally useful, if less glorious, work in the home hospitals.

While everyone knows that doctors who have offered their medical services during the war are in many cases being paid a sum far higher than their ordinary income, exactly the opposite is the case with nurses, many of whom have been expected to work for about half their usual fees; many, indeed, were asked to give their services for nothing. It speaks volumes for their unselfishness and patriotism that from all those who have passed through the N.U.T.N. clearing-house there has been but one complaint as to the rate of pay.

Clearing-house work, or the sorting out of nurses into the special niches for which they are best fitted, is only one of the many voluntary war activities of the Union. It is always ready to give loyal help where help is needed, and has worked most generously in conjunction with many of the relief expeditions which are helping our Allies, not only by supplying competent nurses, but in raising funds and equipment by the aid of its members and their friends. The personal help of its trained members has been freely offered wherever possible, and it is owing to this that the Union is at present welcoming outside

voluntary help to cope with the rush of work in its own offices; for there are many things, such as pattern cutting, poster painting, and simple clerical work which can be done by the girl of home interests who is willing to give an hour or two daily to such a task.

ORGANISING UNITS.

Here are a few examples of the more active war work undertaken by the Union. One of its staff was lent to help in organising the Friends' War Relief Expedition, which has done such fine work in the North of France. A unit selected by the N.U.T.N. served for six months with the French Flag Corps, earning excellent reports from the Matron in charge. Again, the Urgency Cases Hospital for France was planned by a member of the Executive, and the whole of its preliminary organisation and staffing was carried out from the central offices of the Union. This little hospital went out in March, 1915, to work directly under the French War Office, and has been working hard ever since. Beginning at Bar-le-Duc with sixty beds, it has now moved to Revigny, where it has nearly 200, and has been receiving the wounded from Verdun. It takes only the severely wounded, and working at a distance of ten miles from the firing line, is able to get these urgent cases, needing immediate help if life is to be saved, with the least possible delay. This hospital has been described by an official paper as "a representative British unit of good surgery and good nursing," and it has received the warm commendation of the French military authorities.

MATERNITY WORK AMONG REFUGEES.

At the beginning of the war, a large number of nurses were supplied to the St. John Ambulance Association for work at the front, this practical help being gratefully acknowledged by the Matron-in-Chief. In addition to those working in the relief expeditions already mentioned, nurses were sent by the N.U.T.N. to work with the French Medical Relief Expedition, which is doing splendid service among those poor creatures who, driven from their homes by the German invasion, form a greater social problem in France, maimed and scarred as it is by the savagery of this inhuman war, than do the Belgian refugees in practically untouched England. The nurses do most useful maternity and "district" work among these poor souls, and their sympathy and resourcefulness under very trying conditions has been invaluable.

Lately the N.U.T.N. has been throwing its energies into helping in various ways the Maternity and Medical Relief Expedition for Refugees in Russia, organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. This it has aided by issuing appeals to its members; packing, listing, and forwarding the bales of comforts which come from the members in willing response; by lending to the expedition for three months the services of the Organising Secretary of the Union, Miss Violetta Thurstan; and by carefully selecting the staff of trained nurses who are serving in hospitals and flying ambulances, which will bring healing and comfort to those sad victims of the war, on whom has fallen none of the glamour, but only the deep shadow and the unredeemed misery.

PROFESSOR METCHNIKOFF.

I have no means of knowing what the attitude of Professor Metchnikoff was to the Women's Movement; but I know that his scientific researches rendered it a considerable service.

In the early 'seventies, when women were urging their claims to higher education, medical as well as general, the commonplace pseudo-scientific objection was that women were unfit to grapple with the higher problems of science or the arts because they had fewer red corpuscles in their blood than men had. At that time women could only say: "If that is so, so be it; we must do our work in the world with whatever proportion of white and red corpuscles heaven has given us." But a few years later, Professor Metchnikoff came along and discovered the virtues of the white corpuscles, that they are the sanitary inspectors, the police, the army of the body, waging everlasting warfare against the invasion of poisonous microbes which constantly strive to effect an entrance into the human frame. A recent writer on the subject has said: "Time has brought about modifications, and the white corpuscle is no longer regarded as the sole or self-sufficient cause of successful defence against invasion. But it is beyond doubt that the white corpuscle is an essential part of the mechanism of defence, possibly in the end the most essential, and that without it there is no victory." So it turned out that a larger proportion than the average of white corpuscles in the blood was no disadvantage after all, and we all blessed Metchnikoff for his discovery. M. G. FAWCETT.

Correspondence.

HELPING GIRLS TO START ANEW.

MADAM,—In February, 1913, I was able to begin work which I had meditated for the previous nine months, on behalf of girls of the upper and middle classes who are compelled to begin life over again.

It seemed to me that, in trying to help them, I must not go to them with nothing to offer. Most of them are girls who have had a considerable amount of education; many of them are of excitement and gaiety. To some the luxurious life, and to a great deal of excitement and gaiety. To some the desires for such pleasures—which is only natural and quite innocent—has meant their moral ruin. Even those who are quite determined to keep straight, if possible, after a single fall, are bound to miss these natural outlets and means of happiness. Therefore, I felt that I must offer them something which would bring happiness into their lives.

One of the greatest sources of happiness for educated people is, I am sure, appreciation of beauty; and from this appreciation there comes a still deeper and more intense source of happiness if one who appreciates beauty can also do beautiful and creative work.

My idea, to put it shortly, was: Can we make these girls into artists, and can we, at the same time, ensure them a living wage? If we can do both, we shall have made it possible for them to find satisfaction in a straight life. Most artistic employments are badly paid, but I find that at hand-weaving a really good wage can be earned by a trained worker. Moreover, hand-weaving is especially suitable as artistic work for the needs of our girls. It is work with beautiful coloured materials, which can be combined in various colour schemes and patterns by the worker's own skill and taste. It requires no knowledge of drawing. Moreover, the technical side of the work is not physically straining, but it does require of the worker that she should be accurate and attend closely to what she is doing. If she is careless she lays up trouble for herself. Therefore its technical side alone seemed to me an education. I accordingly opened a hand-weaving industry.

Since February, 1913, I have taught thirty girls. Some have been embroidery and sewing pupils, but the great majority have been weavers. From the very beginning I have insisted that each girl should make her own designs and choose her own colour schemes, except in the case of definite orders designed by the customer. I think we have all been fairly astonished to find what an amount of artistic talent the girls have shown. We have no selection of specially clever girls; we have taken them at all ages, and many of them have been in delicate health. But, without exception, they have succeeded, after a short while, in producing really beautiful work—work which shows originality. As a result, I am glad to say, our sales have always been satisfactory.

The girls are not easy pupils. The life they have led has made them forget how to learn, and, as everyone knows, it is not easy to re-teach this to grown-up people. But their keenness makes up for everything. Of all these girls, only one has definitely left me and returned to a bad life. I do feel from what I have observed that the reason is that they love the work.

I had hoped by now to have had a good number of fully trained workers at my command, but in actual experience we find that after some training they pass on—to either to other work, which they have done before, or to home life, or to other posts as weavers. Among my old girls I have one who has started and is managing a new weaving industry in the North, and she is already so busy that she cannot do any weaving for me, although I wished to send her some. This is one more proof that there is a steady market for hand-woven goods. Another pupil, who had only six months' training and then married but continued to weave in her own home, has never lacked orders for two years, and she has also done some very good work as a teacher of weaving. Several others are working in various other weaving industries.

The consequence is that our studio is almost entirely a training school. It cannot, therefore, possibly pay its way, and I have, from the first, looked upon it primarily as rescue work, and only secondarily as a business. We are, therefore, very thankful to receive subscriptions or donations to help us to carry on. Our great need at present is a hostel where the girls may live. They are now boarded out and come daily to work, but this plan is not very easy to arrange for in every case. It must be remembered that most of them can pay nothing either for their training or towards their own maintenance when training. Those who can be supported by their own friends are not usually brought to me to be helped; so that we must look upon ourselves as an agency for helping them, and we must somehow find the money to do it.

I want to make just one point clear. Neither I nor my helpers make the mistake of thinking that interesting and beautiful work is enough to keep a girl from going wrong. We know very well that nothing but religion is strong enough for that, and we hope that our work here helps the girls to see the beauty of religion.

INEZ E. SKRINE.

INFANT WELFARE WORK.

An opportunity to do work of national importance is offered to young girls by the Whitefield Day Nursery, which has vacancies at the present time for several probationers. Local health authorities are beginning to realise the need for infant welfare work, and as schemes for baby clinics and schools for mothers are started all over the country, the demand for experienced helpers will grow. This experience is provided by the Whitefield Day Nursery, which has the reputation of being one of the best managed crèches in London. It takes charge of some forty little ones under school age, whose mothers are obliged to go out to work—being careful not to encourage mothers who go out where there is no need—and under a thoroughly capable matron and trained nurse the probationers learn every detail connected with the care of babies. Most of the probationers, after six months or more of training, obtain good posts as children's nurses. But the training is also useful to any girl intending to take up infant welfare work, or become a health visitor; or as a preparation for motherhood. While training, too, the girls are doing very valuable work in helping to look after little ones who would otherwise be neglected, and keep them healthy and happy. Full particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss L. A. Robertson, 16, Portland Place, W.

THE CALL OF THE LAND.

Three wives went walking from town to the farm,
From town to the farm, as the sun rose high;
Each prayed that her man might be shielded from harm,
As she tearfully gazed at the morning sky;
For men must fight, and women must work,
And the call of the land, not a woman will shirk,
While the ground needs digging and hoeing.
Three wives walked back from the farm to the town,
From the farm to the town, at the close of day;
They had worked in the fields, and could now lie down,
And each dreamt of her dearest one far away.
For men must fight, and women must work,
And the call of the land, not a woman will shirk,
While the ground needs digging and hoeing.
Three husbands came back from "Somewhere in France,"
From "Somewhere in France," in the firing line;
And each said to his wife, with a proud, loving glance,
You have done your bit, as I have done mine;
For men must fight, and women must work,
And the call of the land, not a woman will shirk,
While the ground needs digging and hoeing.

MARY MICHOLLS.

Hundreds of Sheffield munition workers are spending their spare time and week-ends helping farmers in the hayfields. The women are paid 4d. an hour and the men 6d.

Over a thousand women now actively engaged in farm and dairy work in West Sussex, have entered the work since the early part of this year. The farmers generally are well satisfied.

Milking classes are to be arranged for women at five centres in Middlesex. Each pupil will be given six weeks' training, and will be maintained, at an estimated cost of 10s. a week, by the Board of Agriculture and the Middlesex Education Committee. The total expenditure is expected to be about £100.

If women living in the country want to work on the land, their best course is to get in touch with the county organisation. Women Agricultural Committees have been formed in various counties, and the clerk of the council can probably supply information. Women living in towns should go to the Labour Exchanges and ask where it is best to go. Educated women and girls of the secondary school type cannot, perhaps, do better than apply to the National Women's Land Service Corps, 50, Upper Baker Street, W.

The *Woman Voter* (Melbourne) states that at the instance of the Women's Political Association a women's farm has been established at Mordialloc, in order to give free training on the land to unemployed and other women. So that as wide support as possible might be given to the scheme, it was decided to form a Women's Rural Industries Co., to take over the Mordialloc farm and establish others as occasion arises. The farm has been an unqualified success, and has the active support of the Minister of Lands.

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THE COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT feel that it is incumbent upon them to place the **urgent need of this Hospital** before the women of the country.

The Hospital is staffed by medical women, managed by a committee of women, and its work is exclusively for women and children.

Assistance must be obtained or it will be necessary to close Hospital wards, to curtail Maternity work, to cut down Dispensary hours for mothers and children, for lack of funds.

Since the beginning of the war, friends and subscribers have been most loyal and generous. The falling off in subscriptions has been less than expected, and so far largely due to the loss of supporters by death. But the great increase in the cost of food and the enormous rise in prices of drugs and hospital supplies have already added one third to the running expenses of the Hospital, and notwithstanding a rigid economy, a serious deficit is impending.

The Committee feel that at this time when women are doing so much in the work of relief, **when medical women are taking so great a part in hospital work abroad**, it would not be the wish of organised women anywhere that a women's hospital at home be obliged to close its doors, and medical work for our own women and children be allowed to suffer.

At no time in the history of the Hospital has its special service been so much appreciated. Many beds in the general hospitals have been taken for the wounded, and the demand for beds for women and children is greater than ever before.

Since the war began, 851 patients have been admitted to the Hospital; 441 maternity cases cared for; 2560 out-patients have received treatment; 4989 attendances have been made at the Hospital Consultations for mothers and babies.

The Committee make this appeal to all women interested in the work of medical women, for the sake of the women and children in our midst.

Donations and Subscriptions will be gratefully acknowledged by the Treasurer, Miss Eveline MacLaren, 62, Frederick Street, Edinburgh.

By order of the Committee,
S. E. S. MAIR, *Chairman*,
FRANCES JOHNSTON, *Hon. Sec.*

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Miss Frances L. Fuller (West End).

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 50,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, and are devoting their organisation to various efforts which have for their object the sustaining of the vital strength of the nation.

The Women and the Soldiers.

The appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons made on July 19th to consider "questions of great difficulty and perplexity not only in regard to registration, but also the franchise," enabled Sir Edward Carson to bring forward his proposal to introduce without delay legislation to prepare a new register of parliamentary voters and to confer the parliamentary franchise on all sailors and soldiers who are serving or have served in His Majesty's forces during the present war. Advocates of this course urge that unless some such measure is taken a great number of people will be automatically disfranchised at the next election. They describe the conferring of the franchise on all soldiers and sailors as an emergency measure, designed to meet a unique crisis in our constitutional history, and as operative for once only. But to talk in this way is to blind ourselves to the far-reaching effects of such a measure. For in the first place, it raises the whole question of the franchise, with a new series of complexities and difficulties added. For convenience of election purposes, the vote is to be conferred once only, upon large numbers of men not previously qualified. Now, Women Suffragists, as Mrs. Fawcett has said in a letter to Mr. Asquith, are in no degree "hostile to the enfranchisement of men who have been suffering and working for our country, but there is a real danger that the extension of the franchise implied by such a measure may prove prejudicial to the prospect of the enfranchisement of women." And there is a further objection. If very large numbers of men, especially younger men, will be enabled to vote for the first time—for this occasion only! are they then to be disfranchised later? It is hardly possible seriously to contemplate such a step. The practical difficulties, on the other hand, of discriminating abroad the men already on the voters' roll at home, seems to have driven supporters of the measure to contemplate one form of disfranchisement rather than another.

Again, the wording of Sir Edward Carson's motion appeared to imply that patriotic service, or at any rate, service in His Majesty's forces during the present war, is to be a voters' qualification. This, at a stroke, would sweep away the present basis of the franchise, and at the same time put large numbers of women in a position to qualify as voters. For if military service is to be the voters' qualification for the next election, the part played by women cannot be passed over. The direct personal appeal of Lord Kitchener, posted in the factories, was addressed to women ammunition workers, who were assured that, "in carrying out the great work of providing the army with its equipment, employers and employees alike are doing their duty for their King and country equally with those who have joined the army for service in the field," and the result of the appeal we are told was "a spirit of sustained, untiring effort never seen before and most admirable." Without the women, as Mr. Massingham pointed out in a letter to *The Times* of July 18th, "the armies could not have held the field for a month; the national call to arms could not have been made or sustained." A still heavier share of responsibility awaits the women of Great Britain. With each available man who leaves his trade or profession for military training, it falls to the women behind the defences to make good deficiencies, to step as far as possible into the place of those who have gone, and to insure that the inevitable privations shall not lower the vitality of the coming generation. In

military service, in patriotic service, in national service, in the readiness to sink self and petty considerations for the good of the commonwealth, the women of Great Britain have a thousand times over proved themselves citizens. "The country now knows," as Mr. Massingham says, "that it has at its disposal not an emergency service, but a permanent and varied enrichment of its energies, when they are again restored to the normal uses of civilised being." Judged by Sir Edward Carson's test of fitness

for citizenship and the franchise, the women and the soldiers stand together.

There is something to be said for making national usefulness a condition of the franchise, for excluding men and women who shirk the duties of citizenship from an effective voice in national affairs; but there is nothing whatever to be said in favour of hasty legislation that might tend to perpetuate arbitrary distinctions, with no foundation in reason or fact.

For the Sake of the Race.

For the sake of the race it is an admitted principle that married women should not go to work; provided, that is, that married men earn enough to keep the children from want, or that earning it they bring it home. But for "the sake of the country"—which, somehow, in time of war, gets separated in people's minds from the race—it is essential now that married women take their places in the munition factories. Thus they are told; and with splendid response they go.

Last autumn the Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society made a careful inquiry into the results of this work on the babies, in the schools, and in the homes, in the areas of the large munition factories. It was found that, on the whole, the consequences of the mothers' absence to the physical well-being of the children were not so widespread, nor so serious as had been feared. In the case of children going to school, a cold dinner was left by the mother before she went, and the whole family joined in a hot evening meal. In the case of young babies, the mothers arranged for them to be minded by a relation or a neighbour. As usual, the "grannie" here found her niche for usefulness and the opportunity of adding to her utterly insufficient old-age pension. Later, an official from the Local Government Board came down and made the same investigation. This gentleman afterwards visited the Suffrage Secretary, and it was found that his opinion exactly coincided with the opinions already formed by her.

But there are, of course, certain serious drawbacks to the absence of the mother from the home, and in many cases there is real hardship and suffering involved. In the first place, a by no means negligible evil that results is that the home discipline, difficult enough to maintain in the limited space at all times, becomes absolutely destroyed. "I can't make the children mind, now," says the tired mother; and the appalling increase of child criminality marks the next stage in the downward path. Another result is that the house and the children become more dirty and neglected, with the usual psychological effect of lessened self-respect and greater carelessness of personal habits and character. Some rest and sleep the mother must have, and cleaning and washing go by the board.

The children under school age who are "minded by a lady in the same court" are more often than not merely fed and for the rest are allowed to run wild in the streets. Birmingham has two free kindergartens where the rescue of these children is carried on with the most delightful results; but what can two do among so many? These kindergartens are run by private enterprise, though an effort is to be made to get some grant like that given to Infant Welfare Centres.

Needless to say, it is, after all, the baby that suffers most for want of his mother. Even when the "grannie" or the neighbour cares for him well, and is sober and able, the baby is necessarily deprived of his natural food. He is plied with bread soaked in hot water to which milk and sugar in limited quantities are added, or he is given a bottle of Swiss milk, cow's milk of doubtful cleanliness and quality, or cornflour. "A bit of everything we have" varies his diet, till it was reported on one occasion that the baby had "died of new peas and green gooseberries." Soothing syrups, lawful and unlawful, not infrequently still the crying that would otherwise result from indigestion.

It is here that crèches for munition workers would be such an inestimable boon, and earnest consideration to this subject has been, and is being, given as to how best to meet the need. Many experts on this subject in the City of Birmingham are not altogether in agreement with the principle of unlimited crèches in ordinary times. There is no doubt that it is necessary to be careful not to in any way encourage married women to go out to work. Also, it is not always certain that the crèche gets the babies it specially exists to help. The careful mother, if she must go out to work, makes good provision with a reliable relation or friend; and the careless mother, who goes to work in preference to looking after her house, will not even trouble to take her baby to the crèche, but makes any other sort of

provision with any other woman who will look after it for the sake of the money.

Also, a crèche is always in the nature of a charity, more or less. Even when the mothers pay a shilling a day (which few can afford), and where nursemaid pupils are trained at the crèche for a fee, and where a grant is obtained, it is very seldom that a properly run crèche can be made to pay its own way. The ultimate result is, in the long run, to encourage the mothers to accept underpaid work. Where they can get their children really well cared for at a cost to themselves which is altogether out of proportion to what the children receive, the temptation is strong to go out and earn extra money; which involves temptation to the husband to make no effort to meet the increasing needs of a growing family, and in addition is an inducement to the woman to accept inadequate wages because she is not wholly dependent on them.

But, of course, these objections to the crèche system as a permanent thing cannot be insisted upon unduly at the present time. There is no doubt that the children of the women whom the nation has called into the munition factories are suffering, and that they ought not to be allowed to suffer for the patriotism of their mothers. But, if the public desires that the danger to these future citizens shall be met, then the public must make provision. At present the municipalities have no mandate to facilitate the obtaining of female labour by the Ministry of Munitions from the rates. That is why municipal crèches for munition workers have not been established on a large scale, as at first sight would seem so desirable.

Perhaps the best method of meeting the present need is by crèches and day nurseries run by private enterprise aided by substantial grants; but always with the fact in mind, that the system is not ideal, has many possible and far-reaching harmful effects, and should in most cases be a temporary expedient only.

Adequate pensions to widows, or women whose husbands are incapacitated, would meet in a far wiser way many of the cases to whom crèches are a very real and needed assistance. It is always better to enable mothers to look after their own children than to substitute even the best management and feeding for that of the child's own mother. Even were there no other drawbacks, the weakening of the tie between mother and child is a serious consideration. And this weakening is bound to result, whether the mother leaves her child to others for the sake of pleasure and excitement, or because she is driven by bitter necessity to take the place of breadwinner, or is serving the country in the shell factories. CAROL RING.

THE WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

A conference of delegates from the Associations affiliated to the Women's Local Government Society was held last week at 83, Lancaster Gate, by the kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Meath, to consider the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, in view of the powers that it is proposed should be entrusted to County and County Borough Councils.

Dr. Helen Wilson, Hon. Sec. of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, gave the opening address, and distinguished between voluntary and compulsory methods, showing the failure of the latter. She was followed by Mr. Maurice Gregory.

Miss A. C. Gibson, ex-matron of the Birmingham Poor Law Infirmary, moved a resolution urging the need for the presence of women on the Boards of Management of all institutions which undertake, with the assistance of grants from the Exchequer, the diagnosis or treatment of venereal diseases, and, further, the need for women on the Boards of Management of voluntary hospitals. This was carried unanimously.

The following rider was also unanimously adopted:—

"Further, that, in view of the Recommendation that the organisation of treatment of venereal diseases be entrusted to the higher local authorities, public attention should be called, still more urgently than heretofore, to the ever-increasing need for the co-operation of women with men as members of County and County Borough Councils."

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
 President: MRS HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
 Hon. Secretaries: MISS EVELYN ATKINSON, MISS OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).
 Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUERBACH.
 Secretary: MISS HELEN WRIGHT.
 Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
 Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic. & 4674 Vic.

The Jumble Sale.

Our humble remarks in last week's COMMON CAUSE on "the" Jumble Sale to help our General Service Fund have been well received, and inquiries and letters of approval are already beginning to reach Headquarters. The Ascot and Salisbury Societies have promised to hold a sale, and Mrs. Alys Russell will organise one for the Southampton Branch, which is near her new summer home. A lady from Matlock offers a few odds and ends to give to "the" jumble sale. What other Societies are going to help us?

Contributions to the General Fund.

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|--|
| Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1915 ... 1,536 6 6 | Rev. E. and Mrs. Giles ... 3 0 0 |
| Received from July 10th to 15th, 1916:— | Mrs. F. C. Tubbs ... 2 2 0 |
| | Mrs. G. Stuart Robertson ... 1 1 0 |
| | AFFILIATION FEES. |
| | Windsor and Eton W.S.S. ... 6 6 |
| | Ipswich W.S.S. ... 16 9 |
| | Kilmarnock W.S.S. ... 1 5 6 |
| | Bromsgrove W.S.S. ... 10 0 |
| | GENERAL SERVICE FUND DONATIONS. |
| | Mr. John H. Medlyn ... 2 6 |
| | Mrs. Wilberforce ... 10 0 |
| | Barnes, Mortlake, and East Sheen Branch, L.S. for W.S. ... 1 0 0 |
| | Miss A. M. Bodkin ... 5 0 0 |
| | Received for Scottish Women's Hospital ... 17 6 |
| | £1,595 2 9 |

IMPORTANT.

Lost Letters Addressed to the National Union.

CHEQUES should be crossed.
 POSTAL ORDERS should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.
 TREASURY NOTES should be treated like coins, and always registered.
 If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the SECRETARY, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.
 Please address letters containing money either to the SECRETARY, or to Mrs. Auerbach or Miss Sterling by name, not to the Treasurer.

Registration and Franchise Reform.

A copy of the following letter has been sent to every member of the House of Commons:—

SIR,—In view of the motion which will be before you to-morrow for the appointment of a Select Committee to consider the question of Registration and Franchise Reform, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies wishes to lay before you one very serious consideration.

Any alteration in the basis of the Franchise, whether it be of a permanent or temporary nature, which would enfranchise a fresh class of men, would be a grave and renewed injustice to women unless their claims at the same time receive the full and impartial consideration which has been so often promised by the Government.

This consideration we know to be a great difficulty at the present time. No one deprecates the revival of controversy more than ourselves, but we feel that if the question of the basis of the Franchise is raised in Parliament controversy becomes inevitable.

We do not propose to lay before you now the arguments of our case, but we wish to remind you of the fact that our case exists, is as strongly held, as passionately believed in, and even more obviously proved than before the war.

If it is true that Members of the House of Commons contemplate the possibility of giving votes to soldiers and sailors and munition workers because of their service to the country, it must be impossible for them to forget that the women of this country have also taken their full share of national service.

In 1914 Lord Kitchener issued to all factories in the kingdom a personal appeal, in which he stated, that "in carrying out the great work of providing the Army with its equipment, employers and employees alike are doing their duty for their King and country equally with those who have joined the Army for service in the field." No later than three days ago, Lord Derby reminded us, in speaking of women munition workers, that "women are now part and parcel of the Army."

If it is for service rendered that votes are to be given, women cannot be excluded. We beg you, therefore, to keep in mind their faithful service and their honest claim.—Yours faithfully,

MILICENT GARRETT FAWCETT (President, N.U.W.S.S.);
 HELENA AUERBACH (Honorary Treasurer);
 EVELYN M. L. ATKINSON (Honorary Secretary);
 RAY STRACHEY (Honorary Parliamentary Secretary).

The Russian Kaleidoscope.

The conditions of our work in Russia are constantly varying, like any kaleidoscope, but our administrator keeps a pliable mind, ready to adapt herself and our workers to new and changed demands. When Dr. May's Unit arrived at Petrograd, the middle of June, they were told that Chistopol, not being quite ready, they were desperately needed at Kiev, where there was an awful rush of wounded and prisoners. So they went on immediately to Kiev, on the river Dnieper, South-West of Moscow, where they were at once requisitioned for emergency military nursing. Miss Moberly has since joined them there, to send some of them on to Chistopol, but meanwhile we are thankful that they have been of use to the Russian Red Cross just now in its great need.

Miss Knight writes from Petrograd that Dr. Stepney had just telegraphed from Kazan for some drugs, "as many Polish refugees are coming into the hospital on Monday" (July 3rd). But with all the changes and crises elsewhere, babies continue quite steadily and in increasing numbers to be born in the maternity hospital at Petrograd. Miss Knight reports that the hospital is very busy, with ten mothers, which means twenty patients when the babies come, and the Matron and three Sisters (one of them on night duty) have their hands quite full. Three confinements took place every other night in one week. Dr. Alice Benham, in a later letter, reports the arrival of the first pair of twins. The poor refugee mothers can hardly believe that all this beautiful and ordered comfort is really for them, and are extremely grateful. When Miss Moberly last visited our summer home at Souida, near Petrograd, it was pouring with rain and very cold. But she found it a lovely place, and everything nicely arranged under Miss Hutchinson. The children were simply delightful, most affectionate, and wonderfully good—evidently perfectly happy, and improving enormously in their looks. But there, as elsewhere in Russia, the housekeeping problems are very great. At Souida neither meat, vegetables, nor fish are procurable, and eggs are dear and inferior, while even in Petrograd and Kazan, meat, sugar, and fish are difficult to buy.

£7,504 has already been raised for the Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units, including £418 3s. for the Ambulance, and another £2,300 is required before January, as well as £125 to complete the cost of the Ambulance for Galicia. Will you help?

TWENTY-EIGHTH LIST.

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|--|
| Already acknowledged ... 6,945 18 0 | Mrs. I. D. Singer ... 10 0 |
| Ikley W.S.S., Mrs. Isaac Smith's Drawing-room Meeting (additional) ... 25 0 0 | Fifth Class Girls, Germantown Friends' School, Philadelphia ... 36 15 9 |
| Ambleside W.S.S., Miss G. Cooke's Meeting ... 11 3 6 | Hereford W.S.S. (Meeting addressed by Mrs. Elborough) ... 10 10 0 |
| Miss Isabel M. Hervey (second donation) ... 2 0 0 | M. F. ... 5 0 0 |
| Mrs. Carpenter ... 10 0 | Haslemere and District W.S.S. (fourth donation) ... 5 0 0 |
| Mrs. Bromley ... 1 1 0 | West Lancs., West Cheshire, and North Wales Federation (earmarked Kazan) ... 424 2 6 |
| Miss J. L. Franklin ... 1 0 0 | Liverpool W.S.S., proceeds of Jumble Sale, per Misses Miss B. Paul ... 20 12 6 |
| Mr. Edward B. Martino ... 6 0 0 | Chubb (Kazan) ... 5 0 0 |
| Miss B. Newcombe ... 1 0 0 | Miss Carstairs ... 5 0 0 |
| Deaconess Mary Gorton ... 1 1 0 | |
| Mrs. C. M. Solomon (second donation) ... 1 1 0 | |
| | £7,504 16 3 |

The Hon. Treasurer gratefully acknowledges, among other sums, the splendid cheque for £464 from the West Lancs., West Cheshire, and North Wales Federation, which completes the £700 they promised to pay for all expenses of the Children's Hospital at Kazan up till January; £36 1s. 9d. from Dorothea Shipley, who sent the following letter to Mrs. Russell from Germantown, near Philadelphia, U.S.A.: "About Christmas time the fifth-class girls of the Germantown Friends' School decided to have a fair for the benefit of the war sufferers. But which one? We could not decide this question until we had heard several lectures about the Polish children, in Morning Collection. Among these lectures was yours. On June 3rd we made 175 dollars and ten cents. Please find money order enclosed. I am sure that you know what to do with it. Thank you."

Mrs. Seyd, the Hon. Secretary of the Oxted and Limpsfield Society, writes that, at the request of their President, they are sending an appeal to their members, and friends who are not members, and confidently hope to collect enough money to "adopt" a nurse for six months. A welcome, additional £25 has come from the Ikley W.S.S., £11 from Ambleside, £10 10s. from Hereford, £10 from Mrs. C. M. Solomon, £6 from Miss B. Newcombe, and a fourth donation of £5 from the Haslemere and District Society.

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

West Lancs., West Cheshire, & N. Wales Federation. COLLECTED FOR KAZAN.

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Donations ... 713 5 6 | In to-day's list ... 445 0 0 |
| Bank interest ... 1 19 5 | |
| | £700 0 0 |
| | Office expenses ... 11 3 3 |
| | Balance in hand for 1917 ... 4 1 8 |
| Already acknowledged in THE COMMON CAUSE ... 255 0 0 | |
| | £715 4 11 |



"Look, Sir, my wounds! I got them in my country's service. A horse can do no more!"

SHAKESPEARE.

Help the poor dumb sufferers of the War.

Help the horses! Pity the poor things that suffer silently—the best friends of man, the uncomplaining hero-horses that go where they are bid, do what they are told, never flinch, and take their wounds in mute wonderment.

They had no part in the making of the war. The only need they know is to suffer weariness, disease, torn bodies, and broken limbs, because they are horses, and it is not their fault!

No; there is one other need they know—the need of surgical and medical aid, and rest and recuperation, just as men do. You can help them get it—you can make sure that they get it, if you help the R.S.P.C.A. Fund.

Please help the R.S.P.C.A. Fund for Sick and Wounded Horses

The Under Secretary for War in the House of Commons said:—

"This is the only Society authorised by the War Office to collect funds and co-ordinate offers of assistance for horses of the British Army."

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals works as an actual auxiliary of the Army Veterinary Corps, whose skilled surgeons operate on the horses, under anaesthetics, with as much care as if the dumb sufferers were men. Their doctors administer medicines to the sick horses and their rest camps cure the war-worn creatures.

The care of our horses is one of the most vital factors in the war. Without them no army can fight.

Their great pleading eyes ask you to help them. What will you send? Consider

what great good you can do for some poor shattered animal and fill in this coupon, showing your concrete kindness by a Donation now.

To

Sir M. Fowler, Bart., Hon. Secretary,

R.S.P.C.A. FUND for SICK & WOUNDED HORSES
 105, Jermyn Street, London, S.W.

Enclosed please find my {cheque / postal order}

for £..... as my appreciation of the noble work man's best friend is doing for the nation.

Name.....

c.c. Address.....



HAVE YOUR HOUSE DECORATED BY WOMEN
Mesdames HAMMOND & HARWOOD,
 PRACTICAL HOUSE DECORATORS.
 Staff of Lady Painters. Estimates Free. Any District.
13, FAIRMILE AVENUE, STREATHAM, S.W.

The Challenge
The Illustrated Church of England Weekly.
EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.
 The wider recognition of Women's Contribution to the Affairs of Church and State is one of the vital problems constantly dealt with. Among those who contribute are Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Lako Fazet, Miss A. Maude Royden, Miss Ruth Rouse, Miss Gertrude Luckwell, Mrs. Pember Reeves, &c. A specimen copy will be sent to readers of "The Common Cause" on application. You should find THE CHALLENGE on sale at all bookstalls, but if you have any difficulty or would prefer it sent direct, a copy will be posted to you for 13 weeks if you send 1s. 6d. to THE MANAGER, THE CHALLENGE, ERFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

WOMEN'S SERVICE BUREAU
 Advice and Information with regard to possibilities of training for new openings for women in every trade and profession.
 Loans and Assistance Scholarships offered to suitable young women desiring training.
 Full particulars from Miss O. W. ROBINSON, Women's Service Bureau, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W., on application.

Your Health is an Asset

the value of which you can greatly improve by reading Dr. Valentine Knaggs' book "Indigestion: Its Cause and Cure" (1s. net, postage 3d.). The author sets forth, lucidly and helpfully, the principal causes of ill-health and the natural methods of removing them. It is published by C. W. Daniel, Ltd., 3, Tudor Street, London, E.C., who also publish "The Healthy Life" Magazine. Send 4d. for the sparkling July number.

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British Made Hot-Water Bottles
 Best Quality Rubber.
 Plush, or Flannel, or Linen, extra. Size in. Each. Each.
 8 x 6 3/6 10d.
 10 x 8 4/6 1/-.
 12 x 8 4/9 1/3
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 Water Beds, Air Cushions & Invalid Appliances on Hire, and sold on the Hire Purchase System.
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YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT A COMMON CAUSE FOUNTAIN PEN.
 Non-leakable, can be carried in any position. Solid 14-carat gold nib. Packed in N. U. colours. Price, with postage 5/8.—Manager, "C.C." 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

LIST OF DONATIONS.

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|---------|
| Bangor.—Collection at Miss Cooke's Meeting (£4 5s. 9d). Donations: Miss Lamport (£10), Miss Davies (Trebalk) (£1 1s), Miss E. Taylor (£1), under £1: Mrs. Payntor, Mrs. Richman, Mrs. Harby, Mrs. Price, Mrs. T. E. Lloyd, Mrs. Pinkerton, Mrs. Price White, Miss Sedgwick, Miss Carter, Mrs. D. Jones, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Oxton, Miss Roberts, Miss Mathews, Mrs. Jones (Crosslyn), Miss Jones (Penrhyn House), Miss E. P. Jones, Miss Lacy (£3 1s. 6d.). | 18 8 3 |
| Birkenhead.—Result of sale at the Beeches, by kind invitation of Mrs. Lowry (£22 6s. 6d.). Donations: Mrs. Lowry (£25), Miss Hooper and Miss Lever (£1 1s. each), Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. Sewell Bacon, Mrs. King, Lady Bates, Mrs. Kendall (£1 each) (£5), 10s. and under 10s.: Mrs. Sommerfeld, Mrs. Gragon, Miss Callister, Mrs. Hands, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. and Miss Thompson, Mrs. Septimus Williams, Mrs. M. Procter, Mrs. J. B. Chambers, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Hugh Laird, Mrs. J. D. Fraser, Mrs. Beasley, Mrs. Probst, Mrs. Heyworth, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. and Miss Chisholm (£5 5s.), per Mrs. Fellows (£3 2s. 6d.) | 52 16 0 |
| Chester.—House to house collection (£16 9s. 10d.). Donations, per the Mayress (£40 19s. 4d.) | 57 9 2 |
| Colwyn Bay.—Collection at Rhos Congregational Church (£3 13s. 8d.), collection at Miss Cooke's meeting (£2 1s. 6d.), sale of tickets (£2 1s. 6d.). Donations: Sir Frederick Smith (£2), Mrs. Charley (£1), under £1: Mrs. Barker and Mrs. Malleheir (15s. 6d.) | 14 6 2 |
| Liverpool.—Result of entertainment (£32 9s. 2d.), collection at Miss Cooke's meeting (£5 6s.), per Miss Glynn (£106 6s. 6d.), Master Reginald Hignett (£100), Mrs. Hugh Rathbone (£20), *Miss E. F. Rathbone (£20), *Miss Chubb's jumble sale (£20 12s. 6d.), £1 1s. each: Mrs. Cartwright and Mrs. Kipling (£2 2s.), £1 each: Mrs. Caton, Anon., Mrs. D'Aeth, Miss J. Crossfield, Miss Fletcher (£5), Mrs. A. Booth (£2 2s.), under £1: Miss Carstairs, Miss D. Thompson, Miss J. Brown, Mr. Whitehead, Mrs. Palls, Mrs. Ralli, Miss Lew, Miss Chubb (£3 8s. 6d.) | 382 6 8 |
| Llangollen.—Miss Stewart ... | 5 0 |
| Pennamauw.—Collections (£3 1s. 6d.) | 3 8 9 |
| Preston.—American sale (£27 0s. 10d.), garden fête (£24 3s.) | 69 3 10 |
| Rhyl.—Collection ... | 6 4 10 |
| St. Helens.—Proceeds of concert (£23 5s. 7d.). Donations: Mrs. Pilkington (£5), Miss C. Pilkington (£3) | 31 5 7 |
| Southport.—Half profit on Old English Fair ... | 32 14 9 |
| Wallasey and Wirral.—Collection (£2 17s. 3d.). Donations: Mrs. Mahler (£5), Mrs. Leadley Brown (£5), Miss Mahler (£5), Miss J. Mahler (£10), G. A. Stally, brass, Esq. (£5), Mrs. Hall (£1), Miss Eskridge (£1), under £1, per Miss May McWath, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Blackshad, Miss Priestman, Miss Amworth, A. Butcher, Esq., Mr. Morris, Mrs. Daiglish, Miss Daiglish, Mrs. Stalleybrass (£3 1s. 6d.) | 35 18 9 |
| Waterloo.—Collection (£3 17s. 9d.), Miss E. Jones (£5) | 8 17 9 |
| Total | 713 5 6 |

*Sent direct to headquarters.

Miss McPherson (of 16, Newland Drive, Wallasey) wishes all the Societies in the Federation to know that she is still collecting money to carry on the Hospital at Kazan in 1917.

The Secretary will be pleased to supply copies of two interesting little leaflets describing the work in Russia, post free, on application to her at the offices of the N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

By permission of the Editor of *The Nation*, the Literature Department has now been able to reprint the excellent article on the enfranchisement of women which appeared in that weekly on May 27th. Under the title "Women's Service and Women's Vote," it may now be had for 2d. Another new pamphlet of great interest is Mrs. Fawcett's "War Work of the National Union." This gives a concise account of the many and varied activities which members have carried on since the outbreak of war. Miss Violetta Thurstan's new book, "The People Who Run," tells of the refugees in Poland. (See review on page 189.) It is now in stock and can be had at 2s. 6d. net (postage 4d.).

WORK OF THE R.S.P.C.A. FUND.

The most striking tribute to the value of the work done by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in the treatment of horses serving in the war is the fact that the War Office, after having declined the proffered services of the Society, had eventually to appeal to it for assistance, then for more assistance, until finally the Army Council approved of the starting of the R.S.P.C.A. fund to work as an auxiliary to the Army Veterinary Corps under the control of the War Office.

The Society rendered supremely valuable services by supplying the corps with trained inspectors and subordinates, and furnishing a long list of badly needed requirements. Through the work of the R.S.P.C.A. a very large number of animals have been saved and restored to the Armies. Of 150,000 horses treated to the end of January, 1916, 105,000 were returned cured, while 30,000 remained in the hospitals and at the Convalescent Horse Depot under treatment.

An example of the thoroughness which characterises the Society's methods is the series of lectures delivered to men of the New Army, to teach them how to take care of their horses and what to do in emergency, when the services of a trained veterinary surgeon are not immediately available. During the first eighteen months the Society's technical lecturer delivered no fewer than 250 of such lectures and demonstrations to 55,000 men. Apart from the humanity, which is the first impulse to the Society's aim, the military value of the services rendered is incalculable, and from this point of view alone one may judge how worthy of generous support is the R.S.P.C.A. Fund for Sick and Wounded Horses, donations for which should be sent to the offices of the fund, 105, Jernyn Street, S.W.

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|-------------------|
| Brought forward | 119,745 17 11 1/2 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection—Scholars, Merry Street Public School, Motherwell, per Wm. Fordyce, Esq., Headmaster | 3 8 6 |
| Proceeds of "The Thistle" No. 5, per Master R. Farmer (Fife) (10s.) | 1 1 0 |
| Employees, Messrs. Chambers, Scott & Co. Ltd., per John Robertson, Esq., Treas. | 2 10 0 |
| Ladies of the Helensburgh Golf Club (being entry money for competitions), per Miss Anderson, Hon. Sec. (Serbian Refugees in Corsica) | 3 4 0 |
| J. G. Wallace, Esq., per The Abent, North of Scotland & Town & County Bank, Ltd. | 11 8 6 |
| Per Miss Etta Shankland: Flowers sold by Girl Guides, per Mrs. Edward Wilson (£2 2s. 6d.); Per Mrs. Denholm (£1 6s. 6d.), Various small sums for flowers and vegetables sold (£2) (being first donation towards name "Greenock Girl Guides" Bed) | 5 9 0 |
| Per Dr. Beatrice McGregor—money refunded for drugs returned (Messrs. Burroughs & Wellcome) | 11 5 0 |
| "Dundee W.S.S., per Miss Edith A. Macintyre, Hon. Treas. (10s.) | 1 0 0 |
| Employees of Messrs. John Kyd & Co. Walton Works (further donation) (13s. 6d.), Employees of Messrs. A. P. Mathewson & Co., Grove Mills, (17s. 8d.), Employees of Messrs. R. G. Kennedy & Co., Wellington Works (£1 10s. 4d.), Employees of Messrs. Spalding & Valentine Ltd. Plaiting Works, (10s. 7d.), Employees of Messrs. Spalding & Valentine Ltd., Caledonian Works (£2 4s. 6d.) (further donation), Employees of Messrs. T. L. Miller & Co., Hillside Works (£3 4s. 6d.), Employees of Messrs. Malcolm Ogilvie & Co. Ltd., Constable Works (£6 10s.), Employees of Messrs. Spalding & Valentine Ltd., Caledonian Works (£2), Employees of Messrs. James Kellier & Son, Ltd., (5s.), Total (£20 16s. 1d.) (being further result of Mrs. Sime's work in Dundee), Proceeds of Children's Candy Sale at Inverlaur, per Mrs. Menalatis (£3 5s.), H. F. R. (Serbia) (£1), Proceeds of Concert at the Western School, Broughty Ferry (£10), Miss E. J. Air (Corsica) (£5), Part proceeds of Concert from Staff and Pupils of Arbutnot School (£3), Miss M. J. Brand (£5 5s.), The Misses Cunningham (£2), Forfarshire District Union B.W.T.A., part proceeds of Sacred Cantata (£17 5s. 7d.), Mrs. Spalding (£15), Anonymous (Salonica and Corsica) (£1), Wm. Mackenzie, Esq. (monthly subscription) (£5), St. Margaret's School, per Miss Kydd, to maintain the two "St. Margaret's School, Broughty Ferry" Beds at Royaumont (£50), Total (£117 15s. 7d.) (being result of Dundee W.S.S. work), Grand total (£138 9s. 8d., less expenses (£11 3s. 6d.), (of which £70 6s. 2d. is for maintenance of "Dundee" Beds) | 127 6 2 |
| Miss Creighton | 1 0 0 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection—Being one-half of sum collected by Teachers and Pupils in Highlow H.G.P. School, per Jas. Dick Esq., Headmaster | 5 12 0 |
| *Messrs. Boyd & Forrest's Employees, per Mrs. Robertson Staff Public School, per Jas. B. Calder, Esq., J.P., Headmaster, per Miss Bury | 1 0 0 |
| *Isle of Wight Lamp Day, per Newport N.U.W.S.S., per Miss M. E. Verrall, Hon. Treas. (£52), Donation (13s.) | 52 13 0 |
| Total (for the "Isle of Wight" Bed) | 52 13 0 |
| *Miss Constance B. Thresher (third quarterly donation) ... | 2 10 0 |
| Collection taken on "Kosovo" Day in Schools of Cathcart Parish School Board, per G. J. Cameron, Clerk and Treas. | 24 3 9 |
| Scotstoun Parish Church Women's Guild, per Mrs. Wilson, Sec. | 5 0 0 |
| J. Maidland Thomson, Esq. (for Ambulance Fund) | 3 0 0 |
| Rev. Walter R. Lacey (for New Unit) | 1 1 0 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection—Pupils Central H. G. School, per Miss Helen A. Watson, Headmistress | 2 0 0 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection—Pupils East Linton P. School, per A. E. Wright, Esq. Clerk and Treas. | 1 3 7 |
| Miss Elizabeth Rae (monthly subscription) | 2 6 |
| Collected at Children's Service for "Kosovo" Day, per Rev. Jas. A. Hogg, Galston Part proceeds of a Fancy Fair and Entertainments given by Newnham House School, per Miss Zara L. L. Miller, Ayr | 12 0 0 |
| Collection on "Kosovo" Day, from schoolchildren of Bothkennar, by Falkirk, per Thos. McEwan, Esq., Headmaster | 14 3 |
| Miss Girov, Murthly | 5 0 0 |
| Mrs. Smith, Stevenston | 2 0 0 |
| Per Miss E. Hallsworth, Infants' Mistress, Romilly, Cheshire Collected from 38 children between the ages of 3 and 7 years, in the Parochial Junior Infants' School, Cockermouth, Cumbria | 1 2 0 |
| Collection on "Kosovo" Day, from Pupils of Public School, Winchburgh, per Hector C. Weir, Esq., Headmaster, Hon. Treas. Branch of the Scottish Red Cross Society, per Miss A. M. Stewart, Newnains—Bed Given for New Unit | 100 0 0 |
| Proceeds of Concert given by Elgin Academy, per Miss G. C. L. | 2 2 0 |
| Mr. A. C. Wainwright, per Miss Eliz. Sutherland, Dollar—Ambulance Fund | 5 0 0 |
| Mrs. Corstorphine, Lindores | 10 0 0 |
| Ambulance Fund, House of Economies at 4, Bedford Road (9s.), Total, £2 7s. 6d. | 5 0 |
| Miss H. Martin, Selkirk | 1 0 0 |
| *Staff of Kinross School, Perth, per Miss E. Alison, Hon. Treas., Perth W.S.S. | 15 8 |
| *Sixth Instalment from the Unemployment Women's Staff, Board of Trade, Warrington, completing the "Unemployment Insurance Women's Staff, Divisional Office, Board of Trade, Warrington" Bed, Royaumont, per Miss E. Hobson | 4 3 4 |
| *Employees of Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, per Mrs. Robertson | 16 18 7 |
| Mrs. Boyd, per Mrs. Salvesen (Ambulance Fund) | 7 0 0 |
| Various schools in Perth, per R. Martin Bates, Esq., Clerk, School Board of Perth: Caledonian Road School (£5), Perth Academy (£2 16s. 6d.), Central District School (18s.), Kinross School (£2 18s. 2d.), Chertsey bank (14s. 8d.), £12 7s. 2d., less bank charges, 7d. | 12 6 7 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection in Sorn School, Catrine, per James Allen, Esq., Clerk, Sorn School Board | 2 9 0 |
| *Mr. and Mrs. Salvesen (Ambulance Fund) | 25 0 0 |
| *Mrs. Mitchell (for second 6 months of "Margaret Mitchell" Bed, Salonique) | 25 0 0 |
| "Pacifist Suff." (New Serbian Unit) | 5 0 |
| Mrs. E. W. Tweedie | 1 1 0 |
| Mrs. MacLean (Serbia) | 1 0 0 |
| Miss Oliphant (Serbia) | 2 0 0 |
| Mrs. C. W. Allan | 2 0 0 |
| Miss M. Hay | 3 0 0 |
| Miss C. O. Simpson (France) | 3 0 0 |
| Mrs. E. K. Dawson (Ambulance Fund) | 5 0 |
| Mrs. Agnes B. Kerr, per Mrs. C. H. Salvesen (Ambulance Fund) | 4 0 0 |
| Mrs. Macalister, per Mrs. Salvesen (Ambulance Fund) | 1 1 0 |
| Per Mrs. Munro | 5 0 |
| Shop Assistants of John Wight & Co., Edinburgh | 3 3 0 |
| Staff of Accountants' Office, Macmans, Cashier (second contribution) | 2 1 0 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection from Sorn Public School, Catrine, per James Allan, Esq. Clerk, Sorn School Board | 12 10 |
| L. F. B. (Serbia) | 1 0 0 |
| "Kosovo" Day Collection from Schoolchildren, per D. Campbell Hardie, Esq., M.A., Headmaster, School House, Coldstream | 15 0 |
| *Mrs. George Robson | 2 2 0 |
| A. Friend, Paisley | 10 0 |
| Mrs. N. A. Ellingsen | 10 0 0 |

| £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|--|-------------------|
| Mrs. Boyd | 5 0 0 |
| Mrs. J. Hutchison (for motor-cars), per Mrs. Salvesen | 1 0 0 |
| Mrs. Fox-Thomson (for motor-cars), per Mrs. Salvesen | 10 0 0 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Marquis, per Mrs. Sime | 1 0 0 |
| Miss Lang, per Nurse Isabella P. Dow | 10 0 |
| Anon., H.M.S. "Champion" | 4 0 0 |
| *Staff of Gonrock Central and Higher Grade Schools, from "Kosovo" Day, per Robt. Fulton, Esq., F.E.I.S., Headmaster (Serbia) | 1 0 0 |
| *Result of Collection on "Kosovo" Day from Pupils of Public School, Kelso, per A. B. Fisher, Esq., Headmaster | 4 10 0 |
| Crofthead Co-operative Society, Fauldhous | 1 0 0 |
| Miss M. B. Paxton | 1 0 0 |
| *H. S. Murray, Esq. | 100 0 0 |
| Mrs. Langford | 10 0 0 |
| Miss A. H. C. Mellis (Dr. English Unit, Serbia) | 5 0 0 |
| *Maintenance of the B.W.T.A. Ambulance at Royaumont (July subscription) | 2 10 0 |
| Mrs. G. J. Lockhart, Hon. Treas. | 25 0 0 |
| *Students' Madame Osterberg's Training College, Kingsfield Dartford Heath, Kent, per Miss H. M. Salt, Hon. Treas. | 30 0 0 |
| Per Miss Lennox, Meron, Hospital, Bideford, Devon (towards second year of "Bideford Hospital" Bed, New Unit) | 2 10 0 |
| Mrs. Baidarston | 10 0 |
| Mrs. Powell (half-yearly subscription) | 15 0 |
| *Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas. (June donations): Form Lower VI, Bede Collegiate Girls' School (£1), per Miss J. Cleaby, Mrs. Common (10s.), Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Common (10s.), Mrs. Walcott Common (5s.), Mrs. Garcia (2s. 6d.), A. Esq. (1s.), House of Economies at 4, Bedford Road (9s.), Total, £2 7s. 6d. | 17 11 0 |
| S. G. (5s.), Workmen, Foremen and Officials of Messrs. McColl & Pollock, Ltd. (£3), per Miss Moncur: Mrs. Eyres (5s.), S. H. C. (2s. 6d.), Mrs. A. Johnson (10s.), M. M. (8s.), Miss M. Panton (2s. 6d.), Miss A. Hadley (2s. 6d.), Total, £1 8s. 6d. | 1 8 6 |
| Per Mrs. Mundella: Nurse Hinch (1s.), Mrs. A. Ritsen (2s.), Mrs. W. J. Oliver (1s.) | 1 11 0 |
| Total | £120,884 10 7 1/2 |

In the list of subscriptions from "Kosovo" Day collections, published last week, a donation of £5 5s. from Victoria School, Falkirk, was omitted.

OMITTED ON BED LIST TO JUNE 29TH, 1916.

| Name of Bed. | Salonica. | Donor. |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| "Margaret Mitchell" (second 6 months) | ... | Mrs. Mitchell, Langlee, Biggar. |
| "Nottingham" (New Serbian Unit) | ... | Per Miss B. Staines, Hon. Treas., Nottingham W.S.S., 18, Burford Road, Nottingham. |

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further donations to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, or to Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospital.

| Subscriptions | £ s. d. | St. Andrew's Society, per Miss Parton | £ s. d. |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Already acknowledged | 12,270 13 4 | S.S. "New York," per J. Binder, Esq. | 76 0 0 |
| Gosse, Capt. P. H. | 10 6 | Per Mrs. F. Brown | 1 0 |
| Mrs. Flinders Petrie | 31 2 6 | Airesford Suffrage Society | 1 0 |
| Hinde, Mrs. | 5 0 | Taylor, Miss C. | 10 0 |
| Per Mrs. Paul | 6 10 6 | Canadian Bank of Commerce, | 500 0 0 |
| Ladies Lacrosse Association | 50 0 0 | Toronto | 1 1 0 |
| Canadian Collections, per Miss Burke | 1,000 0 0 | Matthews, Esq., Andrew | 1 1 0 |
| Hargrove, Miss A. L. | 10 0 | Carter, Esq., S. M. | 10 0 |
| Curcin, Dr. | 1 1 0 | | |
| Per Miss Hoc | 1 2 6 | | |
| Haddon, Mrs. | 10 0 | | |
| Total | £13,946 12 4 | | |

Contributions to the London Units to be sent to Lady Cowdray, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street.

HAND-WOVEN MATERIALS

Made in the Dauntless Hall Work-room.
ARTISTIC DRESS FABRICS IN LINEN, COTTON, WOOL, &c.
 Send for price list, or 2s. for sample Towel, to help the Women Workers, or call and see the goods at the ALSTON STUDIO, 6, NEW BOND STREET, W., where lessons in SPINNING and WEAVING are given. Terms on application. Demonstrations every Tuesday, 11.30-1.0. Special demonstrations by arrangement on Saturday mornings.

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

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

West Riding Federation.

The annual meeting of the Federation was held on May 30th at the Leeds W.S.S. Office, 35, Park Square. Miss I. O. Ford presided, and twelve Societies were represented—twenty-eight delegates being present. The officers elected for the year 1916-17 were as follows: President, Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher; Chairman of Committee, Miss I. O. Ford; Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, *pro tem.*, Miss F. M. Beaumont. Resolutions of thanks to the retiring President (Miss Seddon, J.P.), and of sympathy with the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. G. Foster, in her recent illness were passed. It is with great regret that the Federation loses the services of Mrs. Renton, the value of whose work among the Societies and in the Federation cannot be too highly estimated—her loss leaves a void that will not be easily filled, and we earnestly hope that it is only for a time, and that in the future we may again have the advantage of her remarkable abilities as Organising Secretary. A resolution of regret at her departure, coupled with sincere good wishes for her new and important post—fortunately still under the N.U.W.S.S.—was passed. The fact that we were able to "lend" her for work as Hon. Secretary for the Leeds Lady Mayoress' Committee is a source of great gratification, which is greatly increased by the undoubted appreciation of her services manifested by that Committee.

The reports of the Organising Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and Miss Hilston (N.U. Organiser on the Sheffield Women's Interests Committee) were presented. Miss Geraldine Cooke gave an able and most interesting address on the work of the N.U. and the need to keep all our forces at full strength to meet any situation that may arise in the future. She explained the N.U. scheme of "Women's Interests" Committees, and also spoke of the work done in Russia by our Hospital Units there. In conclusion, she proposed the following resolution: "That in view of the increasing number of women engaged in industrial and professional work, this meeting urges the Government to provide an opportunity under the Registration Bill for the introduction of an Agreed Clause enfranchising women, thus enabling them to vote at the next General Election. This was seconded by the newly elected Federation President, Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, who received a hearty welcome from all present, and was carried unanimously. Miss Geraldine Cooke visited the Societies in the Federation, as arranged by the N.U. Executive, and remained with us till the end of June. She attended Committee meetings and annual meetings, and also spoke on the Russian work.

ILKLEY.—A Rummage Sale was held on April 6th to raise funds for the Hospital workroom, which realised £26. On May 16th Mrs. Isaac Smith gave a Drawing-room Meeting, at which Miss Geraldine Cooke spoke. £127 14s. was raised for the Millicent-Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia.

HUDDESFIELD.—A special meeting of the Executive was held, on June 9th, at Black Rock House, by kind permission of Miss Josiah Lockwood, to meet Miss Geraldine Cooke, one of the Secretaries of the National Union. Miss Siddon, the President, was in the chair, and moved a resolution deploring the loss of Earl Kitchener and all the brave men who had lost their lives in defence of the Empire. A letter was read from Dr. Elsie Inglis asking that the members should make a special effort to celebrate Kossava Day, June 28th, in memory of Serbia.

Miss Cooke pointed out that a rumour had prevailed since last autumn that the Government would, before the General Election, find it necessary to deal with the franchise question in order to prevent the injustice and hardship which would arise if men, who have been serving their country abroad or in munition areas, in parts of this country other than those where they usually reside, should in consequence of their patriotic service be penalised by losing their votes.

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Studdard, was instructed to send the following resolutions, and also a covering letter to each member of the Cabinet: "That this Committee is of opinion that, if the proposed Registration Bill brought forward makes no change in the existing register, and is limited to enabling men at the front, who are on that register, to vote, either by post or otherwise, no Women's Suffrage amendment is necessary, but if that Bill as drafted, or any amendment to it, proposes the addition of any fresh person or class of persons

to the register without providing for the enfranchisement of women, Suffragists will press for a Women's Suffrage amendment." "Further, if the occasion of the Registration Bill provides an opportunity for dealing with the franchise on wide lines, this Committee urges the Government to include in the bill an agreed clause to remove the political disqualifications of women."

WAKEFIELD.—The annual meeting of the Society was held on May 20th, in the Wood Street Institute, and was well attended. Mrs. Reader presided, and the reports of the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary to the S.W.H. Working Party, were presented and adopted. No direct propaganda work has been done by the Society, but the organisation has been successfully maintained. A garden party and a whist drive have been held in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals (N.U.W.S.S.), and were both very successful. The Society has collected over £76 during the past year, and endowed two "Wakefield" Beds in the 3rd Serbian Unit. Weekly sewing parties are held in the St. John's Institute, and 103 dozen swabs, 446 bandages, and 319 hospital garments have been sent to the Edinburgh headquarters. The officers and committee for 1916-17 were re-elected, and a resolution of regret at losing Mrs. Renton (Federation Organising Secretary) from the West Riding was passed. The following resolution, proposed from the chair, and seconded by Miss Spencer, was passed: "That, in view of the increasing number of women taking part in industrial, professional, and commercial affairs, this meeting considers that it would be disadvantageous to the nation to accept this extension of their activities without granting them the Parliamentary franchise at the earliest possible moment." Miss Geraldine Cooke then gave a most inspiring address on the future work of the National Union, and the special work now being done in Russia by the Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Polish Refugees. Great interest was shown by those present and a good collection was taken, and Miss Cooke was warmly thanked for her speech.

A garden party was held on July 5th, at Field Head, to raise funds for materials for our Scottish Women's Hospitals Working Party. Much interest has been shown in the hospital work, and the Hon. Secretary has addressed the Women's Co-operative Guild and the Eastmoor and Sandal Patriotic Clubs on the Scottish Women's Units in France and Serbia.

Sidmouth, Devon.

The Sidmouth and District Women's Suffrage Society held their summer meeting, by kind invitation of Miss Dutton, at Somerton. This year we had the great delight and honour of welcoming Mrs. Fawcett, who gave a most inspiring address on "The Position of Women After the War." Many friends of the Society were unable to be present through various causes, and the weather left much to be desired, but there was a good attendance, some having been invited who were not previously in sympathy with the cause of Women's Suffrage. An interesting programme of music was arranged by Miss Marshall, and a Suffrage Literature Stall in the grounds was well patronised. Miss Dutton presided at the meeting and introduced Mrs. Fawcett, whose address was listened to with the utmost attention.

Lady Lockyer and Miss Mabel Barmby proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fawcett. Miss Leigh Browne, in thanking Miss Dutton for her kind hospitality, outlined some possibilities of future work for the Society. This vote of thanks was seconded by Mrs. Walter Thomas. A collection was made for the local Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre, which, with collecting cards issued for the same object, amounted to £18 3s. Patriotic songs and the National Anthem brought a most successful meeting to a conclusion. The names of several new members were given in to the Society.

Largs W.S.S.

Kossava Day was held in Largs on July 1st, when lamp emblems were sold by collectors dressed as Serbians and as Red Cross nurses. The local W.S.S. has named a bed in the new Serbian Unit as the result of Kossava Day—£29 os. 9d. was collected, and after defraying expenses, £27 3s. 10d. was available for this purpose. Though the members of the Suffrage Society are few in number, they have been most active in working for war relief. Two are in France—one in charge of a hostel for the relatives of wounded soldiers, and the other driving

a motor-car. The collecting and forwarding of clothing for Belgian refugees is undertaken by a small committee chosen from the Society, and ten out of the fourteen flag days which have been held since the outbreak of war have been organised by the Hon. Secretary of the Society. Over £125 has been sent to the Treasurer of the S.W.H.

Eastbourne.

There was a large and influential company at the "At Home" held at Raven's Croft School, Eastbourne (by kind permission of the principals, the Misses Mullins), on Friday, June 30th, attracted by the opportunity of hearing Mrs. Fawcett speak on "The Status of Women After the War."

The "At Home" was organised by the E.W.S.S., but there was quite a large proportion of non-members of the Society, who gave a most attentive and sympathetic hearing to Mrs. Fawcett's speech. Miss Chudleigh presided.

Immediately after the meeting, tea was served in the lounge and on the spacious verandah, and an opportunity was given for viewing the beautiful grounds. At five o'clock the visitors once more gathered in the large hall, to hear a musical programme, arranged by Miss Ruth Troward, of Raven's Croft School, and some delightful music was provided.

The object of the gathering was (1) to bring the members together and re-kindle interest in the object for which the Society was formed; and (2) to give non-members an opportunity of hearing the case for Women's Suffrage put by the honoured leader of the N.U.W.S.S., and the Committee is assured that both these objects were successfully attained.

Mrs. Fawcett's speech was very fully reported in *The Eastbourne Gazette* the following week.

Joint Annual Meetings of Central Counties Federation and the Birmingham Society.

On June 20th the Central Counties Federation and the Birmingham Society held in Birmingham their united annual meetings. As their financial years both end about the same date, it was felt to be good war economy to make one annual meeting do for both. Mrs. Kempthorne took the chair for the Federation part of the meeting, and Mrs. Osler for that connected with Birmingham. Mrs. Kempthorne emphasised the need for the Societies to hold together and keep their organisations sound and alert, as urgent work might be demanded from them at any moment, and it would be fatal for the Societies to be caught sleeping.

Mrs. Osler pointed out that, while Suffragists did not for a moment deny the right of men who had fought for their country to the vote, they could not consent to an extended basis of the franchise, admitting fresh classes of men, if the claims of women were continued to be ignored. Miss I. O. Ford gave a most interesting address on "The Industrial Position of Women After the War."

The meeting, which was very well attended, passed the two reports for the year. The Central Counties Federation supports eight beds in the Scottish Hospitals, and had sent a total of about £290 to the hospitals during the year, including what was sent as a result of the Birmingham Sale, besides about two hundred pounds' worth of clothing. Food economy lectures, lectures on the work of the Scottish Hospitals, and on the Polish Maternity Unit have been given in most of the Societies in the Federation; about £150 having been sent for the Russian refugees.

Birmingham showed a fairly steady membership, though many members are now serving abroad, and had nearly doubled the amount of money usually dealt with by the Society in one year. The Society had acted during the war as a kind of women's interests committee, and had been stimulated by the holding of the special Council meetings of last year in Birmingham. The most considerable piece of work done during the year had been in connection with a Motherhood Scheme, by which free lectures from expert people were given to all kinds of meetings and societies of married working women throughout the City. In May, a Motherhood Exhibition, with various competitions and prizes for mothers, had also been held during three days, which had been greatly appreciated by the poor mothers and by the general public. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, though not in favour of Women's Suffrage, lent their whole-hearted aid and support.

Mrs. Kempthorne and Mrs. Osler were elected Presidents respectively of the Central Counties Federation and of the Birmingham Society for the ensuing year.

South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation.

The annual meeting of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies was held at 21, Park Place, Cardiff, on Saturday, July 8th. The President, Mrs. H. Lewis, of Green Meadow, Tongwynlais, was in the chair, and an address was given by Mrs. Coombe Tennant on "The Present Activities of the National Union at Headquarters." The address was very helpful in enabling the delegates from the various Societies to realise something of the responsibilities and work of the Executive of the N.U., the need for loyally supporting the Executive, and the urgent necessity for keeping the local organisations intact, so that they may be ready to meet any sudden call.

Tea was provided by the President, after which the annual business meeting was held, the officials and committee being re-elected, with the exception of Mrs. Soulsby, Press Secretary, who resigned, having undertaken the management of the Cardiff Society's office for sending parcels to the soldiers. Her place was filled by Miss Pearson.

The delegates present from Abergavenny, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Neath, Port Talbot, and Pontypridd, gave accounts of the work of their various Societies, and the Secretary told what was being done by some of the Societies not represented. Special interest was shown in Cardiff's work as a War Savings Society, and other Societies will probably follow this example. Port Talbot is starting a Crèche.

ABERAVON AND PORT TALBOT.—The annual business meeting was held at Ellis's Café, Port Talbot, on June 18th, the President, Mrs. Percy Jacob, the Mayoress, presiding over a large and representative audience. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, Mrs. Jacobs vacated the chair, and Mrs. J. J. Richards, always an enthusiastic member of the Committee, was chosen as President. Professor Barbara Foxley, M.A., of Cardiff, then gave a lecture on "War Savings," pointing out the need for economy, and advocating that even young children should be taught to save, and so provide the Government with the sinews of war. Dr. James, Chairman of Committee, then gave the plan of work proposed for this Society. It is proposed to open a crèche in Aberavon, beginning with one evening a week, where mothers may leave their children for a few hours. Although in some towns in the country there are large organised day nurseries, no such thing exists here, and we feel that this will be at least a beginning. A large room has been secured, which is being furnished with toys, cots, and such like, kindly given by members and friends. There are many volunteers for the work, and as we have a strong and enthusiastic President and Committee, we hope to give the plan a fair trial.

Afterwards refreshments, kindly provided by the Mayoress, were served, and a programme of music was given.

Bolton

Another successful outdoor meeting was held by the Bolton Society in the Town Hall Square on Friday, June 30th, and although it was the eve of the annual general holiday, Mrs. Annot Robinson succeeded in attracting a large crowd to listen to a stirring address on "Women's Part in the Re-organisation after the War." At the outset Mrs. Robinson dealt with the problem of high food prices, and of the effect of them on the child-life and workers of the country, and considered it was high time that some of the women who understood in a simple and direct way what this increase meant to the poorly paid workers, should have some say in the control of a Parliament who could deal with it effectively.

She also dealt with the ever-increasing employment of women in industry, and deplored the fact that no provision was made for the children of married women who were taking the places of men. She submitted that had women had a voice in affairs, the care of young children could not have been overlooked. That many of these women were being paid a much lower rate of wages than were the men, could not be disputed. What, she asked, would be the attitude of the employers after the war, when they had to choose between male labour and cheap woman labour. She believed the tendency would be to retain the cheap women. She contended that the time was overdue when some of the women in industry, and familiar with the problems, should have some share in the national councils before an attempt was made to solve them. It was only by men and women together approaching these problems that a satisfactory solution could be arrived at, as the interests of men, women, and children were inseparable. If proof was needed of how vital and pressing

these questions have become, it was found in the small groups of men and women who remained after the meeting, eager to discuss them further. Four dozen copies of *THE COMMON CAUSE* were sold.

A most successful garden party was held under the auspices of the Bolton Society, on Saturday, July 15th, at Bloomfield, Heaton, by kind permission of Mrs. Frank Taylor. It was arranged for the purpose of interesting non-members of the Society in its aims and objects, and the invitations were sent to the women and girls employed in certain munition and other works.

The seventy who assembled in the gardens at Bloomfield had a most enjoyable afternoon; croquet and other games, with friendly chat, filling the first part of the time, followed by tea, which was served out of doors. Afterwards Mrs. Annot Robinson, L.L.A., of Manchester, gave an instructive address on "Why Women Need the Vote," emphasising the increased importance of the enfranchisement of women, in view of existing conditions and the problems that will arise in the reorganisation of industries after the war. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Taylor for her kind hospitality, propounded by Mrs. Holmes, Secretary of the local branch of the National Union of Women Workers, and seconded by Miss Balshaw, a Secretary of the Workers' Union, was carried with great heartiness.

During the afternoon fourteen new members were enrolled, and it is hoped that others of those present will join later, many having declared their intention to attend forthcoming meetings of the Society, so as to learn more about the Suffrage question. Eighteen pamphlets on the subject of Women's Work in War Time were sold, and altogether the meeting was very encouraging, giving great promise of successful work in the renewal of the Suffrage campaign.

Portsmouth.

This Branch being asked by Dr. Elsie Inglis to organise a Kossava Day celebration, a preliminary general meeting was held at Clarence House, by kind invitation of Mrs. Hall. Much interest was aroused by an address given by Mrs. Aldridge about her experiences in Serbia at the time of the "Retreat" and before it. A small Committee was appointed, and proceeded at once to organise the celebration on June 30th. Mrs. Aldridge was then invited to speak again on "The Day," and consented willingly. At the Cinema, on June 30th, two performances, with addresses, were given—one for children and Nautical School boys, at 6.30, and another for the general public. At both, Serbian slides were shown, and the Serbian Royal Anthem was sung by the children at 6.30, when the hall was crammed with 360 children. At eight, there was again a full audience. Orders were taken after this meeting for Serbian needlework.

On Saturday morning, July 1st, Mrs. Aldridge addressed a meeting (arranged by the manager, Mr. Kewley) of the workmen at the Asiatic Company's Petrol Installation, when the men contributed £14 14s. 8d. to the Scottish Women's Hospitals and Serbian Relief Fund. In the afternoon Mrs. Aldridge addressed 300 boys at the Nautical School at The Nore. The children of the Council Schools contributed £2 10s., and the total result of the effort is about £26. Special prayers were said in the churches, and the Serbian Royal Anthem was sung on Sunday, July 2nd.

On June 7th this Branch sent up the two resolutions (*re* Registration Bill) with a covering letter to each member of the Cabinet, as requested by the Executive.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- JULY 24.**
Brixton—Drawing-Room Meeting, at Somerset Lodge, 328, Brixton Road—Hostess, Mrs. Breese—Speaker, Mrs. Alys Russell, on "Infant Welfare"—Chair, Lady Garden
- JULY 25.**
Whitby—Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Streeter, on "The Hospital Work of the National Union" 3.0
- JULY 26.**
Bridlington—Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Streeter, on "The Hospital Work of the National Union" 3.0
- JULY 27.**
Scarborough—Garden Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Streeter, on "The Hospital Work of the National Union" 3.30
- JULY 28.**
Malton—Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Streeter, on "The Hospital Work of the National Union" 3.30

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Invaluable to the Experienced Worker and the Novice.

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HAVE YOU A WANT?

If you have a want of any description, do not fail to make it known through the advertisement columns of our paper. We are constantly receiving letters of thanks from our readers. Herewith are some extracts:—

- "I shall be only too pleased to continue to advertise in the 'C.C.' as the nicest visitors I have had through its medium."
- "I had an advertisement in a few months ago, and it was most successful."
- "I enclose tariff as promised; I have already received some guests owing to my advertisement in your paper."
- "Please discontinue my advertisement, as I have already let my flat through your paper."
- "Please continue my advertisement for another three months; I do not want to be out of the paper," etc., etc., etc.

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| 20 | 1 3 | 3 3 | 5 9 |
| 30 | 1 9 | 4 6 | 7 6 |
| 40 | 2 3 | 6 3 | 12 0 |

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

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

Continued from page 199]

PERSONAL.

LADY (L.S.W.S. Member) would like to give house room to the Piano of reader who may be warehousing her furniture. Advertiser has taken charge of friend's piano for some years, but now, owing to removal, is without an instrument. Greatest care taken. No children. References given.—Write, "M" c/o Manager, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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ONE OR TWO TACTFUL, Capable Ladies as Patrol Leaders; salary, £2 a week. Also trained Secretary to Patrol Committee, half time only, morning for preference.—Apply by letter only to Hon. Secretary, Women's Patrol Committee, N.U.W.W., Parliament-mansions, Victoria-st., S.W.

WANTED, August 1st, young, well-educated, Mother's Help to look after child, aged three, and help in the house; salary, £25 to £30, according to experience.—Mrs. Boothroyd, Rosehill, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

WANTED.—Secretary for important post in Scotland; must be capable organiser and experienced in office management.—Applications, with references, to be addressed to Box 5,970, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WANTED, Lady, as parlourmaid; salary £35.—Apply stating age, height, &c., to Mrs. Marshall, Derwent Island, Keswick.

WANTED.

HOLIDAY ENGAGEMENT required for August, near sea or country; would act as companion, or assist with gardening, fruit picking, &c.—Write, Box 5,000, COMMON CAUSE Office.

LADY and Daughter require post in flat; cook and housemaid.—Mrs. Beverley, 62, Moreshead-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

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THE HON. GABRIELLE BORTHWICK'S AUTOMOBILE WORKSHOPS.—Special holiday course in Mechanism (practical garage work), Driving, &c., at reduced fees during August. As number of vacancies limited, application should be made at once to 8, Brick-st., Piccadilly. Phone, 5740 Mayfair.

BOOKS, REVIEWS, Etc.

Problems of Prostitution. THE SHIELD. (2½d. post free quarterly.) Summary of Royal Commission's Report on Venereal Diseases. (2½d. post free.) Warning to Men in Regulated Countries. (1½d. post free.) Present Moral Conditions in Indian Cantonments. (ditto.)

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"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for this booklet to Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. Phone, Central 6049.

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MARY McLACHLAN, Typist, 4, Chapel Walk, Manchester.

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IF YOU ARE WANTING an Artistic Overall for yourself or your child write to Elizabeth, of The Green Door, Chesham, Bucks.

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

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