

THE COMMON CAUSE, NOVEMBER 24, 1910

The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

VOL. II. No. 85. Registered as
a Newspaper.

NOVEMBER 24, 1910.

ONE PENNY.



Woman dedicates herself anew to the Common Cause.

O Lord of work and peace! O Lord of life!
O Lord, the awful Lord of will! though late,
Even yet renew this soul with duteous breath:
That when the peace is garnered in from strife,
The work retrieved, the will regenerate,
This soul may see Thy face, O Lord of death!

The News of the Week.

Women's Suffrage Candidates.

The opening of our electoral campaign is cheered by the announcement of at least two independent Women's Suffrage Candidates who have been approved by the National Union. Both are too well known to Suffragists to need description. Mr. Herbert Jacobs, who is standing for E. St. Pancras, has been chairman of the Men's League from the beginning. Mr. H. N. Brailsford, who is standing for South Salford, is Hon. Secretary of the Conciliation Committee. With these two good men and true to fight for, Suffragists are to be congratulated.

The General Election.

The most autocratic Government yet seen in England since the last Reform Bill has decreed that there shall be a dissolution. The country does not wish it—it will injure trade, it will cost two millions, it is on no new issue. Yet, because the inner circle of the Cabinet decrees it, England must suffer it, and it seems likely that the first elections may be on Saturday, 3rd December. We hope that all our Societies are watching the adoption of candidates, and will exert themselves to the uttermost to see that our demand is made an issue in this election. "The dominant sex has a dominant issue," said Mr. Brailsford. But the subject sex has its dominant issue too, and must make it felt. Every Society should at once set to work, if it has not already done so, to secure that Women's Suffrage shall be in the election addresses of local candidates.

The National Union and the Government.

As will be seen from the report of our Parliamentary Secretary, the National Union has been actively pressing for some clear pledge from the Government that, should they be returned to power, they will *next session* give facilities for a Women's Suffrage Bill, either on the lines adopted by the Conciliation Committee, or granting the Suffrage to Women "on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men." It must not be forgotten that it was the object of the Conciliation Committee to conciliate. The National Union, like all the other Women's Suffrage Societies, shewed itself reasonable and willing to compromise and accept terms offered by the Conciliation Committee. Should the Government alone prove itself irreconcilable we shall know what to think of the spirit of conciliation of which they boast.

The Suffrage Deputation.

For many hours on the afternoon of Friday, 18th, members of the Women's Social and Political Union hurled themselves against the police drawn up round the House of Commons, and were hurled back into a crowd mostly composed of loafing, jeering men. On the whole both parties to this strange warfare,—the women who fought what they thought a righteous battle and the police who obeyed their orders—refrained from passion or needless violence. But some very bad exceptions are reported. The *Manchester Guardian* described the scene as "pitiful and horrible to the last degree." That was, we think, the impression of all decent men and women, for what happened was that the police actually handed the women over to a coarse and brutal mob.

Next day 117 women and two men were brought up at Bow Street Police Court on various charges in connection with the raid. Mr. Muskett, who had charge of the prosecutions, stated that the Home Secretary had since Friday "considered the main position on the grounds of public policy," and that he had come to the conclusion that "on this occasion no public advantage would be gained by proceeding with the prosecutions." Accordingly all the prisoners were discharged.

Giving the Lie.

With regard to the accusation of lying brought by a correspondent in our last week's issue against a speaker of the National Union because she stated that the law

allowed a husband to forbid his wife to go out of the workhouse, we quote the following authorities:—

The Poor Law, by T. W. Fowle, M.A., p. 140:—"It is doubtful whether the Guardians have power to detain a wife whose husband is in the house, but they can certainly do so if the husband exercises his marital authority to forbid her departure. It results, therefore, that the pauper is perhaps the only member of the community to whom the law can afford efficient help in compelling the obedience of wives."

The English Poor Law System (Aschrott, p. 246):—"The moot question, whether a married woman may be discharged from the workhouse without her husband, has been settled by the Central Board by the decision that the husband by virtue of his marital authority may forbid his wife to leave the workhouse, but that if he refuses to make use of this authority the Guardians cannot prevent the wife from discharging herself, though they may discharge her husband with her."

The gentleman who gave the lie was very sarcastic about inaccuracy. Will he now apologize?

Suffrage in Washington State.

We read in *Jus Suffragii* that the State of Washington has adopted an amendment to its constitution granting Suffrage to Women.

The Press Again.

We should like all our readers to note that the *Westminster Gazette*, which gave one inch to our Albert Hall meeting, gave one column to the militant deputation to the House. We hold the editor of the *Westminster Gazette* guilty of indirect incitement to violence, the most cowardly and pernicious of all incitement.

Lord Lytton's interesting tables of meetings will open the eyes of those who have eyes at all. The great mass of men are, however, misled by the *suppressio veri* of the daily press if not by its actual *suggestio falsi*. The *Manchester Guardian* actually reports London Suffrage meetings better than the London press, and on the 17th had another of a series of cogent and equitable leaders on the claims of women to fair treatment by a Liberal Government.

The Nation also had an admirable article in Saturday's issue, and *The Christian Commonwealth* of November 16th had a supplement giving nearly verbatim reports of the two great Albert Hall meetings.

Medical Women and the Conciliation Bill.

Mrs. Garrett Anderson has been getting up another memorial from medical women in favour of the Conciliation Bill. The response was, she states, unanimous, and it was signed by 407 medical women. When one considers how wide and deep is the knowledge that medical women must have of some of the most difficult and important problems of the age, it is obvious how weighty is their opinion.

Teachers' Pensions.

The inevitable letter to the paper has turned up, in which a kind gentleman explains that the women teachers must pay a higher premium because (as we explained a fortnight ago) they have expectation of a longer life, and he concludes: "The woman teacher will consequently be drawing her pension for 2½ years after the male teacher is dead and buried, and this is a very good reason why her premium should be higher." Granted, if you will; but then it is an equally good reason why her salary should be higher too.

Liberal Ladies and "Equality."

Lord Sheffield, an anti-Suffragist, in opening a bazaar for Liberal work recently, said he wanted "civil and religious liberty and intellectual liberty; equality before the law and equality of opportunity for every man's industry, ability, and character." We hope the Liberal ladies who had to listen writhed a little; we should have too poor an opinion of them if they really liked being talked to in that way.

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

THE COMMON CAUSE.

What is the Common Cause? It is the cause of the enfranchisement of women. It is the cause of men as well as of women, because to give women political power is to give them power to help men to make the conditions under which we live better for us all. It is the cause of the children above all, because they need the care of women in the State just as they need the care of women—their mothers and nurses—in their own homes.

WOMEN SHOULD NOT INTERFERE IN POLITICS, so the anti-suffragist gentlemen tell us. But the General Election is approaching, and how many do you think, of the 190 men who voted against the Women's Suffrage Bill in July, will refuse to allow women to "interfere" in their election campaigns? Will it not be, as usual—"Make all possible use of every available woman in your district."

WON'T THE WOMEN BE AT WORK

all day long in the committee rooms addressing envelopes? Won't the women be out canvassing from morning till night? (They quite forget to tell *those* women that they ought to stop at home!)

And just think for a moment what canvassing means. Surely the duty of a canvasser is

TO INSTRUCT THE ELECTORS

on political questions, and advise them how to use their votes.

Is it not rather strange to put this work into the hands of people who are themselves incapable of voting wisely, people who are, as Lord Cromer says, too sentimental, ignorant and hasty in their judgments to be fit to influence legislation.

How can foolish women direct the voting of wise men?

Even

MRS. HUMPHRY WARD,

the one really distinguished woman who opposes the extension of the franchise to women, was busy at the last election writing letters to the public press in support of her son's candidature, and giving the electors the benefit of her considered judgment on national affairs.

But women everywhere are now determining that this absurd position has been tolerated too long. The *Welsh Liberal Women* have decided to work for nothing but suffrage until the vote is won.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies have determined to run Suffrage Candidates.

WHY?

BECAUSE, until elections are fought on Women's Suffrage, Governments can afford to ignore the question.

BECAUSE no *party* will make Women's Suffrage the main issue at an election, so the *women must*.

BECAUSE Mr. Asquith has said that he will accept no evidence of men's support of this measure, *but that given at the polls*.

BECAUSE the women have used every other constitutional weapon without avail.

THIS WEEK'S STORY.

Putting It First.

(Overheard at a Suffrage Meeting.)

Suffragist (from platform): "If we really believe in this reform, we must put it before everything else, and work for it with undivided enthusiasm."

Muttered comments from audience.

A Lord: "Well, it's clear *she* doesn't deserve a vote! With the CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE before us to put her own rights first is outrageous!"

A Protectionist: "Well, it's clear *she* doesn't deserve a vote! While the foreigners are doing our jobs, to put her own rights first is monstrous!"

An Imperialist: "If she thinks her vote more important than more Dreadnoughts, it's clear she should not have one. Shocking!"

A Free Trader: "To think her own rights more important than the price of bread! Preposterous!"

A Home Ruler: "And the women wanting votes when the whole blessed country herself is in subjection! It's a sense of proportion she's needing, I'm thinking, and not a vote at all!"

A Socialist: "The Osborne Judgment! And she can think her own rights important!"

A Liberal: "Its all in Liberal Principles. But it's clear *she* doesn't deserve a vote, for she doesn't know her best friends."

A Conservative: "With Radicalism creeping upon us, is this a time to talk of our own rights?"

(Mutterings from all sides.)

A SANE INDIVIDUAL: "I believe she's just like everyone else. Good luck to her!"

RAY COSTELLOE.

THIS WEEK'S MOTTO.

"He who's for us, for him are we!"
GEORGE MEREDITH.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

LONDON AGENT.—Communications referring to advertisements may now be addressed to our London agent, Mrs. H. A. Evans, 10, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C. Friends in London desirous of helping to get advertisements will kindly communicate with her.

THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in England or abroad for the following prepaid payments:—

3 MONTHS	...	1 9
6 MONTHS	...	3 3
12 MONTHS	...	6 6

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

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

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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Blank, Sullen Veto.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HOME SECRETARY.
(See letter from Mr. Churchill to Sir George Ritchie, November 14, 1910.)

DEAR MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL,

A grave crisis has supervened in political affairs. The failure of the Conciliation Committee leaves us confronted with the absolute veto of the Liberal Cabinet. All that friendly discussion prolonged in earnestness and candour for so many months could do has been done, and has been done in vain. The Conciliation Bill is dead, but the grievances which it was to compose remain. They remain in all their original harshness and unfairness, undisputed, unmodified, and unredressed.

Mr. Asquith asserts that men are a superior political caste. He refuses equal rights to his fellow-citizens. He demands that the opinions and interests of men shall enjoy a favouritism and a privilege within the law above all women.

This must end. It must end finally, and it must end now. We are resolved to win by every lawful means for ourselves and for those who come after us in the world, a fair and equal Constitution for our country. We seek nothing more; we will take nothing less.

The last Women's Suffrage Bill was violently destroyed by Mr. Asquith, who used his veto as Prime Minister to prohibit the House of Commons from proceeding to the Committee stage. Five previous Bills, having passed

their second reading, have, in spite of a large Progressive majority composed of men on both sides of the House been wrecked in the same way by the Government of the day, and the present House of Commons is held in the same intolerable grip.

A number of different Bills have been drafted in our interests, and on all of them we have possessed an effective majority in the House of Commons. Every one of them has been met by veto—utter, blank, sullen veto. There is in fact no path to progress, however hopeful, however large, that is not over-ridden; no House of Commons, however newly elected, that exists except on sufferance. All roads lead to veto. At the end of every legislative avenue loom the portals of 10 Downing Street.

We cannot get forward. We have nowhere to turn, but to the nation from whose recorded will all just powers of Government are derived.

And while, on the one hand, Mr. Asquith's veto bars all legislation for the enfranchisement of women, it offers no security against reaction. In breaking up the Poor Law, how can women hope that their needs will be understood? In dealing with the problem of divorce, is one partner alone to have the settling and signing of the contract? Why should insurance deal only with invalidity and unemployment and old age, and not also with maternity, which holds the future of the race? Can we hope that men alone will ever effectively deal with education, and not continue to find such zest in quarrelling about it that the children meanwhile are forgotten? Is it likely that men alone will ever make good laws and sound public opinion upon wars and drunkenness and social purity? Men alone can prohibit women by law from earning an honest wage; can make a married working woman the slave of her husband; can at any moment deprive women of civil rights, as was done by the C.D. Acts, and without the vote women are powerless.

Was ever inequality more scandalous? Was ever injustice more glaring? Women as well as men are to be taxed, but only men are to have a voice in the spending of those taxes. Women as well as men are to obey the law, but only men are to have a voice in the making and administration of the law. Men and women may express their opinions, but only men's opinions shall prevail.

We can submit no longer to this usage. This is our land as much as theirs. We have as good a right in Britain as they. We cherish the glories of this famous island as dearly. We have guarded its honour and its interests at home and abroad with greater success. We are more sober and chaste, less corruptible and more law-abiding than men, and we risk our lives for the propagation of the race in vastly larger numbers than do men for the defence of the race. Our safety, our prosperity, not less than theirs, are founded upon the enduring welfare of the British realm. We have long claimed equal political rights in the Constitution of our country. Now we are going to take them.

Tell our friends in Dundee and throughout Scotland to be ready. As the nation settles it, so shall it be.—Yours truly,

SUFFRAGIST.

P.S.—Since imitation is the sincerest flattery, I have, as far as possible, couched my plea in your own inimitable language, and it is astonishing how few words have had to be altered; all that are not in italics are yours.

The Conciliation Committee Resolution.

On November 15th the Conciliation Committee met at the House of Commons. Lord Lytton presided, and the following resolution was adopted:—"That this Committee realising in view of the impending dissolution the material impossibility of obtaining further time this year for its Women's Suffrage Bill, resolves to seek from the

Prime Minister an assurance that he will if returned to power afford facilities for its passage into law next year."

LORD LYTTON'S LETTER.

The following weighty letter was also despatched to the Prime Minister:—

11, North Audley-street, W.,
Nov. 15, 1910.

Sir.—In accordance with our undertaking, I now have the honour to submit to you evidence of the urgency and extent of the demand that the Woman Suffrage Bill, promoted by the Conciliation Committee, should be passed into law.

The most striking proof that public opinion is behind this demand is furnished by the resolutions and petitions which have come from city and town councils. Those of Dublin, Glasgow, and Dundee have unanimously resolved to petition that our Bill be passed into law this year. The Manchester City Council, by a four-fifths majority, and 24 other councils, including those of Cork, West Bromwich, Perth, Bangor, and Southport, have adopted similar resolutions. These councils are composed of representative men, who speak for an electorate which includes women, and know the value in local affairs of the women on whom our Bill would confer the Parliamentary vote.

Throughout the autumn an active campaign in favour of our Bill has been conducted by all the suffrage societies. Our records, which are far from complete, show a total of no less than 4,220 meetings held in its support since the date of the Second Reading (July 12), most of them within the past eight weeks. They include a vast demonstration in Hyde Park, with 40 platforms, at all of which the resolution was carried by great majorities by an audience estimated by the Manchester Guardian at about half a million. Similar demonstrations, on a smaller scale, were held at Edinburgh, Manchester (2), Bristol (2), Birmingham, Newcastle, Liverpool, Sheffield, Brighton, Leicester, Nottingham, Eastbourne, Croydon, Guildford and in Trafalgar-square (2). In one week the Albert Hall was twice filled by different suffrage societies, a record which it would be hard to parallel in any other agitation. In order to measure the relative energy displayed by this movement we have obtained from the managers of three of the largest halls in England the following statistics, which give the number of meetings held in them during the past 12 months:—

Hall.	Meetings for Woman Suffrage.	Meetings against Woman Suffrage.	All other political Meetings.
Albert Hall	6	0	3
Queen's Hall	34	1	13
Free Trade Hall, Manchester	5	1	12
Total	45	2	28

These figures speak for themselves. They show that the opposition to woman suffrage is inert, whilst the agitation in support of it is incomparably the most active of contemporary political movements. Women have done enough to prove their zeal and more than enough to merit the attention of a Government. If after a Constitutional movement, incessant since 1868 and particularly vigorous during the past five years, they still can fail in the modest demand which they make on the time of Parliament, it cannot be a matter for surprise that some among them should turn to other methods of agitation.

In seeking further facilities for our Bill we base our request not merely on the support which it has obtained in the country, but even more directly on the vote which gave it on the Second Reading a majority of 110. We are in a position to demonstrate that active pressure on behalf of our Bill, as distinct from the passive support, is not confined to the 175 members who voted with the Conciliation Committee in both divisions. I have the honour to enclose a memorial asking that further facilities be given to the Bill this year, which has been signed by 67 members, who either voted for its reference to the Committee of the whole House or were unavoidably absent from the division.

To meet the objection taken in your former letter to the title of the Bill, my committee is prepared to ask for leave to recommit the Bill, with a general title, if time is given for its further stages.

If any doubt remains that our Bill is democratic, we can submit figures based upon extensive house-to-house investigations which prove that the proportion of working women among the registered occupiers whom our Bill would enfranchise varies from 82 to 91 per cent. Notice has been given by Mr. Shackleton of an amendment which deals with the risk of "faggot" voting.

It is the opinion of my committee that three or four days now would suffice for the further stages of the Bill. It embodies a large principle, but this has now been accepted by the House. Its details, on the other hand, are exceedingly simple. The Reform Bill of 1884, with 11 lengthy and very technical clauses, of which the shortest is longer than the whole of our Bill, occupied only nine days in Committee.

We beg, Sir, to remind you that our Bill was brought forward during a pause in political affairs, at a moment when no party questions competed with it for attention, and in a Session when time might with ease have been provided. We can foresee in the near future no opportunity so favourable. This opportunity has so far been used only to provide time for yet another Second Reading debate, which has brought women no nearer the settlement of their question than any of the briefer and more academic discussions, which since 1870 have issued in the same result. We share the opinion which certain of your colleagues in the Cabinet have expressed, that the "impatience" and "exasperation" of women is intelligible, and that the time has passed, in Mr. Birrell's words, for "shuffling and delay." Our object in introducing our Bill was to provide a compromise by which a painful struggle might have been ended, and we dread that the failure to use an opportunity which public opinion generally held to be peculiarly favourable may induce in women a mood of pessimism, and lead them to suppose that further sacrifices are required of them before their grievance can secure attention. We have read with satisfaction the speeches in which Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Birrell, and Mr. Runciman expressed (with certain reservations) their personal opinion that full facilities ought to be provided for our Bill next year. We cannot with certainty forecast the course of events during what remains of the present Session, but it is to be foreseen that the imminence of a Dissolution may make it materially difficult to provide the time for which we ask. In that event, we venture to ask for an assurance that should you find yourself at the head of an Administration, the facilities which you have been unable to grant this year may next year be accorded for the passage into law of our Bill, if introduced under a general title.

On behalf of the 60 members of Parliament of all parties who compose the Conciliation Committee, I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

LYTTON, Chairman.

The Right Hon. the Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY.

To this letter the following reply was sent:—

10, Downing-street, Nov. 17, 1910.

My dear Lytton,—I have received your letter of the 15th inst., in which you give particulars of the movement in support of the Woman Suffrage Bill now before Parliament, and ask me whether the Government will give facilities this Session for the passage of the Bill through the House of Commons, or failing that, whether in the event of my being at the head of an Administration facilities will be accorded next year for the passage into law of your Bill if introduced under a general title.

I can only repeat that the time at the disposal of the Government will not admit of any further progress being made with the Bill this year.

As regards the question of facilities for next year, I am not at the moment in a position to give any assurance, but I will submit your letter to my colleagues, and I hope before very long to be able to make a statement on the subject.—Yours sincerely,
H. H. ASQUITH.

In Parliament.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

The House of Commons met again for the first time since the summer recess on Tuesday, 15th, but the reply to Mr. Keir Hardie's question concerning the Conciliation Bill was deferred to Friday.

On Friday, 18th, Mr. Asquith moved that for the remainder of the session Government business have precedence, and indicated that that business would include "The essential parts of the Finance Bill," provision for the removal of the pauper disqualification for the receipt of old-age pensions on the 31st December next, and finally the passing of the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill. Mr. Asquith also pledged the Government "if they have the opportunity and the requisite Parliamentary following next year, to propose a provision out of public funds for the payment of Members." He hoped to make a statement on Tuesday, or at latest on Wednesday, with regard to the Osborne Judgment.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

In reply to Mr. Keir Hardie, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the Government had not yet had time to consider the question of the fate of the Conciliation Bill, but now that the line of action with regard to the great constitutional problem had been decided, the Prime Minister intended to give a full answer and to declare the intentions of the Government next week. His reply is anticipated on Tuesday, 22nd. Mr. Walter McLaren pleaded that the Government should, if they were in office next year, give adequate time for the discussion and settlement of the question. Viscount Castlereagh moved to amend the Prime Minister's motion by excepting from it "any day on which the member for Merthyr Tydvil may set down for consideration his motion *re* further facilities for the Parliamentary Franchise (Women) Bill." He moved the amendment as a protest against the Government refusing to answer the question, either in the affirmative or the negative.

Mr. H. S. Foster seconded.

Mr. Kettle, Lord Hugh Cecil, Mr. Nannetti, Mr. Hugh Law, Sir A. Mond, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Gwynne, Mr. Aneurin Williams, and Mr. McLaren all pleaded with the Prime Minister to receive the deputation at that

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

Hon. Secretaries: MISS EDITH DIMOCK.
Hon. Secretaries: MISS BERTHA MASON (Parliamentary).
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London."
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
Hon. Treasurer: MISS BERTHA MASON (*Pro Tem.*).
Secretary: MISS T. G. WHITEHEAD, M.A.
Telephone: 1960 Victoria.

Executive Committee.

The hastening on of a General Election has necessitated the hastening on of our Special Council meeting also, and it is now to meet at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Saturday next, November 26th, at 10.30 a.m. This short notice will make it impossible to send round the full printed agenda to the Societies before the meeting, as resolutions are to be received up to the first post on Thursday morning for insertion. Miss Whitehead will, however, do the best she can under the circumstances by typing and sending round any resolutions which are received early in the week. We have hopes that in spite of the sudden call to arms there may be at least three Women's Suffrage candidates in the field,

moment clamouring for admission. Mr. Asquith refused, and the amendment was lost by 199 votes to 52.

The Prime Minister's motion was agreed to without a division.

Sir Charles Schwann presented the petition of the Manchester City Council in favour of the Parliamentary Franchise (Women) Bill.

On the afternoon of Nov. 22nd, Mr. Asquith, replying to questions in the House of Commons regarding Women's Enfranchisement, said that the Government will, if they are still in power, give facilities in the next Parliament for effectively proceeding with a Bill which is so framed as to permit of amendments.

The Mother's Protest.

We read in *The Anglo-Russian* that a Frenchwoman, Madame Heral Mirtel, has addressed a letter to M. Briand, who is much exercised about the falling birth-rate. The provoking cause was the dismissal of a married woman teacher, Madame Grandval. The letter runs:—"Since you are ignorant of it, Monsieur le Ministre, learn then that the question of depopulation rests with the women—with the mothers; and the women and the mothers of France, whom you do not hear, whom you never consult in your pretended democratic councils, protest loudly against the measure by which Mme. Grandval is struck down. This injury affects us all, and with her gives rise in us to the conviction that you do not care for the depopulation, even of France herself, except as so much subject for talk and for pretext for legislation. We declare to you—we, the creatrices of the courage which fails you—that we do not admit the urgency to submit ourselves to nine months of suffering, to several years of vigil and maternal cares, to furnish a child, that he may become a soldier or an elector of a Government that only recognises us by one title—that of producers."

Under modern economic conditions the poorest people can only provide for their families if the mother earns as well as the father. If this is considered bad for the race, the State must step in and make provision. It is not of the faintest use to protest against a falling birth-rate and to prohibit women from earning unless motherhood is endowed.

and we urge on our members, one and all, to go to their support. There will be something for everyone to do suited to their different gifts; and those who pressed for this policy at the Council are bound to do their utmost to make it a success. Other lines of work to be pursued during the Election will be settled at the Special Council.

Two more Societies have joined the Union since our last meeting: St. Hugh's Hall, Oxford, and Sutton Coldfield.

We are asked to announce that Mrs. Clara Colby is again in England, and willing to speak at meetings of our Societies. Her address is 13, Brunswick Square, London, W.C.

EDITH DIMOCK.

SUMMARY OF REPORT presented to the Executive Committee on November 17th, 1910, by the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary.

Miss Bertha Mason reported that on seeing in the Press an apparently authorised statement that on the assembling of Parliament on the 15th inst., a motion would be brought forward that only Government business would be dealt with during the session, she had at once written to Mr. Asquith's private secretary, Mr. Vaughan Nash, asking for a personal interview with the Prime Minister on the subject of Women's Suffrage, before Parliament assembled, or, failing this, for an interview with an authorised representative appointed by the Prime Minister.

Owing to the unexpected Parliamentary crisis, it was impossible for the Prime Minister to grant a personal interview, but she had been received at 11, Downing-street, at noon on November 15th, by Mr. Vaughan Nash, and by Mr. Geoffrey Howard, the Prime Minister's Parliamentary Secretary, to whom she had submitted evidence regarding the present position of the Woman's Suffrage question, and the urgency of the demand that facilities should be granted for the passage of the Conciliation Bill through the House of Commons during the coming session. That she had further stated that, owing to the imminence of the dissolution, she realised that it was *now* perhaps quite impossible for such facilities to be granted for this session.

If this were so, she asked in the name of her Union (1) for a guarantee on the part of the Government, that should they be in power, a full and early opportunity shall be given for the passage into law next year of a Bill on the lines promoted by the Conciliation Committee, or in accordance with our own formula, "on the same terms as men"; (2) That the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies would be quite content if the Government so preferred for the guarantee to be given to the Conciliation Committee, but it was of vital importance that it should be given *at once*, and before *Parliament dissolved*.

Mr. Howard, who had given a courteous hearing to the statement, promised to lay the matter before the Prime Minister as speedily as possible, and the interview, which lasted half an hour, was brought to a close.

Treasurer's Appeal.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.

The General Election is upon us. Once again we are called upon to take the message of "Votes for Women" into every constituency. Once again it is our duty—at whatever cost to ourselves—to make clear to electors and candidates that we stand by our demand that facilities must be given, by whatever Government may be in power, for the passage into law next year of a measure of Women's Suffrage.

Our campaign cannot be carried out without money, and I appeal now for contributions to our Election Campaign Fund. I urge that such shall be forwarded to me at once, during the coming week, for time is very short.

BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

November 12th to November 19th, 1910.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	57	13	0
Subscriptions:—			
Miss Morgan Browne	0	2	6
Miss Wainwright	0	1	0
Miss J. A. Hesse	0	1	0
Miss Daisy Woolnough	0	1	0
Miss E. L. Hicks	0	1	0
Miss E. A. Baxter	0	1	0
Donations:—			
"Two Friends," per Miss Milton	0	5	0
G. W., per Lady Frances Balfour	5	0	0
Miss Vellacott, threepenny-bit savings	0	13	0
Miss Rose Lightman, percentage on sales of lavender preparations	0	0	5½
Affiliation Fees:—			
Radcliffe-cum-Farnworth W.S.S.	0	15	3
Burnley W.S.S.	0	8	9
	£65	2	11½

MILLION SHILLING FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	1,841	9	
Miss Lloyd, per Miss Clayton	0	1	0
Miss Whitehead, per Miss Clayton	0	1	0
Mrs. Auerbach, collection	0	3	0
Inverness W.S. Society, an acknowledgment of Miss Bertha Mason's Lecture	0	17	9
	1,864	6	

Two Women Suffrage Candidates.

EAST ST. PANCRAS.



MR. HERBERT JACOBS.
INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CANDIDATE FOR EAST ST. PANCRAS.

It is with much satisfaction we announce that the London Society for Women's Suffrage has decided to support the candidature of Mr. Herbert Jacobs as Woman Suffrage and Liberal candidate for East St. Pancras in opposition to the sitting Liberal member, the Hon. Joseph Martin. Mr. Jacobs is chairman of the Men's League, and a well-trying friend of our cause. Mr. Martin is an opponent of the Conciliation Bill, and his majority is small. The constituency is conveniently placed, lying as it does north of Euston Road, and not far from Regent's Park and Chalk Farm. It is well served by the Hampstead and Highgate Tube, and by 'buses from all parts running to "Britannia."

We have a fortnight to do our work. If an army of zealous, determined Suffragist canvassers flood the constituency without a day's delay, and work hopefully and incessantly, there is no reason why we should not strike a heavy blow at the enemy. The opportunity for real telling political work is unique. All is well in train, everything that expert organisation can do is being done,—the rest lies with our members and friends and with them alone. They must do the rest. They must give us of their best in work, vigorous and sustained, undaunted by discouragement or weather for one fortnight, and they must give us £700 at once. Mr. Jacobs has appointed Miss Strachey as his election agent, and she has arranged to give him her exclusive official services in that capacity. Committee Rooms are being engaged in various parts of East St. Pancras. The address of the Central Committee Rooms will be sent to all inquirers at 58, Victoria Street, S.W., where all offers of work should be addressed, and where all workers, experienced or inexperienced, with or without notice, are welcome—canvassers above all, who will

find their work prepared ready to their hands. Clerical workers are also needed. Mrs. Fawcett will be there to lead her army, as she is going to give every bit of time she can spare, and Miss Palliser, Miss Maude Royden, and other members of the N.U. and London Executive Committees will do all they can. Donations, large as well as small, should come immediately to the Hon. Treasurer, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

Those who hesitate are lost!

SOUTH SALFORD.

Committee Rooms: Central, 153-155, Regent Road.
Other Rooms: 265, Chapel Street;
127, Trafford Road;
207, Ordsall Lane;
Oldfield Hall, Gardenwell Street.

Mr. Joseph Clayton, who had been announced as prospective candidate, having withdrawn, Mr. H. N. Brailsford, hon. secretary of the Conciliation Committee, has consented to stand as an Independent Women's Suffrage candidate in South Salford. We can imagine no candidate more acceptable to all Suffragists the country over. Mr. Brailsford's dogged determination in making possible the impossible will be of priceless value to us in the House, and we call upon all Suffragists who are not themselves engaged in running a candidate to help with all their power to get him in. We are well prepared in S. Salford. The fight will be short and hard. We want all the help we can get.

Half our victory is already won. Mr. Belloc, with loud asseverations that the suggestion that the attitude of the Suffragists affected him in the least is "farical," has discreetly retired from the fight. Now it only remains to us to make sure that it shall be Mr. Brailsford who replaces him.

We find a professed hope on the part of the Liberals that, as Mr. Belloc has retired, we shall retire too. But we reply that it is too late. For months we have tried to negotiate with them, and every offer we have made has been rejected or ignored. Now we are in the field with a splendid candidate, and we can hold our own against all comers.

It seems to be at last penetrating to the intelligence of our opponents that we are not merely playing a game of bluff. On Monday we had an urgent appeal to give up the best hall in the constituency, which we have secured for what will probably be the night before the poll, as both Liberals and Conservatives were "nearly off their heads for it."

Mr. Brailsford has appeared in the constituency and been formally adopted. He met his committee in the Salford Suffrage Club on Monday, 21st, and proceeded to address a meeting of supporters in St. Bartholomew's Schools. Salford greeted him with one of her deadliest fogs, which made attendance at the meeting an absolute impossibility for many, but those present were full of enthusiasm, hope, and determination.

He was adopted unanimously, and his election address was received with enthusiasm, for it was felt that by putting Women's Suffrage first he had made it possible for men of all parties to vote for him, and the rest of his programme is consonant with the wishes of a large part of the electorate.

Miss Darlington was first in the field, and secured the best committee rooms and the best halls for meetings, and the Salford women, who have been immensely interested and stirred by our propaganda, will now set to work to canvass.

We have also secured an excellent and experienced election agent, who is a keen Suffragist, and the Election Committee has mapped out the constituency into wards, each of which is in the hands of business-like people. All the machinery of canvass cards, etc., is well in hand, and hospitality, conveyances, and other sub-committees are arranged for.

We propose to show the party wire-pullers that Suffragists are not to be overlooked with impunity.

We append Mr. Brailsford's address:—

Parliamentary Election, December, 1910.
SOUTH SALFORD DIVISION.

TO THE ELECTORS OF SOUTH SALFORD.

GENTLEMEN,

I have accepted the invitation to contest your Division as a candidate for Parliament with which the South Salford Women's Suffrage Association has honoured me. No question before the electorate exceeds in importance the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote, and it is on their behalf that I venture to ask for your support.

After a gallant and difficult fight, women have won for their demand a place among the urgent questions of the hour. It becomes every day more obvious to thinking men that a Constitution which professes to be democratic, and yet makes no provision for women, is an indefensible absurdity. Under modern conditions, women have become wage-earners and taxpayers. Their need of representation is the same as men's. They require the vote at once as the badge of self-respecting citizenship, and as a means of protection in the industrial world. Their helpless position as the **voteless victims of every form of sweating** is the gravest hindrance to any effort to raise the general standard of living in this country. As the poorest of all wage-earners they appeal for the aid of their fellow-workers who already have the vote. By helping them to help themselves, we shall add a fresh and eager regiment to the army that is fighting for social justice.

I had a share in promoting the **Conciliation Suffrage Bill**, whose future depends on the Parliament now to be elected. It is based on the maxim that **taxation without representation is tyranny**. I ask you to declare your will that a million women ratepayers, of whom over 800,000 belong to the working class, shall share with you the right to control the Government that taxes them.

I appeal to every man who cares for fair play, to put **principle before party**. By giving their votes at this election to help women whose courage and perseverance compel our admiration, progressives of whatever party need abandon none of the other causes which they have at heart.

I am opposed on principle to any hereditary Second Chamber, and failing a more thorough plan, will support the Liberal Government's scheme for dealing with **the Veto of the House of Lords**.

I am warmly in favour of the fullest measure of **Home Rule for Ireland**.

Organised labour, opposed by great capitalist combinations, which meet it at every turn in its struggles to secure its due share of the wealth which it creates, must rely more than ever before upon its political power. By the **Osborne Judgment**, Trade Unions have been forbidden to use their funds for political ends. I should, if elected, support the Labour Party in demanding its **reversal**.

To the Unionist proposals for **Tariff Reform** I am strongly opposed. The cruel problem of **unemployment** can be solved neither by free trade nor by **Tariff Reform**. Unemployment is an inevitable product of our competitive system of industry. For immediate remedies we must look to **the break-up of our inhuman and degrading Poor Law**, to the extension of old-age pensions, and to a system of State insurance against sickness and unemployment. In our extravagant **armaments**, and the foreign policy which makes them necessary, I recognise the gravest obstacle to social reform. On all these questions I should act, if elected, with the **Labour Party**.

I ask you, by casting your vote for me, to protest against the attempt of both the governing parties to ignore the women's question. I ask you to repudiate the insult of your late Member, who has described their brave struggle for justice as an "immoral movement." I ask you to affirm your belief that social progress can be won only by the united effort and equal comradeship of men and women.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
H. N. BRAILSFORD.

155, Regent Road, Salford, 22nd November, 1910.

LIST OF MEETINGS ARRANGED FOR MR. BRAILSFORD.

- Nov. 24 (Thursday)—Salford Town Hall, 8 p.m.
25 (Friday)—Egerton School, Tatton Street, 7.30 p.m.
Cross Lane Unitarian Schools, 8 p.m.
26 (Saturday)—Trafford Road Council Schools, 7.30 p.m.
27 (Sunday)—Great Irish and Labour Demonstration, Regent Theatre, Cross Lane, at 3 p.m.
Special speakers.
28 (Monday)—St. Philip's Schools, Great George Street, 7.30 p.m.
Hope Chapel, Liverpool Street, 8 p.m.
29 (Tuesday)—St. Bartholomew's Schools, Regent Street, off Regent Road.
St. Stephen's Schools, off Chapel Street.

- 30 (Wednesday)—Egerton Schools, Tatton Street, 7.30.
Ordsall Council Schools, Fairbrother Street, 8 p.m.
St. Philip's Schools, Great George Street, 8 p.m.
Dec. 1 (Thursday)—Salford Town Hall, 8 p.m.
2 (Friday)—Mass Meeting, the Central Mission Hall, Broadway, 8 p.m.

Educating Our Masters.

In a certain London constituency a certain gentleman stood for Parliament in the Liberal interest at the last General Election, who, while not professing himself an honest opponent, indulged in quips and gibes at the expense of the Suffragists, and refused to answer the official questions of the National Union. The London Society opposed him, and the majority by which he got in was exceedingly small. When seeking a suitable area in which to run a Suffrage candidate those responsible for this task turned their eyes to the constituency in question. Certain semi-private preliminaries took place, nothing dramatic or public, but by a curious coincidence the name of the sitting member was, contrary to all anticipation, discovered on the right side in both divisions on the Conciliation Bill's second reading. A somewhat similar course of events took place in another Metropolitan constituency some five miles away, with the same interesting and satisfactory result except that the member, being a Unionist, did not vote for the Grand Committee.

The Common Cause.

THE NATIONAL UNION AND THE PAPER.

Arrangements are being made by the Literature Committee of the National Union to stock the paper at Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster. Copies, in large and small quantities, will always be obtainable there.

THE COLOURS AND THE PAPER.

Whatever course is decided upon at the Special Council on the 26th, we should like to remind our readers that everywhere, indoors and out, at meetings and at the doors of all the polling booths, it will be effective electioneering to have men and women to *sell the paper and wear the colours*. The Red, White and Green should push the Common Cause all over the country. We hope all the societies in the Union will order large quantities beforehand and organize extensive sales. We shall have no electors' petition. If "Common Cause" shops were opened all over the country, something might be done to counteract the silence of the Press, the "blank, sullen veto" of the Government.

Remember that to sell or give the organ of the Union is to do propaganda for the Union in the most up-to-date way possible. No penny leaflet has so much of such recent matter.

Stoke Newington Borough Council, London.

On November 3rd, 1910, the North Hackney Committee of the L.S.W.S. decided to ask the Stoke Newington and Hackney Borough Councils, in whose area they work, to pass a resolution asking Parliament to grant facilities for the third reading of the Parliamentary Franchise (Women's) Bill. Several of the members were known to be in favour, having signed the petition at the General Election. Several members of the General Purposes Committee were interviewed, and leaflets on the Bill sent to all. A letter was sent to the Town Clerk, the motion put on the agenda, passed by the committee on Nov. 11th and sent to the Council on Nov. 15th. Between the two meetings leaflets were sent to the other Councilors, and they were interviewed, with the result that at the Council meeting on November 15th, when all members but one were present, the resolution was passed by a large majority, only four voting for an amendment declaring that it was not a matter within the province of the Council to discuss. The committee of the branch feel very grateful to the Council for their public-spirited action, especially as it is the first of the London boroughs to move in the matter.
C. MAUDE EVE.



Debenham & Freebody.
Wigmore Street.
(Covendish Square) London W.

Famous for over a Century for Taste, for Quality, for Value

Knitted Garments For Winter Sport

We have made a special study of Knitted Garments of every description, and have always in stock an immense variety of Hand and Machine Knitted Coats, Caps, Skirts, Hoods, etc. All these garments are thoroughly well made to our own exclusive designs. Ladies requiring Winter Sports Outfits are invited to inquire for the Manager of the Department, who will be able to give them expert advice.

Hand-knitted Shetland Double Wool Coat (as sketch). The lightest weight knitted coat procurable, weighing only 11 ozs., delightfully soft and warm. In various mixed colours with white on top, and coloured linings. Length 33 to 39 ins. The latest production in hand-knitted coats.

39/6
Hood (as sketch), lined silk, 15/6

SENT ON APPROVAL.

London Society's Receptions.

The Executive Committee will hold four receptions at 58, Victoria Street, S.W., from 8 to 10.30 p.m., on the following dates:—

Thursday, November 24th.—Speakers: Miss Emily Davies, LL.D. (Executive Committee L.S.); Miss E. A. Bompas; Miss Lowndes (chairman Artists' Suffrage League).

Thursday, December 1st.—Speakers: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D. (president N.U.W.S.S. and Executive Committee L.S.W.S.); Miss I. O. Ford (Executive Committee N.U.W.S.S.); Mrs. Rackham (Executive Committee N.U.W.S.S.).

Thursday, December 15th.—Speakers: Miss Edith Palliser (Executive Committee N.U.W.S.S. and L.S.W.S.); and Miss Maude Royden (Executive Committee N.U.W.S.S.).

Thursday, December 22nd.—Speakers: Miss H. D. Cockle (Executive Committee L.S.W.S.) and Miss Helen Ward (L.S.W.S. Executive Committee).

Other speakers will be announced later.

Federation Notes.

Scottish.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE AT ST. GILES, EDINBURGH.

On Monday afternoon, November 14th, a great devotional service was held in the ancient Cathedral of St. Giles. Representatives from all the Suffrage Societies in Edinburgh assembled, in a devout and earnest spirit, to attend the service.

In the falling dusk of a bleak November day the nave and aisles of the historic church were filled with a company of about a thousand women—an eloquent testimony, surely, that women Suffragists consider their cause to be not only just, but an intensely moral, a deeply spiritual one.

The faded tattered banners drooping overhead—banners that had been borne by gallant hands through many a desperate fight, the tablets commemorating the names and deeds of heroes and heroines, immortal in Scottish story; the grave of John Knox, the supreme fighter for religious freedom in Scotland, all spoke eloquently of the spirit of courage and liberty. The meeting of quiet, earnest-faced Scotch women testified none the less significantly to a courage equally high, a determination as firm and a love of liberty as profound as any that had moved their ancestors in bygone days.

After a preliminary service of psalm, prayers, anthem and hymn, the minister of St. Giles, the Rev. Dr. Wallace Williamson, gave a short address, choosing as his text, "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh unto thee."

The meeting closed with a hymn and reverent benediction.

North and East Ridings Yorkshire.

Mrs. Merivale Mayer is now at work in our Federation, and is beginning in Scarborough. She arranged a deputation to the Mayor and Councillors for the purpose of getting the Council to pass a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill, and interviewed the Mayor, vice-Mayor, and Town Clerk with every promise of success.

The last of a series of ward meetings has been held in York in the Bootham and Guildhall Wards, to explain the Conciliation Bill to the women occupiers. The chair was taken by Mr. T. Anderson, and Miss Fielden gave an excellent address to a well-attended meeting. The resolution, supported by Mr. E. P. Holmes, was passed without a dissent. This resolution was sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Butcher, M.P., and Mr. Rowntree, M.P.

The Hon. Mrs. Wilkinson, the president of the York Branch, generously defrayed the expenses.

E. BATESON.

Midland.

The Birmingham Society are busy preparing for their sale of Christmas presents, already announced to take place at the Vestry Hall, Islington Row, at 3 p.m. on November 29th. There will be many quite new and unique attractions at this sale, and it is hoped that everyone in the neighbourhood who possibly can will make a point of attending it. Interesting articles, largely the handiwork of Suffragists, have been contributed from all over the country, and also from France and Switzerland; and "The Common Cause" advertisers have responded warmly to the appeal for articles for their special stall. Miss Ruth Nightingale has most kindly put her great talents at the disposal of the Society, and is giving a Shakespearean recital during the afternoon.

The Wolverhampton W.S.S. is arranging for a letter to be sent to the local Conservative M.P., by several of its Conservative members, urging him to press for facilities for the Bill.

The Olton Society has received a reply to its letter to Mr. Newdegate asking him to press for facilities, in which he says that "for the sake of the ladies it would not be satisfactory to rush the matter through."

Olton is also pressing its Rural District Council to pass a resolution in support of the Bill, and, having sympathisers on that body, is hopeful of success, although it has been told that the moment is inopportune.

Manchester and District.

The deputation which last week interviewed Mr. Colefax, M.P. for South Manchester, met with a curious experience. Mr. Colefax is a Conservative, but he found the Conciliation Bill too narrow, and the "same terms as men" unsatisfactory. He said he was a Suffragist, but no particular Bill could claim his support. He spoke eloquently on the "dominant issue," and it was only when the interview was well advanced that the deputation discovered that this was—Tariff Reform! Mr. Colefax had nothing to reply when asked why women should not be allowed a say in the taxes which they will have to pay, but he thought us very unpatriotic to press our "little interests."

West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales.

The first public meeting in support of Women's Suffrage was held in Widnes on November 7th at the Liberal Club. Mr. Calvert, a local resident, took the chair. Mrs. Alan Bright gave a stirring and eloquent speech. Mrs. Billinger spoke from the woman worker's point of view. A vote of thanks, moved by Miss Rathbone and seconded by Mr. Baskerville (the secretary of the Liberal Club), was cordially given. In spite of a stormy night there was a good attendance, and twenty-six "Common Causes" were sold.

VERSES
SUGGESTED BY A SPEECH AT THE ALBERT HALL.

I.
We who have time to live 'neath sunny skies,
Days filled with golden moments of repose;
Who in some garden fair may feast our eyes,
At thirst for beauty, on the opening rose,
Arrayed all sparkling in her diamond dew,
"We happy few"!"

II.
We who may spend what strength we have to lift
Some burden from the shoulders of the weak,
Who to the poor may bring some needed gift,
And words of courage and of comfort speak,
Words that with hope their faded lives renew,
"We happy few"!"

III.
We who are worn and wasted in the fight,
Scarred in fierce conflicts for a better world,
We who have marched from darkness unto light,
And on some solitary peak unfurled
The flag of Freedom to the people's view—
"We happy few"!"

HERBERT JACOBS.

Review.**A SUFFRAGE CALENDAR.**

The Bristol Society has issued a very attractive Women's Suffrage Calendar for 1911. The size of the calendar is 9½ by 7½ inches, and it is printed in the colours of the Union. It consists of twelve pages, one for each month, and each page contains one or more appropriate quotations taken from very varied sources. In addition to quotations, interesting facts in the history of the Suffrage movement are given.

We heartily recommend this calendar to the notice of our readers.

Artists' Suffrage League.

Britanny Studio, 259, King's Road, Chelsea.

The Artists' Suffrage League has a new poster in the hands of the printers. The poster—"Votes for Mother, who works for us now Father's dead"—is in four colours, and is 30in. by 40in. It is hoped that it will be on sale by the end of this week.

Correspondence.

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

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only.

ELECTION POLICY.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Your correspondent, Miss Wilkinson, touches one aspect of the anti-Government by-election policy which is very important. As she says, it would bring all the Societies into line, politically. We need not adopt the "violent" demonstration tactics of the militant Societies; but if we do election work at all, we should at by-elections be doing real work, trying, as all political organizations do try, to turn votes. That is all the parties care about; it is the only argument they will heed. What is the N.U. objection to this anti-Government policy? Is it that some of the constituent Societies are so violently Liberal that they would leave the Union if it were adopted while a Liberal Government is in power? But we are a non-party organization, and such considerations ought not to weigh down the scale.

As things are, at one and the same election the N.U. members may be supporting one man whom all the other Societies oppose, and this is not impressive. It is worse; it is distinctly harmful.

Running Suffrage candidates is excellent policy for a general election, for we get such choice of constituencies then. Its one drawback is its expense, but we must concentrate on an effort so valuable. But the problem of by-election policy is not touched, since to run a candidate at such an election has but small advantage. It is not worth its cost. Therefore, for by-elections, if all the Societies agreed upon anti-Government action, we have a simple and effective measure.—Yours,

UNION IS STRENGTH.

[It is safe to say that no constituent Societies in the National Union are "violently Liberal." Also, we can assure our correspondent that so strongly has the Council felt the advantages of a common election policy that such a policy has only been rejected after interminable discussions at many Council meetings. The election policy of the Union has always been a flexible one, and will shortly be again under consideration, when it will be open to any Society to bring forward and discuss any policy. In the opinion of many people, the anti-Government policy has appeared to be more "simple" than "effective."—Ed. "C. C."]

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Every year brings an increase in the number of Suffragists who are prepared to put Women's Suffrage first, and work for no political party until women are enfranchised. All of these whose means and circumstances allow will, of course, go and work for our Women's Suffrage candidates at the coming election. But there are also a great many people who are whole-hearted Suffragists, but are not prepared to work for Women's Suffrage to the exclusion of all other political issues. What provision are we going to make for these in our election policy?

I know many of the more zealous Suffragists (who have probably been through this stage themselves and passed beyond it) are inclined to say that we cannot afford to consider this kind of supporter; that no one who is not prepared to put the Suffrage first is any good to us. I cannot help feeling that this is a great mistake. I think it would be far better policy to devise some scheme by which we could "make all possible use of every available woman," as the Liberal agent in a certain constituency advised his workers to do at the last election! It is, as a rule, those men and women whose keen-

WEST HEATH SCHOOL, HAMPSTEAD.

A School where Boys and Girls are educated together, and where they learn the respect for each other and gain the wholesome and natural knowledge of one another which is a foundation for all that is best in the mutual relations of men and women.

West Heath School is a day-school, with accommodation for a certain number of Boarders, where children are received from the ages of six to eighteen; thus obviating the disastrous break, at 13 or 14 years of age, in the continuity of their intellectual work, which is a necessity (for moral reasons) in schools where boys and girls are separated from one another.

At West Heath School the boys and girls share each other's pursuits, whether in work, games, or leisure. They have, in fact, in this respect the freedom of a large family, in conjunction with the help due to the supervision of a staff of experienced educationists. At the same time, the even proportion in the staff of men and women gives ample opportunity for the association of boys with men and of girls with women which must be an inherent characteristic of any true system of co-Education. Where boys and girls are thus brought up, false ideas as to predominance find no acceptance, and a standard, honest in being alike for all, is upheld.

PARTICULARS FROM THE PRINCIPAL.

Reference allowed to:—

The Rev. Canon Scott-Holland, St. Paul's, E.C.; and Dr. Jane Walker, 122, Harley Street, W.

ness about the Suffrage is the outcome of keenness about other political questions who are amongst our most useful workers; they will be torn in two at the coming election—more, perhaps, than on any previous occasion, between the desire to work for their party and the desire to work for Women's Suffrage. They will have the chance of doing both if, in constituencies where no Women's Suffrage candidate is being run, we maintain our present policy of working to get the best Suffragist in. Because now that the federations are in working order each federation can constitute itself a sort of political labour exchange, sending Liberal Suffragists to work in a constituency where the Liberal candidate is satisfactory [and the Conservative candidate unsatisfactory, and vice versa.] To give an example: In our North-Western Federation the only Anti-Suffragist M.P.s are the Members for South Westmorland and Egremont. Both are Conservatives, so that if their Liberal opponents are satisfactory on the Suffrage question my suggested policy would lead to the drafting of a large force of Liberal Suffragists into those constituencies, and an arrangement for Conservative Suffragists to work elsewhere—for instance, in the Cocker-mouth Division, where the sitting Conservative member is on the Conciliation Committee.

This scheme depends on the mobility of labour; to be effective it must be thoroughly well organized, and arrangements would have to be made with local Suffragists to put up workers from a distance. Probably the agent of the candidate to whom help was being sent would assist in this! I should suggest the appointment of a temporary election secretary for each constituency in the Federation area, to begin at once collecting names of local Suffragists, men and women, who would cooperate in this scheme, stating in each case (1) which party they wished to work for, (2) which constituencies, in order of preference, they could go to, (3) how many days, and what sort of work they would give, etc. The Central Labour Exchange authority, so to speak, would be the secretary for the Federation, who would apportion the forces at command according to the information supplied by the divisional election secretaries.

Of course, no candidate would be supported in this way who did not give satisfactory answers to the National Union's questions, and the success of the plan would depend very largely on how those questions are drafted. A conditional offer of a dozen helpers to give, say, three whole days to whatever work was most needed would be an inducement to the evasive candidate to commit himself. (The offer should also be made to the candidate's agent.)

This scheme would include those Suffragists who put Suffrage first but are unable, for some reason, to go and work in any of the constituencies where Women's Suffrage candidates are standing. They could send in their names as willing to work wherever work was most needed, irrespective of party. I must not trespass further on the space of "The Common Cause" by a consideration of the details of this scheme, or of objections that may be brought against it. Perhaps there will be an opportunity for discussing its merits at the special Council meeting on November 26th.—Yours,

CATHERINE E. MARSHALL.

Hawse End, Keswick, November 19th, 1910.

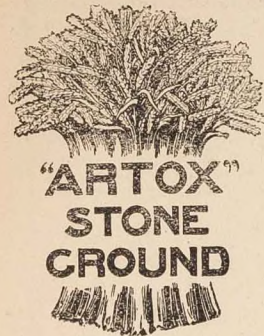
DOMESTIC SCIENCE AND THE UNIVERSITIES.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I venture to ask you to insert a few words in answer to your correspondent of November 3rd, who dealt with "Domestic Science and the Universities." I know that your paper must be read by many scientific women, and I wish to urge them not to take this, which might be called an "at first sight" view of the subject. Many of us may have held the view suggested by the writer that domestic work and surveillance is in the main technical training. But those who have lately been in touch with any development of the application of modern science to the household can think so no more. If one merely enumerates the various branches of science, physical and biological, and ethical and economic, which bear obvious relation to the work of those engaged in house-management, child-bearing, and child-rearing, and the control of family expenditure, one has suggested in outline a curriculum which can hardly be called narrow.

A cook, a housemaid, and a domestic nurse require technical training; the woman who engages and directs them requires something deeper and wider, something based on highly trained intelligence. In many respects the servant bears the same relation to the mistress as the sick nurse to the doctor, or the private soldier to the officer, whom modern days consider efficient only if he has received a highly scientific training.

The co-ordinated curriculum of subjects bearing on domestic science which is considered worthy of ultimate university recognition by those who are framing it is in much the same position towards its critics as agriculture was until a few years ago. The academic recognition of the science of agriculture as a part of higher education indicates an aspiration to make the art of agriculture a progressive art. The same will be found true of domestic science. The art of



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housekeeping has not been a progressive art, it has not kept pace with the times, and it will not do so until there is a form of higher education which aims at producing experts in housekeeping. It is not necessary for every housekeeper to have a degree in domestic science any more than it is necessary for every small farmer to be a B.Sc. in agriculture. Every housekeeper is the better for a good education in scientific method, and she should know where and from whom to get expert advice for her work. There is a great body of knowledge to be used, there is a great amount of research to be undertaken. We might be speaking of mining or agriculture; we are speaking of domestic administration, of the care of human bodies, not of minerals or plants and animals. Miss Oakeley did not enter into details of the curriculum which has lately been initiated at King's College. Mr. Winter and all others interested will find this in the College Syllabus. At present the college invites those already trained in the fundamental sciences to learn how these are to be applied to domestic problems, with as many examples of the connection as can be investigated in a year's systematic course. It also invites students of undergraduate age to undertake a three years' course; the first two years devoted mainly to acquiring a thorough grounding in the most suitable fundamental sciences, with some insight into the working of an ordinary house; the last year devoted as above to applying their scientific knowledge.—Yours,

MARGARET MCKILLOP.

RESIDENT MEDICAL WOMEN.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—In reply to "Only a Nurse," I venture to express the hope that what she states is quite exceptional. My experience (and not a very small one) leads me to think that the woman resident to-day gets treatment as courteous and proper as the male resident. I have been Resident and Medical Officer in several hospitals. In one I taught and showed male students from the University gynaecology, and was always present when the chief was instructing his class, helping him with cases, etc. In a general Poor-law Hospital I had sole charge of 300 beds (male and female), which included lock, lunacy, phthisis, maternity, etc., and the general population of the workhouse 1,000. My sole help was the consultant, who visited for two hours per week.

I have, curiously enough, been in charge of a fever hospital, and whenever an outside practitioner wished to see his patient (male or female) who happened to be in my care, I do not

remember any occasion when the said doctor did not ask to see me to get permission, if I was in at the time of his visits. May I finally state that in Edinburgh a well-known coach in anatomy and physiology was a woman, who coached both men and women students in these difficult subjects, and many doctors owe their knowledge of these subjects to the instruction they received from a woman. They did not consider sex; they went to her because they thought her the best anatomist and the one best able to teach them.

Women Residents don't expect discourteous treatment, and, I am glad to say, as far as my varied experience goes, they don't get it.—Yours,
M. B.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I: your issue of November 10 M.D. asks me to explain what I mean by saying that "Women medicals attached to English hospitals usually work with women students." In my letter of October 27 I used the above expression, but I also said "there may be exceptions." I should be glad if M.D. would correct me by stating the hospitals where men students are lectured to by a woman resident, that is, of course, in England. If M.D. would refer to my letter she would find that I spoke of "English hospitals" only.

In reference to the remark made by a medical man might I point out the error made by M.D. I think that "the dual office of doctor and matron" was the point in question, not "doctor and medical superintendent," as, of course, doctor and medical superintendent are one. Trusting that I have explained myself clearly to M.D.—Yours,
November 18th, 1910. "ONLY A NURSE."

WOMEN AND PUBLIC OPINION.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Some of the letters from the men suggest the thought that their passions are natural and right, and are therefore in some measure to be privileged or excused.

There is no greater error than this. It is the one which causes the arrogant selfishness of men, and maintains the difference between the sexes. Men must know that their passions are not right, and must learn positive self-control before they can see things from a higher point of view. All will admit the entire question is one of moral tone, and can anyone anywhere point out to us better moral trainers and teachers than the women? Then let them have full power, so that they may do more good.

It is not long before the women will have votes, and it is with pleasure that I shall watch and help them act.—Yours,
C. E. P.

P.S.—For perpetrators of these crimes no lash could be too heavy, no arm too strong to wield it, and the pain should be a hundred times greater than the passion that has caused the sin, inflicted by one who would deal the strokes as though they whipped a wretched habit from a cur; but the Editor does not agree, she shows that women know a gentler, better, and a higher way. And after all she's right.
18th November, 1910.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—A Male Waverer" is evidently suffering from shock, and that perhaps accounts for his shocking letter in this week's "Common Cause." Walt Whitman struck boldly long ago at the canting sentimentality that confuses a pure mind with an ignorant one, and clean thinking with cowardice. "A Male Waverer" attacks Mrs. Swanwick for causing a "sensation." What reform, I ask, has ever been possible without the driving force of public sensation? The "sensation" amongst men on this question has not been sufficient. If men "do not allow" these atrocities why has nothing been done before this to alter the law in relation to them?

It behoves the pioneer women, then, to arouse the public opinion of their sister women, and when once this is done we believe that they will not rest until these evils are treated with the severity that they deserve. The "clean, fresh, pure-thinking" women are called upon to-day to put these qualities to the test, and to use them—as they only can effectively be used—against evil, with knowledge, with courage, and with unselfish love. We are thankful that there are to-day women who dare to attack these questions with fearless knowledge, and with the purity that is purer in its warfare with darkness than that which cowers in protected ignorance. "An unwise man doth not well consider this, neither doth a fool understand it."—Yours,
"AWAKENED."

TAX RESISTANCE.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—May I call the attention of your readers who will be delegates to the National Union Council on Saturday next that possibly the subject of tax resistance may be discussed there.

Whatever may prove to be the election policy adopted by the National Union would it not very greatly strengthen the position of those who are speaking during the election if they said, "Should a Liberal Government be returned to power and continue to refuse facilities to the Women's

Suffrage Bill, we constitutional women intend to become tax resistors."

Since you are unrepresented it is more constitutional to resist than to pay. I am hoping that in order to create such a situation it will be possible for the Council to consider the subject now rather than wait until the January Conference.—
Yours,
MARGARET KINETON PARKES.

72, Hillfield Road, Hampstead.

(We are again obliged to hold over some letters.)

Reports of Societies within the National Union.

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

(The following were unavoidably held over last week.)

BLACKPOOL.

On Friday, November 4th, the Blackpool Society held a most successful whist drive at Collinson's Café. Councillor Collins was a most efficient M.C., and Dr. Edith Bunting distributed the prizes.

LONDON—SOUTH KENSINGTON.

The S. Kensington Committee has taken a room at 7, Stratford Road, S.W. It is proposed to hold weekly meetings there on Friday evenings at 8.30 p.m. Some members of the committee will always be present at these meetings, and an informal address will usually be given. Information and a supply of literature and "The Common Cause" will always be obtainable at the above address, and it is hoped that any member or anyone interested in Women's Suffrage will come on Friday evenings, more especially those who are working during the day, and have no opportunity of attending afternoon meetings. There was a very good attendance at the first of the South Kensington Committee's fortnightly At Homes on the 28th, held by kind permission of Mrs. Hogg at 2, Vicarage Gate. Mrs. Chesterton spoke from the chair, and Miss Bompas, in a most interesting speech, proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting calls upon the Government to give time this session for the passing into law of the Representation of the People Bill, 1910." This was seconded by Miss Cooke. Some questions were asked, and literature and tickets for the Albert Hall meeting were sold.

LONDON—WIMBLETON.

On Wednesday, October 26th, a meeting of members and friends was held at Stamford House, by kind permission of Lady Anderson. The chair was taken by Mrs. Paston Brown, and Miss Gavin, Mrs. Mallett, and Miss Pridham gave short addresses. About thirty members and friends attended.

Miss Gavin pointed out several things each Suffragist could do to help to obtain the vote: First, join a Woman's Suffrage Society; second, take "The Common Cause"; third, attend every possible meeting and bring friends. Other suggestions mentioned by the speakers were: To walk in processions, to wear colours, to mention Suffrage in correspondence, and to subscribe.

The next speaker, Miss Pridham, quoted several interesting sayings of John Stuart Mill, who, she said, converted her to the cause. She refuted several Anti-Suffrage arguments. The speaker said that the withholding of the Suffrage was an enormous waste of the power of more than half the citizens of Great Britain.

Mrs. Mallett then spoke. She mentioned that she had taken part in the first Suffrage meeting held in Wimbledon twenty years ago. The speaker took the question from a mother's standpoint. She said she wanted the vote in order to help, if possible, to make the world a better and holier place for her children.

Mrs. Paston Brown asked those present to think of other women not so happily placed as themselves, and to do all in their power

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towards their common end. The chairman mentioned the Suffrage demonstration, and asked the members to join the Wimbledon contingent at Guildford in as large numbers as possible.

Miss Gavin proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Anderson, who replied that she was pleased to see the members at her house. Two new members joined.

LONDON—WINDSOR AND ETON.

On Monday, October 31st, the monthly At Home of the branch was held in the Grove Road Schoolroom. There was a good audience of between fifty and sixty. Mr. Theodore Griggenheim delivered a most eloquent address on the man's aspect of Women's Suffrage and the Conciliation Bill. Most of those present were new to the subject, and listened with deep attention. There was an informal talk after the speech, and Mr. Griggenheim cleared up various points which were submitted to him.

The Hon. Secretary made a short business statement before the speech as to the work done in the past year and the programme for the next. The latter includes two meetings in the Lower Guildhall on December 2nd at 5 and 8.30, to which all are invited, the expense and trouble of arranging these meetings being undertaken by Mrs. Bernard Everett; a projected Suffrage play and concert in February, for which the composer, Mr. Thomas F. Dunhill, had most kindly volunteered to arrange the music; and monthly At Homes in the Lower Guildhall if the finances permit.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. Dunhill, and seconded by Councillor Brersey. Tea and cake were served before the meeting, and flowers in the colours decorated the tables.

NORWOOD AND DISTRICT.

A well-attended meeting was held at our offices on October 29th. Miss Abadam took the chair, and Lady Constance Lytton was the speaker. The resolution in favour of granting facilities for the Conciliation Bill was again carried *nem. con.*

ORCADIAN.

The first annual meeting of this Society was held on October 25th. Mrs. McEwen, vice-president, in the chair. The annual report showed that the membership had risen from 37 to 55, that seven public meetings had been held, that a Parliamentary voters' petition had been undertaken in January, and that the Society had been represented at the annual conference of the N.U. The report also contained reference to the visit of the Scottish Federation organizer, Miss Lamond. After the accounts had been audited and accepted, and the new office-bearers elected, Miss Jamieson, hon. secretary of the Shetland Society, read a paper on "Women in Poetry, Drama, and Literature."

RAMSGATE.

On October 24th a most successful meeting of women municipal voters and Suffragists was held; it was addressed by Miss Macaulay, of the W.S.P.U. She spoke of the duty of using the municipal vote, and the duty of demanding the Parliamentary vote. The whole address was excellent, and most appropriate owing to the approaching municipal elections. The meeting was well attended, and the audience much interested. Since the meeting the Member for Thanet has been interviewed, and has given his signature to the memorial to the Prime Minister, arranged by the Conciliation Committee. He has also declared himself to be generally in sympathy with the Women's Suffrage movement.

RINGWOOD AND DISTRICT.

A new branch of the N.U. has just been started here, as a result of our organizer's work. The first meeting of the Society was held on November 3rd. The chair was taken by Miss Bateson. Miss Nora O'Shea, who very kindly came from Portsmouth, gave an excellent and stirring address. The Society promises to be a flourishing one. Under the zealous secretaryship of Mrs. Gordon over forty members have already been enrolled.

RUGBY.

We are anxious to hold an open-air meeting every month, as we feel it is a better way of getting at the "man in the street" than holding meetings in a hall, and incidentally, we save money, which is a great consideration to a small Society like ours.

Our second open-air meeting was held on Friday, the 4th, when Councillor Margaret Ashton was our speaker, and she had an audience of about 150 people listening to her in the Market Place. Mr. R. B. Henderson, M.A., was chairman, and told us how Women's Suffrage was succeeding in those countries which have it. He also spoke of the work that Miss Ashton has done and is doing for women in Manchester.

Miss Ashton spoke of the many things which had been done to help men to better their conditions, but how comparatively little had been done in that way for women, because members of Parliament have no time to listen to non-voters; and she urged the justice of allowing women to voice their opinions, especially as so much of our legislation has now to do with the home.

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A resolution in favour of facilities for the Conciliation Bill was carried with only one dissentient, and copies of the resolution were sent to the Prime Minister; to Mr. T. L. Baird, our member; and to the prospective Liberal candidate, Mr. Basil Williams.

At the New Bilton Schoolroom on Sunday, October 30th, Mr. R. B. Henderson, M.A., spoke on "The International Women's Movement and Its Significance." There was an animated discussion afterwards, during which no opposition to the principle of Women's Suffrage was shown, though the Conciliation Bill met with some criticism.

SHEFFIELD.

A canvass was taken of the candidates for the Sheffield City Council previous to the election, and it was found that of thirty candidates twenty-three answered in favour of some form of Women's Suffrage, one went off on a side issue and did not give a direct answer, while of the six who did not respond one is known to be in favour, and it is reasonable to conclude with regard to the remaining five that they are not actively opposed, or they would have grasped at the chance of saying so. This result is felt to be thoroughly satisfactory, marking as it does a great advance in the education of popular feeling.

Two meetings, for women only, have been arranged for Thursday, November 17, when Miss Blanche Leppington will speak in the afternoon, at 3.15, on "Josephine Butler and the White Slave Traffic," and in the evening at 8 on "The Women's Movement and Moral Reform." Both meetings will be at the Cutlers' Hall.

SHROPSHIRE.

Miss Phillips, the Midland Federation organizer, has been with us for a week, has addressed many meetings, and gained for us several adherents who will soon, doubtless, become valuable workers.

On October 31st we held an At Home for members in St. Alkmund's School Room. Whitechurch was visited on November 1st, and a public meeting, which had been organized by Mrs. Etches, was held in the Oddfellows' Hall. Mrs. Clay Finch took the chair. Mrs. Harley and Miss Phillips were the speakers.

On November 2nd Mrs. Shields and Miss Phillips visited Ludlow, where it is hoped to organize a public meeting later on. Mrs. Stevens organized a very successful meeting at Church Stratton on November 4th, whilst on the 5th inst. an open-air meeting was held in the Square, when Miss Phillips spoke to a decidedly friendly crowd for over three-quarters of an hour. We held the last meeting of a strenuous week on Monday, November 7th, at Tregwynt, by kind invitation of Mrs. H. F. Harries.

All our meetings have been splendidly reported in the local papers, our resolution has been passed either unanimously or with few dissentients, "Common Causes" have sold well, and great interest has been aroused. We feel deeply indebted to Miss Phillips for her unceasing energy and hard work.

TEIGNMOUTH.

None of our members were able to go to the Suffrage Week in London, so to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of our

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Society we have had a small Suffrage week of our own. Miss Norma Smith, the present organizer for Devon and Cornwall, visited us for three days. She gave an address at the Women's Liberal Club, and completely converted those present from their former attitude of hostility to the Conciliation Bill. She also held a great number of private interviews both with members of the Society and outsiders, and produced a most excellent impression in every case. On Friday evening Miss Abadam addressed a public meeting in the Assembly Rooms, the largest meeting which has yet collected in Teignmouth to listen to arguments in favour of the Suffrage. Miss Abadam made a splendid speech. At the end of the meeting a resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was passed without a single dissentient voice.

WARRINGTON.

The Warrington Women's Suffrage Society had a social on Friday, October 28th, at 8 p.m. Short speeches were made by Mrs. Ransome, Mrs. Stansfield, and the Rev. Harvey Cook. They were followed by some admirable music. Miss Bodmer, of Newton-le-Willows, sang two very beautiful songs; Mrs. Havior charmed her audience with two delightful violin solos; while Miss Jones, who always plays with exquisite feeling, gave us a pianoforte solo.

Other Societies.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The New Constitutional Society worked with great energy during the last two weeks of the by-election at Walthamstow, and opened committee rooms in the Lea Bridge Road, with Mrs. Beith in charge. Open-air meetings were held every afternoon and evening, and amongst those who addressed the large and interested crowds were Mrs. Cecil Chapman (president of the Society), Mrs. Louis Fagan, Mrs. Hicks, Miss Naylor, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Mrs. Beith, and several others.

Two very successful meetings were held at the Conway Hall and the Leyton Town Hall. The banners of the Society were carried in the procession on Saturday, the 29th, by Mrs. Louis Fagan, Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Beith, and Miss Rakeysh, and Mrs. Harley, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Miss Bertha Graham, Miss Collier, Miss Raleigh, and Miss Hartley were among those who worked at the polling stations on Nov. 1st.

IRISH MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

It is hoped that there will soon be a vigorous Men's League in Ireland. To promote this object a meeting was held at 35, Molesworth Street, Dublin, on November 8th. Mr. T. J. Haslam is acting as hon secretary *pro tem*. The minimum subscription will be 1s., and an additional subscription of 1s. 6d. will entitle a member to receive every month the official organ of the English League.

BATH.

A meeting to discuss "The Relation of Women Taxpayers to the Suffrage" was held at the Guildhall on the afternoon of November 10th, when Mrs. Kineton Parkes addressed the members of the Bath Suffrage Society. She pointed out that the non-payment of the Imperial taxes was a method which the most constitutional and law-abiding Suffragists need not hesitate to employ against the Government, who had in many cases exacted money illegally from women. It seemed both logical and right for the taxpaying woman to say, "If I am a person for purposes of taxation, I should be a person for representation." A discussion followed as to the best methods of resisting the payment of taxes, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes concluded by expressing the hope that she should leave behind her in Bath a group of women tax resisters.

BIRMINGHAM.

During this week we have had the great pleasure of forming a new Society at Sutton Coldfield, a few miles from Birmingham, with Miss Earl as President. It promises to be a very enthusiastic Society; it already consists of 45 members, and its first act was to collect the nucleus of a working fund.

We sent fifteen members from Birmingham to the Albert Hall meeting; the time of the year, and the distance, and the difficulty of returning so late on Saturday prevented many from going who would have liked to have done so.

BRISTOL.

A most interesting meeting was held on Wednesday, 9th, at 3 p.m., at 111a, Whiteladies Road. Mrs. W. C. H. Cross presided, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Secretary of the Women's Tax Resistance League, gave an excellent address on the illogical and wrong position women were in—in paying taxes they very often did not approve of, and thereby helping by their money and often encouraging a cause they were against.

There was an earnest debate after her speech, in which Miss Priestman (one of the Suffrage pioneers) and Miss Tanner took part. Many questions were asked, and several gave in their names as willing to resist what taxes they were able. Miss Baretti and Mrs. A. Daniel proposed votes of thanks to Mrs. Parkes, whose clear reasoning and earnestness have done so much for the cause she has so much at heart.

CARDIFF.

Thanks to the generosity of Miss Mabel Howell, the Cardiff Society has now an office at 35, Windsor Place, where the Secretary and others are to be found daily between 4.30 and 5.30 p.m., and on Saturdays between 10 and 12 a.m. Inquirers and helpers will be welcome.

COLWYN BAY.

The monthly meeting was held on Monday night, November 7th, at Cartmell's Café, when an excellent and witty address was given by Miss Eakin, of Llandudno. She dealt with some of the chief arguments of the Anti-Suffragists, and especially those brought forward in the recent speeches of Lord Cromer and Miss Violet Markham in Manchester. These she showed to be mutually contradictory, and therefore negligible. Dr. Lilian Blabe took the chair, in the absence of Mr. Stuart Woodhams, and about thirty persons were present.

EXETER.

A well-attended meeting of women engaged in religious and social work was held on November 5th. Miss Abadam spoke and deeply impressed her hearers. Many copies of Mr. Walter McLaren's

leaflet, "The Equality of Women Before the Law," were sold, and many of those present asked for membership forms.

On November 7th the local Committee arranged a luncheon at an hotel to meet Lord Lytton, who most kindly came to address an evening meeting. Thirty-six ladies and gentlemen of all parties attended, and Sir Robert Newman, our President, presided. Our Chairman, Mr. Domville, proposed the health of Lord Lytton, who responded in a thoughtful and illuminating speech on the present position of the Conciliation Bill. The evening meeting was largely attended by electors of both parties, as well as by the voiceless women. In proposing a resolution pressing for time to discuss further the Conciliation Bill, Lord Lytton gave a beautiful and most inspiring address, and Miss Cicely Corbett seconded in a sparkling speech. Votes of thanks were proposed and seconded by local men of both parties, and by Miss Norma Smith. The resolution was passed with only one dissentient. A collection was taken, and fourteen membership forms were asked for, more being applied for the next day.

A Suffrage Shop has been open for ten days with very fair success; members sent articles for sale, and afternoon teas were provided.

HORSHAM.

Mrs. Keatings, Hon. Secretary for the Horsham Branch, gave a most successful drawing-room meeting for the good of the cause. Some new members were enrolled, and we are sure good spadework was done. Miss Bryan most kindly came over to speak, as also did Sir Eustace Piers.

LONDON—CAMBERWELL.

The reception held by the Camberwell Branch was a great success. The room was bright with flowers, posters, and the Camberwell banner with its hope-inspiring motto, "All shall be well," and quite a large number of people were present. Miss Ward, president of the branch, acted as chairman. Lady Frances Balfour, in spite of her many and arduous duties, most kindly came and spoke on the Suffrage question with reference to its social side, and Miss Lucy Deane, in a very telling speech, presented its industrial aspect. The enthusiasm aroused was shown by the amount of the collection. In addition a full share in "The Common Cause" Publishing Company was subscribed, and a fair amount of money was taken at the literature stall. It was felt that these meetings among the members of the branch would be of great service could they be held oftener, and the committee hope soon to be able to have the use of a room where such meetings can be held.

The open-air meetings held by the branch have been continued each week, sometimes with very amusing incidents. The last will be held on Friday evening, November 18th, when both Miss Cockle and Miss Deane have promised to be present.

NORTH OF ENGLAND—MARPLE BRIDGE.

On Friday, November 11th, an At Home was held at "Walden." During the evening Miss Ker, of Mellor, gave an address, and a short speech was given by the Rev. C. Stewart Smith. A discussion took place, mainly on points in the Conciliation Bill, and several new members joined the Society.

PENRITH.

On November 9th we had a great treat—a public At Home in St. Andrew's Hall, with Miss I. O. Ford to speak and Miss Catherine Marshall to preside. The tea was entirely provided by contributions in kind from members, and a charge of sixpence each was made. Miss Marshall explained the Conciliation Bill in a most lucid and interesting manner, dealing with the events which led up to, and the conditions which caused the formation of, the Conciliation Committee. Miss Ford moved a resolution in favour of the Bill, and during her speech dealt at some length with the position of women in connection with the various laws, charming everyone with her wonderful humour and pathos. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Lawrence and carried unanimously. Copies were sent, as usual, to the four party leaders and the M.P.s of Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire. "Common Causes" sold well.

(We are again obliged to hold over a great number of reports.)

Forthcoming Meetings.

- NOVEMBER 24.**
Eastbourne—Grove Hall—Public Meeting—Miss Frances Sterling, Rev. C. Hinscliff. 3.0
Leeds—Clayton Hall—Public Meeting—Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Fielden. 8.0
Bristol—111a, Whiteladies' Road—Speakers' Class Debate. 7.30
- NOVEMBER 25.**
Birmingham—Stetchford—Miss Brettell's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Ring. 3.15
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—35, Molesworth Street—Discussion on N.U.W.W. Conference—Mrs. H. Docknell, Mrs. E. Hill Tickell. 8.0
Wallasey and Wirral—New Brighton Assembly Rooms—Actresses' Franchise League. 8.0
- NOVEMBER 26.**
Birkenhead—Music Hall, Claughton—Performances by Actresses' Franchise League. 8.0
- NOVEMBER 27.**
Pudsey—Labour Church—Miss Fielden.
- NOVEMBER 28.**
Lyndhurst—Mrs. Rackham.
- NOVEMBER 29.**
Nottingham—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Miss Dickson.
- NOVEMBER 29.**
Burley—Mrs. Rackham.
- NOVEMBER 30.**
Birmingham—Vestry Hall, Islington Road—Christmas Present Sale. 5-7
Leeds—Liberal Club—Women Liberals—Miss Fielden. 8.0
Scarborough—Labour Hall—Mrs. Cooper (Nelson).
Marple Bridge—Miss M. Robertson, B.A., C. H. Burden, Esq., B.Sc.
Richmond—Basing House, Queen's Road—Annual Meeting. 3.15
- NOVEMBER 30.**
Bradford—Mechanics' Institute—Mass Meeting—Miss Abadam, Rev. H. McLachlan. 8.0
Nottingham—Mikado Café—Miss A. M. Royden. 4.30
Nottingham—Baptist Schools—Miss Dickson. 8.0
Cuckfield—Monthly At Home—Miss Boldero. 8.0
Corbridge—Riverhill—Mrs. Arrol's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Gordon.

Bristol—Mrs. Senington's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Bancroft, B.A., Miss Baretti. 4.0

- DECEMBER 1.**
Bradford—Oak Bank—Miss Wade's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Abadam.
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—35, Molesworth Street—Committee Meeting. 11.30
Blackpool—West Street Tea Rooms—"Women and Politics"—Mrs. Annot Robinson. 7.30
Leeds—Kirkstall Women Liberals—Miss Fielden. 8.0
- DECEMBER 2.**
Whitby—Temperance Hall—Public Meeting—Hon. Sir J. A. Cockburn, K.C.M.G.
Leeds—Roundhay Road Liberal Club—Miss Fielden. 8.0
Stocksfield—Ingleholme—Mrs. Walton's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Gordon.
- DECEMBER 5.**
Nottingham—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Miss Dickson. 7.30
Leeds—Miss Lupton's Evening Drawing-room—Miss Fielden.
- DECEMBER 6.**
Bristol—Victoria Rooms—Public Meeting—The Earl of Lytton, Miss Frances Sterling. 8.0
- DECEMBER 7.**
Nottingham—Southwell—Miss Hicks, Miss Hewitt, B.A.
Scarborough—Albemarle Café—Mrs. Sellar's At Home—Miss Fielden.
Nottingham—Weekly At Home—Mrs. Blurton. 7.30

- LONDON.**
- Nov. 24: Chiswick, Mrs. Shuter's Drawing-room Meeting, Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Watson (Chair). 8.0
Sutton, Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Close.
58, Victoria Street, S.W., Reception to Members and Friends. 8.0
Wandsworth (Balham), Bijou Hall, Debate. 8.0
Nov. 25: S. Kensington, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Fyffe, (Hostess), Miss Sterling. 3.30
Wimbledon, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Webster (Hostess), Miss R. Travers. 3.30
Sutton, "Florence Nightingale," Miss J. Thomson, B.A., Miss Close (Hostess). 8.0
Nov. 26: Highgate, Muswell Hill, Mrs. Rogers. 8.0
Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Marshall, Miss Green. 7.0
Nov. 27: Southgate Road, N., Brotherhood Church, Miss H. D. Cockle.
Nov. 28: 58, Victoria Street, S.W., Speakers' Class, Miss Margery Corbett, B.A. 3.0
N. Paddington Social Gathering, Mrs. Pratt (Hostess), Miss Dawson, Mr. Kennedy. 8.0
Nov. 29: Enfield, St. Stephen's Hall, Bush Hill Park, Meeting and "How the Vote was Won." 8.0
Nov. 30: S. Paddington, Debate, Mrs. Franklin (Hostess), Ellen, Countess of Desart, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A. 9.0
Highgate, Athenaeum, Muswell Hill, Public Reception, Mrs. Homan, Mrs. Russell James (Hostesses), Lady Frances Balfour. 7.0
- Dec. 1:** Bermondsey, Meeting, Miss Dawson, 58, Victoria Street, S.W., Reception to Members and Friends. 8.0
Dec. 2: Windsor, Guild Hall, Receptions, Rev. the Hon. E. Lyttelton (Chair), Miss Royden. 5.0 and 8.0
Esher, Village Hall, Committee At Home.
Wandsworth, Lecture Hall, High Street, Miss Tarrant, M.A., Miss Shillington, D.Sc., Miss Hill, P.L.G. 3.0
Dec. 3: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Mrs. Cameron Swan, Miss Green. 7.0
Dec. 6: Ealing, At Home, "Women's Work and Wages," Miss Ransom. 8.15
S. Paddington, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Witt (Hostess), Miss I. O. Ford. 4.0
Dec. 7: Epsom, At Home, Mrs. Arnould, St. Pancras, Social Gathering, Miss Glover (Hostess), Miss M. Hodge, Miss Dawson. 8.0
St. Pancras, Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Turner (Hostess), Miss Sterling. 4.30

- SCOTLAND.**
- Nov. 24: Kilmacoolm, Miss Abadam. 3.0
Greenock, Miss Abadam. 8.0
Nov. 25: Edinburgh, Music Hall, Earl of Lytton, Miss Abadam. 4.0
Glasgow, 58, Renfield Street, At Home, Miss I. Waddell. 4.0
Nov. 26: Lenzie, Miss Abadam. 8.0
Nov. 28: Peebles, Miss Abadam, Miss Lamond. 8.0
Nov. 29: Perth, Guild Hall, Miss Abadam. 8.0
Dec. 2: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, Discussion and five minutes' Speeches.

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 London Agents: Geo. Vickers, Angel Court, Strand; W. H. Smith and Sons, 186, Strand; Wyman, Ltd., Fetter Lane. London and Suburban Publishing Co., 9 and 10, St. Bride's Avenue, E.C.
 Manchester: John Heywood, Deansgate; Abel Heywood and Son, Oldham Street; W. H. Smith and Son, Blackfriars Street.
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