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The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

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OCTOBER 12, 1911.

ONE PENNY.



[With apologies to Walter Crane.]

Mr. F. E. Smith has announced his intention of voting for all widening amendments to our Bill, in the hope of killing it. Some of our friends (?) seem inclined to pursue the same course, and express horrified surprise at our refusal to be grateful.

Mrs. Bond she went down to the pond in a rage,
With plenty of onions and plenty of sage ;
She cried, "Come, little wag-tails, come and be killed,
For you must be stuffed and my customers filled."

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

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

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Adapting Ourselves.

We Suffragists have to learn to be adaptable. That is the lesson of the present situation. There is nothing easier than for hard-workers to get into a rut, and the harder the work sometimes the deeper the rut. For years we have striven to convert the country, by meetings, by literature, by demonstrations. We have succeeded. Now we have a different task—we have to gather up all the conviction we have created, in every constituency, and focus it on each individual member of Parliament.

Our victory is not coming to us on party lines. Our supporters therefore will not be kept together for us by party-organisation or driven by party-whips. We must ourselves supply the driving force, and that force is the force of public opinion among his constituents, made unmistakable and clear to each member.

The Bill must be explained and re-explained, even at the risk of boredom. Electors and representatives must be got to understand its principle, its details, the difficulties under which a non-party franchise Bill has to be framed, if framed at all, and the dangers that lie ahead. The anti-Suffragists seem almost to have abandoned the fight in the open. Of all the articles in the *Standard's* first "Woman's Platform," only one of any importance put forward the anti-Suffrage view, and that one gave away the whole case by admitting that if educated women only could be enfranchised, all would be in favour of the reform!

But underground, the opposition is more strenuous than ever, and it is concentrated on the Bill, for an actual measure (admittedly a compromise) is always easier to criticise than a principle. Suffragists who rest now upon their oars because the principle is no longer seriously disputed, are under a most fatal delusion. The battle is only begun, and it will yet be lost unless we prove ourselves able to grapple with new conditions, and to fight the battle of the Bill harder yet than we have fought the battle of the principle.

We must continue to hold meetings, but we must try harder than ever to get local people of importance on to the platform and into the chair. From every meeting a resolution must go up to the local member of Parliament, passed by the meeting, signed by the chairman, urging him not only to vote for the Conciliation Bill, but to refrain from supporting amendments likely seriously to divide the supporters of Women's Suffrage.

Meetings must, however, no longer be our first object, but rather any means which will serve to focus the feeling past meetings have created. Resolutions from organised bodies—town councils, county councils, parish councils—above all, from political associations, are all important. Conservative organisations where there is a Conservative member, men's and women's Liberal associations where the member is a Liberal, the I.L.P. where he is Labour—resolutions should be sent up from all of these. Letters signed by local supporters—indeed, from voters everywhere—should express not only approval of the Bill, but the fact that in the writer's opinion support given to "wrecking" amendments will be "unfriendly." And when all the evidence has been collected a deputation should wait upon the member to press it home, and argue once more the case for the Conciliation Bill.

We have been accused of unreason and insincerity in our attitude towards amendments. It is said that having introduced a bill "open to amendment" we now treat all who would amend it as enemies. This is not the case. The Conciliation Committee preferred a bill not open to considerable amendment, because the experience of many years and many bills had convinced them that a bill based on the municipal franchise was substantially the only one that had a reasonable chance of passing. That their Bill is now open to any amendment, however wide, does not prove that they (or we) have changed our minds. The alteration was made in order that those who wanted a wider measure might see whether such a one could pass, by actual test in the House of Commons, still voting for the original Bill if their amendments were rejected.

But this position has been gravely altered by two facts: First, the promise of an Electoral Reform Bill, by Mr. Asquith, which will give Liberals an opportunity later on of moving amendments in favour of including more women, and that before women will actually have voted. Second, the cynical declaration of some of our less reputable opponents, that they will vote for all widening amendments, with the express determination of wrecking the Bill.

Under these circumstances we feel we have a right to ask supporters to distinguish between amendments which have, and those which have not, a fair chance of being carried. The former the Conciliation Committee are already carefully considering, the latter they will oppose, as Mr. Lloyd George opposed the inclusion of married working women in his Insurance Bill, and for precisely the same reason.

Our work then must be to convert and to confirm members of Parliament. It has one great advantage—it is independent of the Press, and the boycott still widely existing is of no importance to it. Members of Parliament need no newspaper to interpret between them and their constituents. Every stroke of work will tell; every letter and resolution go home.

Let us remember that the Bill, to us maddeningly familiar, is still misunderstood by quite intelligent and honest people. The long history of our agitation, with its hard-learned lesson of compromise, and its silent but grim realisation of what is possible and what is not possible to a non-party agitation, is all unknown to them. Let us be a little patient with those who oppose because they do not know—patient enough once more, and yet once more, to expound what seems to us so obvious; to show by "simple arithmetic" the number and the quality of our supporters; to make assurance doubly sure that no honest Suffragist shall vote against our Bill, misunderstanding.

It is so easy to decide that people are insincere or stupid; so hard, but so infinitely worth while, to believe that they wish to be just, and to approach them in that

belief. Our cause is so good that it needs only to be clearly set forth, and listened to with reason. We have then to work as we have never worked before, that which we have won with such labour and pain, may not at the last hour be thrown away.

The Married Working Woman.

A TRUE STORY (Continued).

A knock at the door.

"It's the clothing club man, Bill," she explained, producing the card and looking to him for the money.

"How much?"

"A shilling."

It was produced. When the man had gone: "I never in my life saw a woman with so many clubs and so many ways of spending money. What's he for?"

"Well, we're paying for your boots now. How could I buy anything which costs a lot of money at once if I didn't buy it that way? I try to pay him more than a shilling if I can, and we shall have to pay more than that, because the children want new coats for the winter; but I made up my mind to give you as easy a time as I could this week, so am only asking for what we must have."

He went off to the football match. A man needed a bit of distraction. To work all the week to get the money, and then to have his head worried off about spending it! He came home for tea, finding bread and butter cut, and the tea-pot ready for filling.

"What's for tea?" he asked. "It's hungry work standing outside all afternoon."

"Some fried fish?" she suggested. "Pickled herrings?"

"Aye, pickled herrings," he agreed. "Let's have something tasty."

She told the eldest child to fetch them. "Father 'll give you the money."

"How much?"

"Twopence ha'penny."

After tea he went out again, and did not return till eleven o'clock, when he found his wife sewing. He was feeling much refreshed by his evening in congenial company, and inclined to be good-humoured.

"What in the world are you doing?" he asked. "Never saw such creatures as women. They're never right unless they're making work. There's no need for 'em to be always at it, but they will be. They like it. Well, no accounting for tastes."

Mrs. Worth had not had the stimulus of contact with congenial minds, and was in no mood for levity.

"Well," she said, bitterly, "I do like to see the children with decent clothes on their backs, and just now Albert Victor's only got one shirt. If I'd been spending the money this week I might have been tempted to spend 10s. in buying him another; as it is, I've washed it out since he went to bed, and now I'm mending it. Couldn't do it before, because it wasn't dry. And I'll bet Mrs. Matchett" (next door neighbour) "notices it isn't out drying next washing day, and will know I haven't another to put on his back."

Mr. Worth got the paper to read whilst finishing his supper of bread and cheese. His wife's conversation was becoming daily less interesting.

Mrs. Worth managed until Monday at tea-time without asking for any more money. Then, after her husband had eaten up the remains of the meat, which had served for Sunday's and Monday's dinners, she said:

"We shall have to have something for dinner to-morrow, Bill. It's baking day, so I'd better make a potato pie."

"All right. Potato pie 'll do grand."

"It'll take at least 4½d. for meat, or else you'll say you have to smell at the meat and make up with the potatoes. And we shall have to have some more apples; and if I had a jar of jam I could make a jam

roll for pudding after the potato pie. When you are baking, it's best to do it all at once to save the fire, and I've had to burn so much to-day with having to dry all the things inside, that I shall have to save at some other end; and that reminds me, the coal-man comes on Tuesdays, so I shall want the money for coal. I can't manage with less than two bags a week. And now it's a shilling a bag. Everything's going up—only wages!

Mr. Worth snorted.

"How much?" he asked.

"Meat, 5d.; apples, 2d.; jam, 4½d.; coal, 2s. Oh, and there's the yeast for making the bread, 2d.; 3s. 1½d. altogether. And you'd better put a shilling away for the gas bill. It's to pay in three weeks' time, and it's 2s. 10½d. I always have to save up a bit before it's due."

Now, Mr. Worth had separated his own four shillings from the 22s. which was his wife's, and which he was now spending for her, and he found that he had not enough to supply her present requirements from the legitimate fund. So he was compelled to dip into his own perquisite to the tune of 2½d. And this was only Monday! And yet she seemed only to be getting necessaries. Oh, confound it! If a chap must work all day, and then worry all night about spending his money, life wasn't worth living.

Wednesday morning, breakfast-time.

"I could have eaten a bit more bacon, lass," said Mr. Worth. "One slice between two of us!" (He had not noticed that his wife had not taken her usual share.)

"Well, if you'll buy some more?" said she. "But there are only two slices left out of the pound, and there's to-morrow morning and Friday morning yet."

He wished he had not spoken.

"And what about dinner to-day?" she asked.

"What shall we have?"

"Is there nothing left?" he growled.

"Out of a potato pie divided among six?" she answered. "Pork and onions? Liver and bacon? Stewed meat and onions? Broth?"

"Which is cheapest?" he asked.

"Oh, broth!" she replied. "But, you know, you are not satisfied with broth and nothing else."

He could not deny it.

"Well," he said, irritably, "what would you do?"

"I should very likely get a taste for you and broth for the children," answered his wife.

"Well, how much?"

"Bones and vegetables for broth, 3d.; liver and bacon for you—"

"Let's have some pork," he interrupted; "it's tasty."

"Well, pork, 4½d.; onions, 2½d.; 10d. altogether.

And a quarter of suet for a meat pudding to-morrow—a shilling."

He produced it.

Tea-time, same day.

"Why is there never anything good for tea?" asked Mr. Worth. "You might get one a bit of fish or something. How would you like to be working all day, and then come home to—bread and butter—margarine? Yes, you've actually put margarine on my bread!"

"Well, the butter's all gone," she answered.

He commanded the eldest daughter to fetch him some chips and fish.

"This everlasting mither about food's enough to drive a chap mad," he said. After tea:

"Bill, Franky 'll have to have some new clogs. Look here."

The dilapidated clogs were examined by the father.

He swore under his breath.

"How much?" aloud.

"Two shillings. And Albert Victor's 'll have to be mended. I'll take 'em when I fetch Franky's. Albert Victor 'll have to wear his best shoes while they're being mended, and I shouldn't wonder if he ruins them."

Mr. Worth went out. Thank goodness a chap could get out sometimes and forget his troubles!

Thursday morning.
"I shall have to have 3½d. for meat to put in the suet pudding, Bill," said Mrs. Worth. "And the potatoes are nearly done. Two pounds, 1d."

The 5½d. was produced.
At tea-time Mr. Worth spent the remainder of his week's wages—his wife's share and his own combined—on a relish for his tea.

Friday morning.
"What shall we have for dinner to-day?" asked Mrs. Worth.

"Oh, d—n the dinner!" answered her husband.

He reflected, however, that he'd soon be turning this job over to her (thank goodness!), and as he had a few pence left over from his last week's allowance, he might as well spend it on the dinner.

"We may as well have a bit of fish; 5d. will do. And there's Franky's clogs. They'll be about 10d., I expect."

Now, Mr. Worth did not possess 1s. 3d., so he said:

"Franky's clogs must wait."
At tea-time the same day he put down 2s. on the table, and said: "Here you are, lass, you can have your job back. I've had enough."

"Nay," she replied, firmly. "You took it on for a month, Bill, and you'll have to do it for a month. By that time you'll know enough as to how I spend your money to prevent your wondering about it any more. You'll have to stick to your bargain."

Mr. Worth spent less on himself during the next three weeks than he had ever done before.

He has never since asked his wife what she does with the money. Indeed, he avoids the subject.

But he still keeps four shillings a week for himself.

When asked how he could reconcile his conscience to this, he replied:

"Nay, she must do as she likes. I married her to manage, and she must manage."

ADA NIELD CHEW.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

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

Provincial Council Meeting.

The Provincial Council meeting held at Scarborough, on October 6th, was as keen and business-like as the previous meetings held at Keswick and Haslemere, and once more proved how valuable are these opportunities provided for the National Union for the meeting of workers from all parts of the country.

Mrs. Fawcett was detained in London by pressure of work, but sent a letter of greeting to the delegates emphasising the importance of the work of the next few months. In the absence, through illness, of Miss Stirling, the chair was taken by Miss Ashton in the morning, and Mrs. Rackham in the afternoon. Mrs. Auerbach was also unable to be present through illness, and sent a special message urging that, although the treasurer was absent, her needs should not be forgotten.

The reports from the different departments of the National Union, and from the Federations, reviewing the work of the past six months, proved a particularly interesting part of the meeting. Miss Palliser gave an encouraging report of the political situation, but urged the societies to relax no efforts to secure unity amongst supporters in the House; she also stated that already forty members had promised to ballot for the Bill. Miss Courtney laid stress upon the need for organisers, and the importance of concentrating the work in the constituencies, so that all energy of the Union should be directed towards obtaining a "combined determined majority" for the Conciliation Bill.

The Press Secretary's report referred to the more favourable tone in the Press, and in particular to the advance made by the inclusion in the *Standard* of the page called Woman's Platform. This report gave an interesting review of the work done in connection with the local press all over the country, and suggested various means by which the Federations and Societies might make it even more effective.

Miss O'Malley briefly sketched a special literature

campaign, which it is proposed should form part of the great campaign in support of the Bill this autumn. She urged the importance of the distribution of literature in every possible way, called the attention of secretaries to the excellence and variety of the National Union stock, and begged them to use it to the greatest possible extent.

The reports of Federations revealed a really amazing and far reaching activity. Since the last meeting of the Provincial Council, the country has been almost covered by one or other of the Federations of which several new ones have been formed, and a large number of new societies have joined the Union. Town and County Councils have passed resolutions in support of the Conciliation Bill, deputations have waited upon Members of Parliament, memorials have been sent to those unable to receive deputations, and more meetings have been held than it is possible to count. The Scottish Federation; Surrey, Sussex and Hants; West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales and the Manchester and District Federation, perhaps, take the lead in the excellence of their organisation, and in the extent of their activities. All these employ their own organisations, and we commend their example to other Federations, many of which are still manfully struggling with peculiar difficulties. The Council was very prompt in the dispatch of business, and showed itself determined to concentrate on the work in hand. Our Organ, the *COMMON CAUSE*, was discussed, as also were numerous details of organisation, and the Council decided against a proposal to raise funds by means of a big bazaar in London, on the ground that at present it would interfere with the more serious work in support of the Conciliation Bill.

No report of the Provincial Council can end without referring to the extremely kind hospitality of our hosts, the Scarborough Society, and in particular to the excellent arrangements made by their indefatigable secretary Mrs. Catt. Nothing was left undone which could possibly contribute to the comfort and convenience of delegates, and we must once more reiterate a very hearty vote of thanks passed at the close of the meeting.

RECEPTION.

The meeting of the Provincial Council opened with a reception at the Grand Hotel, Scarborough, on the evening of the 5th. Mrs. Edwin Gray, on behalf of the local committee, welcomed the delegates, and expressed regret at the enforced absence of Mrs. Fawcett. Councillor Margaret Ashton responded, and was followed by Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Palliser, and Miss Chrystal Macmillan. An excellent musical programme followed.

MASS MEETING.

The Mayor of Scarborough presided over a large and enthusiastic audience in St. Nicholas Hall, on Friday night, when the Earl of Lytton and Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., were the principal speakers. Lord Lytton, who had a rousing reception, said the question of Women's Suffrage had once and for all passed its purely academic stage, and was now a living issue, and, so to speak, on the doorstep of realisation.

Though two valuable opportunities of passing Women's Suffrage into law had been lost, the agitation had gained enormously. Two facts, in their way, had been good friends of Women's Suffrage. One was the introduction of the Insurance Bill, so glaringly unjust in its treatment of women, and he could safely say that if women had possessed the franchise, that Bill would never have been introduced into Parliament in the form in which it was introduced. The second fact was the Payment of Members. It was monstrous that women should have to help pay the salaries of men in whose election they had no part. These two things had only increased the impatience and sense of injustice rankling in the minds of women.

Lord Lytton quoted from a speech of Mr. McKenna's, with reference to the late decision regarding Latch-Key Voters. "We are a long-suffering people, but when it comes to 1,200 men being deprived of their vote, it is more than flesh and blood can bear." He would like to point out to Mr. McKenna that there were other people in this country without the franchise, who feel that it is more than flesh and blood can bear. He drew special attention to the new departure in the *Standard*, in devoting a whole page to the Woman's Movement. This new attitude of the Press, and the definite promise by the Prime Minister were very encouraging. After referring to the Conciliation Bill in detail, the speaker said how much depends on the work of the next few months. Should the Bill again be lost, a demand would be made for the Government to frame a Bill of their own. There would then be an end of the Conciliation Committee, but not an end of the Movement; that could never die, never be arrested by the rejection of any particular bill.

Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., followed with an eloquent address in which she referred to the insecurity of women in the labour market. Most of them were too poor to make unions worth while, and they had no leisure for political work. It was only that, because at last so many men and women of education and means had come out to do the fighting for their poorer sisters, that victory was in sight. In conclusion, she urged all present to join the Suffrage Societies, and to bring Women's Suffrage before their Members of Parliament.

A resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was passed unanimously.

Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., moved a vote of thanks to the speakers, and to his worship the Mayor for presiding.

Treasurer's Notes

Kilmarnock Burghs election is only just over, and we are again energetically at work on another by-election; this time it is at Keighley, in Yorkshire.

Mrs. Cowmeadow is already on the spot and in charge of committee-rooms, and sends us promising reports.

The local Federation will make every effort to assist us, but, as usual, its zeal is in excess of its supply of funds. The number of meetings which can be held in the constituency and of places which can be reached by our speakers and workers all depends on the money which we are able to spend, so every additional donation for this by-election will help us to strengthen our position and to spread accurate knowledge of the aims and objects of the National Union throughout this constituency.

Every by-election is an additional proof that no propaganda work is so effectual as that which is carried on during an election campaign. I would appeal especially to all our Yorkshire members to send us something as a token of the interest which they are taking in this election.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND.

September 29th to October 5th, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since Nov. 1st, 1910	1,738	17	1½
Subscriptions—			
Miss Drury	0	1	0
Miss Bertha Mason	1	1	0
Miss C. M. Gordon	0	2	6
Mrs. Moss-Cockle	1	1	0
Mrs. P. Springman	1	1	0
Miss E. Maskell	0	3	0
Miss M. L. Harris	0	7	6
Miss Cartwright	0	2	6
Donations—			
The Lady St. Davids	5	0	0
Bernard Elsassier, Esq.	10	0	0
Miss Gunter	10	0	0
Mrs. Fyffe	1	0	0
Mrs. H. H. Surgy	0	2	6
Winscombe W.S.S. (for work in support of the Conciliation Bill)	1	0	0
Affiliation Fees—			
Marple W.S.S.	1	4	0
Appleby	0	5	0
	£1,769	8	1½

Press Department.

The last week has been full of interest from the point of view of the Press. In place of the dull silence, which, with some notable exceptions, has for so long reigned supreme in the daily newspaper, we now find every morning, in the one paper which has opened its pages regularly to us, a full and stimulating account of the activities of women generally, and of their political, Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage activities specially. Mrs. Fawcett's illuminating article in the *Standard* on October 3rd, on the present position of the Suffrage question in Parliament, will, we feel sure, be appreciated and widely read, not only by the supporters of our movement, but in places and homes which, without the medium of a daily paper, might remain almost untouched by Suffrage literature and propaganda. It is to be hoped that the full report of the Bishop of Lincoln's speech on October 6th will greatly strengthen the position of the Church League for Women's Suffrage. The *Standard* is to be congratulated on the manner in which it has up to the present fulfilled its pledge of fairness and impartiality. It is also extremely satisfactory to note the change in tone of the *Evening Standard* and *St. James's Gazette*. On October 3rd the following paragraph appeared:—"To-day it is almost as difficult to define life or the soul as to define woman's sphere and woman's movement. The steady progress of the incoming tide is plain to any man who purges his mind of hope and fears and contents himself for a moment with looking. It is so plain that the supercilious attitude of a large proportion of the Press and public has been hard to understand. . . . The only really inexcusable attitude to adopt towards women's effort is the attitude of indifference and neglect."

EMILY M. LEAF.

Literature Department.

The following are extracts from the Literature Committee's report, read to the Provincial Council at Scarborough.

During the last six months a good deal of internal reorganisation has been going on. The National Union Literature Department is now in thorough working order, and ready to cope with any demand that can be made upon it.

Our great desire is that heavy demands should be made!

We have, as you know, made great efforts to bring the literature up to date, and we want very much to keep it up to date, and to have more and more good things. But this is an expensive business, and it cannot be done unless the federations and societies back us up with all their might.

Suffrage is not an academic subject—it is a living, growing movement. Therefore there are constant changes in the situation, and statements which are true and appropriate at one moment become out-of-date and often untrue the next. This does not, of course, apply to our main arguments, but these have been stated and restated so often, that our new literature, if it is to be any good, must deal not only with them, but with the changing facts of the situation. If we are to publish such literature the societies must help us by buying and distributing large quantities of it, and thus saving us from constantly being left with masses of waste paper on our hands.

Of course this is not the chief reason for buying literature, but it is one reason, because it must be evident to all that the quality of our supply depends on the quantity of your demand.

Let me state the chief reasons for buying literature. They are two.

In the first place there still are, in England and Scotland and Wales, thousands of people who have hardly heard of Women's Suffrage. I believe there are some who have not even heard the name. There are thousands of others who have only heard the name; and I am afraid there are hundreds of thousands who know nothing of the present situation, and who are, therefore, quite unready to help us in getting a Women's Suffrage Bill passed next session.

These people must be reached.

On our reaching them in some way or another depends our hope of carrying the Conciliation Bill past all obstacles to a triumphant conclusion.

My great reason for asking you to distribute a great deal of literature is that I believe there are large numbers of people who cannot be reached in any other way. Literature can get to a great many places where speakers, and other human proselytisers, cannot go. Of course I do not say that it would do any of the unconverted as much good to read, even one of our best leaflets, as to go to a meeting, or have a long argument with an organiser. But think how much less time and trouble it takes to read it than to go to the meeting. Think how many more leaflets there are than organisers. Think how many things one reads oneself, sometimes almost by accident, and how much they affect one. We must get the leaflets about to all the men in the street, and women in the homes, who won't come to meetings, and whom the organisers, even if they were each cut up into a thousand small pieces, wouldn't have time to see.

My second important reason for asking the federations and societies to do their very utmost in distributing literature, is that I believe there are many hundreds of people who long to help forward our cause, and who, owing to private circumstances, are unable to take part in the more active forms of suffrage work. The distribution of literature offers an opportunity to these people.

People who are too delicate to stand about at street corners, or even to attend meetings or do office work, can give away pamphlets to their friends, or send them by post.

People whose families object to their doing anything conspicuous can still do a little in this way.

People who have not got the necessary gifts for speaking or organising can give away leaflets in the street, or distribute them by a house-to-house canvass.

There are a thousand ways in which those not doing other work, and who are not able to do other work, can help in this particular branch.

Every local secretary must know some people of the kind.

One other word I must say for the distribution of literature, and that is that it is one of the cheapest forms of suffrage work. Some sympathisers will not join suffrage societies because they cannot do a great deal of suffrage work, and they think that they cannot give enough money to make up. But you can buy such a lot of literature for 1s.—generally about a hundred leaflets. People who are frightened when they are asked for donations or subscriptions, because a donation sounds such a large thing, and a subscription comes over and over again, might surely be persuaded to give just one shilling for 100 leaflets, which someone else would distribute.

This brings me to the question of the special literature campaign, which the Literature Committee proposes to enter on this autumn. I need not say any more about our reasons for deciding on it, since all that I have already said explains them. I want now to give you a few details of the way in which it is to be carried out. We propose to send out a specially worded appeal to all secretaries of societies, asking them to appoint literature secretaries where they have not already done so, and adding a few suggestions as to the duties of literature secretaries. We propose to do this because a number of people seem to think that the duties of a literature secretary consist only in selling literature at meetings. It is, of course, of the utmost importance that this should be well done, but there are a thousand things that ought to be done about literature even at times when meetings are not being held, and it is to do these things that we want every society to appoint a permanent literature secretary.

Of course, we should like all societies to follow the brilliant example of those which have started either a shop or a literature stall, and are, therefore, constantly selling all our literature. But, in cases where this is not possible, it is still most desirable to have a special literature secretary to keep an eye on all new publications, to advise the Literature Committee as to what kind of literature is required in her special district, and to find out the people, whom I have mentioned above, whose most natural form of work lies in the distribution of literature. Specimens of new literature will be sent her direct from the central office, and she can then make it up into 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. packets, and sell these to all the sympathisers she knows, to distribute. She can gradually get together a little body of helpers, who will carry these sample packets about, show them to friends, and possibly do a canvass with them in the district where they live. She can also persuade people to give away leaflets in the street.

Besides urging all the societies to buy literature, we are going to offer to them printed forms, asking members and sympathisers to buy, and with a detachable slip on which they can undertake to buy and distribute a certain amount, to contribute a certain amount to a special literature fund, or to subscribe a certain amount in order to have all new literature sent to them as it comes out.

We shall ask Societies to send this form out to all their members and to any sympathisers not yet members who might be inclined to help.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

NEW LEAFLETS.

"Wrecking Amendments." B. 39. Price 9d. per 100; 6s. 6d. per 1,000.

Crackers in National Union Colours, 2s. and 3s. per box.

The Common Cause.

This is the Glasgow Common Cause Week, and the Society and Mrs. Darlington have been working very hard to make it a success. Miss Crompton has been holding open-air meetings in preparation for the great meeting on Friday, and THE COMMON CAUSE has been sold at all of them. It is also to be found in the Glasgow Exhibition, which remains open for another month, and a number of the City Fathers are to move and support a resolution that it shall be placed in all the public libraries. Of course it is on the bookstall at the Women Workers' Conference, and everywhere else in Glasgow where it can be placed. Full details of the work are not yet to hand, as the work itself still goes on till next week.

Mrs. Darlington is going to Shrewsbury next week, and will work there for a fortnight. Her address will be the office of the Shropshire Society.

By-Election.

—KEIGHLEY.

Preliminary work has been begun in Keighley division by our organiser, Mrs. Cowmeadow, who was early in the field.

Committee rooms have been opened at 93, Cavendish Street, Keighley, where it is hoped offers of help will be received during this week. There is work for everyone at a by-election, for effective help can be given in many ways besides speaking and canvassing.

The following have been mentioned as probable candidates:—

Mr. S. O. Buckmaster, K.C. (Liberal).

Mr. Ackworth (Conservative).

Mr. W. C. Anderson (Labour).

Mr. Buckmaster voted for Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons in 1908, and again last year declared himself to be a supporter of women's enfranchisement.

Mr. W. C. Anderson also expressed himself to be in favour of Women's Suffrage when standing as candidate for Wolverhampton West at the last election.

EDITH PALISER

(Hon. Parliamentary Secretary).

We have commenced the by-election campaign in Keighley, although the candidates are not yet formally adopted. A committee-room has been opened at a central part of the town, and interested passers-by are arrested by a good display of posters. A meeting has been held this evening (Monday) in the Town Hall Square, and, notwithstanding a chilly evening, a large and attentive crowd gathered round to hear Mrs. Cooper and myself. A committee meeting of the local society was also held, and immediate action will be taken when the views of the candidates are ascertained. Committee Room, 93, Cavendish Street, Keighley—C. E. COWMEADOW (Organiser).

KILMARNOCK BURGHS.

Miss Crompton sends us the following letter which she received from the Labour candidate:—

DEAR MISS CROMPTON,—Many thanks for your kind and thoughtful letter. I shall be obliged if you will convey to your colleagues my deep sense of indebtedness for the splendid work they did for me during the contest. I am certain that you helped my candidature greatly. From friend and foe alike I hear nothing but praise for the manner in which you and your people advocated your cause and mine. Your conduct in Kilmarnock Burghs has killed all hostility to your demand for the enfranchisement of women. You have now only to overcome apathy and indifference and your battle will be won.

With best wishes for the speedy realisation of the justice of your claims, I have the honour to be,

Yours most faithfully,

THOMAS MCKERRELL.

Mary Villa, Riccarton, Kilmarnock.
October 1, 1911.

The Glasgow Society.

Secretary, Miss Lindsay. Office, 202, Hope Street.

It is "Common Cause" week in Glasgow, and therefore it is suitable that a few words should appear in this number about the history of the "Glasgow and West of Scotland Association for Women's Suffrage."

Nine years ago, in April, 1902, three friends met in the drawing room of one of the three to discuss the possibility of forming a suffrage society. The result of this informal talk was that

Mrs. David Greig, one of Glasgow's leading public women, was approached, and she invited a few ladies to meet at her house, and there and then it was agreed to start a suffrage society, with Mrs. Greig as chairman, Miss C. Young, hon. treasurer, and Mrs. Jas T. Hunter as secretary. Owing to the season of the year it was impossible to do much, but the preliminary organising was continued, and the committee were fortunate in securing as president Colonel Denny, a true friend of suffrage, and one who at that time was Member for the Kilmarnock Burghs. The first meeting was held in October, 1902, Sir Samuel Chisholm, Bart., in the chair, the speakers being Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Lindsay, and Miss Flora Stevenson. This meeting, the first that had been held in Glasgow for about twenty years, was an unqualified success, and Lady Frances said it had not often, if ever, fallen to her lot to address such a large meeting on the question of suffrage.

At that time the question, the very phrase, women's suffrage, was not in the least understood in the West of Scotland, it was absolutely a dead letter, and in conversation and at meetings one had invariably to explain what was meant by "women's suffrage."

At the end of the first year the Glasgow society had about 200 members, and it has increased steadily every year, and four other societies have been formed by it. The secretary attended the first conference of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and on her recommendation the Glasgow society affiliated to it, feeling that union is strength.

Unfortunately the society was early deprived of the valuable help of Mrs. Greig, who was obliged to retire owing to ill-health. Mr. Andrew Ballantyne succeeded her, and has ungrudgingly placed his time and wide experience at the disposal not only of the Glasgow society, but also of the Scottish Federation, which was formed at the instigation of the Glasgow society.

For the first seven years of its existence the business was conducted from Mrs. Hunter's house, while the Council for Women's Trades kindly lent their office for committee meetings. At the end of that time it was found that an office was necessary, and a single-room office was taken, but it in its turn proved inadequate, and in April of this year a move was made to 202, Hope Street, where a delightful office is the centre of the Constitutional Women's Suffrage movement in Glasgow. In March of this year Mrs. Hunter resigned, and was succeeded in the secretaryship by Miss K. W. Lindsay, who will be glad of any offers of help in the work of the society.

It would be out of place to give in this short notice details of the work accomplished by the society, suffice it to say that it has done its part in elections, by-elections, petitions of all kinds, and, of course, in holding meetings too numerous to count. This winter's work will be inaugurated by a large meeting in St. Andrew's Halls, on Friday, 13th inst., at which Lord Rowallan will preside and Mrs. Philip Snowden will speak. Helpers are urgently wanted for this.

Federation Notes.

East Midland.

ADJOURNED INAUGURAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The inaugural council meeting of the East Midland Federation, adjourned from June 13, was held at the office of the Nottingham society on October 4.

Delegates attended from Burton-on-Trent, Derby, Leicester, Lincoln, Mansfield, and Nottingham. Mrs. Stanbury was present as representative of the N.U. Executive.

The Federation area was defined as comprising the following:—Derbyshire (except the High Peak Division), Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, the Burton-on-Trent Division of Staffordshire.

The following Lincolnshire constituencies:—Lincoln City, Grantham Borough, and the County Divisions of Gainsborough, Sleaford, Horncastle, Stamford, and (probably) Louth.

The following officers were elected:—Vice-Presidents: Lady Onslow and Mrs. Worthington (Derby), Mrs. W. Evans, Miss Gittins, and J. M. Gimson, Esq., J.P. (Leicester), the Hon. Mrs. Handford, Mrs. Brownsword, Mrs. Benjamin Dowson, and Mrs. Ronalds (Nottingham).

Chairman: Mrs. Manners, P.L.G. (Mansfield).

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. M. Dowson, Upper Broughton, Melton Mowbray.

Treasurer: Mrs. Roberts, Crick Rectory, near Rugby.

Press Secretary and "Common Cause" Correspondent: Miss Sloane, M.A., 15, Welford Road, Leicester.

The Secretary read a report of the recent caravan tour, and of other propaganda work done during the summer in districts which had hitherto been almost untouched. The report showed that considerable interest had been aroused, and new societies were in process of formation at Melton Mowbray, Kettering, Oundle, and elsewhere. The Council decided that, for the present, the services of the Organiser should be given up entirely to the new districts in Lincolnshire, Rutland, and Northants. The finances of the Federation caused some anxiety, but it was hoped that more funds would be forthcoming through the generosity of suffragists within the Federation area. The agenda of the Provincial Council meeting, to be held at Scarborough, was discussed. Mrs. Dowson and Miss Sloane were appointed delegates for the Federation.

Oxford, Berks, and Bucks.

PUBLIC MEETING AT BERKHAMSTED.

Our newly organised society held its first public meeting on the afternoon of October 2. The speaker, Mrs. Rackham, spoke of the relation between Woman's Suffrage and Woman's Labour, and showed convincingly the necessity for expressing the woman's point of view in legislation affecting her welfare. The meeting was well attended, and the audience listened with much appreciation to Mrs. Rackham's interesting address. At the close of the meeting a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill was carried with only two dissentients.

THE LATE MRS. STABLES.

Our Oxford Society, as well as that of Woking, is grieved to hear of Mrs. Stables passing away from us. Her wide views and deep sympathies, supported by study and practise in speaking, made her indeed a valuable ally. Mrs. Stables was a member of our Oxford Committee for some years. Her beautiful and matronly appearance, her calm manner and quiet reticence, through which the fire of strong conviction and indignation broke only occasionally, and her thorough knowledge of the question were valuable assets, as was further her strong Conservatism. For we, a non-party organisation, were often accused of Radicalism, and met with refusals on the score of our supposed bias.

Mrs. Stables' special office was that of press correspondent, and in this she was constant and excellent, managing to have something in the local papers (especially in the "Oxford Chronicle," which has always been, and is, a good friend to the cause) about every other week.

Mrs. Stables was also on the sub-committee for work in the villages round. She was always ready to go, to take others, and to speak; or here, in Oxford, to use her spacious house and grounds for special meetings. We were grateful for this readiness on one evening of a Woman's Suffrage Shop Week, when a crowd gathered too numerous for the restricted premises, and Mrs. Stables gave an impromptu outdoor address in Gloucester Green.

We feel much sympathy, and have high hopes for the son and daughters, to whom she has bequeathed her enlightened and high ideals.

North Eastern.

DEPUTATION TO MR. HERBERT CRAIG.

On Friday, October 6, a deputation of members of the W.S.P.U. and the N.U. waited upon Mr. Herbert Craig, M.P. for Tynemouth. Though got up at twenty-four hours' notice, the deputation was both large and representative. It was introduced by County Alderman J. R. Hogg, who declared his firm belief in the justice and urgency of the women's cause. Miss C. M. Gordon (N.U.W.S.S.) spoke on the Conciliation Bill, and Miss Laura Ainsworth (W.S.P.U.) on wrecking amendments, appealing to Mr. Craig to withdraw his opposition to women's suffrage and to give heed to the wishes of the women of his constituency, whose claim had received the hearty endorsement of the borough council. Councillor Maud Burnett, Mrs. Sisson, and Miss Heppell also took part in the discussion, and at the close of the interview Councillor Tebb expressed the thanks of the deputation for the courteous hearing they had been accorded, and affirmed his certain conviction that the women would win. In reply, Mr. Craig stated that he was against women's suffrage, that women were opponents of social reform, and that were they granted the vote such magnificent pieces of legislation as the present Government had introduced would not be allowed to pass. He added that were women's suffrage included in a comprehensive measure, framed to remove all electoral anomalies, he would not oppose it. In reply to Miss Ainsworth, Mr. Craig stated that, as he conscientiously believed woman suffrage to be undesirable, the fact that a majority of the women in his constituency desired the vote would not cause him to change his attitude.

And Mr. Craig is a Representative of the People, whose salary is paid by women as well as men, by women whose wishes he is prepared thus calmly to disregard.

Scottish.

FORMATION OF TWO NEW SOCIETIES.

Under the organisation of Miss Beauchamp, secretary of the Peebles society, who kindly devoted September to Federation work, two new societies have been formed, and several very successful meetings held. The first of these was at Oban on the 4th, when a large audience assembled to hear Lady Frances Balfour. The address given was enthusiastically received, and the resolution "to do all in their power to secure the passing into law in 1912 of the Conciliation Bill" was passed unanimously. The chair was taken by the Member for Argyllshire, Mr. J. S. Ainsworth, whose eloquent appeal on behalf of women's interests suitably introduced the speaker, and whose vote of thanks at the close was seconded by the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. The latter came "with an open mind," but his splendid speech told of a mind favourably impressed. A drawing-room meeting was held by the Oban society (now numbering 40 members) on September 28.

A good beginning to a society in Gourrock has been made, and a meeting was held there on September 27, when officers were appointed.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

FORMATION OF TWO NEW SOCIETIES.

A society has just been formed at Eastleigh by Mrs. Dempster,



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with Miss Budger, of 48, Newtown Road, as hon. secretary. Three open-air meetings were held, with speakers from London, Woking, and Portsmouth; good audiences attended and discussions took place. Literature was distributed, and the COMMON CAUSE was sold by Winchester helpers. Mrs. Dempster has also started a branch at Romsey, with a nucleus of from fifteen to twenty persons, including several leading inhabitants. Officers have been elected and a meeting has been arranged.

North-Western.

By some mistake the notice of the report of this Federation never reached the N.U. Office, so the report could not be read at the Provincial Council meeting.

The work of the past six months has all been concentrated on bringing pressure to bear on the M.P.'s in our area to support the Conciliation Bill and the extension of our organisation, so that we shall be able to do this still more effectively next year when the Bill comes up again.

A large number of electors wrote to their Members before the second reading of the Bill on May 5th. Six Town and Urban District Councils in Cumberland and one in Westmoreland passed resolutions supporting the Bill and asking the Government to give further facilities.

The Keswick Society employed an organiser (Miss C. M. Gordon) for three weeks in the summer. It was to her work that the action of three of the Urban District Councils was due. She strengthened the new branch at Whitehaven and prepared the ground for a series of meetings in West Cumberland in the autumn. We have another organiser (Miss Norma-Smith) working for the Federation at present. With the help of the Amble-side and Penrith Societies she has succeeded in forming three new societies (Barrow, Ulverston and Appleby) in three weeks, two of them in new constituencies. She is going to work for the Carlisle, Keswick and Kendal Societies during the next six weeks. We now have a society in every constituency in our area except two.

Of the eleven M.P.'s in our area eight supported the Conciliation Bill, two opposed it; the eleventh is the Speaker, who, of course, does not vote. There is some reason to think that the two Anti-Suffragists may be induced to abstain from voting next year. As they are the only Anti-Suffragist Members in the North-Western area we should be able to draft in workers to oppose them at the next election from nine other constituencies. One of the two has changed his attitude rather significantly since last year. When first approached, he said he should oppose the Bill even if all his constituents were Suffragists. This year he says he opposed it because he believed that in doing so he was carrying out the wishes of "the vast majority of his constituents," and adds that he would have felt bound to vote against it for this reason even if he personally had been in sympathy with the Bill. It is good hearing that he has learned to put his constituents' wishes before his own, because his constituents are much easier to convert than he is. We have had excellent meetings in his constituency, always carrying our resolution without opposition. I have only found one other Anti-Suffragist besides himself so far. Four of the local Councils which have passed resolutions supporting the Bill are in that constituency, and the most important local industrial organisation, the Cumberland Iron Ore Miners' Association, wrote a strong letter to the Prime Minister asking for facilities, and sent a copy to their Member. We have enlisted the support of some of the influential residents, and are organising a series of meetings in that district this month.

One of the most encouraging proofs of the interest which is felt nowadays in Women's Suffrage is the number of invitations which come to us to address men's political associations and the friendly reception we invariably meet with. We owe this largely to the good offices of the party agents. Some of them are amongst our staunchest supporters, and I do not know of one who is unfriendly. Their help is, of course, invaluable. We have a good deal of work of this kind in prospect this autumn, and we are getting into touch with some of the local N.U.T. branches, too. We shall try to get all the remaining Town and Urban District Councils to pass resolutions supporting the Bill before next spring, and we hope to send influential deputations to all the M.P.'s in our area.

C. E. M.

West of England.

We are very sorry to have omitted last week the kind donation from the Winscombe branch of £2. It was sent to our treasurer from the proceeds of a sale, and we are hoping that other societies may follow the generous example.

Work in East Somerset.

My work for the last three weeks has been one of the most pleasant experiences of my life. The East Somerset people are most hospitably inclined and very delightful to meet. The whole atmosphere of the countryside is both mentally and physically invigorating. The first week of the campaign I spent in Somerton, Langport and the neighbouring villages. With the help of Mrs. Roger Clark and Miss Oates, of Street, two successful meetings were held in Charlton Adam and Heinton Mandeville. The Charlton meeting was a small one, held in the afternoon, so that only women were present. We got the names of five new members that afternoon. The resolution was carried unanimously at both meetings. We judged that the protest of one bemused member of the Heinton meeting, who had already voted for the resolution, did not really count.

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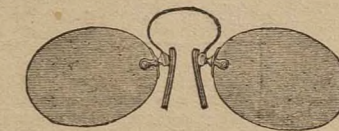
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On Monday, the 28th, I spoke to a meeting held in the Friends' Schoolroom at Long Sutton. Mrs. Warner presided. There was a good attendance of interested people and the resolution was carried unanimously. There was a good collection taken and a few COMMON CAUSES were sold.

On the 26th and 27th I canvassed and interviewed in Langport and Somerton. Here I found great diversity of opinion on the Women's Suffrage question. The Thursday meeting at Langport was highly satisfactory, and from reports received afterwards, it evidently had very good results.

Mrs. Wedd was our charming and able chairman. I did the stock explanation of the Conciliation Bill, and Mrs. Garrett Jones followed with an admirable speech on the case for Women's Suffrage. The audience appeared much impressed by all that she said. Mrs. Marson, Hanbridge, in an appropriate speech, proposed the resolution, and I seconded. The resolution was carried, and two or three new members came forward after the meeting. An excellent collection was taken and much literature was distributed.

Mrs. H. G. Wedd has promised to be secretary of the new branch for Langport, Somerton and neighbourhood, and we feel that we could not leave this charge in any more able hands. Mrs. Wedd is now arranging a drawing-room and other meetings, and there is every reason to hope that we shall have an enthusiastic following in this district.

On Saturday evening I held a meeting in Somerton Town Hall. We had been obliged to alter the date of the meeting, as it had been arranged for the same evening as the Harvest Festival. This threw out of gear our arrangements for having a good speaker down. Though it was Saturday night, and shopkeepers were unable to come on that account, we had a pretty fair audience. A chairman could not be found at such short notice, but at the eleventh hour Mrs. Isherwood took the chair for us, and gave us great assistance by an excellent impromptu speech. COMMON CAUSES were sold, a fair collection taken, and the resolution carried unanimously.

From Monday to Wednesday of last week I worked in Glastonbury. There was not sufficient time to arrange a drawing-room meeting, and many of the people whom I most wanted to see, were away from home. I hope to go back to Glastonbury at the end of this month. With a little more time a branch can be started there; already I have been promised a fair number of members. Here, as in other places, I met with a great deal of kindness and encouragement. On Wednesday, the 4th, I held a meeting in the Assembly Rooms. Though there were five other meetings in Glastonbury that night, we gathered together an audience numbering from sixty to seventy. Miss Jenman very kindly took the chair, and Mrs. Haraway helped to distribute literature. The resolution was carried by a large majority, and altogether we felt cheered at the result of our enterprise.

On Friday I addressed two meetings, one at Padwell, where Mrs. Stephens gave us a drawing-room meeting, and one at Ashcot, where Mrs. Porter took the chair, and Mrs. Clothier and I both spoke. We got a few members that day, and at the Ashcot meeting an excellent collection was taken and the resolution carried unanimously.

In Street I have interviewed most of the members of the Urban District Council. One of the Councillors has promised to introduce a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill. With the support which has been promised this resolution should easily be carried.

A resolution is also being brought forward to-day (October 9th) at the annual meeting of the East Somerset Liberal Association, but it is doubtful which way the voting will go. To-night I address a meeting of the Street Women's Suffrage Society. Next week I hope to be able to announce the percentage of the Street women householders who have signed the petition.

Altogether seven meetings have been held in this district, and six resolutions have been passed. Surely, this will have some weight with the member for East Somerset.

During the greater part of my three weeks' campaign I have been most hospitably entertained by our friends at Street.

On October 10th I return to the Tewkesbury Division, where meetings have been arranged for Berkeley and Tewkesbury, and a third will probably be held at Winchcombe.

KATE M. S. ROBERTSON.

Foreign News.

Bulgaria.

On July 23, 24, and 25, at Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, took place the first congress of the new suffragist league, "Ravnopravie" (= sex equality). A constitution was adopted in conformity with that of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and the aim of the league is the enfranchisement of women.

The most prominent feature of the league is that it contains both men and women, and is not an organisation of women only. The great agitation for women's rights, conducted all over the country, and the discussions held everywhere on the occasion of the Extraordinary Parliament, have made the enfranchisement of women a national social question of a general interest.

It was the first congress of the league, which was formed two years ago. The work of the league has consisted mostly of holding public meetings in sixteen different cities. Already two years ago our league presented to the national Parliament a

petition for the enfranchisement of women, and lately a big meeting was held in the capital, where a resolution was passed demanding the enfranchisement of women. Soon after it was followed by a resolution on women's rights, adopted by all the male and female students of the University.

The founders of the new league are the same ladies who, ten years ago, established the National Council of Bulgarian Women, which is not a pure suffrage organisation but a preparation for "Ravnopravie." The organisers are full of enthusiasm, and hope that, aided by the men, the Bulgarian suffragists will soon have put an end to the existence of laws which make women the equals of children, criminals, and idiots. The founders of the league are Mrs. Carima, Monstacowa and Djidrowa.

Sofia, August, 1911.

ANNA CARIMA (Jus Suffragii).

Germany.

One of the pioneers in the forward movement of women in Germany has passed away in the person of Dr. Henriette Tiburtius, who died in August, in her 77th year, after an active and strenuous life. Her chief claim to fame lies in the fact that she was the first woman dentist in Germany, a position which she achieved after considerable difficulty. It was only through the intervention of Professor Trumann that she was accepted as a student at Philadelphia, where she remained for two years; but on her return to Berlin she soon obtained a fair practice. It was then that she got to know the two sisters Bladswell, the elder of whom had undergone even severer struggles than herself to obtain medical training. Later she married Dr. Tiburtius, and had two sons, one of whom lost his life as a doctor in the war in South-west Africa. Dr. Henriette Tiburtius, together with her sister-in-law, Dr. Francisca Tiburtius (a doctor of medicine), was deeply interested in all efforts for the emancipation of women and for the amelioration of their social conditions; she founded a society for the rescue of youthful criminals, which developed later into an association for the domestic training of girls on leaving school. In connection with the women's hospital she arranged a home for poor, sick women in her own house; she was a keen supporter of the temperance movement, and by her death we have lost a warm adherent to all that is noblest and best in the women's cause.

Norway.

The struggle for parliamentary universal women's suffrage has ended in defeat, having been lost by five votes, in spite of the efforts of the Radicals and Socialists. And yet in May last year universal municipal suffrage for women was carried by a large majority, aided by many Conservatives. But the men of Norway fought a hundred years for universal suffrage, and the women are ever hopeful!

Russia.

Dr. Polyxena Schischkina-Javein writes from St. Petersburg:—"As you will know, during the last term there was a strike at nearly all our universities, cities; and in the Women's Medical College at St. Petersburg, of which I was a student myself, the strike was conducted in the most systematic way, only fifteen students following the courses. Now a decree from the Minister of Education has appeared, which locks out all female students—over 1,300—except 27. Six professors, among whom even very Conservative ones, are obliged to resign. How this unheard-of proceeding on the part of the Cabinet will end, that is impossible to say."

Suffrage at the Church Congress.

The first days of October will long be remembered by the inhabitants of Stoke-on-Trent and the towns of which it forms the centre, for the Church, with all its accompanying activities, has been there in force, and Congress week will not soon be forgotten.

Of one thing we feel sure, and that is that the question of Women's Suffrage will be more known and better understood in the Five Towns than it has been hitherto, for though the primary object of our campaign was to impress on the clergy the claims of Suffrage, we were able to bring the question to the notice of some at least of the inhabitants, amongst whom we found many sympathisers.

We took the field early. The first-comers to the Congress and all who visited the Ecclesiastical Exhibition at Stoke on Saturday afternoon were confronted at the entrance by two Church Leaguers wearing large placards and distributing notices of the meetings to be held during the week. At our stall inside the Exhibition we sold the literature of the League and did propaganda work. We feel we have done much to bring before thoughtful Churchpeople the fact that our aims are their aims, that if they want to bring about the temperance and other reforms they have so deeply at heart they must join with us to procure the enfranchisement of women, without which there can be little hope of equitable legislation. Above all, we have tried to show that our work is fundamentally religious, and that it is the spirit of Christ which urges us to do what we do.

Our work was very varied. First, there was the office at Hanley, which was open all day, and which in the afternoon served as a tea-room, where sympathisers and inquirers gathered and chatted or listened to inspiring addresses from the Rev. Claude Hinscliff. We sold the literature of the League and also the three suffrage newspapers. As a member of the N.U.W.S.S.

my heart rejoiced to see how many copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold during the campaign. It was a happy idea to have Mrs. Creighton's portrait on the number published during Congress week. Those who were not on duty at the office or in the Exhibition were busy bill distributing outside meetings or in the streets, and, when time permitted, from house to house. Everywhere we met with kindness and politeness, and our only regret was that work made it impossible to see more of the Potteries.

We held two public meetings in the Hanley Temperance Hall, two outdoor ones addressed by Mrs. Fagan from her motor car, as well as the informal ones at the office. The Rev. J. Carnegie Mullin, vicar of Milton, Stoke, presided at the meeting on Tuesday evening, when the speakers were the Rev. G. D. Rosenthal, Mrs. Fagan, and Dr. Helen Hanson, who kindly came to our rescue when we found that Miss Stirling was unable to be present. On Thursday we had a most successful meeting, with Major Cecil Wedgwood, D.S.O., Mayor of Stoke, in the chair. Lord Lytton, who has just become one of our vice-presidents, made the Conciliation Bill plain to his hearers, to many of whom the subject was new. The following resolution, proposed by Lord Lytton, was passed unanimously:—"That this meeting regards Women's Suffrage as essential to the moral and material welfare of the Empire, and pledges itself to do all in its power to support the cause." The Bishop of Lincoln, President of the League, followed and pointed out that there is nothing incompatible between the women's movement and the best traditions of the Church. Dr. Letitia Fairfield and the Rev. Claude Hinscliff also spoke. Considering that four mass meetings were being held at the same time the attendance was distinctly good and the audience most attentive and sympathetic. At the close of the meeting several new members joined the League, which has been increasing its numbers all the week.

Now that the campaign is over, it is not the work we did which leaves the strongest impression on the minds of the little band of Church Leaguers, for the most part unknown to one another till we met at Stoke, but the thought that we, members of one Church, devoted to one cause and yet differing widely as to party, both political and religious, and representing Suffrage organisations of diverse methods, have been working side by side in perfect harmony united by the strongest of all ties—that of devotion to God.

BEATRICE STEWART.

Pit Brow Women.

PROTEST MEETING.

A very well attended protest meeting against the abolition of the work of women employed at the Pit Brow, and to demand the protection of the Franchise for working women, was held in the Albert Hall, Manchester, on October 5th. The meeting was organised by the Lancashire and Cheshire Women's Textile and other workers' representation committees, the National Professional and Industrial Women's Suffrage Society, and the Manchester and Salford Women's Trade Union Council.

On the platform were about eighty pit brow women in their working dress, who had come from several of the Lancashire pits. Their obvious robustness would seem to give the answer to those who suggest that the work of the pit brow women is unhealthy and undesirable.

It will be remembered that during the progress of the Coal Mines Regulation Bill through Committee Sir Arthur Markham moved an amendment that no women, other than those now employed there, should be allowed to work at the pit brow. This amendment was carried by 15 to 13 votes.

Mrs. ALFRED HAWORTH, who presided, summarised the evidence against the proposal, and it is really overwhelming. It has been possible to prove that the occupation is not only healthy, but that it is conspicuously so, and a good many women actually take to it under doctors' orders.

Miss ROPER moved a resolution embodying the objects of the meeting, saying she thought it scandalous that men who sat at Westminster to vote themselves £400 a year should vote away the living of thousands and thousands of women.

The resolution was seconded by Miss GORE-BOOTH, who said that while the Government were proposing to take away the work of five thousand women and make a large army of unemployed they were bringing forward an Insurance Bill. For men they were inventing a system of out-of-work insurance, and no women's trade was among those to be insured. Thus they were burning the candle at both ends.

The MAYOR OF WIGAN supported the resolution. Some pit brow girls on the platform were then asked to address the audience on behalf of their class. In their Lancashire brogue, which accorded well with their quaint attire, they delivered vigorous and incisive little speeches which aroused great enthusiasm among their hearers. The first was Mrs. ANDREWS, who said she had worked thirty-six years at the colliery. She was ready for every meal, and was confident that it was healthy work for every pit brow girl. The last speaker from among the pit women was a very old but vigorous lady, who declared with emphasis, "I am a grandmother and a great grandmother, and I am able to work among the coal yet. It is a sin and a shame to take our living away from us."

Miss KING MAX, of Manchester, who is an expert in physical exercises, and who gave up her Easter holiday four years ago to

work on the pit brow at Wigan, said that the pit brow workers were one of the finest bodies of women she had ever met. She had seen nothing whatever to find fault with in their morals, and it was ridiculous for Members of Parliament to talk about the danger of their environment when that environment was made up of their own fathers and brothers.

The MAYORESS OF WIGAN also supported the resolution. The resolution was carried unanimously. Votes of thanks were passed to the Mayor and Mayoress of Wigan and to Mrs. Haworth.

Letters to the Editor.

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

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

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

It is a far cry from Cape Town to London, but my belief in the oneness of our cause, and in the common bond that women all the world over are beginning to acknowledge, emboldens me to send my little plea across the water.

The members of the Women's Enfranchisement League of Cape Colony intend holding an Exhibition and Sale of Women's Work on November 9 and 10 next, one of the features of which is to be a bookstall at which works by or about women will be sold. It is desired to make this as representative as possible, not only of the high standard attained by women in all branches of literature, but of the various departments—art, science, politics, economics, education, medicine, etc.—to which in almost every country they are devoting their talents and energies.

Several well-known writers of both sexes have shown their practical interest in our effort by sending us one or more of their works, and we should be very grateful should others—whether authors or only sympathisers—feel disposed to do the same. In the case of the former, an autograph inscription would be much appreciated.

Though not perhaps confronted with the serious obstacles to advance found in the older countries, the prejudice, indifference and ignorance which hamper workers everywhere are no strangers to us, and any help, such as I have indicated, would tend in no small measure to cheer and encourage us.

Contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by S. METTLERKAMP, Savings Bank Buildings, St. George's Street, Cape Town.

WRECKING AMENDMENTS.

In the current issue of "The Anti-Suffrage Review," a most surprising leader appears, entitled "Whose is the 'Treachery'?" I quote from it the following:—"Suffragists are fond of accusing Ministers and Members of Parliament of 'wriggling' and 'treachery'; but the demands which they have been making of members in connection with their Bill come very near to deserving that kind of accusation. They have been trying to pledge members to oppose any amendment of the Conciliation Bill; and during the recent by-elections they have used their organisations to oppose candidates who, while being convinced and well-known Suffragists, declined to commit themselves to such a pledge. The scandalousness of the line which the Suffragists have been pursuing is obvious," etc.

Upon what supposed facts this curious statement is based I do not know, but that it is inaccurate is not difficult to prove. The official questions of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (as approved at the Edinburgh Council meeting last July) are as follows:—(1) Will you declare yourself in your election address to be in favour of the enfranchisement of women on the lines of the Bill promoted by the Conciliation Committee? (2) Will you vote for the second reading of the Conciliation Bill, and will you support it in all its stages, refraining from voting for any amendment which would wreck the Bill? (3) Will you oppose any further extension of the franchise to men unless it includes the extension of the franchise to women? On these questions and the replies to them is based our action at elections. To instance two notable "recent by-elections"—in North-West Ham we supported the Liberal candidate because he gave a satisfactory reply to them, and in South-West Bethnal Green a few weeks later we opposed the Liberal candidate because he did not.

Such a statement as that quoted above appearing in the "Anti-Suffrage Review" might not seem of great importance, as the "Review" is not very widely read by the general public, but it needs attention because it is typical of a fogginess of mind prevalent among a small section of our opponents and even of our friends.

The question of the existence of such fogginess need not be laboured. The line along which to work in order that it may be speedily dispelled may be indicated by propounding two simple riddles:—When is an amendment not an amendment? (Answer: When it destroys) and again: When is an amendment an amendment? (Answer: When it amends—i.e., makes better).

The Conciliation Bill is a (somewhat imperfect) means to an end—it should not be made a fetish by anybody, but it is well that all should remember that after a debate far from academic it has commanded an overwhelming majority in the House of Commons and a solid body of support in the country. The onus of proof, therefore, that it is rotten and cannot achieve its end rests heavily upon its suffragist critics. It rests entirely with those who desire to amend it in the *interests of women's suffrage* (not to please the editor of the "Anti-Suffrage Review," which is another story), to show that their amendments will undoubtedly command at least a working majority at the third reading, and will not alienate the friends of the Bill as it stands, for throughout the country they are numerous and sincere. Let these Suffragists hasten to show their hand and to make out a case.

In the old days we used to hear much from the gentleman who believed in the principle of women's suffrage (indeed, heartily), and would vote for a Bill when the militant tactics ceased. They have ceased, so now we hear much from the gentleman who believes (even enthusiastically) in our cause, and will vote for a Bill without hesitation when one free from all imperfections is submitted to him. Let Suffragists who see fit to depart from the policy of the recognised suffrage societies in the matter of the Bill beware lest, while winning encomiums in certain quarters, they become useful implements in the hands of the gentlemen referred to above and in those of the editor of the "Anti-Suffrage Review."

A. H. W.
[We have dealt with the point in our leading article also.—Ed. "C.C."]

THE APPROACHING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

May I remind your readers that the annual municipal elections will take place in many wards on November 1. Hitherto one of the reasons put forward against woman having Parliamentary votes has been that they do not make use of their municipal votes, and seeing the widespread indifference which obtains in municipal matters there would seem to be some truth in this statement. I have heard women say they would never use a municipal vote until they had the Parliamentary franchise, but is this wise? Others may not approve of the candidates, but surely all the candidates (and there are often three in one ward) and their views cannot be entirely alien to what we want. If there is one point only on which we agree with a candidate let us consider if we cannot conscientiously vote for him rather than not vote at all, as by exercising our vote we can put a living force into any dealings we may have with him in regard of his office as councillor.

A Bill is to be introduced in Parliament next session to enable married women to serve on town and county councils, and the Women's Local Government Society are proposing to conduct an autumn campaign in support of this measure, so that when married women become eligible for election the door will be more widely opened to us for public service; but until this door is open let us make the most of the opportunities we have.

LANCASHIRE.

SUFFRAGISTS AND THE N.U.T.

I feel it important that the following should be brought to the notice of the readers of THE COMMON CAUSE.

The following resolution has been sent from the Executive of the N.U.T. to all the local associations, and will, in all probability, appear on the agenda paper for discussion at their next quarterly meetings. Many of these are being held in October and early November.—"That this Conference expresses its sympathy with those members of the National Union of Teachers who desire to express and exercise the Parliamentary Franchise, but because they are women, and for that reason alone, are by law debarred from it."

It is imperative that teacher Suffragists should turn up and take part in the discussion and vote of this important resolution. It will only find a place on the Conference agenda paper next Easter if the local associations desire it. Remember the attitude of our opponents last Easter when it was proposed to suspend the standing orders.

3, Ryedale, Honor Oak, S.E.
October 6, 1911.

AGNES DAWSON.

DOMESTIC SERVICE.

I was very pleased to see the Servant Question brought forward in your paper.

I consider the only advantage a servant has over a factory girl is that her work is more regular. I see in your issue of August 24 Mrs. Davidson considers domestic service is well paid. I wonder if she would feel she had been well paid when she had paid for two uniforms out of her wages? I can assure her she could not afford to dress or have the pleasures a factory girl has. Then, again, look at the hours; the domestic puts in sixteen hours a day on an average, from 6.30 in the morning till 10.0 or 10.30 at night. Is it fair or right that we should have to start work again just as the factory girl is leaving, and may do just what she feels inclined to do? Why should not we have an eight or nine hour day, and so have time for improving ourselves in other ways? I feel that unless we make a stir ourselves to get our positions improved they never will be, as it is to the mistresses' advantage that things should remain as they are. If we are so necessary to the comfort of their homes,

why should they not pay us decent wages? I know if I had my time over again I would not go into service, for the life of a servant in the best of places, and to say the least of it, is monotonous.

A DOMESTIC SERVANT.

MRS. HUMPHRY WARD'S PLAY CENTRES.

It interested me to read that Mrs. Humphry Ward's arrangements for the leisure time of girls in her Play Centres were not so satisfactory as those for that of boys, but surely this is no cause for surprise.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward, who keeps a clear and keen eye for many things, keeps—like all opponents of equal suffrage—a blind eye for all matters regarding the relationship of men to women, and, consequently, of boys to girls.

ENNIS RICHMOND.

Hindhead, Surrey, October 3, 1911.

Mrs. Elizabeth Herrick sends us an interesting letter on the Bahai movement, from which we quote the following passages:—"Many Bahai women are working in the different franchise movements, and at least one Persian man gladly carried a banner in the last great women's procession. . . . I have it on the authority of Miss Marion E. Jack, who was a teacher of English in the household of Abbas Effendi for seven months, that the women do sit at meat with him, and go in and out as they choose, without asking anyone. If they go out veiled—well, it will not always be so. We are without votes—and that will not always be so. We do not dream of blaming our leaders for such a state of things."

A correspondent has drawn our attention to a mistake in last week's issue. On page 438, speaking of "Women's Suffrage in Other Lands," we said Colorado was about to ballot on the question of Women's Suffrage. The State that is about to ballot on the question is California.

Work of Societies in the Union.

North-Western Federation.

AMBLESIDE.

By the kind invitation of Albert Fleming, Esq., a meeting in connection with the above Society was held at his residence, Neam Crag, Loughrigg, on Thursday afternoon, September 7th. Colonel Mair, J.P., presided, and between sixty and seventy members and friends were present. An eloquent and convincing address was given by Miss Sterling, Chairman of the National Union Executive Committee, who explained and defended the Conciliation Bill. Miss Norma Smith also made an interesting speech, and was followed by Miss Sharp, the Chairman of our local Committee, who appealed for personal and financial help in the ensuing winter's work.

A very generous response was made, and a fund for the special propaganda work in the adjacent districts was successfully inaugurated. Volunteers are earnestly asked for to assist in obtaining signatures in favour of the Conciliation Bill from voters of all parties in the North Westmorland division. Help of this kind will be much appreciated, and any who can assist are asked to send their names to Miss Sharp, Silverthwaite, Loughrigg, or to the Secretary, C. G. Boullen, Roselands, Ambleside. The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers, moved by Sir W. Crossley, and a similar vote to Mr. Fleming for his very generous hospitality.

On the previous Monday Miss Sterling had also addressed a meeting, which was held by the kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Graham at their residence, Huntingside, Grasmere.

Scottish Federation.

September tells a delightful tale of fruitful labour, the Societies attacking their winter's work with renewed strength and hope. On the 5th the GLENFARG Society welcomed Lady Frances Balfour to a garden party given at Fordel by Mrs. Kirkland, when the many guests spent a most enjoyable afternoon. In the evening Lady Frances addressed a large audience in the Public Hall, with very successful results. A member of the audience having asked if women—receiving the vote—could become members of Parliament, Lady Frances, while allowing that she, personally, would like to sit in Parliament, declared the idea was not in the domain of practical politics, and that in passing the Bill men would safeguard their position.

The DUNFERMLINE Society had the benefit of Miss Beauchamp's canvassing for a week, and held a very enjoyable meeting on the 22nd, at which Dr. Elsie Inglis spoke, and tea and music were provided by some of the members. Several new members joined, and a good collection was taken. In speaking of the good workers met here, Miss Beauchamp recognises the difficulty of their work, so many ladies in Dunfermline who wish the vote refusing to realise the necessity of working for it.

On September 27th a meeting took place at Port Glasgow, when a paper on the past history of Suffrage was read by Miss Beauchamp, and one on the future—"What Women will do with the Vote"—by Dr. Walker. Questions on the election policy (Port Glasgow being one of the burghs involved in the Kilmarnock by-election just over) were put from the audience and satisfactorily answered. Miss Beauchamp ascribes the success of her campaign to the merits of the Cause. The Federation recognises gratefully the merits, also, of enthusiastic hard work.

The FALKIRK Society held a meeting in the L.C. Institute Hall, on the 18th, addressed by Dr. Inglis. The attendance was large, the audience including a number of gentlemen, and the speech had a very satisfactory reception.

Reports from the EDINBURGH and GLASGOW Societies are chiefly of election work at Kilmarnock Burghs, which has been fully described in the Election column. Their hands are full, also, with arrangements for a strenuous winter campaign, an interesting syllabus having been sent from Glasgow and a long list of forthcoming meetings from the Edinburgh office—all of which promise plenty of news for future reporting.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation.

Four open-air evening meetings took place at Woking on August 5th, 12th and 26th, and September 15th. The speakers were Mrs. Beach, Professor Urwick, Mr. Mackinlay, Mr. Stables and Mr. Pott, the last two addressing two meetings. Mr. Pott and Mr. Mackinlay, of the Men's League, also took out-door meetings at Godalming on September 9th

and 23rd, both securing interested audiences, in spite of ceaseless rain on one occasion.

On August 30th Mrs. Chapman, President of the WORTHING Branch, held a fete at "The Shrubbery," Broadwater, when Miss Cicely Corbett gave two addresses, with great effect. There were music and games and a Suffrage duologue, admirably rendered by Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Milbank Smith. Mr. Gray, a local schoolmaster, presiding at the second meeting, expressed his warm sympathy with our cause, and the fete was a social and financial success.

On September 2nd the Organiser, Mrs. Dempster and Dr. Walsh addressed a well-attended meeting at Miss Melville's, Rustington House, Lady Maud Pichey in the chair. A resolution was passed urging the member for the Chichester division to support the Conciliation Bill, and eight new members joined the Littlehampton Society.

Another Suffrage resolution was carried at the Church Schools, Poling, on the 11th, when Miss Hamilton presided and Miss Duncan Harris spoke. On both occasions the majority was large.

On September 7th Mrs. Strickland invited the BEXHILL Committee to an "At Home," at the old Coast Guard Station, Cosden, on her acceptance of the Presidency of the Branch. The winter work was discussed with much interest. This Society now numbers over sixty members.

Mrs. Dempster organised for four days at SOUTHAMPTON last month, where good results are expected. On the 14th Miss Ridley had a small meeting of school teachers there. Passing on to the New Forest, Mrs. Dempster, by her earnest, clear, moderate speeches won new members for existing Societies. A Branch is hoped for at Lymhurst, where Mrs. Clement has promised to be Secretary. On the 22nd, at Burley, the Rev. W. Esdaile presided at his own garden-meeting, when a resolution in favour of our Bill, supported by himself, Mrs. Dempster and Miss Clough, the President, was carried unanimously, as it was again on the 25th at a drawing-room meeting at Wayside, BROCKENHURST, when Dr. Hibberd and the Rev. A. Chambers made vigorous speeches, and many new members joined. At RINGWOOD the Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Pennington, gave a largely attended garden-meeting for Mrs. Dempster, the Rev. A. Pennington in the chair. Sixteen new members were enrolled in that Society.

The Federation Committee met at Croydon on September 27th, and in the evening the local Society kindly entertained the members at a very pleasant reception, when Miss F. de G. Merrifield described a year's work at Brighton, and Miss Nora O'Shea made a humorous speech on "The Education of an M.P." The warm thanks of the Committee are due to the Croydon Branch for providing them all with luncheon and tea, and for the hospitality shown to those who remained for the night.

The PORTSMOUTH Society held its annual meeting on September 29th. The debt contracted during the first half of last year was cancelled, and there was a balance of £7 7s. 4d. This was due to rummage sales, whist drives, a self-denial week, and sewing circles. The President of this Society has been asked to address the League of Portsmouth Young Liberals in October, which gives immense satisfaction. Mrs. Hooper, a local member, will also address the Branch in November on "New Discoveries in the Laws of Heredity." Mrs. Cooper, a cotton operative, will undertake a week's work at Portsmouth in support of our Bill.

Mrs. Dempster will canvass Liphook, Chert and Fernhurst this autumn for the Haslemere Society. Last summer three members of that Society worked in other places—Miss B. Lowe at Scarborough, Mrs. Watkins at Andover, and Mrs. Marshall at Mervagissey in Cornwall.

West Midland Federation.

Comparatively few societies have sent in a report for last month, the reason being, no doubt, that all their activities have been centred in the organisation of the many important public meetings that are to take place in this Federation during the next three months in support of the Conciliation Bill.

BERMINGTON.—Seven meetings have been addressed by members of this Society this month. Miss Royden spoke in the Sandwick Town Hall, and charmed her audience with her clever and witty speech. An unusually large proportion of men were present, and questions were asked. A special meeting for teachers was addressed by Mrs. Snowden on October 3, and Mr. Brailsford's meeting on the Conciliation Bill took place on October 9. The Speakers' Class will recommence shortly, and members of other Societies will be gladly welcomed.

WEST BROMWICH.—On September 13 the usual monthly meetings recommenced, having been discontinued during the summer. The Chair was taken by Mrs. Lewis. Mrs. Ring gave a most interesting address on the need of the Women's Vote, not only for the sake of women and children, but also for the male worker, in order to improve industrial conditions for all.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.—On September 8 a meeting was held at the residence of the President of the Society, Miss Nari, who took the chair. The speaker was Mrs. Matthews, who pointed out that the Women's movement for freedom is not a sex war, but part of the general movement towards the freedom of both men and women who are realising that they are not living the best life that it is possible for them to live.

SOLIHULL AND DISTRICT.—This Society has been working hard this month organising a vast number of meetings which are to come off in October, and which will be duly reported hereafter. The members of their Committee have also been calling on the rank and file of their members to obtain subscriptions for the Federation—a splendid bit of work—and it is hoped that other societies will follow their example. On September 30 a most successful drawing-room meeting was held by kind invitation of Mrs. Snushall at Knowle.

STRAFORD-ON-AVON.—Miss Morrison, organiser for the Federation, has been helping this Society since leaving Stafford, and has held several meetings, besides doing endless visiting in the outlying villages as well as in Stratford itself.

WORCESTER.—The Secretary of this Society reports that she is hoping to obtain permission to address some of the parochial men's societies in the near future on the subject of Women's Suffrage. A Church League meeting is being organised to take place in October.

SHREWSBURY.—A circular letter has been sent round to the Shrewsbury Borough Councillors asking them for a definite statement as to their views on Women's Suffrage; the Committee await their replies, and will then decide the best means of bringing pressure to bear upon their opponents at the forthcoming Municipal Elections. This action is being taken with a view to making another effort to induce Shrewsbury to follow the example of so many other Municipal bodies in passing a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage. A Church League meeting was held in Shrewsbury on September 6 at St. Alkmund's Vicarage by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Roach. Mrs. Harley presided and Mrs. Donaldson gave a most interesting address. The result was an increase in membership.

UXBRIDGE.—Mrs. Shields has been appointed Literature Secretary for this Society, and with the help of the Committee is prepared to start a literature campaign at once.

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Mrs. ANDREWS
Miss SARAH MORGAN Pitbrow Workers.
Miss REDDISH.
Miss ESTHER ROPER, B.A.
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Women's Group.

HOW THE NATIONAL INSUR- ANCE BILL AFFECTS WOMEN

(Revised up to date.)

AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL AFFECTING WOMEN. CLAUSES I-XVII.

THIRD IMPRESSION.

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SIX LECTURES on "The Policy of My Suffrage Society."
OCT. 17th. LAURENCE HOUSMAN on "The Men's League."
Chair: Miss Hicks, M.A. NOV. 28th. MRS. SWANWICK, "The
Policy of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies." Chair: Miss
Muriel Matters. Course Ticket 3/-.
STRAND LECTURE ROOM, 15, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

THE CONCILIATION BILL.

To counteract MISREPRESENTATION, Suffragists and the general
public should be made acquainted with its provisions and effect.
Broadest distribution of the two-colour explanatory leaflet just
drawn up by Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., is the best means of
doing so. To be had only from THE WILLIAM MORRIS PRESS,
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This Monstrous Regiment of Women.

By Ford Maddox Hueffer.

Price 6d.

Published by WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE,
1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

UXBRIDGE.

The first social evening of the autumn series was given on Monday,
October 2, at Brookfield Restaurant. Miss Neilans kindly came to speak
as guest. Everyone seemed too much in agreement with the principle of
the Conciliation Bill to bring forward objections. Seven new members
joined the Society. The second half of the evening was devoted to entertain-
ment. Miss Penelope Wheeler recited some favourite old ballads
with new charm, and also a few poems by Yeats. Miss Olive Masters
played, and Miss Louisa Stainton sang. Although the room was nearly
full, the visitors seemed to enjoy the evening so much that it is hoped the
November "At Home" will be even larger.

LIST OF N.U. SOCIETIES.

By a printer's error last week *Uxbridge Society* appeared as though it
were a branch of the London Society. It is, of course, an independent
Society. The name of *Miss Strachey*, 58, *Victoria Street*, was omitted.
Miss Strachey is the Secretary of the whole London Society, the various
branches of which have also local secretaries.

Other Societies.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE

A most interesting and beautiful feature in the Actresses' Franchise
League Matinee at the Lyceum on October 27th, will be a tableau arranged
by Sir George Frampton, R.A. The picture, which illustrates a song
by Teresa del Riego, called "The Awakening of Women," to be first sung
by Miss Marie Stuart, will be represented by a bevy of some of the most
beautiful women on the stage, including Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Alice
Crawford, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Mabel Love and
others.

The large attendance at the Criterion meeting of the Actresses' Franchise
League on Friday proves that the popularity of Woman's Suffrage
is by no means on the wane. Mrs. Ben Webster, who presided, in a graceful
and sympathetic little speech, welcomed the enterprise of "The Standard"
in opening its pages to discussion of the Woman's Movement, and alluded
to the friendly relations which had always existed between the Stage and
the Press. She expressed the determination held by the Actresses' Franchise
League in common with other Suffrage societies, that the Conciliation
Bill should go through. Father Adlerley referred to the influence which
Christianity had had in the past in improving the position of women, and
the sympathy he felt as a Churchman with the Woman's Movement to-
day. As an adult Suffragist he urged women not to wait till they could
all obtain a vote, but to take a limited measurement as an instalment.
Mr. Laurence Housman spoke of the great principle which underlay the
policy of Tax Resistance, and roused an enthusiastic burst of applause
by announcing Miss Housman's release from Holloway Prison that morn-
ing, and her intention to continue her resistance until the vote is won.
Miss Muriel Matters alluded to the fact that the platform of the Actresses'
Franchise League was a free one, where each speaker might express the
point of view which appealed to him. She believed that the world was
moving towards democracy, of which the first wave was felt when the
American citizens resisted the tax on tea. Confessing herself an idealist,
she agreed with Mazzini that politics are the highest application of our
religious beliefs. Mr. Gerald Coningham, whose work in a poor part of
St. Pancras gives him authority to speak on the question, urged the neces-
sity of the Suffrage to better the conditions of working women and girls.
Miss Gertrude Inglis, F.R.A.M., opened the programme by singing
"The Awakening," and Miss Edith Olive recited.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Honorary Organising Secretaries (*pro tem.*)
Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, N.
Hon. Corresponding Secretary:
Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

Friday, 13th inst., at 8 p.m., Caxton Hall. Speakers: Lady Spicer,
Rev. C. Fleming Williams, Miss Winifred Cullis, D.Sc. Admission free.
Monday, 16th inst., at 8 p.m. Open Debate at Highgate Congregational
Church. Chair, Rev. D. Macfadyen, M.A. Opener: T. C. Mitchell, Esq.
Tuesday, 24th inst. Public Meeting at East Ham Presbyterian Church,
8 p.m. Speakers: Rev. W. T. Boyce, Mrs. Rogers.

The Press Secretary, Miss L. E. Turquand, requests that all notices
of meetings for insertion the following week arrive not later than last post
Saturday. Handbills and tickets should always be sent, which will be
forwarded to the General Press, for intimation and memorandum.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE,

8, PARK MANSIONS ARCADE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.
Members of the N.C.S. took part in the procession to Holloway on Satur-
day last, led by the President and Committee. Our best thanks to the
"Men's Leaguers" who so nobly carried our banners for us, and incidentally
proved that the vote will not kill chivalry!

Miss Frye will go to Hythe on October 23rd to work up the meeting
on November 1st, at which Lady Brassey is taking the chair.

Friends who can help personally or by introductions are asked to write
to the Secretary at the office.

Miss Mabel Seymour will speak at the office "At Home" on Tuesday,
October 17th, at 4.15 p.m., and Mrs. Hartley will be hostess. On Friday
evening, October 20th, Mr. Cecil Chapman will speak at the Grand Hotel,
Folkestone, on "Marriage and Divorce," at the request of members of the
N.C.S. who belong to the Folkestone Debating Society. On the following
Saturday Mrs. Cecil Chapman will speak at a drawing-room meeting
kindly given by Mrs. Kenny. A few cards are available for friends of
members on application to a member of the Committee.

Forthcoming Meetings.

OCTOBER 12.
Liverpool—Deaf and Dumb Institute, Prince's Avenue—Meeting to
consider formation of Association of Women Muni-
cipal Voters—Miss E. Rathbone, M.A., C.C., Miss
C. Leadley Brown. 8-10

Guildford—The Village Hall—Albury—Miss E. Palliser, R. Bray, Esq. 8.0
Castleford—Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Parrish. 7.0
Dunmow—The Vicarage—Rev. C. Hinchliff, Rev. E. Evans (chair) 3.30
Whitchurch—Mrs. Price's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Helen
Fraser. 3.30

OCTOBER 13.

Liverpool—Deaf and Dumb Institute, Prince's Avenue—Meeting to
consider formation of Association of Women Muni-
cipal Voters—Miss E. Chubb, Miss Johnson, and
others. Chair, Mrs. Egerton Stewart-Brown. 8-10
Cardiff—Albany Road Council School—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Hitchin—Mr. and Mrs. Smithson's Drawing-room meeting—Miss
K. D. Courtney. 3.45
Manchester—Whalley Range—Mrs. Hiller's Drawing-room meeting
—Debate—Miss Ashton v. Miss C. Moir. 3.30
Manchester—Onward Buildings, Deansgate—Meeting for Teachers
—Miss Ashton and Miss J. F. Wood. 7.30
Rugby—Queen Street Co-operative Hall, Regent Street—"Open
Question" Society—Mrs. Ring. 7.30

OCTOBER 14.

Leigh—Church Institute—P. W. Raffan, Esq., M.P., C. P. Scott,
Esq., Miss E. Deakin, Miss M. Robertson. 7.30
W. Herts—Chalk Hill, Watford, Miss Archer's and Miss Kindor's
Meeting for Elementary School Teachers—Mrs.
Workman, Mr. Guggenheim. 8.0

OCTOBER 16.

Norwich—The Misses Finch's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Abadam. 3.30
Norwich—Carrow School—Meeting for Women Municipal Voters—
Miss Abadam. 8.0
Birkenhead—Nurses' Institute, 2, Park Road, South—Miss Esk-
rigge, Miss McPherson. 3.0
Bristol—Women's Co-operative Society, Bedminster—Mrs. W. C. H.
Cross. 3.0
Birmingham—Erdington Adult School, Council Schools—Mrs. Ring. 7.30
Crowborough—Oddfellows' Hall—Baillie Weaver, Esq., LL.D.,
Lady Robert Cecil (Chair). 8.0
Crewe—Town Hall—Councillor Margaret Ashton, Miss Margaret
Robertson. 8.0

OCTOBER 17.

Huddersfield—Mayor's Reception Room, Town Hall—Miss Mac-
kenzie (London), Miss Siddon (chair). 3.0
Northwich—Drill Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss M. Robertson,
B.A., Mrs. Frankenburg (chair). 7.30
Crowthorne—Small Public Hall—Mrs. Robie Uniacke, Mrs. Renton. 8.0
Radyr—Mrs. Fisher's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser. 3.30
Newcastle-on-Tyne—Northmoor Lodge, Gosforth—Miss Davies'
Drawing-room Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 3.15

OCTOBER 18.

Jarrow-on-Tyne—Mrs. Conway's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss C. M.
Gordon, Miss Weddell. 7.30
Cardiff—Aberdare Hall—Miss Helen Fraser. 5.0
Cardiff—Independent Labour Party—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Bristol—8, Cortam Grove—Working Party. 3.0
Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Speakers' Class. 5.0
Shildon—Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, St. John's Road—Miss
J. C. Ford, M. Watson, Esq., J.P. (chair). 7.0

OCTOBER 19.

Crowthorne—Mrs. Reid's Meeting—Mrs. Robie Uniacke, Mrs. Renton
Dublin—Annexe Hall, 35, Molesworth Street—Irish W.S. and Local
Government Association—Committee Meeting. 11.30
Hartlepool—Mrs. Thompson's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss C. M.
Gordon. 3.30

Cardiff—Parochial Hall, Lewis Street—Meeting for Midwives—
Miss Helen Fraser. 3.0
Manchester—Downing Street Co-operative Hall—J. E. Sutton,
Esq., M.P., Miss Robertson. 7.30

Compton (near Guildford)—Watts' Picture Gallery—The Earl of
Lytton, Professor Urwick, the Viscountess Middleton
(chair). Tea (kindly provided by Mrs. G. F. Watts). 4.30

Godalming—Borough Hall—The Earl of Lytton, Miss D. Hunter,
Hon. A. Davey (chair). 8.15

OCTOBER 20.

Tynemouth—Mrs. Charles's Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon. 7.30
Oldham—Reform Club—Liberal Union and Young Liberals—Miss
Robertson, B.A., W. Barlow, Esq., M.P. (chair). 8.0
Altrincham—The Downs Lecture Room, Bowdon—Annual Business
Meeting, 7.30; Open Meeting, Miss Hester Bright. 8.0
Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30

OCTOBER 23.

Cardiff—St. Mary Street—Junior Conservatives—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Drawing-room Meeting—
Miss C. M. Gordon. 3.15
Weston-super-Mare—Brown's Cafe, High Street—Annual Meeting—
Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross. 3.0
Crowborough—Oddfellows' Hall—Miss Evelyn Sharp, Lord Brassey
(chair). 8.0

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LONDON.

- October 12: Peckham, Collyer Memorial Hall, W.L.A. Women's Suffrage Meeting, Miss Janet Thomson. 8.15
October 13: Paddington, Ethical Hall, Bayswater, Lecture, "The Disabilities of Educated Women," Miss A. Maude Royden. 8.30
October 14: Islington, Dr. Kate Haslam's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Janet Thomson. 3.30

SCOTLAND.

- October 12: Kilmalcolm, Public Hall, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Rev. A. J. B. Paterson, M.A. (chair). 8.0
October 13: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, Dr. Elsie Inglis. 4.30
October 14: Whiteinch, Burgh Halls, Cake and Candy Sale to be opened by Sir Robert Balfour, M.P. Afternoon

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October 24: Perth, Guildhall, "At Home." 7.30

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