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Notes.

THE delightful little play 'How the Vote was Won,' by Cicely Hamilton and Christopher St. John, can, we hear, be hired for performance by Suffrage Societies. Terms and particulars may be had from Christopher St. John, Adelphi House Terrace, W.C.

MISS PANKHURST, writing in last Thursday's *Times* on the withdrawal of the Brawling Bill, said

"To those who ask why the methods which have sufficed to maintain order within the walls of Parliament during past centuries now require alteration, the Attorney-General was ready with an answer. Before the House of Commons can commit them to prison, offending strangers must be brought to the bar of the House, and this he thinks undesirable, because it would give women Suffragists a welcome opportunity of laying their demand for the vote before the House of Commons itself.

"Another reason for bringing forward this Bill is that the Government prefer to disguise the fact that they are responsible for imprisoning women claimants to the vote by letting the police magistrates perform this office for them. But while seeking to remove these cases to the ordinary Courts, the Government are very anxious to prevent Suffragist offenders from having trial by jury, because that would give them greater advantages in conducting their defence, and might also result in their acquittal. Accordingly, when it was pointed out that the penalty of six months' imprisonment originally suggested would carry with it the right to trial by jury, the Attorney-General immediately proposed that the *maximum* term of imprisonment under the Bill should be reduced to three months.

"In order to prevent Suffragists from summoning as witnesses the Speaker, the Prime Minister, or other high officers of State, he made the truly outrageous undertaking that 'the most stringent and vigilant provisions should be made to prevent the officers of the House, and especially the great officers, being made subject to an appearance at the police court.'"

Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.

Weekly Numbers, 1½d. a week post free. Quarterly Subscriptions, 1s. 8d.; half-yearly, 3s. 3d.; yearly, 6s. 6d. All Subscriptions must be paid in advance. Back Numbers can still be obtained at the Office.

Articles containing information on the subject of Women's Suffrage should be addressed to the Editor, who will return those not considered suitable as soon as possible if a stamped addressed envelope is sent with the MS. As the paper is on a voluntary basis, and all profits go to help the cause, no payments are made for contributions.

The General Editor gives the widest possible latitude to each of the Societies represented in this Paper, and is only responsible for unsigned matter occurring in the pages devoted to general items.

'WOMEN'S FRANCHISE,'

EDITORIAL AND PUBLISHING OFFICE,
13, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.

The paper is on sale at Messrs. Eason & Son's,
80, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin.

ON April 30th, the prisoners who were arrested on the last N.W.S.P.U. deputation will be released, with the exception of Miss Patricia Woodlock. A welcome will be given them at Holloway gates at 8 A.M., and the same evening a reception will be held, at which illuminated addresses and Holloway badges will be given.

Miss Beatrice Harraden's interesting little play is to be republished by the N.W.S.P.U., and may be obtained later at 1d.

WE offer our homage to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence for the splendid way in which she has referred to her recent imprisonment. Here is a woman who feels the deepest sympathy with all humanity—a totally different thing, of course, from agreement—that sympathy which prevents callous adverse judgment which is responsible for bringing a hardness which seals up again many a heart moved towards better things. Mrs. Lawrence's words of warning, delivered at the Aldwych Theatre last week, should also be well pondered: "Beware of emotion that finds no vent in action. Beware of excitement or interest that evaporates in applause or enthusiasm.....If you want to be a real human being and not a walking corpse—yes, that is what a great many people are—if you want to be a real human being, let your words be less than your actions, and never more."

AN animated debate took place at Morecambe on Friday week last, at a Conference of the National Union of Teachers, when the subject under discussion was 'Combined Departments.' These were condemned, as such, by the meeting, which was divided on the matter of mixed schools. Mr. G. Sharples, headmaster of a large mixed school in Manchester, expressed an opinion that mixed schools taught a girl that she had as good a brain as a boy, and cured her of a silly blind boy worship.

SPRINGFIELD, of the State Capital of Illinois, should have the sympathy of the women of this country who are working for the vote. The legislative halls were filled with hundreds of women on Thursday week last, who were accompanied by their children. The "invading army," which occupied the entire body of the Chamber, was led by Mrs. F. Gurney Stubbs, whilst the galleries were filled with legislators. Mrs. Stubbs's father-in-law, Dr. James E. Stubbs, had previously circulated an extraordinary letter, in which he appealed to those whom he contemptuously designated "female men" not to sympathize on this momentous occasion with "male women." "Where there is one male woman," he declared, "there are hundreds of female women who do not want the Franchise. I hope the voice of the siren Suffragists will not lead you astray or begof your judgment." Notwithstanding this appeal, the "female men" behaved with exquisite politeness to the "male females." The Suffragettes were enchanted with the patience and sympathy with which the legislators listened to their arguments. Mrs. Stubbs, in view of the success of the demonstration, refused to comment on her father-in-law's appeal to the "female men." "Father is entitled to his opinions," she said.

MUCH has been said about hysteria and politics in connexion with women by the supporters of the Anti-Feminist Leagues. A short paragraph, which appeared in a daily paper of last week in an article on the college life of a girl graduate in England should be interesting. Under the head of 'Newnham Politics' one reads:—"Those who imagine that women, when they have a vote to exercise, will be carried away by their emotions, would be startled by a debate of the Newnham Political Club. For love of statistics, for worship of

Blue-books, for seriousness, and, it must be admitted, for sheer dullness, those discussions are worthy to be compared with the debates in that 'other place' to which the speakers allude so solemnly."

AT a special general meeting of the Geological Society of London, held at Burlington House, great interest was aroused by the question whether women should be admitted to the privileges of the Society. A division was taken, with the following result. For the admission of women, 40; against, 50.

HAVING regard to the fact that many friends have written to us as to the difficulty of obtaining *Women's Franchise* locally, we are compiling a list of newsagents and addresses where *Women's Franchise* may be obtained, and shall be glad to receive the names of any newsagents who are selling the paper and showing contents bills.

Actresses' Franchise League.

A MEETING of members and friends was held at 3, Bedford Street on Tuesday in last week, when Miss Sime Seruya was hostess. It was an enthusiastic and interested audience which came to hear Miss Muriel Matters, who was the speaker on this occasion. Miss Forbes Robertson—in the chair—said that women had not as a rule the same opportunities for co-operation as had men. Actresses had more opportunity than most women, and it was their duty as a League to show how this made their social and civic duties of more value.

Miss Muriel Matters, who was received with enthusiasm, said that she wished to speak that afternoon of the ethical side of the question of women's enfranchisement. A Government, to be human and just, must be directly representative, and no one could honestly say that it was so till women were enfranchised. It was a fallacy to suppose that disputes in the affairs of the nation or nations were settled at the point of the sword—they were settled at the point of the vote.

It has been said that woman's place is in the home, and the departments of her sphere are the Church, cooking, and children. This no woman would wish to deny, and the fact that Government directly influences all these departments makes it imperative for her to have a voice in the directing of these things. The marriage and divorce laws affected a woman, and in house-keeping, taxation of foods, &c., and in her children education and law directly affected her. It was known that the stamina of the race was going down, and it was part of women's work to improve conditions under which life is reared. Each woman was responsible for the work of the future, and all energies must be concentrated to that end.

Writers' Suffrage League.

ON Tuesday afternoon, May 4th, at 4 o'clock, in the Grand Reception Room of the Waldorf Hotel, the Women Writers' Suffrage League will give an At Home. Miss Elizabeth Robins, the President, takes the chair. Mr. Israel Zangwill, Mr. Pett Ridge, Mr. Henry W. Nevinson and Mrs. Philip Snowden are the speakers. Madame Sarah Grand, Mrs. Herbert Cohen, and Miss Beatrice Harraden will receive the guests. Admission is by invitation only. The League has just published an interesting pamphlet entitled 'The Suffrage Question,' by Madeline Lucette Ryley, the well-known playwright. The price is 1d., and copies can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, 15, Sandringham Court, Maida Vale, W.

Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

THE Kensington Committee held a most successful meeting on the 21st, at Nidry Lodge, by kind permission of Miss Holland. The room was crowded, and among the audience was a fair number of Anti-Suffragists. The chair was taken by Lady

Willoughby de Eresby. Excellent speeches were given by Mrs. Nevinson, Mr. Cameron Grant, Miss Eva Gore Booth and others, who all dealt principally with the economic aspect of the question. The chief point of interest centred in the presence of several of the delegates who had come over to attend the International Suffrage Congress. Chief among them were Dr. Anita Augspurg, LL.D., from Germany, and Miss Anna Kleman, from Sweden, whose names are so well known in their own countries in connexion with every movement for improving the position of women. They both kindly consented to say a few words on the Suffrage in their own lands. Dr. Anita Augspurg spoke of the deep sympathy of German women for their English sisters who were, like themselves, fighting for political freedom, and Miss Kleman described the great advances that had recently been made in Sweden. The first Suffrage society was started seven years ago, and now there were 140 local societies, and, in 1907, a membership of 11,065, embracing women of all classes and shades of political and religious opinion. The following resolution was passed *nem. con.*:—"That this meeting of Conservative and Unionist women respectfully urges that the time is fully ripe for the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to duly qualified women," and a copy was forwarded to the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., with a request that he would consider the subject with a view to legislation at the earliest possible moment.

It is satisfactory to record that the number of members in Kensington is increasing every week. It has been decided to hold monthly meetings, and the committee has already had the offer of several excellent rooms, while helpers in all branches of Suffrage work are coming forward. We shall be glad if readers of *Women's Franchise* who have friends in North, South or West Kensington, to whom the Association would be likely to appeal, would ask them to communicate with the Hon. Sec., Miss Myra Luxemore, 57, Bedford Gardens, Kensington.

Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association.

THE Belfast Branch of the above are giving their first "At Home" in Ye Olde Castle Restaurant, Belfast, to-morrow (Friday).
B. BENNETT.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Association for Women's Suffrage.

AN office has been secured at 58, Renfield Street. It was formally opened on Saturday, April 24th, when the secretary, Mrs. Jas. T. Hunter, gave a short address on the object and methods of the Association. It has been decided to hold meetings for discussion, practice in speaking and debate every Saturday at 4 P.M., and many of the members have already agreed to take part. The Secretary appealed to those present for increased funds, in order that the services of an organizer may be engaged. She pointed out that the work of the Association is much handicapped for want of funds, and suggested that each member should endeavour to raise £1 before October. The office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, from 12 till 2 P.M., Saturday, from 4 till 6 P.M.

A Veteran Suffragist.

ON Friday week last, Miss Florence Davenport Hill, one of pioneers of the Women's Suffrage Movement, celebrated her eightieth birthday. The Oxford Women's Suffrage Society marked the occasion by sending a deputation to wait upon her at her house at Headington. The deputation, which consisted of eight ladies, included Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., who has just concluded a most successful three weeks' Suffrage campaign in Oxford and the neighbourhood. Mrs. Margoliouth, the chairman of committee, presented Miss Davenport Hill with a beautiful bouquet of red-and-white flowers on behalf of the

Society, and in a simple and touching address, congratulated the venerable Suffragist on the occasion, referring to some of the many reforms in which members of the Hill family had been pioneers. Miss Davenport Hill, who was quite taken by surprise, gave a few interesting details of the work of her celebrated uncle, Sir Rowland Hill, and of her sister, Miss Rose Davenport Hill, one of the first women who sat on the London School Board, and spoke of the ridicule which the pioneers of the Women's Movement had to encounter.

Book Notice.

Status of Women under the English Law. By A. Beatrice Wallis Chapman, D.Sc., and Mary Wallis Chapman, B.A. 2s. 6d. net.

THIS is a remarkable and interesting book, and although it is in a small compass, we do not think that anything so systematic has been attempted before. It also appears to us to be remarkably free from bias. The book consists of three parts: the first from the Conquest to the Reformation, the second from the Reformation to the Great Reform Bill, and the third the modern period.

So much has been said with regard to the position of women in the last hundred years that the reader will hardly expect to find anything very new in the last section; but the great value of the book is that chapter and verse will be found for the principal statutes and other changes in the law which have taken place during that period. This is, indeed, the case with regard to the other two parts, and in each case makes most interesting reading.

We think that those who know the history of England in the Middle Ages will agree with the authors that the position of women up to the Reformation was far better than it was during the second period. This can be confirmed from many independent sources, including in England Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales' and the 'Paston Letters,' which are full of allusions to the practical power and influence of women during that period. As the authors say, neither law nor social custom expected to find any single woman except in a convent, but the position of widows and of single women in convents was far better than anything which can be found except in modern times. It will be interesting to our readers to know that even so late as the reign of James I. it was the opinion of the majority of judges that women freeholders could vote in all elections in the same way as men. If they had husbands they voted through the husband, but if they were widows or single it was apparently the better opinion that they could vote for themselves. In the rough and tumble of the elections of the Middle Ages it is probable that they very rarely had much influence in voting, but there was apparently no reason why they should not vote, and in spite of Sir Frederick Pollock, who takes a contrary view, we think they probably did. Their position as property holders when the land of England was still held by a majority instead of a minority of the inhabitants, was very powerful.

The changes of the Reformation affected their position in two striking particulars: the abolition of the monastic system and the abolition of trade and other guilds probably hit the position of woman harder than anything else. After the Reformation, instead of having a career as an abbess or learned nun, or trading on an equality with men, she had no career open to her except that of wife, and from that darkest hour in the history of Englishwomen dates the struggle which is still going on to put them in their rightful position. In this book can be traced the history of that struggle from the year 1694, when Mary Astell put forward her plea for the better education of her sex.

One gem from the Middle Ages we must quote:—"A.D. 1344. The Commons complain that the Church allows married women to make wills 'which is against reason': the king wishes that law and reason should be maintained."

We do not think that there is any current book which is at all equal to this as a book of reference for speakers and writers who wish to find themselves on the real facts of women's history in England.

Copies can be obtained from The Woman Citizen Publishing Society.

TO THE WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Words by MACKENZIE BELL.

Air: "THE BRITISH GREENADIERS."

Con spirito.
PIANO

1. Hope on, tho' dark may
2. Yet hop-ing, cease not

seem the way, All will be al-ter'd soon; Chang-ing as changes some dark day When sun-shine comes at
still to act, Un-check'd by gibe or jeer; With pas-sion plead each stub-born fact, The hour of dawn is

noon: Hope on, for hop-ing will im-part New strength to bear the strain, The ef-forts of each
near— When man-made laws shall cease to vex The think-ers of our race— When jus-tice is no

daunt-less heart Can nev-er be in vain, The ef-forts of each daunt-less heart Can nev-er be in
word of sex— As each has found its place, When jus-tice is no word of sex, As each has found its

1st time. *2nd time.*
vain. SOLO OR CHORUS.
place. When men-made laws shall

cease to vex The think-ers of our race, When jus-tice is no word of sex, As each has found its

place.

Some Anti-Suffrage Arguments.

Let women have the vote? Dear me!
That must never, never, never be.
You will own it would be wrong,
When you've listened to my song,
And have made your own selection
Of a plausible objection,
From the excellent variety
Which I keep, in my anxiety
To provide for the needs of all sections of society.

Let Liberals remember that by far the greater part
Of British women clearly are Conservative at heart;
And women who have property would plainly set their faces
Against votes being granted on a democratic basis.
"Give all adults the Franchise?" Ah, yes; but don't you see,
If wealthy women had the vote, then that could never be;
The country would lie groaning, in misery and tears,
Beneath the heels of Primrose dames, priests, publicans, and
peers.

But if you're a Conservative, I hope that you will note
That Women's Suffrage would increase the Socialistic vote;
Not while it was restricted to the educated few,
But Universal Suffrage would undoubtedly ensue,
And the Empire would be ruined, which is now so strong and
great.

By a Socialistic rabble, which would plunder Church and State.
Then women seem unable to work on party lines—
Each has her fads and fancies, and nobody combines.
Our system would be shattered when the women's rule began:
They would not support their party, but the better-looking man.
If you're a handsome candidate, you need not take this view;
I have another argument more suitable for you:
If women had the vote at all they would hold all authority,
For men would form a pitiful and permanent minority.
The women would combine, of course, combine against the men;
And what, O what would happen to our luckless country then?
For spinsters good at parish work, and those attractive girls
Who smile on picture post cards, and so often marry earls,
The Dissenting working woman, and the High Church Primrose
dame,

The barmaid and abstainer—they would clearly vote the same.
They would form one solid phalanx to support the woman's cause,
And to crush their male relations by the most oppressive laws.
Why should a woman leave her home, and gentle sheltered life,
And scorn the sweet vocation of the mother and the wife?
Why sell her birthright for a vote?—O, surely she is blind—
And remain a lonely spinster of the least attractive kind?

Ah! that's a splendid argument, but if you like I could
Supply another, which I think is every bit as good.
If woman had the vote I fear she would not stop or pause
Till she'd pensioned every mother, and had changed the marriage
laws;

For I learn with consternation she would form herself on Ann,
The rather forward heroine of 'Man and Superman.'
And then you must remember, what is very often stated,
That women, as a class, would vote as clergymen dictated,
And, considering the dangers I have thoughtfully foretold,
We must form a lurid notion of the views the clergy hold.
Women's notions, and opinions, and the arguments they use,
Are only hollow echoes of their male relations' views.

A Bill which gave "the wife" a vote would merely be a plan
For offering a second vote to every married man.
This view may not appeal to you with any special force
If you are married; it is meant for bachelors, of course.
If you're a husband, you should think how women's vote would
bring

Destruction to the home, which now is such a sacred thing.
What wrangles, what dissensions, O what trouble would arise,
With the wife engrossed in politics, and scorning household ties!
O Woman! Queen of hearth and home! I beg of you to pause!
There is no higher heritage, no nobler task than yours!

As mother, moulder of our race, 'tis not too much to say
That the Future of the Empire lies within your hands to-day!
And if you scorn your sacred trust, though you may win your goal,
Though you sit upon committees, and are foremost at the poll,
Though you storm at public meetings, though your fight, in short,
is won,

Your grandest, most important work will still remain undone!
The wild neglected children, who go from bad to worse,
The invalid, who misses her tender, gentle nurse,
The ill-cooked meals, the cheerless home, that once was fresh
and nice

These will prove you've bought your "freedom" at a very
heavy price.

A woman could not do her work—she has so much to do—
If she undertook to manage all her husband's business too.
Nay! Let her do her lawful task and fill her rightful place,
As the mother and the guardian of a great Imperial race!
The home is based on woman's work, and the home is the founda-
tion

Of the health and the intelligence and manhood of the nation!
Now that's a solid argument, and one that's bound to tell,
And you can bring the Empire in, which always sounds so well;
But if you do not like it, you will value, I should guess,
An argument I noticed in a letter to the press.

"Woman's work is almost worthless" (so the thoughtful writer
wrote),

"Such useless people have no claim to exercise the vote!
If men struck work one morning we all of us can guess
The misery that it would cause, the ruin and distress!
But if women took a holiday, it might cause us, to be sure,
Some trifling inconvenience, but we'd notice nothing more!"
By now I'm sure you are convinced no woman ought to vote,
So I will let my poem close on this delightful note;
And I shall feel rewarded for my trouble and fatigue
If it only wins approval from the Anti-Suffrage League:

Let women have the vote? Dear me!
That must never, never, never be!
My arguments are strong—
They have proved it would be wrong,
Though I've only offered samples,
I have other fine examples
Both in number and variety
Which I keep, in my anxiety
To provide for the needs of all sections of society!

G. M. GEORGE.

Correspondence.

[The Proprietors of 'WOMEN'S FRANCHISE' do not necessarily identify
themselves in any way with the opinions expressed by their
Correspondents.]

Waverley, Vine Court Yard, Sevenoaks.

SIR,—In your issue of Thursday, April 22nd, you say that
at the breakfast given in honour of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's
release from Holloway "Mrs. Pankhurst was in the chair, sup-
ported by Lady Lely and Lady Constance Lytton." May I
ask you to be so good as to contradict that statement as far
as I am concerned in your next issue, by kindly inserting this
letter? I was *not* at the breakfast, the reason being that, though
I do not presume to criticize the methods of the W. S. and P. U.
or those of other good women working for a great cause, I prefer
myself to work on other lines, more especially because I, as a
Liberal woman, still hope, with many others, that a measure for
the enfranchisement of women somewhat on the lines of Mr.
Stanger's Bill may pass before this Government goes out of
office.

I have the honour, sir, to be, &c.,

HELEN E. LELY.

[We regret the mistake of fact, which we believed was correct,
having seen it repeated in the daily Press.]

9, Fernshaw Mansions,
24 April, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Is the time now ripe for all who desire
"Women's Franchise" to combine to secure Suffragist suc-
cesses at forthcoming Local Government elections?

With the aid of education and organization, achieved by
the various Suffrage societies throughout the country, election
committees might be formed to take the necessary action.

Such committees would select candidates, and together they
would learn the requirements of each particular district.

With this grasp of the existing state of affairs wise action
might be taken on every opportunity, and the accumulations of
such action, taken by those who are combined in an endeavour
to obtain the enfranchisement of women, should prove a strong
and solid asset to their cause.

Yours faithfully,

C. M. GONNE, Capt.

[All information as to qualifications of electors and candidates
can be obtained from the Secretary, Women's Local Government
Society, 17, Tothill Street. This society has no official opinion
on the Suffrage.—Ed. W. F.]

DEAR SIR,—I had the privilege and pleasure of being
present at a most successful meeting (the first of a series
originated and given by Miss Torry) at Kirton-Torry House,
68, Godolphin Road, W., an antidote to the Anti's discus-
sion tea. The room was well filled, and the meeting was
enthusiastic.

In an interesting speech, Miss Torry (who was in the
chair) excelled herself, dealing with the Anti's manifesto,
taking its assertions (they cannot be called arguments), tearing
them to pieces, and pounding them to pulp in the mortar of
her clear and logical reasoning! I sincerely hope that the
militant spirit of our brave and courageous sister Suffragettes
has not damaged the cause, but, like those in New Zealand and
Australia, who have not been forced into militant tactics, will
eventually win for us the vote. Miss West, the Hon. Sec.,
read an excellent report, with the result that four new members
were enrolled. The proposal to send notices of the meeting
to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Balfour, and also to the local member, Sir
William Bull, was carried unanimously.

Yours faithfully,

SPES.

The following letter, which has been forwarded to local
papers circulating in Brighton, has reference to the paragraph
which appeared in our issue of March 25.

DEAR SIR,—Last Friday, at the request of the Secretary,
I made a formal offer to rent on behalf of the Woman Citizen
Publishing Society a kiosk on the West Pier. As I offered
to pay the rent asked in advance, and gave an undertaking that
nothing in the nature of meetings would be attempted—merely
formally reserving the right to withdraw should my solicitor
object to any clauses in any agreement I might be asked to
sign—I did not anticipate a refusal. Such refusal, however,
I have received; the only reason vouchsafed is that the Directors
"are of opinion that it would not be in accordance with our
interests."

As the secretary had informed me that he would be present
when my offer was considered, I had placed in his hands a list
of the publications which would be on sale, so that the
Directors might know exactly the nature of our business.

Of course the Directors are quite within their rights in refusing
my offer; but surely others besides myself will wonder why it
should be considered disadvantageous to their interests to allow
the display and sale of books published in the interests of the
Women's Forward Movement, such as Mill's 'Subjection of
Women,' Mrs. Aubrey Richardson's 'The Women of the Church
of England,' &c., while finding it in accordance with their interests
to allow the display by tenants of other kiosks of pictorial post-
cards which, with every wish not to be prudish, I must designate
as lacking in refinement, as well as microscopes and other enter-
tainments which are certainly open to the same objection.

Yours truly,

J. EDWARD FRANCIS.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

CHELTENHAM (N.U.W.S.S.).—If fine, the first outdoor meeting
will be held on Saturday afternoon (May 1st), at 2.30, at the bottom
of Leckhampton Road. Speaker, Mrs. Fryer. And local members
who can be present to lend their support will be welcome.
THEODORA MILLS (Hon. Sec.)

DARLINGTON (N.U.W.S.S.).—The Annual Meeting took place
on Thursday, April 15th, at 8 p.m. Miss Lucas presided. The
report and balance-sheet were read and confirmed. Mr. Pike Pease,
M.P., was re-elected President of the society. Miss Maude Royden
of Birkenhead, in a spirited address, made an earnest appeal for
funds and help in every way. The following resolution was passed:
"That this meeting is of opinion that in connexion with the Parlia-
mentary Franchise the sex disqualification should be removed, and
urgently appeals to the Government to give facilities for the granting
of the Suffrage to women." M. L. SWANSON, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS (N.U.W.S.S.).—A very successful meeting was held in
the Philosophical Hall, Leeds, on April 20th; chair was taken by
Ernest N. Foster, Esq., C.C. Lady Frances Balfour gave a very
interesting address, and Miss T. C. Ford also spoke. The resolution
was passed unanimously.

MANSFIELD (N.U.W.S.S.).—A meeting was held at the Oriental
Café, West Gate, Mansfield, on Wednesday evening. The speaker
was Miss Abadam, President of the Beekingham Branch of the
London Society for Women's Suffrage, and her subject was 'The
Newest Chivalry.' Mr. Frank P. Cook presided.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Cook said he was firmly convinced
of the righteousness of the women's cause. The movement was
slowly gaining ground every day, and he believed that from small
beginnings they would before long see some very important results.

Miss Abadam followed with a very instructive address, in the
course of which she said that the sex had been making a slow pro-
gression from serfdom to enfranchisement—from the harem to the
ballot box. The women's movement was going like a tidal wave
round the world, and was bearing with it the best minds amongst
the men, and the best hearts amongst the women. It was futile
to try to stop this great human movement. It was not a political
movement, but an integral part of evolution. The arguments
used against the women's movement would disgrace a schoolboys'
debating society, and those who used them were aware of it.

The speaker proceeded to examine the position of women in
general, and to show where protection and freedom were required.
As to legislation, she pointed out that a mother was not the legal
parent of her own child. She mentioned the unequal application
of the divorce laws to the two sexes, and the injustice of taxing
women without giving them representation. She emphasized the
right of women to have a voice in the education of their own children.
As to the position of women in the labour market, Miss Abadam
dealt with the unfair conditions at present imposed upon women,
and contended that when a woman was doing the same work as a
man she had a right to command the same remuneration. Women
were the undignified half of humanity, and they looked
to the chivalry of the men to give them the dignity of political
power, if only to secure decent wages for their labour. The present
conditions, which allowed numbers of women to be starved into
degradation, were a disgrace to the country, and the backbone of
the Suffragist movement was the determination of the women not
to see their poorer sisters driven down. They wanted chivalrous
men in the movement, and she was glad to say they were getting
them, but she invoked the newest chivalry—the chivalry of women
towards women, of the comfortably circumstanced woman towards
the unfortunately placed woman. She called upon the chivalry of
both sexes to give women a status and a dignity—to give the power
of defence to the most defenceless half of the nation.

NOTTS (N.U.W.S.S.).—Thursday, April 22nd, Miss Abadam
gave an eloquent and most impressive address at a drawing-room
meeting held in the afternoon, at Felixstowe Park, and in the evening
she addressed the monthly "At Home" on the effect of the vote
on public morality. The annual report was read by the hon. sec.,
who commented on the success of the monthly "At Homes," and
commenting on the Stratford by-election, and the crowded meetings
held by the N.U.W.S.S., begged for funds for the Union, and volun-
teers for special effort week. The assistant secretary's report
(for the treasurer) showed a deficit of £14 10s.

PORTSMOUTH (N.U.W.S.S.).—The Anti-Suffrage League has held
its first public meeting. Miss Lindsay and Mr. Veitch were both
eloquent exponents of what they consider the powerful arguments

they had to bring against us; but, thanks to a good sprinkling of our local Suffragists, their resolution was defeated.

The local paper describes the meeting as a curious Suffrage meeting, why I do not know, unless it was the way the meeting was conducted. After a good deal of Anti-Socialism, anti-labour, and pro-tariff reform, we asked to propose an amendment; this brought forth a resolution, which was read after the speeches had been made, but, needless to say, our amendment was ruled out of order. Miss Lindsay expressed the opinion that the vote would be won, and also gave us the permission of the "Antis" to be interested in politics; but there, like the grandfather's clock, "we must stop short, never to go again." Mr. Veitch waxed very eloquent at the idea of women serving on juries in divorce case. I suppose women must never do anything useful, only amuse themselves, even if the amusement is to be found in filling the divorce courts out of idle curiosity. Mr. Veitch forgot to mention that little custom of some fashionable society ladies. It seems Victor Horsley thinks women should go to Parliament; it really was quite inspiring to hear that there was somebody who could say a good word for women. I am sure Sir Victor meant it very kindly, and so we all clapped—what we should have been very shocked, but we left that to the "Antis"—they played the part to perfection. We defeated their resolution, proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to them, and decided to have a meeting ourselves in the same hall N. O'SHEA.

REDHILL AND REIGATE (N.U.W.S.S.).—An "At Home" was given on Monday, April 19th, in the Effingham Schools, by the Committee of the Women's Co-operative Guild (Reigate), and Mrs. George Taylor delivered a most interesting address on 'Votes for Women.' Unfortunately, the weather proved most unkind, and at 8 o'clock the rain fell in torrents, keeping many people away, but a good number turned up in spite of it, and the evening passed very pleasantly. Mrs. Taylor took the Anti-Suffrage leaflet, 'Against Women's Suffrage,' for her text, and demolished its arguments in a most effective way. She spoke from her experience as a Guardian of the inadequacy of the Municipal without the Parliamentary Franchise, as it only enables women to administer laws which they have had no share in making. Discussion followed, and after singing some appropriate songs and enjoying light refreshments a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Taylor and the company separated. Notices of the demonstration in the Albert Hall, on April 27th, were distributed, and Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting in Redhill on May 12th announced.

UXBRIDGE (N.U.W.S.S.).—On April 14th the Uxbridge Society for Women's Suffrage was regularly constituted. Its period of probation has been a long one, nearly three years, during which time it has organized several public meetings and various private ones. Literature has also been carefully distributed to those who showed an interest in the subject. The following officials were elected by the members: Vice-President, Mrs. Davidson; Vice-Hon. Secretary, Miss K. Raleigh; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. J. Hamson (editor of *The Middlesex and Buckinghamshire Advertiser*). A Committee was also appointed. Miss Fielden, who was sent by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to begin the new campaign, held one drawing-room meeting (besides business meetings) and gave two dinner-hour addresses, one at the Rotary Photographic Works, West Drayton, and one at Mr. Fountain's Flour Mills, High Street, Uxbridge. The managers gave every facility for speaking, and Miss Fielden was listened to with great attention. The Uxbridge Society hopes to follow up Miss Fielden's beginning, and if kind permission can be obtained, to arrange other dinner-hour meetings. Miss Abadam has promised to give two addresses in the small Town Hall, on Wednesday, May 19th, at 3.15 to women, and at 8 to men. Now that interest is growing so rapidly we hope for a full attendance at both these meetings.

Meetings of the N.U.W.S.S.

DATE	LOCATION	CHAIR	SPEAKER	P.M.
APRIL 29	Bournemouth, Prince's Hall	Miss C. Hamilton (Diana of Dobson's)	Miss C. Hamilton	4
	Broadheath, Congregational Schools	Mrs. Dickenson	Miss Maude Smith	8
30	Derby, Orpheus Hall, Stafford Street	Miss Vaudrey	Dr. Herbert Moxon	7.30
	Bournemouth, At Home, Princes Hall, Grand Hotel	Miss Cicely Hamilton		
	North of England, Weekly Meeting, 85, Deansgate Arcade			7.30
MAY 3	Farnham, Invitation Meeting		Miss Abadam	3.0

MAY 3	Farnham, Free Meeting for Women only, at Town Hall	Chair, Mrs. Ralph Durand Speakers, Miss Abadam 4 and a Foreign Delegate to the International W. S. Convention	P.M.
4	London (N. Kensington and Paddington Committee). At Home, The Studio, 1a, 57, Bedford Gardens, Campden Hill	Speakers, Mrs. Carl Hentschel, Miss Abadam, Mr. Walter McLaren	
	London (Marylebone Branch), Drawing Room Meeting	Hostess, Mrs. Jessop	4.30
	Farnham, Public Meeting, The Institute, South Street	Chair, Sir Wm. Treacher, 8 K.C.M.G. Speakers, Miss Frances Sterling, H. Baillie-Weaver, Esq., of the Men's League, and a Foreign Delegate to the International W. S. Convention	
	Kensington, "At Home," Studio 1a, 57, Bedford Gardens	Speaker, Miss Abadam	8.30
5	Brighton and Hove, Concert and Performance of 'Man and Woman,' The Pavilion		8.30
	Derby, Orpheus Hall, Stafford Street. Subject, 'Women's Suffrage and Legislation affecting Women and Children.'	Chair, Miss Dorothy Martin	3
	Cambridge, Corn Exchange Meeting	Speaker, Mrs. Howard James Chair, Rev. R. St. John Parry	8
	London (Westminster Branch), At Home	Speakers, Sir Victor Horsley, Miss Abadam, Miss Frances Sterling, Mr. Israel Zangwill	8.30
6	London (Westminster Branch), At Home	Hostess, Mrs. Carol Burk, Sir Horace Plunkett	8.30
7	Pontypridd, Meeting, Women only	Speaker, Miss Abadam	2.30
	Scottish University Women, Queen Margaret College Union, Glasgow	Speaker, Mrs. Conolan	4.30
	London (Marylebone Branch), Drawing Room Meeting	Hostess, Mrs. Eve Balfour Speakers, Miss Abadam, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell	
	Pontypridd, Meeting, Men only	Speakers, Lady Frances Balfour	
17	Newcastle, Afternoon	Speakers, Lady Frances Balfour	
	Sunderland, Evening	Speakers, Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Chrystal Macmillan	
19	Uxbridge, Meeting, Women only, Small Town Hall	Chair, Mrs. Davidson	3.15
	Uxbridge, Meeting, Men only, Small Town Hall	Speaker, Miss Abadam	
	Derby, Orpheus Hall, Stafford Street. Subject, 'When we have the Vote.'	Chair, Rev. J. Brady Speaker, Miss Abadam	8
21	Derby, Orpheus Hall, Stafford Street. Subject, 'When we have the Vote.'	Chair, Mrs. Frank Stones Speaker, Miss M. Norma Smith	7.30
JUNE 9	Derby, Orpheus Hall, Stafford Street. Subject, 'The Woman Movement.'	Chair, Mr. T. Mawbey, J.P. Speaker, Mrs. W. Dowson	3

Nottingham Special Effort Week, May 17th to 26th.
"At Home," Ball Room, Calvert's Café. Meeting, Southwell, Notts. Speaker, the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, of Oxford.
"At Homes" so far promised:—Miss Rowena Goldberg, Miss R. P. Hutchinson, Mrs. W. E. Dowson, Mrs. Carl Zimmer, and Mrs. Lewis Curzon. Speakers' Class, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 25th and 26th. Mrs. Russell.
Ladies' Luncheon to meet Mrs. Russell.
Stall in the Market Place for sale of literature and articles made by members.
Concert, Actresses Franchise League, Mrs. Horsley.
If you can help by arranging or assisting at an entertainment, please send in your name to the Hon. Secs., Felixstowe, The Park, Nottingham.

Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union.

The following Meetings have been arranged:—

MAY 6	Glasgow, Public Meeting	Speaker, Mrs. Philip Snowden	P.M. 8
7	St. Andrews, Public Meeting	Speaker, Mrs. Philip Snowden	8
8	St. Andrews, Annual Business Meeting		
14	Cupar, Drawing-Room Meeting Public Meeting	Chair, Dr. Flora Butcher Speakers, Miss F. H. Melville, M.A., Miss Belle Pagan	3.30 8

Dr. Anna Shaw at Whitefield's.

DR. ANNA SHAW, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, was the principal speaker at the men's meeting at Whitefield's, Tottenham Court Road, on Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Fawcett, who presided, said other measures of franchise reform had been directed to the freedom of a class, a section, of society, but they were working for the uplifting of the political status of an entire sex.

Dr. Anna Shaw, who was received with loud cheers, the vast congregation rising to welcome her, said it was impossible for man to be raised out of slavery and to leave woman in it. No impulse could stir the hearts of men without finding an echo in the hearts of women. Women were not content to remain in the position they had occupied for so long, and it was as impossible to put a full-grown chick back into the egg as to put women back into their old position. She, and those she represented, did not think that if women were granted the ballot the millennium would have arrived, but that it was the first step without which the millennium would not come.

Congress of International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

ON Sunday afternoon the registration of the delegates of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance took place at Victoria Street, and all those present who were not polyglots must at last have fully sympathized with their ancestors on the Tower of Babel. Tea was provided; and some of the delegates were taken to the afternoon concert at Queen's Hall. Had the delegates come from Mars, and looked upon the orchestra with fresh, impartial eyes, we think they would have wondered by what strange prerogative it consisted of men alone. Evidently men had not a monopoly in music, because the chief attraction of the afternoon was a girl violinist, Miss Kathleen Pardow; but Miss Pardow is a genius, and genius knows no distinction of sex.

The reasons against the employment of women in orchestras may be many and strong; but so long as open competition is not permitted, we remain unconvinced by them and consider the matter merely one of sex prejudice. We are glad to announce that Mr. Henry Mills has engaged an entire orchestra of women to play at Queen's Hall next Sunday evening. This arrangement is, of course, as one-sided as the other, but marks a step in women's progress, being the first orchestra of women ever engaged by a professional in London; and we hope that all our readers who are in London next Sunday will be present.

A letter on the subject from a woman musician appears in another column.

MONDAY, APRIL 26TH.

THE first quinquennial International Woman Suffrage Alliance meeting held in London began its official career on Monday morning, April 26th, at St. James's Hall. The delegates, numbering some two hundred, were seated, according to their nationality, in the body of the hall at long tables, furnished with writing materials and adorned with small banners representing the national flag of every country in the Alliance.

At 9.30, Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the Alliance, was presented with a bouquet of lilies and roses.

Mrs. Fawcett, as hostess, and on behalf of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, greeted the delegates.

Mrs. Chapman Catt, on behalf of the Congress, returned thanks. She was not, she said, in the habit of prophesying, but she could on occasion, and she was as certain as that she stood there that when the little girl who had presented her with the bouquet was old enough to vote, the Suffrage would have been granted to the women

Ladies are Advised ON ALL MATTERS OF BUSINESS BY

The Auditor of the Women's Freedom League,

Mrs. E. AYRES PURDIE, Certified Accountant and Business Specialist,

(London: Member of Commerce Senior Honorary.) 52, CRAVEN HOUSE, KINGSWAY, W.C.

of every country represented in that Congress. The Congress had much hard work before them; London was a beautiful city and had many attractions, and the committee had conspired against them; but she begged the delegates not to desert the Congress when business was proceeding. At the end of this Convention they would have a new constitution, a declaration of principles, a badge, banner, and colours, and an international hymn—a hymn of women's liberty—to inspire them.

The Credential Report was then read by Dr. Anita Augspurg. On behalf of the Union Nationale Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes a report was read, and an application for auxiliariaship made by Madame Mismé. The application was granted unanimoously.

Belgium also was affiliated at the request of Miss Dangoth on behalf of the Feminist Union. Apropos of Belgium, Mrs. Chapman Catt said that a few years ago an Antwerp University man had been sent to the United States for the purpose of ascertaining the result of Woman Suffrage in those States where it had been granted. On his arrival she had asked him if he himself were in favour of Woman Suffrage. He said, No, but that he was open to conviction. Answering the same question at the conclusion of his investigations, he said, "I am convinced in my head, but my heart—it is still opposed."

Two European countries, Austria and Iceland, were unrepresented, but not because they lacked a strong Woman Suffrage movement. They might be welcoming an Austrian association there to-day were it not for the iniquitous law of that country which forbade women attending political meetings. Iceland had a wonderful Woman Suffrage movement, and had presented a petition to their Parliament signed by a majority of the Icelandic women. They had held a meeting to which they had invited their members of Parliament, the members had attended and listened to their deputations; but not a member had a word to say; there was nothing but "speechless, silent resistance."

Telegrams of greeting were then read by Mrs. Chapman Catt. From Stockholm came the message "The Swedish House of Commons accepted without debate unanimoously to-day the Bill for Woman Suffrage but the other House rejected it by a pretty large majority warm greetings." There being, as usual, no stops in this telegram it might be supposed that the warm greetings were from the House of Lords!

From Sophia came the greeting, "Long live Suffragists and Suffragettes."

REPORT COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL BANNER.

Mrs. van Loenen de Bordes, chairman of the above committee, said that several designs had been sent in, but the question had arisen as to whether the flag should be for propoganda or for adornment.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Fawcett it was decided that both a flag and a banner should be chosen, one for propoganda purposes, the other for adornment.

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL BADGE.

The committee considered that it would be undesirable to change the present badge, with which they were all satisfied. As regarded the manufacture of the badge there were two alternatives:—

1. That the present arrangements be continued by the countries satisfied; but that the countries dissatisfied, on account of the high duty on the badges, come to an arrangement with Mrs. Petersen Dann to manufacture them in their own country; or

2. That the Alliance continue the present arrangements with Mrs. Dann for a quinquennial period, at the end of which the design should belong to the Alliance.

The first proposal was carried. The remainder of the morning was devoted to the business of explaining and revising the rules of order, and at one o'clock the meeting adjourned for lunch.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Fawcett in the chair, presentation of greetings were made on behalf of many councils and associations; and the speeches, which were limited to five minutes, were of great interest. The following is a list of the associations and their representatives:—

International Council of Women . . .	Miss Chrystal Macmillan.
National Councils of Women:—	
The American Council . . .	Mrs. Ida Husted Harper.
The British Council . . .	Mrs. Edwin Grey.

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The German Council . . .	Miss Anna Pappritz, Fraternal Delegate.
The Dutch Council . . .	Miss E. Baelde, President.
The Norwegian Council . . .	Dr. Phil. Emily Arensen, Fraternal Delegate.
The Swiss Council . . .	Dr. Harriet Clisby.
Representatives of British Associations:—	
Women's Freedom League . . .	Mrs. Despard, President.
Writers' League . . .	Madame Sarah Grand.
Artists' League . . .	Miss Isabella Ford.
Actresses' League . . .	Miss Cicely Hamilton.
Industrial Women Workers . . .	Mrs. Sarah Dickenson, Sec. Trades Labour Council.
Men's League for Women's Suffrage . . .	Mr. Herbert Jacobs.
Women's Liberal Federation . . .	Lady McLaren.
Scottish Women's Liberal Federation . . .	Mrs. Wood.
Independent Labour Party . . .	Mrs. Philip Snowden.
Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association . . .	Miss Maria Chadwick.

Mrs. Despard was enthusiastically received. She extended hearty greetings to the women who had come so far to cheer and encourage us, and to report how the movement was progressing in other lands. She rejoiced that the movement belonged to no particular nation. That she stood on that platform as representative of the Women's Freedom League, indicated the fact that, although methods might differ, they had one heart, one mind, one great will, set on the enfranchisement of women—not for the honour and glory of women, but that they might take their part in the great work before this twentieth century, the redemption of society and the regeneration of the world.

Madame Sarah Grand said the Woman Suffrage movement was racial and evolutionary. Man had had a long innings. He had done his best, half a race struggling along under the weight of the whole, and he had failed, failed in securing to men their birthright—a share of happiness. Now it was time for women to step in and save our modern civilization.

Lady McLaren said she belonged to a body of 100,000 women banded together under Liberalism. They would acknowledge no man who denied the principles of Liberalism, and they looked to this Party to grant this demand for Women's Suffrage. Mr. Asquith's favourite motto had been "Taxation without representation is tyranny." Was it his favourite motto still?

Miss Isabella Ford brought the Artists' greeting. Art, she said, was truly international, and knew neither country, nor sex, nor class; and she urged artists in other lands to follow the example of the League she represented and help the movement by their art.

The beautiful banners which decorated the St. James's Hall were all the work of the Artists' League.

Miss Cicely Hamilton spoke of women's influence for peace; Mrs. Sarah Dickenson dwelt on the economic position of the working woman hampered by her voteless condition; Mr. Herbert Jacobs said that the formation of an International Suffrage Club in London was under consideration; Miss Maria Chadwick spoke from the stand point of a staunch Conservative and an Imperialist, yet withal, a staunch Suffragist; and Mrs. Philip Snowden ably voiced the encouragement of the Independent Labour Party.

The event of the evening at the public meeting in St. James's Hall on Monday was the Presidential address of Mrs. Chapman Catt. The speech, which lasted rather over an hour, and was acknowledged by loud and prolonged applause, showed a masterly grip on the subject which excited the admiration and enthusiasm of all present. Mrs. Chapman Catt is an orator, never at a loss for the right word and the right expression. Her clear-toned voice and unmistakable sincerity appealed to the hearts of her hearers, no less than her reasoned arguments appealed to their minds; and when she sat down there were probably few among her audience who did not feel, as Mrs. May afterwards put it, "This is the most beautiful speech I have ever heard," or rather, perhaps, "one of the most beautiful."

Five years had passed, she said, since the Alliance was founded, five prosperous, successful, triumphant years—prosperous because they had had no misunderstanding or disagreement, successful because the number of associations had more than doubled,

triumphant because the gains to the cause in these five years had been greater than in any period which preceded it. She did not wish to claim too much for the Alliance. She simply said that it had provided one of the many roads which all together led to the Rome of women's enfranchisement. It had lent strength to the weak, courage to the timid, and something of inspiration to the campaign in every land. By its means the workers in the cause had been imbued with that spirit of the twentieth century which the world called internationalism. Under the influence of this new spirit they had realized that they were not enlisted for the work of their own countries alone, but before them stretched the path of emancipating the women of the civilized world. Then in the progress of things the uncivilized world would become civilized, and their work would not be finished until all the women of the world had been rescued from the disabilities which in every land were imposed upon them by law and custom. Reviewing the progress of the movement throughout the world, she admitted that there had been reaction in Russia, but elsewhere, she said, there was not a note that spoke of anything but joy and hope. The greatest of their victories had been in Australia, but the Norwegian Government had sent a delegate to this Congress, and in view of what had taken place in Sweden, Denmark, and Iceland she thought they should give the place of honour to the Scandinavian race. She had received a number of letters asking her to condemn militant tactics, and others asking her to support them. (Cheers.) She had no intention of doing either, and yet she would not evade the question. As an international body they had no right to take sides in any contention in any country. Here there was a difference of opinion, and they would be silent. At the same time the eyes of the whole world were riveted upon the campaign here, and even if there were no militant methods there would still be reasons why the world should look to England with curiosity and with interest to see what it would do. There were conditions here which did not exist in any other part of the world, and the world wanted to know how the majority in the House of Commons was going to wriggle out of its responsibility. There were forces at work which no human power could stop, and Woman's Suffrage was bound to come as the sun was bound to rise on the morrow.

She urged them all to work with increasing enthusiasm for the cause; and after touching on the industrial grievances of women, said the army of the wage-earning women were crying out to them for help. A nation she defined as "a country that possesses the authority to enfranchise its women," and she went on, in a short summary of the Suffrage campaign abroad, to show how an advance had been made in Victoria and in Norway, while reaction had been at work in Russia and in Finland. "But progress never forgets a nation or a people," and even in Russia a Congress of Women has been held, though with the police at the doors. The Anti-Suffrage movement was described as "the finest thing that has ever happened for Women's Suffrage," because "nature abhors a vacuum, evolution supplies the want, and hence the evolution of the Anti-Suffragists to state the case for the opposition, hitherto inarticulate." They should not hiss the Anti-Suffragists, for they were doing a necessary work in showing the other side of the question, and would only hasten the result, which must be the liberation of woman from the injustice to which she was subjected. For other reasons also, she pointed out, the eyes of the world are riveted on England, which is peculiar in possessing (1) a Parliament in which there is a majority in favour of Women's Suffrage; (2) large political organizations of voteless women formed to further the political interests of men; and (3) Colonies in which women are enfranchised. To the world it seemed that only one logical result could follow from all this, and she herself felt "John Bull to be in a very tight place."

Fru Qvam, the official representative of the Norwegian Government, spoke a few words of encouragement to her voteless sisters, and said that the results of the granting of the Suffrage in Norway had been such as would justify their following with confidence in the footsteps of her countrymen.

Mr. Armitage Rigby, speaking on the effects of Women's Suffrage in the Isle of Man, said that women who had the vote were far from being the unsexed beings of whom Lord Cromer expressed himself so afraid, in fact, there were no more domesticated, more modest women in the world than the Manx women. The Isle of Man had its first elected Parliament in 1866, and in 1881 women

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were enfranchised. He had never heard of any severe struggles; it had come about naturally, and not at all because the Manx were a peace-loving people. In 1093, so the historians of the Island said, when the monotony of two or three years' peace began to pall, the inhabitants got up a civil war between the North and the South. The ladies of the North helped their husbands in the fight, possibly by handing them stones and other missiles, and from that time the women of the North were entitled to half their husbands' estates—a right which was, two or three centuries later, extended to the women of the South. The Franchise also might be an effect of that incident. He thought that the Isle of Man set a good example to the adjacent Island of Great Britain.

Mrs. May, representing New Zealand, spoke as to the great success which had attended Women's Suffrage in that country, and prophesied that the day was not far distant when British women would secure their political freedom.

Miss Anna Furuhjelm, of Finland, spoke of 'Women Citizens.' The Suffrage in Finland had taught one lesson. Although the women there were in the majority, they had not all voted on one side against the men and so outvoted the men, as fear had been expressed might happen. Their short experience showed that the possession of the vote had deepened the sense of responsibility, and the country that gave its women the vote found its national strength doubled.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, moved by Miss I. O. Ford, and seconded by the chair,—

"That this meeting congratulates those countries which have already extended the Parliamentary Franchise to their women, and regards their example as an earnest of the speedy victory of Women's Suffrage in other lands"; and was carried unanimously.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27TH.—MORNING SESSION.

The business meeting on the second day of the Congress opened with the reading of the minutes, which were approved.

Mrs. Chapman Catt said that the delegate from Bohemia was unable to be present, as she was standing for election to the Bohemian Diet. In Bohemia was an interesting and unusual condition of things which had come down from feudal times, under which women of property voted by proxy. Not long ago the Austrian Government granted universal suffrage for men for the National Parliament in Vienna, and did away with the old rights of women. Thus it came about that the Bohemian women were now struggling for the restoration of old rights, and Miss Tumova was putting up for election by the advice of many friends within the Diet.

Financial report of *Jus Suffragii* was then read by Miss Martina Kramers, and Mrs. Stanton Coit, the Treasurer, read her report.

Auditors were appointed from among the delegates, the final report being left over.

Next came roll call of officers, Auxiliary National Associations and Hon. Associates for the presentation of proposals of new business. No proposal of interest was made.

The proceedings on Tuesday afternoon consisted of ten minute speeches by delegates from those countries not represented by speakers at evening meetings during the Congress.

Mrs. Madge Donohoe (Australia) spoke on 'The Latest Victory,' referring to Victoria, the State which did not enfranchise its women when the others did, seven years ago. She believed that the conditions of life in Australia at the present day approached nearer than in any other country the ideal of the greatest happiness of the greatest numbers.

Mlle. Dangotti (Belgium) speaking in French, said that Belgian women had practically no social movements among themselves; and at present all their energies must be expended on propaganda work that Belgian women might not be taken by surprise, or be utterly inexperienced, when the vote was given them.

Miss Dangaard (Denmark) said that by three laws passed last year the position held by Danish women had been much improved, but they were still ardent Suffragists, and in spite of favourable law-making they would continue to solicit the vote.

Madame Juliet Auberlet (France), who spoke in her native tongue, said that men continued to bid women stay by the fireside while they (men) dealt with outside things, although, in France as elsewhere, economic conditions rendered it necessary for women to leave the hearth in order to maintain the family. The right to vote would develop qualities in women, now lying dormant, unsuspected even by themselves.

Mrs. Rutgers Hoitsema (Netherlands) said the position in her country was far from favourable. A reactionary clerical Government were trying arbitrarily to determine the conditions of women's employment. A great struggle was going on; on the one side convention, reaction, and marital authority were pushing women into narrower confines, on the other side progress and justice were endeavouring to help her in the direction of economic independence. When women were enfranchised freedom and justice would gain the victory.

Mrs. Betzy Kjelsborg (Norway) spoke on 'Six Years' Experience in Municipal Work'; Madame Zeneide Mirovitch surveyed the present position in Russia; and Mrs. Gulli Petrini (Sweden) took as her subject 'Suffrage Work on Both Sides of the Polar Circle.'

The President announced that the Queen of Norway would send greetings to the Convention through Fru Qvam. The Convention then adjourned.

One of the most picturesque processions ever seen in the streets of London was the Pageant of Women's Trades and Professions which, on Tuesday night, wended its way from Eaton Square to Albert Hall, where a meeting, organized by the London Society for Women's Suffrage, was held in honour of the first visit of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance to England. A thousand women, representing sixty-three trades and professions in which women are engaged, took part in this pageant, walking four abreast, and every woman carried a banner, or a lantern, made after the design of those used by the London watchmen, hung on the end of a pole, surmounted by a bough of evergreen—fir and laurel. The sight was one to strike fear to the hearts of recalcitrant members of Parliament, as the army that marched from Birnam Wood to Dunsinane struck fear to the heart of Macbeth. As far as the eye could see a waving line of twinkling lights—yellow, green, red, and blue—marked the progress of the women, marching, as surely and as irresistibly as that other army, to victory.

Before each group of women was borne the emblem of the trade or profession to which they belonged. These emblems, made and designed, as were the lanterns, by the Artists' Suffrage League, were of an original and well thought-out character. Some of the most striking were:—

House Painters and Decorators.—Miniature castle, surmounting pole with motto: "My house is my castle." Paint pots and brushes crossed below device.

Cooks.—Golden gridiron. Spits with a bundle of herbs, spoons, and saucepans.

Nurses.—Red cross of St. Andrew on a white shield.
Vocalists.—A white swan, the bird of Apollo—the sign used by minstrels in olden times.

Kindergarten Teachers.—The abacus, or square frame with coloured beads used to teach children to count.

Elementary School Teachers.—Shield bearing the Tree of Knowledge, with golden fruit.

Indexers and Librarians.—The Owl of Minerva perched on a book.

Writers.—Black eagle on a book, and two quill pens crossed below.

Cigar Makers.—Tobacco leaves pasted on a white shield.
Jewellers.—Shield bearing the hall marks on silver, viz., the lion, leopard's head, date, and name of maker.

Pit Women (in working dress).—Model of gearing over a pit-mouth, and miniature picks and shovels used on the "brow."

Physical Trainers.—White statuettes of Diana and the Venus of Milo, on poles.

Silk Weavers.—Two silkworms and mulberry leaves, in relief, and two golden cocoons.

Gardeners.—White shields with red flower-pots painted, and geraniums as if growing from them.

Needlewomen and Machinists. Three needles surmounted by crowns, painted on white shield; the ancient symbol of the industry.

Music.—Apollo's lyre, with a branch of laurel and golden ribbons.

Typists and Shorthand Writers.—Three swifts on a shield.

Milliners.—Wreath of roses and ribbons affixed to the staff.

Glovers.—Black kid skins fixed on the staff.

Jam Makers.—Adam and Eve on a shield; the old sign of the fruiterers.

Doctors.—Two serpents of Æsculapius, representing Wisdom, and a Cook, typifying vigilance.

Sanitary Inspectors.—Serpent (Wisdom) looking into the mirror of the future; below a sun and chemical formula for oxygen and water.

Political Speakers.—Winged hour glass and a glass of water, with the motto: "Words, Words, Words!" with the National Union's colours: red and white.

Journalists.—Carrier pigeon.

Embroiderers.—Tudor roses in red and white; with slung scissors, thimble, and thread.

Chainmakers.—Miniature hammers and anvil, and specimens of the finished product.

Shop Girls.—Yard measure and scissors, and the shield of Vair (or parti-coloured fur) as used by the ancient haberdashers; and the motto: "Serve and Obey."

To the strains of the organ, playing the Guild Music from the 'Meistersingers,' the five blocks into which the Pageant was divided made an impressive entry into the body of the Albert Hall by five different gangways; and as each group, headed by its emblem, came into sight, the meeting welcomed it with hearty applause.

The International Song, composed in honour of the occasion, was sung by Madame Marie Brema, with organ accompaniment, to the air of 'Land of Hope and Glory,' and the entire meeting rose to join in the majestic chorus, led by a ladies' choir.

The report of the meeting is held over to next week.

Completion of Programme of Events.

Thursday, April 29th.—St. James's Hall.—Convention Session.

9.30 A.M. Reading of Minutes.

Reports of Auxiliary Associations. (*Reports limited to five minutes*). Australia, Mrs. Madge Donohoe; Denmark, Mrs. Johanne Munter; Finland, Miss Anna Stedfeldt; Germany, Dr. Anita Augspurg; Great Britain, Mrs. Millicent Garrett Fawcett; Hungary, Mrs. Eugenie Meller-Miskolczy; Italy, Prof. Theresa Labriola; Netherlands, Dr. Aletta Jacobs; Norway, Mrs. F. M. Qvam; Russia, Mrs. E. Goncharoff; South Africa, Mrs. Annette Krause; Sweden, Mrs. Frigga Carlberg; Switzerland, Fr. K. Honegger; United States of America, Rev. Anna H. Shaw.

Report Austrian Committee—Frau Daisy Minor.

Report Bohemian Committee—Miss Marie Tumova.

Representatives of Suffrage Associations not Auxiliary: Landsforbundet, Denmark, Mrs. Elna Münch, President; Bond voor Vrouwenkiesrecht, Netherlands, Mrs. Wijnendts Francken, President; Women's Freedom League, Mrs. Despard, President; Adult Suffrage Society; Irish Suffrage Society, Mrs. Thomas Haslam; Dutch Men's Suffrage Association, Mr. van Straaten.

11.30 A.M. Excursion to Stratford-on-Avon. Shakespeare Festival, Performance of 'Cymbeline.'

2.40 P.M. Excursion to Wycombe Abbey School. Excursion to Windsor. Excursion to Hampton Court. (*For trains and all particulars, apply to Information Bureau.*)

8.30 P.M. Visit to Royal Victoria Hall and College for Working Men, and Model Working Men's Dwellings. (*For particulars, apply to Miss Wright, Information Bureau.*)

Evening.—Meeting at Albert Hall of the National Women's Social and Political Union.

Friday, April 30th.—St. James's Hall.—Convention Session.

9.30 A.M. Reading of Minutes.

Election of Officers.

Discussion of Proposals for new Business.

Business connected with Jus Suffragii.

1 P.M. Visit to National Gallery of British Art, conducted by Dr. McColl.

1 P.M. Visit to Tower of London, conducted by Mrs. Rowland Protheroe, Miss Gardner.

2.5 P.M. Excursion to Duxhurst Farm Colony. Convention Session.

2.30 P.M. Invitations for next Meeting.

Resolutions. Chairmen: Miss Frances Sterling, England; Mrs. E. S. Mirrlees, South Africa; Ida Husted Harper, U.S.A.

Free Parliament. Discussion of any subject or suggestion which may be proposed.

3 P.M. Visit to St. Paul's Cathedral, Canon Scott Holland.

4 P.M. Visit to Bedford College, Miss Tuke.

4 P.M. St. Paul's School for Girls, Miss Gray.

(*For all particulars of these Visits and Excursions, apply to Information Bureau.*)

8 P.M. Public Meeting at St. James's Hall. Speakers:—Miss Margaret Ashton, 'Men and Women'; Frau Minna Cauer, 'The Movement among German Women'; The Rev. Ivory Cripps, 'The Nation's Need of Women'; Miss Rosika Schwimmer, 'The Hungarian Outlook'; Mr. H. Y. Stanger, M.P., 'The Prospect of Franchise Reform'; Dr. Käthe Schirmacher.

Saturday, May 1st.—St. James's Hall.—Convention Session.

9.30 A.M. Unfinished Business.

3 P.M. Visit to New Hospital for Women, 144, Euston Road, followed by visit to London School of Medicine for Women, at 4 P.M.

Excursions to Oxford, Cambridge, Brighton, Stratford-on-Avon.

(*For all particulars of these Visits and Excursions apply to Information Bureau.*)

8 P.M. Reception by the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

Sunday, May 2nd.

11 A.M. Visit to the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park.

3 P.M. The Rev. Canon Scott Holland will preach at St. Paul's Cathedral on the 'Religious Aspect of Women's Suffrage.' (200 seats will be reserved for Delegates.)

3 P.M. Visit to the British Museum. Greek Sculpture, Miss Stawell, Miss B. Taylor. Egyptian Gallery.

(*For particulars of Visits apply to Information Bureau.*)

6.30 P.M. Dr. Anna Shaw will preach at the King's Weigh House Chapel, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square.

Monday, May 3rd.

3 to 6 P.M. Reception by the Women's Freedom League.

8 P.M. Shakespeare League Symposium at King's College. Subject. 'What Shakespeare thought of Women.'

Correspondence.

DEAR SIR,—We women musicians and players of orchestral instruments have been fighting for years to get into orchestras on the same footing and to play side by side with men, but the opposition of the male player is very great, and has so far prevented women (except harpists) being engaged for orchestras of any reputation or standing. Women players so far have been limited to amateur societies and small bands in hotels and restaurants.

To show how the present woman movement is growing, may I bring to your notice that Mr. Henry Mills, of the Sunday League, has engaged a complete orchestra of women to play at Queen's Hall on Sunday night, May 2nd? This is particularly appropriate, coming in the International Congress week, and we shall be very grateful if you can mention this in your next number of *Women's Franchise*, as it will strengthen our cause of music considerably if we can get the support of our sex. It may seem a small matter to you, but I can assure you it is a very great step up in our profession, and if successful, will probably break down the barrier of sex in these matters entirely. I should like to add that this engagement is through the influence of Mr. Lyell Tayler, conductor of the Sunday League Choir, who is an enthusiastic champion of equal work and pay for men and women.

I shall be deeply grateful if you can make this known. The first concert with a complete woman's orchestra at Queen's Hall, on May 2nd. Believe me, yours sincerely,

MUSICUS.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Women's Freedom League.

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNRO.
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. WOOD.

NATIONAL OFFICES: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

Hon. Secretary: MRS. HOW MARTYN, B.S.C., A.R.C.S. Hon. Treasurer: MISS BENETT.
Hon. Organising Secretary: MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG.

President: MRS. DESPARD.

Telegrams: "Tactics, London."

Telephone: 15143 CENTRAL.

By-Elections.

SHEFFIELD.—We have arrived. "What do you think of the Suffragettes?" one man was overheard saying to another. "They look like women with a purpose," he answered—and he was right. Attercliffe division is a large, working-class constituency, honeycombed with foundries, steel works, and breweries. Most of our meetings will be held in the open-air, and we need many workers. We have good committee-rooms at 465, Attercliffe Road. Miss Schofield is in charge, arrangements are well in hand, branch members have all promised to work hard, and Mrs. Billington-Greig comes next week. So rally round, workers all, and keep our colours well to the front. The feature of the election so far, according to the local newspapers, is the activity of the women, and we mean to maintain it. One of our Sheffield members, Mrs. Whitworth, is a host in herself, her experience is proving quite invaluable. Workers are urgently wanted. Will all who are willing to help please send their names to Miss Schofield at once? With two Conservatives in the field it will be hard work to keep the Liberal out; but the victory will be all the greater, if we succeed.

AMY SANDERSON.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—The committee-room is at 31, Wood Street. We are in very urgent need of helpers. As the Shakespeare Festival is in full swing, and the town is crowded with visitors, there is a great opportunity for propaganda. This is a large and scattered constituency, containing 150 villages. Speakers are in special demand, who can hold open-air meetings in the country district—but any one who can give us some time may rely on being kept busy. We shall need plenty of people for the polling-booths on May 4th. Will any one who can give us any time write to Miss Tillard, 31, Wood Street, Stratford-on-Avon, at once?

Sketches in Parliament.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT, BOB WISHY-WASH, ESQ., M.P.

Westminster.—April 20.

A SELECT COMMITTEE has been hard at work diving into Parliamentary tradition and precedent ever since the fateful night when a female of the name of Matters made a speech in the House advocating Votes for Women. To-night it presented the fruits of its labours to the House in the shape of the Brawling Bill.

SIR WILLIAM ROBSON (Attorney General) moved the second reading, said that the Bill was to punish disorderly strangers who disturbed the proceedings, and provided that such persons should be summarily convicted, handed over to the police, and liable to six months' imprisonment or a fine of 100l. The House had already power to deal with such cases, but present-day offenders, being female, were not worthy of so much notice, and the honour of being brought before the Bar of that august assembly was the secret ambition of every Suffragette in existence. To frustrate this insolent design was the object of this Bill.

LORD BALCARRES pointed out that the measure was open to grave objections. Shudders shook the manly forms of the legislators as he drew a picture of the Speaker, the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, and the other majestic figures with which the House is familiar being subpoenaed as witnesses in the Westminster Police Court. Many other objections were raised.

SIR WM. ROBSON.—Hon. Members are confusing themselves unnecessarily. The point at issue is perfectly plain. I will re-state it concisely, leaving aside legal phraseology. In order to keep these unsexed hyenas in petticoats from disturbing the deliberations of the most majestic assembly in the world (loud cheers) we propose to pack them off to a police court, the very first word they utter, there to be sentenced to at least six months' imprisonment. This, it is true, will involve liability on the part of eye-witnesses to be subpoenaed, but as it is unthinkable that the Right Honourable and Honourable and Noble and Gallant members of this ancient House (tumultuous applause) should be dragged into police courts—those low haunts of women and criminals—as, I say, this is unthinkable, it is obvious, Mr. Speaker, that we need not think of it (loud cheers). That which is unthinkable in the British House of Commons is universally impossible (renewed cheers). It has been suggested that if the magistrate finds it unjust to convict, the majesty of the Speaker who has authorized the prosecution will be violated. Sir, every British magistrate understands that for the Speaker to prosecute is to convict—that is British justice. (Cheers). What matters it if a few females get wrongfully imprisoned, compared with the irreparable damage that would be done to the British (loud cheers) Constitution (prolonged applause) by any act which would derogate from the dignity of the venerable functionary who so nobly personifies the ancient traditions, powers, privileges, authority, and majesty of this the most enlightened, the most free, in a word the most British Parliament, existing not only on the face of this globe, but may I add, in the whole cosmic scheme of creation. (Enthusiastic applause.) An Hon. Member has suggested that those disorderly strangers shall be deported to their own country. Unfortunately, these strangers, being females, have no country (applause), and that to my mind aggravates their offence. For this House to be interrupted in the discussion of high matters of State by persons who are not persons, who have no country, no rights, and who yet are harboured and permitted to exist in this Land of the Free—for such persons, I say, to presume to brawling in this sacred place in order to advertise themselves, only confirms my former opinion that females are something less than human (loud cheers), and herein lies our difficulty. This august House has ample power to deal with human beings. Let a cabman or a telegraph-boy misbehave himself he can be brought to the Bar. Mr. Speaker, the moment you bring these disorderly females to the Bar you tacitly admit them to the dignity of equality with cabmen, and incidentally give them the opportunity they ever crave of making speeches and getting cheap notoriety and photographs in the Press. Now can we contemplate the possibility of having a fresh swarm of females making speeches at the Bar every day and all day. There is no precedent for such a state of things—it wasn't done in the reign of Ethelred the Unready. In this respect the powers of the House which have served all these centuries to protect its ancient privileges have been rendered powerless by the action of a few persons whose existence is not even recognized by the House they so insolently assail. Nevertheless, if this Bill passes into law, I firmly believe that the maximum of penalty and of degradation will be inflicted on offensive and disorderly female hooligans, with the minimum of risk to the masculine dignity of this representative House of the British people. (Loud Liberal cheers.)

MR. ASQUITH (*languidly*).—Are we discussing brawling or trawling? (Cries of "Brawling!") The only interest the Government takes in the matter is in the charmingly representative nature of the Select Committee appointed to deal with it. Indeed, the Government only granted facilities to the Bill in order

to give the House a chance of admiring the Select Committee. The Liberal principle of representation is felt to be so sacred that no Liberal would willingly destroy a representative committee such as this, however useless. I might add that this is one more comprehensive and systematic attempt to prove that the Liberal Government, supported by a Liberal House of Commons (cheers), proceeding upon Liberal lines, is writing one more Liberal chapter, the most fruitful ever devised, to give the whole people of this country that equality of opportunity that even level of chance, which is their due and the inalienable right of every British—(Prolonged interruption.)

MR. ASQUITH.—I apologize to the House. My private secretary has mixed my notes. (Laughter.) That last remark was written for me to say at Glasgow, and though of course quite true at Glasgow, it is, I admit, hardly suitable when applied to the present subject (cheers) and spoken in this place.

SIR E. CARSON.—Is a police-court to become an adjunct of this great assembly?

MR. S. MACNEILL.—It is already. Furthermore, the police have become the nurses and protectors of these great members of the Cabinet. (Loud laughter.)

MR. P. W. WILSON.—The word brawling has not been definitely defined. Under this Bill what is to prevent these unspeakable female maniacs from letting down a fishing line and hook and whisking away the wig from that venerable head which contains—as the noble lord opposite has so well said—"the quintessence of the collective wisdom of the House." (Sensation, every member looked at the Speaker's wig and tried to deduce therefrom his own exact share in the general wisdom.)

MR. REES.—I support the Bill. If we allow the world to know that our women have unfortunately escaped from their harems and are treating the noble sex with a disrespect nothing short of treasonable (cheers)—what—I ask—*what will India think?* What will Egypt say? For the sake of this great empire we Englishmen must stand true to our colours, and support the degradation of women. This Bill, which aims at placing female political offenders in their proper category among drunken and disorderly persons, is sound at its core, and Liberal in its principle, and as such it has my hearty support.

MR. P. W. WILSON.—If a male offender dropped a leaflet on to my head, and frightened me and upset my majesty, as happened during the late disgraceful scene in this House, would that be brawling within the meaning of the Act?

SIR W. ROBSON.—Certainly. A special sub-section provides for the punishment of those males who show their lack of "esprit de sexe" by encouraging women to demand freedom.

MR. KEIR HARDIE.—Wouldn't the shortest way out of it be to keep your pledges and give women the vote? (Oh! oh! oh!)

MR. ASQUITH.—The Hon. Member, as usual, supports every sex but his own. (Liberal cheers.) The House having now had ample time to admire the representative nature of the Select Committee, I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to, and the Brawling Bill having been practically shelved, the House was at liberty to attend to high matters of State. A Bill for preventing the landing of foreign fish was read a second time.

It was argued that though it was only fish to-day, it might be Germans to-morrow.

The House adjourned at eleven o'clock.

B. W. W.

Special Notices.

RECEPTION to Delegates of International Congress at Caxton Hall, Monday, May 3rd. Speakers, Mrs. Chapman Catt, Rev. Anna Shaw, Dr. Aletta Jacobs, Miss Martina Kramers, Miss Rosika Schwimmer. Hostess, Mrs. Despard. 3 to 6 P.M. Admission Free.

It is hoped that every member will make a special effort to come and welcome the delegates.

Voluntary helpers are urgently needed to distribute handbills. Please send offers of help to the office, 1, Robert Street.

'Hearth and Home.'

ON April 1st Miss Helen Mathers appeared in *Hearth and Home* with an article called 'Why Women should not Vote.' The date was doubtless unpremeditated. The article was not! It states that "Nature has interposed a woman's health between her and man's burdens," and we feel that art must have stepped in, it being an undisputed fact that five million women in this country are in the mills and workshops and factories as recognized bread-winners, to say nothing of the millions of women working in the homes from daybreak till sunset who are unrecognized.

Miss Mathers says: "Nice women don't like politics and things that make their heads ache," but gives us no definitions of "nice women" or any concrete examples of their heads.

We, on the other hand, can produce nice women with capable heads that do not ache the moment they are set in motion. In fact, such a store of these women can we draw from, it would be invidious to select any special "hundred best."

She says when her nice women "realize what the vote means, they just laugh and shrug their shoulders. . . . The women of the upper classes are far too busy having the good time their men ensure them to bother about rights or wrongs. . . . but one and all agree in repudiating the rowdy doings of the unsexed females who smack policemen's faces, playfully roll with them in the gutter, and drag into the dust and mire of the street woman's prestige and all the privileges and sanctities of her life."

"To be a satisfactory wife and mother. . . or a philanthropist takes a woman all her time."

Facts undisputed by Suffragists; but she omits to tell us what becomes of the mother who is neither maid, wife, widow, nor philanthropist, and in what way her maternity is protected by legislation over and above an intermittent 2s. 6d. per week, and what becomes of the 2s. 6d. if the "lover" levants, and what of the mother, and what of the child.

A dip into Mr. Robert Parr's 'Baby Farmer' might open the eyes of Miss Mathers and her "nice women" to certain wrongs which the "good time their men ensure them," prevents them "bothering" about. She gives us no hard facts about the five million wage-earners, sweated women, who could not be philanthropists even if they can secure, by the pinched earnings of a bloodless system, a house to crawl back to at night to sleep in.

The truth is, this movement is weeding women out—the false from the real—the ones with solid facts and the ones with sentimental fancies, and the intolerable nuisance of it all is, that the one with facts has to waste her time combating the one with fancies.

"Her best interests and the interests of the best men are identical, therefore she should be satisfied that she is fairly and adequately represented in legislation."

How comes it, then, the writer is working in an office looking on to an appalling world of slumdom owned by mighty landlords? Is this the way the interests of the "best men" are bound up with the helpless women born in and forced to live on their filthy properties?

We Suffragists are *not* satisfied that our women are adequately represented in legislation, and accepting Mr. Bertram, M.P.'s dictum that members "are not there to represent women," we do not mean to give up the fight until we have killed the thing we are fighting or are killed ourselves—in short, until we are enfranchised.

"Just imagine women sharing in the fierce passions of an election, with their hats askew, their hair out of curl, the colours of their clothes shouting at each other."

We no longer "imagine"; the thing is an established fact. Women are not only sharing in elections, but are conducting them with perfect propriety and curled hair, winning seats and damaging a Government.

"Even if they adopted one decent livery, as men do, they wouldn't and couldn't look as quiet and decent as men, because their excitement would be so much greater than men's. Men know when to stop, women don't."

"At heart, all gracious women have a natural tendency to lean on man"! Talk about the adoration of the Madonna! Here's adoration of the man for you!

"If a wife dies without a will her husband takes all her money." "Well, and why not," says Miss Mathers; "if the husband has been a good one, providing for his wife, whether she is his poison or his food." We will tell her.

If a man dies without a will half his fortune goes to the State, and assuming him to be a not very rich one, the wife, "poison" or "food," might find herself in great financial straits, while the money which she might have indirectly or directly helped him earn is appropriated by the State. We Suffragists feel this law to be a cruel one; and if the interests of men and women are identical, then the laws should be so too.

"The answer to a woman of property wanting a vote is obvious." Here it is: "You may be a rich woman, yet have no *horse-sense*!"

One feels, with General Booth, that women here are sometimes treated worse than horses, even though they lack the "sense" of those noble inarticulate beasts.

Your average working woman is harnessed, driven, and whipped; she carries intolerable burdens belonging to the white man; she is badly fed and stabled, she treads on slippery ground, groaning under her load, and when we happier women ask for power to help her, Miss Mathers and her kind tell us, what we so sorrowfully realize, "the women of the upper classes are far too busy having a good time to bother about rights or wrongs."

As I write the figure of a woman I once saw arises before me—gaunt and terrible, her battered head and face a sight to make one shiver. "You poor thing," I say, "what has happened to you?"

"Yus, lidy," says she, "this is wot they gives yer for doin' nothink."

I *know* she has not been doing "nothink," I *know* what she is; but whatever that woman is, *that* man has made her, and he has given her too much—oh! much too much.

And these are the concluding words of Miss Mather's article: "The hand that rocks the cradle still rules the world, and woman to man still symbolizes the home with all its gracious traditions, and to which he returns each night, not as the enemy and oppressor, but the beloved shielder and upholder of all he holds most dear."

MAUD ARNCLIFFE-SENNETT.

Branch Notes.

CENTRAL BRANCH.—Miss Mocatta having resigned the joint-secretaryship, owing to pressure of other work, Miss Allwork has kindly consented at very short notice to take the post. Open-air meetings will shortly be resumed by the members. P. H.

BATTERSEA BRANCH.—The members are to be congratulated on the splendid meeting they worked up on April 19th. The large Town Hall was packed with an audience which, though containing an element of disorder inseparable from youthful masculinity, behaved in an exemplary manner throughout the evening. This happy result was attributable to the tactful handling of the chairman, Lady Russell, and the eloquent speeches of Mrs. Winton Evans and Miss Matters. Short speeches were also made by Mrs. Duval, Miss FitzHerbert, Mr. Clayton and Mr. Duval, and a good collection was taken. Miss Underwood, Mrs. Tizard and Mrs. Duval, upon whom fell the chief work of organization, pavement-chalking, &c., must have been more than satisfied with the result of their efforts.

GOVAN BRANCH, GLASGOW.—On April 19th, the Cressey Hall, Govan, was crowded with men and women. The speakers were Miss Munro and Mrs. Scrymgeour (one of our late Glasgow prisoners). A number of women joined the League. Although this is quite a new branch, the members are very enthusiastic. Miss Munro is well known in Govan, and some of her friends took this opportunity of presenting her with a handbag. Miss Hill was appointed Treasurer, Miss Brown Secretary. (Mrs.) M. HILL (Convener).

GLASGOW "AT HOME."—April 21st, the Misses White, of Cairnduna, gave an "At Home" at the Albany Galleries. There was a large gathering of ladies. Although every week we get an increase in our numbers and new members, this was by far the best attended afternoon "At Home." The speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. T. Billington-Grieg, and the chair was taken by Mrs. Wilson. There was also a most enjoyable musical programme. (Mrs.) M. HILL (Convener).

WESTERN BRANCH, GLASGOW.—The Committee were At Home to members and friends in Academy Rooms, Partick, on Friday, 23rd inst., Mrs. Wilson in the chair. After tea we had songs from Miss Frame and Miss Mary Johnston, and reading from Miss Jeanie Moffat. We had a short, earnest speech from Mrs. Billington-Grieg, who spent a little while with us; also an impassioned and interesting address from Miss Muriel Nelson, and an address from Rev. A. J. Forson, from a man's point of view. Mr. Forson put before us very strongly the justice of our claim to equal Suffrage with men.

LIVERPOOL BRANCH.—A vigorous campaign is to be carried on here. Miss Farquharson, with the valuable co-operation of Miss Broadhurst, is laying great plans, the chief aim being to follow up the splendid success achieved by Miss Muriel Matters on The Exchange on her last visit to Liverpool.

THE HACKNEY BRANCH have postponed their Jumble Sale to the end of May, in order to collect a larger quantity of goods. Friends of the League are earnestly requested to send all they can spare to Miss Campbell, 57, Oakfield Road, Hackney Downs. A Jumble Sale is an excellent means of raising money, as it involves very little cost and very little trouble compared with the money it brings in, and it also confers benefit on a poor neighbourhood. Contributions of all kinds are welcomed; men's, women's and children's clothing, boots and shoes, strips of carpet, jewellery, furniture, sewing machines, perambulators, bicycles, &c., all will be sold to the best possible advantage.

The Green, White, and Gold Fair.

Concerning the new plays produced we quote the following notice from *The Referee*:—

"Miss Ellen Terry's stage appearance was not made until the evening, when, with Miss Portia Knight, she interested a large audience in a new one-act piece, written by Miss Margaret Young and entitled

'AT THE JUNCTION.'

This pleasant trifle showed an elderly actress-mother meeting the girl she feared was to rob her of her darling son's affection. The meeting had been planned by the son, and his belief that in that meeting those who had been strangers, suspicious of each other, would become the best of friends was more than justified. Miss Terry's every word and every look and every action were followed with the keenest attention interrupted only by the ripples of merriment when in merry mood she broke away from the author to insist on the necessity of votes for women. 'Isn't it wonderful?' said Miss Portia Knight; 'I know a man who possesses your portrait.' And Miss Terry's quick reply, 'It would be more wonderful if you didn't,' called forth laughter that was loud and long."

"Miss Cicely Hamilton's diverting one-act skit entitled 'HOW THE VOTE WAS WON'

was presented both afternoon and evening, and afforded immense enjoyment. Some day the women will set out to win the vote by a big strike. They will have no more to do with work until the victory is accomplished. Those who have male relations will call upon them for support; those who have none will apply for admission to the work-houses. Between relations and ratepayers they will come well off. Resistance to their demands will be no longer possible. Miss Hamilton's little piece illustrates the process in the house of a three-pounds-a-week clerk who resides in Brixton. It is a little house, but it is a large family that takes possession, and speedily makes of that clerk an ardent advocate of votes for women. Smartly played by Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. O. P. Heggie, and the Misses Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, Athene Seyler, Mignon Clifford, Winifred Mayo, Madeleine Roberts, Maud Hoffman, Auriol Lee, and Helen Rous, the skit convulsed the audiences with hilarity. It should quickly find its way into the programme of a West-End theatre. Miss Hamilton was responsible also for some amusing 'Living Waxworks,' with a policeman and a Suffragette very much to the front. On Friday during the afternoon Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Suzanne Sheldon appeared in a new one-act piece called 'Kiddie,' written by Mr. Cyril Twyford."

Result of the Prize Competitions.

Miss Ellen Terry's Prize of One Guinea for the best American Tailor-made Blouse, to Miss J. J. Lindsay, 125, Lower Baggot Street, Dublin.

Central Branch's Prize of One Guinea for the best Shirt Blouse, to Miss Grace E. Burton, Heathcot, Woldingham.

Miss Mocatta's Prize of One Guinea for the best Trimmed Blouse, to Miss M. Anderson, Culladhna-sith, Woldingham, Surrey.

Miss Seruya's Prize of One Guinea for a Child's Frock, to Miss Agnes Gale, Guildford Road, Woking.

Mrs. Tudor's Prize for a Baby's Frock, to Mrs. Corben, Ivy Lodge, Caldicot, Newport, Mon.

Mrs. Ada Homer Veasey's Prize of One Guinea for the best Hand-embroidered Child's Bonnet, to Mrs. Lane, The Poplars, Whitton, Ipswich.

Mrs. Snow's Prize of One Guinea for the best Hand-painted Scarf in the Colours, to Mrs. Alexander, 12, Yorkhill Street, Glasgow, W.

Messrs. Weldon's, Ltd., Prize of One Guinea for best Hand-made night-dress, made from one of Weldon's paper patterns, to M. Turnbull, c/o E. Knight, Bungalow, Bawdsey, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Miss Pocock's Prize of Half a Guinea for the best Cushion Cover, embroidered in the Colours, to Mrs. Crofts, Heatherdene, Ferndale Road, Woking.

Miss Pocock's Prize of Half a Guinea for the best Hand-embroidered Table Centre, to Mrs. Pocock, Lyndhurst, Woking.

Miss Bennett's Prize of Half a Guinea for the best White Afternoon Tea-cloth, to Miss Featherstonhaugh, Eversleigh, The Avenue, Hitchin.

Miss Winifred Simpson's Prize of Half a Guinea for the best Dressed Baby Doll, to (Result not yet out)

Mrs. Nevinson's Prize of Half a Guinea for the best "Duchess" Set, to Mrs. Crofts, Heatherdene, Ferndale Road, Woking.

Mrs. Hermon's Prize of One Guinea for the best Water-Colour Landscape, to Miss G. E. Barton, Heathcote, Woldingham, Surrey.

Mrs. Hermon's Prize of One Guinea for the best Water-Colour Portrait, to Miss Gladys Leather, c/o Miss Pocock, Woking.

N.B.—The result of the Competition for the best Dressed Doll will shortly be announced.

Cash Received March 28th to April 23rd.

Amount previously	acknow-	£ s. d.	Brought forward..	£ s. d.
dedged	1,250	1 8	1,317	11 11
Aberdeen Branch ..	0	0 0	How-Martyn, Mrs. (per) ..	0 5 0
Anonymous	15	0 0	Irish Women's Franchise League ..	1 7 0
Anonymous	1	10 0	Le Lacheur, Miss D. ..	20 0 0
Anonymous	1	0 0	Lewens, Miss	0 2 0
Anonymous (per Miss Lee) ..	0	10 0	Logan, Miss L.	1 0 0
Arnold, Miss	0	1 0	Masters, Miss Muriel (Lecture	7 5 0
Baker, Miss E. M.	0	1 0	Fee)	0 5 0
Ball, Mrs. J. R.	0	5 0	Meeson-Coates, Mrs. D. ..	0 5 0
Bennett, Miss	13	10 1	Meikle, Miss E. P.	0 6 0
Billington-Greig, Mrs. (Lecture	1	1 0	Middlesborough Branch ..	2 10 0
Fee)	0	2 0	Mocatta, Miss Ada	5 0 0
Bremner, Miss E.	0	2 0	Murray, Miss A. M.	0 2 0
Brooke-Alder, Miss F. M. ..	0	2 6	Neilans, Miss (Lecture Fee) ..	1 1 0
Bullivant, Mrs.	0	3 0	Nidd, Mrs. H. M.	1 1 0
Cameron, Miss J.	0	10 0	Parker, Miss	0 1 0
Carey, Mrs. M.	0	5 0	Petersfield Socialist Society ..	1 1 0
Cartar, Mrs.	0	5 0	Russell, Earl	3 0 0
Central Telegraph Office ..	1	1 8	Russell, Countess	5 0 0
Chapman, Miss	1	0 0	Reid, Mrs.	0 5 0
Cheltenham Branch	11	4 6	Roberts, Miss M.	0 1 0
Chelmsford Branch	1	10 0	Saint-Eve, Miss Hilda	0 5 5
Clayton, Miss M.	0	1 0	Sale Branch	2 10 0
Despard, Mrs.	10	0 0	Steele, Mrs.	0 5 0
Draper, Miss E. M.	0	1 0	Steele, Miss	0 2 6
Duval, Mrs. E.	0	5 0	Suiter, Miss	0 1 0
Eastbourne Branch	1	0 0	Thompson, Miss H.	0 2 6
Edinburgh Branch (Central) ..	1	12 6	Thomson-Price, Mrs. L. ..	0 2 6
"E.H.R."	0	8 0	Treacher, Lady L.	0 5 0
Finchley Branch	1	14 6	Vernon-Baker, Mrs.	0 1 0
Foord, Miss G.	0	2 0	Vickers, Dr. Alice	5 0 0
Hackney Branch—			Walton, Miss M.	0 1 0
Collected by Mrs.	0	10 0	Wilks, Dr. E.	7 10 0
Owen Thomas	0	9 0	Williams, Mrs. L.	0 2 6
Mrs. Sudd Brown	0	2 6	Affiliation Fees	0 10 0
Mrs. Ford Brown	0	0 6	Collections, Tickets, &c. ..	5 10 8
Anonymous	0	0 6	On account of 'Hour and the	6 6 0
			Woman'	6 6 0
Herriott, Miss E.	1	2 0	On account of "Despard	1 17 1
How, Mrs.	0	2 6	Prisoners' Fund"	1 17 1
How-Martyn, Mrs.	0	10 0		
			Total	1,398 0 7
Carried forward..	1,317	11 11		

"Despard Prisoners' Fund."

Previously acknowledged..	73	16	0
Anonymous	0	1	0
Members E. Edinburgh and Leith Branch ..	0	2	6
Sargant, Mrs. Florence	0	10	0
West Sussex Branch	0	3	7
	74	13	1

Members whose subscriptions for the year are now due are asked to send in the same as soon as possible to avoid postage in reminders. It is hoped that all members and friends will increase their contributions as much as lies in their power, as the expenses of the League become heavier as its work increases. The receipts from the "Fair" are not yet complete, but will appear later. S. BENETT, Hon. Treasurer.

Poetic Justice.

A MEMBER writes: "I am giving up taking in *The Gentlewoman*, which has been my weekly paper for ten years, as its tone about Suffragettes and our cause generally is so intolerant and unreasonable, and in place of it I wish to have weekly copies of *Women's Franchise* sent for a year to two friends whose names and addresses are below."

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

APRIL.	April 29th to May 30th.	P.M.
Thurs. 29.	Caxton Hall , Westminster "At Home" Liverpool, Stanley Hall, Bootle	3.30
Fri. 30.	Stratford-on-Avon, Corn Exchange Holloway, 43, Tufnell Park, Road	8
MAY.		
Sat. 1.	Glasgow, Albany Galleries, Charing Cross, "At Home"	7
Mon. 3.	Caxton Hall , Westminster, Reception to International Delegates	3
Tues. 4.	62, Inchmery Road, Catford, S.E. (near Tram Terminus), "At Home"	
Wed. 5.	Glasgow, Albany Galleries, "At Home"	
Thurs. 6.	172, Tulse Hill, Norwood, S.E. Caxton Hall, Westminster	3.30
Fri. 7.	Harringay, Fairfax Hall Sheffield Hackney Committee Room, Hackney Baths, Debate Criterion Restaurant, Grand Hall	7 8 3
Sun. 9.	Brockwell Park	3
Tues. 11.	Winchester House, Old Broad Street 52, Portland Place, W.	3 4-7
Wed. 12.	93, Stamford Hill, N. Liverpool, Waterloo Town Hall	
Thurs. 13.	Edinburgh Caxton Hall, Westminster Liverpool, Waterloo Town Hall	8 8
Mon. 17.	Chester Hope Hall, Liverpool	
Thurs. 20.	Caxton Hall, Westminster	
Sun. 23.	Brockwell Park Finsbury Park	
Sun. 30.	Kingston, Fife Hall, Fife Road	Mrs. Toyne

Suffrage Day, Sat., June 19.

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

OFFICE: 40, MUSEUM STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

Chairman of Executive Committee: HERBERT JACOBS.
Hon. Secretary: J. MALCOLM MITCHELL.

Hon. Treasurers: GOLDFINCH EATE, H. G. CHANCELLOR.
Hon. Literature Secretary: A. I. G. JAYNE.

Notes and Comments.

The great interest of the Suffrage Movement this week is centred in the great International Convention. It is held under the auspices of the International Alliance, composed hitherto of one Suffrage society from each country or colony. A somewhat anomalous position has resulted from the growth in this country of so many Suffrage societies other than the National Union, which is the representative society, and is this week in the position of host. The difficulty has been solved by the sending of invitations to the other societies, that they should send fraternal delegates. We understand that possibly by the time these lines appear in print some other arrangement may have been devised for the future.

Especially interesting to us is the visit, as one of these fraternal delegates, of Mr. E. W. van Straaten, the President of the Dutch Men's League for Women's Suffrage, the foundation of which we chronicled some months ago. We are fortunate in having secured from him a brief article, which appears below, and we have pleasure in announcing that he will make a speech at the Reception, at which our League has the honour of entertaining the Delegates on Saturday, May 1st (see below).

We are much interested in the proposal for an international federation of Men's Leagues, and have discussed the matter with him at some length, it having already been broached in connexion with the proposed Women's Suffrage Club described in the circular printed below. The possibility of a club of international character, serving not only as a social centre for Suffragists, but also as a bureau for the exchange of information and the transaction of joint business, is, we think, one which deserves every consideration. It is hoped that the response made during the International Conference will justify the original movers in arranging preliminaries, and calling a meeting for the election of a provisional committee.

Forthcoming Events.

ANNUAL MEETING TO-NIGHT.

THE Annual Meeting is to be held this evening at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 8 o'clock. The chief item on the agenda is the election of the new committee, and as there are more nominations than places to be filled it is important that all members who can should attend, so that the new committee may really represent the will of the society.

RECEPTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES.

There are still a few tickets unallotted for Saturday's reception in the Galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall. Members are entitled to one ticket each free, and may obtain others for guests at the cost of one shilling. A large number of prominent Suffragists have accepted the invitations of the committee, and practically all the delegates from foreign lands have expressed their intention of being present. It will be a historic event in the records of the Men's League, and all members are urged to be present to aid the officers and committee in welcoming our guests.

THE DEBATE ON MAY 6TH.

The Debate in the Holborn Restaurant (Council Chamber), on Thursday, May 6th, will be specially interesting in view of the fact that, in deference to the wishes of our opponent, Mr. Alex. W. Norris, the discussion will be strictly limited to the question whether Women's Suffrage will be detrimental to the

community. The question of justice is to be ignored. We have no fear on either aspect!

Our champion is Mr. A. M. Langdon, K.C., the newly-appointed Recorder of Burnley, who may be trusted to keep closely to the points raised by his opponent, and to give him a hard battle.

Tickets are 1s. and 6d., the former being practically sold out.

Hyde Park (opposite Marble Arch) next Sunday at 2.30 as usual. (Last week's report held over).

Branch News.

At the last meeting of the executive, held last Friday, the applications of the new Birmingham and Bournemouth societies for affiliation were considered and approved.

Mr. J. E. Raphael has consented to speak at the first big public meeting of the Bournemouth Branch towards the end of May.

Mr. H. Baillie-Weaver informs us, *à propos* of the successful meeting held at Hastings on the 19th inst., that there is every chance of the formation of a strong branch in that town. We are fortunate in having there a strong supporter in Colonel Savile.

The Liverpool Branch is active as usual. See the separate paragraph below.

Liverpool Branch.

THE Liverpool Branch has arranged to give an "At Home" on Thursday, May 6th, in the Alexandra Hall, Great Crosby. A very strong list of speakers has been obtained, the chief being Mr. Forbes Robertson, who is visiting Liverpool for the week.

Other speakers are Rev. Wilfred Carr, J. F. Caröe, Esq. (Danish Consul in Liverpool), and Ben S. Johnson, Esq., J.P. The chair will be taken by the Rev. T. H. Baxter, B.A. Mr. Allerton, the local secretary, writes referring to the prospects in Great Crosby (a large residential suburb north of Liverpool): "We shall soon have a branch of the M.L.W.S. here. I think I have found a suitable secretary."

Our Friends in Holland.

BEING now in England to attend the Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, I am very pleased to write some short words in the Men's League columns of *Women's Franchise*. The example of the English Men's League was really one of the factors which incited the men in other countries to take up practical work for the Women's Franchise. We men in different countries of the world begin to understand that—as Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, the secretary of the English Men's League, has said—the political subjection of women is *our* shame, the shame of the men, and that we men ought to do all we can to cause this shame to disappear as quickly as possible; we men, besides, are realizing more every day that the Franchise of the women, far from hurting our sex, will do us much good from all points of view, and will be specially beneficial to our higher interests, and will procure us companions in life who *really* are our companions in *all* things and not our slaves or odalisques. I feel sure the men all over the world will come always more to

work really in the Women's Suffrage Movement, and they will cease to say that all work shall be done by women alone, and that only if women do the work unaided this shows their fitness for the Franchise. Certainly far the greater part of the work is done by women, and will be done by women in the future; but we men are sadly wanted to work among those members of our sex who are not yet reached by the propaganda of the women, and to organize all the male partisans of Women's Franchise that they may better bring pressure on the political parties and the governments. We Dutch men have already begun to follow the English example, and have founded a Men's League which will be proud to work in their footsteps. I am very glad to hear that in America they have also begun to work in this way, and have started Men's Leagues at New York and at Chicago, and that in Hungary they are about to start a Suffrage League of Members of Parliament. I hope that one of the results of the International Congress now going on will also be to create international relations between the Men's Leagues. The women have shown us in their International Woman Suffrage Alliance a specimen of splendid international organization, if we fully realize how much the international method of working of the women has helped the Suffrage cause, and how much it has contributed to the propaganda in those countries where there was not a movement before, we will certainly follow the women in this regard and begin also to work for the Franchise on international lines. I hope besides that the Congress will be specially beneficial to the English Men's League, which has done its utmost to help to make the Congress a great success. I am very thankful for the hospitality which we shall receive on Saturday next from the English Men's League, and I am sure that all Congressists will agree with me. I hope that the Congress will also have as its result that very many Englishmen will see now what is their duty and join the English Men's League at once.

E. W. VAN STRAATEN.

Mr. Jacobs's Speech at the International Convention.

It is my privilege and pleasure to give you greetings on behalf of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage. It is a compensation to most of us to reflect sometimes how great the cause is for which we have been fighting so long. And if at times some of us grow weary or disheartened or less strenuous in our efforts, we are reminded by a gathering like this that the same struggle is going on in every civilized country in the world. We are reminded that success achieved in any one country sends its message of hope and encouragement to every other. No political cause was ever so international in character as this is, and that is because it is not merely a movement for the re-adjustment of political machinery, but it is a phase of the advance of civilization itself.

Now gatherings of this kind must necessarily take place in England at long intervals, and those of us who value the friendship of our foreign comrades are anxious that we should have an opportunity of meeting them whenever they visit this country. As our circulars will inform you, some members of the Men's League have considered the possibility of forming an International Suffrage Club in London. The idea is only a few days old, inspired by this Congress; it has therefore been impossible to communicate with many persons, but so large a number of those who have been consulted are ready to support the scheme, that ultimate success is assured. I do not want you to suppose that when this club is formed it will be controlled by the Men's League. We are merely doing a little of the preliminary work. When sufficient support has been obtained, we shall ask those interested to form a Provisional Committee, and complete the arrangements. It is for this reason that we have not formulated a scheme in any detail or sought in any way to tie the hands of those upon whom the task of finally carrying this idea into effect may rest. Some discussion has taken place between Mr. E. van Straaten, President of the Dutch Men's League, and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, our Honorary Secretary, on a further suggestion. That suggestion is that the various Men's Leagues which exist or are in

course of formation in different countries should be united in an International Alliance on the lines of the body which has convened these meetings. It may very well be possible to make this proposed club the headquarters of such a society.

Whether or not, Madam President, this idea might be extended so as to prove of use to the I.W.S.A. also is a question upon which I, of course, can have no opinion to express.

Some criticism has been directed against us, suggesting that it is useless to form such a club when the Suffrage is so near at hand. I hope that criticism is well founded; but the granting of the Suffrage is no reason why such a club should be dissolved, for there are some of us who will never rest content until this reform is established amongst all the nations of the earth.

Before I sit down, I must express my gratitude to you for admitting Dr. Drysdale and myself as fraternal delegates to your Conference.

The vote would never be worth having if the women were not fit to win it for themselves; but we men cannot sit idly by and do nothing to help. If the Men's League serves no other purpose, it may at least be regarded as the barometer of the movement, the increasing number of its members indicating the increasing prospects of success. And our reward will be great, for when this reform is accomplished those of us who have given help will feel that the stream of human progress has not cast us aside as wreckage.

Proposed Women's Suffrage Club.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—It is intended, if sufficient support is forthcoming, to found in London A CLUB FOR MEN AND WOMEN who are supporters of Women's Suffrage. It is anticipated that such a club will meet a real need.

Premises will be taken in a convenient part of London, and they will be selected with special regard to the requirements of the case. Besides the ordinary rooms for conversation, writing, smoking, there will be a room of sufficient size for debates, receptions and the like, for the purpose of forwarding the suffrage cause.

Before it is possible to proceed with the preliminaries, it is necessary that the enterprise should have the support of a sufficient number of prospective members. No definite scheme has yet been formulated, but the suggestion is that the club would be formed as a limited company, and that the annual subscription should be ONE GUINEA.

The club is further to be OF AN INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, so that it may be in a real sense a centre for Suffragists all over the world.

Those who have already expressed approval of the project are as follows:—Goldfinch Bate, Esq., Miss Annie Leigh Browne, T. Mortimer Budgett, Esq., H. G. Chancellor, Esq., Cecil Chapman, Esq., J.P., Miss Cons, Mrs. Conybeare, C. A. V. Conybeare, Esq., Miss Cicely Corbett, Mrs. Despard, J. E. Francis, Esq., Mrs. Francis, Miss Cicely Hamilton, A. W. Holland, Esq., Laurence Housman, Esq., Herbert Jacobs, Esq., Mrs. Larkcom Jacobs, Miss Kilgour, Miss G. L. Mallet, J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., Mrs. Eileen Mitchell, Josiah Oldfield, Esq., D.C.L., Miss Otter, Miss Mildred Ransom, Mrs. Grant Richards, John Russell, Esq., M.A., Mrs. Russell, Hon. Bertrand Russell, E. W. van Straaten, LL.D. (President and Founder of the Dutch Men's League), Lady Strachey, Lady Wright, Israel Zangwill, Esq.

If the idea meets with your approval please fill up the form below and return to me at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,
J. MALCOLM MITCHELL, Hon. Sec.

If the proposed Women's Suffrage Club, as described above, is established I shall be happy to become a member at an annual subscription of one guinea.

Name

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Women's Forward Movement,

APPLY TO

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13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

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In the Press:—

THE RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF WOMEN. A Digest. With Illustrations and a Vocabulary of Legal Terms. By RALPH THICKNESSE (sometime of Lincoln's Inn), Author of 'A Digest of the Law of Husband and Wife.'

The following may also be obtained from the Offices of the above Society:—

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