

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

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

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

Notes and News.

Mr. Hughes on Women's Suffrage in Australia— "Entirely Satisfactory."

Over two million women already have the vote in Australia—the proportion of men and women voters being nearly equal, though the number of males given in the last census exceeds the number of females. And the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth has nothing but good to report of adult suffrage. "It has worked smoothly," he wrote in a quite recent letter; "the women take a very great interest in politics, and exercise the franchise to as large an extent as the men. Speaking generally," he concluded, "the extension of the franchise in placing men and women on a footing of political equality has been entirely satisfactory."

In Memoriam.

The Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies passed away last week at his home in Hampstead at the great age of ninety years. In him the Women's Movement had, from its very early days, a staunch and sagacious friend. He was a prominent supporter of all the efforts of women to obtain improved education, and he ably seconded the pioneer work done by his sister, Miss Emily Davies, in that direction. He was also from the first a firm supporter of the opening of the medical profession to women. In the whole movement he discerned, and from time to time expressed in sermons and religious writings his conviction that the modern claim of women to free citizenship with equal opportunities for training and service, was a development and carrying-out of the principles laid down by Our Lord in His teaching on the mutual relations between men and women. Let every worker in the Women's Movement hold his name in gratitude and reverence. He was our friend when we had very few friends.

An Indian Women's University.

We are indebted to a correspondent, who sends us a copy of the *Mahratta*, of February 20th, containing an interesting account of a scheme for a Hindu Women's University. Pro-

fessor Karve, of Poona, a well-known worker for the cause of the higher education of women, was so much impressed by the success of the Japanese Women's University, founded in 1904, that he has devoted much time and thought to drafting a similar scheme for the women of India. It is interesting to note that this is a spontaneous demand, formulated by a highly-cultivated Brahmin gentleman, and that its promoters, to quote the *Mahratta*, are prepared "to begin and carry on the work without depending upon the Government either for help or recognition"; though they would be glad to receive help, provided that the scheme is left entirely in their hands. For the wish of the promoters is to "guarantee a respectful treatment of the Hindu ideals," and to bear in mind that "women, as a class, have different functions to fulfil in the social economy from those of men." With this object, Professor Karve has taken the Japanese Women's University as his model. "It made him realise what a practical nation the Japanese were, and how wisely they decided that women's education should be of a lower standard, and that women should not compete with the men." Pitfalls, many and formidable, abound, no doubt, in the path of any pioneer who aims at the "uplifting of Indian womanhood"; and anxiety lest the education of girls to-day should open up an impassable gulf between the younger generation of women and the older, may well give pause to the reformer. Yet it seems hard that the best education the world knows how to give should not be open to those women who *want* to take advantage of it. For, in education, "even the best is hardly good enough"; and to enforce on women a lower standard, in the supposed interests of the home, is an evil policy. It is pleasant to quote, again from the *Mahratta*, the opinion of an Indian lady, Miss Thakur: "Women were not born simply to be menial servants; they were born to build up the character of their children, the character of the nation; it is the women who make a nation."

Women Students at French University.

While Japan and India are deliberately lowering the standard of education for their women, so that they should not be able to "compete" with men, the demand for a better education for girls is being formulated in France. "The curriculum for girls in the secondary schools calls for vigorous transformation," says *La Française*. The Frenchwoman will have to take the place of the brother or the husband who has fallen on the battlefield. It will fall to her to maintain the high intellectual level to which France has attained, and if she fails it will neither be her brain, nor her will, nor her courage, but her inferior education to which the blame must be ascribed. "*A l'esprit égal, culture égale*," must be the battle-cry of the educational reformer.

"We Shall Have to Shut Up our Shops."

The war finds out all the weak points in our social organisation. If Frenchwomen decide that the education of girls at school has been less thorough than that given to their brothers, we in England, on the other hand, may well envy Frenchwomen the business training which seems to be the birthright of the young girl in France. "Of the dozen tradesmen in this village," writes a correspondent, "five or six are being called up." They say: "We shall have to shut up our shops." Now, if their wives were Frenchwomen they would keep the shop

open as a matter of course. But here the husbands simply say: "Oh, you couldn't ask a lady (*sic*) to run a shop"; and the wives say: "I shouldn't like it: I couldn't do it. I'd be afraid!" And they propose to go to "live with relatives" on their separation allowances, doing nothing, making no preparation whatever for a home when their husbands return. The start again, even if he returns unscathed, will be difficult at first; and yet, given a little training and a little spirit of enterprise—and the wives might "carry on."

Commercial training, taken up rather late in the day, is not easy to get, except in large centres of industry. And while the wife is away learning her business the shop will be closed and the business itself going downhill.

It occasionally happens that a recruiting tribunal will give a man two or three months' exemption, so that he can teach his wife or daughter his trade. Could not this principle be borne in mind? Eight weeks of practical experience in the shop itself would be more valuable than a course of instruction in abstract "business," though lessons in book-keeping, taken in addition, would be invaluable to the beginner. But so many of the ins-and-outs of a small business can only be taught by the man who has built it up, and knows where and what to buy, what credit to give, and when and where to sell; that he only can train his successor efficiently.

Children, Cinemas, and Women Censors.

Now that complaints go up from the Courts that children's wrong-doing is often a direct result of watching ingenious and

exciting moving pictures of crime, the Home Office has under consideration the establishment of a central and independent censorship. Films passed by this official censorship will, it is understood, be received without objection by the licensing authorities, who welcome the suggestion. As this Central Censorship will regard the films from the point of view of desirability for children, it would be in every way more satisfactory that women should be called into council. Not only would they give invaluable aid, but indirectly their influence would be all to the good. The film producer is at present at an even greater disadvantage than the writer of plays under the censorship. He has to gauge the taste of a public which demands excitement, and any attempt on his part to produce pictures of a better kind is severely handicapped by competition with the sensational. To know beforehand that a film will be submitted to women-censors would clear up the position, and the film producer who wishes to turn out good work will benefit.

To Keep up our Export Trade.

The technical side of cotton-weaving previous to the war has been in the hands of men, but now the Nelson Education Authorities have formed a class to teach women and girls cotton manufacturing to enable the industry to keep going during the absence of men. Nelson is the first town to start such a class, and about forty women are attending it.

Our Russian Units.

In the last issue of THE COMMON CAUSE Miss Moberly described the needs of the refugee children in Russia. We have now received Dr. May's report, and are able to describe the great medical needs of the country communities where the refugees are crowded. It is very satisfactory to find that after great obstructions and delays in Petrograd (of which Russians themselves complain as much as we do) we have established our reputation for thorough and disinterested work, and our help is now sought by the local town councils and Zemstvos in the Eastern Province of Kazan, or Middle Russia. In the town of Kazan the medical centre for the whole province, thousands of refugees are living, and, during the summer, many more will be streaming through, bringing in their train cholera, small-pox, and other infectious diseases. There is only one old hospital, without proper isolation wards, where children going in with one disease are liable to contract another. There is an infants' clinic in connection with the University, but this closes during the summer vacation. The governor has been for some time most anxious to open a hospital for infectious diseases, but has been unable to do so owing to lack of funds and medical assistance. He is prepared to hand over to us buildings that are already completed, and will provide heating and lighting. Our Administrator undertook that we should provide doctors and nurses, and the Great Britain to Poland Fund have paid over to us the sum of 6,000 roubles for equipment, drugs, and upkeep. When our offer was reported to the Town Council, Miss Moberly tells us that everyone present stood in token of respect. The Hospital has from fifty to sixty beds, and we hope it will be opened early in June. Dr. Stepany and two nurses, accompanied by a good consignment of drugs and clothing, started on the 22nd of this month.

The Governor of Kazan insisted that medical work must also be undertaken in the town and district of Chistopol, where the need was equally urgent. Chistopol is on the Kama, a tributary of the Volga, and along both rivers the refugees are being drafted carrying infectious diseases into the villages, where there are often no doctors within fifty miles. The Mayor of Chistopol and the Chairman of the District Zemstvos were in despair at not being able to cope with these diseases, for the sake of the native population as well as for the refugees, but, as in Kazan, they could not find either doctors or nurses. Dr. May fortunately arrived in Chistopol the very day on which the Town Council and the Zemstvo were meeting to consider what steps could be taken to meet the needs of the district. She was present at the meeting, and the Zemstvo sent her a clear account of the position. The scheme of work drawn up from this statement has now been endorsed by the Russian Units Committee and by the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. It comprises an Inspection Point and Isolation

Hospital on the quay at Chistopol, with one doctor and two nurses for the summer, and also for the summer a flying column with two doctors and nurses to be sent to any distant villages where infectious diseases may have broken out. Then two doctors and seven nurses are to be sent to Stara Chelna and Chulpanoff, where there is no medical aid at present for infectious and non-infectious hospitals; and two nurses are to be sent to Isgara, where the little hospital, which has a doctor, has been closed for want of nurses. We have only guaranteed this *personnel* till January, but we are also providing instruments for the doctors and a certain amount of drugs and dressings. The remaining hospital equipment, and also the upkeep, is practically guaranteed by the Great Britain to Poland Fund, while the Zemstvos provide housing, light, and heat, as at Kazan. It is a threefold partnership, in which the National Union sends the trained medical workers—just now the greatest need of the refugees and also of the Russian population, who are exposed to the diseases imported by the refugees.

We appreciate highly the cordial interest of the Great Britain to Poland Fund, are grateful for their timely pecuniary help, and are glad that they have asked our aid in a very special scheme of their own—the provision of a motor ambulance for Galicia to cope with the infectious diseases of the refugees and the native population behind the lines. The country is absolutely without medical aid, which has all been commandeered for the army, and yet small-pox and cholera are rife, and it is feared that a terrible epidemic will spread over the country unless something is done at once. The Great Britain to Poland Fund, which is working in co-operation with the Zemstvos, will provide equipment and upkeep if we can only send an ambulance, two doctors, and four nurses. We have already engaged three doctors and several nurses, but we are eagerly looking out for an ambulance, as the one that had been offered to us has now gone to France.

England has done a great deal for her other Allies, but is only now, through our Units and through the Anglo-Russian Hospital, able to co-operate with Russia in dealing with her war difficulties, which are on a vaster scale than anything the other allies have known. As in the case of Belgium, France, and Serbia, our help has brought a better understanding with our Allies, and real goodwill on both sides, so we find already from our very tentative beginnings, a better feeling for England in Russia, and a better understanding on our part of the Russian democracy, and a better appreciation of the magnificent work accomplished by the Zemstvos. They have taken on their shoulders the chief civic burden of the war. Russia has at last discovered in the Zemstvos her capacity for organisation, and we feel it a privilege to co-operate with these great voluntary associations.

The Economy of Mastication.

By EUSTACE MILES.

Mastication is generally associated with the name of the late Mr. Gladstone, who was supposed to chew every mouthful of food thirty times or more; and with the name of Mr. Horace Fletcher, who carries the principle much further, and masticates and insalivates every mouthful of food, both solid and liquid, as long as it has taste. He does not swallow anything forcibly, but allows it, as it were, to swallow itself. He has thousands of followers in America—for instance, among the members of the Y.M.C.A.

As to the results, he claims that far less food is needed when his system is carried out; that there is greater appreciation of flavour; that there is better all-round health through better digestion, and less clogging of the system; that there are better teeth; that there is better breathing (a very interesting point); and that there is a better condition of mind.

Last, but not least, he claims that by adopting his plan people can become almost independent of what foods they eat: they do not have to choose carefully so long as they chew carefully. He says that, with the practice carried out for a fairly long time, one result is that people have a natural inclination for the foods that they really need.

While one need not admit to the full all his claims, yet one must admit, at the very outset, a great saving in the quantity of the food consumed, a saving of half or more, and a saving, in particular, of those expensive luxuries which so many people regard as necessities. A great deal of the expense of food is not in the simple food elements which in theory can be obtained from the pulse foods: cheese, the cereals, vegetables, and fruits, and so on; but in the various extras and luxurious foods—not so much the condiments, perhaps, as the expensive forms of food, such as flesh, fish, and fowl, and such luxuries as tobacco and alcohol.

Undoubtedly, thorough mastication and insalivation must produce enormous food economy and enormous simplification of the meals, and therefore, economy in the preparation of food and in the household expenses in general.

In so far as the plan leads to real health it lessens the amount of drugs, of doctors' bills, and of holidays.

At first it may be objected that while there is economy of food and economy in other respects there is something very far from economy of time if every mouthful has to be chewed a large number of times, then surely it must take a very long while to get through a meal! Mr. Horace Fletcher, I think, found this to be the case at first, but he has lunched with us more than once at our restaurant, and he did not take longer over his meals than we ourselves did, and he was able to talk during the meal (and he is one of the most delightful conversationalists that we have ever met). He claims that his meals take him much less time than the meals of most people; perhaps the expert "Fletcherite" may get through his meals in thirty-five minutes a day, though I know some who take ever so much longer, even after years of practice; and it must be remembered also that with his system there is an economy of time in the catering and preparation of food, and economy of time in digestion, for exercise may be taken, or hard brain-work can be done immediately after a meal. The meal does not tend to leave a person uncomfortable or sleepy.

Certainly, though there is harder work for the muscles of the jaw, there is much less expenditure of energy, human energy being generally used largely to digest foods which have not been properly masticated and insalivated, and also to get rid of the waste and to work the system at a disadvantage. I have met a very large number of "Fletcherites," and they nearly all agree that they have greater energy and greater endurance. Their work or their exercise seem to use up less power.

For my own part, I cannot agree with Mr. Fletcher's full statement of his case. I think it is a vast mistake to ignore all that has been found out about food values. His general plan is that people should take what they feel inclined to take. Now, I doubt if people feel inclined to take what is unhealthy for them, nor can I for a moment believe that the system will choose the right foods as a matter of course, merely because all food is thoroughly masticated and insalivated. Why should there not also be judicious choice of foods, according to all that up-to-date science can tell us, so that the meals may be balanced? It is interesting to know that Mr. Horace Fletcher has come to prefer certain classes of foods, though he can take other classes, he says, with impunity. The foods which he prefers are such as are provided in our restaurant in Chandos Street. But there may be cases in which the habitual practice

of mastication and insalivation, together with Professor Irving Fisher's plan of thinking of and enjoying the flavours of foods would lead to a correct choice of foods for the individual.

With regard to this, as with regard to previous articles, I shall be glad to send, free and thoroughly tested recipes of meat-substitute dishes for health and fitness to readers of THE COMMON CAUSE who write and enclose a penny stamp; and also I shall be glad to answer questions addressed to me at 40, Chandos Street, W.C. Some of the questions that I have received with reference to previous articles in THE COMMON CAUSE have been very interesting indeed.

My next article will be on "Foods that Cost Little in Proportion to their Food Value."

Birmingham Motherhood Exhibition.

Our Motherhood Exhibition is over, and we feel very glad over the results achieved. There had been some doubt in our minds as to whether the mothers, for whom it was arranged, would really come; but on all three of the days the Town Hall seemed full of working-class mothers, with their sad faces full of character and patience, bright for once with interest and appreciation. They enjoyed the band, and they enjoyed the tea, most kindly undertaken by the Women's Volunteer Reserve, where everything was a penny, and a capital pennyworth, too!

And they really entered into the spirit of the Exhibition, and crowded round the Food Reform stall, listened to the lectures on flies, housekeeping in war time, &c., and keenly appreciated the large stall of beautiful hand-work, toys, leather-work, &c., done by village people in their spare time, with a view to supplying goods till now only made on the Continent, and opening up a way of adding to the miserable wages of farm labourers. This stall was provided by the Rt. Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P. He, and the Lord Mayor, who opened the Exhibition, and the Lady Mayoress, who gave away the prizes for competitions, and many others who helped us, are Anti-Suffragists, many of them lifelong opponents of our Cause; but our efforts to "sustain the vital forces of the nation" (and what can be more vital to the nation than its motherhood?) won their cordial and friendly co-operation, and we found it a real pleasure to work with them.

A very ancient cradle, with a life-sized baby and a coverlet from New Zealand, afforded much interest; so also did the beautiful collection of gorgeous dresses from various Eastern countries, kindly lent by many travelled friends, and arranged under the guidance of the School of Art. An excellent exhibit of needlework, botanical specimens, and trades, &c., was shown under the title "Work done by the Children under the Care of the Guardians." There were also most interesting stalls by the Arts and Crafts Guild, the British Women's Temperance Association, and the City Education Department. But it was the Infant Welfare Stall, arranged by the City Health Department, that provided the main source of interest of the Exhibition. This enterprising department had built two full-sized rooms representing kitchens of a working-class home.

One was the insanitary, dirty, stuffy, neglected room in which no infant can hope to thrive. It was an artistic triumph in its way. There was the dirty table, littered with unwashed crockery, stale food, a broken comb, and the tin of Swiss milk for the baby, full of flies. The unhappy infant itself lay on the dilapidated sofa, with a dirty dummy in its mouth, and a face that showed that it would soon follow its predecessors, whose funeral cards adorned the soiled walls. In the filthy cupboard that served as a larder was a significant bottle, and some sprouted onions, while a broken tea-pot stewed on the untidy grate. Opposite was a similar room, with clean open window, a simple tea temptingly laid for the husband's return, a sewing machine, brightly polished brasses, and a shining grate; while, reclining in a perambulator, was a flourishing, well-kept, life-sized baby.

It was wonderful how many of the mothers recognised the dirty room as typical of their neighbours' houses, while they gazed with wistful and admiring eyes at its clean and bright contrast.

The work sent in for the cooking, sewing, home-nursing, and other competitions was of quite a surprisingly high standard. The competitions were very representative of the various organised groups of married working women in the city. The packed hall testified to the interest taken by the mothers of the city, for whose special benefit the Exhibition was organised.

C. R.

At Royaumont.

Elsa Bed.

Although I have only had an elementary education, I shall try to give you a short account of my campaign, and I hope you will forgive any mistakes in spelling I may make.

I remember that, on September 3rd, the town of Beauvais, where I lived, was asked to send out soldiers of every class as the Germans were approaching. Luckily for our dear town, they turned their attention to Paris, which they hoped to take, but did not succeed in doing so. To my great regret I was obliged to leave my beloved family, but I did so fairly contentedly, as my children are all grown up. I think I was most sorry to leave my trade as a carpet-weaver, which I had carried on with jealous pride and care for thirty years. Still, I had to resign myself, for, in spite of my forty-seven years, I was as brave and true a French patriot as younger men. I remember when I left for the trenches how unhappy it made me feel to see all the beautiful villas of Neuport Bains destroyed—which meant we were getting near to the trenches. Crossing the Yser, it was very rough, and the bridge swung from side to side. I did not feel at all happy. I thought of my dear little family whom I should never see again, but by the encouragement and good spirits of my younger companions I soon recovered from my emotions. We continued our march until we reached the first line of trenches, where we had a great welcome given us by the good Zouaves, but quite a different one from the Boches, who greeted our arrival by pounding us with shells from their "77" guns. I did not feel at all at ease, and, in spite of my fatigue, I could not think of sleeping for a second. Life in a trench is anything but gay—but I have always been an easy-going chap, so I was not too much worried by its hardships, and I remember that I was often able to keep up my comrades' spirits. For eight months I did my duty as a good Frenchman, like everyone else; but at last my health was shaken by my service—which I do not regret. While I was in the trenches someone used to be sent to the rear every day to do commissions and odd jobs for the men, and it was always "good old father" (as they called me) who was chosen. Every day I came back through the communication trenches laden like a little merchant, but owing to the constant exposure my health suffered, and I was sent to a hospital at Compiègne. After having been there for a month I was sent to Creil, and then to Royaumont. I had never heard of this hospital, and from the moment I arrived I was greatly surprised by the beautiful building, the care I received, and the extreme cleanliness everywhere, so much so, that, in spite of my sufferings, I at once felt more comfortable. Next morning I was astonished to see a lady doctor sounding me. Truth to tell, I was quite overcome. I never thought women could treat diseases so well and take such care of me. I am very grateful to these lady doctors who looked after me; although I know I have an incurable disease, it has been greatly ameliorated. I must not forget the good sisters and orderlies who looked after us day and night, with a care beyond all praise. When the war is over, and the French and English have been victorious, we shall return to our firesides with a very grateful memory of the English. I have always liked the English, and when I am weaving my carpets again I shall often think of this beautiful hospital.

Vive l'Angleterre! Vive la France!

(Signed) JEAN BAPTISTE SELINCOURT.

George Square Chronicle.

This will be a very short account of my experiences, as I had quite an elementary education, and am not capable of much. On August 2nd, 1914, war was declared. At last the hour of vengeance had come. I myself was exempted from service by the military authorities; nevertheless, I was not going to sit with my arms folded while my comrades went to fight for the dear soil of France. On August 6th I left my situation as *valet de chambre* and joined the 125th Infantry, stationed at Poitiers. I remained at the dépôt till October 14th. At last the day I had waited for, with impatience, arrived. We left at three in the afternoon, and, after many hours in the train, descended at a place on the Marne. There I saw some of the horrors of war. The fields were still strewn with the traces of the battle. The sight of all these horrors set my heart beating, but they were nothing to what I was going to see later on.

The next evening we were sent to occupy the trenches. It was an intensely dark night, with only the flashes of the guns to guide us. Then my heart beat faster still as I thought that I was about to find myself in the presence of the enemy.

The next few days passed quietly enough, and during that

time my fear vanished. On October 24th we left for Belgium. It was there that I made my first trenches and saw my companions killed, for the first time. It was there, too, that I saw the most terrible sights of the campaign. The flying inhabitants had left all their most treasured belongings to the mercy of the shells and the rage of the enemy. On November 10th I was wounded in the head by a bullet. Two days later I was sent to a hospital, where I had typhoid fever, and remained for four months; then I returned to my dépôt for a month. On May 14th, 1915, I left again for the front, and was transferred to the 90th Infantry. We took up our position at Neuville St. Vaast. On June 16th, after an intense bombardment by our artillery, we left at three in the afternoon to attack the enemy's trenches, but in vain—we were mown down by the fire from their mitrailleuses. During that day I was buried three times by shells, and the few of us who survived were obliged to retreat. After this attack it was a perfect hell for us; shells of the largest kind rained on us unceasingly. The trenches were choked and crumbled to pieces. There were many dead and wounded. We worked unceasingly, making shelters for ourselves. It was in this place that I passed the most terrible hours of my life.

On June 29th we left the trenches for a month's rest. On September 25th we found ourselves in a village south of Arras, where we held the first line of trenches. There I was again wounded, in my left arm, by a shell. At the same moment, one of my comrades, who had been standing at my side, fell dead, his chest torn open by a shell. On October 1st I arrived at this charming hospital of Royaumont, where I am very well looked after.

(Signed) JEAN SEMUR (aged 22).

Malcolm Blane.

Called out as a reservist on August 1st, 1914, to guard the lines of communication, I filled this modest post till May 3rd, 1915. Sometimes this service was hard and painful, but we accomplished it without grumbling, for we knew that we had to do our duty, and was it not necessary to frustrate the plots of the spies of the vile William, who sought by the most abject means to retard our mobilisation? I am happy to have accomplished this task, as it was good for the defence of our country.

After a week's leave I was sent to my dépôt at Auxerre, where I met some old comrades of my regiment, and we recalled our barrack memories of former days. Armed and equipped like young soldiers, we still cut quite a good figure in our uniform. After some months of instruction at Auxerre and at Montargis, we arrived in Artois. From this time on we led a wandering life, rarely remaining long in the same place, leaving each district when we had finished the works of defence ordered by the Headquarters Staff (digging trenches, putting up barbed wire, &c.). The work was tiring, but how glad we were to do it in order to bar the barbarians' way. It was with joy and pleasure that we often saw our Allies, the English, march past; young and intrepid soldiers, with a fine bearing; with such Allies victory is certain and the peace of the world assured. But how many, and how much sorrow will it not cost? What vengeance can one wreak on the bloody Emperor and his infamous offspring the Crown Prince?

Invalued on account of fatigue and rheumatism, I am at present under treatment in the Hospital of Royaumont, nursed by English ladies, for whose kindness and skilful care I feel nothing but gratitude. I shall always keep a warm remembrance of this hospital house. As soon as I am cured, and after I have passed my convalescence with my wife and children, I shall go back to rejoin my comrades, and again take up the work of defence, in order to assure the triumph of right and liberty, for we must kick the Germans out of France.

(Signed) ALBERT SOL (aged 46), Typographer.

Pierre Larnaudie, occupant of the "Proud Preston" Bed.

Pierre Larnaudie is a soldier in the 50th Infantry, and a native of Buisson, Dordogne, in south-western France; he is twenty-one, and in time of peace was employed as a railway clerk. He was wounded on January 29th in the fighting round Neuville St. Vaast—wounded in six different places by the explosion of a German mine. With a bone broken in either leg he dragged himself for five kilometres (three miles) before his wounds could be attended to, walking for a few yards, crawling when he could walk no longer, and with no one to help him along. His comrades were far too fiercely and busily engaged in repelling a German attack to render him any assistance. Somehow or other he covered those five kilometres, and a day or two later was sent down by the ambulance train at Creil and handed on to Royaumont.

REGISTRATION.

The political world is full of rumours of the negotiation, redistribution, and franchise proposals, and the Prime Minister's announcement of the Government's intention is expected with great interest. There are a few things that are clear about the situation, and they are these:—

1. The old 1914 Register would be almost useless for a General Election, being now thoroughly inaccurate.
2. A new register on the old lines would disfranchise the greater part of the men of the country, including the whole Army and Navy, owing to their lack of the necessary residential qualification of twelve months in one place.
3. A new register on new lines would alter the basis of the franchise, for it would include new classes of men.
4. Any alteration in the basis of the franchise would inevitably raise all the questions of representation—adult suffrage, Women's Suffrage, plural voting, redistribution, &c.
5. The raising of such questions at present is seriously feared by the Government, for unless they could be settled by an agreed Bill the result would be disastrous.

These are the outstanding facts which the Prime Minister has to consider, and it is probable that his solution will be to "wait and see." The majority of Parliament, as of the country, expect no General Election, and want none, during the period of the war, and there is reason to believe that the pressure for immediate action about registration originates from more or less unofficial circles, especially since *The Times* and the "Ginger" groups give expression to it.

Among all these currents and counter-currents the course of Suffragists is incessant watchfulness, and there are many signs that the continual reminders sent to politicians are not without effect. The claims of women to the vote are, indeed, one of the chief factors of difficulty in the path of the Prime Minister, for a settlement that does not satisfy Suffragists is no settlement at all.

There are two possible solutions of the present situation. The first is, "wait and see," which would involve some small *ad hoc* Bill for manipulating the existing register, but no new register. The second is an agreed Bill dealing with the whole franchise question. It is this second alternative that Mrs. Fawcett has urged upon Mr. Asquith; it is this that he has undertaken to weigh "fully and impartially, without any prejudice from the controversies of the past." If he were really to do this the result could not fail to satisfy the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

RAY STRACHEY.

SOME PRESS CUTTINGS.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the East Birmingham Conservative Association, MR. A. D. STEEL MAITLAND, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, outlined a policy which should deal with problems awaiting solution. Among these he spoke of "Women's Suffrage, which would be in a very different position after the war. He had been an opponent, but, having seen how women had taken their share of the work done for the war, he would do everything in his power to get them the vote."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

SIR GEORGE CROYDON MARKS, M.P., speaking at the Annual Meeting of Liberal Delegates for North-East Cornwall, at Launceston, made a statement showing how he had changed some of his views in consequence of the war and its effects. "He used to say that he liked to see women in their homes. Nowadays, it was another story. The women were helping to save England. In the munition works, to which he had already alluded, 195,000 women were taking to-day the place of men who had gone to fight. Any party that did not realise that women had made good their cause by their service—where they formerly spoil it by their threats—must be blind, and he held that there should be no widening of the franchise for men that did not bring in women on the same terms."

MR. ERNEST JARDINE, M.P. for East Somerset, in an interview headed "How Women Saved a City," tells how Nottingham girls saved the country from a shortage of hosiery needles, which had hitherto been made in Germany. He ends up: "I have always been an anti-Suffragist, but the women have served their country so magnificently that, after this, I shall support giving them the vote."—*The Liberal Women's Review*.

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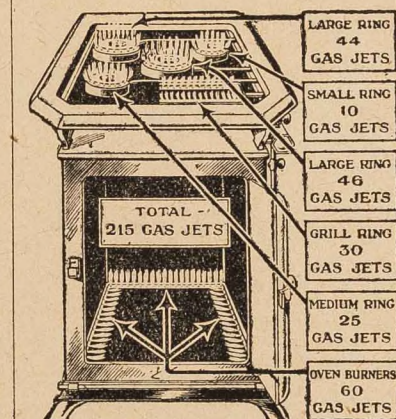
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Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage.

EDINBURGH VOTERS' PETITION

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MASS MEETING, SYNOD HALL, EDINBURGH,
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Mrs. CAVENDISH BENTINCK,
And Members of the Town Council.

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all ADVERTISEMENTS must reach the Office not later than first post
on Wednesday. Advertisement representative, S. R. Le Mare.

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

The Hut Folly.

For some time past the difficulty of securing adequate housing for munition workers near the new factories has reached the dimensions of a very serious problem. Women munition workers in some cases have gone back after a twelve-hour day to sleep in a bed, still warm, from which a night-shift worker had just risen. This is all bad enough, but the measures now being taken to combat the evil are likely to lead to worse evils still.

The writer of a letter to a recent number of *The British Australasian* calls the attention of Australians in London to the fact that the Government has decided to erect huts for the girl-workers in their factories, on a site "in immediate proximity to an Australian Camp already established there." Several hundreds of women and girls are to be housed in this settlement, which is only separated from the Australians' quarters by the width of a narrow road. The writer goes on to ask that a strong protest should be raised by the Australian community. "It is criminal that the organiser of such a movement should be permitted to choose a site so close to a permanent camp. . . . Australians owe it to themselves to show their just indignation in some concerted manner."

On making further inquiries, it appears that this extraordinary project is actually being carried out. It is true that the Australians are about to leave, but unfortunately it is also true their successors in the camp will be an Indian contingent! It is quite needless to dwell on the effects of such a disaster as this might prove to be—they would be far-reaching and very serious. "Trouble," as the editor of *The British Australasian* points out, "is bound to happen, and far heavier blame will be with the authorities than with either the men or the girls. . . . in fact, that such a thing should ever have been contemplated by responsible persons is almost beyond belief."

Unfortunately, it is only too credible. Because a step is a piece of crass stupidity it by no means follows that it will not be taken by persons in authority. It is almost impossible to make sufficient allowance for that devastating lack of imagination which appears to be the chief characteristic of the official type of mind. During the Crimean War, as everybody now knows, thousands of our men died because the official mind at the War Office could not exert itself to cope with realities, to look ahead, or to use what imagination has been left in brains benumbed by years of official routine. War Office pedantry has been sufficiently displayed during the present campaign in Mesopotamia, where our men have again been allowed to die, as in 1854, for lack of medical stores, in spite of all the abundant provision offered. In the Crimean emergency it was a woman who, at length, took things in hand and saved the situation at Scutari.

It is not too late to urge that a Committee should be appointed to deal at once with the question of housing women-workers, and that the proportion of women on that Committee should be one-third at least. The advice of a few practical women, taken NOW, will save any amount of preventable misery and misdoing. And that is a far more satisfactory way, as well as less expensive, than first creating evils and then appointing special police, women missionaries, and a vast amount of social salvage apparatus to deal with a situation that ought never to have arisen.

Spade Work.

At this moment the chief aim of every active Suffragist is this: to ascertain how the claim of women to political enfranchisement is being affected by the new developments in their work, in industries, in commerce, or in the professions, and by their remarkable contributions towards "sustaining the vital forces of the nation." A further aim, a practical one, but a necessary corollary, is to find new methods for showing the nation (and its governors) that it is to its advantage now more than ever for men and women to have equality of political rights.

The late Professor Marshall, lecturing on political economy, used to say: "You can't know one thing till you know everything, and you can't know everything till you know one thing." A desperate paradox, perhaps, but not a bad one to propound to the young student to whom a generalisation is always dearer than patient plodding, and indeed at any time of life one should be ready to collect and analyse detail, but not to forget the work of the constructive imagination. Those who now wish to make it their work to spread the great movement for Woman's Suffrage beyond its present limits, will need to approach their task with the help of patient research and large powers of generalisation. In the volume, daily growing vaster, of information about the expansion of women's work in kind as well as quantity, they will find material for illustrating in a new and impressive manner the old laws of political economy; and they may evolve new methods of bringing home this kind of knowledge to the workers themselves. The connection between political power and the status of the working classes will need renewed consideration.

All these requirements sound, perhaps, like "large orders," and would seem to call for a walking encyclopædia of history and economics and War Interest Committees' Reports! Still, without such comprehensive knowledge it is not difficult to single out particular subjects and apply the general principles.

It would take too long to work out detailed schemes for showing the connection between the extension of women's activities and the establishment of their political claims. But, to take an example, let us suppose a speaker were interested in the present-day trade-union questions as affecting women's chances of a vote. She would point out the obvious moral that men's unions know what they are about in sending representatives to Parliament, and that what is sauce for the gander is sauce for the trade union goose. Further, many considerations can be brought forward showing how short is the step from collective bargaining to the recognition of woman's need for legal protection in the conditions under which she works. A strong appeal can be made to men unionists to stand by the women in their demands. The attitude taken up long ago by a few intelligent men members of unions is now spreading far and wide; and, whereas, till recently, women were at best only tolerated, the men are now themselves urging the women to come in. Even those members who at a recent conference spoke of "weeding out" the women after the war, were not blind to the advantages of a recognised trade union rate of wages for those women who are employed on work hitherto done by men. It cannot fail ultimately to forward women's claims to a higher standard of wages to have the backing of the men who take this more enlightened view of their own as well as the women's interests. Surely we may hope that parallel reasons may induce the men unionists to support the women's demand for political equality?

But the appeal should reach an even larger audience than the women in trade unions. There can never have been, one thinks, any set of circumstances so unforeseen or so impressive as the sudden pressure of hosts of women into the ranks of workers, paid or unpaid. Nothing has so seized on the popular imagination as the spectacle of bands of women gathering into munition works, engineering shops, or works of all sorts which have hitherto been open only to men. That development has killed many formulas. The cry of "economic independence" for women has all but died away, and those who were its loudest advocates are already banding themselves together for the purpose of "safeguarding the homes." And well they may! For while these revolutionary changes are leading us we hardly know whither, trained observers are anxiously watching the effect on the women workers, their homes and their children. New safeguards must be found, if those who remain in the industries are not to lower the standard of wages and those who are turned off after the war are not to be trampled underfoot like the "weeds" they are sometimes held to be. Suffragists must try to help these women to formulate their

needs and encourage them to enter the enlarged army of suffragists.

Now, to go to a hard-working woman of the class we find in engineering works in a large city, and explain to her what she would gain by having the vote, is not altogether an easy matter. She knows quite well that there is no immediate connection between her wages and a vote, and that this is a question controlled by such things as the laws of "supply" and "demand" of labour. But much can be done by showing the use of an organised demand familiarised to her by the trade union movement. One can show her that, to some extent—as in the case of the Sweated Trades Act, or the establishment of Conciliation Boards in the Coal Trade—Parliament has now and again directly interfered in wage questions. And, of course, it is not at all difficult to show how the conditions of women's work are directly affected by legislation; as, for instance, by the Factory Acts, or, more indirectly, by social reforms involving legislation on housing, education, or the drink question. She will readily pass on to the desire for a direct voice in matters which it is her duty to understand, as, for instance, housing problems, or the welfare and even the education of her children. Measures dealing with these matters come home to her in a way which women of the leisured classes can hardly realise; and when approached she will be easily won over to desire more power of self-expression.

But "working women," in the narrower sense of the word, will not be the only new recruits to our suffrage ranks. Since August, 1914, women who had never done any work outside their own homes have opened the eyes of many old-fashioned worshippers who believe in the "glass-shade" or "pedestal saint" theory. Many anti-suffragists have now openly avowed their change of faith. It is a very old saying, that women who do public work are nearly always suffragists, and the anti-suffragists among these new workers will not have escaped the widening process.

The powerful common bond of work has removed many class barriers, so that the term "working-class" has spread to the middle and upper strata, if indeed that geological and horizontal terminology has not long since lost all meaning. We can now draw the divisions vertically. It would be good to see a speaker from one of the National Union agricultural areas talking to a Leeds or Bradford audience of mill-girls, and a Lancashire woman testifying to her Women's Suffrage faith to a gathering of Kentish hop-pickers, or in a London drawing-room. The common stock of knowledge would thereby be greatly increased.

Not one nor even many articles would suffice to discuss the difficult questions now arising over the management of homes or the interests of the children in industrial areas. Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will know that the National Union has not been slow to establish Committees for inquiring into and dealing with these problems.

The conflicting interests of these times may account for the "muddles" which women can easily spot: for example, a Government urging married women to leave their homes and their young children to go into factories or on to the land, while at the same time a National Retrenchment Committee is recommending the raising of the year for school entry. Cases like this, or that discussed in an article in THE COMMON CAUSE of March 24th ("The Only Argument"), give rise to the thought: Are women, who are so intimately concerned with these problems, to spend time and energy in agitating when there is a more direct course open to the voter?

I have touched on a few problems only. In a densely populated area there are many women to discuss them and suggest remedies; some of these may be actual employers of labour, and have the interests and happiness of working men and women at heart; others are of the classes from which labour is drawn; these have a wide as well as a detailed knowledge of labour and trade technicalities, and often are also able to survey their field of knowledge with the eye of a lover of their nation as well as of their class. How long will our rulers deprive themselves of the advantage of the direct co-operation of such women?

But, indeed, there are signs that they will not submit much longer to a "Self-denying Ordinance" of this kind. They have freely acknowledged the help we have so freely and so gladly given, and at no time in our history have women stood nearer to men in their interest in matters of national importance. In our struggles we are not divided.

The future seems full of hope, and just as economists look to women to provide an increased productive capacity in the lean years that are to come, so it has become clearer to legislators who look ahead, that women's view, whether it is different or because it is different from their own, is necessary for the harmonious co-operation of the whole State.

MARGARET CONWAY.

Lamp Day.

Lamp Day was a great success. It "caught on" from the moment when the first early sellers appeared with their lamps in the grey morning at Covent Garden—and still excited the interest and sympathy of the crowds of workers retiring to their homes, when the long light of the May day faded out, and the great sale was over.

"What did you make?" has been asked by innumerable inquirers, forgetting that it was a day of pennies—and pence in their hundreds of thousands take long to count. Safely lodged in the bank in Victoria Street £6,000 now stands to the credit of the Societies concerned, and more is on the way; indeed, the fund is approaching £7,000, to be divided in a fixed proportion, according to arrangement.

People of all kinds and of all degrees assisted in amassing this total. A cheque, made out in pencil, came to us from the trenches, the gift of a young officer; while another friend from the front, a corporal, spent the last day of his leave working for Lamp Day at the depot at Rumpelmyers.

The Russian Representatives, then in England, were discovered in assembly by an enterprising young Lamp seller; and when she left those generous sympathisers it was discovered that her box contained £40.

Take it all round, however, it was a poor-people's day; and it is from the wage-earners of London that Women's Work in the War has received its most touching, its most universal, and its most generous support. What numbers and numbers of them subscribed threepence for their lamp, and then refused to take the threepenny emblem, but demanded a penny one, insisting that the extra twopence was to go to the cause. Workgirls were especially good, pressing round the sellers while often the boys stood aloof.

The poorest women—even those almost in rags—would come eagerly forward with their pennies; and there were many sad looks from those who could not, on a Friday, command even a penny, much as they wished for a lamp. In the parts of London where pennies are precious, men are noticeably richer than women—seldom without their spare coppers—though some did call out to the sellers, "Why didn't you come on a Saturday; we ain't got anything on Friday."

There is no doubt the little lamps were much liked by the crowd in general—and often gave occasion to lively remarks. "Now then, Miss," an early buyer would inquire, "are you sure there's enough oil in it to last me till night?"

"What's the meaning of this?" called out another purchaser. "I thought we was to have Daylight Saving, and here you are selling lamps!"

On the whole the allusion to Florence Nightingale as the Lady of the Lamp was widely understood and recognised, though it was obvious in some cases she was confused with a heroine of to-day of more tragic memory. At first it was rather puzzling to the seller to be met with the reflection, "Oh, poor thing; she come to a bad end, didn't she?" The myth of Florence Nightingale is already inextricably mixed with the myth of Edith Cavell.

Full information will be sent to the Press when all accounts are wound up as to the monetary success achieved; in the meantime, the organisers, at 58, Victoria Street, are being besieged by requests from all manner of societies to help them in their organising difficulties; if they did not happen to have a certain amount of work of their own on hand, they might, apparently, be fully employed for many a day in collecting other people's funds for them.

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Reviews.

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF WAR, by F. W. Hirst. (J. M. Dent & Sons, 327 pages.)

Mr. Hirst's treatise on *The Political Economy of War* constitutes a bewildering mixture of political tract and economic text book. At one point the reader is tracking the cosmopolitan armament-monger through the maze of his cold-blooded machinations, with something of the fervour which one associates with Mr. Brailsford's brilliant treatise, *The War of Steel and Gold*; at another, he is faced with a detailed and unvarnished narration of the history of American public debts. In fact, the author appears to have formulated his index with a view to the compilation of a comprehensive academic work on the economics of war from the dawn of history to the day before yesterday, and then to have remembered suddenly that he has hit upon a topical subject of which quick treatment will cover a multitude of sins. The result is an uncomfortable lack of proportion about Mr. Hirst's work. Nevertheless, he has succeeded in marshalling a number of interesting and useful facts. His armament trade revelations provide thrilling reading; his historical chapters on English, American, French, and German war debts contain a quantity of valuable raw material for students of public finance, while his final chapters on the economic dislocations and emergency measures occasioned by the present war, summarise facts and figures which it is convenient at the present moment to have summarised.

On the whole, Mr. Hirst has compiled a useful book of reference, and his modest introductory allusions to its incompleteness allow us to hope that some time in that dim future, when the economic convulsions of the greatest of wars are a matter of history, when humanity has had time to think again, and when Whitehall disgorges its army of scholar-clerks, Mr. Hirst may digest his notes and contribute at least a part of the standard work on the political economy of war. M.S.

POLAND AS AN INDEPENDENT ECONOMIC UNIT, by Stanislaw Posner, with an introduction by Sidney Webb.

LANDMARKS OF POLISH HISTORY, by August Zaleski, with an introduction by R. W. Seton-Watson, D.Litt. (George Allen. 6d. net.)

Two handy little works of reference, containing a good deal of information which otherwise can only be gleaned from a number of formidable authorities. Interesting points to note are the persistence and prevalence of Polish characteristics, so that colonies planted with German thoroughness in Poland have been assimilated by the Poles. The immense mineral wealth of Poland has been long coveted by Germany. The Lodz district—one vast factory, with thousands of skilled workers—was also marked for a prey. In fact, all the efforts of an intelligent and industrious people have been directed to developing their country, so that a foreign foe should reap their gains.

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S MISSION TO FRENCH FARMS, IN FEBRUARY, 1916 (Berkshire Committee on Women and Farm Labour, Shire Hall, Reading, 6d.) Contains useful information as to the agricultural work carried on by women in France, and arrangements made for looking after the children while the mothers are at work.

Most of the villages seen had been twice invaded by the Germans, who plundered them with great thoroughness, took the live-stock and burned or destroyed all that they could not carry off. The women returning to their ruined homes, have shown resource, energy, and economy beyond all praise; undertaking heavy work, besides the lighter kinds of agriculture to which they were accustomed before the war. The rearing of rabbits, on wild herbage gathered by the children, is a form of food production we might copy with advantage.

OUR WARRIOR WOMEN, by Beatrice Harraden, and THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND HIM, by Hugh Martin, with a poem, "Vox Clamantis," by John Oxenham (Witherby & Co., for Y.W.C.A. Publications Department, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, 2d. each). These two little tales illustrate the pluck and patriotism of women munition workers, the strain from which they are suffering, and their need of good food and comfortable accommodation.

EDUCATION AND SEX (Women Teachers' Franchise Union, 27, Murillo Road, Lee, S.E., 2s. 6d. a hundred). Advocates sex-instruction to children in elementary schools as a natural and gradual development of their ordinary work.

OUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE (W.T.F.V., 2s. 6d. a hundred). Protests against the false economy of starving our elementary schools.

The June number of THE MOTHER'S MAGAZINE contains a very striking and outspoken article on "Motherhood," by Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, and some sound advice by Mr. George Wade on the serious defects of "a good general education," addressed to mothers with sons to educate. Altogether an excellent number of this useful magazine.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- FEMINISM IN GERMANY AND SCANDINAVIA. By Katherine Anthony. (Constable & Co. 4s. 6d.)
- THE DRINK PROBLEM OF TO-DAY. By T. N. Kelynack. (Methuen. 7s. 6d.)
- THE HISTORY OF THE FABIAN SOCIETY. By Edward R. Pease. (A. C. Fifield. 5s.)
- INDUSTRIAL UNREST AND TRADE UNION POLICY. By C. Booth. (Macmillan. 1s.)
- GREAT RUSSIANS ON THE JEWISH QUESTIONS. By Dr. Kruk. (The Workers' League for Jewish Emancipation. 1s.)
- THE ANGEL AND THE ANIMAL. By Mrs. N. Lee. (Digby Long & Co. 6s.)
- THE PAGEANT OF WAR. By Lady Margaret Sackville. (Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent. 1s.)

FOR SALE.

Autograph Letter from Florence Nightingale. "AWANUI" offers an autograph letter from Florence Nightingale, to be sold in aid of the British Women's Hospital. The letter was given to him by a friend at Stewart Island, which is at the end of New Zealand, and one of the most southerly islands in the world, so it has travelled far. Will any of our readers make an offer?

Notes from Headquarters.

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

Fund for Maternity and Relief Work among Refugees in Russia.

The National Union is now making great efforts to help the refugees from the war zone in Russia, and has undertaken important medical work, particularly for women and children, in co-operation with the Zemstvos, and with the Great Britain to Poland Fund. A successful Maternity Hospital has been established in Petrograd, and now doctors and nurses are being sent to Galicia, behind the lines, and to the Province of Kazan, to cope with cholera, small pox, and other infectious diseases which the refugees are carrying to the Russians. £5 has already been raised, and another £3,700 is needed before January; also a motor-ambulance for Galicia. Will you help?

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The Misses Douglass, Cambridge U.S.A., per Mrs. Wright	6 0 0	
Miss Fraser	7 6	
Horley W.S.S.	1 1 0	
Dorothea and Sidney Sheppard and Katharine Duff	10 0	
Epsom Branch of London Society for W.S.	5 5 0	

The Hon. Treas. begs to thank all who are subscribing to this fund, and will gratefully acknowledge further subscriptions, which should be sent to Miss Sterling, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1915	1,339 14 9	
Received from May 15th to 20th:—		
Miss Eleanor Garrett	2 2 0	
Mrs. Price	5 0	
Mrs. W. Tattersall	10 0	
Miss E. M. F. Wren	2 6	
Miss Clara E. Collet	1 1 0	
Miss E. Cadmore and Miss M. S. Walker	7 6	
Lady Margaret Sackville	1 10 0	
Mrs. J. G. C. Sykes	1 0 0	
Mrs. Curwen	5 0	
Mrs. Charles Prince	1 0 0	
Mrs. Alys Russell	10 0 0	
Mrs. Eastwood	5 0	
Miss Emily Maude	5 0	
Miss R. G. Falkiner	1 0 0	
Miss E. M. Gardner	1 0 0	
Miss Amy K. Osborn	5 0	
Mrs. Rackham	2 2 0	
Mrs. Boyd	10 0	
Miss F. May F. Cooke	5 0	
Miss Helena Frank	5 0	
Mrs. Frances Hoggan, M.D.	1 0 0	
		£1,401 15 9

Camden W.S.S. ... 5 6
Deal and Walmer W.S.S. ... 8 6
Chinley and Chapel-en-le-Frith ... 15 0

GENERAL SERVICE FUND DONATIONS.
Professor S. Alexander ... 1 1 0
Mrs. Lees ... 25 0 0
Miss L. W. Hird ... 5 0 0
Mr. Richardson Evans ... 10 0 0

We acknowledge most gratefully a large donation of £25 for our General Service Fund from Mrs. Lees, of Oldham, a constant friend, and £20 from Mr. Richardson Evans, of Wimbledon, to be divided between the General Service Fund and the Russian Units.

We also note that kind donors have changed their donations of former years into regular subscriptions, which gives great satisfaction and a growing feeling of security to the Treasurer.

IMPORTANT.

Lost Letters Addressed to the National Union. CHEQUES should be crossed. POSTAL ORDERS should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S. TREASURY NOTES should be treated like coins, and always registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the SECRETARY, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

WOMEN'S LIBERAL LEAGUE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

At a meeting of the Council of the Women's Liberal League, N.S. Wales, held March 6th, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That the Council of the Women's Liberal League of New South Wales, recognising the duty of Australian women to lead the movement for Women's Suffrage throughout the Empire, invite the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth to press for granting the franchise to women as essential to true democracy, and urge that the question of Women's Suffrage be included in the programme of the Conference to be held after the war."

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

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

SALONICA.

Information has just reached us that Sister Burt, who died on April 7th, at Salonique, was accorded a full military funeral. All the arrangements were made by the French military authorities—and she was laid to rest in the Anglo-French Cemetery, side by side with the brave Frenchmen who had given their lives for their country. The same simple cross which marks the graves of fallen Frenchmen was erected over the spot of Sister Burt's last resting-place. The Direction de Santé sent a beautiful white wreath, and many French officials followed the cortege. The Scottish Women's Hospitals staff attended in large numbers, only those remaining behind who were absolutely necessary to the carrying on of the work.

FURTHER HONOUR TO SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

In addition to the members of Committee already mentioned as having been decorated by the Serbian Government, Lady Cowdray and Mrs. Kinnell of the London Committee have had the Order of St. Sava 4th Class bestowed upon them, and Miss Beatrice Hunter has received the Cross of Misericorde.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The "1916" Bursary, of the value of £50 a year for three years, with a possibility of renewal for a further period of two years, will be awarded in June, 1916.

Candidates must fulfil the following conditions:—
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(2) They must be in need of financial assistance, and, in the opinion of the Council, suitable to practise medicine. The renewal of the Bursary each year will be subject to the satisfactory progress and continued financial need of the student holding it.

Applications for the Bursary, on a prepared form, must reach the Council, addressed to the Secretary, not later than June 1st. Each application should be accompanied by (a) two testimonials from previous teachers, (b) a full statement of financial circumstances.

Candidates may be required to come before the Council for an interview, and to submit a certificate of sound health.
Address: The Secretary, 7-11, Hunter Street, W.C.

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

Table listing donors and amounts for the Scottish Women's Hospital. Includes names like Miss Bury, Mrs. Ross, and various societies.

* Denotes additional donation.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully acknowledge further donations to carry on the work.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Table listing named beds and donors, such as Trinity Heroes, Eveline Maud, and Count Ugo Balzani.

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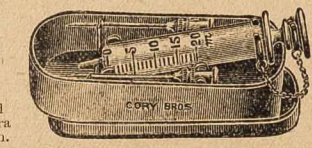


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Correspondence.

MADAM.—Every Monday morning it is the habit of The Times to favour women with a disquisition on dress and appearance, sometimes on household management, matters summed up by less up-to-date newspapers under the title of "Woman's World."

I maintain that for a healthy woman one hour amply suffices for cleanliness and appearance. Perhaps, with a few minutes added, it might include a turn at deep breathing and Müller's exercises, which in benefiting health and digestion would produce better effects on the skin than the sickly smelling creams and powders with which it is attempted to improve nature.

Neatness of appearance is an admirable quality. But it is not quite the first of virtues, and I have known excessively neat people who apparently did not indulge in excessive washing.

But, says The Times, "French people dress much more to please themselves than others." Travelling in France, my eyes tell me a different story. Extreme uniformity and readiness to sacrifice comfort to convention seem to me to be the "notes" of a Frenchwoman's dress.

S. S.

RUSSIAN CONCERT AT SUNDERLAND HOUSE.

By the very great kindness of the Duchess of Marlborough and the Women's Municipal Party, half of the proceeds of a Russian Concert, held at Sunderland House, on May 16th, are to be sent to the Russian Units.

THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

The New Hospital for Women, Euston-road, held its annual meeting on March 9th.

Lady Portarlington was unfortunately prevented through illness from presiding, and in her absence Mrs. Gordon Pollock, the chairman of the Managing Committee, gave an interesting review of the year's work.

Dr. Mary Scherlieb and Mrs. Leonard Darwin appealed to all friends to make the needs and work of the hospital widely known, and urged that the demands for subscription to war charities should not interfere with their support of civilian hospitals.

It will be remembered that Dr. L. Garrett Anderson, who is in charge of the Endell-street Military Hospital, is assistant surgeon at the New Hospital, and was granted leave of absence to take this important appointment, an appointment of which the hospital is very proud.

Even if you are not attempting the war economy of washing at home, the Bac-Wash washer is really worth consideration, for it does the work in a very short time, and takes up very little space when out of use.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

North-Western Federation.

The Florence Nightingale Lamp Day, which was held on Saturday last, was initiated by the local Suffragists, but as the object was a national one—for British Women's Hospitals for disabled soldiers and sailors—many other kind helpers gave valuable assistance.

The thanks of the Committee are given to Mr. Hayes for the kind gift of white heather, and to all who helped to make the day such a conspicuous success. The collectors were Mrs. W. Bromley, Mrs. Grainger, Mrs. T. R. Hayes, Mrs. F. Marshall, Mrs. Temple, Mrs. L. Usher, Mrs. White, Misses Atkinson, Barrow, D. Barrow, D. Brown, Birkbeck, Crosthwaite, Dumble, Dover, E. Dent, T. Dent, Freeman, Greenwood, Z. R. Highton, N. Hogarth, Johnstone, S. Knight, J. Lupton, Moss Milburn, O. Stanley, E. Stanley, Weightman, D. Wilkinson, Williams, L. Yondale, and Messrs. Garstang.

One hundred and fifty numbers of the "Florence Nightingale" COMMON CAUSE were sold by Suffragist members of the Keswick Society. A profit was made on the sale, which was included in the total amount raised.

West Bromwich.

On Saturday, May 13th, our Suffrage Society held a "Lamp Day," the proceeds of which will go to the Florence Nightingale Memorial Fund to provide annuities for trained nurses.

In spite of difficulties, we hope to hand over at least £60 to the Nightingale Memorial Fund, collected almost entirely in pennies by our willing helpers from the working-class population of West Bromwich, among whom our trained nurses are deservedly popular and appreciated.

We had 500 Florence Nightingale special numbers of THE COMMON CAUSE to sell on our Lamp Day, there was a great demand, and they were sold out.

Oxon, Berks and Bucks Federation.

Min-Bucks.—A "Patriotic Housekeeping Exhibition" was held in Great Missenden on March 23rd and 24th. It was open on both days from eleven till five, entrance free, and was visited by a continual stream of women of all classes.

The Exhibition followed the N.U. scheme; in addition, a number of specimen economical and savoury dishes, made by members of the Society, were sold at cost price with their recipes, and about eleven cheap cookery books were sold.

WEST HEPTS.—A General Meeting for members was held last month, after which a paper was read by Mr. Waldegrave, a member of the Committee, on "Equal Pay for Equal Work."

At a meeting of the Watford Urban Council it was decided that women should not be asked to serve upon the tribunal held to try cases of conscientious objectors to military service. We thought this injustice should not pass unnoticed, so a resolution was sent up passed by our Committee protesting against the decision of the council.

A sum of £15 was distributed by this Society to different objects in connection with war work.

WOKINGHAM.—Members will like to hear that our Annual Jumble Sale, held on April 15th, resulted in the sum of £10 being sent to the Polish Refugee Maternity Unit. Our General Committee Meeting was held on April 28th, and it was decided to send a subscription, as promised, of £5 to the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Reading.

On Tuesday, April 4th, the Reading Society held a small, but very successful meeting in support of the Maternity Units, in the Abbey Hall, kindly lent for the occasion by the Mayor of Reading (L. G. Sutton, Esq.).

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

PURLEY.—A meeting was held on May 9th, in the Friends' Meeting House, Downscourt Road, Purley, at which Miss Geraldine Cooke gave a vivid and moving account of the work of the Russian Maternity Unit for Relief of Polish Refugees.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- Table of upcoming meetings: MAY 26, Bristol; MAY 27, Birmingham; MAY 29, Wakefield; MAY 30, Leeds; MAY 31, Birmingham; JUNE 1, Birmingham; JUNE 5, Manchester; JUNE 25, Cheltenham; Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Working Parties.

- Table of working parties: Bolton-Suffrage Shop; Bristol; Bridlington; Chiswick and Bedford Park; Eastbourne; Farnham; Hastings; Highgate; Huddersfield; Leamington; Lowestoft; Scarborough; Shipley and Baldon; Southampton; South Kensington; Wakefield.

MEDICINAL PLANTS.

WHAT TO GROW AND HOW TO GROW THEM. Determined attempts are now being made to turn our own home-grown resources to account, too many of which have been allowed to run to waste.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A CONFERENCE on those recommendations of the
Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases dealing
with the Sex-education of the Young will be held at
the Caxton Hall, on Friday, June 2nd, at 4.45 p.m.
The discussion will be opened by Miss Norah March,
B.Sc., and Mr. Charles Osborne. Tickets of invita-
tion may be obtained from The Criminal Law
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WANTED, for small non-basement house, two in
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General; simple vegetarian cookery. Parlourmaid
kept. Good wages.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 12, Nicoll-rd.,
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