THE COMMON CAUSE

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY.

Societies and Branches in the Union 602.

LAW-ABIDING.

Vol. VI., No. 284.]

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1914.

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VENGEANCE IS CRIME.

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The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 52,000 annually-subscribing members, organised into 602. Societies and Branches, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They utterly repudiate methods of violence and rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN?

Notes and Comments.

The Value of Evidence.

Those whose minds have been trained scientifically should be good judges of evidence. They are often bad judges outside the laboratory or the study. There, being sheltered from passion, they can think justly, but they are no less vulnerable than the rest of the world to the assaults of passion. The immense majority of people believe what they want to believe, and are furious with the few who tell them that "things are what they are and their consequences will be what they will be." So we find that an extraordinary number of people not only believed the story of a Russian army in England, but saw the army and spoke to it; they wanted to believe. So we find an extraordinary number of people who not only believe every tale of atrocities by the enemy, but who saw them; they wanted to believe. We are not in a position to sift the evidence, but with so glaring an instance of the value of evidence at home, anyone with a shred of critical faculty left will ponder on the value of evidence from those whose minds are shaken by the monstrous wickedness of war.

Women's Peace Movement.

We are quite sure that many of our readers will feel sympathy with much that is contained in Miss Nora O'Shea's letter on p. 439. But one cannot pretend that all women are united against war. Most of us have met women who actually agree with General von Bernhardi, and believe that war is a great moral and regenerative force. It is safe to say, however, that in Great Britain the great bodies of organised women are opposed to war on principle, and though they see that war—like the plague or an earthquake—may give occasion for the most heroic sacrifice and the most beautiful devotion, yet they see that war is also-like the plague or an earthquake-a physical evil. Of far greater importance, however, is the fact that war is also a moral evil since—unlike the plague or an earthquake—it is the result of the evil intentions of men. It is this sense of the wickedness of war that is so dreadful an oppression. It is the sense that whatever we do now, we must do wrong; that "In such ways they hem me in, I cannot choose but sin and sin"; this increasing difficulty of finding the right, this it is which troubles so many. For it is by no means unreasonable to feel "I am against war; but I am not prepared to stop this war now." War is the result of policy, and it is not possible at any given moment suddenly to reverse policy. The time will come—we hope it will come with all speed—when a determined and practical peace movement will be on foot. The way to prepare for such a movement is to make as many people as possible understand the great permanent causes of war, so that when peace is made it is not used merely as a period of preparation for another war. It is not enough for women to cry "There shall be peace!" The question is, "How can we ensure peace?" For, unhappily, it takes two to keep the peace: ourselves and—the others!

Defence.

When we come to the practical question of how best to work for peace, it seems to us that this would be much best done in organisations of men and women together, and not in peace societies of women only. We do not like the segregating of the sexes in this any more than in any other vital movement. No women ever, anywhere, have anything to gain from war; a few men have a great deal to gain from war, and a very large number have the aggressive instinct which most women are without; but a good many women still admire the conquering attitude of the dominant male. There are many causes for war, chief among which are fear, greed, the love of domination, pugnacity. One name is generally given by all nations indiscriminately to those diverse motives, that name is "defence." We believe that deep down in the primal nature

and loved ones) is even stronger than in man. What we want is the fusion, not the separation, of man's and woman's conception of "defence."

Women's Employment Schemes.

Two weeks ago we gave the names of those serving on the Central Committee for the Employment of Women. Several subcommittees have now been appointed by the Central, and one of these is a sub-committee for employment schemes. bers are: Mrs. H. J. Tennant (Chairman), Miss Catherine E. Marshall (Hon. Sec.), Lady Askwith, Miss Bondfield, Miss Susan Lawrence, Miss Mary MacArthur, and Lady Midleton. This Committee will be employed in planning schemes of work for the women thrown out of employment by the war.

The Queen's Fund was nearly £44,000 on Wednesday. urge people to subscribe liberally, knowing that the Central Committee is composed of women eager to use the money at once, and fruitfully. Our coupon will be found on p. 440.

Recommendations for Workrooms.

The Central Committee recommends that Local Committees for dealing with unemployed women should have a careful record of such women on a card index, with particulars as to their capacities and needs. Workrooms should if possible be obtained free, or only subject to payment for light, heating, and power; this may be possible in factories which are being shut down owing to the war. It is obvious that the best body for prose cuting such work would be a sub-committee of the Local Emergency Committee, and care should be taken that on this sub-committee are women knowing the needs of the working classes, and representatives of trade organisations of women.

It is recommended that the work provided should not interfere with ordinary trade or displace ordinary labour. The minimum rate of pay recommended is 3d. per hour net; the maximum number of hours per week should be forty, so as to give the women a chance of looking for other work. There should, however, be skilled supervisors or teachers, paid at the market rate per hour for such work.

The Suffragist Moral.

We see in one newspaper the head-lines—" Effect of the war on employment. Situation relieved by recruiting." We must remember that the situation is not relieved for women by recruiting, unless employers of labour will put women into as many posts vacated by men as is practicable. Unless this is done, the evil plight of women is only intensified by the throwing into the already congested unskilled labour market of the women who cannot keep the house on the recruit's inadequate pay. The Daily Citizen says that in London alone, between 40,000 and 50,000 women and girls are out of work, and 200,000 are on short time. Estimates of average wages of women vary immensely, but we believe no one puts them higher than 11s. Half that-who can live on it?

Mr. Arthur Balfour, in a letter to the papers on September 14th, declared, "for my own part, it is the women thrown out of employment by the war who seem to have the strongest claims upon our sympathy and aid." We urge as strongly as we can that the Government should shoulder its responsibilities as an employer, should pay its soldiers and sailors adequate wages and pensions, and should thereby liberate the funds at the disposal of the local authorities for the use of the civil population. We notice that Mr. Archibald Hurd, in an excellent article in the Manchester Guardian says :-

Manchester Guardian Says:—

"Women who are living in all the comfort which sea power ensures to them will, I am sure, feel that when these men—young seamen, stokers, and others—are playing the man's part so manfully the nation should have special regard for their wives and children. They ought not to have to rely on charity; such a thought is repulsive. They ought not to have to plead with the local branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, in which personally I have no great confidence. These wives and dependents—and even aged parents—should be regarded as a charge on the nation, receiving from the Treasury war pay in war time."

We do feel this. But what have men left to "comfortable" women except charity? Men have in the past refused us that political power without which we cannot satisfy ourselves that justice shall be done.

"Well and Well-Treated."

News has been received that the Field Ambulance in which Dr. Hills was serving has been captured, but they have sent word that they are "well and well-treated." Mrs. Hills asks us to publish this reassuring report, and to say that she has not been able to answer all the kind and sympathetic letters she has received from National Union members.

Mothering Our Soldiers.

With so many women—including experienced laundry hands -thrown out of work, and so many thousands of garments being made by voluntary workers, it seems absurd that our soldiers in camp should be short of clean clothes, and suffering from cold at nights. From the Camberley W.S.S. we learn that some two thousand of Kitchener's new army are on the heather there, "most of them with what they stand up in and said to be sleeping out with one blanket a-piece.

Members of the Committee have been sewing-up carpet felt into mats and collecting blankets.

Another member of the N.U. describes as follows a practical way of mothering our soldiers :-

"Since my brother first went into camp early in August, he has sent his dirty underlinen to me each week, and I have returned it clean and mended. He told me it was quite impossible to get his laundry done otherwise. I paid him a visit in camp, and in the hearing of one of his friends mentioned that clean clothes would be coming to-morrow. It would have been very funny, if it had not been pathetic, to hear the tone of ningled longing and despair in which the friend exclaimed, Clean clothes!' I then heard pitiful tales of very dirty shirts being washed by inexperienced boys in muddy streams, or, still more painful, not being washed at all. I was so filled with sympathy that I whispered to my brother that if he cared to slip n one or two other men's washing each week, I should consider a privilege to look after it. His chums were delighted, and get very grateful messages every week. Brown paper is not easily to be found in a camp, so I have made a knapsack of American cloth, and the clothes travel to and fro in that. I take care to send also a self-addressed label, pinned inside, for things are easily lost in camp, and labels are as rare as brown paper. Of course the clothes are all mended before being returned, and it is the greatest fun feeling each week that I am 'mothering one or two 'soldiers of the King.'

"I have one more suggestion, which I am fortunate enough to obtain from my brother. He and men of his battery suffered very much at first from the cold at night. They were provided with only a rubber sheet to lie on, and their great coats for covering. Very often it was impossible to sleep because of the cold, and sleep is very necessary to them after a strenuous day. My brother wrote to ask if we could make him a sleeping bag of blankets. My sister and I set to work, and for the total cost of 10s. 3d. (the cheapest one can buy is 25s.) made a very cosy bag, in which my brother says he sleeps 'like a top.' Since then we have made others for his friends. I would suggest many women might like to provide the materials, and unemployed women could be paid to make these bags. I think it might be difficult for infantry to carry them in trekking, but it s quite easy for the mounted troops. Our sleeping bag is very imple, and as I said inexpensive. We chose khaki-coloured blankets, single size, and were fortunate enough to get soft (some are too harsh, so they should be carefully chosen) warm ones at 4s. 11d. each. Two should be placed together, folded over till the four side edges are together, and then the bottom and sides sewn firmly. I suppose this could be done by some machine, but ours was quite inadequate, so we back-stitched by hand the edges with a strong brown mercerised cotton, the kind used for knitted ties, price 2d. per ball. We found this was practically unbreakable, so that we were able to make a very firm stitch. The bottom and side was then bound with a brown webbing at 1d. a yard, bought at the upholsterer's. At the open end the edges were oversewn in twos, so that the would-be sleeper slipped into the bag and had two blankets below, and two blankets above When complete, the bag looks as if it would be a 'tight fit,' but my brother, who is tall and broad, says it is quite large enough. We did not trouble to leave the side open a little way at the top, with buttons and buttonholes, as in more elaborate bags, nor provide a string to draw in round the neck; but I am told by the owners our bags are most comfortable and very warm, which I think proves that simplicity is generally effectual."

Cambridge Society has opened a tent for the troops encamped on Stambridge Common, where at certain hours good needlewomen mend clothes, sew on buttons, and darn socks, &c. free of charge. Would it not be possible in every district where there are Regulars or Territorials encamped, for local ladies to organise a washing and mending department, employing outof-work women, under adequate supervision? A scheme kind would surely be entitled to a subsidy from any local Relief Fund, and would serve a double purpose.

Correspondence.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND "THE COMMON CAUSE."

UNEMPLOYMENT AND "THE COMMON CAUSE."

MADAM,—I should like to make the following suggestion with regard of the Common Cause. There must be many engaged in relief work who, like myself, feel that at this time of emergency they cannot spare ime to sell The Common Cause in the street, and who yet would deeply egret that our paper should languish and become a heavy charge on the unds of the Union after all the labour and money expended in bringing to the flourishing condition it has attained. We are all doing what we can to prevent and alleviate unemployment. There are many thrown out for work who cannot do needlework, or any skilled work, but their own. Could we not help some of them and our paper at the same time by aising a fund to pay a few suitable women to sell The Common Cause in the street? We should really be killing three birds with one stone, as he more our paper is sold, the more our activities will be known and our funds increased. If twenty others will do the same, I shall be happy to give ios. a month for as long as the war lasts, and also if forty others will do the same a donation of £1 to start the fund.

(MRS.) Henrietta Fyffe.

79, Victoria Road, Kensington.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1914.

WOMEN'S PEACE MOVEMENT.

WOMEN'S PEACE MOVEMENT.

Madam,—The idea that women should act together internationally not take some active steps towards peace is beginning to materialise into ractical form. Madame Thoumaian's "Every Woman's Movement," he Women's Peace Demonstration in New York, and a letter from "X." areace Expeditionary Force, are all evidences of a widespread desire on the part of women to rally to the banner of the Baroness von Suttner and all upon the nations to "lay down their arms."

From the outbreak of the war many have felt that it is not enough to ollow the old time-honoured traditions of picking up the pieces. The ausse, as well as the effects, must be dealt with. As in the past, so olday, women are ready to do their part in the work of alleviating the istress, misery, degradation, and chaos produced by the dogs of war, ust as our great-grandmothers kept guard and watch at home and did that they could, so to-day the spirit is ever the same—the methods only re different. But the spirit which seeks to mend, clothe, feed, and urse has to many also become a realisation of a deeper consciousness of notherhood, based not on nation or class, but upon the sacredness of the fee of a common humanity. We recognise that woman is not only the iver and protector of the life of her own offspring, but that she should a also the keeper of the life of her own offspring, but that she should be also the keeper of the life of her world.

Upon whom, if not the women then, does the duty devolve of appealing of the warring nations to cease this useless carnage?

Already the spirit of hatred, vice, cruelty, and barbarism, borne of ar and physical force, is settling like the plague upon civilisation, and stand by without an effort to stem the horrible destruction is to deny a car and physical force, is settling like the plague upon civilisation, and stand by without an effort to stem the horrible destruction of a force of aroness von Suttner, Josephine Butler, Joan of Arc, follow the light, and make our effort to deliver us."

The meeting

amed all because they risked all.

It is hoped that we shall draw inspiration and courage from those ho, seeing the light, did not flinch from any sacrifice, however great, and who felt that now, and not to-morrow, is the appointed time.

I am writing this in the hope that any readers of The Common Cause ho are in sympathy with the idea that women, being non-combatants, nould combine internationally to discuss plans and schemes to bring bout an early cessation of hostilities, will write either to Mrs. Thoumaian, higwell, Essex, or "X.," Lyceum Club, London.

[This letter is referred to in "Notes and Comments."-ED., C.C.]

BELGIAN REFUGEES AND THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."

MADAM,—We have received a great many letters from people who draw our attention to what they call the serious condition of things existing it our railway stations on the arrival of the Belgian refugees. Our correspondents go on to say that they know, which in every case means hat some one has told them, that a number of well-dressed ladies attend he railway stations, who, when the refugees arrive, select the young women they want, and take them away to be used in connection with the White Slave Traffic. Will you permit me to say, and I am very glad to be able to assure you, that there is not the slightest truth, directly or indirectly, in such statements. The arrangements for meeting the efugees, and at once taking care of them, are so well organised that it is text to impossible for anyone, other than those so authorised, to approach the refugees on their arrival at the railway stations.

The Local Government Board and the War Refugees Committee have become a string in London, and no one is allowed to take part in that work without the authority of this Association. We have had the divantage of the help of ladies from the Women's Emergency Corps, the Catholic Women's League, the Girls' Life Brigade (who distribute water and milk to the refugees), the Red Cross (Camberwell Branch), and last, but certainly not least, the Boy Scouts, who have rendered plendid and whole-hearted service in connection with the work. Ladies and attendance. gentlemen from the Russian and Belgian Consulates are also always

The Rev. Michael Adler also is indefatigable in his attendance at the ations on behalf of the Russian Jews, for whom special provision has an made by their own people.

We have about 100 ladies on duty at the different railway stations,

who, holding different opinions on various subjects, work with enthusiasm who, holding different opinions on various subjects, work with enthusiasm and in the greatest harmony, and readily submit to all necessary authority in the interests of the work. Probably, as time goes on, instances will occur of some of these refugee young women getting into moral trouble, but at present, owing to the care and protection with which they are surrounded, it is next to impossible for them to be interfered with either at the railway stations or at the hostels to which they are, on their arrival, immediately sent. During the last three weeks I have been at the railway stations at all hours during the day and night, and from personal observation, as well as from the statements of the workers, I am convinced there is not the slightest moral dayner to the refugees arriving in London.

is not the slightest moral danger to the refugees arriving in London.

It is a pity that currency is given to such alarming statements, without the authors first making sure of the facts.

WM. ALEX. COOTE, Secretary,

PREVENTION OF DESTITUTION.

PREVENTION OF DESTITUTION.

Madam,—(i) Will you allow me to add to my letter in your issue of September 4th that if in any case a necessitous woman is unable to obtain relief from the Local Committee, or the Relieving Officer, or the Guardians of the Poor, the kindly helper should accompany her to the Bench of Magistrates, for her to ask their advice or assistance. Probably, especially if the reporters are present, whatever relief is necessary and proper will be obtained before long.

(2) Where the Local Relief Committee is not working properly, information should be given to "The War Emergency: Workers' National Committee" (28, Victoria Street, Westminster), and a local organisation formed as suggested in Mr. Sidney Webb's Fabian Tract (3, Clement's Inn, W.C., price 1d.), page 19. I see, in The Poor Law Officers' Journal, of September 11th, it is stated that some Relief Committees are not working properly, and the learned and experienced editor thinks that some of the Committees are too much under the influence of the C.O.S. and its methods.

I. THEODORE DODD.

THE WIFE OF THE ABLE SEAMAN.

THE WIFE OF THE ABLE SEAMAN.

MADAM,—I was much interested to read in last week's Common Cause Miss M. O'Shea's article on the "Wife of the Able Seaman," and think it may interest those of our readers who are directly connected with the Royal Navy, through their male relatives, to know what some of us are doing, and that they, too, might like to do the same.

We wanted to do something practical for the widows and orphans of those killed in the war (as in the case of the "Pathfinder," "Amphion," and "Speedy," &c.), and agreed that our help should take the form of a weekly subscription of 1s. each, to be sent weekly to Miss Weston, for immediate use, and in her acknowledgment of the first amount sent Miss Weston said it was "most useful and very acceptable." Now, if those connected with the Navy would guarantee a certain sum for the next three months, as we have done (we can continue it further if the war requires that we should), it would be used at once, and I am sure would help the needy, loved ones of our brave sailors, who are so little in evidence with the general public that they and theirs are often forgotten. I hope my suggestion may find a voice in your paper.

KATHLEEN G. STREET.

WINTER CLOTHING FOR CHILDREN.

Madam,—May I add a note to my article of August 28th re provision of winter clothing for necessitous school children? I learn from many sources that the tendency of clothes-makers is to over-supply garments for infants and little children to the neglect of those for girls and boys of from eight years of age to twelve or thirteen. This is natural enough, as the small children's things are so much easier to make, and any scrap of material will do. But that is what the parents, too, find. They can "make-shift" to clothe the little ones from remains of larger garments: it is the bigger boys' and girls' clothing that is the difficulty.

Mary Ward.

MISS PANKHURST AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

MADAM,—I am astonished to see a long report of a speech by Miss Pankhurst in last week's Common Cause. I entirely fail to see why what Miss Pankhurst has to say on her return to London should be of the smallest interest to us. Perhaps it has never fallen to your lot to try to convince Anti-suffragists that the N.U.W.S.S. was not secretly hand-inglove with the militants. And now to find a whole column—a whole column—of The Common Cause devoted to a speech by Miss Pankhurst, I scarcely know how to believe my eyes.

[This speech was reported as news, without any criticism, favourable or unfavourable. To suggest that it should not have been reported because one doesn't agree with it seems like saying a scout should not report the movements of the enemy. Those who have to direct policy should be as well informed as possible, and we gave the information that an audience of thousands of militants had approved of this speech. Like every member of the National Union, we have frequently had to deal with stupid or malicious people who declare that we are "hand-in-glove" with the militants, but this does not incline us to allow these people to terrorize us. No intelligent and honest person accuses "The Times" of being "hand-in-glove" with the Kaiser because it reports him. Women must learn to be robuster about silly accusations of this sort. They can and must, be lived down.—ED. C. C. accusations of this sort. They can, and must, be lived down.—ED., C.C.]

RELIEF WORK IN LIVERPOOL

RELIEF WORK IN LIVERPOOL.

MADAM,—Miss L. F. Waring's description of the work being done by Suffragists in Liverpool is flattering, but somewhat misleading! I am not, as she suggests, responsible for the organisation of relief generally in Liverpool—a task which is occupying a good many people. I am merely the working head, under a Committee composed largely of military and naval experts, of the organisation for assisting the families of soldiers and sailors. Most of our Liverpool Suffragists are engaged in the same task, and also the greater part of the workers of the various Societies and Settlements accustomed to relief work.

ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT.

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ALL Business Communications to be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all ADVERTISEMENTS must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.

NOTICE.—This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The Crime of Vengeance.

If we think, for the moment, not at all of the causes and motives of the war, but only of its effects here in England—the happiest and securest, let us never forget, of the unhappy and imperilled nations of Europe—if we think only of England, there is sorrow enough. But it is not all sorrow. There are sources of pride, of hope, of joy even, in the way in which large sections of the people are facing what has been for them the inevitable. There is an immense amount of self-control, of real organising power, of endurance, of kindness-all the unsensational virtues that bring a nation through dark days. All this makes for happiness in suffering. We were prepared to brace ourselves for some defeats. We pride ourselves on knowing how to retreat in good order. But we must brace ourselves for a more difficult task. The people is confident of victory: how will the people deal with victory?

Sorrows are coming thick upon Germany. Thousands of mothers already mourn their sons. Before victory is assured there will be thousands more. Homes will be desolate, and children will cry for bread. Yet all these sorrows are as nothing compared with the anguish of shame which must come to those who, having no cruel or bestial desires themselves, find themselves involved as a nation in responsibility for cruel and bestial crimes. It is impossible to measure the extent to which martial megalomania may infect a docile nation, but one knows that there are great portions of the great German nation that have already suffered for ages far more than they have made others suffer, under the iron heel. One has only to read "Jena oder Sedan" and other German povels to realise what a conscript nation is made to suffer when it is dragooned with flogging and kicking. Now to all this suffering imposed upon them, the Germans must add the unspeakable shame of the knowledge that their forces have been guilty of outrages which are revolting the world, outrages, we firmly believe, which are the result partly of fear, partly of a brutal system of education and training.

Do we British desire to share that unspeakable shame? There is a real danger, unless a very firm stand is taken by our Government and our military authorities. The danger is that among the Allied Armies may be found men who are capable of paying back in kind, and that British authorities will not immediately make it clear that outrages by any of the Allies will not be tolerated by the Allies. The danger is that our authorities may be unimpressive on this subject until some ghastly horror has to be written up on the divine judgment book against the Allies, and then, when it is too late, we shall half-heartedly excuse it as a "regrettable incident." This danger is not imaginary. A writer to The Times, who signs a British name (J. H. Round),

"Our troops will fight even better for the knowledge that the awful "Our troops will night even better for the knowledge that the awriterines of this deliberately brutal people shall not be unavenged. Shrieking professors, I trust, will intercede in vain for their beloved Germans when the facts are published to the world. Even the most humane of Russians, as your Petrograd correspondent tells us, are now forced to exclaim, 'God help them when we get into Berlin,' and knowing my countrymen as I do, I can only rejoice that the Russians are likely to get there first."

What this means is that an army less civilised than "my

countrymen" may outrage and mutilate German women, may bayonet German babies, and shoot German old men; may blow up Köln Cathedral, and burn the Dresden Madonna. We could then publicly regret and privately applaud these deeds, and our troops" would fight better because of them.

Our national foible is unpreparedness. This danger is upon It will be too late when we are faced with the remorse for crimes perpetrated by the Allied Armies. Now is the time to command that at least every single one of the laws of civilised warfare 'shall be kept by our Allies and ourselves.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

MISS CROOKENDEN.

Miss Eventia attrinous (interstate) | miss Cavoranda.

)nices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Notice: Office Hours.

Owing to the very great rush of work at the National Union eople desiring interviews can at present only be received between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Shop: 50, Parliament Street.

At the shop, as well as at 14, Great Smith Street, there is till a great demand for social workers, both trained and unrained, especially for care committees. A great number have already been provided, but still the demand continues. olunteer reports that since she went down to Bermondsey she been working from eight to thirteen hours a day for the oldiers' and Sailors' Association. At the shop, too, orders are taken for garments, which are made up in the National Union

Another development in the shop is the placing of a notice poard giving suitable pitches for selling THE COMMON CAUSE. These pitches are selected with a view to meetings, lectures, classes attended by people who would be interested in the paper.

National Union Workshops.

There are now three workshops going in London under the nanagement of the National Union. A large Lancashire manucturer has offered supplies of material, and orders are wanted or the following articles, and will be fulfilled at moderate

Underclothing. Shirts.

Children's dresses and overalls. Servants' dresses (print or house black).

Temporary work has been given in some cases to women who re sent on by the Central Committee for the Employment of Women, and the office has been busy investigating cases and taking up references for this Committee.

Miss Beaver is conducting a "Menderies," and announces

Stockings and socks to darn. Underclothing to mend. Old clothes to alter and adapt.

These are for people who want to pay for having their own mending done. But people who would like to give away old clothes are also asked to send them to the N.U. Office, provided they are *clean*, and capable of being adapted to use and given away. Clear instructions should be enclosed in every parcel, and a label fastened on with the name and address of the sender.

In the two workrooms at 14, Great Smith Street, and 14, Gafer Street, twenty-five women have passed through our hands; of these, seven have found other employment, and we expect to find work for four others during the next day or two. We employ six or eight women in each room. Over a hundred garments have been made, besides a considerable amount of mending and alteration to clothes. Care is taken to improve the standard of work of those we employ, as we hope that besides being temporarily relieved, the women may be better fitted for after employment. We shall be glad of the offer of other rooms, which we could use as workrooms, and also of voluntary assistance in their superintendence and the instruction of the

Finding Work.

An increasing number of women apply for paid work, and it is the most distressing thing to have to say that there is no work. Miss Crookenden has made many inquiries, but finds a strong prejudice still against the employment of women, even One large nrm, which is said to have lost 1,400 clerical workers and inspectors, who have enlisted or are reservists, still maintains that it cannot employ "lady clerks." Messrs. W. H. Smith have advertised for boys to take the place of men in their Counting-House, and when applied to that they should give adult women book-keepers and clerks a chance and leave the boys at school, made no reply. It was a happy day when Miss Crookenden was able to test and send on some twenty shorthand typists to the L.N.W.R.

The National Union is not attempting to act as a registry office for servants, but is sending on applications from foreign girls to the Y.W.C.A., 26, George Street, Hanover Square, W.

Training As Nurses.

Miss Stansfeld, at the Local Government Board, will advise on training as nurses under the Poor Law. Applicants must be between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Daughters of professional men, good-class domestic servants, dressmakers, are suitable applicants. Wages for the first year, £12; second year, £16; third year, £22 to £24. They are mostly given separate bedrooms, and there are good openings.

We are informed that the London general hospitals are well supplied with probationers, but that some provincial and cottage hospitals will take probationers for a short time.

Hyde Park Meetings.

Last week a very good crowd collected to hear Mrs. Whalley and Mrs. Ransom; Miss Fielden was in the chair, and questiontime was animated.

Next Sunday at 3.30 the speakers will be Miss Philippa Fawcett, Miss Ruth Young, and Miss Fielden.

Hard Cases.

Miss Griesbach wants to find a temporary home for an English lad of seven. His mother has had twelve children, and s hard up, but she is a good woman, and might get work if the lad could be cared for during the next few months. She has taken him hopping just now. When that is over he will have to go to school, and, as he is rather delicate, a country home would be best. Any offers?

A French girl whose mistress broke up her home on account of the war landed in England on Friday with £2; came to our office on Saturday, was interviewed on Monday, and got a post

THE COMMON CAUSE.

A girl of German extraction found her home broken up by the war, and, being stranded with no money, took the first job that offered, without making any inquiries, and found herself in a very undesirable house. Her case came to the notice of the office, she obtained hospitality with a member of the Executive, and has now been found a place in a school au pair, where she can prosecute her studies and go on with her examinations.

Women's Suffrage Hospital.

We are asked to state that the assertion in *The Nursing Times*, that the National Union had subscribed to the hospital which the Men's Society for Women's Rights are announcing, is incorrect. The National Union has not subscribed, and does not intend to subscribe. It recommends its societies, if they wish to endow any war hospital, to send subscriptions to Dr. Elsie Inglis, of the Scottish Federation.

Gifts of Clothes.

Gifts of clothes (especially boots) are invited by the National Federation of Women Workers, 34, Mecklenburgh Square, W.C., and by the Belgian Relief Fund, 8, Chiswell Street, E.C.

Literature Department.

A new pictorial leaflet by Miss Janet Robertson, is now ready, symbolically illustrating the work of the National Union in relief of suffering. (Price 6d. per 100, 5s. per 1,000.)
The book, "Simple Garments for Children," mentioned in

last week's issue of THE COMMON CAUSE, may now be obtained through the Literature Department. There is a companion book to this, "Simple Garments for Infants," which is also stocked, and which may be very useful for those who are taking up the Maternity Scheme.

Treasurer's Notes.

We have always been thankful for the devotion and generosity which has made our great Union what it is to-day,

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

but it is with special pride and gratitude that we receive the contributions which are daily being sent us for the Active Service Fund. It is impossible to single out any one for special thanks from among the large army of helpers; we are equally grateful to all. If it were possible to discriminate, perhaps the nost gratifying would be the tokens and testimony we receive that the work we are striving to do on behalf of women and children is appreciated by other sections of women workers; for instance, the first week after our shop in Parliament Street was opened, we received there the sum of 30s., which was a spontaneous collection made by the employees at the Haymarket Post Office, to assist our work for the relief of distress. This, and similar gifts of money from all ranks of the community, ar proof of the spirit of mutual help and unselfishness that is all around us. Suffragists know well how great is the comfort of such comradeship in the service they have undertaken. The letters all go to show that women are acting up to the highest ideals of citizenship.

H. AUERBACH.

Active Service Fund.

## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ##	Mrs. Payne £ s. d 10 0 Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Greg 25 0 0 Without L.R. Warton 5 0
Miss J. Sophie Thomson 1 0 0	Mrs. Marion G. Bidder 5 0 0
Miss A. N. Blow 2 6	Miss Isabel Thomas 10 0 Miss Caley 10 0
Miss A. M Stapledon 1 1	Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Marshall 25 0 0
Miss Marion 2 0 0	Miss A. Sterling 2 0 0 Mrs. G. C. Thompson 1 0 0
K I M 10 0 0	Miss E. M. Duncan 1 0 0
Mrs. C. Howard Somers 10 10 0	Miss E. M. Payne 1 1 0 Miss E. Sanderson 2 0 0
Mice M E Brough 10	The Misses Skelton 1 0 0
A Friend of Suffrage, per Miss Puller 10	Miss A. H. Tidbury and Friend 10 0 Dr. Christina Goode 1 1 0
Miss S. Scott	Mrs Lilienfield 1 1 0
Mrs M V. E. Briscoe 2 6	Miss E. A. Cowdell 2 6 Miss H. M. Pearson 1 0 0
Miss Alice Edwards 1 0 0 Miss M. B. Greswell 2 0 0	Mrs. Shaw 1 0 0
Mrs McCleverty 30	Miss Isabel Gwynne 1 0 0 Miss L. Greenfield 1 0 0
Miss Sibyl C. T. Widdows 3 0 0	Dr. Juners W. Browne 2 2 0
Mrs. James Ward 5 0 0	Miss Alice Johnson 2 2 0 Miss Henrietta Hollins 10 0 0
Miss L. Carbutt 3000 Miss A. Cornish 3000	Miss J. E. Mann 10 0
Miss E. M Walker	Miss H Lever 5 0 0
Mrs. White 1 0 0	Miss E. M. Evors 4 6
Miss Harriet M. Jones 5 0 0	Mrs Whitworth 1 0 0
Miss Dora B. Weekes 1 1 0	Mrs. Gerald Spring-Rice 1 0 0
Mrs Ethel M. Brightsmith	Mrs. Spager 1 0 0
Mrs. J. G. Wood 5 0	Miss F. M. Kirby 1 0 0
Mrs McCarthy and Mrs. Greig 1 0 0	At 50, Parliament Street— Miss Bayne 5 0
Miss C. E. Western 10 0	Mrs. Appleton 20
Miss Ethel Mathieson 50 0	Mrs Adam 60
Mrs. Philip S. Watey 10 0	Anonymous 2 17 7
Miss Lucy Mason 100	Miss Johnston 3 0 0
Mrs. Charles Ker 1 1 0	Mrs. Borrer 10 0 Miss P. G. Fawcett 4 10 0
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Mrs A G Pollock 1 1 0	£1,288 17 8
Mrs. E. Gamble (1st weekly	52,300 11 0
instalment)	

THE COMMON CAUSE.

GENEROUS FRIENDS.

Within our somewhat cramped limits, we are trying to make the paper as practically useful as possible. It is good to know that our paragraph about English women married to foreigners has led a gentleman to send £25 for the relief of foreigners, and another £25 to the Active Service League.

In our correspondence columns there is a letter from Mrs. Fyffe, who has been for years one of the best friends this paper has had. In this letter she suggests that unemployed women should be paid to sell in the streets, a suggestion which we made last week, and which is being well taken up. As Mrs. Fyffe's offer is made contingent upon twenty others offering 2s. 6d. a week while the war lasts, we shall be very glad to hear at once from any persons or societies that would do this, in their own area or elsewhere. There must be many societies that could do so much. But it must be remembered that to employ people at this sort of work is only part of the business. Suitable pitches must be selected by the employer, and the selling must be duly inspected to see that it is well done.

The Keswick Society has voted us £5 for the paper.

HELP FOR DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

It is excellent news that the Domestic Servants' Association (52, Portland Place, London) proposes to open a bureau for the following purposes:—" (a) To ascertain how much unemployment exists among domestic servants and how it is distributed;

(b) to give training in domestic economy to the younger and more untrained section of servants; (c) to train and place a number of suitable girls (unemployed servants) as emergency nurses for hospital work, so as to meet the grave shortage at present existing; (d) to endeavour to find maintenance at least for those for whom employment or training cannot be provided."

THE WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL PARTY.

RELIEF OF WAR DISTRESS will be administered through LONDON BOROUGH COUNCILS.

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For information apply to: The Secretary, 62, Oxford Street, W.

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72, New Oxford Street, London, W.C. Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Telephone: Gold Medals: Milan (1906). Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 7600 Gerrard. London (1908).

I guarantee every pair of glasses for ten years.

News from the Societies and Federations.

The London Society.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1914.

The Society's "Clearing House" system develops steadily and is being greatly strengthened by the opening in one after another of the Boroughs of local Clearing Houses in connection with the Branches, several of which have, since our last report, been recognised by the local authorities. A few examples of what is happening may be given:—

In Borough A the Mayor is in constant communication by personal interview or by tele-

In Borough A the Mayor is in constant communication by personal interview or by telephone with our representative, and within a day of its opening a Roman Catholic priest and a Nonconformist minister, respectively, had been to her office to offer their hearty co-operation. Among the works promoted at this centre is one of the Day Clubs for unemployed boys, of which we have already organised several in compliance with the request of the Government Department tealing with the matter through the Labour Feychanges.

In Borough B a Social Welfare Council existed In Borough B a Social Welfare Council existed efore the war, and this body has invited our persentative to undertake the whole of the pecial registering organisation necessary to the resent conditions in connection with voluntry service. In Borough C, a room in a well-mown West-end concert hall, with use of teleshone and large notice boards outside has been enerously placed at our disposal by the protector, while in Borough D, a poor district of outh London, a local draper has rendered a milar service, and in the Borough adjoining his our headquarters is at the Town Hall, and the Mayoress is taking a keen personal interest Mayoress is taking a keen personal interest

the Mayoress is taking a keen personal interest in it.

In Borough E "our lady" is taking special pains in the preparation of schemes of employment for women, which she is submitting to the Mayoress in the hope that they may lead to some new trade for women being established which may prove of permanent value to the nation even when the war is over. In Borough F, the head of one of the College Mission Settlements has written a letter of warm gratitude to us for the Assistant Secretary we have supplied for his Ward Committee—the only person who can safely be left in charge when he is absent! In a Western suburb the Mayor invited our Secretary to find speakers for his meeting on Women's Responsibility in Time of War, and Mrs. Creighton, President of the National Union of Women Workers, with Miss Helen Ward, have undertaken this duty. In another district not far away, our Branch representative has had placed in her hands the organisation of the women's work, and she has already assisted in securing the appointment of a fully representative special Women's Employment Committee.

Among those who have been interviewed at headquarters is one lady who offered hospitality to a Belgian for "one month certain," explaining that she dare not bind herself definitely beyond this as her very small income had already dropped one-third and she would not know till

popped one-third and she would not know till end of the month whether it would or would to disappear altogether, she had, therefore, tried to make her offer while still in a position not disappear altogether, she had, therefore, hurried to make her offer while still in a position to have so great a privilege. A worker asked to "deliver" in her car two Belgian children to a Madame X. at a small inn in the Vauxhall Bridge Road, was rewarded by a touching scene. She had not known that Madame X. was related to the sad little mortals until, on her appearance by the car their whole demeanour suddenly changed from a shy melancholy to exuberant joy and cries of mirth as they recognised their mother, who herself was overcome by this sudden relief from an intolerable anxiety. With warm hand shakings she begged the one who had brought her this joy to come in for some refreshment, and, on this being declined, to come quickly again to pay them all a visit!

Among the many seeking paid employment was a Camberwell girl with five brothers at the front. When we said, Are you not proud? she replied quietly, "Yes—but it makes things rather hard for mother, as father is ill and has been out for eight weeks." It always seems that those among our visitors with most to bear are the most gallant in the front they present to it all.

Among special bits of useful work has been the provision of skilled supervisors for the headquarters of the National Union of Girls' Clubs to assist in their scheme of workrooms throughout London on lines approved by the Women's Employment Committee, of a brilliant young worker to organise a Red Cross scheme for a

South London Borough, of several specially-chosen workers for an East End Settlement, of a large number of skilled (as well as some less experienced) workers for Care Committees, and apenented workers to care community, and nee promotion of the making of infants' outfits y needlewomen in place of soldiers' shirts. Other wants supplied are "Citizen Talks" at the irls' Clubs, and teachers of "Bedside French"

for nurses.

Among those offering service, one must not be forgotten, for she is a fully qualified doctor on furlough from India, who, having a knowledge of Hindustani, offers herself as interpreter to the wounded Indian soldiers who may be sent to England.

In accordance with that part of our plan which hears on the promotion of sound methods in

In accordance with that part of our plan which bears on the promotion of sound methods in voluntary work a most promising scheme has been initiated for a series of lectures on "relief" and allied problems to be given by economic experts. It is hoped to announce full particulars very shortly. The growth of the work is rapid; it is largely to the devotion of our skilled professional and voluntary staff that we are able to cope with it successfully. We ask, therefore, with confidence for generous donations to the Society's Women's Service Fund to ensure its healthy development—they will be most gratefully received by the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, at 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

Work in Birmingham.

about 300 members of the Suffrage Society are employed in various ways in connection with

A member wrote from the Isle of Man to us last week, saying "all I can do is to knit a jersey, and I can afford to find the wool"; she jersey, and I can afford to find the wool"; she is a domestic servant. A very touching gift was brought to the Lady Mayoress's Depôt to Mrs. Jesper by a poor old woman, who having scarcely enough to keep alive herself, had nevertheless bought a quarter of a pound of peppermints to send to the soldiers.

The Catholic Women's League, which is arranging hospitality for about seventy Belgian refugees and their families that are being sent to Birmingham, has had a large house and grounds lent to them by Mrs. Barrow Cadhury

grounds lent to them by Mrs. Barrow Cadbury

grounds lent to them by Mrs. Barrow Cadbury for the purpose.

A scheme has also been inaugurated which might be found possible in many great towns, to help girls thrown out of work through the war. This scheme has been specially arranged by Mrs. Harrison Barrow to meet the needs of the girls employed in the jewellery trades, whose hands are easily spoiled for their work if they undertake rough housework, &c. A number of ladies have been found who will take into their houses one extra maid as a supernumerary parlour-maid, or in some other light capacity. Suitable cases of applicants are then visited, and where the need is real and urgent they are sent to the Suffrage office, where facilities have been arranged for their examination by a lady doctor, who gives her services. The girls are proto the Suffrage office, where facilities have been arranged for their examination by a lady doctor, who gives her services. The girls are provided with the necessary uniforms from the Lady Mayoress's Depôt, or they are given the material and paid to make it up for themselves. After which they enter on their duties, thus obtaining board and lodging together with a small wage, in return for which they are trained to do light housework of a suitable description. Thus, if their original trade should not be available for them after the war, they will be able to go out as house-parlour maids instead. The girls are gratefully and eagerly availing themselves of the opportunity. Others of our members are kindly taking a child from some overburdened mother, and keeping it for a fortnight or more, fitting it out completely with a good set of clothing while it is in their home, and then sending it back to feed up and fit out another.

Member of Oxford Society Joins Belgian Field Hospital.

Field Hospital.

Dr. Dorothea C. Maude, M.A., M.D., B.S. Lond., a member of the Oxford W.S. Society, left London on Saturday, September 5th, with the Belgian Field Hospital. The Field Hospital included five doctors, of whom three are women, nurses, and full equipment. Dr. Maude's great experience as anæsthetist will add value to her

Suffrage Red Cross Hospital,

Suffrage Red Cross Hospital.

The Scottish Federation appeals for £100 to enable it to start fair upon a scheme which it has in view. This scheme, proposed by Dr. Elsie Inglis, Secretary of the Federation, is to provide a mobile Red Cross Hospital for work at the front, either in connection with British, French, or Belgium troops, as may be most suitable. Already donations of over £12 have been received. Several women doctors, nurses, dressers, have volunteered their services, and one lady has offered to go as interpreter. All that is now wanted is monetary assistance. Subscriptions will be gratefully received, either by Dr. Elsie Inglis, hon. secretary, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or Mrs. Laurie, hon. treasurer, Red House, Greenock.

This Society has given a fully-equipped hospital bed to one of the local V.A. detachments, which is ready to mobilise a Red Cross Hospital on twelve hours' notice. Working parties are being held, and a department for paid workers has been opened in conjunction with the local Labour Exchange to assist reservists' wives or dependents with knitting and sewing.

A sub-committee has been appointed to look into the question of the Care of Food and Maternity Centres.

Glasgow Exchange for Voluntary Workers,

of help have been registered at the Exchange for voluntary workers, of whom 119 were members of the Glasgow W.S.S., 25 were "Friends," and 102 members of the general public. The Exchange has entered into close relations with the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and at their request is notifying the S.S.F.A. Presidents weekly of cases of infectious disease in the households of soldiers and sailors, these cases having been notified to the Exchange by the M.O.H. The new departments in which help has been asked for and given, are:

(1) The S.P.C.C.
(2) The Queen Margaret Settlement for Bank Collecting Clubs, Baby Visiting, and Invalid School.

School.

(3) C.O.S. (clerical help).

(4) School Board Feeding Centres.

At the invitation of the Wellington United Free Church, the Organiser addressed a large meeting, on September 8th, of ladies who had intended to form a work party, but who, at the instigation of the Exchange, are turning their energies to other branches of work.

The Organiser considers that the Exchange is becoming well known and greatly appreciated.

becoming well known and greatly appreciated.

Suffragists on Relief Committees.

Wandsworth.—Miss Emily Hill, Hon. Sec. of the W.S.S., has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Fair-ield Ward Committee, and of the Ward Executive sub-committee. She is also one of three representatives from the Ward on the Mayor's Committee for Wandsworth

tives from the Ward on the Mayor's Committee for Wandsworth.

East Grinstead.—Since the Hon. Sec. of the W.S.S. was co-opted on to the Enquiry and Relief Committee, another member (the Hon. Treasurer) has been asked to sit on the Collecting Committee, of which she is the only woman member.

Rochale.—Mrs. A. Nield Chew is a representative of the Trades Council on the Mayor's Central Committee, and two other members of the N.U. Lady Rochale and Miss Lydia Kemp (who represents the C.O.S.) are also on the Committee. Several members, including the above are on the Ladies' Subcommittee. The N.U. is not directly represented on the Mayor's Committee, but Mrs. Tayne is its representative on the Ladies' Committee.

West Herts.—The W.S.S. is represented on the Watord General Committee for War Assistance, and is supplying visitors in several wards.

other women. Tunbridge Wells.—Miss Harriss, Secretary of the Mutual Registration of Assistance Committee, and Miss Scott, P.L.G. (representing Tunbridge Board of Huardians), are on Mayor's Executive Committee.

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SUFFRACE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE LONDON SOCIETY'S "CLEARING HOUSE FOR VOLUNTARY WORKERS IN THE NATIONAL CRISIS." 58, Victoria-st., S.W., is inundated with demands from every part of London for efficient voluntary workers. Members, or others, who have not yet registered should do so immediately. Donations for the Society's Women's Service Organisation Fund are greatly needed and should be sent to Honble. Mrs. Spencer Graves, as above. "Enids" "White Dove" leaflet, Id.; 4s. 6d. a hundred.

POSITION VACANT.

Wanted.—Working cook-housekeeper for small modern house in country, near Croydon; three in family; substantial daily help; nice kitchen as sitting-room for housekeeper; about £22.—Warner, Whitbourne, Warlingham, Surrey.

POSITION WANTED.

W ORK WANTED by an upholstress who, in consequence of the war, is now without it. Her husband also requires work as odd man, by the day or week. Excellent references from town and country.—Address, A. W., c/o 98, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

O-EDUCATION.—High Wycombe Godstowe Preparatory School. Girls and boys prepared for public schools, with at the same time natural home surroundings, open-air life, handierafts, and hobbies. School may be seen at any time by those interested in modern education.—Head Mistress, Mrs. George Scott. For Prospectus apply to Secretary.

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Way. Finne: Central 6049.

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DUSINESS AS USUAL during the present War Crisis.—Second-hand clothing wanted to buy for cash. Costumes, skirts, boots, underclothing curtains, gents' suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description. Parcel sent will be valued and value'sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-st., Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Raby-st., Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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