

The Common Cause

THE ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF

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Women's Suffrage

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(See page 257.)



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Literary Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter, and no manuscripts will be returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

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

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

Notes and Comments.

The Bill and Its Amendment.

The tail of Women's Suffrage is already wagging the dog of the Government Franchise Bill. Mr. Asquith may "dismiss" the question as often as he pleases, it returns with importunate persistence and drives out all other considerations. Of course it does! it is a live issue, passionately put by thousands upon thousands of thinking, feeling, suffering and patriotic English-women.

We read with profound disgust of reported endeavours on the part of individuals here and there to harass and annoy and even to terrorise individual members of the Government. We can scarcely believe Members of Parliament will be so unreasonable as to make the millions of women of the country the scapegoats of these few rabid persons. Why should women, any more than men, be made corporately responsible for outrages they abhor?

Concentration Needed.

We welcome heartily the indications given by both Mr. Balfour and Mr. Bonar Law that they would vote for a modified amendment to the Franchise Bill. Mr. Lyttleton, who is seconding the amendment to be proposed by Sir Edward Grey, will also probably agree to the same amendment as his leaders. Even that ardent adultist, Mr. Joseph King, will keep an open mind. If only our friends will remember that the chief requirement now is a flexible mind and temper and a willingness to treat with each other, we shall present a strong front to the enemies' manoeuvres.

Whom Does the Bill Enfranchise?

Mr. Asquith, in his speech in the House last Friday, tried to make out that the two million odd who would be enfranchised by the Bill were kept off the register by the length of the qualifying period. He must know that this by no means accounts for the two millions. The Bill will enfranchise every male who condescends to exist for six months in one place, even if he is living with and on the mother who bore him. The man who never earned a penny in his life, and who has never contributed a farthing to the rates and taxes, is enfranchised by this Bill. The man who puts the house in his wife's name in order to shirk jury duty will get the vote. The undergraduate who is still *in statu pupillari* will be able as soon as he is 21 to regulate the law under which his sister will marry.

The Moribund Parties.

There is every sign that the present assortment of parties will not long continue. The Radical press, represented by the *Manchester Guardian*, *Nation*, *Daily News and Leader*, and *Chronicle*, shows every week a stronger tendency on the part of Radicals to break away from Liberals of the general type of Mr. Asquith. The two chief differences would seem to be the attitude towards Labour—Mr. Asquith approximating the old "laissez faire" school—and towards Foreign Policy and armaments. Mr. Churchill, who upon his appointment to the

Admiralty was hailed by the Radicals as being bent upon "economy," has now clearly gone over to the other section in his party—the breach between him and Mr. Lloyd George would seem complete, and the article by Mr. Massingham in Monday's *Daily News* forecasts a speedy readjustment of political forces which will be of great interest and moment—not least to Suffragists. Shall we soon have a party of the Centre, with Labour and Radicals for the right wing and Tories for the left?

Hanley—and After!

What is the moral of Hanley? The "machine" was a Liberal machine, and there was no independent Labour organisation. The plain moral which we have always tried to drive home is "organise" and "organise now."

The spirit and fire of the Labour army is wonderful, but you can't mobilise forces without the machinery of mobilisation. Mr. Outhwaite was a very strong candidate and we wish he had stood for a party which, as a party, had adopted his views on Women's Suffrage. We should now like to see Labour and Suffrage sit down in the Hanley division and plot it patiently out.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald on Women's Suffrage.

A correspondent noted the following in a speech by Mr. Macdonald which was not fully reported in the papers:—

"Then there is the question of women's franchise. Who is going to stand by the women?—the Labour Party. Who are the women that compel me to use every bit of influence I have to get them a vote?—The sort of women like my mother—the toiling labouring women—those who have struggled and toiled for their children, and are as well qualified to vote as myself. We talk about social reform; who bears the burden of bad conditions most?—The women! They are the human bearers and they are those who, with the vote, would bear up our hands in the struggle for social reform. We intend to stand by the women through thick and thin. I will fight amendment by amendment with all the enthusiasm that is in me."

The Intolerant Spirit.

We wish so well to insurance that it has been a real grief to us to see the thing so hurried and rushed, so ill-considered and defended as well as attacked with so much heat and vituperation that it is very far from being even as good as it might be. Moreover, an Act like this, in order to work well, should be treated in an educative and tolerant spirit, and the heat of party controversy has quite obscured this spirit. So many lies have been spread against the Bill that disastrous encouragement has been given to the spirit of intolerance of all criticism.

The National Union has not taken up Tax Resistance, but some Suffragists have, and their attitude is quite logical. What, however, can be said for Lady Desart, who thinks it unwomanly for women to want a share in the power of making laws to fit the needs of women, and yet quite womanly to break the law and invite others poorer than herself to break the law because, being made by men only, it does not fit women?

Women in Local Government.

The Women's Local Government Society is distributing leaflets which give particulars of qualifications for women candidates and electors in local government work. It is particularly desirable that these qualifications should be widely known, in view of the fact that occupiers' lists will be posted in the public places on August 1st, and the last day for sending in new claims is August 20th. If anyone is in doubt as to her claim, she should apply to the Women's Local Government Society, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster.

The I.L.P. and Women.

The "Labour Leader" of last week is very full of interest for women. Among others, one of the most interesting articles is by Mr. W. Anderson on the attitude of the I.L.P. towards the women's movement.

The Suffrage Book Shop.

We publish on page 256 a short notice of a performance in aid of the International Suffrage Shop. We should be very sorry indeed if this—one of the most attractive shops we know—were to cease being. It is a sore temptation to dawdle about in its pretty precincts and dip into its many delightful stores. There is a spirit about it of freedom and good fellowship and beauty which we should greatly miss. Perhaps people in general do not know that Miss Seruya will always promptly procure any books ordered besides the varied and attractive stock she shows.

THE ELECTION FIGHTING FUND.

THE HANLEY BY-ELECTION.

The result of the Hanley Election is disappointing, but we must not be unduly depressed by it. There were special local conditions which told unfavourably against the Labour Candidate. Some of these might have been overcome if the time allowed for the contest had been longer, but as it was the Labour Party had to fight against heavy odds. Mr. Outhwaite was an exceptionally strong candidate. He is an authority on the Land Question, and the Land Policy which he advocated was apparently very acceptable to the electors of the Potteries. The Liberals made the most of the contention that if Mr. Outhwaite were returned to Parliament he would strengthen the only Party which has the power, as well as the will, to carry out such a policy. From the National Union point of view, if the Labour Candidate could not win, it was much better that Mr. Outhwaite should win rather than Mr. Rittner.

POPULARITY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

We receive high praise of our Suffrage workers from all quarters. They were indefatigable in holding meetings all day and every day. Our speakers found great ignorance in the constituency on the Women's Suffrage question, but they speedily won the interest and sympathy of their audiences. Women's Suffrage became one of the most popular topics of the election. Mr. Keir Hardie says: "The biggest round of applause I get at my meetings is when I say that if the Bill reaches the Third Reading without women in it I shall do my best to prevent it going through."

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD'S LETTER IN THE PRESS.

Though we were able to send some of our best speakers and workers to Hanley (including such redoubtable champions of the cause as Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson; Mrs. Annot Robinson, of Manchester; and Mrs. Chew, of Rochdale) there were not the same ready offers of help which we received for the Holmfirth election. It was not a propitious moment to make an appeal. The reason for this was not disguised. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's letter in the Press had given a distinct chill to the enthusiasm for our new policy. Evidence of this came in quickly from all parts of the country. Uneasy questions were asked. Were the Labour Leaders falling away from the strong position they had adopted? Were they, too, going to welcome excuses for shelving the question of Women's Suffrage once again? Those who read the splendid fighting speeches of Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Snowden, and Mr. Keir Hardie at Crewe and Hanley and Burslem last week (extracts are given on another page) must feel their confidence restored on this point. We have been assured by Mr. MacDonald that his letter was misunderstood by us. Far from implying that militancy provided an excuse for friends in the House to relax their efforts and say that nothing could be done till militancy ceased, it was intended, he says, as a call to arms, rallying the waverers to concentrate their efforts and fight all the harder because of the difficulties that stand in the way. This is, of course, exactly the spirit that is wanted. If Mr. MacDonald will give the same fighting lead in the House of Commons as he did in his speeches at Crewe and Burslem he will have gone a long way to remove the spirit of embitterment and mistrust which is so largely responsible for militancy. We all know only too well, without Mr. MacDonald to tell us so, that every outbreak of militancy sets back our cause in the country and makes it more difficult to keep M.P.'s to their promises. But the Member of the House of Commons who says that nothing can be done till militancy ceases is like a physician who is called in to a patient in high fever and says he can do nothing till the fever is abated and the

patient has regained his normal temperature. It rests with the House of Commons to cure the political disease of which militancy is one of the symptoms. Such things as Mr. Hobhouse's speech at Bristol, Mr. Asquith's speech in the House of Commons on Friday, and the impression Mr. McKenna succeeded in conveying to the House during the discussion on the release of Miss Connor-Smith—these things are calculated to provoke militancy, not to stop it. Will not Mr. McDonald write another letter to the Press, or, better still, make a temperate but unequivocal speech in the House of Commons pointing out this, and ascribing responsibility where it is due?

THE CREWE BY-ELECTION.

The determination expressed by all the Labour speakers to insist on the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill—"to fight amendment by amendment," "to stick to the women through thick and thin"—has restored the confidence and redoubled the energy of all our workers. We must put our utmost efforts into the fight at Crewe. The prospects of success for the Labour candidate are considerably brighter than they were at Hanley. Miss Margaret Robertson is in command of the N.U. forces, and she wants all the help we can send her—speakers, canvassers, helpers for our own and the Labour Party's committee rooms, and last, but not least, the loan of motor-cars. This is the most critical contest we are ever likely to be engaged in. We hope that all those who cannot give personal help will send in a special contribution to the Election Fighting Fund to enable others to go. The postponement of polling day till the 27th will entail very heavy expenses, as the campaign will be an unusually long one. Our workers are all in excellent spirits and have a splendid programme. They must not lack helpers or funds for carrying it out. Any Federation which is likely to have opportunities for giving effect to the new policy in its area should send at least one of its members to gain experience in working an election on these lines.

All donations should be sent in at once to one of the Hon. Treasurers—Mrs. Auerbach or Mrs. Anstruther.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

FIFTH LIST.			
Already announced	£1,609 6 10	Miss E. M. Hovey	.. £1 0 0
Mrs. Garrett Anderson	.. 20 0 0	Miss Jeffrey	.. 5 0 0
Anonymous	.. 1 0 0	Miss Alice Johnson	.. 2 2 0
Mrs. Badger	.. 1 0 0	Miss C. M. Jones	.. 2 0 0
Some of Bedale's Staff	.. 6 8 6	Miss E. A. Jones	.. 1 0 0
Mrs. Boden	.. 10 0 0	Mrs. Garrett Jones	.. 1 0 0
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brown	.. 2 2 0	Miss Dorothea M. Jordan	.. 5 0 0
Dr. Olive Claydon	.. 1 1 0	Miss E. M. Julian	.. 2 2 0
Miss Clodd	.. 1 0 0	Miss Alice Kemp	.. 1 0 0
Lady Courtney of Penwith	.. 5 0 0	Miss Kempthorne	.. 1 1 0
Miss M. A. Cowell	.. 10 0 0	Miss Luey Kennedy	.. 1 0 0
Mrs. Cowell	.. 5 0 0	Miss F. M. Kirby	.. 20 0 0
Mrs. Forster	.. 1 1 0	Mrs. Palham Lane	.. 2 0 0
Miss Marian Crofton	.. 1 0 0	Mrs. Laphom	.. 5 0 0
Mrs. G. M. George	.. 0 2 6	Mrs. Lawson	.. 3 10 0
Miss M. J. Gardiner	.. 5 0 0	Madame Larkcom	.. 1 0 0
Mrs. G. M. George	.. 1 0 0	Mrs. Lelacheur	.. 10 0 0
Mrs. George	.. 10 0 0	Miss Lelacheur	.. 5 0 0
Mrs. Gilliat	.. 1 0 0	Madame Loppé	.. 5 0 0
Miss F. F. Goodey	.. 0 10 0	Miss Bertha Lowe	.. 2 2 0
Mrs. H. M. Gregory	.. 0 18 0	Miss Katharine Lowndes	.. 10 0 0
Mrs. Herringham	.. 10 0 0		
Miss A. T. Hertz	.. 10 0 0		
Hon. Mrs. Alfred Hill	.. 2 0 0		
Miss R. Hovey	.. 20 0 0		
			£1,819 7 10

We have received from Mrs. MacKirdy (Olive Christian Malvery) the generous offer of 25 per cent. of her share of profits on the "White Slave Market" to go to the ELECTION FIGHTING FUND. Mrs. MacKirdy writes:—"I quite agree with you that our only hope for progress and social reform is by making our influence felt in elections. The White Slave Traffic and other cruelties to women will never be killed or cured till women have the vote. I see that now. It has taken five years' study and work to convert me to this view. I was in fact an anti-suffragist in many respects."

Suffragists will feel Mrs. MacKirdy is a convert worth having.

The Letter and the Spirit.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* again gave currency last week to a *canard* about the Prime Minister's pledge to the Suffragists. Some months ago it came out one evening with the cheery placard, "Women outwitted!" and one discovered that the form this "outwitting" was to take was that the Government Franchise Bill would not be introduced this year. To the simple minds of Suffragists there appeared to be no "wit" at all in breaking one's word; any scallywag can do that; and we warned our readers not to believe these inventions. We never were of the party that "doubted Mr. Asquith," in the sense that we doubted he would act up to the precise legal interpretation of his pledges. He pledged himself to introduce the Franchise Bill this session; we believed he would do it, and he has done it. On Saturday the *Pall Mall* returned to the charge, and asserted that "an attempt to amend the Franchise Bill in Committee in this direction (Women's Suffrage) would be out of order." It is amusing to watch the amateur efforts of these wisecracks, and we are quite content to abide by the decision of the Chairman of Committee; we are confident that, since Mr. Asquith promised categorically that the Bill would be so drafted as to permit of amendments enfranchising women, it has been so drafted. Events will show.

We have never doubted about the letter. What of the spirit? The spirit is harder to capture, and the streak in Mr. Asquith's character which makes him an Anti-Suffragist also goes for something in his interpretation of the spirit of his pledges. When he gave them to Mrs. Fawcett, and acknowledged in his whole manner and bearing to her that he respected her claim and her life-long work and conduct of life, he said he intended to fulfil them in the letter and the spirit, and we feel sure that at that moment he truly intended this. He had had the case put to him with moderation; he knew that his own Liberal women were growing restive, he was heartily bored with the question and longing to have it out of the way, and in his answer to the Anti-Suffragists he showed plainly that he was perfectly aware it would never be got out of the way by mere opposition. He is reported to be a placable man, and certainly does not go out of his way to seek trouble unprovoked; he was in the mood to "bow to the will of the House," and to allow the House to show freely its will. Having once declared that he would leave the matter in the hands of the House, it would have been the wisest thing if he had acted according to the spirit as well as the letter of this pledge, and we believe he would have done so if he had not been intolerably annoyed. He has kept the letter, and he will keep the letter of his word. In our view he has not so far kept the spirit. We think we understand why he has not; but in the world of spirit no error is irretrievable, and we do not mean to cease hoping that he may acquire the strength to command irritation, or that those who endeavour to attain their ends by persecution may find a better way.

The importance of the pledges from a tactical point of view can scarcely be over-rated. A non-party question is at an enormous disadvantage compared with party questions even when, as in this case, it is a question of transcendent importance, and has a remarkably large majority for it; it is at a hopeless disadvantage if the power of party machinery is thrown against it. In 1884 this was done; Mr. Gladstone opposed Mr. Woodall's amendment openly, and secured its defeat by threatening to resign; and our pledged friends of 1884 broke their pledges because the Prime Minister of the day made it plain that he was opposed to their keeping them, and the party whips told against the amendment. Now Mr. Asquith's pledge to leave amendments to the Franchise Bill to the free vote of the House, if kept in the letter as well as in the spirit, should mean not only that the party whips should not be set to tell against any amendments, but also that the Prime Minister should not use his position as Head of the Government and Leader of the House to influence the votes of Suffragist members, nor should it be suggested or implied by the Prime Minister or the Whips that any portion of the party programme would suffer if members kept their pledges. We do not hold that anyone could justly say Mr. Asquith was breaking the spirit of his pledge if he spoke against Women's Suffrage in the House; but we do hold that the spirit is absent if Liberal Suffragists are given to understand that Suffragism implies hostility to their titular head, or that it will imperil Liberal measures. Both of these things have been done, and by entrusting to Mr. Pease and Mr. Harcourt, both prominent Anti-Suffragists, the moving of the first and second readings respectively, and by the disingenuous speech he himself made on Friday, we hold that Mr. Asquith has laid himself open to the charge of allowing the spirit to become clouded with unfairness.

Of course, we shall be told that neither of these things were done. But we can judge of the probability of that by results and by the admissions of simple souls like Sir W. Byles. It will be remembered that among the many conflicting reasons he gave for threatening to withdraw his support was the reason that Mr. Asquith was his leader, and that to vote for Women's Suffrage was to vote against Mr. Asquith, and "no man can serve two masters." Now, according to the letter, Sir W. Byles would not be voting against Mr. Asquith, since the matter was expressly left to "a free vote of the House." But how about the spirit? How free was that? Then, again, how came it that the Irish Suffragists voted against us? They had not turned Anti; they never professed they had. But they feared that the passage of Women's Suffrage would jeopardise Home Rule. How? Why? Do they really expect us to believe that this idea was spontaneously generated in the minds of Irish Suffragists? We all know that the work of the whips is not confined to telling at divisions.

Lastly comes the brief reference to Women's Suffrage in the Prime Minister's speech last Friday—"Speaking for myself," he said, "I cannot help remembering, as we all must remember, that the House at an earlier stage of the session rejected with, I think, sufficient decisiveness, the proposal to confer the franchise on women, and so far as I am concerned, I dismiss at this moment as altogether improbable the hypothesis that the House of Commons is likely to stultify itself by reversing in the same session the considered judgment at which it has already arrived." This is the portion of his speech which we have characterised as "disingenuous." We should like to ask Mr. Asquith why a vote against Women's Suffrage giving a majority of 11 is more "decisive" than a vote for Women's Suffrage giving a majority of 167. Again, when he knows that a considerable number of his own supporters prefer the chance of a "democratic amendment" to the Franchise Bill for which they were promised a fair chance in this same session, why should he make the adverse vote on the Conciliation Bill a reason for an adverse vote on the Franchise Bill? If he were truly concerned with the spirit, he of all men should be willing to recognise the honesty of his own supporters and colleagues in the Cabinet, who have declared their preference for a wider measure. It is Liberals who have so bitterly attacked the Conciliation Bill because it followed the lines of the Local Government Franchise (which the Liberal Government is proposing to continue!), and was therefore "undemocratic." It is a little too much for the Liberal Premier now to arise and tell us that the "democratic" Liberals, who voted or were pulled against the Conciliation Bill, were giving a "considered" judgment against a "democratic" measure! If we were suffragist members of the Cabinet we should resent this "imputation of deep dishonour."

Many Masters.

It was underneath the red porphyry statue of Justice in Via Tornabuoni, Florence, that I bought, some few weeks ago, the Sunday edition of the *Mosca Fieri* announcing the passing of a new Franchise Bill for Italy. With the aid of a dictionary I stumbled through the Debate. One mention of women. "They might, of course, come in afterwards." (Cheers.) Long speeches by the deputies at the end of the discussion about themselves; what splendid fellows they were, to think of justice to all, and legislate so calmly when the country was at war! Mutual congratulations!

For my part, I thought why not write upon the pillar in the Tornabuoni which bears the red Justice, *To the Unknown God?*

How complacently do men speak of their allegiance to their popular deity, inferring so much, and really meaning so little! As between Man and Woman I behold her stand—blindfold, that she may never notice the wrongs of the weak, bearing a sword which pierces to the heart one who has cried to her unavailing through the centuries, not even now ashamed of the balance weighted on the side of Man. And our rulers so interpret the image, and think they worship Justice.

A fortnight or so later, still under Italian skies, I was reading the terms of Mr. Pease's Franchise Bill. Indignation choked me; it seemed suddenly there was not air to breathe. So that was the reply the Liberals of Britain made to the women; to their long agitation, to their often deferred hopes, to their eager anticipations. This is your answer, false lovers of Liberty; desiring Justice for yourselves and denying it to others.

Now I am in England, walking London streets, while in Parliament the representatives of the people, the male people—

without mothers, wives, or daughters in the count—discuss their little plans for advantage at the polls. Thousands of women ought to join the suffrage societies this summer—thousands will join them if we explain the issue.

Come out into the streets to look at your masters; every man you meet, nay, every lad with down upon his lip, shall rule over you by the day this Bill is law. We have asked for a voice in our affairs, and they appoint two million more males to make laws for us and to tighten our bonds.

Mothers, the Liberal Cabinet refuses you the right to have any say in the laws for the child, but empowers every soldier-lad in barracks, over 21, to decide the regulations for health, the methods of education that shall be prescribed for your babes. There is but one means of protest open to you—Join the Suffragists, and ask for a voice in deciding these issues.

Philanthropists, you who have worked so long for temperance, every male drunkard, shall have a vote, but you, in all your ranks shall have no vote, if you are women. Every man who lives by the White Slave Traffic shall have a vote, but those that he buys and sells be ever unrepresented. The Liberal Cabinet wills it. Every seducer in Britain shall have a vote, but his victims shall have no voice, no one to speak for them in the Mother of Parliaments.

All you political women consider it. Primrose dames, and workers through good times and evil for the Conservative Party, every youth in the village is to be set over you now; by the time this Bill is law, every stable-boy and garden-lad shall be your master to decide, without consulting you, the Imperial issues you care so much for—nay, to tax you for his own benefit, while you are allowed no protest. Are you going to sit down tamely under this last indignity to your sex? Will you still maintain that every man should rule and every woman be ruled to the end of time? It is inconceivable that you should bear it. Protest now, at once, by joining a suffrage society.

And you, Liberal women, who have indeed asked for your rights and received fair words and a blank refusal from the man who is at the head of you to-day, how amazing it is that you should put up with it, if you intend to put up with it. Perhaps of all the women who are insulted by Mr. Asquith's so-called Reform Bill no women are so grossly insulted as the members of the Liberal Federation. You have your weapon if you will wield it. Is there no other Liberal who might take the place of the man who, hoisted into power on your shoulders, denies you what he willingly gives to every corner-boy and loafer in the three kingdoms?

This summer, smarting under the injustice, the indignity inflicted upon us in the name of Liberalism, let us of the National Union reply to our enemies, and back up our many friends by inducing large numbers of women, thousands of women, hitherto unconvinced or wavering, to join the various suffrage societies and bring the pressure of greatly increased numbers to the siege of the already hard-pressed citadel.

M. LOWNDES.

Victims of Modern Warfare.

BY MILDRED RANSOM.

Gifts of food for the relief of the women and children who are suffering from the dock strike, had been sent in, and it was necessary to take them to Stepney and give them away. They were collected near Piccadilly, and we were instructed to take a motor 'bus to the Causeway. I recommend anyone who is fanciful about conventions to stroll down Bond Street with a few loaves, badly packed, under her arm. My share of the parcels was a 15lb. cheese from a generous and well-known provision dealer in Piccadilly, and another package containing an equal weight of loaves; my friend's was more uncomfortable, because her parcels were not properly packed, and tended to fall out at improper moments. We started.

We climbed with difficulty on to the top of a 'bus, and at our stopping place a chivalrous young working man took my 15lb. cheese down the ladder for me. It is not easy to get off a motor 'bus with two large and heavy parcels. He refused a tip absolutely.

The door of the building was a seething, struggling mass of women and babies. We gave one cursory look, and "We can't go there," said my friend. "It isn't safe. They would grab everything we've got." He went round a back way, like the thief and robber, and found the room where the distribution took place.

There was an endless procession going on. The sameness never varied. The stories were the same, the clothing was reduced to a minimum—life was an elementary struggle for

bare food and shelter. Every woman carried a baby and perhaps another toddled after her. The questions and answers varied seldom. "Now, ma'am, what's your name?" "Clifford, sir." "Sit down and answer the lady's questions. How many children have you?" "Four, ma'am." "What's your husband?" "Stevadore, ma'am." "Where do you live? Has anyone helped you before?"

Workers verified statements or pounced on those which were untrue. But whether true or not, there was hardly a woman or a child who did not bear the stamp of hunger, and many looked starved. And the children! One, a finely made child of ten months, lay an inert waxen heap in its mother's lap. Its eyes were shut; its limbs hung helplessly. It was obviously dying. Its mother apologised for its condition. "I've 'ad nothing to give it for some time. I done what I could." Milk ticket for the baby; bread and cheese for the other five children. Next, please. "Thank you, ma'am."

The next woman was known. "What are you going to do when you are laid up, my dear?" "I've signed for a doctor, ma'am." "But why not go to the Lying-in Hospital?" "I can't, ma'am. I've got five, you know, and baby aint quite ten months. Besides, it's too late now, as it 'ud take some days to change, and no letter of recommendation, nor nothing." "I'll give you a letter." "Thank you, ma'am, but I've got nobody to look after the children?" "Can't your husband do it now that he is out of work. It would give you a fortnight in the Hospital, where you'd be quiet. You've only one room, and what with five children, and the new one, how are you going to manage?" But she wouldn't leave the children to the husband, and she was going "to manage, somehow." She was evidently suffering; her eyes were streaming, and she moved with difficulty. Her baby of ten months was in her arms and claimed attention. "What's the matter with it?" "Well, it was ill two months ago, and hasn't never got well since." "And never will," murmured one of the workers. "It needs proper food and nursing, and will die because it cannot have either."

The stream poured on. In two hours quite 100 women passed through the room. Outside in the street there was perpetual wailing of babies, and noise of children shouting and playing—children who were old enough to fend for themselves. They were not so pitiable; they were not so pinched. The babies did not cry lustily; they moaned and wailed. The women tried to storm the door. A woman (with a baby, of course) fell down, and the baby was caught as it fell. It was so inert that, when restored to its mother, it wailed feebly, but made no other sound of alarm.

These are the victims of modern warfare. They are half naked; everything they possess has been pawned. A worker casually mentioned a home where only the bed remained; no chairs, no table, hardly a pot or a pan; the mattress was still on the bed, because it was so fetid that no pawnbroker would take it. So the family of five have still that comfort left to them. And a new baby is expected in two months' time.

Another family was mentioned, but it was unrepresented in the dreary stream. It had no claim; though the father was on strike, the family had an income. The eldest boy actually earned 8s. a week. On this princely sum the family lived—at least, they have not died. It was reported, however, to be a precarious revenue. The boy ran a nail into his knee a week ago, and the knee suppurred. In spite of the pain the boy goes daily to work because he has to. His 8s. stands between his family and destitution.

Two of the burning questions of the day cropped up continually, the birth rate and the death rate. Children swarmed. One set of Buildings in particular seemed to contain families averaging from five to twelve in number. But what is the good of bringing children into the world if they perish by starvation? and calling for more and more children if those that are born cannot find a better fate than to die of inanition? Tons of food are rotting in the Thames; children are dying on the shore. The babies were not wizened looking children. On the contrary, most were well made and fairly developed. Only a very few were twisted or suffered badly from rickets. But all looked pinched, and some were actually starving. Three at least in this long procession were dying.

The wastage was appalling. Whether "doles" are right or wrong, these children ought to be saved. The little ones from the "creetches" (*i.e.*, creches) were a credit to the feeding, but the "creetches" cannot do everything, nor cope with the results of such a strike. Nor can anything be done without money. Those who are interested in the physique of the nation had better save the lives of some of these children, and send cases of tinned milk, money for fresh milk, bread—anything and everything that can save the helpless victims of man's

warfare. Every organisation at the docks is working, but all could do more if they had more money.

Not a couple of miles from the comfort and ease of Oxford Street, women are literally fighting for the chance of a dole, and are vainly trying to suckle their children, though food has not passed their own lips. In former days the manhood of the nation was decimated by warfare. To-day it is the children who are mown down like hay.

Some Press Comments.

The "Manchester Guardian," in Saturday's issue had a fine leading article on the Principles of Representation. After dealing with a number of particulars in which the Franchise Bill is illogical and timid, the article concludes:—

There is in the Bill as it stands another even greater failure and inconsistency, to which Mr. Balfour also justly and generously pointed. It sweeps into the electoral net every stray male voter whom chance or need may have disqualified, and it rigorously excludes every woman, however capable. This is not only unjust, but at this time of day intolerable, and it would be far better to have no Bill at all than a Bill which enlarges, emphasises, and perpetuates this injustice. It is necessary to speak plainly on this subject, because we regret to see that the attitude of the Prime Minister is hardening. He does not in this matter share the view of the majority of the Cabinet and the majority of the Liberal party inside the House of Commons, and we believe undoubtedly in the country also. He selected two strong opponents of the enfranchisement of women to move the first and second readings of the Franchise Bill, and he yesterday affected to treat the whole question of the inclusion of women in the Bill as having been virtually settled by the adverse vote some months ago on the Conciliation Bill. That is a departure, greatly to be regretted, from the fair and—from an opponent—even generous attitude he has hitherto taken up on this contested question. It is not consistent with this attitude or, we must say, with any profession of neutrality that he should use the great authority derived from his position as Prime Minister and leader of the party to prejudice the House of Commons in favour of his own view, which is not the view of the majority of the party. The vote on the Conciliation Bill was largely a catch vote. The majority against it barely exceeded the number of the miners' members who were compulsorily absent on that day, and who would every one have voted for it. Mr. Asquith may, of course, prove to be right, and women may be excluded from the Bill. But in that case the heaviest condemnation from the point of view of Liberal principle will have been passed upon it, and we can only wish it short shrift and speedy burial.

We are very glad also to record that the "Daily News and Leader" concluded its leader with these words:—

It is not conceivable to us that a House committed as the present House is to the cause of Women's Suffrage can permit the Bill to pass without the inclusion of women. Mr. Harcourt spoke of the objections to the adult suffrage being extended to women; but when Mr. Healy asked whether he spoke for the Government, he had to admit that he did not. If the House, taking advantage of the folly of the militants, fails to insert a women's clause, it will not escape the issue; it will only make the struggle more prolonged and more bitter. It will drive into extreme courses thousands of those women—and they are the vast majority—who have patiently and quietly worked for the cause, believing that those who have promised them their support would fulfil their undertaking. Let us once be clear that this question must and will be settled in the only way that plain justice admits, and we shall not hesitate to take the plunge now rather than later.

In Parliament.

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

Last week we gave a brief report of the debate on Monday, 8th, when Mr. Lewis Harcourt moved the second reading of the Franchise Bill. Mr. HARCOURT said incidentally that the Bill "proposed to reform on the basis of reason and judgment," and that he was convinced "that there is a long-sustained desire for this reform on the part of the great majority of the voters in the country." Later on he remarked, "I think it is time we began to repent of some of our absurdities." He declared it to be the intention of the Government to bring in a redistribution of seats before the next General Election, and also a measure of reform of the local Government franchise, by which women would profit. Another passage in his speech appeared to indicate that the occupation franchise might be dropped for Parliamentary purposes. We hope that many of our readers will read the verbatim report of Lord Robert Cecil's manly and eloquent speech, which we were able only briefly to summarise. Sir ROBERT FINLAY said the "strong popular demand" might be measured by the meagre attendance on the Ministerial side. The only demand came from party wire-pullers.

On Thursday, 11th, Sir HENRY CRAIK resumed the debate, declaring that there was no demand for the vote among the three million whom the Bill proposed to enfranchise. Mr. JOHN BURNS said he attributed much of the social unrest and economic discontent to the fact that "the common people so-called" were not proportionately represented. He did not think we ought to wait till the people became "articulate and more determined." Mr. JAMES JONES said that, holding as he did that House

should represent persons and not interests or property or classes, he could not resist the claim of women. He believed militant outrages had done much harm, but he hoped members would not now shrink because of them, but would give "a reasoned decision consonant with their decisions of the past." Mr. CRAWSHAY WILLIAMS opined that "if we concentrate on one amendment, and see that we are not out-manceuvred, we have every prospect of carrying it." Mr. E. S. MONTAGU said he was one of those who believed in women's enfranchisement, though he thought the results were much exaggerated.

On July 12th Mr. BALFOUR made a notable contribution to an otherwise very poor debate (incidentally we note that by a masterpiece of ingenuity the "Times" description on June 13th gave the impression that Mr. Balfour had made an anti-suffrage speech). When Mr. Balfour deals with the philosophic basis of a system he shows with the utmost ease the enormous superiority of his mind over the minds of other members of the House. He discussed the conception of representation as opposed to mere delegation, and showed how the growth of the latter conception was degrading Parliament. The House of Commons as a "school of Ministers" was losing all efficacy, and the life of a public man was becoming intolerable. He argued that the Liberals were "not only doctrinaires, but bad doctrinaires." Mr. Harcourt had said representation of individuals was the basis of this Bill, but the Bill belied that statement. "Here is a Government which asks us to make a profound alteration in our traditional system in obedience to a doctrine. That doctrine is that each individual shall have equal rights. The Government, as a Government, do not know who the individuals are. Some of the members of the Government say that the individuals who are at present ill-used number two millions; others put the number at 12 millions. Is that a proper position? If you are to go by theory, if you are to be doctrinaires, if that is what you aim at, at all events make your doctrine clear, and let the Government which is responsible for the Bill tell us what the doctrine is. Is it that every individual is to have equal rights? . . . If you are going to base your system on the individual, the female should be considered as much as the male." Referring to Mr. Harcourt, he said, "He is a believer in individuals, but only in male individuals. He thinks your whole system should be based upon equal representation, equal individuals, provided that the individual happens to be a man. I call that a very poor doctrine." Mr. Balfour went on to criticise the position of the Government in taking no responsibility for "a great and fundamental issue, the greatest of all issues raised by the Bill." He believed the whole of this was "an ingenious manoeuvre."

Mr. ASQUITH, in his reply, said: "This Bill does not propose to confer the franchise upon women and whatever extensions of the franchise it makes are to male persons only. Speaking for myself I cannot help remembering, as we all must remember, that the House at an earlier stage of the session rejected with, I think, sufficient decisiveness the proposal to confer the franchise on women and so far as I am concerned I dismiss as this moment as altogether improbable the hypothesis that the House of Commons is likely to stultify itself by reversing in the same session the considered judgment at which it has already arrived." He went on to say that whatever Government attempted to deal with the franchise would be faced with the same difficulty that they were divided on the question of women's suffrage. He declared that the Bill was intended to do substantially two things, (1) abolish plural voting and (2) enable those to get the vote who are at present "artificially kept off the register by such obstacles as the length of the electoral period of qualification." He declared that "representation is the necessary instrument by which the principles of democratic government are applied to large communities," and he thought legislators ought to get as near as they could to reflection of the views for the time being of the electors. He declared that Members of Parliament were not free to back the pledges or promises made in election time. He protested against "the prevention by artificial and technical difficulties of persons otherwise in every way qualified for the franchise from getting on the register."

Mr. HOHLER implored the Government, if women's suffrage passed, to drop the Bill. Mr. KING declared he would vote for the inclusion of women on the same terms as men, and held out hopes that argument might lead him to vote for a compromise.

Mr. BONAR LAW protested against the way the Government was treating women's suffrage and said he was prepared to vote for a modified extension of the suffrage to women.

The most noteworthy contribution of Sir J. SIMON was the remark that if the House of Lords would carry the Franchise Bill, with redistribution, this year, they would have it. It was a safe offer!

The Second Reading passed by 290 to 218; majority 72. Mr. Stanger's Bill, which was the last Bill introduced to give women the vote on the same terms as men passed its Second Reading by 179 in 1908.

THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

On July 9th Mr. O'GRADY again appealed to the House to intervene to secure that the Port of London Authority should meet the dockers. Mr. CROOKS made a moving speech. "I think," he said, "the men have shown a heroic sacrifice which is only exceeded by the women in this fight. It is simply amazing to see women walking about with empty breasts trying to nourish their children. That is the kind of moral courage that has made our country great." He appealed for the non-combatants in this fight, the women and children. He declared that if the masters objected to negotiate with some of the people in the movement, they would send others.

Mr. ELLIS GRIFFITH promised that he would convey the substance of these speeches to the Prime Minister, who "has the matter in hand."

Mr. O'GRADY returned to the charge on July 11th, and implored the House to intervene. He declared Lord Devonport's attitude to be—"You have got your man beaten, and when he goes to get through the ropes you begin to kick him." Mr. PEASE promised to inform the Prime Minister, and said the House had expressed its view that a settlement ought to have been arrived at before this.

SANATORIA UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT.

On the 11th Mr. GRANT moved the adjournment of the House to draw attention to the lack of arrangements for sanatorium benefit which was to be an immediate benefit under the Act,

dating from July 15th. He quoted from a leaflet by Mr. Chiozza Money which declared "there is no waiting period for the sanatorium benefit. Let every working man remember that the first fourpence he pays under the Act gives him a right to the sanatorium benefit" and Mr. FORSTER subsequently quoted from Mr. Lloyd George's "Tabernacle speech," in which he described the sanatorium benefit—"You go to a great building in the country where the patient gets the best nursing, the best doctoring and the best food for his case, open air, and he will live practically in a sort of consumptive first-class hotel for three or four months." "What I want to know" said Mr. FORSTER "is where are these first-class hotels?"

Mr. ASTOR, chairman of the departmental committee on the treatment of tuberculosis under the Insurance Act made an extremely moderate, well-informed and weighty appeal that the so-called sanatorium benefit should be postponed until preparations for it were further advanced. Readers of the COMMON CAUSE will remember the article by Dr. Jane Walker in our issue of May 30th, on the recommendations of the Astor Committee, and will realise that the representations of the Chairman are not such as should be lightly set aside. Mr. MASTERMAN, in replying, was personally courteous and even complimentary to Mr. Astor; he explained that the committee was only appointed after the Act was passed; that the work of the Local Government Board had been held up while they awaited the Committee's report; that "in a subject which is still full of controversy it would have been folly on their part to make preparations until they had the result of such a Committee" and yet—he proposed not to take the advice of its Chairman, to postpone sanatorium benefit until it was more likely to be administered in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee. Mr. Worthington Evans and Mr. Forster supported Mr. Astor; Dr. Addison and Mr. Chiozza Money supported Mr. Masterman.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Non-Party.

Non-Militant.

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

PRESIDENT:

Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

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Miss EDITH PALLISER (Parliamentary).
Miss CATHERINE MARSHALL.

Telegrams: "Voicelers, London."

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The Political Situation.

AMENDMENTS TO THE FRANCHISE BILL.

Amendments to the Franchise Bill were printed in an Order Paper published on Monday, and it is evident that those which have for their object the inclusion of women in the Bill follow very much the lines which were anticipated.

Readers of the COMMON CAUSE may be reminded that the first clause of the Bill deals with Parliamentary Franchise, and reads as follows:—

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary elector for a constituency, if that person is qualified in accordance with this Act to be registered in that constituency, and while so registered shall be entitled to vote at an election of a member to serve in Parliament for that constituency; but a person shall not be registered or vote for more than one constituency.

(2) For the purposes of this Act a person shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a Parliamentary elector if that person resides, or is an occupier of land or premises in that constituency, and has so resided, or been an occupier, for a continuous period of at least six months last past, or during such a period has so resided for part of the period, and so been an occupier for the remainder of the period.

The first and most important amendment, to omit the word "male" in the first sentence, has been put down in the following names:—

Sir Edward Grey.	Mr. Crawshaw Williams.
Mr. Alfred Lyttleton.	Mr. Runciman.
Mr. Henderson.	Sir Godfrey Baring.
Mr. Dickinson.	Mr. Henry M'Laren.
Lord Robert Cecil.	Mr. Arthur Henderson.
Mr. Snowden.	Mr. James Thomas.
Sir Henry Norman.	

It must be a matter for great satisfaction to Suffragists that their amendment is supported by distinguished members of all parties, and there can be little doubt that it will obtain a majority. This done, the House will have declared its intention

not to confine the Bill to "male" persons only, and we shall look with confidence to the passage of a further amendment defining the terms in which women are to vote. A number of other amendments on somewhat similar lines—to insert the words "of either sex" or the words "male and female" after person—have been put down, and would presumably be ruled out by the passage of the first amendment. Amendments defining the terms on which women shall vote come into the second paragraph, and are practically three in number. Mr. Arthur Henderson, Mr. Snowden, and Mr. James Thomas move to insert the words "of either sex" in the first sentence of the second paragraph, thus making the Bill a measure of adult suffrage. The "Dickinson" or "Grey" amendment is moved by Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Acland in the following terms:—

After "a" insert "Female person shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a Parliamentary elector if she is over twenty-five years of age, and is the inhabitant occupier as owner or tenant, or the wife of such an inhabitant occupier, of a dwelling house in that constituency, and has resided therein for a period of at least six months last past. Provided that except as herein enacted, no women shall be registered as joint occupiers in respect of the same dwelling."

It will be seen that this amendment enfranchises women householders and wives of householders, and therefore represents a familiar idea except in so far as it differentiates between men and women in respect of age. An amendment has, however, been put down to raise the age of all electors to twenty-five, so possibly the question of difference may not arise.

The third or "Conciliation Bill" amendment appears in the names of Mr. Alfred Lyttleton and Mr. Goldman as follows:—

After "person" insert:—
(a) Being a female, shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a Parliamentary elector, if she is a local government elector for the purpose of all local government elections in that constituency.
(b) Being a male . . .

The National Union will doubtless immediately be assailed with questions as to which of these amendments it prefers. It is

clear since we demand the vote for women on the same terms as men, we cannot "prefer" an amendment which falls short of this claim. Our demand is simple and it is logical; if Members of Parliament must arrange for a compromise, then we leave its manufacture to them. K. D. COURTNEY.

Provincial Council Meeting.

The Provincial Council, which met at Ipswich on July 12th, was attended by representatives from nearly all the Federations, and was one of the most successful and interesting of these gatherings ever held.

The increasing size of the National Union makes the General Council a very large body, and the amount of important business it has to transact is so great that time can now rarely be found for the discussion of the internal affairs of the Union. An opportunity for doing this is afforded by the Provincial Council, which has proved itself extremely valuable as an occasion for the exchange of ideas between the Federations and the Executive of the National Union. That the Council appreciates this was proved by the fact that on this occasion it negated proposals both to abolish the Provincial Council and to reduce the number of the meetings from one to two.

In her opening remarks, Mrs. Fawcett said that the movement had reached an extremely critical stage; she believed that if no effort were spared, and if no untoward event occurred, we should be successful in obtaining the passage of a Women's Suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill.

The political situation and the prospects of the Women's Suffrage amendment were fully discussed, and it was resolved that the Federations should at once begin to make arrangements for the effective approach in the autumn of every Member of Parliament; it was further decided to urge societies to take steps to raise money for the Election Fighting Fund, and to hold meetings in the autumn to demand the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill. The Council also recommended the adoption of the scheme of the Liverpool Society for forwarding post cards to Members of Parliament.

An extremely interesting report of the Election Fighting Fund Committee was read. The meeting showed itself determined to carry out the policy effectively, and after a careful discussion, the following resolution was passed:—

That it be a recommendation to the Federations to raise money for the Election Fighting Fund, and that Federations which desire, and are able to undertake propaganda work in their area on behalf of the Election Fighting Fund, with the approval of the Executive Committee, apply to the Committee of Election Fighting Fund for a grant for that purpose.

The new manager of THE COMMON CAUSE, Miss Longley, was present and explained the financial position of THE COMMON CAUSE, pointing out that the immediate need was to raise the circulation of the paper to 20,000 at least. Mrs. Swanwick also spoke on THE COMMON CAUSE, and Mrs. Fawcett from the chair moved a resolution, which was carried unanimously, calling upon the societies to promote the sale of the paper.

The best method of carrying out the "Friends of Women's Suffrage" scheme was discussed, and it was evident that this work has already been warmly taken up. The scheme is to some extent modelled on the lines of the Women's Suffrage Party in New York, and Miss Royden told the Council that she had learned that the New York Society is much gratified that it has been thought worth while to adopt a similar plan in England.

Several other resolutions referring to important details of organisation were passed; a full list of the resolutions and a report of the meeting will be forwarded to Federation secretaries.

The cordial thanks of the Council are due to the Ipswich Society for their delightful hospitality. Ipswich very kindly undertook to entertain the Council at very short notice; but the arrangements made were perfect in every detail, and nothing was omitted which would contribute to the comfort of the delegates. A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Ipswich Society, and in particular to Miss Gale, Mrs. Griffiths, and Miss Griffin, who seemed to be everywhere, and to think of everything.

In addition to the business meeting of the Council, the dele-

gates were invited to a reception on the previous evening, when they had a much-valued opportunity of informal conversation. During the course of the evening a meeting was held between Federation secretaries and those members of the Organisation Committee who were present, an arrangement which it is hoped may be repeated on other occasions, as it proved extremely helpful to all who were able to attend. K. D. COURTNEY.

Summer School for Suffragists.

WEST MIDLAND FEDERATION.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

It is proposed to hold a Summer School for Suffragists on the Malvern Hills, Worcestershire, from July 30th to August 13th (two courses). The School will be held in the Malvern Ladies' College, which is within easy reach of the golf links, tennis courts and swimming baths.

Terms, inclusive of board, lodging and tuition, range from 30s. to 35s. for the course of one week, according as cubicles or single bedrooms are desired.

Arrangements are now being made with well-known speakers to deliver lectures on the legal position of women, women in industry, history of women's suffrage, etc., and to give us the benefit of their knowledge and experience in the technique of organisation. Speakers' classes will also be held daily. The morning will be devoted to classes and lectures, the afternoon or evening to practical work in the neighbourhood, when students will canvass, organise and speak at village meetings.

Students who wish to avoid the expense of the small railway fares thus involved, are asked to bring bicycles (the distances will never be very great, but the country is hilly).

All students will be asked to be so kind as to make their own beds in the morning, and to contribute a small sum on leaving towards the fund for servants' tips. The only extra charges will be for baths and for cleaning boots. These charges will be paid direct to the college housekeeper and will not form part of the Summer School terms.

Miss A. Maude Royden has kindly consented to open the School on the morning of July 31st. Miss Chrystal Macmillan will speak to students on the morning of August 3rd, and Miss Helen Fraser is coming for the whole of the second week. Mr. Brailsford has also kindly promised to come if he can possibly spare the time.

The School will be under the management of Miss E. J. D. Morrison and Mrs. Irene Meyer, the West Midland Federation Organisers.

Information as to prices of admission to single lectures may be had from Miss Noel Wright, Sutton Lodge, Solihull, Warwickshire, to whom all inquiries should be addressed and all applications made.

Treasurer's Notes.

It has always seemed strange to me that women, keenly interested in social and political questions, ready to give themselves to an astonishing degree for the furtherance of a cause, should so far fight shy of the indispensable and interesting work of a Finance Committee.

A goal inspires them, machinery fascinates (and, alas! sometimes absorbs) them; they may often be found feeding the engine fires with feverish zeal, but without much thought of the coal supply, leaving its maintenance with the greatest unconcern to a treasurer or treasurers, upon whose money-producing power rests really the whole concern.

Is it that women are the dispensers and conservers of money but not the producers of it?

A Finance Committee itself is far too inclined to think its function is simply to pass accounts and to vote grants.

Its real work is to prepare a budget, with all the uncertainty of a small, fluctuating membership and a large unknown public to beg from, instead of an enumerated community to tax.

The consideration of the work that has immediately to be

FAMILIAR INITIALS AND THEIR MEANINGS.

N. U. W. S. S. (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies).—**Objects.**—to obtain the Parliamentary Vote for Women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. **Methods.** Constitutional.
W. S. P. U. (Women's Social and Political Union). **Objects.**—Same as above. **Methods.**—Militant.
T. P. W. B. (Templar Printing Works, Birmingham.) Printers for both above great Organizations (and many others) **Objects.**—To obtain by trading, Funds to be used exclusively for the extension of the Cause of Temperance—no personal profit-takers or shareholders. **Methods.**—For our employees—Trade Union Conditions. For our customers.—Best work at lowest remunerative prices.

MAY WE SERVE YOU ?

done and the line of least resistance—how nearly the cost may be estimated—where the money is to come from—what sources can be tapped for special purposes without diverting the supply from normal revenue—when one must spend quickly and freely, and when one must “go slow”—how hold the just mean between fairness in payment and scrupulous care of funds provided by a sympathetic public—how the money can be distributed with equity and wisdom—these are some of the questions that confront a Finance Committee that takes itself seriously.

Of late the National Union has had such response to its appeal for money that many of our members suffering, as most of us do, from a lack of a sense of proportion, are elated and satisfied, and think it strange that our untiring treasurer should go on begging. It is because we believe that among both those who have given and those who will give, as soon as they realise what this struggle for political liberty means, there are many who know little of the financial side of our work as it presents itself in detail to a Finance Committee, that I have been asked to write something of the subject.

While full of hope and rejoicing at the growth of our members and resources, the members of our Committee are often grave with the responsibility of preparing such a report for the Executive as will make the money go as far as possible, and meeting the wishes of the organisation sub-committee, whose recommendations for spending pour in upon us. Their work is to put into effect the instructions of the delegates in Council assembled; ours to say if and how far we can incur fresh liabilities.

With any large increase of work over the country must come a corresponding increase at the centre.

I am always glad that we have worked together firmly on the principle of dealing as fairly and generously as possible with office staff and organisers, and keeping out of debt. We reserve a sum, with the sanction of the Executive, to meet fully our inevitable liabilities, and say boldly to our members, “let us have your money *before* we spend it.”

M. STANBURY (Chairman, Finance Committee).

Literature Department.

“PLAIN ANSWERS TO TANGLED STATEMENTS.”

Those who have read Miss Royden's answers to the Anti-Suffrage Handbook in the COMMON CAUSE will be glad to have them in pamphlet form. The handbook itself is not very easy to get, as it is only distributed with caution by the N.L.O.W.S., but questions from it are often asked at meetings, and it is well that all Suffragists should know from what a tangle of misapprehensions these questions arise.

A. 87. “Plain Answers to Tangled Statements” By A. Maude Royden. 1d.

BY-ELECTION LEAFLET.

A special leaflet has been published for use at by-elections where the National Union is supporting the Labour candidate.

B. 78. Price 6d. per 100, 4s. 6d. per 1,000 (red, white, and green covers).

The National Union is stocking an excellent pamphlet on Lydia Becker, published by the Women's Freedom League, and uniform with the pamphlets previously published on Josephine Butler, Florence Nightingale, and Elizabeth Fry.

“Lydia Becker.” By Marion Holmes. Price 3d.

NEWEST LEAFLETS.

B. 75. “The Reform Bill and Woman Suffrage.” 1s. 6d. per 100.
B. 74. “Suffrage or Party?” 4d. per 100, 2s. 6d. per 1,000.
B. 76. “Friends of Women's Suffrage.” 6d. per 100, 4s. 6d. per 1,000.
B. 77. “Women's Work in Local Government.” 1s. 6d. per 100.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

Friends of Women's Suffrage.

Since I sent in my report last week the following additional societies have announced their intention of working the “Friends of Women's Suffrage” scheme. The total number of National Union Societies which have now adopted it is 59:—

Cambridge.
Haslemere.
Hitchin, Stevenage and District.
Lincoln.
Street.
Winscombe.
Whaley Bridge and District.

Nottingham was one of the first societies to take up the scheme which fitted on well to the organised visiting and distribution of literature which it was already carrying out.

For “Common Cause” Fountain Pen offer, see page 256.

In some places there is a difficulty in finding visitors and this is of course not surprising. It is naturally hard to find people to carry out any new piece of work, when we are most of us working so hard already. It is all the more gratifying to hear of such success as that attained by the Maidenhead Society, which has found almost as many visitors as it has members.

The “Friends of Women's Suffrage” are not to be confined to Great Britain; the Irish Women's Reform League is beginning to collect them, and with the help of the Irish Women's Suffrage Federation, it hopes to carry out the work in all parts of Ireland.

I. B. O'MALLEY
(Hon. Sec. to F.W.S. Committee).

The Common Cause.

POEM AND ILLUSTRATION (in colours) BY FLORA ANNIE STEEL.
We have received a most handsome gift from Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, the distinguished author. She has given us a beautiful poem and a sketch illustrating it. The poem makes impassioned appeal for the woman's standpoint in sex relations. We hope to publish it in our issue of August 15, with the illustration as a coloured supplement.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

Mrs. Auerbach has received a letter from East London (S. Africa), in which the writer, after thanking her for a parcel of literature, bearing on Women's Suffrage, writes: “So far I have been able to order six copies of the ‘Common Cause’ for the year, as everyone seems to appreciate the paper immensely. I hope that others will subscribe too.”

Mrs. Hecht sends us £3, and the Misses Balleny, enclosing a donation to the Election Fighting Fund, write that they “would like at the same time to express their appreciation of the ‘Common Cause,’ and the extremely able way in which it is edited.” We have recently received a large number of letters expressive of appreciation of the paper, and at Ipswich an appeal was made for more sellers. It is essential that the work and policy of the National Union should be clearly stated, since misrepresentation is always abroad especially in the party Press.

By-Elections.

CREWE DIVISION.

J. H. Holmes (Labour).
Candidates: H. Murphy (Liberal).
E. Craig (Unionist).

National Union Organiser: Miss Margaret Robertson.

National Union Committee Rooms:—

CREWE:—46, High Street. (Central Committee Rooms) Miss Reeves in charge.

NANTWICH:—2c, High Street (Mrs. Townley in charge),

SANDBACH:—The Square (Mrs. Darlington in charge).

ALSAGER:—Care of Sherratt, Crewe Road.

POLLING DAY:—July 27th.

Our campaign is now in full swing. We have had Committee-rooms opened in Crewe, Nantwich, and Sandbach all the week, and have found them of such immense value and importance that we are now opening a fourth at Alsager.

The reception we are getting everywhere is magnificent. Although Mr. Murphy tried, at first, to make Mr. Holmes out “undemocratic” (happy phrase!) because he would refuse to help men to enter the door which women had forced open, if the women were to be still shut out, the working-men of the Crewe division grasp too well the force of the Labour Party's position, and after the first day or two all heckling on the subject ceased.

We have not yet been able to issue our election address, as the last candidate's address, from which it was necessary to quote, only appeared on Saturday, but it will be out on Monday before this appears. That will, it is hoped, make clear our position even to the most hardened supporter of Mr. Craig or Mr. Murphy. But, to do them justice, whilst they one and all say that they “wish” we were helping their man, very few of them make any question of the wisdom of our policy, from our own point of view.

The Labour Party heartily welcome our backing, and are backing us for all they are worth. At every one of Mr. Holmes' meetings one of the speakers, at least, deals fully with the question of women's suffrage. At their first big meeting, on Tuesday, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald spoke with great enthusiasm, to a no less enthusiastic audience. “We are in for a big fight for the women, and we mean to stand by them. The Labour Party will use every ounce of power and every ounce of influence they have to get women included in the Reform Bill.” His description of the women as “every one a Chancellor of the Exchequer in her own home” and “in many cases much more



CREWE BY-ELECTION.

[Photo: H. Bullock, Crewe.]

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES: COMMITTEE ROOM.
By the Door: Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A.



CREWE BY-ELECTION.

[Photo: E. Hulton and Co]

AN INCIDENT.

The Tory Candidate's “crowd” after the arrival of Miss Margaret Robertson. Mr. Craig is seen wistfully contemplating his “lost legions.”

fitted to vote than you are yourselves," also evoked loud and prolonged applause.

On Thursday, Mr. Keir Hardie spoke of the Reform Bill, and his declaration that he would vote against it were women not included, was heartily received. Mr. Holmes also dealt with the question ably and at length.

On Friday, at a huge meeting in the New Theatre, Crewe, Miss Robertson spoke for a quarter of an hour, and both her advocacy of her cause, and the allusions to it by the men speakers, were vociferously cheered. Indeed, whilst intense enthusiasm prevailed throughout the meeting, it was never more marked than when a thunderous burst of applause greeted Mr. Holmes' vigorous appeal, "You make the women work like men—how dare you refuse to let them vote like men!"

We are holding a great many combined meetings with the Labour men, and are doing everything in our power to give them effective political help. "Womanly" help we are also ready to give, as when they send round their motor-car to be decorated by defter fingers—at that sort of job—than their own!

Our own motor-car and wagonette, gay with the colours, are now well known. In every country road the cry of "Women's Suffrage" goes up when the red, white, and green appear. The enthusiasm of the women is as striking as that of the men.

We were amused to see in the "Standard" that the N.L.O.W.S. are doing more in Crewe than they have ever done in any other election, as at present nothing has been seen or heard of them at all since the campaign opened.

We have a fine show of Artists' League posters all over the constituency, and they are very effective, as the parties have no pictures out at all. They are grouped and framed in red, and tell out more than anything else on the hoardings.

THE COMMON CAUSE is selling well, and so are badges.

CREWE.—At these Committee Rooms we have been very busy. Miss Reeves, Mrs. Powell, and Miss Lillian, with all their local knowledge and experience, prove invaluable. Mrs. Powell has taken over entirely the harassing job of finding lodgings for all comers, and no hitch ever seems to occur in any of her arrangements. She is also helping Miss Ward with the press work.

Miss St. John, who arrived early in the week, has proved a great acquisition. The arranging of meetings is her speciality, and she fits them in like a Chinese puzzle. She also takes any number of them herself, but she wants, and we all want more speakers, for every fresh speaker means so many more meetings, and we cannot have too many. So please come, anyone who can speak at all. We are also offering clerical work and canvassers to the Labour Party, so all help is welcome.

NANTWICH.—On Tuesday last our Committee Rooms were opened here by Miss Cooper and Miss Sheard, but as Miss Cooper had to return to Manchester, Mrs. Townley has now taken her place, and is in charge.

Miss Sheard has been most active in arranging and holding meetings, and other speakers have gone over from time to time to help. Mrs. Townley, although she has not spoken before, has often taken the chair, and will soon be a speaker. Moreover, here, as in Crewe, meetings have been held in conjunction with Labour speakers. Labour meetings have also been attended, and literature distributed.

Many people call at the shop, and the talks carried on there and outside the works are probably as valuable as the meetings in the way of propaganda.

The curiosity first evinced is rapidly changing to sympathy, and every day our meetings improve, till on Friday the meeting at Willaston, addressed by Mrs. Earp, was an extraordinary success. We have every hope of forming a strong society in Nantwich before we leave.

SANDBACH.—Mrs. Darlington has been working with most striking success at Sandbach. She went there on Saturday, July 6th, to find a Committee room, but experienced some difficulty, as there was not a vacant shop in the place. In despair, she enquired of the village clogger if he thought the people in the cottage next to his shop would be likely to let a room? It proved to be his own cottage, and the front room his best parlour; as he was an ardent admirer of Mr. Murphy, and a member of the Liberal Committee, it took some time and persuasion to induce him to let the room. The next difficulty was to persuade his wife not only to dismantle her parlour, but also to give up a bedroom for the use of the organiser! At last all was amicably arranged and the little Committee Room has been the envy of both political parties. The room was cleared, and decorated with posters, colours, etc., on Tuesday morning amidst great excitement and eager questioning. Good propaganda is being done by making friends with the inhabitants, as Mrs. Darlington so well can. There is a locked door communicating with the cobbler's premises, through the chink and keyhole of which he daily reads to Mrs. Darlington extracts

from the newspapers. The townspeople were extremely doubtful of us until they were made to understand that we are non-militant. One man, an ardent follower of Mr. Murphy, who was studying the posters outside, on having some literature given to him, and an invitation to come inside, threw the literature down, and remarked in forcible language that "he had no time to waste on window-smashers and fools." But even his own party disapproved of him, and he was heard no more. The dogs in Sandbach have taken a lively interest, and are in constant attendance at the Committee Room. One smart brown Pom. appeared on Saturday morning wearing our colours; Mrs. Darlington searched out the owner, called on him, and thanked him for supporting us in this way! He replied, "Now't of 't sort; she's a nasty, snarling, snapping thing, and that is why I've made her a Sufferagette!" It took a little time to calm him down, but he was left a wiser man with a quantity of literature to digest. These are the only instances of open animosity. Two or three meetings have been held each day. Thursday, being Market Day, was very lively, people being in and around the room most of the day. Mr. Earp held two meetings in the Market Place, the evening meeting being most enthusiastic. The Liberal candidate had to wait a time for a hearing. Dinner-hour meetings are held outside the large works. The local printer has just brought in two beautifully printed cards on which to announce meetings and he is printing slips with the names of the speakers to be inserted each day. This is his gift to the Cause.

ALSAGER.—Mrs. Darlington has secured a good Committee Room here, exactly opposite to Mr. Murphy's and to-morrow she will probably go over to start things there as she did so successfully at Sandbach. It will be easier to get someone to carry on her good work at Sandbach, than to make so admirable a first impression as she has proved herself able to do.

We have already taken over posters, literature, etc., in the motor, and with the help of our most obliging chauffeur have cleaned and decorated the windows, so that all is ready to open a campaign here on Monday.

PRESS.—We have had very fair reports on the whole, and the *Manchester Guardian* has gone out of its way on two occasions to draw our attention to misconceptions of our position in the constituency. On one occasion, Mr. Edgar Jones, M.P., made some extraordinary statements to the effect that we only wanted the vote for rich women, and that they were the women who refused to pay insurance for their maids; which, thanks to the report, we were able at once to contradict on the spot where it was uttered. The other occasion was when, at the moment that Mr. Keir Hardie declared his intention of opposing the Reform Bill if women were not included, a man rushed up to the platform and flung down half-a-crown, and said he would work for the Labour Party no more. The *Guardian* forestalled those papers (the *Daily News* was one) which tried to make out that the man was a protestant anti-Suffragist, by saying that there was clearly no connection between the two but temporal coincidence, though some might misconceive it. And the *Daily News* was obliged, next day, to withdraw its implication, and explain that the man was an old soldier protesting against some previous remarks about the use of the military in strikes. The fine leader in the *Manchester Guardian* on Saturday, July 14th, will also do us great service.

APPEAL.—We want more helpers for canvassing, etc., especially those who can pay their own expenses (these are not at all heavy, as we can get them lodgings at a moderate rate). We want more speakers urgently. The constituency is large, and every district needs a staff of speakers.

We want motor-cars, especially on polling-day, when we shall not be able to use our hired vehicles. This will probably be July 27th.

The campaign is an outrageously long one. We shall have been at work a full three weeks, and fresh workers and speakers in the last week will be especially welcome.

We can assure all speakers that they will enjoy themselves here. The meetings, of intelligent, skilled, working-men are of the very best type possible. Our man, Mr. Holmes, is an ideal candidate; a sound, practical, honest man, with plenty of fire and enthusiasm, and the gift of eloquent, racy, and inspiring speech. He gains on his opponents every day, and we anticipate a triumphant victory. Come and help.

HANLEY—Result:—

R. L. Outhwaite (L.)	6,647
G. H. Rittner (U.)	5,993
S. Finney (Lab.)	1,694
Liberal majority	654

The figures in December, 1910, were:—

E. Edwards (Lab.)	8,343
G. H. Rittner (U.)	4,658

Labour majority 3,685

This curious result is seen:—

Increase in total poll:—1,333.

Conservative gain:—1,335.

Liberal gain:—6,647.

Labour loss:—6,649.

Mr. Outhwaite got 1,696 fewer votes than Mr. Enoch Edwards, and all but two of these votes would seem to have been given to Mr. Finney.

Mrs. Annot Robinson writes:—The result of the Hanley election is disappointing to many. Personally, I am not surprised. We had very fine meetings in Hanley after Mrs. Cooper had opened out, and the prejudice of the people there was soon turned into appreciation of, and admiration for, our workers and speakers. Burslem was a harder nut to crack, but by the end of the week Miss Matters had magnificent meetings there. From our point of view the contest was well worth while because of the amount of sympathy we received and the number of friends we made. The change which came over the attitude of the people towards us was wonderful, although a very mean and unworthy piece of electioneering was resorted to by our opponents. The minds of the pottery girls were being poisoned against us. They were told that our speakers called them "pottery wenches," and said they were "no good," etc., etc. Naturally, when such lies are carefully circulated they influence public opinion, and so they did in Hanley; we had little time to contradict such false statements. Still, we won the people to listen to us and to be good suffragists.

For various reasons Mr. Finney was not a popular candidate. Time after time we were told by people in our audiences, that "It Sam Finney could speak like you women he'd win." The Liberal Party had in Mr. Outhwaite a man who was in touch with the times and up-to-date in his appeal to the people. From the beginning we all recognised that we could not win. But the result of the poll must not be taken as a fair measure of the support given to Labour and Suffrage in Hanley. It is not. There is no real ground for discouragement.

The votes for Labour, won in the short space of one week in the first real Labour contest at Hanley, are no mean achievement, and promise well for the future. The Labour Party, through Mr. A. Peters, Mr. Hague and Mr. Fogarty, supported us well. We worked together harmoniously. Our new development of policy is a splendid weapon, and in view of that most vindictive speech of Mr. Asquith's on Friday, we must go on fearlessly along the path we have chosen.

BURSLEM CAMPAIGN.

The Burslem campaign was brought to a close on Friday night by two grand meetings, held respectively in Swan and St. John Squares. Mrs. Cooper and Miss Muriel Matters, supported by Miss Meeke and Mrs. Streeter, gave convincing and inspiring addresses. In both places the deep hush that pervaded the dense crowd round the platforms gave an air of almost solemnity to the meetings, in fact, as one man remarked, "Twas like being in church, for you could have heard a pin drop."

An almost dramatic point was reached when a sturdy old workman called upon Miss Meeke to report a conversation she had had with two pottery girl workers that morning. It appears that these two girls have a great wish to go to London, one into domestic service, and the other having a nice voice and a gift for dancing, had been told by some man visiting the town, that he would get her on to the music-hall stage. Miss Meeke had frankly and kindly warned the girls of the terrible dangers lurking in such offers and the terrible fate that often meets young, inexperienced girls in our great cities. The crowd received this little story with sympathetic cheers, and Miss Muriel Matters then spoke on the need of the White Slave Traffic Bill coming into force.

The workers in Burslem consider that a really fine work has been done here in the Women's Cause, about which before this little was known, and a splendid number of supporters have been won over.

IMPRESSIONS ON THE SPOT.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The by-election at Hanley was remarkable for the unceasing

Contributions to the General Fund.

ANNUAL RECEIPTS OF SOCIETIES AS PER ANNUAL REPORTS

Altrincham	70 17 6	Exeter	94 10 1	Portsmouth	91 16 3
Bangor	53 17 3	Falmouth	52 6 6	Preston	25 4 9
Barnsley	48 8 7	Guildford	38 11 1	Radcliffe cum Farnworth	25 14 11
Berks	8 11 0	West Herts	62 17 1	Reigate and Redhill	110 4 6
Mid Bucks	35 3 11	Hithin and District	66 8 6	Sevenoaks	31 17 5
Burton-on-Trent	26 0 7	Hull	152 6 6	S. Shields and Jarrow	7 7 1
Camberley and District	43 17 4	Leeds	26 14 6	Tanbridge Wells	77 2 7
Colwyn Bay	37 13 7	Leicester and Leicestershire	130 4 9	Wallasey and Wirral	59 16 5
Croydon	53 5 11	Lincoln	41 3 1	Whitley	37 5 0
Eastbourne	30 11 7	London	24 11 11	N. Wilts	10 18 7
		Malton	3,327 3 4	Winchester	30 13 4
		Malton and District	4 0 8	Wisbech	8 3 11
		Nottingham	218 16 10	Woking	17 12 7
		Oxford	114 4 2	Worthing	21 8 10
		Oxted and Limsfield	52 4 4	York	72 8 5

flow of outdoor oratory in the squares and open parts of the town. From early morning to midnight it would have been possible to collect a listening crowd in the more frequented parts. In every quarter of the towns the Suffragists were to be found with large crowds gathered around them. Most of the National Union work was done in the holding of meetings and distribution of literature, and there can have been few into whose hands our election address did not find its way.

In Burslem and the outlying parts of Hanley the large proportion of women in the crowds was remarkable. At first the youthful element showed some hostility in one or two quarters, but in a few days a most remarkable change took place. At a pitch at Bryan Street, where some difficulties were at first encountered, the women a few days later themselves drove away the party speakers, in order that they might listen uninterruptedly to the Suffragist. One old lady at the end exclaimed: "Well, I am seventy, and never saw until now." She bought a COMMON CAUSE, and thanked the speaker. In Burslem our speakers made the poorest working girls feel that our labour was on their behalf, and the closing meetings there held by Miss Matters and Mrs. Cooper closed on a fine emotional note of the warmest sympathy.

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD SPEAKS FOR WOMEN.

Any organisation might well be proud to have in the field such an army of fine workers and speakers as we had, but we did not depend by any means on ourselves alone for stating our case. All the force of Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's oratorical powers was used on our behalf. "Who are the chancellors of the exchequer?" said he. "They are not those softly housed in Downing Street, but they are found in every poor dwelling striving to make it a home. These, our working women, the mothers of our race, must be enfranchised, and the Labour Party is going to strain every nerve and use every ounce of its influence to secure justice for women." Few of the Labour leaders failed to express in warm and convincing terms their attachment to our cause, and on all sides I heard of the effects of the powerful pleading of Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Jowett, and others.

THE PRESS AND LABOUR.

In the Potteries district there circulates the *Staffordshire Sentinel*, which gave equal space to all three parties, but throughout the general Press of the country it is difficult for Labour or Suffrage speeches to be at all proportionately reported, since the journals are in the hands of the two old parties.

GOOD HOPE FOR CREWE.

The result at Hanley need not be regarded as an index of what is going to happen at Crewe. In Hanley there was not a shred of organisation for the Labour Party before the contest, whereas Crewe has had previous experience of a three-cornered contest, and the organisation has won local government contests. In fact, Crewe is not nearly so unprepared as was Hanley.

In Crewe all the week steady work has been going on, and from four to six meetings have been held each day. In Crewe itself, so lately represented by one of our best friends, Suffrage is very popular, and we have in the Labour candidate a man of strong personality who feels deeply for our cause, and who rarely fails to put it prominently forward. Great meetings in the Town Hall have cheered to the echo the strong pronouncements of the leaders. Last night in Market Square we kept a pitch going from 6 to 10.30, and the interest of the audience never flagged. Behind one meeting two male representatives of the N.L.O.W.S. were explaining that women do not want the vote to a somewhat incredulous crowd, who could see sufficient evidence in the opposite sense. Perhaps a truer note was struck when one of the N.L.O.W.S. stated: "We are against the whole sex." The Antis petulantly exclaimed that they had not been able to get in a speech for the heckling, and when their resolution was put to the meeting it was lost, and the audience in a body walked over to us.

SPECIAL OFFER to our readers of a
5/6 FOUNTAIN PEN
 for **3/6.**

"Common Cause"
Safety Non-leakable Fountain Pen, with a Solid 14-Carat Iridium-Pointed Gold Nib.

3/6 each.

The special arrangements entered into with one of the largest British Fountain Pen Manufacturers enables us to offer our readers a beautifully made and specially constructed Safety Non-leakable Fountain Pen at the low price of 3/6. The pen is admirably suitable for ladies' use, since it can be carried in a handbag, attaché case, or in any position without fear of leakage. This pen is usually sold at 5/6.

DESCRIPTION OF PEN.

British made throughout of only highest class materials. Constructed to be positively proof against leakage. The nib being in the ink when the pen is closed ensures instant readiness for writing. Has an even, smooth flow of ink. The nib is of solid 14-carat gold, with hard iridium points. Every hand can be suited. These pens nicely packed in boxes printed in our colours.

HOW TO OBTAIN THIS PEN.

Fill in coupon below and send to The Manager, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., with Postal Order for 3/8 (2d. being for postage and packing).

COUPON.

Please send a "Common Cause" Safety, Non-Leakable Fountain Pen; fine, medium, broad pointed nib, (underline point required) for which I enclose P.O. 3/8.

Name.....

Address.....

[Please write distinctly.]

A Coupon must accompany each Order.

Please mention "The Common Cause" when answering Advertisements. It will help us.

held. Mrs. Robie Uniacke took the chair, and Miss Royden explained the two important new departures in the N.U. policy—the extended election policy, and the scheme for enrolling "Friends of Women's Suffrage." This scheme is being worked by the Reading Society. Mrs. Uniacke and Miss Sutton also spoke, and questions were answered by Miss Royden.

GERMANS CROSS.—On June 19th a drawing-room was held at Dis Park by kind permission of Mrs. Chambers. Mrs. Bentinck, of the L.L.P., gave a stimulating address on "The Labour Party's past and future attitude to the Women's Cause." On July 4th Miss Helen Sturge, of Bristol, spoke at Mrs. Goodbody's house on "The Deeper Side of the Women's Movement." The only cause for regret was that more of the unconvinced were not present to hear her. She based the demand for the suffrage on the highest grounds. It has been decided to send a grant from the funds of the Society to the N.U. Election Fighting Fund.

MID-BUCKS.—June 27th. A garden party was held at Miss Courtland's house, Great Missenden, for members and friends. Mrs. Savory gave an address. About 60 were present, and five new members joined.

PANGBOURNE.—Miss Meikle spent a week early in June canvassing the inhabitants of Whitchurch (Dorset), Tidmarsh, and Upper Basildon. She found a good deal of interest felt in the question of Women's Suffrage, and gained members and sympathisers in all these villages. After a week at Wallingford for the N. Berks. Society, Miss Meikle returned to Pangbourne, and began work at Tilehurst, where it is hoped to form a society ultimately. Meanwhile, members will be attached to Pangbourne or Reading. Miss Meikle's return is much looked forward to, as her steady and successful house-to-house canvassing is a great help in this area of scattered villages, where progress is necessarily slow, and where many workers are needed to achieve even moderate results. At a committee meeting on June 28th, it was decided to adopt the "Friends of Women's Suffrage" scheme, and the work is being organised to cover a part of the ground until more visitors can be enlisted.

A most successful open-air meeting was held on the evening of Saturday, June 28th, in Pangbourne village. A very large and attentive crowd was addressed by Miss H. C. Jones (chair), Mr. Rogers, of the Free Church League for W.S., and Miss Margaret Robertson. Much of what Miss Robertson said was greeted with applause, and many appear to have been convinced by her wit and her logic, to judge by the addition to the Society's membership. Mr. Rogers was also much applauded. A short speech was made by Mr. Broadley, of the L.L.P., branch in Reading, to explain the attitude of his Party towards the Suffrage question. After questions, a resolution urging the House of Commons to amend the Reform Bill so as to include women, was carried by a large majority. Many leaflets were distributed, and three dozen Common Cause sold.

On June 14th, Miss Royden delighted many members of the Society and others, by her lecture on "Joan of Arc," which she very kindly gave to help the funds. Lantern-slide illustrations were shown.

West Lancs., West Cheshire and North Wales

A Federation meeting was held on July 3rd, twenty-three representatives attending. The agenda for the

Liberal Women at Seaton Delaval and Wavertree.

A meeting of the Seaton Delaval and Seghill Women's Liberal Association was held in the Miners' Hall, Seaton Delaval, on July 8th, 1912. Miss Fryer presided over a very good attendance, and an earnest and eloquent address, tracing the history of the Women's Suffrage Movement in the present Parliament, was given by Dr. Ethel Williams, of Newcastle. The following resolutions moved by Dr. Williams and seconded respectively by Mrs. Thirlwell and Mrs. Butt, were unanimously carried:—

(1) That this meeting of Liberal women deplores the loss of the Conciliation Bill and pledges itself to work for a Women's Suffrage Amendment to the Reform Bill promised during the session of 1912.

(2) That this meeting of Liberal women pledges itself, unless some measure for the enfranchisement of women has previously become law, not again to work at elections for any political party which has not put women's suffrage on its party programme.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Williams was moved by Mrs. Butt, seconded by Mrs. Symbington and carried enthusiastically.

At a garden party given by Mrs. Morrison to the Wavertree Women's Liberal Association, the hostess declared she would do no more political work for the Liberal party until women were allowed not only to canvass for men's votes, but to record their own. Mrs. Egerton Stewart Brown, who presided, declared her intention to devote all her energies to the furthering of the suffrage movement, and she urged all the members present to sign the following pledge:—"We, the undersigned, being members of the Women's Liberal Association and accustomed to work for the Liberal party at elections, pledge ourselves to do no work for the Liberal party at the next general election if the Government Reform Bill shall have been passed through the House of Commons without the inclusion of some measure of women's suffrage."

The appeal was heartily agreed to.

Performance in Aid of the International Suffrage Shop.

A regrettable delay in the arrival of the scenery caused an alteration in the programme of the performance last Tuesday evening in aid of the International Suffrage Shop. After a long wait Mrs. Theodore Wright opened the pro-

vincial Council meeting was discussed and it was decided to arrange deputations to all members of Parliament who have not been approached lately, and to combine a post card canvass with the Friends of Suffrage Scheme in every possible district.

The Liverpool Society held a workers' meeting on June 28th, when plans for the next month were discussed. The Warrington Society held a most successful Suffrage week at the beginning of June. In spite of difficulties in the way of securing speakers and of the uncertain weather, suffrage issued triumphant and the audiences were mainly large and sympathetic. A decorated wagonette was used for advertising purposes and as a platform, with the result that the National Union colours became well known all over the town. As the question of Women's Suffrage had not previously been well aired in Warrington, the audiences at the first meetings contained a substratum of rowdies, but extra police and a better understanding of the subject quite eliminated this element before the end of the week. The chief speakers were Mrs. Annot Robinson, Miss Eskridge, Miss Grosfield, Miss Broadbent and Miss Ford, whilst the chair was taken by Mr. S. Ball, Mr. Sherburn, Mrs. Ransome, Mr. Whiteley and Mrs. Pemberton, the Hon. Sec., on whom the bulk of the work in connection with the meetings had of course devolved.

The St. Helens Society held a Suffrage week beginning on June 10th. The audiences were remarkable for their size and orderliness, the largest numbering about 800, and even the one on the Monday when it poured with rain listened attentively for over an hour. The speakers included Miss Eskridge, Mrs. Duncan, Miss Dora Mason, Miss Deakin, Miss C. Leadley Brown and Mr. Frimston, whilst the chair was taken on each occasion by a prominent townsman. Miss Eskridge and Mrs. Duncan spent several days in personally distributing handbills from door to door and met with an immense amount of sympathy and encouragement.

The Wallasey and Wirral Society held a meeting in New Brighton on June 17th, when Miss Ashton explained the new policy in a characteristically fighting speech. In spite of it being a very bad night the audience was large enough to contribute £3 11s. 6d. to the Fighting fund.

A small meeting to discuss the formation of a branch was held at HESWELL on June 18th, and it is hoped that an offshoot from the Wallasey and Wirral Society will soon be in working order.

Members of the Wallasey Society are being canvassed with regard to taking the Common Cause and the more active members of the Society are carrying out a post card canvass in several districts.

The Sturport Society held a meeting in the Waterloo Town Hall on June 24th, when Miss Margaret Ashton, O.C., gave an address on the new policy and on the Friends of Suffrage scheme. Miss Cripps was in the chair and the speeches were followed by an interesting discussion. Votes of thanks were proposed by Mrs. Norman Thomas and Miss F. Jones.

The Llangollen Society held a meeting in the Town Hall on June 21st, for members and friends. Miss McPherson explained the new policy and a resolution was passed thanking the Member for his previous support and urging the House of Commons to pass a Women's Suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill. A resolution in favour of the White Slave Traffic Bill was also adopted.

ceedings by giving a delightful recitation of the well-known chapter from "Adam Bede"—"Mr. Poyser speaks her mind."

Then followed the first performance of "Mademoiselle Diane" a one act play by John Pollock. Madame Yavorska (Princess Bariatinski) played the name part, that of a woman circus rider who is eating her heart out with longing for a man with whom she has had a brief love affair, a mere incident to him, and the great passion of her life to her. She has taken to drink in her despair and is fast going downhill. Behind the scenes of a provincial theatre she accidentally meets her former lover and after a painful scene with him goes out to give her performance. She is carried in again in a dying condition, having intentionally brought her horse down at one of the jumps, and expires in the arms of her remorseful lover. It was rather a sordid little tragedy, but it gave Madame Yavorska a part of great pathos and charm.

She again played with great fascination and vivacity in a translation of Henri Becque's comedy "Une Parisienne," which seemed to have lost much of its original sparkle with its change of tongue. The rest of the acting was without any particular distinction.

ROSAMOND SMITH.

Women's Meeting in Support of the White Slave Traffic Bill.

The meeting for women only on July 10th, convened by the Pass the Bill Committee in support of the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill fully justified the action of its promoters. The Kensington Town Hall was not only crowded to its utmost capacity, but it was found necessary to hold an overflow meeting in the small hall which was equally full, and yet many were turned away. Among the associations for which certain seats were reserved were The Women Workers, The Church League for Women's Suffrage, The National League for Opposing Women's Suffrage, The Jewish Girls' Club, and the Fabian Women's Group. On the Chair, being taken by Adelaide, Duchess of Bedford, a lady from the body of the hall challenged the presence of male reporters, as the meeting had been advertised as "for women only." On a

vote being taken it was decided, amid applause, that the gentlemen of the Press should remain. Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Mary Murdoch and Mrs. Herbert Lewis, who were to have spoken, Dr. Murdoch having been detained in Hull by professional duties. Messages of goodwill were also read from Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Lady Selbourne, Dr. S. Bryant, Miss Violet Markham and others, and the Duchess proceeded to announce that the resolution then passed at the meeting would be conveyed by her in person to the Home Secretary on the following day. She further stated that the meeting being of a non-political character, certain questions would not be alluded to by the speakers, and the general history of the social evil would not be dealt with.

She declared the Bill to be non-contentious, and the embodiment of the views of three successive Home Secretaries. In reference to the fear lest the Bill, unamended, permitting of arrest without warrant, should endanger the liberties of the subject, she quoted the words of "The Spectator" that there is such a thing as the perverted quality of "pedantic justice," and added that "strong measures for great evils will always justify themselves to the conscience of the nation." It was not to be tolerated that this capital of our Empire should be a clearing house for the infamous trade. "No half-hearted measures, no half-hearted faith, ever succeeds—If God be with us, who can be against us."

The following resolution was proposed by Lady Bunting:—"This meeting of women thanks His Majesty's Government for having taken up the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, strongly condemns the weakening amendments introduced by the Standing Committee,

urges that all weakening amendments be deleted on Report stage, and especially that procurator for immoral purposes should involve the same liability to arrest as exists in cases of felony, and also urges the need for the enactment of the Bill during the present Session."

In a vigorous and well-reasoned speech, Lady Bunting threw down the gauntlet: she declared that however long women had to agitate, they would agitate in order to get the Bill in its integrity. Law cannot do everything, but something can be done by legislation. It can make the traffic in human beings difficult. The girls now imprisoned cannot be saved—for twelve that are saved a hundred, a thousand, are lost for ever so far as this world is concerned. This thing must be fought for the sake of women's own consciences, for the sake of their own characters.

Mrs. Philip Snowden was announced to second the resolution. On rising she stated that she could not consent to certain restrictions imposed upon her, that she could not undertake to allude or not to allude to certain subjects, and that as, when she was invited to speak no such conditions had been proposed to her, she would, with the permission of the Chair, formally second the resolution. On resuming her seat at the conclusion of the statement, Mrs. Snowden was greeted with a tempest of applause and, after a few words with the Chair, she again rose amid renewed cheers, and proceeded with her speech. She contended that governments and institutions are the last people in the world to understand the trend of public opinion; they act only when public opinion is strong enough to compel them to act. The Bill under consideration, miserably inadequate as it is, is aimed at a far greater evil than prostitution. There are greater evils than the sale of a woman by herself. As the soul and spirit are greater than the body, so those who sell their positions as editors of great journals, or as leaders in political life, for a lie, are worse offenders. The Bill aimed at touching those who are worse than common prostitutes. Prostitution cannot really be touched until the economic position of women is altered, and until the all-round equal moral development of men and women is established. There are thousands and thousands of women who do not even now know that this traffic exists. And what can be thought of a woman in a good position who can speak of her son "sowing his wild oats"? Let women see to it that the men who visit at their houses are pure in thought and deed.

It has been held that the social evil must exist

"SEMELY."

as long as men are men and women are women. But what has been done to stop it with the help of women? All attempts to stop it have been made without the help of women in just those particulars where it is most needed. That is our question, and do we dare to say it cannot be solved when men and women work together? By so saying we blaspheme our Creator. Among the other speakers who appealed effectively to the audience were Mrs. Mackirdy (Olive Christain Malvery who, referring to the false reticence in regard to the infamous traffic, coined the phrase, "A wicked and indecent modesty"), Mrs. Willey, M.D., and Mrs. Nott Bower.

Dr. Willey said that if the Bill passed as amended in Committee, it would be a great insult offered to women, and the women of the country were not going to stand it. The honour of women, as women, is disgraced if they acquiesce in the sale of sex. If an institution for the sale of young boys of 16 were established, the manhood of the country would rise against it, and is women's honour less than men's? Mrs. Bower's frank exposure of the wiles of the opponents and of the lukewarm friends of the Bill delighted her audience, who had shown throughout the meeting that they were in no temper to agree to any tampering with the Bill. The Bill, and the Bill in its integrity, was the keynote of the evening, and the resolution in this sense was carried unanimously. A large number of members of the London Society for Women's Suffrage were present on the platform and in the body of the hall, or officiated as stewards. A. H. W.

What is Semely?

Semely stands for "semelle," the French for sole (of boot and shoe). It was invented by the great Chemist, Delarue (1815-1889), who in his experiments in making artificial leather, arrived quite accidentally at the formula for this wonderful leather preservative.

Moisture is the great degenerator and destroyer of leather, for, penetrating into the pores of the material, it will combine with the residue of the acids, neutralize and destroy all fatty substances, and expand the pores almost like a sponge. When the leather dries again it becomes hard and brittle, an easy prey to the friction of the road. It is also shutting in the damp thereby leaving the interior of the material to rot and decay.

A Curious Incident.

The Pass the Bill Committee.

The Pass the Bill Committee, 10, Tot Hill Street, Westminster, welcome the increasing number of meetings in support of the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, as a valuable means of giving publicity to the need for more effective legislation and of spreading accurate information about the Bill. They invite the promoters of all meetings in support of the Bill or meetings at which a resolution in favour of the Bill can be brought forward, to communicate with them, and will endeavour to help by collaboration wherever it is desired.

Another "Woman's Column."

We have received a copy of the *Northampton Daily Echo*, containing a new feature of great interest to women. It has a column headed "From Woman's Point of View"—an open forum, without partisan guidance, for women reformers of all shades of opinion. Excellent accounts are given in the issue we have seen of various women's political associations, and the column should be of great service to "thinking women."

Foreign News.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN ICELAND.

A young Icelandic lady called upon us last week and told us that the Suffrage Society in Reykjavik was embarking upon an important piece of propaganda for which they were anxious to collect funds, as travelling in Iceland is difficult and expensive. A beautiful doll has been dressed in Icelandic costume with a silver gilt belt from an original in the museum of antiquities at Reykjavik; the whole dress is most elaborately finished and represents the national costume. It is heavily embroidered and made of rich materials. The doll can be seen at the offices of the New Constitutional Society, 8, Park Arcade, Knightsbridge. Should anyone wish to buy this interesting work of art they may rest assured that the money will be well spent in Iceland. Several bazaars are to be held in the autumn and New Year and it is possible that an object like this might secure a very considerable sum if it were bought by the bazaar committee and raffled for.

Other Societies.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY. Office: 55, Berners Street, W.

Owing to the great increase in membership and work, the Society has been obliged to move to more central and convenient office at the above address. After this week the office hours will be 4 to 6 p.m. daily, except Saturday when they will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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Letters to the Editor.

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

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SWEDEN.

In No. 165 of your paper appeared an article, "The Swedish Riksdag and Votes for Women." As secretary of the National Woman Suffrage Alliance of Sweden, I beg to make the following corrections:-

On May 18th, it was the first time that a Government Bill on suffrage and eligibility for women on the same conditions as for men was treated in Parliament. The Social Democrats had taken up the question of woman's suffrage in their Bill on revision of the Constitution. The speaker referred to by the authoress of the article has not been "an advocate of votes for women"; he has only once before at an election meeting spoken in favour of woman's suffrage, but not of their eligibility.

As to all further information regarding the debate in question, I beg to refer to my article in Jus Suffragii of June 15th.

EZALINE BOHEMAN (Secretary).

WOMEN UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT. Mr. D. B. MacLaren asks whether it is correct to state that "societies with branches are not allowed to separate the men's fund from the women's fund." That statement of mine follows on a sentence having a reference



The superior advantages to comfort, health, and security at home or when travelling, make Southalls' Towels indispensable to every woman. Endorsed by highest medical authorities as a real safeguard to health. Southalls' Towels cost less than washing and are obtainable of all Drapers, Chemists, etc., in packets of one dozen at 6d., 1/-, 1/6 & 2/-. A FREE SAMPLE for personal test may be obtained from the Lady Manager, 17, Bull Street, Birmingham.

Please mention "The Common Cause" when answering Advertisements.

to mixed societies, and it was mixed societies with mixed branches of men and women that I had in mind in making it. The statement is correct only with reference to such mixed societies with mixed branches. I think that must also be the interpretation put on the point by the Insurance Commissioners, as they state it as follows in their explanatory leaflet:-

Question.—Will they (i.e. women) have separate funds when in a mixed society? Answer.—Separate accounts will have to be kept, but not separate funds unless the society itself so decides. A society with branches separately registered can easily arrange, if it likes, that one of the branches can be for women only; a society that has no branches separately registered may still treat its women members, as regards all funds and accounts, as if they formed a separate branch.

CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

A SUGGESTION: A SUFFRAGE SHOW-CASE.

In Birmingham, we have recently discovered a new and inexpensive method of advertising our Cause which has proved extraordinarily useful.

We have had made a small wooden case with a glass door which closes with a lock, such as photographers sometimes use to advertise their goods in stations and outside shops. This is affixed to the wall outside our office, and could, of course, be equally well fixed to any wall.

In the case we place any notices of public meetings, or more often the A. B. C. page of THE COMMON CAUSE, when suitable. Sometimes we vary the display with a new N.U. handbill, and just now we have in it a combination which hourly attracts, numbers of people who stand still to read it on their way by. We cut out of an old COMMON CAUSE a picture entitled "The Bread-winner," showing a mother and little girl making cardboard boxes in a slum room, where the father also lies ill in bed, and some younger children are playing in a corner. This we pinned with drawing pins into the case, and underneath it the N.U. handbill: "Some Reasons Why Working Women Want the Vote." People seem never tired of looking at it. Of course, many other ways of using this very easy and simple means of having a suffrage talk with the man in the street, by means of pictures or notices, will occur to everyone. I merely suggest it as a method we are finding useful, and not costly.

F. CAROL RING.

Birmingham.

SELLING THE COMMON CAUSE AT WHITBY.

Whitby being a holiday centre, it is very important that suffrage work should be done there in August. Would suffragists who are spending their holidays in or round Whitby be willing to give two hours on Saturday mornings to help to sell THE COMMON CAUSE, or assist with a stall in the market? This very important work cannot be done if we don't find kind suffragists to help. Will those able to help please write at once to the undersigned?

(Miss) A. STES, Org. Sec., Carr Hill Lane, Sleights, Yorks. July 12th, 1912.

Forthcoming Meetings.

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION

(The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

- JULY 18. Sherburn—Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss C. M. Gordon 7.0 Farnworth—Centenary Hall—Mrs. H. Barnes "At Home"—Miss M. Robertson Afternoon. Cookham—Lodene Greys (by kind permission of Mrs. Jay)—garden meeting—Mr. J. Cameron Grant, Mrs. Robie Uniacke (chair) 3.15 Haslemere—High Street—Open air meeting—Mr. Squire 7.0 Camelsdale—Miss Hecht's meeting by invitation 3.0 JULY 19. Bristol—Durdham Downs—open-air meeting—Miss J. M. Barrett, Miss Blackstone (Bath) 7.30 Haslemere—Hazelhurst (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Newman)—garden party—Mrs. Stanbury 4.0

INSURES YOUR COMPLEXION. DR. HARLAN'S BEAUTY-CUP For the FACE, NECK, ARMS, and BODY. MASSAGE. Trade Mark: "NEU-VITA." This coupon reduces price 6D.



Soap in Flakes THE PUREST FORM OF SOAP PRODUCED.

For use with all fine fabrics such as Laces, Blouses, Silks, etc., or with Flannels and Woollens usually liable to shrinkage.

To be obtained in 1d. and 3d. Packets from all Stores, Grocers or Oilmen, or send 1d. stamp to Dept. C.C., for Free Sample.

JOHN KNIGHT LTD., Soapmakers by Appointment to H.M. King George V. The Royal Primrose Soap Works, London, E.

Buy the Royal Primrose Soap from the Suffrage Shop, 54, Long Row, Nottingham. Send for Price List and Samples. All profits to the cause.

It will help us.

- Treherbert—Butt Square—Open-air meeting—Mrs. Jameson Williams, Miss Waring, B.A. 7.0 JULY 20. Tunbridge Wells—Christ Church Parish Room—Madame Sarah Grand's and Miss Tindall's "At Home"—Mrs. Nott Bower, P.L.G. 3.0 Woking—Duke Street—open-air meeting—Mr. Malcolm Mitchell 7.0 Cardiff—garden party in field kindly lent by Alderman and Mrs. T. W. David—R. F. Cholmeley, Esq. 3.30 Grayshott—The Grange (by kind permission of Mrs. Crossley)—Church League meeting—Rev. C. Hinchiff 3.0 Haslemere—High Street—open-air meeting—Rev. C. Hinchiff, Mr. Aneurin Williams (chair) 7.0 JULY 21. Bishop Auckland—Town Hall—Joint meeting of North-Eastern Federation and Bishop Auckland Trades and Labour Council—Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., Dr. Ethel Williams (chair) 8.0 Haslemere—Tweaways garden—service—Rev. C. Hinchiff, Rev. A. E. Simms 3.0 JULY 22. Ferryhill—open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss C. M. Gordon 7.0 Haslemere—Mrs. Unwin's and Miss Gibson's meeting by invitation—Mrs. Rackham, Miss D. Hunter 3.0 Hindhead—Mrs. George's and Miss Rees's invitation meeting—Lady Chance and Mrs. Okey 4.0 Tonypandy—Pandy Sq.—open-air meeting—Mrs. Jameson Williams—Miss Waring, B.A. 7.0 JULY 23. Ripley—The Village Green—open-air meeting—Mrs. Urwick 8.0 Hindhead—Mrs. Aneurin Williams's invitation meeting—Mrs. Okey, Rev. A. E. Simms 6.0 Fernhurst—Mrs. Leeds's and Mrs. Boyd's invitation meeting—Lady Chance Afternoon. Blandyach—near Central Hotel—open-air meeting—Mrs. Jameson Williams, Miss Waring, B.A. 7.0 JULY 24. Oxford—The Warden's Garden, Wadham College—The Committee "At Home" 4-5.30 Bowburn—Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss C. M. Gordon 7.0 Brighton and Hove—Summer outing to Poyneys—speaker, Mrs. Abbott; chair, T. A. Meates, Esq. afternoon 6.30 Haslemere—Lion Green—Procession—assembly 6.30 Haslemere—School Hall—Public meeting—Mrs. Philip Snowden, Sir Wm. Chance, Bart. 8.0 Penygaig—Square—open-air meeting—Mrs. Jameson Williams, Miss Waring, B.A. 7.0 JULY 25. Camberley—Brookes Court—American tea and sale—Hostess, Mrs. Chambers 3.30 Ystrad—Square—open-air meeting—Mrs. Jameson Williams, Miss Waring, B.A. 7.0 JULY 26. Hurstpierpoint—Knowles Tooth—garden meeting—Miss Ohute Ellis, Rev. E. Cresswell Gee 4.0 JULY 27. Woking—Duke Street—open-air meeting—Mr. J. Y. Kennedy 7.30 Cheltenham—Plough Hotel—N.U. and W.F.L. deputation to Mr. Agg-Gardner, M.P. 2.30 Cuckfield—Jumble Sale and Suffrage dialogue by the Misses Drew 2.30

LONDON.

- JULY 18. Deptford—The Broadway—Open-air meeting—Miss G. Rinder, Miss Goddard 8.0 JULY 19. Enfield—Little Court Gardens—Open-air meeting—Miss Goddard, Miss R. Young 8.0 West Southwark—Corner of Friar Street and Great Suffolk Street—Miss A. E. Glyn, Dr. Drysdale 7.30 St. Pancras—Corner of Rochester Road and Kentish Town Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Ockley, Miss Gladys Rinder 8.0 JULY 22. West Southwark—Corner of Stamford Street and Blackfriars Road—Open-air meeting—Miss W. A. Elkin, Miss Emily Ford, Miss Ruth Young, Mr. Walter Hogg 7.30 JULY 23. St. Pancras—Corner of Drummond Street and Hampstead Road—Miss M. Goddard, Miss Heen Ward, L.L.A. 8.0 JULY 24. North Lambeth—Hercules Road and Westminster Bridge Road—Open-air meeting—Mrs. Leland Buxton, Mr. Leland Buxton, Miss W. A. Elkin, Miss Helen Ward 7.30 Blackheath—Corner of Stockwell Street and London Street—Open-air meeting—Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss H. D. Cockle 8.0 Islington—North Road, off Caledonian Road—Miss J. H. Thomson, Miss M. E. Hewitt 8.0 JULY 25. Deptford—Corner Pepps Road and New Cross Gate—Open air meeting—Miss Helen Ward, Miss M. Goddard 8.0 JULY 26. West Southwark—Union Street and Blackfriars Road—Open-air Meeting—Miss Ruth Young, Mr. Arthur Mackinlay 7.30 Ponders End—Open-air meeting—Miss W. G. Jameson 8.0 St. Pancras—corner of Lyme Street and Great College Street—Open-air meeting—Miss Deverell, Miss Fielden, Mr. and Mrs. Duxton 8.0 JULY 27. Hampton-on-Thames—Jessamine House—Mrs. Jerrold's garden meeting—Miss Helen Ward, Mrs. Waterhouse (chair) 3.45 Muswell Hill—The Exchange—open-air meeting—Miss J. H. Thomson, M.A., Miss H. G. Cohen 8.0

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- JULY 29. West Southwark—St. George's Rd. and West Sq.—open-air meeting—Miss Bisset Smith, Mr. F. N. Sargeant, Miss M. Goddard 7.30 JULY 30. St. Pancras—Cobden Statue, High Street—open-air meeting—Miss Bisset Smith, Miss Gladys Rinder 8.0 JULY 31. Walworth—corner of Liverpool Street and Walworth Road—open-air meeting—Dr. Drysdale, Miss Gladys Rinder 7.30 Islington—Albion Street, off Caledonian Rd.—open-air meeting—Mrs. Stanbury 8.0 Blackheath—corner of Stockwell St. and London St.—Mrs. Rackham, Miss M. Hodge 8.0

SCOTLAND.

- JULY 18. Oakbank—open-air meeting—Miss Lisa M Gordon, Miss Emily Foggo 7.30 JULY 19. Bonnyrigg—open-air meeting—Miss Alice Low 7.30 JULY 22. Newtongrange—Open-air meeting—Miss Alice Low 7.30 JULY 23. Livingston—Station—Open-air meeting—Miss Alice Low, Miss Lisa Gordon 7.30 JULY 25. Armadale—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa Gordon, Miss Kate Andrews (chair) 7.30 JULY 26. Blairmore—Village Hall—Public meeting—Miss Mildred Watson, The Rev. Robert Primrose (chair) 8.0

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Not exceeding 10 words: 1 insertion, 9d. 2 insertions 1s. 3d. 3 insertions, 1s. 6d. 6 insertions, 2s. 9d. 13 insertions, 5s. 6d. Every additional ten words, 6d. extra per insertion. All payments for Advertisements should be made to The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

SUFFRAGE NOTICES.

SUFFRAGE SONG, "Forward, ever Forward," by Margaret O'Shea; music, Emily Jones. From Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam Street, Strand. Price 2d. Cards, 1d.

MRS. MERIVALE MAYER, address care of 24, Queensberry Place, South Kensington.

WANTED, First-class Speaker. Terms according to qualifications. Apply, preferably in person, New Constitutional Society, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

AN IDEAL HOLIDAY can be spent from July 27th to August 31st at the Vegetarian Society's Summer School at Arnside, Westmoreland; illustrated prospectus free on application to 257, Deansgate, Manchester.

CONTINENTAL Holidays, 5 guineas week; Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, 25 guineas; particulars stamp.—Women's International League, 199, Victoria Street, London.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.—Board, Apartments, Misses Graves, Lake Road Villa, Keswick.

SURREY HILLS.—Suffragists strongly recommend rooms in country cottage; sitting room, bedroom, dressing room, and attendance, 13s. weekly.—Mrs. Bowyer, Holms Cottages, Betchworth.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

ADVERTISING EXPERT and PRESS AGENT. Advertisements artistically designed for all purposes. Frances L. Fuller, Advertisement Office, 20, Brook Street, Bond Street, W.

COUNTRY REST-CURE HOME. Rest in bed. Massage. Generous diet. Healthy, bracing influence. No mental cases. Miss Driver, Cranleigh, Surrey.

COUNTRY NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOME. Penn's Lane, Erdington, near Birmingham. For Paying Patients. (Under the distinguished patronage of the Countess of Bradford.) Medical, Surgical, Massage. Permanent Patients received in Homes. (Care of one delicate child.) Fully certificated. Hospital-trained Nurses sent out on application.—Miss C. Fallows, Matron. Telephone: 117 Erdington. Telegrams: "Nursing, Erdington."

GARDENING. Pupils received, with board and residence, in General Market Nursery garden Miss Bateson, Basley Nursery, New-Milton, Hants.

TEACHING, Translation, Research, &c. Classics, Anglo-Saxon, five modern languages. Experience. Moderate terms.—Miss Selby, 30, Northumberland Place, Bayswater.

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MARY McLAUGHLIN, Typist, 4, Chapel Walk, Manchester.

OPEN-AIR TREATMENT on the Surrey Hills. The Children's Home, Tatefield, Principals, Miss Mitcheson and Miss Bourdon. Medical, Surgical or Convalescent cases from 3 to 12 years of age. Free from 10s. 6d. weekly. A few adults also received from £1 la. weekly. Nearest stations, Westerham (S. E. & O.R.) and Orsted (L.B. & S.C.R.).

PRESIDENT COOKERY and HOUSEWIFERY MISTRESS required in September. Vacancies for two students at moderate fees. Miss Earl, Allerton High School, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

BONELESS CORSETS, unbreakable. Illustrated List Free.—Knitted Corset Company, Nottingham.

BROADWOOD Satinwood Pianos (great bargain) and Simplex Piano-Player.—11, Parkhurst Road, Holloway, N.

CAN'T AFFORD BIG ADVIS. "Common Cause" Cigarettes, 50 Virginia, 2s. 6d.; 50 Turkish, 3s.; lovely. Write Berlyn, King Street, 34, Manchester.

MISS ELLIN CARTER invites inspection for her Artistic Leather Work. On view Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. No obligation to purchase.—Address, No. 3, Studio, Stratford Court, Gees Court, Oxford Street, W.

OLD FALSE TEETH.—We give highest possible prices for above. Offers made; if unacceptable, teeth returned. Dealers in old Gold and Silver in any form. Bankers' references. Straightforward dealing.—Woolfall and Company, Southampton.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash. Costumes, skirts, boots, underclothing, curtains, gents' suits, trousers and children's clothing of every description. Parcels sent, will be valued and value sent by return. Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby St. Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SALE BARGAINS! Genuine White and Irish Linen Remnants. Big pieces suitable for making Teacloths, Traycloths D'oyles, &c. 2s. 6d. per bundle, postage 4d. Catalogues free. Write to-day, Hutton s, 159, Larne, Ireland.

HOUSES, FLATS, ROOMS, etc., TO LET AND WANTED.

ALDEBURGH.—Furnished Cottage from September 1st. 2 Sitting, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 4 Guineas weekly. Mrs. Stevenson, Fawcett Road, Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

FURNISHED FLAT TO LET till October; accommodation for two; moderate.—Miss FitzGerald, 67, George Street, Portman Square, W.

FURNISHED HOUSE at Bedford Park; twenty minutes from Charing Cross; four reception, four bedrooms; electric light, bathroom, garden; for two months from end July; 2½ guineas; plate, linen, grand piano by arrangement. Box 1225 COMMON CAUSE Office.

LADY requires Large Unfurnished Room for Music Studio, 1 minute Baker Street; attendance, no meals.—Box 1267, D. B., COMMON CAUSE Office.

ONE OR TWO UNFURNISHED ROOMS, use Bath; top, floor; very pleasant outlook over Polo Grounds; quiet house; suit business lady; moderate rent.—L. 35, Napier Avenue, S.W.; 2 minutes from Putney Bridge Station (District Railway).

WHERE TO LIVE.

APARTMENTS.—Miss Edwards, Whitethorn Villa, Filmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS, LANCs.—Miss Alice E. Passavant receives Paying Guests at 2, Newlands. Terms on application.

HOSTEL FOR LADIES.—Central. Highly recommended.—Miss Sullivan, 50, Osnaburgh Street, Portland Road Station, W. Terms moderate.

HOSTEL for Professional Women.—Miss Broadbent, M.A., Elmhurst, Victoria Park, Manchester.

PAYING GUESTS RECEIVED in country cottage. Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoralby, Aysgarth, S. O. Yorks.

VISITOR.—Quiet home, late dinner, £2. Partridge, Pownall Crescent, Colchester.

A SUFFRAGE WEEK.

(ORGANISED BY THE HASLEMERE, HINDHEAD AND DISTRICT W.S.S.)

Will be held from

Thursday, July 18, to Wednesday, July 24.

Open-Air Meetings, Garden Parties, Garden & Literature Shop throughout the week.

PROCESSION on July 24 at 6.30.

Followed by

PUBLIC MEETING in the HASLEMERE SCHOOL HALL.

8 o'clock.

Speaker—MRS. PHILIP SNOWDEN. Chairman—SIR WILLIAM CHANCE, Bart.

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