

**SPECIAL CONGRESS DOUBLE NUMBER.**

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**JUS SUFFRAGII.**

# The International Woman Suffrage News

The Monthly Organ of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

Geneva Congress Headquarters:  
MAISON COMMUNAL DE  
PLAINPALAIS.



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MAY—JUNE, 1920.

## GENEVA.—“L'Esprit Genevois.”

By ANNIE CHRISTITCH.

Miss Annie Christitch, B.A. (London), one of the Serbian delegates to the Geneva Congress, is the first Serbian to have taken an English degree, and the only Serbian that has ever been on the regular staff of a London daily newspaper. She has spent ten years in Fleet Street, returning to Serbia each time that her country needed her. In the Balkan wars of 1912-13 she acted as war correspondent, and at the same time nursed the Serbians in Belgrade. In 1914 she went to Belgium as special correspondent of a London daily, and was the first woman journalist to receive her baptism of fire. She subsequently went to Serbia, where she remained of her own accord at the time of the invasion, and accomplished valuable work for her country and people. For these services she has received the official commendation of the Serbian Supreme Command, and the Crown Prince Regent of Serbia has bestowed on her the Order of the White Eagle, rarely accorded to civilians. Among her successes in Fleet Street, Miss Christitch had the unique distinction of having done reporting for her paper by aeroplane as long ago as 1914. A keen Suffragist, she has helped to further the movement in Serbia.

Poetry is always an inspiration that outlasts time, and at the risk of being hackneyed I cannot refrain from reminding the readers of *Jus* that a great lyricist's verses are wonderfully applicable to our forthcoming assembly in Geneva.

“Clear, placid Leman” calls to us as to the poet of yore to “forsake earth's troubled waters for a purer spring.” Byron's loved lake of Geneva is indeed a true reflection of the equal, gentle, humane spirit that permeates the dwellers on its beautiful banks. The fierce Rhone itself, in its swift passage, cannot disturb this tranquility. Charity and broad-mindedness characterise Swiss pioneers of benevolent effort. Their fraternal activities were wonderfully exemplified during the war. Never was neutrality more worthily shown than in the efforts to repatriate and succour the prisoners of all belligerent countries. Switzerland was the home of war sufferers, and Geneva its centre. To enumerate the various societies occupied in work for the relief of war victims would be to fill pages. One of the latest assemblies in this home of charity was the “Save the Children Congress,” which reunited peoples from the Russian steppes to the coasts of England and Spain, from Scandinavia to Armenia, on behalf of the starving children.

On that occasion I was privileged to hear most moving expositions of the necessities of the unhappy little martyrs, followed by a terse, practical plan of campaign to alleviate the desperate situation. The Congress had a twofold significance—not only did it come to the aid of the famine-stricken, but it gave an impetus to the resumption of normal relations between countries lately at war, supplying a safe and natural meeting ground after terrible years of estrangement and anguish. In the atmosphere of Geneva dissensions do not thrive, prejudice fades away, and one strong bond of common humanity reigns paramount.

Nature has endowed Geneva with special gifts, which make it a charmed resort at whatever season it is visited. “L'Esprit genevois” is always there, together with the most perfect scenery, inimitable order, dazzling cleanliness, and amazing

modernity of a city which still retains all its mediæval romance. The environs of Geneva are rich in sites of interest connected with famous literary and historical names of men and women; but those who have no time to make pilgrimages to the exquisite outlying districts have ample opportunity of revelling in majestic or smiling landscapes from every part of the town itself. Walking down the streets and discussing world problems—as one always does, in Geneva,—one raises one's eyes to view that famous monarch of mountains, Mont Blanc, which in the evening sunset belies its name and assumes a delicate rose tint shimmering down over the plains and woods till it dissolves in a tender haze floating among the tree tops. The Alpine chain guards protectively the magic city at its base, home of philanthropic endeavour, of scientific research, of intense musical and artistic culture, and also of sound human logic. Every new departure tending to the progress and welfare of the world is met with sympathy and encouragement by the Genevese. When it was suggested a few weeks ago that Geneva should be the place of meeting for the International Woman Suffrage Congress, Mlle. Gourd, an able, typical exponent of Swiss feminine enterprise, wired back: “Enchantées de vous recevoir.” Thus was voiced the heart and brain of Geneva!

The League of Nations makes its headquarters at Geneva; its corollary, the Central Union of the Save the Children Fund, follows suit; and what more fitting than that the International Alliance should have its first reunion since the great cataclysm in the same hospitable city!

Neither world peace can be brought about nor young generations be saved from suffering and disease unless women draw together to obtain scope for their energy, and secure practical means for the furtherance of their natural and lawful mission.

ANNIE CHRISTITCH.

## MRS. FAWCETT'S CALL TO THE YOUNG. HER BELIEF IN A GREAT FUTURE FOR THE I.W.S.A.

We have pleasure in quoting just one inspiring paragraph from Mrs. Henry Fawcett's letter to Mrs. Chapman Catt, which is to be read to the Congress assembled at Geneva. It breathes hope for the future, and it is a challenge to the young to do their part:—

“I believe a great work lies before the I.W.S.A. We have won great victories since we last met in 1913, but there are great victories still to win. Women are still voteless in the Latin countries, both of Europe and South America. The women of the East are only just beginning to ask for their enfranchisement. The I.W.S.A. must help and encourage them by every means in its power. We shall want all the vigorous young women we can get to put their best energies into these great tasks.”

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INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.  
 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C. 2.

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Bye-law of I.W.S.A. Constitution.

"The International Woman Suffrage Alliance, by mutual consent of its auxiliaries, stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

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GOVERNMENT DELEGATES ACCREDITED TO THE EIGHTH CONGRESS OF THE I.W.S.A. AT GENEVA.

The United States of America have appointed Mrs. Josephus Daniels.  
 Great Britain has appointed the Viscountess Astor, M.P.  
 Sweden has appointed Miss Anna Whitlock.  
 Serbia has appointed two representatives, and Uruguay, as already announced, has appointed Dr. Paulina Luisi.

THE CONGRESS RECOGNISED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The League of Nations are also sending an official representative.

OTHER DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Among other distinguished visitors will be the Hon. Sir John Cockburn, President of the Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage, who will officially represent that body, Sir Willoughby Dickenson, and Miss Maude Royden.

INTIMATION FROM THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE I.W.S.A. THAT A MOTION FOR A NEW CONSTITUTION WILL BE MOVED AT THE GENEVA CONGRESS.

NOTICE.

The undersigned hereby give notice that a motion to substitute a new constitution for the one now in operation will be made at the Eighth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, held in Geneva, June 6—12 inclusive, 1920. Changed conditions in many countries have made this step imperative. The new constitution will be framed in Geneva by a Committee appointed for the purpose. All suggestions for such constitution may be forwarded to Miss Chrystal McMillan, care Union des Femmes, 22 rue Etienne Dumont, Geneva, who will pass them on to the Committee, when appointed.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,  
 President,  
 CHRYSTAL McMILLAN,  
 Secretary.

CONGRESS WEEK.

THE MAISON COMMUNALE DE PLAINPALAIS.

PRESIDENT: MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

Sunday, June 6.

11-15.—RELIGIOUS SERVICE IN THE CATHEDRAL OF GENEVA. Preacher: Miss Maude Royden.

3-5.—RECEPTION by private invitation to Officers, Presidents of Auxiliaries, and Swiss Committee of Arrangements, tendered by the President of the Swiss Suffrage Society and Mme. Gourd.

8-30.—PUBLIC MEETING OF WELCOME at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Chorus: Swiss Song.  
 Addresses of Welcome: Mlle. Emilie Gourd, Présidente de l'Association Suisse pour le Suffrage Féminin, and others.  
 Chorus: Swiss Song.

Replies: Annie Furuhielm, M.P., Second Vice-President, I.W.S.A.; Anna Lindemann, Third Vice President, I.W.S.A.; Mme. de Witt de Schlumberger, Fourth Vice-President, I.W.S.A.

Presidential Address: Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt.

Monday, June 7.

9-12.—BUSINESS SESSION OF CONGRESS at Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

General Business, including seating, interpreters, credentials, adoption of programme, Report of Committee on Admissions, Report of Headquarters Committee, General and Financial and Jus Suffragii, and Roll Call.  
 Announcement of Suffrage Victories by the Presidents of twelve newly enfranchised countries.

2-30-4 30.—BUSINESS SESSION OF CONGRESS at Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

The Future of the Alliance: Its Constitution, Programme, and Woman's Charter.—Proposals from the affiliated societies; Report and Recommendations of the International Committee and the Enfranchised Women's Committee; general discussion and appointment of four committees to consider and report—namely: (a) Committee on Constitution, Organisation, and Finance; (b) Committee on Civil Equality Programme; (c) Committee on Moral Equality Programme; and (d) Committee on Economic Equality Programme.

(Continued on page 116).

Mrs. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,

Founder and President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

An Outline of the Life's Work up to 1920 of the Woman Susan B. Anthony named "The Ideal Leader."

Mrs. CATT TO BE AT GENEVA.

Born Charles City, Iowa. At 14—hair still in braid—began teaching school. Earned money to pay her way through Iowa State College—entered at 16. Later earned more money as Assistant Librarian. Four years' college course cost her father \$100. In college she inaugurated a girls' debating club. At 20 she taught in High School, Mason City, Iowa. At 22 appointed school superintendent of city. Married Lee Chapman, Mason City, editor; helped him to edit his newspaper. At his death a few years after she became advertising solicitor on a trade paper—another innovation for women. At 27 she decided to work for Suffrage. Made her first appearance on National Suffrage platform in 1890; spoke on the "Symbol of Liberty." In 1890 she was married to George W. Catt. Addressed United States Senate Committee 1892.

In 1895 she headed a plan of work of the National American Woman Suffrage Association Committee, and addressed the annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia. The Atlanta Constitution said of her: "As a rapid, logical, and fluent speaker it is doubtful if America ever has produced one more gifted." At this same convention she pleaded for more intensive organisation. For the first time in the history of the Suffrage cause a national organisation committee was appointed, and Mrs. Catt was its head.

In 1896 Miss Susan B. Anthony, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, gave her this public tribute: "Mrs. Catt went down South with me last year. It is she who has done the splendid organisation work which has brought into the Association nearly every State in the Union, and every territory except the Indian and Alaska, and we shall have them next year." In 1896 also Mrs. Catt was reporting for a course of study in political science, which had been in operation for only five months, and had sold five hundred full sets of books and reported one hundred clubs. Mrs. Catt has always been remarkable for educational initiative. In 1900 she reported that as chairman of the Organisation Committee she had visited twenty States, travelled 13,000 miles, given fifty-one lectures, and sent out 10,000 letters. In this year she was elected President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Miss Anthony called her "the ideal leader."

In 1902 Mrs. CATT FOUNDED THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE, AND HAS BEEN ITS PRESIDENT EVER SINCE. It is composed of twenty-six countries. During its existence this organisation has been winning the vote for women in Tasmania, Queensland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Victoria, Great Britain, Belgium, Iceland, Canada,

Italy, Holland, France, Hungary, Poland, Russia, and the German Republic.

From 1904 to 1915 Dr. Anna Howard Shaw was President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. In 1909 Mrs. Catt organised the New York State Woman Suffrage Party on political lines. This same year she stumped Hungary and Bohemia for Suffrage. From 1913 to 1915 she organised and directed the New York State campaign. In 1915 she was re-elected President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

During Mrs. Catt's active Suffrage career all the full Suffrage States but Wyoming have been won. The Federal Suffrage Amendment has won after a fifty years' struggle.

In 1917 Mrs. Catt instituted the Leslie Woman Suffrage Commission, the Leslie Bureau of Suffrage Education, and the Woman Citizen, the only woman's political journal in the United States. In February, 1917, at the first mention of war, Mrs. Catt called a meeting of executive officers of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in Washington to consider offering the services of the organisation to the Government in time of war. This was done, and Mrs. Catt and Dr. Shaw were both sworn into service as members of the Woman's Committee, Council of National Defence, Dr. Shaw as chairman.

In 1918 Mrs. Catt, foreseeing Suffrage for Women as an immediate achievement, outlined a plan for a National and an International League of Woman Voters. The National League became an actuality in St. Louis in the spring of 1919.



Mrs. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

ONE WAY OF PROPAGANDA ORGANISING.

A Hint from the American League of Women Voters.

"Impetus has been given to our membership drive in various districts, and in some of the boroughs by individuals who have learned one secret of success, which is to use the materials at hand to the best advantage. A teacher in a Manhattan district has secured sixteen new members in her school; a Brooklyn member has canvassed her apartment house; a captain has directed her appeal to the women of her church; a busy housewife has combined enrollment work with shopping; presenting a leaflet and a membership slip to the saleswomen she meets in the stores; while a business woman has successfully made the experiment of interesting office workers in the aims and purposes of the League. This is an easy way for the organisation to grow, and it is growing at a gratifying rate. To those who are always waiting for a special time and a great opportunity to help in this recruiting, let us pass the word along that splendid results can be obtained by women who simply weave their League duties into the fabric of their everyday life."

## 5-7.—MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES.

## 8-30.—PUBLIC MEETING at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Subject: "The Work of Women Members of Parliament."

Speakers: Women Members of Parliament.  
Chairman: ANNIE FURUHJELM, M.P., Finland.

1. "How We Put Equal Pay into the Civil Service Law." By Elna Munch, M.P., Denmark.
2. "The Work of a Woman Senator in a Pioneer Suffrage State." By Helen Ring Robinson, Ex-Senator, Colorado, U.S.A.
3. "The Need for More Women M.P.s." By Viscountess Astor, M.P., Great Britain.

## Tuesday, June 8.

## 9-12.—BUSINESS SESSION OF CONGRESS at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

The Future of the Alliance: Its Constitution, Programme, and Woman's Charter.—(Continued.)  
Women and the League of Nations.

## 2-30-4-30.—THREE SIMULTANEOUS CONFERENCES at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais. (See below.)

## Small Hall.

I. The Municipal and Local Government Work of Women Councillors. Chairman: —

## Large Hall.

II. Equal Pay and Right to Work. Chairman: Elna Munch, M.P., Denmark.

## Theatre.

III. Women's Civil Status: Recent Progress. Chairman: Marie Stritt, Germany.

## 5-7.—MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES.

## 8-30.—ERYTHMIC DANCES at the Institut Jacques Dalcroze. By invitation.

## Wednesday, June 9.

## 9-12.—BUSINESS SESSION OF THE CONGRESS at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Report of (a) Committee on Constitution, Organisation, and Finance.

Women and the Political Parties. (Should unenfranchised women join the political parties? Should enfranchised women work with the political parties? Should they form a party of their own? Should enfranchised women maintain special organisations for improving the status of women?)

## 2-30-4-30.—THREE SIMULTANEOUS CONFERENCES at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais. (See below.)

## Small Hall.

IV. The Organisation of Woman Suffrage Propaganda. Chairman: Mme. de Witt de Schlumberger, France.

## Large Hall.

V. The Economic Position of Wives and Mothers. Chairman: Eleanor Rathbone, City Councillor, Justice of the Peace.

## Theatre.

VI. The Fight Against Prostitution in connection with Venereal Disease. Chairman: Dr. Aletta Jacobs, Holland.

## 5-7.—MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES.

## 8-30.—PUBLIC MEETING in the Hall of the Reformation.

Subject: "Woman Suffrage in Practice."

Three-minute speeches from representatives of enfranchised countries—Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland, Hungary, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden.

Woman Suffrage and the Family.

Woman Suffrage and Public Morality.

Woman Suffrage in Municipal and Political Life.

How the Vote was Won (with limelight pictures). By Mrs. Nathan, U.S.A.

## Thursday, June 10.

## 9-12.—BUSINESS SESSION OF CONGRESS at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Report of (c) Committee on Moral Equality Programme.

Report of (d) Committee on Economic Equality Programme.

## 2-30-4-30.—THREE SIMULTANEOUS CONFERENCES at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais. (For particulars see below.)

## Small Hall.

VII. The Press and the Woman's Movement. Chairman: Vilma Gluecklich, Hungary.

## Large Hall.

VIII. The Nationality and Domicile of Married Women. Chairman: Anna Wicksell, Sweden.

## Theatre.

IX. Women's Status as it Affects Children.

## 5-7.—MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES.

## 8-30.—PUBLIC MEETING at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Subject: "The Women's Movement in the East."

Speakers: Women of the East—Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, British India; Mrs. Mrinalini Sen, British India; Mrs. E. Gauntlett, Japan; Mrs. Herabai Tata, Bombay.

## Friday, June 11.

## 9-12.—BUSINESS MEETING OF THE CONGRESS in the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Report of Committee (b) on Civil Equality Programme.  
Election of Officers.  
New Business.

Afternoon.—Arrangements pending.

## Saturday, June 12.

## 9-12 and 2-30-4-30.—BUSINESS MEETING OF THE CONGRESS, IF NECESSARY. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

## Three Simultaneous Conferences at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Tuesday, June 8, from 2-30 to 4-30.

## Small Hall.

I. THE MUNICIPAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORK OF WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

Chairman: —

Speakers: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., Town Councillor of Liverpool, England; Mme. Planinkova, Town Councillor of Prague, Czechoslovakia; Mrs. Malcolm, Councillor of Benoni, Transvaal, S. Africa; and Woman Councillors from Austria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and U.S.A.

Questions and discussion.

## Large Hall.

II.—EQUAL PAY AND RIGHT TO WORK.

Chairman: Elna Munch, M.P., Denmark.

## Subjects:

The New Law giving women Equal Pay and Opportunities in the Civil Service. Fru Arenholt, Denmark.

The provision for equal opportunities and right to retain positions after marriage in the new German Constitution. Frau Lindemann, Head of the Women's Department of the Württemberg Labour Office, Germany.

Women in new skilled industries, and recent legislation excluding them. Great Britain.

Action of women's societies in connection with the Washington International Labour Conference on the subjects of (a) the special regulation of women's work; and (b) regulation of the work of pregnant women.

Questions and discussion.

## Theatre.

III.—WOMEN'S CIVIL STATUS: RECENT PROGRESS.

Chairman: Marie Stritt, Germany.

## Subjects:

The new 1920 Swedish Law of Marriage and Guardianship. Sweden.  
The new 1919 Italian Law on Marriage, Professions, and Civil Status.

Provisions in the new German Constitution, 1919, on Marriage and Guardianship. Germany.

The Sex Disabilities Removal Act, 1919, and what was there gained. Great Britain.

Questions and discussion.

## Three Simultaneous Conferences at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Wednesday, June 9, from 2-30 to 4-30.

## Small Hall.

IV.—THE ORGANISATION OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE PROPAGANDA.

Chairman: Mme. de Witt de Schlumberger, France.

## Subjects:

How we organise our National Suffrage Society. France.

How we organised a Men Voters' League. Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage.

How we ran a Referendum campaign. U.S.A.

How we ran a Summer School. Switzerland.

How we brought pressure on Parliament. Holland, Italy, and Roumania.

Questions and discussion.

## Large Hall.

V.—THE ECONOMIC POSITION OF WIVES AND MOTHERS.

Chairman: Eleanor Rathbone, C.C., J.P.

## Questions:

How can a wife or mother be given economic freedom?

Mothers' pensions in Christiania. Norway.

Widows' pensions in U.S.A.

Proposed scheme for wives with children. K. D. Courtney, Great Britain.

Questions and discussion.

## Theatre.

VI.—THE FIGHT AGAINST PROSTITUTION IN CONNECTION WITH VENEREAL DISEASE.

Chairman: Dr. ALETTA JACOBS, Holland.

## Subjects:

How the U.S.A. works against vice and venereal disease. Dr. Hann, U.S.A.

The regulation of prostitution in old and new forms.

Questions and discussion.

## Three Simultaneous Conferences at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais.

Thursday, June 10, from 2-30 to 4-30.

## Small Hall.

VII.—THE PRESS AND THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT.

Chairman: Vilma Gluecklich, Hungary.

## Questions:

How can we promote the better international distribution of news of women's activities and the woman's movement?

How can we best promote the more adequate recognition of the value of women journalists professionally?

Should a special international news agency be encouraged, or should we work through existing agencies?

Speakers: Mme. Merz, Switzerland; other speakers to be announced later.

Questions and discussion.

## Large Hall.

VIII.—THE NATIONALITY AND DOMICILE OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Chairman: Anna Wicksell, Sweden.

## Subjects:

The nationality and domicile of married women, and the need to work internationally for the reform of the law. Mme. Crinberg, France.

The improvements in the nationality law of the Act of 1914. Sir Willoughby Dickenson, ex-M.P., Great Britain.

The improvements in the nationality law of the Act of 1914. Germany.

The provisions for the independent nationality of the wife in the Franchise Act and in the new Naturalisation Act. Canada.

Questions and discussion. Switzerland, etc.

## Theatre.

IX.—WOMEN'S STATUS AS IT AFFECTS CHILDREN.

Chairman: —

## Subjects:

The Official Children's Bureau of the United States. Julia Lathorpe, U.S.A., Head of the Bureau.

Questions and discussion.

The 1915 law on the rights of illegitimate children. Norway.

Questions and discussion.

NOTE.—The difficulties of travel are such that it is still uncertain whether Miss Annie Furuhjelm, Frau Anna Lindemann, Frau Stritt, and Miss Vilma Gluecklich can attend, but as it is still hoped they may be present, their names have been put on the programme.

## To Delegates and Visitors.

PLEASE NOTE.—The Enquiry Bureau will be open on Friday, June 4; Saturday, June 5; and Sunday, June 6, at the Maison Communale de Plainpalais (Cars 1, 12, or 4). Delegates and Visitors are requested to go as early as possible to register and get their programmes and cards.

FINANCE.—The result of the great appeal for £5,000 will be announced at the Congress. *There is still time to contribute*. We are happy to announce that our Treasurer, Mrs. Stanton Coit, will be at Geneva to receive the money in person. It will be an added pleasure to all who give that they are thus not only helping the work, but giving recognition to the devoted labours of her to whom the Alliance owes so much.

## THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE.

Further Resolutions sent in by The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Great Britain.

Maintenance from abroad.

That this Congress urges the necessity of promoting national legislation and international arrangements making it possible for maintenance and affiliation orders to be reclaimed from men who have gone abroad or who are outside the jurisdictions of the courts.

The Conditions of Work of Pregnant Women.

That this Congress urges that legislation with regard to pregnancy should be on the lines not of forbidding women to select their own work, but of providing for them such economic conditions as should make it possible to give birth to their children without facing either ill-health or starvation.

The Washington International Labour Conference and Women's Night Work.

This Congress strongly condemns the recommendations of the Washington Labour Conference, proposing restrictions on the night work of women not placed on the night work of men, holding that regulations concerning night work should be based on the type of the work and not on the sex of the worker.

## The League of Nations and the Regulation of Prostitution.

Since by Articles 23 and 25 of its covenant the members of the League of Nations "will endeavour to take steps in matters of international concern for the prevention and control of disease," and will "encourage and promote the establishment and co-operation of duly authorised voluntary national Red Cross organisations, having as purposes the promotion of health and the prevention of diseases throughout the world."

This Congress urges the League to adopt as its policy the abolition of the State regulation of vice, as long practised in certain European countries and British Dominions and Dependencies, and the condemnation of any proposals for dealing with venereal disease which would have the effect of re-introducing regulation in new and dangerous forms.

In particular it urges the League—

(a) To recommend to the constituent states the adoption of a similar policy; and

(b) Only to grant mandates for the administration of undeveloped countries subject to the condition that within the mandatory area there should be no regulation, segregation or official toleration of vice.

## An Opinion from Denmark.

We have received from Fru Elna Munch, M.P., President of the Danske Landsforbundet, of Denmark, the following proposals in regard to the future of the Alliance:—

I would suggest the following qualifications for affiliation to the Alliance—

(a) In countries where women have full suffrage, and especially women members of Parliament, the auxiliaries of the Alliance should have as their only programme the support of the Women Suffrage movement in other countries.

(b) In countries where women are not yet enfranchised, but where suffrage societies are or can be established, the auxiliaries should have work for Woman Suffrage as their only programme.

(c) In countries where women are not yet enfranchised, and where Suffrage Societies can not yet be formed, the auxiliaries should be allowed to have other objects besides suffrage work.

## PERSONALITIES OF THE CONGRESS.

A Great Host of Distinguished Women from all Parts of the World.

## The Editor's Joy and Grief.

The Editor of *Jus Suffragii* is overjoyed, and yet she is in despair. She is overjoyed that so great an assembly of notable women will assemble at Geneva. She is in despair that, though she has held back the printing till almost beyond the last minute, and has crowded up each little inch of space, she knows that some of the delegates, and among them some perhaps of the most distinguished, have no word and no picture in this issue to give to them the recognition which is their due. Perhaps even those who are mentioned are no more worthy, or less worthy, than those unnoticed. But the Editor takes comfort because she knows that her sisters and colleagues, each and all, desire only to work on in quietness, and it is but stern duty which has made them respond to her request for records to give encouragement to others. So rapidly day by day do the names come in, officially and unofficially, that it has not even been possible to observe any definite system or to print accurate and complete lists. The names and the life histories here recorded are but samples of the riches of the harvest in store for those who are lucky enough to go to Geneva! There all will learn to know each other and to gain thereby new strength and hope.

## SWITZERLAND FOR A HOLIDAY.

Many visitors will desire to stay on in Switzerland for a holiday when the Congress is over. For the guidance of such there are innumerable little guide books published by the Swiss Federal Railways, Messrs. Cook, and others. We need only to mention one or two of the best known resorts, and refer our readers to the advertisements of hotels at those appearing in this issue, namely: Adelboden, Beatenberg, Gunten, Zermatt, Montreux, Oberhofen and Wengen.

## DENMARK.

## The Danish Delegation includes two M.P.s—One a Woman and One a Man.

MRS. ELNA MUNCH, M.P.

*President of Dansk Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret.*

Mrs. Elna Munch is one of the University women whom the Liberal matriculation rules of the only University of Denmark brought in. She took degree with honours in mathematics before she began the active work of Woman Suffrage, and she started in Denmark the strictly political part of the movement. She remained the driving force therein during the whole time until the victory was won. As a matter of fact, she entered the Municipality of Copenhagen 1917, and the House of Commons, 1918, without the slightest doubt about her right to be the representative of her sex in these two ruling corporations of the capital and country. Her influence in the Municipality of Copenhagen and in the House of Commons is very great indeed. Not only does she share with her masculine colleagues the burden of the daily work in the debates and in the committees, but her specialities as a woman representative have had an unrivalled success. In the Municipality she took the initiative of voting "central houses for families with children," where the common household, with common kitchen, rooms for babies, and play school for the other small children enable the wives to attend to their work without risk to the children. The one such house already established works very well. In accordance with her proposal the majority of the higher private schools of the Capital were handed over to the Municipality or the Crown. Under her advice this movement is continued all over the country, and she is a member of the great Royal Commission for re-organisation of the schools of Denmark.

Mrs. Munch was the first woman speaker in the Danish Parliament. In the great debate on the Financial Bill, during her first session, she claimed three capital rights for women: Salaries for women employees in the State and the Municipality on the same scale as men's salaries; admission to

offices under the same conditions as men; the same rights—economic and as to the children—in marriage as the husband. The salaries question is already solved in conformity with her claim. She took an active part in the debate, and was called in as an extraordinary member of the special Salaries Committee of the House for this question. The two other claims are laid down in Government Bills, proposed by the Government in which her husband was Minister for National Defence (War and Marine). The Bill of Admittance to Offices went to a special committee, whose reporter she was, and she had to keep up a debate with a University professor of theology about women priests. With another University professor—the most energetic opponent of women's rights, she stood for equal terms between man and woman as to old age and sickness insurance. Mrs. Munch is member of several Royal Commissions, and was elected a delegate to the Labour Congress of Washington, 1919, but could not go there on account of her Parliamentary work. By special request one of the male colleagues of Mrs. Munch has written this biographical sketch.

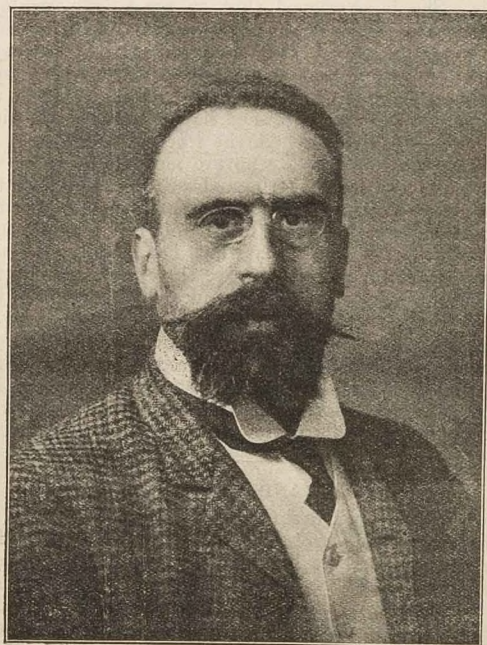


Mrs. ELNA MUNCH, M.P.

IVOR BERENDSEN, M.P.

*Surveyor of the Customs in Copenhagen.*

The masculine delegate of Dansk Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret, is a Radical member of the Danish Parliament since 1910, and has always been one of the truest supporters of women's rights. His wife, a Finnish lady, was the first Honorary Secretary of the Woman Suffrage organisation of Copenhagen until her death. After having been a leader of the Liberal students for many years Mr. Berendsen took office and organised the first State Officials Association, whose first leader he was. In Parliament his specialities are the social questions, and during the war he was the reporter of the whole House for the great financial questions. His name was known throughout Europe in those circles which undertook the defence



IVOR BERENDSEN, M.P.

Madame SARAH ORTH  
(Hon. Sec. of Dansk Landsforbund).

of the small nations in the last years of the 19th century and the first years of our century. He was one of the starters of the movement for Nicholas II. in favour of Finland, of the weekly *L'Europeen* in Paris, etc., and his articles about Finland were translated into all languages. He, too, was elected a delegate to the Washington Congress, but could not go because of his Parliamentary work.

SARAH ORTH,

*Hon. Secretary of Dansk Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret.*

The special study of Miss Orth at the University of Copenhagen was comparative history of literature, and she is now Principal Librarian at the Library of the Insurance Associations in Copenhagen. Formerly she was Librarian at the Library of Studentersamfundet, the Society of Liberal Students, where for four years she was also among the most prominent and active members of the Board. She belongs to the Radical Party, and is a member of the Head Directorate of the Radical Association in Copenhagen. Miss Orth was always strongly interested in social questions, and has for seven years taken part in the work of the Central Office of Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies. In the Woman Suffrage Society of Copenhagen she was a member of the Directorate from 1911 till the re-organisation in 1915, and since that time



Mrs. ANNA HEILBUTH, Denmark.

she is furthermore Honorary International Secretary of the Landsforbund. As member of the Committee for Agitation, she has established several Suffrage Societies all over the country, and was leader of a special section of this Committee. She was one of the delegates of the Landsforbund at the International Woman Suffrage Congresses in Stockholm and Budapest, and represented Denmark as speaker at the great Suffrage meetings in Berlin and Dresden preceding the Congress in Budapest. When Danish women had obtained the Political Suffrage in 1915 she attended as invited speaker the yearly Convention of the Swedish National Women's Suffrage Societies in Huskvarna. She was one of the candidates for the Parliamentary election in Copenhagen, 1918.

MRS. ANNA HEILBUTH.

Mrs. Anna Heilbuth, an appreciated and interested member of Dansk Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret since the foundation of the original organisation in 1907, was also elected a delegate at the International Woman Suffrage Congress in Budapest. During the war she has devoted her time and her indefatigable energy to the Danish Red Cross Division of Prisoners of War, where she has worked with the English, French, and German correspondence.

## ARGENTINE SENDS A BRILLIANT DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY.

DR. BRUNHILDA WIEN

represents the Union Feminista Nacional of the Argentine. (Headquarters, Buenos Ayres. President, Dr. Alicia Moreau. Official publication, *Nuestra Causa*). Dr. Brunhilda Wien is a Doctor of Philosophy and Letters in the University of

Buenos Ayres. She was born in Vienna, and early in life felt an ardent desire for education. None of her family shared her views in this matter, so at eighteen years of age she went to Switzerland to study, but as she was still under parental authority her parents applied to the Swiss Government to send her back to Vienna. From Switzerland she therefore fled to Holland, but the same rule applied there, and she fared no better in Belgium. Miss Wien therefore proceeded to the



Dr. BRUNHILDA WIEN.



Miss MARGARET SCHLACHTA, M.P.

Argentina, where parental jurisdiction had no hold over her, and there she has had a brilliant career, eventually taking her degree as Doctor of Philosophy at Buenos Ayres University. Dr. Wien had to work hard at professional work while studying for her degree, and became Librarian to the Department of Statistics. She is a well-known publicist in Buenos Ayres, and contributes to the Suffrage paper, *Nuestra Causa*. She is an ardent Suffragist, who desires the absolute equality of the sexes, and no better representative of the feminist movement could have been selected.

#### Mlle. MARGARET SCHLACHTA.

Budapest, March 29.

Mlle. Margit Schlachta, affectionately known to the Budapest poor as "Sister Margit," Hungary's first woman member of Parliament, took her seat to-day in the National Assembly.

Mlle. Schlachta, who won her seat for the first district of Budapest over five male opponents, on entering the Assembly this morning was greeted by the enthusiastic cheers of all members, and from the public galleries, which were crowded with women.—*Daily Express* Correspondent.

A message from Mlle. Schlachta to Mrs. Abbott, I.W.S.A. Headquarters Secretary:—

Budapest, April 23.

"I hope that in consequence of the war and its cruelty the women's part in future will change considerably in every civilised state, as men cannot expect that we women carry the burdens of the 20th century and enjoy the rights of the Middle Ages. Schools do not educate only; they qualify for rights. . . . To-day I delivered my maiden speech in our Parliament. The subjects were the Improvement of the Factory Workers' Conditions, the Reform of the Primary Schools, the Question of Public Health, Women's Work in the Home.—"MARGARET SCHLACHTA."

### YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO MEET IN SWITZERLAND IN JUNE.

We have received the following announcement from the Secretary of the International Commission and World's Committee:—

"From the 2nd to the 9th of June there will meet in Champéry, Switzerland, a Commission composed of leaders of the Young Women's Christian Association from every quarter of the world. This will be the first representative gathering of the Association since June of 1914, when the World's Conference met in Stockholm, and as such will consider important questions of the readjustment of the work of the Association to the demands of to-day. It is, however, not an official conference of the organisation, but a much more informal body.

"The first desire for such a meeting was expressed as much as three years ago, when it was suggested that the general secretaries of national associations in the Orient, and other distant countries, should meet with representatives of the home associations sending them out. Because of the difficulties of travel, it was not possible to realise this plan before 1920. To-day the needs and opportunities for international co-operation are so much greater than even a year ago, that it was decided to enlarge the scope of the Commission. Accordingly there have been added two subjects of significance to all countries: conditions affecting women in industry, and work for immigrant and emigrant young women.

"Those attending the Commission meetings will include representatives from South America, Belgium, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, South Africa, China, Denmark, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Roumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Portugal, Egypt, Jugo-Slavia, and Czecho-Slovakia."

The Berlin correspondent of the London *Times* telegraphs, April 8, that a State Assembly is to be elected on May 16 to frame a constitution for the "Free City of Dantzig," which it will submit to the League of Nations. The proposed draft Constitution includes votes for all men and women over 20 years of age, on the principle of proportional representation.

### HUNGARY.

#### A Story of Suffering.

We have received an exceedingly interesting report of conditions in Hungary from the Suffrage Society—Feministak Egyesulete, of Budapest, conveying a sad impression of the terrible state of affairs which has existed during the years of the war, and which still exists, in that unhappy country. The report opens with the following passage:—

"Since our last report was sent to *Jus Suffragii*, about a year ago, Hungary has had three governments, and now the third regime is in power, and we have seen as much of history as any three generations may have witnessed in the past centuries. Physical and mental sufferings have ruined our health and our nerves, and we have lost our illusions, our hope, and almost our faith in humanity."

#### Humanitarian Work of the Society.

It continues with a sketch of the systems under the different Governments, which made it impossible for the society to develop along normal lines, and it proceeds to describe how they made themselves of use in other ways.

"During all these months all activity was made impossible for us, but we endeavoured to help those women who, by the loss of their income, or their maintenance, were exposed to great need. In our headquarters we had an advisory office, where we considered every case individually, and directed it according to the applicants' abilities, and the few ways of gaining a livelihood or training for such. We held also our only meetings all this time for this purpose, and we seldom had such crowded meetings, and such attentive and grateful audiences as then."

#### Friends From Other Lands Bring Some Cheer to the Sad Country.

The narrative then proceeds to speak of the visit of women of other lands:—

"We owe a great debt of gratitude to our dear international friends, who even in these most trying days succeeded in visiting us and bringing some mitigation to our grief. Miss Holbrook, Principal of the Forestville School of Chicago, U.S.A., and Miss Burritt, from New York, were our dear visitors in July, and ever since October Mrs. Rose Morgan French, from San Francisco, has been with us. We hope for a time when we can duly report all her brave and loving actions on our behalf and for the cause of humanity. Her lecture in October last, on 'The Child as the Conciliator of Nations,' which we could only advertise as a lecture on 'Child Protection,' but in reality was a stirring and splendid speech for peace and internationalism, was our only action of publicity during the Roumanian occupation in Budapest. We held several members' meetings in our headquarters.

"We regret not to be in the position, for reasons of outward and inner politics, to report on the political regime which was inaugurated after the departure of the Roumanians, and of our situation thereunder.

"Lately we had the pleasure of the visit of Miss Courtney, our dear English friend and co-worker, who spoke in our members' meeting hopeful and encouraging words of the hope of a revision of the Peace Treaty. On other occasions Com. Cather, Dr. Munro, and Mr. Grant from England, Frau Wegener and Fre. Marcus from Sweden, gave us short reports of the international, pacific, and humanitarian work inaugurated in many countries."

#### Hope for the Salvation of Mankind Through the Women. "Go on Living for the Children's Sake."

"On the eve of the signature of our Peace Treaty we must own that this event, for which we were yearning since the outbreak of the war, does not fill us with the satisfaction and joy that we hoped for, and which we could not imagine otherwise than as a service of renewed happiness. We should be enraptured to be healed of our pessimism. Shall Dr. Munro's words be realised? 'We hope for the salvation of mankind through the women, and they will bring it us through their children, whom they will educate.' And so we must go on living for their sake.

#### For the Hungarian Section of the Alliance.

*Feministak Egyesulete.* Budapest, March 1, 1920.

### AT THE GENEVA CONGRESS.

The Headquarters Hotel is Hotel de la Paix, and the Headquarters Hall is Maison Communal du Plainpalais. The Congress Bureau is 22, Rue Etienne Dumont.

### ARGENTINA.

#### Feminist Propaganda in Buenos Ayres During Elections, March, 1920.

On the eve of election day the members of the Partido Femenista Nacional were busy at headquarters arranging everything in readiness for the following day. Soon after four o'clock several members left the offices, each with an armful of leaflets, which were easily distributed down Avenida de Mayo and Florida during the course of two hours. This form of propaganda proved very successful, and aroused a considerable amount of interest in the passer-by, each one eagerly accepting a leaflet, and even stopping to enquire further on the subject.

Sunday, March 7, proved a still greater success, and the men electors were not allowed to forget for one moment that women were on this day working busily towards the emancipation of women. Upon opening the newspapers the reader was reminded that the names of two women were included in this year's list of candidates: one, Doctora Julieta Lanteri Renshaw, as independent candidate for the Partido Femenista Nacional; the other, Senora Alcira Beron de Astrada, as candidate for the Argentine Socialist Party.

Doctora Lanteri had sent notices round beforehand to every electoral section (of which there are twenty), advising that women as well as men were to represent her as delegates at the different committee rooms; but on asking the Chief of Police whether these women would be admitted as such, he was unable to give any promise whatsoever, adding, however, that he considered the presidents of each table would be gentlemen enough to receive them. His surmise proved correct.

As the number of women delegates was rather limited, each delegate had to try to visit every table in her section, about forty-eight tables in each, so that she was not able to remain at any of them for longer than fifteen or twenty minutes; but this was sufficient to allow her to revise the polling booth, and to satisfy herself that the voting was quite in order.

At nearly every committee room the women received the same justice and courtesy. The policeman at the entrance had sometimes an amused smile on his face, but generally he understood his duty, and upon the usual password, admitted the delegate, who thereupon presented her credentials to the president, and was offered a seat at the table, and treated as an equal in an official capacity.

The polling booth was inspected at every table, with a view to ascertaining that the voting papers were in order, and on many occasions opportunities presented themselves for a discussion on Woman Suffrage, opportunities which were not lost by any feminist. It was surprising to learn how well posted the men delegates were on the subject of "Votes for Women." Each one seemed to have his opinion on the matter, rightly or wrongly, and the majority summed up their views on the subject by saying: "After all, you women are only asking for a right."

One well-known barrister, in favour of Woman's Suffrage, suggested that a delegation should wait upon the President himself, and insisted that the idea was worthy of consideration.

At another table it was noticed that a great many of the feminist voting papers had been used and the committee as a whole confirmed the opinion, adding that in several cases the voters had arrived with a feminist voting paper in their hand, evidently one of several thousand which had been distributed in the streets on the previous day. On many occasions, as soon as the delegate announced her mission, she was greeted with an encouraging: "Senorita, you are made welcome as a delegate of the Doctora Lanteri," or, "It is good to see the women coming forward and taking their part in the elections," and again, "Every good luck to your woman candidate."

Even the newspaper photographers were busily engaged and interested in the feminist campaign.

On yet another occasion, upon arrival at the table, situated in the hall of a Methodist Church, the delegate presented her card, and was allowed admittance, but directed to the doorway of the church itself. In spite of remonstrating, she found that the policeman had misled her, and after giving him her opinion on his behaviour, she found her way to the table without any further assistance.

Doctora Lanteri visited every electoral section in a car placed at her disposal, so that she was able to confirm all that the delegates reported as to the satisfactory result of day's work.

### LOOKING FROM WEST TO EAST.

#### THOUGHTS ABOUT JAPAN AND HER WOMEN, BY A JAPANESE WOMAN IN LONDON. INTERVIEW WITH MISS SHIDACHI.

The development of Western civilisation in Japan is one of the marvels of the twentieth century, and when in the last few weeks we read of the popular movement there for universal suffrage, we felt as if the ties between our Western democracy and a new Japanese democracy might become very close. But we have been misled by the very rapidity of our own people in franchise reform. In the West it is no longer the fashion to speak of universal suffrage when we mean manhood suffrage, but in Japan it is still possible to use a term which implies the political non-existence of women.

The question becomes insistent, What, then, is the exact position of women in a country where as yet they have no political existence? To find the answer to this question was the purpose of our seeking an interview with that brilliant Japanese lady—Miss Shidachi.

Miss Shidachi left Japan six years ago, and is now a student in chemistry and mathematics at the University of London. Her long absence from home has made her diffident in expressing any opinion in regard to the movement for the emancipation of women, as it has developed since she left Japan, but her intimate knowledge of Western political institutions and modes of thought have made her peculiarly fit to take a comprehensive and philosophic view of the broad question of how far our Western idea of woman, the complete human being and the equal comrade of man, finds acceptance in Japan.

#### The Idea of Citizen Rights for Women Still in Its Infancy.

Miss Shidachi and our representative began their conversation with a little chat about the pictures which have appeared in the Press entitled "Japanese Suffragettes." She showed considerable amusement, not wholly unmixed with disapproval, at the suggestion of its being possible for Japanese ladies to stand on a cart at a street corner and address the crowd. She said it could not be done in Japan. The whole idea of citizen rights for women was still in its infancy. They do not sit on municipal bodies; they do not enter the Civil Service. Their political consciousness finds no opportunity for development in the circumstances of their lives. The wives cook and clean and mend, and they also make the clothes for their husbands and children; they toil long hours in the endeavour to please their husbands, but the political columns of the newspapers are a sealed book to them, for their husbands' pleasure and approval is their one absorbing end in life.

As in other countries, so in Japan the advancement of men and women is largely interdependent. Up to 1865 the Emperor, head of the State and semi-divine representative of the national religion, was supreme autocrat, and government was carried on in his name by the Shogun, hereditary national Governor. In 1887, for the first time, a written constitution was granted to the nation, but even to-day the Trade Union movement, in spite of its growing strength, remains unrecognised by the Government, and the Government eyes askance the incoming tide of the franchise movement, even for men; the franchise demand from women remains officially simply unthinkable. This official attitude is reflected in the whole system of education for women, which is again coloured by the tenets of conventional religion.

#### The Religious Attitude.

When, in the sixth century, Buddhism began to supplant other forms of religion, it entered Japan from China, and was deeply tinged with the philosophy of Confucius, and Confucius held that "women and little people (mean persons) cannot be educated, and are people who do not count." And the Government motto for girls' schools is merely a reflection of this view: "Good wives and wise mothers," not full human beings, an end in themselves, but beings created for the service of man. And even in the Christian schools the Government motto finds some favour. Higher education for women, such as we understand it, is almost unknown, for when the women grow out of childhood they marry husbands they have probably never seen, or they enter a sweated industry and toil as wage slaves under conditions of abject degradation.

Our representative asked Miss Shidachi, after she had spoken with tragic earnestness of these facts: "Are the Japanese women happy or are they miserable?" Miss

Shidachi paused before she replied, and then, in a low voice, but with sad conviction, she answered: "They are, perhaps, of all women, the most miserable."

#### Hopes for the Future.

But she does not despair. Many Japanese women go to study in the United States, and though the intellectual standard makes no claim to that of men, there exist, nevertheless, in Japan two so-called universities for women. Then, too, the Young Women's Christian Association has introduced new ideas, and the hostel for factory girls established by this organisation is a real centre of light.

Miss Shidachi's own personality gives hope for the future. She means to return to her own country, carrying with her new ideals and a new outlook, and interpreting these new ideals to her country with all the intellectual vigour, shrewdness, courage, and sense of fun which are hers. We look with eagerness for the great awakening of Japanese women yet to come.

#### GREECE.

**GREAT FEMINIST CONGRESS OF GREEK WOMEN TO BE HELD IN ATHENS NEXT OCTOBER, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LYCEUM CLUB OF ATHENS. VISITORS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WELCOME.**

Letter from Madame Parreu, President, to the Editor of "Jus Suffragii."

Chère Madame, Athènes.

Pour votre journal, si dévoué à notre cause, et pour tous ceux et celles que la question de la Femme dans tous les Pays pourrait intéresser, je me fais un plaisir de vous exposer ce qui suit:

Le Lycéum Club d'Athènes, fondé en 1911, compte parmi ses sections les plus actives, celle de l'Emancipation de la Femme, dont le but est de concourir, par tous les moyens, à l'amélioration du sort de la Femme, de provoquer la modification et la création des lois favorables à la Femme et l'Enfant et notamment d'obtenir son émancipation politique.

Au cours de la session actuelle de la Chambre la question du droit de vote de la femme a été soulevée par le député Monsieur Bassias, membre actuel de notre Section, qui a soumis un projet de loi reconnaissant l'égalité politique de la femme. Le député Ministériel M. Vassilakakis, féministe convaincu et membre également de notre Comité, a présenté à la Chambre un rapport de notre Lycéum, très-détaillé, exposant l'urgence de cette réforme. Au cours de la discussion, en développant notre rapport, Mr. Vassilakakis a attiré l'attention de la Chambre et du Président du Conseil sur l'étendue du mouvement féministe en Grèce et le rôle bienfaisant exercé par la femme grecque dans presque toutes les branches de l'activité nationale. En même temps trois autres Ligues des Femmes soumièrent des rapports analogues à la Chambre. Ce sont: La Ligue des Femmes socialistes, la Ligue des Femmes pour les Droits des Femmes, récemment fondée et le Conseil National des Femmes. C'est donc une manifestation, pour ainsi dire, générale et officielle de la grande majorité des femmes grecques en faveur de leur droit de vote, puisque à toutes les Associations féminines de la Capitale, s'unissent par témoignage le même désir, toutes celles des Provinces et les Sections Correspondantes de nos Lycéums. La Chambre, en renvoyant le projet de loi à la Commission compétente, a montré une attitude plutôt favorable. Le Président du Conseil, de son côté, a déclaré qu'il n'était pas contraire au principe de l'égalité des sexes, affirmant qu'il n'y avait aucune raison plausible de refuser aux femmes les droits civils et même les droits politiques mais que les femmes grecques devaient manifester le désir de les obtenir. Cette déclaration du Premier Ministre, quoique très encourageante pour nos revendications, comporte une restriction et met en doute, pour ainsi dire, le désir de la femme grecque elle-même d'obtenir, pour elle aussi, les droits que presque toutes les Nations civilisées accordent à la femme. Pour prouver donc que les Femmes grecques désirent réellement obtenir le droit de vote et qu'elles sont mûres pour cette réforme, le Lycéum Club d'Athènes, après une série de conférences, tendant à démontrer la nécessité légale, morale et sociale qu'il y a de permettre aux femmes aussi de voter et de participer personnellement aux questions qui intéressent leur Pays, conférences qui eurent un succès retentissant, a décidé d'organiser à Athènes un Congrès des Femmes Grecques.

Ce Congrès, par l'ampleur des questions qui y seront traitées dans les Sections des Mères et des Ménagères, de Pédagogie, du Travail et des Œuvres d'Assistance et de

Prévoyance, de l'Emancipation féminine, des Lettres, des Sciences, et des Arts, sera une manifestation éclatante des capacités féminines de notre Pays et prouvera d'une façon irrefutable, quel grand facteur peut devenir la femme grecque dans l'évolution progressiste que notre Nation accomplit.

Une grande exposition des travaux féminins aura lieu en même temps qui prouvera aussi l'importance de l'action économique de la Femme Grecque.

Chère Madame, vu les difficultés de tout ordre, survenues partout depuis la guerre, je n'ai pas osé inviter à ce Congrès, les Lycéums Clubs auxquels nous sommes affiliées ni les autres amies et amis féministes que j'ai connus en Europe et en Amérique, dans les différents Congrès où je me suis trouvée, qui luttèrent si brillamment pour la même idée, et auxquels m'unissent de si doux et touchants souvenirs, champions illustres, dont le précieux concours nous aurait été si utile.

Si toutefois il y en avait qui se décideraient à venir nous aider à remporter aussi la victoire qu'elles ont su gagner dans leur Pays, et, par la même occasion, visiter notre belle Grèce, elles recevront sûrement de nous toutes le plus chaleureux et le plus reconnaissant accueil. Dans ce cas il serait nécessaire de me prévenir en temps utile et faire connaître le sujet que l'on désirerait traiter au Congrès. Nous recevrons également avec reconnaissance tout rapport écrit à l'appui de nos revendications.

La date exacte du Congrès sera fixée en Octobre prochain.

C. PARREU,

Présidente du Lycéum Club d'Athènes.

#### BELGIUM.

**Universal Municipal Suffrage for Women is Voted by the Belgian Chambers.**

Madame Brigode sends the following interesting particulars regarding the Municipal Franchise for Women, the granting of which was announced in our last issue:—

"The Chamber of Deputies has voted the Municipal Suffrage for Women by 120 votes against 37. This majority was composed by the entire votes of the Catholics present, 45 Socialists among 56 present, and the two leaders of the Liberal Party, Mr. Paul Hymans, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Burgomaster Max, who had the courage to cut themselves off from their political friends to put the principle of justice above the immediate interests of their party.

"The Senate has just discussed the law voted by the Chamber of Deputies. The *rapporteur* of this law has mentioned the statistics of 1910, stating that the number of men over 21 was 2,133,927, and the number of women of age 2,206,950. He stated also that if the number of the people who can read and write is higher among the men than among the women over 30, it is practically the same between 20 and 30, and that under 20 there are more women than men who read and write. This fact proves that feminine education has considerably progressed in Belgium during these last years.

"The Senate adopted the law on April 14 by 60 votes against 33. All Belgian women (Belgian born, naturalised, or Belgian by marriage) over 21, and who have lived for six months in the same municipality, shall be electors on the same basis as men.

"One exception, however, has been made: the women who are registered as prostitutes are excluded from voting.

"As the powers of the municipality are very far-reaching in Belgium, the new prerogatives given to women are of considerable importance.

"The next municipal election for re-electing the Municipal Councils will take place for the whole country at the end of this year.

#### Legislative Suffrage.

"The Commission charged to study the modifications to be brought to some points of the Belgian Constitution has rejected by 11 votes against 9 the principle of parliamentary franchise for women as electors; on the other hand, they have voted unanimously but one vote, the principle of the eligibility of women to sit in both Chambers.

"The votes of this Commission have no other importance than to reflect the tendencies of the day, but they do not allow us to foresee the results of the discussions which will soon take place in Parliament, in order to revise certain points of the Belgian Constitution."

JANE BRIGODE.

April 18, 1920.

#### AUSTRIA.

**The New Domestic Help Law (Hausgehilfinnen Gesetz).**

After a great many discussions and alterations the new Domestic Help law was passed by the National Assembly. It is the first law which the young republic has devoted to women. Soon after the women members had taken up their duties they drew attention to the necessity of doing away with the old and quite-out-of-date Domestic Help law. They formulated a new one, which complied with the demands of social welfare. The advanced middle-class women, who are represented by the Union of Austrian Women's Societies, have been working for years for this reform, but as women in the old Austria had no political rights, they did not succeed in carrying into effect their intentions. It is remarkable that women have in this comparatively short time gained such importance and influence through their political rights that they were not only able to bring about a reform in the old law, but also to create an entirely new one.

Although it is very much to be appreciated that the most socially oppressed class has, through this law, gained power for further development and the recognition of being professional workers, we must point out that the members who introduced the law are somewhat one-sided, and only represent the interests of domestic workers. Just as if the interests of the housewife and the family should not also be taken into consideration! The proposal, instead of reducing the antagonism between the housewife and the domestic help, has increased it. The Social Democratic women's object was to put the domestic worker on the same footing as the industrial worker. Is it possible to run a household, especially one that is blessed with children, on the same lines as a factory, where the machines suddenly stop at appointed hours? The middle class were obliged to agree that the Domestic Help law was not to be classed under working women's laws, but merely as a regulation for those who live together. They therefore demanded several modifications, which were presented by the member Frau Dr. Burian (Christian Socialist), the result being a law which suits both parties. However, one cannot overlook the fact that the decreased burden of the domestic helper will now mean more work and expense for the middle-class woman, who is already the greatest sufferer in these times. The rich families, who keep servants and are not troubled by the enormously increased cost of their food and wages, will be able to overcome the difficulties by calling in extra help. The middle-class woman, and those who have to earn their living, however, will have to work harder and endure more privations, so that the domestic help can enjoy her new liberties, or they will have to manage entirely without help.

**DEATH OF MARIE SCHWARZ: AN APPRECIATION OF HER GREAT WORK FOR WOMEN.**

I have to give you sad news again. Marie Schwarz, one of the best-known Austrian workers for Woman Suffrage, died on March 6, at the age of sixty-seven, after a short illness, with influenza. By her death the Union of Teachers and Governesses loses its founder and chairman, the German-Austrian Association for Woman Suffrage its co-founder, and the Union of Austrian Women's Societies their vice-chairman. Her great activity is evident from this enumeration. Her principal successes were obtained by energetic endeavours to broaden girls' education, by welfare work for the young, by her untiring efforts to raise the domestic and social standing of teachers, and to provide for their further development, and last, but not least, by her courageous demand for the political franchise for women. She was one of the first women in Austria who dared to voice this demand, when other courageous leaders dared not think of political rights for women. Through her experiences when a teacher, Marie Schwarz came to the conclusion that it was only by political equality of the sexes that women teachers could obtain the same natural and ideal rights as their male fellow workers, and only in a country where women were enfranchised could there be a definite demand for higher education of girls. In 1891 Marie Schwarz was the first Austrian woman to be elected a high school director. After the upheaval in 1918, when the former Town Council had to give up a good many seats to the other parties, Marie Schwarz entered the Vienna National Assembly as the Social Democratic representative.

During the elections in 1920 she was elected to the District Council. She accomplished her very responsible work in a most exemplary manner, and with great personal sacrifice even took over more work when she was already overburdened. She was well known and greatly valued by the public as a brilliant speaker, whose warm heart, keen intelligence, and varied specialised knowledge and practical experience could successfully hold her audience. In spite of the wide scope of her public work, Marie Schwarz remained a modest woman, with a charming personality and much respected by even those who did not agree with her technical or political views. Her death leaves a painful gap in the Austrian feminist movement. May the sincere mourning for her help to keep her memory bright.

GISELA URBAN (Vienna).

#### GERMANY.

**Proposed Limitation of Women's Sphere as Jurors. Women's Criticism of the Scheme.**

The draft of the new laws as to the Courts of Justice has not yet indeed been laid before the National Assembly, but before the Reichstag. It can, however, never be too early to protest against the way in which the office of women as non-professional judges has been treated in the Bill. The Bill provides that in cases in which women and young people under 18 years are being tried, there should be female jurors (non-professional judges), two women out of three sworn persons at the Assizes. Women may refuse to serve if they can prove that their physical state or domestic duties make service difficult for them.

This restriction of women's office as jurors is in open contradiction to the terms of the Weimar constitution. The words of the Minister Bumke, "No woman shall be condemned contrary to the will of those of her own sex," make no difference. They entirely overlook the provisions of the Bill.

Women have never asked for special provisions in judging women and young people. There is no material for showing how women will fulfil the office of jurymen. We can only agree with the Women's Committee of the German Democratic Party: "It is illogical when the Bill proposes to open the office of a jurymen to women to restrict their co-operation to cases where women and young people are to be judged. If woman can judge, there is no reason why she should not deal with men's crimes. Theft, perjury, and treason are the same, whether committed by a man or a woman."

*Gleichheit*, Berlin, April 10.

**The New Electoral Law and Women Parliamentary Candidates. Advantages and Disadvantages of the New Law.**

The German National Assembly has before it a Bill for new electoral organisation, proposing changes which in themselves may be good, and which yet may work in a reactionary direction for us women. The guiding thought of the Bill is that the number of the seats should be fixed in accordance with the number of votes, and that every sixty thousand should have a representative. The large constituencies of the last election did not work well, because the deputies could not come into touch with their constituents. Therefore, the earlier constituencies have been split up into smaller divisions, which have been grouped together into electoral districts. The personal relation between the electorate and the deputy is thus established, and it is thus much easier for the views of the population on isolated questions of legislation to find expression. This moment is specially important for the women deputies, for between them and their electorate confidential relations must be established if their activity is to do good.

Under this aspect we, too, can welcome smaller constituencies. Yet in actual practice they will be a great disadvantage to us. To each constituency there will be four deputies. Parties which are strongly represented will only be able to reckon on two seats in each. This is true also of the Social Democrats. If a woman deputy is chosen she must come first or second on the electoral list. Will this happen? Assuredly in few instances, so we must expect a great fall in the numbers of the women deputies.—*Extract from article by CLARA BOHM SCHUCH, in "Gleichheit," March 20.*

## QUELLES NOUVELLES ?

## LE CONGRÈS À GENÈVE.

## L'Allemagne.

Nous donnons raison au comité féminin du groupe Allemand-Démocratique qui a protesté contre un projet de loi qui voudrait limiter le service judiciaire (*jury*) des femmes aux procès contre les femmes ou les jeunes personnes. Cette restriction est illégale vue les termes de la constitution de Weimar.

## Les Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Le jour que le Secrétaire d'Etat annoncera la ratification de l'amendement fédéral par 36 législatures affranchira toutes les femmes des Etats-Unis et leur ouvrira tous les emplois depuis celui de Président. Il n'y faut plus qu'un vote. On verra ce qu'on pourra faire pour surmonter les derniers obstacles. Probablement la ratification se fera avant notre prochain numéro.

## L'Argentine.

Dimanche 7 Mars, jour des élections à Buenos Ayres, la Partido Femenista Nacional avait pris soin de porter à la conscience de tous les électeurs que les noms de deux femmes se trouvaient sur la liste des candidats. L'une d'elles, Doctora Julieta Lanteri Renshaw, se présentait comme candidat de la Partido Femenista; l'autre, Señora Aleida Beron di Astrada, comme candidat de la groupe socialiste de l'Argentine. La plupart des électeurs paraissaient convaincus de ce que l'un d'eux exprima en disant: après tout, vous autres femmes, vous ne faites que demander vos droits.

## L'Autriche.

La loi pour régler les conditions de travail des servantes est la première, depuis l'établissement de la République, qui s'occupe des femmes. Elle sert certainement à démontrer l'influence des droits politiques de la femme.

## La Belgique.

Madame Brigode nous mande que c'est par 120 votes contre 37 que le suffrage municipal a été accordé aux femmes dans la Chambre des Députés. Tous les catholiques présents et 45 des 56 socialistes composaient la majorité, avec deux chefs des libéraux, M. Paul Hymans, ministre des affaires étrangères, et le Bourgmestre Max qui eurent le courage de se séparer de leurs associés politiques pour se rallier au principe de la justice. Le Sénat passa la loi par 60 votes contre 33 et toute femme belge ayant 21 ans et plus et qui a habité pendant six mois la même municipalité pourra dorénavant voter pour les conseillers municipaux: excepté cependant les femmes qui sont sur les registres de la police comme prostituées. La commission chargée de la considération du suffrage parlementaire en a refait le principe par 11 votes contre 9, tout en accordant l'éligibilité des femmes pour chacune des deux chambres.

## Le Japon.

"Dans le Japon," dit Mademoiselle Shidachi, venue en Angleterre il y a six ans, et à présent étudiante de chimie et de mathématiques à l'Université de Londres, "l'idée des droits civiles de la femme est à peine née." Les femmes ne s'occupent nullement de la politique, et le gouvernement qui voit d'un mauvais œil la demande des hommes pour un suffrage élargi, ne conçoit pas même la possibilité d'une demande semblable du côté des femmes. Pour l'éducation supérieure dans notre sens n'existe pas; l'enfance passée, ou elle est mariée à un homme qu'elle n'a probablement jamais vu, ou bien elle entre dans la vie industrielle sous des conditions d'avilissement qui en font un véritable esclavage. "Les Japonaises sont peut-être les plus misérables de toutes les femmes" nous a dit leur compatriote; mais elle rentrera dans sa patrie y reportant ses propres idéals, un point de vue nouveau. Nous espérons avec confiance l'éveil prochain des japonaises.

## La Suède.

Le gouvernement s'est chargé d'un projet de loi qui admettrait les femmes sans obstacle à tous les emplois de l'état, comme conseillers d'état, conseillers de justice, et employées dans la chancellerie. Pour que les femmes soient admises à la prétrise il faudrait une législation spéciale.

## Petites Biographies.

## Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt (États Unis),

Née Carrie Lane, à Charles City, Iowa, collegienne d'Iowa State College, aida son premier mari, Lee Chapman, dans la rédaction de son journal. A 27 ans elle se décida à travailler pour le suffrage des femmes. Mariée une seconde fois en 1890, Mrs. Chapman Catt s'est démontrée toujours infatigable, éloquente, pleine d'initiative et de ressources—"chef idéal" au dire de Susan Anthony. Elle a plaidé par tout le monde la cause du suffrage féminin; c'est elle qui a fondé l'Alliance Internationale et qui en est la Présidente.

## Mrs. Elna Munch, M.P. (Danemarck).

Graduée universitaire en mathématiques, s'était fait reconnaître comme force active et dirigeante dans la campagne pour le vote féminin, et le suffrage gagné, c'est elle qui représente depuis 1917, son sexe dans le Conseil Municipal de Copenhague et dans le Parlement; elle s'est distinguée dans toutes deux assemblées par la contribution spéciale qu'elle a su rendre et par son habileté argumentative. Mrs. Elna Munch est femme du ministre de guerre et de marine.

## Encore deux Congrès Internationales en Suisse.

Depuis le 2 jusqu'au 9 Juin 1920, il se tiendra à Champéry une Commission composée des chefs de l'Association Chrétienne pour Jeunes Femmes (Young Women's Christian Association) de par tout le monde. L'assemblée considérera, en vue des besoins et des opportunités actuels, des problèmes dont ceux qui affectent la femme industrielle et l'émigration seront entre les principaux.

La Conférence Abolitioniste Internationale se tiendra à Genève au mois de Septembre prochain. Miss Edith Picton-Turbervill nous fait noter (voir p. 128) comme significatif que la question à résoudre sera non seulement celle de la prostitution réglementée mais celle de la prostitution en général. C'est que les six années passées ont donné lieu de constater que la prostitution clandestine est un danger qui augmente. (Voir aussi ce qu'elle dit à propos de la police féminine, et à propos de ce qui reste à faire.) Elle termine en proclamant comme l'unique remède à un fléau mortel l'unité de morale—la moralité haute et égale.

## NEW ZEALAND.

## People of New Zealand Support the Claim for the Enfranchisement of the Women of India.

Mrs. Jinarajadasa sends us an interesting account of a meeting held in Wellington in support of votes for Indian women, at which the Mayoress was in the chair, and the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That this meeting of Wellington citizens desires Mrs. Jinarajadasa to convey our fraternal greetings to the women of India, and to express the hope that the Indian Legislative Councils will grant the franchise on the same terms as to men, giving the same political status as in all parts of the British Empire.

Mrs. Jinarajadasa sends the following letter dealing with her experience of opinion in New Zealand and Australia:—

Wellington, New Zealand,  
February 16, 1920.

Madame,—I enclose a copy of a resolution passed at a large representative meeting of the citizens of Wellington, the capital of New Zealand, on February 11. I shall be glad if you will publish the resolution and this letter in your paper.

Since I have been travelling through New Zealand and Australia I have found everywhere very great interest is taken by the people of these countries in the development of Indian women. There is, invariably, a good deal of ignorance as to the conditions in India, and a general idea that the women in India are a suppressed and uneducated class. I have, in each large town that we have visited, held meetings, and a very great deal of interest has been shown, and the people have been astonished to find out how large a part the women play in the national life in India, and the interest that they have taken and the work that they have done in connection with their enfranchisement. The people in Australia and New Zealand feel that, if India is to be acknowledged as an equal by all the other parts of the Empire, the women of India must necessarily occupy the same position and status as the women in the other parts of the Empire, and, therefore, they feel that it is a matter of the first importance that a measure of Women's Suffrage should be passed by the Indian Legislative Councils at the first possible opportunity.

DOROTHY JINARAJADASA.

## FRANCE.

## MADAME DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER,

President of the Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes, began by bringing up six children before being free to devote herself to social work, and especially to work for the protection of women. Herself a happy woman and a happy mother, she felt that she owed a debt to other women less favoured. As president of organisations for dealing with social welfare and other work, Madame de Witt Schlumberger was led by seeing the misery of women, and the urgent need for improvement in their lot, to take up Women's Suffrage. She has worked in the U.F.S.F. since its foundation in 1909, and has been President since 1912. In 1913 she was appointed Fourth Vice-President of the I.W.S.A. The other offices which she has held are the following:—President of Patronage des Detenues, des Libérées, et des Pupilles de l'Administration pénitentiaire; President of l'Association pour l'Aide fraternelle aux Réfugiés et Evacués Alsaciens-Lorrains; Vice-President of the Comité Départemental des Œuvres de Guerre du Calvados; Member of the Section de l'Unité de la Morale et de Repression de la Traite des Femmes; Vice-President of the Fédération des Foyers du Soldat et du Marin; Vice-President of the Association pour la Repression de la Traite des Blanches et pour la Protection de la Jeune Fille; Member of the Comité de Direction de "Pour la Vie" to avert depopulation.



Madame de WITT SCHLUMBERGER.

She has paid special attention to questions concerning the work of women and children, and has organised several Women's Trade Unions. During the war she took the initiative in establishing in Paris several thousand refugee families from the devastated areas, and created and directed the Œuvre Parisienne pour le Logement des Réfugiés. She is also one of the founders of the Ecole des Surintendantes.

## MADAME ALICE LA MAZIERE.

A Woman of letters. Has written for various journals, such as *Le Petit Parisien*, *Le Journal*, *Le Journal des Débats*, *La Revue de Paris*, and *La Revue Hebdomadaire*. She has lectured in Paris and in the country against social inequalities, and has fought with vigour to win the rights of women. She has stayed several times in England, and has translated two English novels. She stood as candidate in Paris at the last municipal election, and obtained many votes.

## MADAME MARIE LOUISE LE VERRIER.

Before the war Madame le Verrier lectured much in France and abroad. She is author of a great many feminist articles, and has translated into French the *Life of Henry Fawcett*,

under the title, "The Career of a Blind Man." During the war she organised "ambulances de secours" for soldiers in the invaded districts, and clothing clubs for the people of Alsace and Lorraine, and shelters for children. In the winter of 1915-1916 she spent six months in America in order to sell toys made by the wounded. Madame le Verrier was also director of an orphanage for war orphans, and of a tuberculosis sanatorium. She is a Vice-President of the U.F.S.F.

## MADAME LEONIE BRUNSCHWIG,

General Secretary of the U.F.S.F., is also President of the Labour Section of the National Council of French Women.



Madame C. L. BRUNSCHWIG.



Madame ALICE la MAZIERE.

MADAME  
SUZANNE GRINBERG,

Avocate a la Court d'Appel (shown in the photograph in her advocate's robes), was one of the first women to be enrolled at the Parisian Bar, where she now holds a distinguished position. She is Vice-President of the Association du Jeune Barreau of Paris, and partner of M. le batonnier Chenu, one of the most eminent advocates. She has thrown herself whole-heartedly into the feminist movement, and is secretary of the Central Committee of the U.F.S.F. As lecturer and journalist she has struggled without ceasing to win civil and political rights for women. She is also interested in the Temperance cause.



Madame SUZANNE GRINBERG.

MADAME PAULINE  
REBOUR

is General Secretary of the Paris Group of the U.F.S.F. She is "licenciée du droit," and Professor at Paris. She is founder of the Feminist Group of le Havre. Owing to her initiative the town of le Havre has conceded to women teachers the same allowance for lodgings as they have accorded to their male colleagues, and through the Federation Feministe Universitaire she was one of the organisers of the campaign which resulted in equal treatment for the women teachers. Groupe Féministe Primaire Supérieur pour l'Egalité de Traitement, of which she is founder and president, has gained its object.

MADAME JANE MISME,

Vice-President of the U.F.S.F.; formerly dramatic and literary critic to the *Revue pour les Jeunes Filles*; has since

done dramatic criticism for *La Fronde* and *L'Action*. She has contributed to various journals, such as *Le Matin*, *L'Œuvre*, *La Revue de Paris*, and *La Revue Mondiale*. In 1906 she founded the feminist paper *La Française*.



Madame PAULINE REBOUR.



Madame JANE MISME.

NETHERLANDS.

DR. ALETTA H. JACOBS.

was the first woman doctor in the Netherlands. Through her the Dutch universities were opened for women students in 1871. In 1883 she tried to be enrolled on the list of constituents in Amsterdam, but was refused. She brought her case before the Court and the answer was: She was right according to the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law excluded women from the vote. For thirty-two years she practised medicine in Amsterdam, and notwithstanding her large practice found time to work for Woman Suffrage, first as the president of the Amsterdam Branch, and for the last seventeen years as President of the National Society for Woman Suffrage.



Mrs. W. van ITALIE-van EMBDEN.



Miss ROSA MANUS.

MARIE VAN DIJK

was for many years owner of a ladies' tailoring trade, founded by herself. Notwithstanding her business as an industrial and trades woman she found



Miss MARIE van DIJK.

time to take an active part in the Woman Suffrage movement. She was for many years one of the officers of the National Society for Woman Suffrage, and President of the Hague Branch. She takes an active part in the Co-operative



Dr. ALETTA JACOBS



Miss ANNA POLAK

MRS. W. VAN ITALLIE-  
VAN EMBDEN.

Author of many articles in the feminist and the general magazines. Speaker on social subjects. Member of the board of officers of the Netherlands Society for Women Citizens.



Mrs. R. van WULFFTEN PALTKE-  
BRAESE van GROENON.



Mrs. C. F. KEHRER-STUART.



Mrs. C. MULDER van de GRAAF de BRUIJN.



## ROSA MANUS

has been Secretary of the National Society for Woman Suffrage, was, during the war, Secretary of the International Congress of Women for Permanent Peace. In 1913, the 100th birthday of the independence of the Netherlands, which was celebrated by several exhibitions, she, together with Dr. Mia Boissevain, founded the Woman's Exhibition, 1813-1913, which proved to be a great propaganda for the Woman's Movement in Holland.

## ANNA POLAK, F.R.S.

in former years President of the local Branch in Groningen of the Woman Suffrage Society, has been since 1908 Directress of the National Bureau for Woman's Labour in the Hague. She consecrates herself wholly to the feminist movement, particularly to all which concerns Women's Labour.

## MRS. C. F. KEHRER-STUART

was for several years President of the local Society for Woman Suffrage in Gorinchem, and at the same time a member of the Board of Officers of the National Society for Woman Suffrage in the Netherlands. In 1912 she moved to the Hague, and was there, in 1913, elected as the President of the Hague Society for Woman Suffrage.

## MRS. CLARA MULDER VAN DE GRAAF DE BRUIJN

is a General Inspector of the Life Insurance Company de Nederlanden, and has been for nine years a very active member of the Board of Officers of the National Society for Woman Suffrage. Belonging to the Roman Catholic Church, she had the courage to join the National Society for Woman Suffrage long before the Roman Catholic Church found it proper to do so.

## MRS. R. VAN WULFFTEN PALTHE-BRAESE VAN GROENON

is a great feminist. Her greatest help in the Woman Suffrage movement was to organise the street propaganda.

THE SOCIAL EVIL.  
AN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM.

By EDITH PICTON-TURBERVILLE, O.B.E.

Miss E. Picton Turberville's record is as follows, and shows her well qualified to deal with the subject of this article:—Late Head, Overseas and Foreign Department, Y.W.C.A.; spent six years in India in city and student Y.W.C.A. work, and University Mission, Bombay; Member World's (International) Y.W.C.A. Committee; has visited Africa twice on international work; Chairman Sub-Committee (World's Y.W.C.A.) for International Industrial Commission; Vice-President British Y.W.C.A.; Member Executive Committee, National Council of Women; Chairman Criminal Law Amendment Bill Committee.—E.D.

Now that the nations can once again meet and discuss their problems together, one of the most important subjects to be dealt with is the question of venereal disease and prostitution. During the past six years every belligerent nation has been compelled to deal with this problem in one way or another. It is a matter of history that prostitution follows the army, and it is now common knowledge that in some armies as many men were put out of action by the ravages of this disease as by the wounds inflicted by the enemy.

There is no reliable information at present as to how the problem was dealt with in Germany, Austria, Russia, or Belgium. England's main contribution to the difficulty was to pass, under the Defence of the Realm Act, the ill-fated Order in Council called 40 D, by which a woman could be arrested on the suspicion of having venereal disease when consorting with a soldier. It was not only cruel and unjust, but unworkable, and was not long in force. America organised more thoroughly than any other country a scheme to fight the evil of disease. The American Government, to its honour be it said, began its campaign by officially announcing to the army and navy that "continence is compatible with health, and that it is the best prevention of venereal disease."

## America's Campaign.

America, with amazing efficiency, abolished its segregated areas, and circulated the following two sides of the question throughout the United States:—

## THE TWO SIDES.

It is claimed that—  
SEGREGATION

1. Concentrates prostitution, thus facilitating control and reduction.

The truth is that—

SEGREGATION

1. Increases prostitution, continually advertising vice by making it familiar. Affords a place of commerce, otherwise uncertain and precarious, to the least competent of prostitutes, mentally and physically.

It is claimed that—

SEGREGATION

2. Decreases prostitution by regulation.

3. Decreases venereal diseases through medical inspection.

4. Enables control of the liquor traffic in connection with prostitution.

5. Prevents crimes against women.

6. Protects the community with offensive and detrimental proximity of prostitution.

7. Decreases graft in connection with prostitution, and the exploitation of the prostitute.

8. Decreases crime by enabling police supervision of a recognised crime centre.

9. Protects boys and young men from contact with the prostitute by removing temptation from the streets and residence districts.

The truth is that—

SEGREGATION

2. Increases prostitution by increasing the demand, which increases the supply.

3. Increases venereal diseases by deceiving the ignorant into a fancied reliance upon a frequently "faked" and inevitably futile medical inspection.

4. Stimulates an illegal liquor traffic, since commercialised vice fails without liquor.

5. Tends to increase crimes against women by fostering promiscuity and providing a source of sexual brutalisation and degeneracy.

6. Exposes the community by advertising vice as a community necessity, making it easily accessible and tolerated, a condition conducive to the moral degradation of the community.

7. Increases graft by illegal toleration of commercialised vice, tempting the police to exact illegal revenue and confer illegal privilege. Gives free rein to the exploitation of prostitutes.

8. Increases crime by fostering viciousness and disease, providing a meeting place for the idle and vicious, with whom the prostitutes sympathise and usually co-operate.

9. Exposes boys and young men to contact with the prostitute by presenting an ever-present opportunity to "go down the line and see the sights." Provides a show-place for special obscene and depraved exhibitions to which the youth is lured by "runners" and the sale of lewd pictures.

This is no place in which to enter into the American campaign to combat venereal disease in time of war. It was a marvel of organisation and enthusiasm; it claimed to be effective, and as far as the red-light districts and segregated areas, probably was effective. It has, however, to be admitted that some of the methods adopted violated ordinary laws of justice, and the methods of dealing with individual prostitutes some condemnation from the British point of view.

## International Abolitionist Conference to Meet in Geneva in September.

The International Abolitionist Conference is to be held in Geneva this September. It is a significant fact that it will attempt to deal with the question of prostitution in general, and not only, as hitherto, with regulated prostitution. This is significant of the fact that the past six years' experience has led students of the subject to realise that regulated vice is decreasing, and clandestine prostitution is a growing danger. Since the last Conference met, women police have come into force in England, and have proved to be of incalculable value. They are the friends of girls in distress, consulted in every kind of difficulty, moral or otherwise, in a way that is impossible with the policeman. Women police have come to stay. Since the last Conference many of the countries of Europe have enfranchised their women, others are on the same path. Much remains to be done. France is the citadel of regulation; it still exists in the British Empire: in Malta, Gibraltar, Straits Settlements, and Hong Kong it exists in its worst form, though in India, through the courageous work of Mrs. Dixon, the tolerated cantonment brothels are doomed.

## Death-knell of State Regulation.

The death-knell of the regulated system is heard in every land. The death of a system, however, does not lead to new life, nor, indeed, the creation of new laws. The fight is not, after all, so much against disease as against the degradation of mankind, which no medical treatment, be it ever so skilful, can remove.

## A High and Equal Moral Standard the Only Real Remedy.

A high and equal moral standard is not the cry of a dreamer, or a preacher's text. All experience goes to show that it is the only cure that will rid the nations of a deadly scourge.

## Miss MAUDE ROYDEN to Preach in the Cathedral of St. Peter at Geneva on Congress Sunday, June 6.

AN HISTORIC OCCASION—THE FIRST WOMAN TO OCCUPY CALVIN'S PULPIT.  
The Invitation Conveyed to Her in Noble Words of Welcome by Mdlle. Emilie Gourd, President of the Swiss Woman Suffrage Society.

Pregny, Genève, le 23 Avril, 1920.

MISS MAUDE ROYDEN, LONDON.

Mademoiselle,

J'ai tenu à attendre d'avoir la certitude que vous pourriez prêcher à Genève avant de demander officiellement pour ce service la Cathédrale de S. Pierre. Et j'ai la très grande joie de vous dire que l'usage de la Cathédrale nous a été accordé sans la moindre difficulté.

Cet événement est d'une importance capitale au point de vue féministe. S. Pierre est en effet, non seulement l'église de Calvin, celle où la Réforme s'incarne en quelque sorte, mais la citadelle vivante de l'esprit de Genève, indissolublement lié à toute son histoire. Un service à S. Pierre a cent fois plus d'importance que dans quelle autre que ce soit des églises de la ville. Et le fait qu'une femme accède à cette chaire marquée à la fois un triomphe de nos idées et un progrès dans l'esprit de nos citoyens.

Je suis donc très heureuse de vous apporter immédiatement cette grande nouvelle, en vous félicitant très chaudement d'être la première femme qui monte en chaire de S. Pierre. Ce sera avec une véritable émotion que nous vous presserons pour vous entendu, et vous n'aurez pas seulement comme auditoire les membres du Congrès, mais encore la grande foule de la population genevoise. . . .

EMILIE GOURD,  
Présidente de l'Association  
Suisse pour le Suffrage Féminin.

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

1901-1920.

Oxford University Extension  
Lecturer.

Woman Suffrage Leader.

Editor and Agitator.

Preacher at the City Temple and  
St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate,  
E.C.

Founder of the New Fellowship.

Amongst English women of to-day playing their parts in public life and leading great movements, destined powerfully to influence the nation's future, there is probably not one more widely known or more influential, especially as regards the younger generation, than Miss Royden.

The time has scarcely arrived yet for full revelation of the somewhat remarkable steps by which she has attained her present position of leadership in many causes, but, in response to several requests from her friends and disciples I think it not unfitting to disclose what I know, as no one else can know, of some stages of her biography.

My acquaintance with Miss Royden dates as far back as 1901, when I was lecturing at Oxford to University extension students on Ruskin's life and teaching, and she shortly after concluding her years of study in history at Lady Margaret Hall marked more by brilliance perhaps than assiduity, was deliberating upon a career of work for the people. The result was a year of hard and earnest labour in the slums as a member of the University Settlement at Liverpool. There her health gave way under the strain, and the question was, what next? In a moment of impulse, not quite seriously, I suggested that she should take up her residence in my Rectory and act as a sort of quasi-curate! At that period no man in England had been mad enough to dream of women's ministrations in the Church, but when Miss Royden, with characteristic rapidity, had decided to try the rash experiment of life in a backwater, the first step in an inevitable sequence had been taken.

It was veritably a backwater, a tiny village in the smallest county of England, remote from cities—an unpicturesque countryside, mainly devoted to fox-hunting and the growing of barley for Bass. The farm-houses mostly dated back to the age of Elizabeth; the Church—the one beautiful treasure of the village—was Norman, even Saxon in foundation; the inhabitants, farmers and labourers, in life and outlook, more ancient still, primitive, rustic to a charming degree, bringing up large families on 12s. a week, retaining after long centuries pagan May-day

customs, pagan village feasts, and Biblical gleanings in the harvest fields.

Such was Miss Royden's environment for three or four years. Her work was mainly with women and children—not in Sunday school; she drew the line at that!—and, of course, they adored her. I recall her class for young girls at the Rectory in "As You Like It," and the peals of laughter of her delighted pupils that filled the old house as never before. I was not permitted to be present, and could only fondly trust that the jests were decorous, knowing surely, however, that no bowdlerisation of the sacred text of Shakespeare was by her permitted. Always devoted to the stage herself, she trained her village girls to give "Midsummer Night's Dream" beneath the old beeches on the Rectory lawn, with no trouble about accent, because this part of England is the home of classical English, with no trace of Northern dialect or London cockneyisms.

With the mothers she had extraordinary influence. I have discovered in my life only one true Democrat, as whole-hearted almost in the faith as St. Francis of Assisi himself, and that is Miss Maude Royden. She loved the poor folk, and never disdained her cottage visiting, entering easily and unaffectedly into all the simplicities and the trials of women of the village, and always helpful to them. They remember her still with affection.

Still, sometimes I am horror-stricken with myself for having induced her to remain content for so long with so narrow an existence, bucolic and dull and uneventful. Possibly the time was not wasted. She had quiet and leisure, and books, and was all unconsciously preparing for future activities—her hard, busy, wearing labours of the last fifteen years for womanhood, for education, for religion, for a nobler social state. It was just preparation time.

Her religious progression, or change, belongs to herself alone, but at this time (1904) she was distinctly Roman Catholic in sympathy, ascetic, scornful of Anglican moderation, placed no hero beside her beloved Newman, and read no book half as faithfully as Thomas à Kempis. Like her favourite saint, Jeanne d'Arc, her only fault in the eyes of the villagers was that she spent too long hours in Church! Sundays were a trial to her. The poor lady, with strong High Church principles, had to listen for years to Broad Church sermons, hated them, and riddled them effectively with hot shot at luncheon time.

Already the future pastor of the City Temple longed to officiate herself. "I would have given worlds," she said more than once, "to have ejected you from the lectern and read that magnificent lesson myself, properly." Little did she dream that fourteen years afterwards she would be reading the lessons properly for me in a London Church, and that I should be listening meekly to her preachments.

One episode of this time I want to place on record, because of its significance and because I have not told it hitherto. The village was hard as nails religiously, save for the younger folks, and at last I attempted a Mission. Two excellent missionaries came down for a fortnight, worked hard, did the best they knew, and . . . failed utterly. The village would respond to nothing less than an earthquake. But the last service, late on Sunday night, was held not in Church, but in the Schoolroom, crowded out because a woman was to speak on the subject: "Why I believe in Christianity." There was no failure now. It was not an earthquake, but it was revelation by lightning flash. One hearer at least had never heard any religious appeal like it in all his life—so natural, so sincere, so restrained, yet so passionate in its fire, so true and convincing, so deeply moving in its pure spirituality. It did suggest to me that religion was the core of her nature, and her real vocation. But what was the use? The Church of all the ages, Eastern in its notions of women, bound by its traditions,



Photo.: Lena Connell, 6, Baker Street, London.

Miss MAUDE ROYDEN.

(Copyright.)

had no place whatsoever for womanhood, save as Sunday-School teachers and decorators of altars and district visitors.

### THE SECOND PHASE.

*Oxford University Extension Lecturer.*

Village dullness brought it about. We had no social life. You cannot converse with fox-hunters. There was no music, no drama, no anything in our backwater. But one joy my wife and I had in the long winter evenings—namely, "Dramatic Recitals of Shakespeare's Plays, by Miss Maude Royden," varied from required by extensive quotations of whole poems by Milton, Shelley, Rossetti, M. Arnold, Tennyson, and Browning. It was, and is, a perfectly astonishing memory. You asked for "Hamlet" and got it, accurately rendered, followed the next evening by "King Lear" or the "Tempest."

Then came the great discovery, that Miss Royden could not only recite Shakespeare's plays from memory, but was also a deeply read Shakespearean scholar, fully armed with Gervinus, Coleridge, Hazlitt, Dowden, Pley, Bradley, and the rest of the critics, able to discuss fully all the more difficult problems. Here then at last, I thought, was vocation and a career clearly indicated. Oxford University Extension Lectures, now at the height of their greatest success, were largely supported by woman students, but there were no women on the staff of lecturers. Why not Miss Royden? It was difficult work, needing many varied qualifications, few of us possessing all of them. But Miss Royden had first-rate scholarship, full knowledge of her subjects, a most attractive and lovely voice, perfect delivery, teaching capacity, enthusiasm, and . . . no nerves. I travelled in haste to Oxford to nominate her for a lectureship, but authority scuffed, and poured buckets of cold water. "Work not fit for a woman, too hard, too much travelling. Had been tried many times and always failed, etc., etc." Persistence, however, and a rash offer to resign my own post on the staff if my prophecies of success were unfulfilled, prevailed in the end, and she was given a trial at Oxford. The doubters were instantly convinced, and she was appointed. From first to last, during the four years she worked on the Oxford scheme, she had unbroken and extraordinary success. North or South, East or West, in town and country, with select audiences of cultivated women or mass meetings of artisans, with schools and colleges or the half-educated in class work as well as in lectures; in essay criticism equally with discussions in class, it was always the same. She made no failures, soon established a high reputation all over England, and before long had far more invitations to lecture than she could accept. In three years she had become one of the most accepted speakers in the land, and when she abandoned Oxford lecturing for the Woman Suffrage platform she left a gap never filled since.

### THIRD PHASE.

*Woman Suffrage.*

The change was inevitable as soon as the Suffrage movement in England reached a critical stage. Always, since Cheltenham College, a convinced and passionate feminist, Miss Royden cared ten times more for the woman's claim to citizenship than even for Shakespeare teaching, and threw herself into the conflict with splendid energy and unflinching zeal, drawing into the movement most of her closest friends and comrades. Before long she was, as it were, Mrs. Fawcett's right hand, serving on the Council, writing pamphlets, addressing huge meetings at the Albert Hall, electioneering, fighting by-elections, or lobbying in the House of Commons, and finally editing *The Common Cause*, the chief organ of the constitutional Suffragists, opposing firmly but without violence or temper the mistaken methods of the militant section, and thereby incurring a good deal of odium. A stiffer battle than this of Woman's Suffrage, urged against pride and prejudice, with admirable pluck and wisdom, against what seemed overwhelming odds, has not been known in this generation. Miss Royden, without doubt, won hundreds of thousands to her side, and when victory came it was largely due to her ten years' hard, unremitting labour. It has been to many of us somewhat of a disappointment that she was not the first Englishwoman to sit in Parliament. She has a splendid right to be elected to the House of Commons, and would undoubtedly be sent there if only she were willing.

But the truth is that at bottom Miss Royden's main interest in life is Religion. She is nothing if not Christian. No one could doubt that who had heard her platform speeches, still less those who have listened to her remarkable sermons at the City Temple during the last two years, least of all those who have shared her daily life. I imagine that one of the happiest hours in her existence was one in 1918, when she stood for the first time at the lectern in my Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, City of London, to read, with trembling lips and extremely shaky knees, the lesson for the day. One of the most experienced and eloquent speakers in this country, palsied with nervousness by her high privilege, as she thought it, of reading a lesson from Holy Scripture in a Church. That is, as Thomas Carlyle would have said, "a window into her Highness." She preaches for us constantly on week-days, not illegally, as it appears, sometimes on Sundays with doubtful legality, but always to a packed congregation such as no bishop on the bench can command. The Anglican Church, most conservative, least adventurous of religious communions, has not yet given her a recognised position as authorized preacher of the Word. The battle for women's ministrations in the Church is not yet concluded, but victory is almost within sight, and the victory when it comes will be mainly hers.

However that may befall, this remains true: There is no woman living in England to-day who is exercising profounder religious influence upon her generation, especially the younger people of both sexes, students at colleges and universities, than Miss Royden. What is the secret of it all? It is not the magic of the appealing voice. It is not the power of the clear, logical mind. It is not the fine courage that dares all things for the Truth. It is not her unflinching championship of the weak and the disinherited. It is not the irresistible humour that brightens all her speech. It is not her contempt of empty convention and her love of bold adventure. We are won primarily and chiefly by her intense sincerity, by her complete unworldliness, by her utter

devotion to Christ, and scorn for those who have hidden Him from the people, by her devoutness and her reverence, combined with laughter and gaiety, and by her humanity and lightheartedness; above all, perhaps, by her Gospel of Hope—invincible Christian Hope—preached to an age of Despair and Disillusionment.

W. HUDSON SHAW, M.A.,

Late Fellow of Balliol College, Rector of Bishopsgate, E.C.

[Rev. W. Hudson Shaw, Rector of St. Botolph's, in the City of London, is a distinguished man of letters, one of the pioneers of the University Extension Movement, and a fearless supporter of the cause of women's enfranchisement, both religious and political. During the war he was Chaplain of the Hon. Artillery Company.—ED.]

### LADY ASTOR, M.P.

#### THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATE.

Viscountess Astor, the first woman elected to the British House of Commons, comes from Virginia, one of the Southern States of America. But she is an Englishwoman not only by marriage—she comes of pure British stock, and has inherited to the full the English traditions of the Elizabethan settlement.

Her husband, Lord Astor, represented Plymouth in Parliament for nine years, and resigned his seat only when he succeeded to his father's title, and thus became a member of the House of Lords. It was at his own suggestion that Lady Astor was induced to stand as a candidate.

Plymouth owes much to Lady Astor and her husband. Through their help there is a flourishing club for boys and girls in the poorest quarter of the town, a convalescent home outside in the country for ailing children, and two crèches for the babies of working mothers. Seven Y.M.C.A. recreation huts in the Plymouth district owe their existence to the same generous source. Lady Astor is personally interested in various hospitals, a maternity home, and other similar institutions. She is a constant visitor in the homes of her constituents, and nothing gives her greater pleasure than a hard day's visiting in the poorest part of the town.

Both Lady Astor and her husband are known for their sympathetic relations with the Labour Movement, with the Co-operative Movement, and with the Brotherhood Movement. They are foremost in questions connected with the Navy and the Dockyards, and Lady Astor herself took such a leading part in getting recognition for the grievances of the Lower Deck men that their votes told heavily in her favour at her election. As somebody put it: "She got in on work done, not on promises made."

During the war Lord and Lady Astor gave up a large part of their beautiful park at Cliveden, on the Thames, to a hospital of a thousand beds, which was eventually conducted by the Canadian Red Cross. In the five years of its existence 25,000 men passed through the hospital, and it is hardly an exaggeration to say that each one was personally known to Lady Astor. She gave up almost her whole time to working in the hospital, and it would have been difficult to find anywhere in England a hospital where the men were happier.

One outcome of the hospital will be a permanent memorial of the war. In an opening among the trees, high above the river, is an enclosed garden, which has been called the most beautiful cemetery in England. Americans, Canadians, Australians, lie there side by side, their graves marked by stones let into the grass. For the sake of these men's parents in distant countries, Lady Astor has lavished thought and care on this memorial. A Calvary, brought from Italy, stands at one end, and at one side a beautiful bronze figure with outstretched arms. Many pilgrimages have been made to this quiet garden by relatives and friends from over the seas.

Since entering Parliament Lady Astor has not had the time or strength to keep up all her former activities, but she remains in touch with the men and women and children of Plymouth by means of an immense correspondence and frequent visits. It is a source of amazement to an onlooker to see Lady Astor at a succession of "social evenings" among her constituents. It is obvious that she is a personal friend of all the women in the gathering, and as she talks with them one realises that she knows and remembers all the circumstances of their lives, and all the details of their families.

As a result of her experience Lady Astor is deeply concerned in helping to find a solution of the problems connected with alcoholism. Her first speech in the House of Commons was made on this subject. Her letters deal with almost every kind of social question, especially as they affect women and children. [Contributed.]

### SWEDEN.

#### THE NEW MARRIAGE LAW.

AN ANALYSIS BY ANNA WICKSELL.

On April 19 our new Marriage Law was adopted by Parliament. It is not absolutely perfect; there are some small improvements which we still want. But the women abstained from petitioning for these now from fear of endangering the whole law, at least for this parliamentary session. Perhaps the danger was not so great as we feared, the majorities were large in both Chambers: 83-41 in the First and 126-26 in the Second Chamber. The deficiencies, however, are only in relatively minor matters, and may be improved in the near future.

#### "The Most Progressive in the Whole World."

Generally speaking, this law probably is the most progressive in the whole world. The leading principle all through has been to make the positions of husband and wife equal, their rights and duties mutual in every respect, and to make them both responsible for home and family. "Husband and wife owe each other fidelity and help; they shall work together for the good of the family"—that is the moral rule on which all other legal effects of marriage are based. Husband and wife are equally bound to maintain their family; if both have a monetary income they contribute to all household expenses in the same proportion; if the wife gives all her work to the home she is considered by the law as having contributed in the same degree as her husband, who procures the funds. If one of them refuses to pay his share of family expenses the court will impose upon him his duty to give out the sum that is considered just under the circumstances, and a lien may be placed upon a corresponding part of his income or wages. To family expenses are reckoned the usual household necessities, the children's education, and the personal needs of husband and wife.

#### Husband and Wife Partners for the Good of the Home.

What they, each of them, own of personal property or wages is entirely at the disposal of the owner, but in whatever fortune husband or wife may possess when they married or get during marriage the other has a marital right. This right means during marriage that none of them is allowed to squander or mismanage his property to the detriment of home and family. For this reason none of them is allowed to sell or mortgage his real estate in which the other has a marital right, without the consent of the other; and the same rule holds good as to furniture belonging to their common home or the working utensils of the other party, which may not be sold or pawned save by common consent. When marriage is dissolved through death or divorce this "marital" property is reckoned together and equally divided between husband and wife.

The old guardianship of the husband is wholly abolished; a wife may, like her husband, choose her own domicile and is then entitled to part of the furniture and her working utensils; she may practise whatever trade or profession she likes without her husband's consent; indeed, she has all liberty of contract even with her husband. If any of them is running into debt—outside household expenses—the other is not liable to pay it.

Both may, before marriage or during marriage, through special contract reserve property as exclusively his or her own, and in such property the other party has no marital right. The same is the case if property is given or bequeathed to any of them with the special condition that it shall be excepted from marital right.

Parents are joint guardians of their children. The father has no other or greater right than the mother, save where a child possesses a fortune of its own, in which case the father is legal trustee.

#### Regulations for Divorce.

If both want to dissolve their marriage, they have only to send in to the proper authority an application for separation, which is then granted for one year without any further investigation. When the year is out each of the parties may urge full divorce and is not obliged to give any grounds for his or her demand. Divorce is then immediately granted. If they or one of them want to get a divorce without going through a year of separation, or if only one party desires separation against the wish of the other, reasons must be given. Such reasons are mainly infidelity, desertion,

debauchery and drunkenness, neglect of family duties, and knowingly exposing the other party to contagion through venereal disease. When marriage is dissolved through divorce all property in which is vested a marital right is equally divided between the parties; if one of them is in need of further help for his or her maintenance, the other will be bound to give such help according to his or her ability, if the divorce has not been caused entirely or mainly by the misdemeanour of the former. The Court decides which of the parents shall take care of the children, and its decision shall be founded solely on what may be considered best for the children themselves. Only if the father and mother are considered equally fit to take care of the children, their respective guilt with regard to the divorce will come into consideration.

#### Gratitude of Swedish Women for the New Law.

Our new Marriage Law has been under preparation for several years by a State Commission, in which one woman has had a seat, Mrs. Emilia Broomé. All Swedish women are filled with deep gratitude towards both Mrs. Broomé and her fellow commissioners for the righteous and liberal spirit in which they have fulfilled their work. They may be justly proud of it.

ANNA WICKSELL.

#### Women's Admission to the Civil Service. Government Bill.

The Government has now brought in a Bill doing away with the hindrances to women's admission to the State service. By this women would be enabled to be councillors of State, councillors of justice, and receive employment in the chanceries. Special legislation would be needed for women's admission to the priestly office.

The matter was brought forward in the Council by ex-Minister of Justice Löfgren. In his opening address on the Bill he pointed out that it was to the State's undoubted advantage that the State's requirements as to merit and capacity should be the ground of admission to the State service. As the State allowed women in schools and universities to enter for the higher examinations on the same terms as men, it was a great injustice to prevent her from having a free opportunity to use her powers in the State service.

#### MISS ANNA WHITLOCK.

Born 1852, President of the Swedish N.W.S.A. during the years 1902-7 and 1912-15, founder and (till 1919) principal of the Whitlockska Samskolan (Co-educational School), Lecturer at Stockholms Arbetareinstitut (Workmen's Institute), 1882-97. Deeply interested in social work. She has



Miss ANNA WHITLOCK  
Government Delegate from Sweden.

taken the initiative in holiday homes for poor schoolchildren, in common social instruction for the higher classes of pupils in all the girls' secondary schools in Stockholm, and in the Women's Co-operative Union Swedish Homes.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

### A Distinguished Delegation Headed by the President of the I.S.W.A., and the Official Representative of the Government.

What an Englishwoman who knows her thinks of the U.S.A. Government Representative.

#### AN APPRECIATION.

##### MRS. JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

Mrs. Josephus Daniels will receive a warm welcome. A Southerner from South Carolina, she has all the warm-heartedness so characteristic of the South. The first impression she gives is of motherliness—one who is full of the milk of human kindness. That is the charm of Mrs. Daniels, she is intensely human, intensely lovable. That is the first impression; then you become aware of her capability—her many powers. No one worked harder during the war for the welfare of the American troops and war workers, both men and women. The American Government recognised seven war welfare societies. The Young Women's Christian Association, in which Mrs. Daniels is a leader, was the only woman's society amongst them. The Y.W.C.A. throughout America had charge of the Hostels. During the great campaign for funds Mrs. Daniels was hard at work travelling and speaking for the campaign. A woman with the character and record of Mrs. Daniels will bring a rich contribution to the Conference.



Mrs. JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

##### MRS. RING ROBINSON.

In November, 1912, Helen Ring Robinson received the highest honour ever bestowed upon a Colorado woman, being elected to a four-years' term in the State Senate, party lines in her election being practically obliterated. She made a remarkable record during her first session, being Chairman of the Committee on Education and Educational Institutions, and a member of the Judiciary and other important committees, and taking a prominent part in securing the passage of many important measures, among them the Minimum Wage for Women Law, which bears her name.

"Long before Senator Robinson had senatorial aspirations," says *The Boston Traveller*, "she was called 'the most cultured woman in Colorado.'" She has studied in the colleges and universities of America and Europe, has been a teacher, a literary critic, and editorial and magazine writer. For years she has been identified with all that is best in the social, literary and public life of Denver, her voice and pen being always ready to advance the cause of social and industrial justice.

She first entered actively into politics as the head of a movement of Denver housewives against the renewal of the franchise of the local water company. Declaring that the question concerned both household economy and public morality, the League formed neighbourhood chains to pass information from house to house, established ballot-marking schools with teachers in every precinct, and after a hard fight won a victory which was reaffirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mrs. Robinson is better known, or rather known, in Denver as a housekeeper with literary proclivities than as a politician.

Her husband is a lawyer, and she has a daughter, Alcyon who is fit for college. For about ten years before her election Mrs. Robinson was an editorial writer and literary critic for the *Rocky Mountain News* and the *Denver Times*.

##### MISS JULIA LATHROP.

The woman who holds one of the most important Civil Service positions in the United States is Miss Julia Lathrop.

She was appointed by President William Howard Taft in 1912 as Head of the Federal Children's Bureau, a department of the Department of Commerce and Labour. She is the first American woman to be placed at the head of a Federal Bureau, and was richly equipped for the £5,000 post when it was offered her.

She had been a co-worker with Miss Jane Addams in Hull House, Chicago, and had made some exhaustive and thorough researches in the social welfare of children in that city.

For eleven years she had been a hard-working member of the Illinois State Board of Charities; she was Vice-President of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy, of which Graham Taylor was President in 1912. She, more than any other, was responsible for starting the Society of Mental Hygiene, a visiting nurse association for people just out of hospital. She furthered progressive measures for the care of epileptics and feeble-minded. In short, she was one of a quartet of women—all Suffragists and all philanthropists—who came to be known as Chicago's "four maiden aunts," because of their valuable public services, the three others being Jane Addams, Dr. Cornelia DeBey,

and Mary McDowell. She has toured foreign countries extensively in her efforts to know how other lands are dealing with the social care of children and dependents. Just previous to her Federal appointment she had made a long visit to the Orient, studying China and its institutions. Miss Lathrop was born in Rockford, Illinois, the daughter of William Lathrop, at one time Congressman from the Rockford district. She is a graduate of Vassar College, and now one of its trustees.

##### MRS. STANLEY McCORMICK.

Katherine Dexter McCormick, Boston, is first vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. She was made first auditor of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in March, 1912, elected Treasurer of that Association in November, 1912, and re-elected Treasurer in December, 1913. Was delegate to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress at Budapest in 1913, and was elected first Corresponding Secretary of the International.

##### MRS. FREDERICK NATHAN

Mrs. Nathan was the first woman to deliver a sermon from the pulpit during Divine Service in a Jewish Synagogue in New York. Since then she has spoken from the pulpit in other cities, and gave the sermon one Sunday in a Unitarian Church in Chicago.

Mrs. Nathan has spoken before vast audiences in many leading cities of the United States, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and has helped to organise Consumers' Leagues in many of them. She has also spoken before the International Congress of Women in Westminster Town Hall, London, and was obliged to repeat her address in the Small Hall before an overflowing audience. She has addressed the American Academy of Social and Political Science, the League for Political Education, the Congress of Mothers, the Central Federation of Women's Clubs, the League of Unitarian Women, the Association of Working Girls, Household Economic Association, Cambridge Conferences, the Council of Jewish women.



Mrs. FREDERICK NATHAN  
A Woman Preacher from America

##### MRS. JACOB BAUR.

Mrs. Jacob Baur is President of the Chicago Equal Suffrage Association. As chairman of the Chicago Committee of the Women's Liberty Loan Committee, Mrs. Baur and her committee established a new record for salesmanship by disposing of £7,000,000 worth of bonds, or nearly ten times the sum they had been assigned to sell.

Mrs. Baur is a prominent business woman of Chicago, and as a member of the Woman's Committee of the Council of Defence did much patriotic work during the war. Her executive ability was displayed during the term of Postmaster Busse, whom she served as private secretary. Since the death of her husband she has managed his business, and is one of the most successful women in Chicago business to-day.

##### MRS. W. E. BARKLEY.

Ex-President of Nebraska Woman Suffrage Association.

Of all the glad Suffrage Presidents whose States registered triumph within the past eighteen months, there is none more jubilant than Mrs. W. E. Barkley, of Nebraska.

Nebraska won presidential and municipal Suffrage in 1917. Then the anti-Suffragists started blockade methods. Their effort was to demand a referendum vote at the polls with the expectation that such a referendum could be used to defeat Suffrage in Nebraska. But Mrs. Barkley and her forces were of no mind to sit inactive under a blockade. Through their efforts the anti-Suffrage referendum petitions were brought into court by the Suffragists and invalidated.



Mrs. HELEN RING ROBINSON.



Miss JULIA C. LATHROP.

In them were found forgeries, false names, misrepresentations of all sorts. Some of the alleged petitioners were in the graveyard, and many were as mythical as the "Flying Dutchman." The personnel of the Nebraska anti-procession, as named in the judicial decision, read like this: "Dive keepers," "the notoriously illiterate," "ward heelers," "bar tenders," "jail-birds."

Mrs. Barkley's fight was a fight for clean government. Her victory was won on January 24, 1919, when Judge Flansburg, in the District Court at Lincoln, issued a permanent injunction against the Secretary of State to prevent him from placing the law upon the Referendum ballot. By this decision Nebraska women were re-established in the right of presidential and municipal Suffrage. They owe their enfranchisement to the never-say-die pluck of their Suffrage President and her official helpers.

"A regrettable incident of the investigation," said Mrs. H. C. Sumney, one of the leaders of Nebraska's indefatigables, "was the light regard in which our opponents held the petition. It seemed to appeal to them as a mere scrap of paper." But it was a costly scrap of paper for the anti-Suffragists, who were, together with the State, ordered by the Court to pay the costs of the long legal battle—costs amounting to \$5,000.

MRS. DESHA BRECKINRIDGE.

With the ratification of the Federal Suffrage Amendment by Kentucky, the long Suffrage work of Mrs. Desha Breckinridge has come to a fitting climax.

Mrs. Breckinridge is one of the best known Suffragists in the United States. It is largely due to the work of this woman that the South has taken an active stand on the question of votes for women, and is daily contradicting the statement so often made that the solid South is against Woman Suffrage.

Mrs. Breckinridge was again elected President of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association in 1919, after an interval in which Mrs. John Glover South was State President. For several years Mrs. Breckinridge was second Vice-President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and brought the Southern woman's point of view to the councils of the national organisation.

Mrs. Breckinridge is a sister of Judge Henry C. McDowell, of Lynchburg, Virginia, and a great grand-daughter of Henry Clay. She is descended from a long and almost unbroken line of distinguished jurists. Inheriting, as she has, the exceptionally high type of intellectuality which has distinguished so many of her ancestors, Mrs. Breckinridge from an early age has interested herself in all the big questions connected with the history of her sex, allying herself with the educational and social work in her State and community. She served two years as a member of the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and four years as chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Kentucky Federation. During this time bills were obtained from the Legislature for a State Library Commission, a Forestry Commission, a Separate Drinking Cup Bill. Juvenile Court and Compulsory Education Laws were obtained in many Southern States.

Mrs. Breckinridge served on the committees that drew these laws, and lobbied for their passage, and has since worked for their local enforcement. As Vice-President of the Kentucky Child Labour Law Committee, Mrs. Breckinridge had some part in the passage of the Child Labour Law, by reason of which Kentucky now stands with the advanced States.

Mrs. Breckinridge acted for some years as president of the Civic League of Lexington, an organisation of men and women which in the ten years of its life has done important work for the community.



Mrs. JACOB BAUR  
An American Woman of Business



Mrs. W. E. D. BARKLEY.



Mrs. DESHA BRECKINRIDGE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

BRITISH DELEGATION HEADED BY COUNCILLOR ELEANOR RATHBONE, J.P., PRESIDENT N.U.S.E.C., AND PROSPECTIVE PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE FOR THE TOXTETH DIVISION OF LIVERPOOL.

MISS ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

Educated at Somerville College, Oxford (School of Literae Humaniores, 1896). From 1896 onwards engaged in economic research, the Woman's Suffrage Movement, and various forms of social work in Liverpool. From the beginning of and during the war was made responsible for organising the assistance of the wives and families of Liverpool soldiers and sailors, first as Honorary Secretary to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, afterwards for the Local War Pensions Committee. Elected as first woman member of the Liverpool City Council in 1910. President of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (in succession to Mrs. Henry Fawcett) since March, 1919.

Written articles and reports on results of investigation into the Organisation of Casual and Dock Labour; Theory of Women's Wages; Technical Education for Women; Conditions in Various Women's Trades; Organisation of Relief; Widows' Pensions; System of Out-Relief, etc. Was Honorary Secretary of Liverpool Women's Industrial Council, and responsible for its industrial investigations since 1897; tutor and lecturer for Liverpool University School of Social Studies. Prospective Parliamentary candidate for East Toxteth constituency, Liverpool.

MISS K. D. COURTNEY.

Educated Malvern and Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Honours School Modern Languages. Social work London and Dublin, University extension work, Oxford. Treasurer of Oxford W.S.S. Secretary Manchester (then N.U.W.S.S.

Society). Hon. Secretary N.U.W.S.S. Attended W.S. Congress, Hague, 1915; Zurich, 1919. Consultative Member Women's International League Sub-Committee. Chairman of N.U.S.E.C. Executive. Member of W.I.L. Executive. Vice-President newly formed League of Nations Women's Representation Committee. Formerly Chairman of Committee for Study of Endowment of Motherhood, which published booklet, "Equal Pay and the Family." During 1916 did work amongst Serbian refugees in Salonika and Corsica. In 1919-20 visited Vienna and Budapest. Languages: English, French, and German.



Miss ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

Mrs. ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

For eleven years Mrs. Abbott has been closely associated with Woman Suffrage work in Great Britain. As organiser to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and the Scottish Federation she travelled hundreds of miles in Great Britain addressing meetings, the audiences varying in number from thousands gathered in the public halls to nine, sitting by a roadside in the wilds of the Shetland Islands.

In 1916, when Mrs. Abbott was fighting for an adequate number of women on local government bodies, Dr. Elsie Inglis asked her to go to India immediately to negotiate with the Government of India with regard to the sending of a hospital to Mesopotamia. The hospital never got to Mesopotamia, but if India could not accept a hospital Mrs. Abbott thought they might give one, and as a result of a speaking tour, began in India and carried on to Australia and New Zealand, she collected £62,000 for the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Mrs. Abbott is a member of the N.U.S.E.C. Executive Committee, and among the delegates to the Congress.



Miss K. D. COURTNEY.



ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

## MISS ROSAMOND SMITH.

Whole-time voluntary Women's Suffrage worker for about ten years. Work during war: Head of Women's Service Bureau; Honorary Secretary, London Units, Scottish Women's Hospitals; Honorary Secretary Westminster War Pensions Committee.

Went as one of three British representatives to the Inter-Allied Conference of the I.W.S.A. in Paris, 1919. Stood as a Municipal Reform candidate for the London County Council in 1919. At the present time: Joint Honorary Secretary National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Hon. Parliamentary Secretary National Council of Women, Joint Honorary Secretary National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, Member of Executive Committee of Proportional Representation Society, Women's Advisory Sub-Committee of the League of Nations Union, Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations, etc. Member Central Council for Infant and Child Welfare, etc. Speaker for the above-named and other organisations. Elected as a British representative to the quinquennial meeting of the International Council of Women in Norway, September, 1920.



Miss ROSAMOND SMITH,  
Chairman, British Geneva Congress Committee

## MRS. ALICE SCOTT

(Wife of Professor Scott, F.B.A., of Glasgow University), one of the founders of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and a member of the Headquarters Committee and of the Finance



Mrs. ALICE SCOTT,  
A Representative of Scotland

Committee. Member of the Scottish and formerly Convener of the Finance Committee. Formerly Secretary of the St. Andrew's Society for Women's Suffrage. Member of General Committee of the Glasgow Women's Private Hospital, Member of Governing Body of Women's Union, Glasgow University; Member of National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland.

## MISS HELEN FRASER,

Speaker on Women in Industry and on National War Savings. Author of "Women and War Work." Has spoken in U.S.A. for the National War Savings Committee. Member of N.U.S.E.C. Executive Committee. Took part and ran campaigns in twenty-two elections for Woman Suffrage. Caravanned in North of England and Scotland for Suffrage, addressing meetings all the way. Spoke on Woman Suffrage Pilgrimage from Land's End to London. Spoke a great deal in South Wales. Very well known in the mining districts. Cardiff and District Society presented her with a beautiful pendant when their Society's membership reached over 1,000. Toured in Ireland. Twice held the first open-air meetings on Suffrage ever held in some Irish towns.

MISS ELIZABETH  
MACADAM, M.A.

Miss Elizabeth Macadam, M.A., was educated in Canada and Germany. She was five years in residence at the Women's University Settlement, Nelson Square, London, S.E., when she was specially engaged in clubs for young men and women, and school management work. She then became Warden of the Women's Settlement.



Miss HELEN FRASER.

Liverpool, until she was appointed Director at the School of Social Science, Liverpool University. Miss Macadam has served on the Executive Committee of the Liverpool Women's Suffrage Society for many years, and took an active part in its work. She was also a member of the Liverpool Insurance Committee, Special and Industrial Schools Management Committee, National Council of Women (Liverpool Branch), and other bodies. Miss Macadam is now lecturing on social and economic subjects for the University Extension Board of the London University, and the University Extension Delegacy, Oxford, and was elected as Joint Honorary Secretary with Miss Rosamond Smith at the last meeting of the Council of the N.U.S.E.C.

## MRS. EGERTON STEWART-BROWN, C.C. (LIVERPOOL).

Began speaking for Women's Suffrage in 1891. 1892 elected to Executive Committee of Women's Liberal Federation, and has since been re-elected every year. One of the founders of the Liverpool Women's Suffrage Society, and Chairman for twelve years, until its amalgamation with the Liverpool Women Citizen's Association in 1919. President of several Women's Liberal Associations in Liverpool and Lancashire. Elected to the Liverpool City Council, 1919. Chairman of the Liverpool Branch of the National Council of Women of Great Britain. Chairman of Liverpool Branch of Women's International League. Chairman during the war of Liverpool International Relief Committee. Has spoken for Women's Suffrage at large meetings in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Cardiff, Portsmouth, Halifax, Manchester, Derby, Chester, Blackburn, Nottingham, Portsmouth, etc., to Liberals and others. Member Executive Committee Liverpool Branch League of Nations Union.

## MRS. EDMUND TOMS.

For more than twenty years member of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses, London, an organisation founded by women for women, to improve the status and training of masseuses. She had the first School of Massage in Scotland, and sent up annually a number of students to the examinations of the Society. For about the same time she was an Associate of the Scotch Girls' Friendly Society, and has always taken a keen interest in all organisations for working women and girls. In 1916 she visited Canada and met many of the women connected with the Y.W.C.A., G.F.S., and the National Council of Women. For ten years she was the Honorary Secretary of the Glasgow Centre of the Girls' Guildry, founded in 1900 to do for girls what the Boys'



Miss CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN  
First Recording Secretary, I.W.S.A.

Brigade has done for the boys. Has been a member of the Glasgow Society for Women's Suffrage (now the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship) since it was founded, and has been a member of the Executive for the last three years. She took part in the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and also worked in Military Hospitals as a member of the Almeric Paget Massage Corps during the war.

## MISS F. DE MERRIFIELD.

Since 1915 a member of the Executive Committee of the N.U.S.E.C. Member of British Geneva Congress Committee, I.W.S.A. From 1908 to 1919 Honorary Secretary of the Brighton and Hove Women's Suffrage Society, and from 1910 Chairman of the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation, N.U.W.S.S. Member of the local committee of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society while it lasted.

## MISS HELEN WARD, L.L.A. (St. Andrew's University).

Formerly Bursar and Member of Chapter, St. Michael's, Bognor; Executive Committee London Society for Women's Suffrage, and London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Chairman Beaconsfield and District Society for Equal Citizenship. Chairman Beaconsfield Women's International League. Hon. Secretary Bee Toymakers (to employ women during the war). Hon. Secretary Civic and Dramatic Guild. Member N.U.W.W. Legislation Committee, and several times N.U.S.E.C. delegate to N.U.W.W. Councils. Taken part in about thirty by-elections, working for Women's Suffrage. Done a great deal of speaking out of doors, as well as indoors. Organised London Banner Exhibition, 1908. Temporarily Hon. Secretary N.U.W.S.S., 1908. *Pro tem.* Editor of *The Common Cause*, 1914. Contributed to *The Woman's Leader*, *Contemporary Review*, *Graphic*, *Star*, on women's questions. At present on Executive Committee of N.U.S.E.C., London Society for Women's Service, Fight the Famine Council, and Women's International League. Member League of Nations Union. Also *pro tem.* (February to May) editor of *Jus Suffragii*.

## MISS CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN

has been busy for many months past preparing for the Congress. She has found no time to send *Jus Suffragii* a record of her career, but all who care for the progress of women throughout the world know Miss Macmillan's record. No detail is too small, no large and statesmanlike scheme for building afresh a world in ruins is too great, for her to bring to bear upon it her fine gifts—her gifts of intellect, of steady courage, of magnanimity, and of a broad and just judgment.



Madame MARIE LOUISE le VERRIER  
Vice-President of the U.F.S.F.

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

All About How the U.S.A. Constitution Works, and How the Friends and the Enemies of the Suffrage Federal Amendment are Working, too.

It had been the cherished hope of the American Suffragists that the end of March would see the close of their long struggle for the universal enfranchisement of women, but it was not fulfilled. The Legislature of the State of Washington was called in special session on March 22, and the same day, by unanimous vote of both Houses, ratified the Federal Suffrage Amendment. This was the thirty-fifth State to take this action, and left only one more to gain in order to complete the required three-fourths. As is well known, in order to add an amendment to the Federal or National Constitution of the United States, it must first be approved by two-thirds of each House of the Congress, and sent to the Legislatures of all the States. When 36 of the 48 have endorsed or ratified it, and sent certificates stating this fact to the Secretary of State at Washington, he issues an official announcement that the amendment has now become a part of the National Constitution. It nullifies, without further action, everything in any State constitution which does not agree with it.

For instance, 15 States, by vote of a majority of their electors, have taken out the word "male" from the clause in their constitutions which defines who may exercise the full elective franchise, but 33 State constitutions still retain that word. It bars out all women, and they can only have it eliminated by the long process of persuading the Legislature of each State to submit the question to the voters and then going through an extensive campaign of trying to induce a majority of them to consent to it. They have been going through this process over fifty years, and have only 15 equal suffrage States to show for it. The very day that the Secretary of State announces the ratification of the Federal Amendment by 36 Legislatures, all the women in the entire country will possess complete suffrage and eligibility to all offices, from that of President of the United States down. Nothing that any State can ever do thereafter can take these rights away from them.

Until the entire 36 Legislatures have ratified, the situation remains just what it is now. The fact that any special one has done so does not enfranchise the women of that State, but all must wait for the 36. It can be understood, therefore, how exasperating it is to have the women of over two-thirds of the country deprived of the vote while waiting for the action of one Legislature. Many States have their municipal elections in the spring, and in all of them elections are now being held to choose the delegates to the national conventions next June, which will nominate the candidates for President and Vice-President. Many States have what are called "primaries," where the voters themselves go to the polls and indicate the persons they would like to have as nominees. Women would like to participate in all of these elections, but in most of the States they will have to be patient a little while longer. The great effort now being made is to secure for all the right to participate in the general elections next November, when not only the Presidential candidates will be voted for, but the Governors, Legislators, and other officials of the various States. There is no doubt that this will be accomplished.

**The Federal Amendment Would Have Become Law Last Year if One More Democratic and One More Republican Vote Had Been Cast for It.**

The last Congress went out of existence on March 3, 1919. The Lower House had voted on January 10, almost a year before, in favour of submitting the Federal Suffrage Amendment to the State Legislatures, but its opponents in the Senate had prevented a vote on it until October 1, and then it lacked two votes of the necessary two-thirds majority. President Wilson himself went in person before the Senate the preceding day and made a strong appeal for it, and it was supported by prominent men of both parties throughout the country. A larger proportion of Republican than of Democratic Senators voted in favour, but if each party had supplied one more vote for it the struggle would have been over, so both must bear the blame for prolonging it. This Congress had a Democratic majority in both Houses, and the new one which was coming in would have a Republican majority in both. The suffrage movement has now gained such headway that its success could not be much longer

delayed, and the Democratic leaders realised that the party could not afford to go out of power and let a Republican Congress have the prestige of submitting the amendment. A new Democratic Senator had been appointed to fill a vacancy who was willing to vote for it, and so a reconsideration was effected. They had mustered their full strength, however, and the Republicans refused to supply the one needed vote, so on February 10 it was again defeated. In this winter of 1919 forty-one Legislatures were in session, and if the amendment had been submitted then, its ratification could have been quickly secured. Most of them would not meet again for two years, and the opponents calculated that by holding it off until they had adjourned, the ratification could be deferred until after the important general election, from which the women would be barred.

#### Party Tactics.

The new Congress would not have met in regular session until December, 1919, but President Wilson called an extra session to consider post-war measures, which assembled on May 19. The Republicans had the plans all made for the Federal Amendment, which was favourably reported by the committee on the 20th, and placed on the calendar for the next day. On the 21st it was rushed through before the reading of the President's Message, in which he recommended it. The Democrats did not dare take revenge on the Republicans by withholding their votes, which, of course, would have defeated it, and 102 voted in favour to 200 Republicans. The latter polled 84 per cent. of their strength, the former 54 per cent. It must always be remembered that the Democrats are handicapped by the group of non-progressive South-eastern States. In January, 1918, the amendment had been carried by a majority of one in a two-thirds vote; in May, 1919, it was carried by a majority of forty-two. Fifteen re-elected members changed from negative to affirmative, and out of the 117 new members 103 voted in favour. As the amendment had been a campaign issue, they represented the sentiment of their constituencies.

The amendment was rushed over to the Senate and presented on May 23. Only one-third of the Senate is voted for every two years, and most of the old opponents were still on duty. By various devices they delayed it, but finally it was placed on the calendar for June 3. By agreement its friends, certain that they controlled the situation, allowed the enemies to make most of the speeches, and they talked through two sessions. Finally, the vote was taken at 5 o'clock on the afternoon of June 4, and the result was 66 ayes, 30 noes—two more than the necessary two-thirds. This, in brief, is the history of the Federal Suffrage Amendment, which had been before the Congress of the United States over forty years, and may have passed through its last stage before this letter reaches the readers of the *International Suffrage News*.

#### A Neck-to-Neck Race for Full Ratification.

The Suffrage leaders were now faced with the question whether to wait for the ratification until the Legislatures met in the winter of 1921, or attempt the herculean task of obtaining special sessions, and they did not hesitate. The next day after the amendment was submitted Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the National American Suffrage Association, sent out from its headquarters letters to the Governors of the various States, calling attention to the emergency, and requesting a special legislative session. Both of the dominant political parties came to her assistance, as it was now a race between them for the credit of ratification. In fact, after the amendment passed the House of Representatives, and before it could be acted upon by the Senate, the Democratic National Committee officially called for special sessions, and the Republican National Committee quickly began working to get them. From that time to the present these committees and the leaders of these two dominant parties have not paused in their efforts. The National Suffrage Association has not spared time, labour, or expense. It has sent its best workers to assist the women of the States. Mrs. Catt herself has addressed the Legislatures; letters and telegrams have been sent to legislators and others literally by the thousands. Political leaders have put on every possible pressure, and nothing has been left undone. In some States very little work has been required, but in others, for various reasons, the obstacles have been almost insurmountable.

There would have to be ratification by 36 of the 48 Legislatures, and the refusal of 13 would block the game. The nine south-eastern States, from Maryland to Louisiana, had to be counted out entirely, it was utterly hopeless to expect anything from them. The Tennessee Legislature, which would have ratified at once, was prevented from doing so by a State law which forbids its Legislature to act on an amendment unless it was an issue in their election. The opponents, therefore, had to hold only three States to prevent the ratification. It was entirely useless for them to make the slightest effort in any of the middle and western sections of the country, as they were solid for ratification. The favourable action of their Legislatures has been described in these letters. They had no need to put any time on the south-eastern group, and therefore they could concentrate their full strength on West Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Vermont. The victory in New Jersey was the greatest that the Suffragists have achieved. The dramatic story of West Virginia doubtless was told by Miss Shuler in her letter of last month. A majority of both Houses had been pledged to vote for ratification from the time they were elected. The Governor, who was a friend, called the special session, and the members of the Lower House kept their word, giving a large favourable majority. The Maryland Legislature sent a committee of its strongest men to labour with the Senate, and the members broke their promise. A reconsideration was secured, and a Senator who was in California rushed across the country by fastest express, having a special train from Chicago, and saved the amendment by his vote.

Now the contest has narrowed down to Delaware, Connecticut, and Vermont, three of the smallest States in the Union. Just at this moment the fight is hottest in Delaware, a State consisting of only three counties, and with but 52 members in its Legislature, and yet its vote will count for as much as that of New York or Pennsylvania. After a bitter contest, lasting through two weeks, the Lower House has defeated ratification by a vote of 22 to 9, and a reconsideration is on the calendar. On the surface there seems no hope in the Senate, but the matter has resolved itself into a political struggle in which the women have no part. All of the Democrats are opposed, and the Republicans are divided into two camps, the "ring" determined to beat the Governor and the Chairman of the Republican National Committee, who are for ratification, and it is being used as a club. The end cannot be foretold.

#### The Battle in Connecticut and Vermont: The Two Anti-Suffrage Governors Block Progress.

Connecticut and Vermont are rock-ribbed Republican States throughout their small circumference. The Legislatures are most anxious to ratify the amendment, but the Governors are violent anti-Suffragists, and refuse to call special sessions.

#### The Suffrage Leaders Have Faith in a Speedy Victory, in Spite of all the Lions in the Path.

Whether the leaders of the party can find a way to end this deadlock remains to be seen. We believe that they can, and my next letter, in all probability, will record the 36 ratifications.

IDA HUSTED HARPER.

New York City, April 15, 1920.

#### COPY OF LETTER FROM Mrs. CHAPMAN CATT TO Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT.

March 29, 1920.

My Dear Mrs. Fawcett,

I have before me your letter just arrived, dated March 16. Once in a while a letter startles us by travelling across the ocean in something like the old schedule time. I receive your congratulations with much pleasure, but I shall be obliged to put them in the cooler for safe keeping until we can really apply them to our situation. We have our thirty-five States, but a battle of the ages is being fought in Delaware to-day. It remains to be seen whether we win or lose. If we lose, then the battle goes on until we get another State. It must seem unbelievable to you that there should be any hesitancy now or doubt in any State which has called a special session for the express purpose of ratifying. You would have far less respect for this nation than you have now were I to take time to enumerate the causes of delay. It is one of the

incidents which demonstrate that the human race has not been down out of the trees very long after all.

When we get our thirty-sixth State, however, we are not through. We have, as you know, a Federal Constitution, which we are amending. But we have forty-eight constitutions of States, which are always subordinate to the Federal Constitution; but the conflicts which arise every time the Federal Constitution is amended create opportunity for litigation to which the defeated opponents resort as a last hope. Consequently, they are threatening dire disasters to our amendment, and are planning to attack it as soon as it is pronounced a part of the Constitution. To deal with this situation perhaps requires more tact and careful judgment than any other part of the campaign. It is vexatious that when we are through we are not through, but that is the result of having forty-nine constitutions in a country, and we are rather used to it.

I cannot, therefore, fly off to Europe, as undoubtedly it seems to you that I ought to be able to do.

I am truly disappointed that it will not be my pleasure to see you on my European trip. As you announced that you cannot come to Geneva, and I certainly cannot stop in London, I shall have to send you my love and greetings in spirit.

You have been a great comfort and inspiration to me always, and my admiration and gratitude to you for the tremendous achievement of your life are greater than any words of mine can express.

I shall be very glad indeed to receive the book you have written, and will report after it is received.

Lovingly yours,

(Signed) CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, President.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

#### LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

#### WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND OFFICE.

A conference to consider the question of a Women's International Conference and Office in the League of Nations was convened by the N.U.S.E.C., and the following resolutions were submitted for consideration to the Executive Committees of the societies represented:—

#### Resolution A.

That the undermentioned societies, gathered together in conference at the Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill Street, London, on Monday, May 3, while holding that the adequate representation of women on all bodies set up by the League, and especially on its commissions, is of fundamental importance, considers that the establishment of a Woman's Conference and International Office in connection with the League of Nations is also necessary—

#### Because

1. In many of the countries included in the League women have no representation, either through the franchise or by eligibility for Parliament.
2. Although membership of all bodies connected with the League is open to women, in view of the small number of representatives allotted to each country it is probable that for some time the number of women actually serving on the various bodies set up by the League will be small.
3. Since it has to be recognised that many of the questions dealt with by the League affecting the social, political, and economic status of women are difficult and controversial, it is essential that there should be a body mainly concerned in investigating the conditions affecting women, and representing their views and interests.

#### Resolution B.

In the opinion of this conference, the proposed Women's Conference and International Office should be modelled with the necessary and desirable alterations on the Convention on International Labour Legislation incorporated in the Peace Treaty.

#### Resolution C.

That this conference, in view of the desirability of drafting a constitution before the meeting of the I.W.S.A. Congress in Geneva, requests the N.U.S.E.C., as the society convening this conference, to form a sub-committee for the

purpose of drawing up such a constitution modelled on the above basis, at the earliest possible date, as a basis for discussion."

#### Societies Represented.

N.U.S.E.C., Y.W.C.A., National Union of Trained Nurses, National Council of Women, Women's International League, Women's Industrial League, Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, Conservative Women's Reform Association, National Women Citizens' Association, Women Police, Fabian Women's Group, Women Sanitary Inspectors, London Society for Women Service, Croydon W.C.A., Brighton and Hove Society for Women's Enfranchisement, League of Church Militant, Head Mistresses' Association, Catholic Woman Suffrage Society, Union of Jewish Women, Women's Freedom League, Girls' Friendly Society.

#### NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

##### Representation of the People Bill.

There has been considerable excitement with regard to the fate of this Bill, which, during the last few weeks, has been before Standing Committee D of the House of Commons. Readers will remember that this Bill, which was introduced by the Labour Party on February 13, 1920, and passed its second reading without a division (a motion for closure having been defeated by a majority of 84), proposes, among other things, to give the franchise to women on exactly the same terms as it is given to men. Opponents of the Bill on the Committee, desiring to wreck the Bill without acquiring the odium of having done so by a vote in the House, devised a new and somewhat unconstitutional plan of adjourning the Committee *sine die*, on the excuse that, as the House would not have time to consider it this session, it was waste of time to continue sitting. Great protests were immediately made by women's organisations, and by the Labour Party, upon which the Committee met again, and by a large majority decided to continue its meetings. The Government, while leaving the House free to deal with this Bill as it likes, is refusing to pledge itself to give any facilities for further time for the Bill, as it obviously fears that should it allow such a Bill to be passed, it might appear as if it were contemplating a General Election very shortly. It is difficult to say at present what will be the fate of this Bill. Its opponents on the Committee are at present using the old obstructionist methods, which may delay its being ready for its report stage for an indefinite time. The question as to whether in the end the Government will allow facilities is bound to depend to a certain extent on what pressure can be brought to bear on it by the general public. It is all very well to urge—as supporters of the Government do—that the Government will very likely introduce a Bill of its own before the next General Election; but elections have a way of springing upon the country unawares, and this would not leave time for the passing of such a Bill. Therefore, unremitting efforts must be made to bring every possible kind of pressure on the Government now.

#### CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILLS.

Three Criminal Law Amendment Bills are at present being discussed by a Joint Committee of the House of Lords and House of Commons. Two of these have been introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Beauchamp and Lord Sandhurst during the last few weeks, and were based on precisely similar Bills introduced by them in 1918. The third Bill has been introduced by the Bishop of London, and embodied, with slight alterations, those points from the other Bills which are comparatively non-contentious and which have been supported by many important women's organisations. The four most important points in the Bill are as follows:—

- (1) That the age of consent should be raised from 16 to 18.
- (2) That the plea of reasonable cause to believe that a girl is under age should no longer be allowed as a defence by a man.
- (3) That the consent on the part of a young person under 16 should be no defence in cases of indecent assault.
- (4) That the limit of time during which action shall be taken shall be increased to twelve months after the commission of the offence.

Lord Sandhurst's Bill includes, in addition to certain of these clauses, two important clauses which the N.U.S.E.C., in common with other women's organisations, feels to be very

dangerous. One is Clause 3, which empowers a court to order a young girl to be detained in a rescue home until the age of nineteen. The other is Clause 5, which makes the communication of venereal disease an offence.

The objections to these clauses are obvious. In the case of Clause 3, it puts far too much power in the hands of the court, and is directed against girls only. Clause 5 amounts to an extension of Regulation 40 D to the whole population. The experience in the working of 40 D has shown that, in the case of infection of venereal disease, it is often impossible to prove which of the two individuals has infected the other. Married people should be protected against one another by the Divorce Laws, and children should be protected by the Children's Act. Nothing can make promiscuous sexual intercourse safe, and such legislation, if passed, would probably make matters worse by giving a false sense of security.

Lord Beauchamp's Bill incorporates certain of the objectionable clauses in Lord Sandhurst's Bill. In addition, it has clauses to increase penalties against solicitation, and to examine suspected persons compulsorily for venereal diseases, clauses to which women's organisations are absolutely opposed.

#### DIVORCE LAW REFORM.

Lord Buckmaster's Matrimonial Causes Bill, introduced, as was stated last month, on March 10, passed its second reading in the House of Lords on March 24 by a considerable majority. The Bill is now in Committee. On April 14 a resolution was discussed in the House of Commons stating that it is desirable that legislative effect should be given without delay to the recommendations contained in the Majority Report of the Royal Commission on the Divorce Laws. This resolution was lost. The debate was very poorly attended, and there is good reason to think that when Lord Buckmaster's Bill, which is, of course, based on the Majority Report, comes before the House of Commons, it will very likely receive a good reception.

#### REPORT OF THE WHITLEY COUNCIL ON THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The hope of a victory of women civil servants, alluded to in the last number of *Jus Suffragii*, has been dashed to the ground by the acceptance of the report as it stood, with its many recommendations detrimental to the position of women in the Civil Service. The Federation of Women Civil Servants, and other organisations have protested in every possible way, and the matter is being raised in the House of Commons by Major Hills on May 19.

#### THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

##### ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING—STRONG AND PRACTICAL EQUALITY PROGRAMME.

The thirteenth annual conference of the Women's Freedom League has just taken place in London, presided over by Mrs. Schofield Coates (of Middlesbrough), who will be one of our fraternal delegates to the Conference at Geneva.

This conference, attended by delegates from our branches throughout England, Scotland, and Wales, called upon the Government to introduce immediately a Bill to enfranchise women on the same terms as men and to pass it into law without delay, and pledged the League to work for the removal of every legal or other artificial restriction on women's activities—political, economic, social, professional, and industrial—with equal pay for equal work.

The appointment of women to the Privy Council, of women governors and women medical officers in women's prisons, of women police commissioners and women commissioners of prisons, of women lunacy commissioners and women medical superintendents for the women's sides of asylums, and the inclusion of women in all asylums' visiting committees. The appointment of women magistrates on the same terms as men.

Pensions for widows with children under sixteen years of age, and for mothers without a breadwinner.

Equal rights of guardianship of the children for married mothers and fathers; equality in our marriage and divorce laws; equal rights with men to retain or change their nationality; and the responsibility of a married woman for her own income-tax.

The abolition of our present laws of solicitation—molestation to be a punishable offence equally for men and women,

but no conviction to be made unless the person molested appeared in court to support the charge.

A Bill to ensure that in cases of infanticide, or attempted infanticide by unmarried mothers, that the father, if known, as well as the mother, shall appear in court, and be held equally responsible for the care of their child.

Proportional representation and the return of women to Parliament. The conference decided that we should run or support a woman parliamentary candidate whenever and wherever possible.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

May 1, 1920.

#### BRITISH LABOUR WOMEN IN CONFERENCE.

##### A Large Delegation.

Over four hundred delegates were present at the British Labour Women's Conference, held in the Memorial Hall, London, on April 21 and 22, and the opening address from the chair was delivered by Miss Mary McArthur (Mrs. W. C. Anderson).

##### Margaret Bondfield's Report on the Washington Labour Conference.

One of the most interesting features was Margaret Bondfield's account of the International Labour Conferences in Washington last October. As she and Miss McArthur accompanied the accredited delegates to the League of Nations Labour Conference, she was able to speak from inside knowledge, and she began by explaining how the delegations were made up. The Government of each country, she said, had two delegates, the employers one, and the organised workers one. Each delegate was entitled to take two advisers for each subject, though all did not avail themselves of the right. Though America, Austria, Germany, and Russia were not represented, for various reasons, a real desire for all nations to co-operate was in evidence, and a motion, moved by the French delegate, that Austria and Germany should be entitled to equal representation was carried by seventy-one to one. Though among those present there was necessarily much difference of opinion on certain points, there was determination to respect each other's opinion and maintain amity. The Labour Conference is to meet annually, and many points left unsettled will come up again at the next meeting. On the Commission to consider: (a) Employment of women, (b) night work, (c) employment of children, the men delegates gave place to their women advisers, who acted on their behalf both in the committees and when the reports were presented to the Conference. The Maternity Committee consisted of fourteen persons, of whom eight were women, and Miss Constance Smith was Chairman and Miss Sophy Sanger, Secretary.

But though by the courtesy and good sense of the delegates women were given considerable power at this first Conference, Miss Bondfield expressed her very strong opinion that the constitution should be so changed as to ensure an adequate number of women being appointed as full delegates on a future occasion. In order, as she remarked, "to encourage the men," Miss Bondfield pointed out that all women were not necessarily agreed on all points. For example, there was lively discussion and close voting throughout on the question of the provision in factories of facilities for nursing mothers to nurse their babies. Speaking generally, the women of the Latin races supported this idea, and the women of the Teutonic races opposed it, because they held that nursing mothers should be exempt from factory work. These sharp divisions of opinion did not appear in regard to the confirmation of the Berne Convention of 1906 in regard to women's night work.

After touching upon the fact that many of the small countries are far ahead of the larger countries in Labour legislation, Miss Bondfield concluded by pointing out that public opinion—the opinion of women—had still to play its part in securing national legislation in the various countries on the lines recommended by the Conference, as though each Government was under the obligation to introduce Bills in parliament on the lines of the recommendations, the Bills would not pass into law without public support.

##### Miss Gertrude Tuckwell Claims Equality of Opportunity for Men and Women.

After Miss Bondfield's report Miss Gertrude Tuckwell moved the resolution given below, which was carried unanimously. Miss Tuckwell said that the great underlying principle was *equality of opportunity*. Women had to fight artificial disabilities, lack of training, payment below that given to men, and added to all, they suffered the disability, not artificial, resulting from the fact that they were the mothers and home-makers of the world. Under present conditions many women, she exclaimed, become *senile at forty*.

##### The Conference Demands the Abolition of Night Work for Men and Women Alike.

##### An International Standard of Industrial Law:—

This conference of working women, having heard the report of the Washington Conference, decides—

- (1) To give its support to the convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth;
- (2) To call upon our Government to take immediate steps to give effect to the convention by introducing a Bill providing benefits for mother and child on a universal and non-contributory basis, and giving full facilities for its passage into law.

While urging the Government to give immediate effect to the draft conventions as being the first step towards the creation of international, social, and industrial law, the conference nevertheless emphasises the fact that these conventions fall far short of the necessity of the times, and particularly points out the need of provision—

- (a) For the continued part-time education of all boys and girls up to 18 years of age, with adequate maintenance grants, such education to be given during the period of the normal working day;
- (b) For the general prohibition of overtime and night work, save in special emergencies, for male as well as female workers.

Clause (b) of this resolution is of special interest, as it supports the contention of many feminists that all unnecessary night work should be prohibited rather than that merely of women.

##### "Who Said Washing was Women's Work?"

Mrs. Hood, of the Women's Co-operative Guild, aroused laughter and loud applause by saying "men have always had shorter hours than us, the women in the home"; and Mrs. Adamson, of the Glasgow Women's Labour Section, "brought the house down" by exclaiming, in regard to certain architect's plans: "I don't want a wash-house! Who said that washing was women's work? It ought to be carried away out of the house by motor transport and done by machinery."

##### A Strong Resolution Calling for Amelioration of Conditions in Europe.

Resolutions were passed on housing, milk, and coal, and the gist of a long and reasoned resolution on the condition of Europe was summed up in the words: "This Conference expresses its horror at the spread of famine in Europe, and calls upon the Government to work by all means in its power for the alleviation of conditions which constitute a menace to civilisation and to all hopes of permanent peace."

##### An Unfortunate Decision.

A resolution that aroused strong feeling, and was opposed by several distinguished delegates, including Mrs. H. M. Swanwick and Mrs. Annot Robinson, the well-known Manchester Labour woman, urged that Labour women should "avoid dissipating their energies in non-party political organisations." Though, in reply to a question, the Chair stated that this was not intended as an absolute prohibition against joining organisations other than the official Labour Party, it was felt by many that Labour will benefit more by the breach than by the observance of an ordinance likely to result in a narrowing of the sphere of the experience and influence of Labour women.

##### Call for Speedy Full Enfranchisement of Women.

The franchise resolution, proposed and seconded in brilliant speeches by two girls still political "infants," though most able public workers, aroused immense enthusiasm, and should make it evident that the women are not prepared to accept

patiently the renewed attempt to defeat this claim. The terms of this resolution were as follows:—

This Conference congratulates the Labour Party on its efforts to secure equal civic and political rights for men and women, and urges that every effort should be made in this session of Parliament to compel the Government to give the necessary support to the Representation of the People Bill to secure its passage into law. The Conference calls special attention to the continued injustice of excluding women under thirty from the franchise, and demands votes for women on the same terms as men, and equal opportunities for women in all branches of the Civil Service.

A. H. W.

#### NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S GAINS SINCE 1895.

1. Infant Life Protection Act (to prevent baby farming).
  2. Act to regulate the adoption of children.
  3. Industrial Schools Amendment Act (providing for better classification and general methods).
  4. Illegitimacy Amendment Act (whereby a child born out of wedlock may claim a share of the father's property on his death).
  5. Legitimation Act provides that when the parents marry, any child born before such marriage shall be entitled to all the rights of a child born in wedlock.
  6. Widow's Pension Act grants small pensions to a widow (or the wife of an incurably insane man) who has a child or children born in New Zealand.
  7. Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act. Enacts equal standard of morality. Divorce granted for adultery; wilful desertion for five years; for habitual drunkenness; for failure to support wife; if either person is insane and unlikely to recover; or if either person has received sentence of at least seven years' imprisonment for attempt on the life of the other.
  8. Summary Legal Separation Act gives protection to working women against worthless husbands.
  9. An Act enabling women to receive compensation for slander without proving special damage.
  10. Testator's Family Maintenance Act compels testator to provide for his wife and family according to his means.
  11. Destitute persons Act (1910) provides for registration of child born out of wedlock in its father's name, where paternity is proved, and for the power to claim against the estate of either parent for the maintenance of such child.
  12. The Destitute Persons Amendment Act (1915) provides that an officer of the Court shall be appointed to receive and to recover moneys due under a maintenance order.
  13. Married Women's Property Act.
  14. National Provident Fund Act enables persons, on paying a small sum weekly, to secure an annuity at sixty years of age.
  15. Old Age Pensions Act. (Both sexes treated alike.)
  16. State Maternity Hospitals Act. Provides skilled medical attendance and trained nursing at moderate cost.
  17. Aged and Infirm Persons' Protection Act. Provides that when any person is unable, by means of age, disease, illness, physical or mental infirmity, excessive use of alcoholic liquors or drugs, to manage his own affairs, a protection order may be made over the whole or any part of his estate.
  18. Crimes Amendment Act provides for indeterminate sentences and reformatory treatment by modern methods.
  19. First Offenders' Probation Act.
  20. Juvenile Courts established. Young persons under sixteen years of age are dealt with in these Courts.
  21. Juvenile Smoking Suppression Act. Sale of tobacco and cigarettes to children under fifteen prohibited.
  22. Age of consent raised from fourteen to sixteen years.
  23. Repeal of C.D. Acts (1910).
  24. Temperance Instruction given in State schools.
  25. Technical Schools established, giving equality of opportunity to both sexes.
  26. Shop Assistants Act safeguards the interests and health of female shop assistants.
  27. Factory Act Amendment recognises principle of equal pay for equal work, fixes minimum wage, and limits hours of work.
  28. Workers' Compensation Act. Made applicable to all women workers, including domestic servants.
  29. Municipal Franchise extended to women.
  30. Women made eligible for election to Municipal Councils.
  31. Amendment of Education Act provides for the election of four women on the National Council of Education.
  32. Female Law Practitioners Act.
  33. Licensing Act Amendment Act gradually abolishes barmaids, makes 10 o'clock closing universal, etc.
- Women doctors are appointed as Medical Inspectors, etc.  
Women eligible for election to both Houses of Parliament.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### Women and the Churches.

14, Gayfere Street,  
Westminster, S.W. 1.

To the Editor of *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—The resolution concerning spiritual equality passed by the Central Committee of the Union Française, gives food for considerable thought. It states that spiritual equality cannot be obtained except in those countries in which religious dogma, by its very nature unalterable, is not opposed.

In England there is a great deal of opposition to religious dogma, as it has been hitherto verbally expressed, but we quite anticipate spiritual equality and opportunities of service within the Church. Then it is, (is it not?) open to question whether religious dogma is unalterable. Here we touch on an immense field of thought. Supposing, however, for sake of argument, that it is unalterable, yet man's apprehension of truth (or dogma, if you will) is always deepening, and no one would, I think, question that. There is always more to be discovered in the dogma that exists.

Would it not be well if all women would give their thoughts to the Church question, whether members or not? It is of vital importance to the youth of the nations what teaching is given in the churches, and as long as women make no effort to give their contribution within the hierarchical ministry of the churches, the churches will always lack a power they might possess.

EDITH PICTON-TURBERVILL.

BRITISH DELEGATES.—Among the British delegates and alternates are, for the N.U.S.E.C., Miss K. D. Courtney, Lady Dockrell, Mrs. Dowson, Miss Helen Fraser, Miss F. de G. Merrifield, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. E. Stewart Brown, Miss R. Smith, Miss Teacher, Mrs. Edmund Toms, Mrs. G. F. Abbott, Miss I. O. Ford, Miss E. Macadam, Mrs. Orvis, Miss Maude Royden, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Juliet Reckitt, Miss Scott, Miss Helen Ward. Fraternal for the Women's International include Mrs. H. M. Swanwick (Hotel de Russie, Geneva), and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence; for the Women's Industrial League, Miss Moore and Miss Hodgkinson; for the Independent Labour Party, Miss I. O. Ford and, possibly, Mrs. Charles Roden Buxton; for the League of the Church Militant, Miss Maude Royden and Miss Villiers. It is greatly hoped the delegation will include Mrs. Oliver Strachey.

##### MISS I. O. FORD.

Parish Councillor in Wharfedale, Yorkshire, since 1895. Life member Leeds Trade Council, as founder (thirty years ago) of the first Tailoresses' Trade Union there. Has represented Yorkshire Women Textile Workers as an honorary member at several International Conferences in Europe. "Born a Woman Suffragist and Socialist." On the National Administrative Council of the Independent Labour Party (with Keir Hardie and others) for four years. Has lectured constantly for the I.L.P. One of those who began the agitation for Women Factory Inspectors, and supplied information which set it going. Been in workers' strikes, been stoned and pelted again and again for her views on Labour, and also for those on Woman Suffrage. On the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. for many years, as well as an honorary officer of the Leeds Branch. Miss Ford goes to the Congress as Fraternal Delegate for the British Independent Labour Party.

Lady Holder, of Adelaide, South Australia, is in London en route to attend the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress at Geneva in June. She is the widow of Sir Frederick Holder, the first Speaker in the Federal Parliament, who died about ten years ago, practically in harness. South Australia claims to be the most advanced State in the Dominion so far as its attitude to women is concerned, and one proof lies in the fact that Lady Holder was the first woman justice of the peace appointed in the world. This is her second visit to England. Lady Holder's artist daughter is travelling with her, and the two ladies are looking forward to the return voyage *via* India.

##### CORRECTION.

We greatly regret that by an oversight it was incorrectly stated in our review of "The Woman's Victory—and After," by Mrs. Fawcett, that her previous book, "Woman's Suffrage," was published in the "Everyman Series." The publishers are Messrs. E. C. and T. C. Jack, of Edinburgh, and it appeared as one of their "People's Books."

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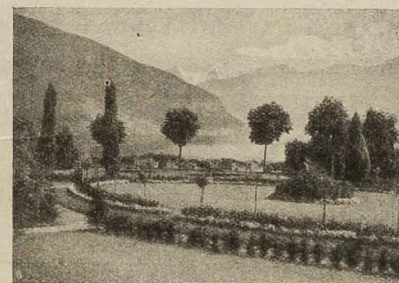
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## MASS MEETING

IN THE

**KINGSWAY HALL,**

**Friday, May 21, at 8 p.m.**

TO SEND BRITISH DELEGATION TO

### WORLD CONGRESS OF WOMEN IN GENEVA.

#### SPEAKERS:

Viscountess ASTOR, M.P.,  
Official Delegate of British Government  
to Geneva Congress.  
Madame SUZANNE GRINBERG, Advocate, France.  
Mrs. SAROJINI NAIDU, India.  
Miss YANA SHIDACHI, Japan.  
Mrs. EDWARD GAUNTLETT, Japan,  
Delegate to Geneva Congress.  
Miss MAUDE ROYDEN.  
Miss LENA ASHWELL.  
Chair: Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

Among those who have given their names as supporters of the meeting and the objects of the Congress are:—

The PRIME MINISTER.  
LORD ROBERT CECIL, M.P.  
LADY ROBERT CECIL.  
LORD EMMOTT, P.C., G.C.M.G.  
Sir DONALD MacLEAN, M.P.  
J. R. CLYNES, M.P.  
Major HILLS, M.P.  
The BISHOP OF STEPNEY.  
M. CACLOMANOS (Greek Minister).  
M. GAVRILOVITCH (Serbian Minister).  
The CHINESE MINISTER.  
SYBIL COUNTESS BRASSEY.  
Right Hon. F. D. ACLAND.  
Sir HARRY JOHNSTON.  
Hon. Mrs. ALFRED LYTELLTON, D.B.E.  
Professor CAROLINE SPURGEON.  
ELIZABETH ROBINS.  
Miss BEATRICE HARRADEN, etc., etc.

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### MEETINGS

Monday, May 17.—Public Meeting, Minerva Cafe, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Miss Horniman, M.A. Subject: "Theatrical Reminiscences." Admission, 1s. 7-30 p.m.

Thursday, June 10.—Public Meeting, Mortimer Hall, Mortimer Street, W. 1. Speaker: Miss Leila Lewis. Subject: "Opportunities for Women in the Cinema World." Chair: Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. For prices of admission see "The Vote." 8 p.m.

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

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#### WEEKLY LECTURES AND HOUSE DINNERS.

Wednesday, May 5, 8.15 p.m.—"The League of Nations." Mr. Frederick Whelen. Chairman: Mr. Holford Knight (barrister-at-law).

Wednesday, May 12, 8.15 p.m.—"The Peace Terms." Miss Maude Royden. Chairman: Mr. J. Y. Kennedy.

Wednesday, May 19, 8.15 p.m.—Lecture-Recital, "Instrumental Form" (Violin and Piano Illustrations). Miss Marjorie Chrystal, Miss Talbot Phillips, Miss Mackenzie.

Wednesday, May 26, 8.15 p.m.—Subject announced later. Dr. Marie Stopes. Chairman: Miss Nina Boyle.

(Syllabus and Invitations to Lectures given to non-members on application to Secretary.)

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