

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
Societies.

Registered as a Newspaper.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1913.

Price One Penny.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
Notes and Comments 1	In Parliament 10
The Penalty of Wrong 3	Foreign News 10
The Press and Women's Suffrage 4	Notes from Headquarters:—
Work-a-day Women 6	Contributions to the General Fund 11
Correspondence 8	News from the Societies... .. 12
A B C of Women's Suffrage ... 9	Forthcoming Meetings 15

ness and disastrously affect a situation already sufficient tense.

The Bill itself, of course, does not involve a great principle quite as clearly as did the proposal to extend the Franchise among men. But it does give increased value to the votes of many men by taking away the right to cast more than one from those men who before had the right to cast several. The difference is so great as to mean possibly forty or fifty seats to the Liberal Party in a General Election. For this reason, Suffragists hold that it is a selfish and a dishonest move on the part of the Prime Minister, whose debt to us remains wholly unredeemed, and we urge this point most strongly upon our supporters of all Parties in the House.

Notes and Comments.

The Plural Voting Bill.

The Women's Fabian Group has passed a resolution urging the rejection of every Bill to alter the basis of the franchise until the women's demand has been met. This is, of course, in line with the resolution passed by the Independent Labour Party at their Manchester Conference. It must, of course, be borne in mind that many Suffragists in the House of Commons—especially those of the Labour Party—have given definite pledges to their constituents to support the abolition of Plural Voting. These pledges cannot and ought not to be broken without reference to those to whom they were given. We have had enough of broken pledges, with their disastrous effect on public confidence and political honour. But we trust that since it will take two years to pass the Plural Voting Bill over the heads of the Lords, and the measure must pass twice again through the Commons, our supporters there will be enabled next time to oppose its passage. The point is one of great moment to Suffragists, for it is well known that the part of the Government Franchise Bill of last session which was dear to the hearts of official Liberals was not Manhood Suffrage, but the abolition of Plural Voting. Labour, indeed, was earnest about the former, and stood to win so much by it that the resolution to oppose its passage was a notable proof of Labour's even greater earnestness about Women's Suffrage. But the Liberal Party cared chiefly, or only, for the latter; and it is a piece of political manoeuvring, almost inconceivably mean, to announce, with pomp and ceremony, the withdrawal of the Franchise Bill, in view of the Prime Minister's failure to redeem his pledges, and then to rescue from it the only part about which the Prime Minister really cares. It was, of course, of the first importance that the Franchise Bill should be withdrawn, for had it passed the difficulty of re-opening the question would have been enormously increased. But we urge Suffragist Members to consider and protest against the lowering of political honour to all concerned in the present piece of political jugglery. It is painful to hear speakers assume that no politician is ever animated by a just motive, or knows what is meant by honesty—painful, in fact, to hear women adopting the methods of the ordinary Party speaker—but all honourable men will agree that the course adopted now by the Liberal Government, making it impossible to put faith in Liberal honour, must intensify bitter-

Local Option in Women's Suffrage.

In an interesting article in the *Daily News*, Mr. Massingham pursues his suggestion that Women's Suffrage might be adopted in any constituency that desires it, and speaks of this plan as a solution which it would be possible for the Prime Minister to accept, or at least to let pass. The suggestion would be more valuable if Mr. Massingham could show us why Mr. Asquith should be willing to accept it more than any other Suffrage Bill. One thing is certain—that wherever Women's Suffrage is adopted, it always spreads. It did so in Australia; it is doing so in America and Scandinavia. It spreads because it is seen to be a success. If Anti-Suffragists could really persuade themselves that this was not so, no doubt they would be keen to try "local option" here, in order that we all might see and shudder at the awful sight of masculine women, neglected homes, and unchivalrous men. But they cannot. They believe it all—of course—but they won't bet on it.

How it Works.

In connection with the above, it is interesting to learn that the Territory of Alaska has granted the full political Suffrage to its women. Alaska makes the tenth star in the American Suffrage flag. We wish we could think the news likely to increase Mr. Asquith's enthusiasm for local option in Great Britain.

The referendum on Women's Suffrage resulted, our readers will remember, in a defeat so narrow and so suspicious that illegal methods were believed to have been at work, and the question was re-submitted on April 7th. The results have not reached us before going to press.

A New Children's Bill.

The Government has given notice of a Bill to amend the Act known as the "Children's Charter." Under it, street trading will be still further restricted, in great cities at least, boys under seventeen, and girls under eighteen, being forbidden to engage in it. The object of the Bill is to divert the stream of young people going into "blind-alley" employments, and it is specially mentioned that boys are to be helped by advice and, if possible, by the provision of more satisfactory work, to a more promising career. It is not stated whether "boys" includes "girls," and in view of the persistent feeling in the minds of many educationists that "painful occupations" are the right of men and not of women, all suffragists will watch the progress of the Bill

WILLIAM OWEN



SUNDOUR UNFADABLE CASEMENT CLOTH...

GUARANTEED to retain its colour, under any conditions, against the fiercest sunlight and most careless washing, in any part of the world.

WILLIAM OWEN undertakes to replace free of charge and post paid, any length that fails to entirely fulfil this guarantee.

31 INCHES WIDE 9 ¹/₂ d. per yard.
50 " 1 ¹/₄ "

FULL RANGE OF PATTERNS SENT POST FREE.

SUNDOUR Unfadable RUG



PRICES & SIZES:
4ft. by 2ft. - 6/11
4ft. 6" by 2ft. 3" 8/11
5ft. by 2ft. 9" 12/9

POST PAID IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Sundour Unfadable Fabrics have eight years' reputation of infallibility, and are guaranteed the world over. The sun and tub alike but serve to prove the durability and demonstrate the beauty of their colours.

Please mention "The Common Cause" when writing.

WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.

C.C. 11418.

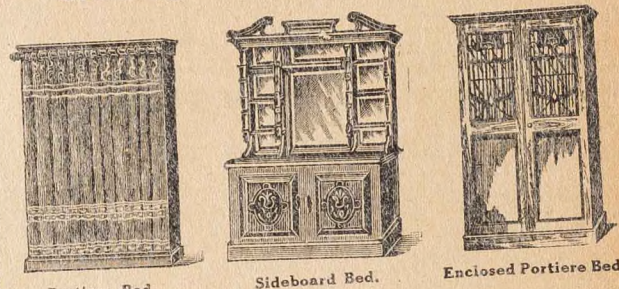
WILLIAM OWEN LTD.

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

FOLDING BEDS

A SPARE BED always handy—**READY WHEN WANTED.** The bed can be made in the morning **READY FOR USE** and folded right away, perfectly concealed. Made in 30 different styles from £1 19 0 upwards.

Catalogue No. 200 post free.



Portiere Bed. Sideboard Bed. Enclosed Portiere Bed.

THE STANDARD FOLDING BED CO.,
28 and 29, HART STREET,
BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C.

VICTORIA

AUSTRALIA'S GARDEN STATE.

Land of **SUNSHINE,**
FRUIT & FLOWERS.

Guaranteed Employment and High Wages

for

DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

£3 Passages.

For Particulars apply—

Lady Superintendent,
Women's Emigration Department,
Victorian Government Office,
Strand, London, W.C.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

Telephone: 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
1910 Gerrard. Price One Penny.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
BRITISH ISLES, 6S. 6D. ABROAD, 8S. 8D. PER ANNUM.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor, however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter, and no manuscripts will be returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE LATEST TIME for receiving news, notice and reports for the week's issue is THE FIRST POST ON TUESDAY. News should be sent in as long beforehand as possible.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS to be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

ADVERTISEMENTS (Societies, Miscellaneous, etc.) must reach the Office (2 Robert Street) not later than first post on Tuesday.

NOTICE.—This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, communication should be made to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

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

The Penalty of Wrong.

Last week the Government introduced, and is hurrying through, a Bill called the Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-health) Bill.

This Bill provides that any prisoner who resorts to the "hunger strike," and is in imminent danger of starvation, may be released for a while until his health (or shall we be more frank than the Bill and say "her" health?) is sufficiently restored to allow him to be re-arrested, without warrant, and imprisoned again. This process is to be repeated until the whole sentence has been served.

The Bill passed its second reading with only 28 dissentients. Yet it is not to be believed that the course laid down by its provisions can be other than odious to most of those who supported it by their votes. It is in the long run as certainly "torture" as forcible feeding, and we should suppose, even more certain to wreck the bodies and minds of those who suffer it. It confers new and extraordinary powers on officials whose past record does not encourage such confidence. It is alike abhorrent to every humane instinct and opposed to the whole spirit of British law.

Mrs. Pankhurst has been condemned to three years' penal servitude, and no doubt the Bill will be enforced in her case. If it were desired to increase disorder and violence, no plan could be devised better than this continued drama of her release and re-arrest. Such prolonged and public torture cannot but brutalise the minds at once of those who inflict and those who blindly seek to avenge it; and from brutality violence results almost inevitably.

But it will be asked: What could the Government do? What other course was open to them?

There is only one course open to those who have done wrong. It is to go back—to repent and to reform. The Government are in an impossible position; but they have put themselves into it, and only they can extricate themselves. No one can help or advise them in any other sense, and it is useless for anyone, by asking advice, to try to shift the burden of responsibility. Practically, the question put—by a sufficiently grotesque attempt at defence—to constitutional Suffragists, as to their own solution of the problem, amounts to this: "What would you do, if, by an act of injustice, you found yourself compelled to go on inflicting injustice?" The obvious answer is: "I should not have got myself into such a position." Neither those who opposed the Bill in Parliament nor those who criticise it outside are bound to offer any alternative suggestion, for all these would have avoided the initial injustice. The whole necessity for the Bill is a false one, and need not have arisen at all. The responsibility for creating it lies on the shoulders not of the Government only, but of the whole House of Commons, which has consented too long to an injustice, and is now forced to acquiesce in cruelty. Not all, not many, of these men can have given their votes for the

with anxiety. Its object is excellent; but it must not be allowed to deepen the impression that boys are *only* to be breadwinners and girls *only* to be mothers.

All-Night Courts.

Miss Beatrice Harraden is reported to have been so much impressed by the working of the "all-night courts" in America as to wish to get something of the kind established in Great Britain. It would be as great a boon as the Children's Courts, if it could be done. The object of the courts is, of course, to try all charges at once, and so save possibly innocent persons from the misery of a night in the cells. Naturally, many of the arrests at night are made for solicitation, and the reform is therefore one peculiarly interesting to women, to whom the ordeal of waiting till the case can be tried would be—in the case of a wrongful charge, especially—almost as terrible as punishment itself. In America, also, the courts are used for the help of those who may have been arrested on this terrible charge simply because they are homeless. In such cases, the girl is at once directed to a woman attending the court who can, and does, help at once—that is, when help can still be of use, and not when it is too late.

Women at the Bar.

Miss Lind-af-Hageby's conduct of her own libel action against the *Pall Mall Gazette* makes the refusal to admit women to the Bar look more foolish than ever. This lady, defending a claim of peculiar difficulty—for to the general public the cause of Anti-Vivisection is still regarded as one for cranks and faddists—spoke so ably that the judge complimented her at the close of her speech. Whatever one's views, therefore, on the question to which Miss Lind-af-Hageby devotes her life, Suffragists will rejoice at the ability with which she acquitted herself in the courts.

The International Suffrage Alliance.

The Vienna Women's Suffrage Society has decided to hold a preliminary conference of Suffragists on their way to the International Meeting at Buda-Pesth. These two cities—among the most beautiful in the world—are only a few hours distant by rail from each other, and every arrangement is being made for the expected visitors. It is hoped that as many as possible will take Vienna on their way to Buda-Pesth. Hospitality can be arranged for some, and a series of conferences and meetings will be held at which Suffragists will have an opportunity of meeting each other and hearing some of the greatest Suffrage speakers.

We would remind our readers that perhaps the greatest of all—Mrs. Chapman Catt—will be speaking at the reception on May 7th, of which notice will be found elsewhere. Most Suffragists would admit, we think, that to hear Mrs. Catt is to mark an epoch in one's Suffrage life.

Local Government Elections.

As we go to press, news is still lacking as to the results of the recent elections. The Women's Local Government Society reports that in the Poor-Law Guardians' Elections women have done well, and an increase in the number serving is hoped for. Suffragists will be glad to know of the success of Miss Gatliff, former N.U. Secretary of the Eastbourne Suffrage Society. For the Urban District Councils only ten women candidates were standing, and we have not heard that any have been elected. For the Rural District Councils the Hon. Lady Johnston has been elected for Poling and Mrs. Corbett Ashby, member of the N.U.W.S.S. Executive, for Wandsworth. This brings the number of N.U. Committee members who serve on Local Government bodies up to six.

An Appeal for Support.

We urgently appeal to Suffragists who have an hour or two to spare on Thursday afternoons to help us to sell the paper in London the moment it comes from the Press. Will those who can do this come to the office (2, Robert Street, Adelphi) at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, and report to Miss Longley, who will supply them with papers, posters, etc.

Selling "The Common Cause."

It is of the greatest importance that our paper should be widely known, especially at the present time, when the public mind is more than usually confused on the question of Women's Suffrage. Will those who are willing to give even an hour a week to selling the paper in the streets, kindly send their names to the Secretary, London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

"Woman's Platform."

We are asked by Mr. Frank R. Cana to say that he is no longer responsible for the conduct of "Woman's Platform" of the *Standard*.

Bill without repulsion, or will be able to see it enforced without disgust. Few of us, whether women or men, can make up our minds quite callously to inflict great suffering. But it is the penalty of wrong-doing that it creates wrong, and the penalty of the Liberal Government that it should make itself responsible for a detestable piece of legislation to coerce women, while its desire is to go down to history as the upholder of freedom and the rights of the weak.

It is true that the reality of this argument depends on the justice of the cause of Women's Suffrage. If the refusal of freedom to women be no injustice, it falls to the ground. And when we make so large an assumption as this—that we are in the right—we shall, of course, be reminded that everyone has a right to his opinion, and that our opponents, being honestly convinced that they are in the right, are bound to take the course that they are taking, and that there is always something to be said on both sides. This is true; and Suffragists should, above all, be careful to impute no dishonest intention to those who disagree with them. Nevertheless, it is also true that in most great struggles there has been a wrong side and a right. In the cause of the Abolition of Slavery, for example, there were good and honest and religious people on both sides. There were wise things done by those who upheld slavery, and unwise things done by those who condemned it; and doubtless there were many who said soothingly that "every man had a right to his opinion," and that "no one should be too sure that he was right." Yet, after all, there was a wrong side and a right, and those who were honestly convinced on the wrong side were not less in error because of their honesty.

We think the opponents of the Woman's Movement would do well to consider their position in the light of the difficulty in which they find themselves. Justice demands many sacrifices, but it does not lead you into "an impossible position." To do right may be sometimes incredibly hard, but it does not compel one to inflict a wrong. That is the penalty of wrong-doing only. And this Bill, with its provision for long drawn out torture, defended on the grounds that the Government is in a difficulty and no other course can be suggested—this in itself is the Government's condemnation. The law, it is said, and well said, must be respected. But we would make it respected because it is just, not because it is cruel. Where law is respected it is easily enforced, but when it is felt to be unjust, its enforcement is difficult. Does anyone seriously suppose that to add to injustice will increase respect, or that enforcement will be easier when respect is less?

What should you do, gentlemen? Do justice! You will not find yourselves then in "an impossible position."

This, it will eagerly be said, is a justification of militancy.

No, by no means. Wrong cannot be justified. It is not justified by the wrong doing of others. It is, least of all, justified by success. We talk glibly of a course of action justifying itself by success, but, in fact, no one believes such talk, or only those (if such there be) who have no longer any moral standard at all. No one supposes for a moment that a good deed is condemned because it looks like failure. The world's history is full of such sublime failures, and knows that only by a misuse of words can what is good ever be said to fail. Not less true is it that evil cannot succeed. The success is only a seeming. And when the Woman's Movement makes at last the great forward step of political enfranchisement, it will be due to all that is good in it—to the patient toil, the unwavering faith, the unconquerable loyalty, the courage and self-sacrifice, the passionate belief in humanity, which go to make the religion of the mass of Suffragists: it will be in no sense due to bitterness, to rancour, or revenge, for of these things nothing good can come, but only the penalty of wrong-doing—more wrong.

Just as far as the evil spirits of hatred and retaliation have entered into the Suffrage movement, just so far—whatever the immediate issue—is it a failure. No one can defeat us, but we can indeed defeat ourselves. Hard it must be, undoubtedly, to keep our righteous indignation from becoming bitterness, and some have found it altogether impossible. But hard as it has been, it must yet be said that if those who have so been embittered were in the majority, instead of (as they are) few in number, we should have failed in our high purpose, and we should have deserved to fail. Those who truly understand what this movement of ours means in the world's history know that retaliation is the very negation of all it stands for, and a victory won by such means the worst kind of defeat. And if, at this moment, they urge upon our legislators the necessity of doing justice to women, it is because, whatever difficulties have been set in the path, no course of action is so truly courageous or so dignified as that which holds its way in spite of fears, refusing to be delayed or diverted by the faults of others, recognising that it is always time to do right.

The Press and Women's Suffrage.

Two years ago some articles appeared in THE COMMON CAUSE dealing uncompromisingly with the unfairness of the Press towards Women's Suffrage, and complaining of the exaggeration or suppression of facts as suited their purpose on the part of newspapers, and their refusal generally to give the subject a fair hearing.

In some reactionary section of the Press, the charge of unfairness unfortunately still holds good, but the Annual Report just issued by the National Union gives ground for believing that what has taken place in other countries shortly before the vote was won is happening in Great Britain, and that, on the whole, the Press is veering round to the side of Woman Suffrage. The records of the Press work from Headquarters, the London Society and the Provinces, show us approximately, exclusive of Scotland, more than 1,000 papers described as "favourable" to Woman Suffrage. The records from the 14 Federations which have sent in particulars, give the proportion of Anti-Suffrage papers as less than one-fifth of those which are friendly. In some districts, covering several counties, the Anti-Suffrage element in the Press is described as having died out almost entirely; where Editorial hostility still exists it has lost its boldness, and is often timid and apologetic in tone, while the reporter, both in London and the provinces, has long ago come to the conclusion—even if he has not been converted by the many meetings he attends—that the note of ridicule is entirely out of place.

A long list could be given of the many influential provincial papers which afford support by favourable leaders and notes, such as the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, the *Nottingham Guardian*, the *Sheffield Independent*, etc. The *Aberdeen Free Press* is described as the *Manchester Guardian* of Scotland. Suffrage columns are springing up in all directions, and in London some 40 papers, and amongst them the most influential, describe themselves as editorially sympathetic. These represent papers of all politics, and one leading paper in each party devotes special attention to Woman Suffrage. The *Manchester Guardian*, with its unique reputation at home and abroad for the independence and straightforwardness of its policy, leads the way amongst the Liberal papers in the championship of Woman Suffrage. The *Daily News*, with its enormous circulation and rapid news service, delivering at spots as remote as the Hebrides what is printed in London in the early hours of the morning, has done Woman Suffrage good service during the year by practical support at critical junctures, and by timely warnings to the Government; and editorials of the *Daily Chronicle* have become more distinctly friendly. The *Daily Citizen* and the *Labour Leader* have lately given articulateness to the Suffrage policy of the Labour Party, and have driven it home in the constituencies in a manner which has sensibly increased the difficulties of their opponents.

Amongst the Conservative papers, the *Standard* has taken the lead in affording full space to the meetings and activities of the Constitutional Suffragists, and has thereby stimulated other papers to give prominence to the Women's Movement generally. The *Daily Telegraph* is showing increasing friendliness, and devoting far more space to the discussion of Women's Suffrage than formerly. This forward movement has been met on the Anti-Suffrage side by gloomy complaints of the danger of the "feminisation" of the Press, but there is no sign that the tide will turn, and slowly but quite surely the rest of the papers are being borne along the stream; even the most reactionary, where they cannot support Woman Suffrage, now seek to save appearances by giving prominence to other aspects of the Woman's Movement. In spite of the many questionable methods of attack during the past year, the Anti-Suffrage Press itself has done invaluable service in whipping up not only the women municipal voters, but the women candidates, and in pointing out that a largely increased share in the powers and responsibilities of local government is absolutely necessary to the well-being of the nation. It is amusing to find even the *Pall Mall Gazette* solemnly instructing women in the art of political organisation and electioneering work.

The increased space afforded in the Press would not of itself be a necessary advantage were it not for a corresponding change in the treatment of the subjects connected directly and indirectly with Women's Suffrage. Such vital questions as the relation of the vote and wages, the effect of the vote in the Colonies, the marriage laws, and social evils have been given a prominence, and have been the subject of general discussion throughout the country during the last year or two in a manner which is wholly new. The moving appeal from Mrs. Fawcett that a fitting memorial to Mr. Stead would be the passing of the

Criminal Law Amendment Act, was the prelude of a continuous campaign in the Press while the Bill was before Parliament.

Because Women's Suffrage has been the issue more generally and more persistently before the public than any other question during the year, the pressure in Parliament for reform on all questions connected with women's interests has been strong, and whatever the inconvenience involved to political parties and hostile members in the Cabinet, the Press has no longer been able to shut its eyes to the facts which are being continually presented of the growth of the forces of the movement in the country. It knows that behind a democratic institution such as the National Union, with its unique organisation, its facilities for acquiring information and influence inside the House of Commons and in the constituencies, there is also in progress a process of political education which is almost new in the history of women's organisations. In any case, it cannot ignore as a political factor a powerful organisation of over 42,000 members, increasing at the rate of 1,000 per month, or 12,000 per year. Anti-Suffrage writers, moreover, can no longer represent with impunity the movement for Women's Suffrage as a temporary phase in England proceeding from the enthusiasm of a small minority of women.

The past year has shown not only the recognition by the Press of the growth of the movement in Great Britain, but the significance of its international character. Abroad the latent political power of women has already been tested: the late struggle over the Presidentship in America served to show, as the *Nation* pointed out, that "for the first time in American history the national parties have turned to the great reservoir of electioneering strength which is to be found, not merely in the devotion, but in the competency that women bring to the support of public causes which enlist their sympathies."

From countries as remote as China and Japan word comes that the newspapers welcome news of women's progress in all walks of life, and that the Women's Suffrage movement is being watched by Japanese politicians as proved by Mr. Takagi's reference to the subject in his speech introducing an elective Law Amendment Bill in the Diet on March 4th.

In Europe those who are carrying on the struggle in its earlier stages look to Great Britain to lead the way. It was in the English papers that the Polish women in Chelm made their passionate appeal for sympathy in their protest against dismemberment and persecution. A Russian correspondent lately commenting on the impossibility of finding news of the women's movement in the Russian newspapers owing to rigorous censorship, told us that he looked to the English Press for information. "Your papers are doing a service to our country by publishing news of the movement in Russia, and thereby I consider that they cover themselves with eternal glory. I find nothing of this in Russia." In Serbia, on the outbreak of war, our correspondent wrote of the encouragement she had felt on reading the report of Mrs. Fawcett's speech at the Albert Hall on November 5th, 1912. On the eve of the date of the introduction of the Amendment to the Franchise Bill, messages of sympathy reached the National Union from all parts of the world, and urgent appeals are continually sent from other countries and from the colonies for further information regarding the Constitutional movement in England. We on our side look to the colonies and countries where women have won the vote for current news of the Legislation, and the social ideals which they are promoting.

In the task of furthering legislative reform the Press is our most powerful ally, and if women are successfully to pursue their object of promoting peace, of obtaining political freedom, and better conditions of life, socially and economically, it is essential that their point of view should here, as elsewhere, be represented as widely and internationally as possible. The initial attempts at organising exchange of information and news concerning the Women's Suffrage movement gives some indication of what might be accomplished if women combined to utilise the Press internationally for a fuller representation of the conditions under which they live, and of the methods they are pursuing to improve them. Communications with 20 countries have already been established by the National Union, exchange of news and papers is being organised, and a scheme for the establishment of an International Press Bureau is to be brought forward at the International Congress of the Women's Suffrage Alliance in June.

The task that lies before us during the coming year is no light one. The work is at times overwhelming, and it seems clear that it will increase rapidly. At the moment our energies must be concentrated on the struggle at home. The demand for information from the newspapers, from speakers and from politicians, is so extensive that plans are under consideration for the formation of an Information Bureau. To collect and

utilise the news and material for publication efficient and regular volunteer assistance is required, more expert work, and more funds. In the Federations the Press Secretaries are often hampered for lack of efficient help and equipment. At Headquarters we need funds to develop and specialise in each department of the Press work. At present the demand for material, both from home and abroad, exceeds the supply. The Press in Great Britain in its relation to the interests of women is affording more effective support than it has ever done before, and in this respect it is giving the lead to other countries. It is for us to meet the opportunity with the fullest response possible, and to push forward the work to our utmost capacity both at home and abroad.

Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Meeting at Church House.

A well-attended meeting of the Church League, consisting chiefly of women, was held at the Church House, Westminster, on April 2nd, the subject under discussion being on the White Slave Traffic: an Imperial Responsibility. The Ven. Archdeacon Escreet was in the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. Nott-Bower, Lord Willoughby de Broke, Miss Maud Bell, and the Rev. Claude Hinscliffe (Secretary).

The Archbishop of Canterbury wrote of his anxiety that the White Slave Traffic should be brought to an end, but advised that before pressing for fresh legislation a demonstrative experience of the effective working of the new Act should be awaited.

Archdeacon Escreet said he should be glad to see established a body of women police, whose especial work would be to see to the effective administration of these laws relating to vice.

Mrs. Nott-Bower, with all her experience of rescue work, urged the need for reform in the inclusion of Clause III. in the White Slave Traffic Act, which would recognise as offender the "keeper" of "immoral houses"; laws of affiliation to give justice to the mothers; the raising of the age of consent; the licensing of all registry offices; and stringent investigation of "steamer traffic." She also spoke of the inadequacy of sentences meted out to men for child-assault.

The Rev. Claude Hinscliffe announced the collection, and remarked that the Church League was going ahead, for the spirit of God was with it. It now had 73 branches and 20,000 members, and had been obliged to move into larger buildings. He appealed for money to carry on the work. He thought it was a victory for the Church League that the Bishop of London had consented to put in his diocesan magazine an intercession for the right settlement of the women's question. It was the duty of Church suffragists to create an environment in the Church; it was a disgrace that the Church was not in the van of a movement like the Suffrage.

Lord Willoughby de Broke said the public must be convinced that this traffic existed and needed drastic remedy, and that Parliament must be convinced that fresh inquiry, culminating in fresh legislation, was imperative. The White Slave Traffic should be made an international affair, with England as pioneer to the movement. The White Slave Traffic was a question of economics, and of all concerned in the trade he condemned most the man who draws the dividends. In Chicago, in one year, the net profit was £3,000,000.

Miss Maud Bell told two anecdotes which conveyed convincingly the need of women in the State. She recalled the pioneers in the past from Deborah to Florence Nightingale, and urged all to keep their eyes on the vision of a redeemed England.



Are YOU Sure You are not Paying TOO MUCH TAX TO JOHN BULL?
We have recovered or saved Large Sums for Women Taxpayers.

WHY NOT CONSULT US? IT WILL COST YOU NOTHING.
Women Taxpayers' Agency (Mrs. E. Ayres Purdie)
Hampden House, Kingsway, W.C. Tel. 6049 Central.

MISS L. B. EVETTS, R.H.S. and MISS F. H. GARLICK, R.H.S.
(Trained Swanley Horticultural College.)
Care of Gardens from 7/6 per day. Gardens designed & laid out. ADVISORY WORK.
SPECIALITY made of Pruning: the laying out of herbaceous borders, rock and wall gardens, etc., etc.
Further particulars apply—
28, WATERLOW COURT, HAMPSTEAD WAY, HENDON, N.W.

Work-a-day Women.

I.—Glimpses of Real Life.

The loop-line train pursued its way from one end of "The Five Towns" and their environs to the other. It made a duty call at a northern outpost, where the pit-shafts dotted the country side, and into my compartment came three work-a-day women, looking a little blown and battered with their conflict with the north-east gale. As is the way with village dwellers, they were known to each other, and, as is the way with most of us, their thoughts were much coloured by daily environment.

"This is a strong wind, isn't it?" asked one of the other. "An' I bet you'll feel it where you live, too." (They lived in a colliery village at the top of a hill.)

"Yes," replied the one addressed. "You can't shut our back door with your hands when there's a wind like this. You have to turn round and put your back against it and push with all your might. And when it rains the water pours under the door in a flood. Many a time when the children come down of a winter's morning they put their feet into it; and whenever it rains I always have to mop up bucketsful."

The others looked their understanding of and commiseration of the situation.

"And what about the dirt and dust on a day like this?" demanded one of them. "Can you keep clean? If you never have a brush and duster out of your hand, can you keep clean?"

Both the others made solemn assertions as to the impossibility of "any woman alive" being able to cope with the havoc made by the wind on a day like this. The train had meanwhile transferred us a couple of miles further south, where the pit-shafts were now interspersed with pot-banks. We stopped at the most northern of the "Five Towns," and the women left me. It was market day, and each had a basket or bag.

The vision of their lives, of which they had given me a glimpse, remained. I know that colliery village in which they live, as one knows vitally only one spot—that in which one's own life took root. I know the houses where their daily battle with dirt is waged. The "house-place," about four yards square, door opening on to the village street. A little kitchen beyond, with absurdly inadequate cooking apparatus; back door opening, maybe, on to a tiny tiled yard or, quite as likely, on to an open waste, exposed to the bleak country side and the pit brows. Imagine the wind sweeping through, leaving in its trail clouds of dirt and coal-shag, covering the beds, the table, the clothes, the cupboard shelves—the food! No, verily, a woman could not cope adequately with housing conditions such as these, though she were a ministering angel from Heaven, and not a mere human woman of the earth.

The train stopped again, and here was my temporary destination. The cruel wind swept round every corner of every mean street, taking its tribute of pot-bank dust under every cottage doorway, and as I took my way from one part of the town to the other I fell a-thinking again of the war of women with dirt, and realised afresh the impossibility of individual women, in individual homes, dealing with so huge and vital a problem as this. To settle this, in which is woven the health and well-being of the race, women will have to act together, in association. This is pre-eminently their problem. Oh, for the power to deal with it! Turning a corner, I saw a woman approaching. Mutual recognition followed.

"Well, Mrs. —," I said. "How are you—and how's Polly?"

Mrs. — forgot to mention herself in her haste to tell me about Polly.

"Oh," said she, "she's got it over—three weeks ago—a boy." Her face beamed with satisfaction, which, however, was soon overshadowed by another thought. "She was bad—awful bad. But she's better now."

"Well?" I asked, in answer to the shadow on her face. She knew, and I knew, that there was more behind. She came close to me and whispered something. Neither she nor I was surprised at the news—the doom pronounced by the doctor in attendance could have been foretold by ourselves. But she was the girl's mother, and mothers cannot reconcile themselves without a struggle to the destruction of the life which has drawn its life from them. I understood, and she knew it. But what is there to say when one comes straight up against the tragedy of a lacerated mother's heart?

"Well," I said, after a pause. "Go and get your paper (certificate of incapacity from certifying surgeon). I'll be here when you come back." She went, surreptitiously wiping her eye on the corner of her apron. Presently she returned, no longer shrinking under her load of woe, but with the light of battle in her eye. I looked enquiringly.

"He asked if it was not time Polly was coming for her own

paper!" said she, indignantly. "And I said, 'She will as soon as she can walk again.' . . . 'It's a pity she got married,' he said. And I said, 'What else was there for her to do when she fell on compensation? The 5s. 4d. a week won't keep her, and I'm a widow, with four other children not working. How could I keep her? I miss her wages bad enough—even though she did only get 11s. a week. She had to get married to get kept, that's what she had to do!' " The apron went up to her eyes, and the sobs shook her.

"Never mind," I said. "You weren't afraid of him, anyhow—you told him the truth."

Smiles shone through her tears. "Yes," she said. "What does he know about keeping a family on what you can get for washing?"

She left me, and as I went on my way thoughts of her and the girl filled my mind. I had known them nearly two years—ever since the girl contracted lead-poisoning. I saw again the bonnie girl, who had not then lost all traces of the buoyancy and health of her childhood, of which her mother had told me. But even then the girl was developing a cough, and the doctors said there was lung trouble. The little cottage was always full of steam and soapy odours, for the mother's work had to go on all the week in order to earn enough to keep the children. The steam made the girl cough, and the atmosphere was, of course, the worst possible for her. Then came a visit to a sanatorium. How much we hoped from that! The people at the chapel—for she is a "good-living" girl—and others were all kind, and helped in different ways, and I heard of "the young man" accompanying her on a portion of the journey.

She came back better. But the home conditions have been too much for her, and she has lapsed—that and the deadly poison which she took into her system whilst earning her 11s. a week. Then I heard of the marriage, and my last memory of them, before this encounter, was of the girl, now soon to be a mother, struggling with her cough in the steamy atmosphere, not made any more wholesome by the rain which was pouring down the walls and making a little pool in one corner of the room; the ever-cheerful mother at her wash-tubs, and the shy young man sitting in another corner. He had come to live here as a matter of course, because her mother could not keep going without even the little help which the girl's compensation means; and he, loving the girl, wanted to help, and this was the obvious way to help best—or so it seemed to them.

How dare we women, whose lines are not cast where the shadows are so deep, judge the conduct of women whose whole lives call for a constant exercise of heroism? Rather should we resolve to treat the problem of downtrodden womanhood like the woman who shut her door against the north wind—we should turn round and "put our backs against it." But this door—the door opening on to want and misery and injustice—cannot be shut by one woman's efforts. We must stand all together, and refuse to tolerate a world where women's lives are so cheap.

ADA NIELD CHEW.

The Tea-Shop Girl.

The *Woman's Industrial News* for this month contains the result of an inquiry undertaken by the Women's Industrial Council as to the life and conditions of the tea-shop girl. This report, written by Miss Barbara Drake, is of especial interest in that it is a revelation of the type of girl who is making her livelihood by aid of "the friendly tea-shop," as well as of her ideas and her ideals. The place of the tea-shop girl in the social scale, it is found, is somewhat difficult to fix. "More refined than the factory girl, she is said to be a degree less educated than the shop assistant, and a degree more independent than the domestic servant. The type varies, however, with that of the customer she serves."

One of Miss Drake's most interesting discoveries is that the tea-shop attendant is, "without exception, a marrying girl." But, in spite of the perils of the position, where tips and "treating" by men customers are the rule, the tea-shop girl seems rarely to lose her self-respect, and we learn that "comparatively few girls come to grief altogether. The waitress is little known to the rescue worker."

On the whole, the lot of the tea-shop girl is hard, though not unhappy, and in the debonair atmosphere of a tea-room where the physical well-being of the assistant is "an important commercial asset to the employer," the waitress could hardly reach the level of wretchedness of the workers in the various branches of sweated women's industry. Again, the young waitress is seldom out of employment, but the great drawback of her profession is that her career is soon cut short; she is too old at thirty, and "the effort of the older woman to maintain her position is indeed one of the pathetic episodes of the trade."

Miss Drake has no very serious indictments to bring against the employers; her main protests are against the long hours customary in this work; the badly served and badly cooked dinner which is too frequently provided by the firm and financed by a weekly compulsory reduction of 1s. 6d. from the employee's wages; the "rush" in which the mid-day meal perforce is eaten; and the deduction from wages for breakages.

She points out how the Shop Hours Act has somewhat alleviated the burden of long hours, but shows how this piece of legislation is powerless to reduce the grievance when a tea-shop is open also on Sundays, since "a full-time holiday or another day instead is not the general rule." She suggests that the full three-quarters of an hour laid down in the Shop Hours Act should be observed with greater strictness than at present, and comments "deductions for breakages, etc., should be altogether abolished. Wear and tear of this kind belong to the normal depreciation of tea-shop machinery, and should not therefore be charged to employees."

Her conclusions are that: "The employer in the tea-shop trade takes advantage of the attractions of the tea-shop for the type of girl whom he desires to employ to secure a good class of labour at less than a market rate. From her youth, and from the want of forethought characteristic of her kind, the waitress is unable to protect herself. The kitchen girl and the washer-up, for other reasons common to the unskilled trades, stand in a no less weak position. The one as the other requires the protection which is afforded by the Trade Boards Act to the sweated worker. Nor are the suggestions made by the present writer in advance of the best conditions already obtaining with certain firms. A minimum wage of 15s. to 17s. for a 55 hours' week is in truth a modest demand for the women workers of a trade from which shareholders reap dividends to the amazing figure of 30 and 40 per cent."

Campaign in East Fife.

We have received the following communication from Miss Alice Crompton (Post Office, Leven, Fife):—

Ever since the beginning of his Parliamentary career Mr. Asquith has taken his seat in the Commons as Member for East Fife. In this constituency it is, of course, of the first importance that the electorate, bound so closely to their representative, should be roused to a realisation of the importance of enfranchising women, and should show their Member clearly where their wishes lie. To this end, the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies is planning a "Suffrage fortnight," on the scale and in the style of an election campaign, between Thursday, April 24th, and Wednesday, May 7th, inclusive. Two or three meetings will be held daily in halls and out of doors, and help has been already promised by the following speakers:—Miss Muriel Matters, Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., Miss Lumsden, LL.D., Miss Geraldine Cooke, Miss Alice Low, Mrs. Aldersley, Miss Alice Crompton, Mrs. Marnicol, L.R.C.P.S., and others. The societies in Leven, Cupar, Tayside, and St. Andrews are giving an enthusiastic welcome to the promoters of the campaign, and are proffering help generously.

The sinews of war are to some extent forthcoming in a grant of £50 made by the National Union and an unsolicited gift of £10 by an English sympathiser. A larger sum, however, can be profitably made use of if the campaign is to be carried out as effectively as possible. By means of motor-cars—but only by this means—the countryside can be thoroughly scoured. And the hire of motor-cars—as electioneers well know—is a very costly business! Hospitality, money, loan of cars, names and addresses of sympathisers, personal work—offers of all or any of these will be most heartily welcome, and it is hoped that many Suffragists will be glad of an opportunity of helping to fly the flag in the Prime Minister's own constituency.

There is practically no Labour organisation in the division, and probably no chance of forming one. The Unionist candidate is not a strong enough Suffragist to be supported; so the campaigners will preach the general principles of Women's Suffrage and make the political situation clear, so that the electors of East Fife may be persuaded to exert pressure for the obtaining of a Government measure.

At this "choice time of year" the Kingdom of Fife is an attractive enough region to visit. "A study in black and white" it has been called, from its connection with the coal and linen industries. But this description applies rather to its western than its eastern half. In the east, agricultural and fishing interests predominate, and no pleasanter places can be found in Scotland than the little towns of Cupar, Elie, St. Monans, Crail, and Anstruther. Who will come over and help us?

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



THE FASHION FOR DRAPED WRAPS

We have now in stock a charming variety of smart Theatre, Restaurant and Carriage Wraps, of which the garment illustrated is an example. All these Wraps are exact copies of the most exclusive Paris Models. They are made in the richest qualities of soft Tinsel Brocades, Moires, Crepe de Chines, and other soft silks, and are suitable for smart Afternoon or Evening wear. The Prices range from 59/6 to 35 gns.

DAINTY EVENING WRAP (as Sketch), in best quality soft dull satin, in black and all fashionable colours, perfect shape and finish,
159/6

The same Wrap in new reversible corded silks. In black and new colourings.
78/6

Debenham & Freebody

Wigmore Street,
 (Cavendish Square) London, W.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

A SPRING FAIR

Will be held in RECTORY ROAD CONGREGATIONAL LECTURE HALL,
 Stoke Newington, N.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, APRIL 17th and 18th.

To be opened on Thursday at 3 o'clock by COUNTESS BRASSEY. And on Friday at 3 o'clock by Mrs. W. HAMMER (55c-Mayress of Hackney). Frequent Entertainments during Afternoon and Evening. Dramatic Performances by the Actresses' Franchise League. Concert under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Howe. Songs by Miss Floriel Florean (Celebrated Taal Singer). Jenkins' Premier Mandoline Band. Old English Dances. Silhouette Portraits by Baron Scottford. Psychic Delineations. ADMISSION FREE.

Typewriting and Shorthand.

(Miss Mildred Ransom.)

Educated Women trained as Private Secretaries.
 Careful attention given to each pupil.

Second-hand Typewriters bought and sold.

Meetings reported; MSS accurately copied. First-class work.

195-197, EDGWARE ROAD, LONDON, W.
 Telephone - - 6302 Paddington.

USE OUR COAL, PLEASE!

Silkstone 27/-	Roaster Nuts 23/-
Best Household 25/6	Large Kitchen 22/6
Special House 25/-	Stove Coal 21/6
Best Nuts 24/6	Anthracite Nuts 40/-

Coke, per Chaldron, 15/-

Order your supplies early from

WILLIAM CLARKE & SON.

341, GRAY'S INN ROAD, KING'S CROSS, W.C.
 95, QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.
 3, GREAT CENTRAL OFFICES, NEASDEN, N.W.
 Telephones: 8656, 1592 and 2718 North, 565 Paddington, &c.

DELIVERIES ANYWHERE—ALMOST.

Correspondence.

"GOVERNMENT CANDIDATES."

Madam,

Mrs. Haverfield's letter in THE COMMON CAUSE of March 28th does not, I think, raise any point which was not debated at length at the Council meeting. This convinces me that there are, in fact, no new points (except one made by Mrs. Lindsay) to be raised and nothing to be gained by continuing the discussion.

Mrs. Lindsay, however, contends that the present Government cannot rightly be described as "Anti-Suffrage," and I should like to explain why, to me, this seems the only just description of its attitude.

There are only two ways by which legislation can proceed: (1) A private Member's Bill; (2) a Government measure. The Government, led by Mr. Asquith, has made (1) impossible and refuses (2). There is no third way open to us; consequently the Government must be regarded as Anti-Suffrage.

Mrs. Lindsay, it is true, claims some Suffrage merit for the Cabinet, because the Prime Minister offered us a perfectly worthless substitute for a very real advantage. But I can hardly believe that she really takes so despairing a view of political morality as to assume that the Prime Minister could give a solemn promise and then repudiate it, without even an attempt to seem to redeem it. Must we suppose that even this faint attempt was not due to Mr. Asquith's regard for his own honour, but to pressure from Suffrage ministers? I do not think that either the Prime Minister or the House of Commons would be quite so cynically dishonest as this suggests, but I do think that the utter worthlessness of the proposed "facilities" proves that the Government is Anti-Suffrage and that our friends in the Cabinet are (at present) powerless to help us.

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

THE NATIONAL UNION AND MILITANCY.

Madam,

I cannot understand why the National Union Suffrage Societies should complicate their position, and damage the cause of Suffrage, by criticising the legal tribunals, whose business it is to sentence all law breakers who come before them, or the prison authorities, whose duties are also strictly defined. Our duty, as Suffrage Societies, is to conduct an educational campaign to spread a desire among women for the vote. We condemn militancy as our greatest enemy, as disastrous both directly and indirectly. Why is our organ, THE COMMON CAUSE, shunting on to a side line and devoting most of last week's columns to condemnation of forcible feeding? By so doing it is justifying, in appearance, the widespread belief that we sympathise secretly with militancy, and only pretend to rebuke it gently in an insincere fashion, if at all. Woman Suffrage suffers seriously from this belief, and yet THE COMMON CAUSE has, apparently, put that cause aside for a time and thrown in its lot with an individual who knows exactly what she is doing and does not want our assistance.

It is, in principle, as if a member of the Fabian Society became a warm defender of an Anarchist who has dragged down Socialism by assassinating an unoffending Judge, who is merely an arm of the law. Mr. McKenna cannot create new laws—he is bound hand and foot by laws in his character of Home Secretary, as are also prison doctors. But apart from the merits, may I, as a member, ask that our Society be not dragged into a discussion which is altogether outside the objects of the Society, and that we leave the treatment of prisoners and the defending of militants to other papers?

H. SOPHIA STANGER.

Fennard House, New Brighton.

[THE COMMON CAUSE protests, and will continue to protest, against all forms of cruelty, and all abuse of power, whether committed by legislators, judges, or Suffragists. That section of the public which expects us to approve of these things must endure to be disappointed.—ED. C.C.]

THE SINEWS OF WAR.

Madam,

I suppose the question that is agitating all the keen members of our National Union at present is how we can each individually help in the raising of the sinews of war for the strenuous campaign upon which we are starting afresh since our last Council meeting with renewed courage and ardour. Now, many of us are not able to give large donations, but it might be possible, with a little self-denial, to give regularly a small monthly sum.

It has occurred to me that some of us might combine and form a league of those Suffragists who would be willing either

to give or collect 10s. a month. If a hundred people promised 10s., that would mean the handing into our treasury of £50 a month. I would be willing to start this league by promising £1 a month if 98 others would undertake 10s. I would also gladly receive the money each month and hand it over to our N.U. Treasurer. We might call ourselves by some particular pseudonym, under which our united contribution could be published in THE COMMON CAUSE. This arrangement would save infinite trouble to Headquarters. "But, Madam," I hear some of your readers say, "already they give to suffrage as much as they can spare"—well, perhaps that is sometimes the case, but let us all ask ourselves if there is anything else we can give up for a time for the sake of our great cause. Is there no little luxury we can do without? No saving to be effected out of our dress allowance? We are all going to have a good time by and by when we have won our fight, but let us remember that, at present, we are soldiers on active service and we must not mind the hardships which must inevitably come to those who are in the fighting line—and so I appeal to readers of THE COMMON CAUSE and hope many of them will write to me and promise to be one of the monthly contributors. And I should like some one to suggest a name under which our contributions could be sent.

KATHERINE M. HARLEY
(Ex-Committee N.U.W.S.S.)

Election Fighting Fund.

We wish this week to make one more appeal for funds for the Houghton Election, in spite of the fact that it ended some weeks ago. The election was a long one, and the expenses were even more than correspondingly heavy, so that our first estimate did not hold good.

The total amount of donations received in response to the special appeals in THE COMMON CAUSE was £196 13s., the contributions for motor-cars being especially generous. This leaves a balance of £155 18s. to be paid out of the ordinary Election Fighting Funds. Our hope that the special contributions might cover the entire cost of the election has, therefore, not been realised. But there is still time before the accounts are finally closed to make up the deficit, and we are therefore asking our friends to come forward with the necessary sum. By so doing they will leave the ordinary funds free for the important work of preparing for the General Election, which is already demanding all our available resources, and for the special calls which we must be ready to meet at any moment.

Contributions.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	521	0	1
Received since March 31st:—			
Miss C. B. Thresher	1	1	0
Miss M. Brinton (2nd donation)	1	0	0
Miss Eve (2nd donation)	1	0	0
Miss A. Mitton (2nd donation)	0	5	0
Miss F. Mitton (2nd donation)	0	5	0
Mrs. Percy Thompson (in memory of Sidney Gilchrist Thomas, 2nd instalment)	40	0	0
A Norwegian Sympathiser	0	5	6
Houghton-le-Spring By-Election.			
Anonymous (for motor cars)	42	9	0
	£5,393	5	7

Iron Jelloids

For Anæmia and Weakness.

DR. ANDREW WILSON writes: "It can be definitely stated that Iron 'Jelloids' constitute the most effective and desirable treatment for 'anæmia.' The sufferer is able to take Iron 'Jelloids' with pleasure, and with the sure knowledge that benefit will accrue."

No. 1, for Children; No. 2, for Adults, Women and Men: No. 3, (containing Quinine), Special Tonic for Men. Price 1/1d. and 2/9 per box. Of all chemists, or direct of THE JELLOID CO. (Dept. 178 J. T.), 76, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.

the Dainty Tonic

The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage.

Who are the

Women Who Want the Vote?

The women who think, and the women who work! That is to say, the "ordinary women," for most women have to work, and working leads to thinking, if it is not too hard.

Some people think it is only a few rich and idle women who are asking for the Suffrage, but we can show that this is not true. Nearly all the great women's societies have passed resolutions asking for the Vote, and these Societies are made up of "women who think, and women who work."

The Women's Co-operative Guild

wants the vote, and it represents the opinion of the ablest working-women in the country—especially the married working-women. Its members are Suffragists, not because they hate men (they wouldn't have married if they did!), but because they have learned, inside their own Guild, that rights and duties have to go together, or duties won't be properly fulfilled. They *can't* be! How could these Co-operative women manage the affairs of the Guild except by votes? Would it be the fault of any member who hadn't a vote if things went wrong and money was wasted or mis-spent? And when things go well, and you have the magnificent work of the Guild as a result, hasn't every woman who helped to build it up a right to feel proud of it as partly *her* work? The Co-operative women know this, and they think

The State is More Important even than the Guild.

They would like to lend a hand there, too, and they think that rights and duties should go together.

The British Women's Temperance Association,

composed of women of all classes, wants the vote, too. These women number 150,000 in England and Wales, and 42,000 in Scotland, and the large majority are Suffragists. They are "ordinary women," and they know the tragedy that drink has made in many an "ordinary woman's" life. They know that intemperance leads to

Cruelty and Impurity;

and they know that, in most cases, it

Comes from Bad Homes.

Bad houses that no care can make healthy, filthy slums, adulterated food that no cooking can make wholesome, over-worked mothers, neglected children,

all these help to swell the drink-bill of Great Britain, and the women want to deal with all these things. They don't want to neglect their homes, but to have better ones, and for this they want better Housing Laws. They don't want to neglect their children, but to cherish them, and for this they want more intelligent laws about children, about education, and about mothers. They know that drink makes misery and misery makes drink, and so they want temperance reform, and they ask for votes in order to help it on.

The National Union of Women Workers, and the National Federation of Women Workers, want the vote. These great Societies are not made up of "political women" or "hysterical women," or "women who want to get into the newspapers"; but of women who know

The Difficulties of the Working Women's Life,

or who have given service to the public in

Local Government

on Boards of Guardians, on Care Committees, as Managers of Schools, on Education Committees, Parish Councils, and even City and County Councils, and who therefore

Know the Weak Points

of the laws they have to administer. These, too, by large majorities, are asking that women may have the vote.

The Suffrage movement is not really just

A Political Agitation.

It is a great human need. The vast mass of women who are working for the vote are

Not Politicians at all.

They have come to see the need of the Suffrage because they have been

Doing Other Work

in their homes or in the world, and they know what women have suffered because of bad or stupid laws.

If these women were just "silly and rich," as some say, they wouldn't need the vote for themselves, and they would be too silly to understand the needs of other women.

It Takes Sense

to know what sufferings other people have to bear, and it is Sensible Women, whether poor or rich, who want the vote to help them

To do Better Work.

In Parliament.

THE PRISONERS (TEMPORARY DISCHARGE FOR ILL-HEALTH) BILL. On Wednesday, April 2nd, Mr. McKenna's Bill passed its Second Reading. The debate was characterised by an almost complete lack of hope that anything effective would result from it. Practically everyone admitted that forcible feeding was "torture," or at least "a most objectionable practice," but the Bill empowers the Home Secretary to resort to it "where necessary."

Mr. McCurdy spoke at some length on the motives and character of militant Suffragists, and was finally ordered to resume his seat. Mr. Keir Hardie moved an amendment calling on the Premier to "redeem his pledge" by accepting responsibility for "any Women's Suffrage Bill which passes its Second Reading by a free vote in the House of Commons." His speech and that of Mr. David Mason alone went to the root of the matter by realising that injustice provokes, though it does not justify, disorder.

The Bill was criticised by Sir A. Cripps and Mr. Atherley Jones, on the grounds of faulty jurisprudence. The latter complained of its uncertain action, as a violation of the spirit of British law, the operation of which should be certain, and not capricious. Mr. MacCallum Scott, later in the debate, unconsciously endorsed the criticism by urging that women should not be let out and fetched back for an indefinite period—not for 20 years, in any case!

Lord Robert Cecil recommended deportation, and reported, though he "hardly liked to repeat it," that he had in consequence been said to be "just as bad as McKenna." He did not explain why it was better for women to commit suicide in some more remote spot than Holloway, but Lord Wolmer, who (alone) supported him, said that it was impossible to do anything with "a set of lunatics." Lord Wolmer asserted that the Bill provided for "torture" quite as real as forcible feeding, and found the release and re-arrest of prisoners "a most disgusting idea." His speech probably reflects a very large section of public opinion.

Mr. MacCallum Scott pins futile hopes to the ultimate breakdown of the prisoner.

There voted on Mr. Hardie's amendment—

For.	Against.
8	333

And for the Bill (Second Reading)—

For.	Against.
296	43

The Bill went into Committee on Tuesday.

RURAL COTTAGES BILL.—On Friday, April 4th, Mr. Fletcher moved that a Second Reading be given to his Bill. The debate that followed was remarkable for two things—the almost universal admission that the housing of our rural population was a national disgrace, and the entire lack of interest in the question shown by the large majority of our rulers. At one time the House was almost counted out. There is, of course, no chance for a private Member's Bill on such a thorny subject, but a full House and a real debate would have done something to persuade the Government to act. The question deeply interests women, who will accordingly observe with interest that—

Mr. Outhwaite was afraid the Bill might benefit the landlords.

Mr. Raffan thought it clear that the parties would not cooperate on the subject, as some wished to reward and some to punish the landlords, though he knew of cottages in Cornwall "with ten and eleven people living in two and three-roomed cottages," and one parish in which there was "not a single house that was habitable."

Mr. Jowett pleaded that if the poor could be given "decent conditions," and could see that "here is something to fight for," they would "fight to maintain that standard."

Mr. Burns' attitude was one of blank refusal. "Private enterprise" was already doing all that could be done, and he was anxious to help, not to hinder, that.

Constant reference was made to what had been achieved in Ireland, but no explanation offered as to why it was impossible to do as much for England. Except that, according to Mr. Burns, conditions were not bad enough here to make such help necessary.

Sir Frederick Banbury does not wish to legislate for better housing in England, and regrets that it was done in Ireland. To help "people living in mud huts, hovels, amongst dirt, subject to disease, living under most degrading and demoralising conditions" (Mr. Burns' description of the Irish peasantry) was "giving sugar to spoilt children," and he did not desire to see the spoiling process repeated in England.

Foreign News.

Belgium.

Belgium, at the present time, has universal manhood suffrage with an additional vote for property, the family and a certain standard of education. The Socialists are demanding the abolition of the plural vote, and manhood suffrage for all above 21. The Roman Catholic party, which has the majority, declines to alter the franchise, and in particular refuses to consider manhood suffrage without the inclusion of any women. It, however, alleges various reasons for not taking steps to enfranchise women. The situation is complicated and not apparently very hopeful for the women, though there seems some prospect of their obtaining a measure of municipal suffrage, a step in the right direction, if it is achieved.

News from The United States.

Such various reports reached England concerning the great procession at Washington on March 3rd that we have waited for the official account in the *Woman's Journal* before giving any report of the events. They are thus summed up in the opening words: "Washington has been disgraced. Equal suffrage has scored a great victory. Thousands of indifferent women have been aroused. Influential men are incensed, and the United States Senate demands an investigation of the treatment given the suffragists at the National Capital."

We had heard that there was to be a great procession of 10,000 women; this was to take the form of a pageant, and beautiful dresses and groups had been designed. Everything had been done to make the parade a huge success, everything except the one thing suffragists were powerless to provide for themselves—the co-operation of the police. The suffragists were ready, the whole procession started down Pennsylvania Avenue, when the police protection that had been promised failed them, and a disgraceful scene followed. The crowd surged into the space which had been marked off for the paraders, and the leaders of the suffrage movement were compelled to push their way through a mob of the worst element of Washington and the vicinity.

It appears that the police authorities opposed every attempt to have a suffrage parade at all. As they had been refused a place in the Inaugural Procession, the suffragists resolved to have a parade of their own. First they were told they might have a procession, but they must not march along Pennsylvania Avenue, but must confine themselves to the side streets. With difficulty they succeeded in winning permission to march along the Avenue and to have the traffic stopped for them. All seemed satisfactory at last, but the police had never meant the women to succeed. They never made the slightest attempt to clear the road for them, but stood by with folded arms and grinned while the women were insulted and abused. Some of the suffragists were compelled to drive their motors down the Avenue to separate the crowds and enable the paraders to pass. Finally, assistance was called from Fort Mayer, and mounted soldiers drove back the crowd so that a straggling line of marchers could pass through. The onlookers were disappointed of a great part of the brilliancy of the scene, and naturally were full of indignation at the treatment of the women. As a result Congress has ordered an investigation. The *Journal* points the lesson afforded by this outrage. "Once again the whole country has been forced to see how much more effective is the little ballot, the mark of citizenship, than is the much-talked-of chivalry of our lawful protectors."

The leader calls it an object lesson, and says: "All things work together for the good of equal suffrage. If the pageant procession had been allowed to sweep along Pennsylvania Avenue unmolested in the full pride of its peaceful beauty, it would not have made half so many converts as have been made by the disgraceful treatment it received from the hoodlums, with the consent and encouragement of the Washington police. . . . Good men and women are divided as to woman suffrage, but the vicious elements are solidly against it. That significant and sinister fact was emphasised anew on this occasion, and in a way which has impressed it on the whole nation."

Jaeger Fine Pure Wool Under and Outer Wear is eminently safe. Clothed in it one can defy the vagaries of the weather and always feel comfortable. Illustrated Price List sent free. London:—126, Regent Street; 456, Strand; 102, Kensington High Street; 30, Sloane Street; 115, Victoria Street; 85 and 86, Cheapside.—(Adv't.)

Notes from Headquarters

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
 President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
 Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. D. COURTNEY, MISS O. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary), MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press), MISS I. B. O'MALLEY (Literature).
 Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUERRACH.
 Secretary: MISS CROOKENDEN.
 Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Press Department.

During the past year many hundreds of papers have been overlooked and supplied with news from Headquarters and from the Press Secretaries of the National Union. The circulation of the current news to the London and provincial papers, and of the weekly notes, is in itself a heavy task, but, in addition to these, there is now an extended demand for exchange of news with foreign papers.

As the Press in England becomes more favourable, the demand for information increases on all sides, a fuller collection of material becomes necessary, and enquiries become more numerous, increasing the business in the office and extending the work of writing and typing. The news which has been provided by the National Union during the year has been widely and generally circulated, and the articles which have been supplied have appeared in many of the leading papers in London and in the provinces. The excellent work of the Federation Press Secretaries can be seen in an overwhelming increase of Press cuttings, and in the amount of valuable information which they provide. At Headquarters the extended scope for propaganda in the Press necessitates more regular assistance to deal efficiently with the writing which is required, with the organisation of work, with advertising, and with the foreign correspondence.

From many of the Federations come appeals for workers. We need them also at Headquarters in the Press Department, and there is abundant work for all; but, above all, we need the funds to meet the increased demand for journalistic work, and to carry out the plans for developing our schemes on the lines which are essential, if full advantage is to be taken of the opportunities which the Press is opening out to us. It is for these reasons that we make an urgent appeal for donations and subscriptions, that we may adapt ourselves without delay to new conditions and make the work already undertaken, and which necessitates fresh expenditure, more effective in the future.
 E. M. LEAF.

Reception to Mrs. Chapman Catt.

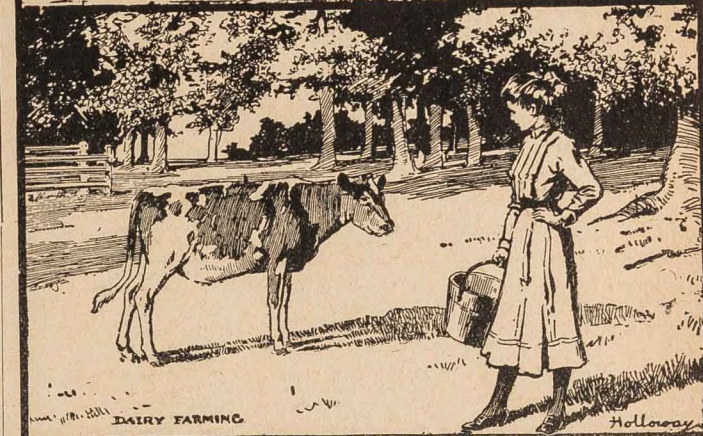
A reception is being arranged by the National Union, on May 7th, in honour of Mrs. Chapman Catt, who is arriving in England on April 29th, en route to the International Congress at Buda-Pesth. The reception will be held at Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, for which tickets (5s.) can be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1912... £1,671 16 6
 Received April 1st to 7th:—

	Subscriptions.	Donations.	Affiliation Fees.
Mrs. Richardson	1 1 0		
Miss Rice	0 5 0		
Miss M. S. Knight	0 1 0		
Mrs. Reynolds	2 0 0		
Mrs. Aubrey Dowson	1 0 0		
Mrs. Forrester	0 5 0		
Miss Tillard	0 2 0		
Mrs. Paul	0 2 0		
Mr. Werner Rolfe		5 0 0	
Mrs. Aubrey Dowson (towards Organisers' salaries)		0 10 0	
Wakefield W.S.S.			2 5 0
W. Hartlepool W.S.S.			0 15 0
Merthyr and District W.S.S.			1 4 6
Chester-le-Street W.S.S.			0 7 6
Ackworth W.S.S.			0 7 0
Winchester W.S.S. (additional)			0 9 6
			£1,687 11 0

CANADA FOR WOMEN



The opportunities for women in Canada in every branch of life are fully described in a new edition of the pamphlet "Canada for Women," issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway. Write to-day for a copy, which will gladly be sent post free.

Canadian Pacific Railway,
 62-65, CHARING CROSS, LONDON, S.W.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.
Public Meeting at Caxton Hall,
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH, AT 3.30 P.M.
 Speakers: Mrs. COBDEN SANDERSON and Mrs. NOTT BOWER.
 Chairman: Mrs. HUNTSMAN.
 ADMISSION FREE.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB,
 3, YORK STREET, St. James's, S.W.
 The Club has been formed as a Social Club for
MEN AND WOMEN
 interested in the Suffrage Movement.
 CONSTANT LECTURES ARRANGED.
 There are only a few vacancies remaining for Founder members at £1 1s. 0d. subscription and no entrance fee.
 EARLY APPLICATION ADVISABLE.
 The Board of Management have decided to reserve a few Bedrooms for Lady Members wishing to make a prolonged stay in the club.
 INCLUSIVE TERMS FROM 25s. WEEKLY.
 Further particulars—Secretary.

THE MARCHERS "QUI VIVE" CORPS.
 A march, led by MRS. DE FOYBLANQUE, will be made on BRIGHTON by the Marchers "Qui Vive" Corps on May 15th. The Corps will start from the Depot, 60, West Street, HORSHAM, and march by way of HENFIELD, halting there for one night.
 All suffragists and friends of the Woman's Cause are cordially invited to rally in Horsham on May 14th at 11 a.m., or to join the ranks en route.
 Marchers are asked to defray their own expenses, and offers of hospitality for them along the route are invited.
 As this campaign of "Marches" is to be continued throughout the summer months, donations towards the expenses in connection with it are urgently needed.
 Uniform is optional, but a few uniforms may be hired. Colours: brown and green.
 All enquiries may be addressed—
 MISS A. N. ROFF, Easebourne, Midhurst, Sussex.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods

CHARLTON

53, Manchester Street, W.
(West Side of Wallace Collection).
Lingerie and Blouse Showroom:
1, Lower Seymour Street, W.

Court Gowns. Evening Gowns. Day Gowns. Coats & Skirts. Lingerie.



Trousseaux.

Telephone 1916
Mayfair.

PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONOLOGUES,
Dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement,
3d. and 6d.

For Drawing-rooms, Platforms or Stage purposes.
Descriptive List (2d.) free on application.
ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE,
2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

WOMEN FOR WOMEN.
The Women's Tea Co. (Gibbons Sisters),
9, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.
Will send to all Bazaars and Suffrage Shops
on Sale or Return.

Tea (13 kinds) .. 1s. 3d.—2s. 6d. per lb.
Coffee (5 kinds) .. 1s. 4d.—1s. 10d. ..
Cocoa (3 kinds) .. 1s. 6d.—2s. ..
Chocolates (20 kinds) 2s. —4s. 6d. ..

SPECIAL OFFER to our Readers of a 5/6 Fountain Pen for 3/6. **THE COMMON CAUSE** Safety Non-Leakable Fountain Pen, solid 14-carat gold nib, can be carried in any position; admirably suited for ladies' use. The pens are packed in boxes printed in our colours. Send P.O. for 3/8 (2d. being for postage), to the Manager, **COMMON CAUSE**, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. (State whether fine, medium, or broad nib is required.)

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

Our readers are earnestly requested to support the Advertisers in the paper. Only firms of the highest repute are accepted by us, and if all readers will deal exclusively with them, it will materially help *The Common Cause*.

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

Irish Notes.

Last week Miss Helen Fraser addressed a series of meetings arranged by the Irishwomen's Reform League. On April 1st she spoke in the Town Hall, Kingstown, and on the 2nd in Dublin, where the Rev. Savell Hicks was also a speaker. On the 3rd and 4th she held country meetings in Co. Wicklow, one at Balinglass (indoors) and one at Dunlavin (in the open air). All Miss Fraser's audiences were impressed by her logical and forcible presentation of the suffrage position, and in the country places, where the ground was quite untrodden her work must have had an educational value which will be more fully realised in the future. Miss Fraser is spending this week in the North, whence she will proceed to the South of Ireland.

Meeting at Horsehay.

Under the auspices of the Wellington (Salop) Branch, a most successful meeting was held at Horsehay. The speaker was Mrs. Ring, of Birmingham. The Rev. F. Smith was the chairman, and expressed himself most decisively in support of the proposition before the meeting—"That this meeting believes that the enfranchisement of duly qualified women is for the national welfare." After Mrs. Ring's speech the proposition was put to the meeting and carried by a very large majority. This was all the more encouraging as it was the first Suffrage meeting held at Horsehay.

Suffrage Discussion at Godalming.

A crowded meeting was held in the Town Hall on April 2nd, at 8 p.m., the Mayor in the Chair. The speakers were Miss Ogilvy, T.C., the Lady Betty Bellour, Miss Hay Cooper, Miss Dorothy Hunter, Sir William Chance, the Rev. A. H. Fletcher, the Rev. A. E. N. Simms, and the Hon. Arthur Davey. Each answered one anti-suffragist argument, the following subjects being discussed:—"The Vote would not raise Women's Wages," "Women are unfitted for Politics," "If Women had the Vote, they would lose Men's Consideration and Chivalry," "Women's Suffrage is contrary to the Spirit of St. Paul's Teaching," "Women must not be given Votes on account of Militancy," "Women are not imperially minded," "Women do not want the Vote," "Women cannot fight, so must not vote." A resolution demanding a Government measure was carried by an overwhelming majority; it is being sent to the local M.P. and to all members of the Cabinet. A collection realised nearly £5. Local residents are convinced that solid educational work was done at this meeting.

Revolted Liberal Women.

At the Annual Meeting of the Leicester Women's Liberal Association, the resignations of the President, Miss Gittins, the Ex. Hon. Secretary, Miss Patey, and twelve other members of the Executive Committee, were announced, in consequence of the action of the Government with regard to women's suffrage. A resolution to disband the Association was defeated by one vote only.

Scottish Women's Liberal Federation.

The Council of the Scottish Women's Liberal Federation on March 14th passed the following resolution unanimously:—"That this Council regards with deepest disappointment the failure of the promised facilities for women's suffrage amendments to the Government Franchise Bill. It protests that the facilities now offered are an inadequate compensation for the pledge of the Prime Minister, and while resolving to use every opportunity given to the best advantage, it records the belief that only a Government measure will now serve to bring this reform into law."

List of Societies in the N.U.W.S.S.

We have received the following corrections and additions to the List of Societies published in **COMMON CAUSE**, April 4th:—
J. Leek is no longer a separate Society, but a branch of Stoke-on-Trent.
J. Lichfield—Secretary, Miss M. C. Hodson, 26, Dam Street, Lichfield.
J. Nunston—Secretary, Miss Haines, 84, Wheat Street, Nunston.
J. Redditch—Secretaryship vacant.
J. For "Stourbridge" read "Stourbridge and District"—Secretary, Miss M. Downing, not Miss E. Donning.
For "D. Walsall" read "J. Walsall."
J. Warwick and Leamington—Secretary, Mrs. Hill, 20, Northumberland Road, Leamington.

Organisers' Association.

The name of Miss Alice Low (Edinburgh Society) was inadvertently omitted from the notice sent to us with regard to formation of an Organisers' Union, which appeared in **THE COMMON CAUSE** of April 4th. Miss Alice Low, together with Miss Helga Gill (Oxford Society), Miss Lisa Gordon (Edinburgh Society), and Mrs. Annot Robinson (E.F.F.) were elected as members of the Committee.

Thinking Women

read

"The Standard."

This phrase has become a truism. It is because "The Standard" daily news pages include one headed

Woman's Platform.

which every thinking woman in the land, and very many thinking men, want to see and to study every day.

The news and views of Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists alike find impartial expression in its columns. "Woman's Platform" is, in short, the forum in which every aspect of the woman movement is discussed by experts of all shades of thought.

"The Standard,"

104, Shoe Lane,
London, E.C.

Meetings Arranged by the National Union.

- APRIL 11. Birmingham—43, Frederick Road, Edgbaston—Musical Radio—Miss Kirby, Miss Rima Baker—Tickets 2s.
- 3.30 Stoke-on-Trent—Church Institute—Social meeting of members.
- 7.30 Bristol—Drawing-Room meeting—Mrs. Borthwick's, 1, Walsingham Road, St. Andrews—Mrs. Fisher, Miss Chate
- 7.30 Goolo—Sailors' Institute—Annual Meeting—Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Renton
- 3.0 .. Sailors' Institute—Speakers, Miss Ford and Mrs. Renton—Miscellaneous programme arranged by Miss Kathleen Heptonstall
- 7.45 Whitley Bay—Avenue Hotel—Mrs. Biltcliffe, Mr. Baillie Weaver Evening.
- APRIL 12. South Shields—Victoria Hall—Miss E. F. Stevenson, Mr. Baillie Weaver Evening.
- APRIL 13. Eye—Town Hall—Miss Colman, Miss Garlie, Miss Waring, B.A. Evening.
- 7.30 Ilkeley—Spa Hydrophathio—Meeting of members—Mrs. Bentham
- 4.30-6.30 Margate—Foresters' Hall—Mrs. Backham Afternoon.
- Broadstairs—Mrs. Backham
- 8.0 Manchester—Haitim Suffrage Club, York Street, Temperance Hall
- Sunderland—Subscription Library Hall—Mr. Baillie Weaver—Chair, Councillor Hartley French
- 8.0 Henley-on-Thames—Assembly Rooms, Town Hall—Chair, Mrs. Goswamdar—Speakers, Miss Geraldine Cooke, Miss Dora Mason, M.A.
- 8.0 APRIL 15. Canterbury—Mrs. Backham Afternoon.
- King's Sutton—New Schools—Speaker, Miss Cooke Chair, Mr. A. A. Woodward
- 8.0 Bristol—1, Walsingham Road, St. Andrews—Mrs. Fisher, Miss Chate
- 7.30 York—Mrs. Chapman's, 7, New Walk Terrace—Drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Meyer
- 3.0 Woburn Sands—The Institute—Public meeting—Miss Abrahm
- APRIL 16. Pangbourne—The Friends' Meeting Hall—Mrs. Backham
- 8.0 York—5, St. Nicholas Terrace—Drawing-room meeting—Hostess, Miss Thompson—Speaker, Mrs. Meyer
- 3.0 Maidenhead—Abbotsleigh, Cookham Road—Drawing-room meeting—Chair, Mrs. Oldshaw—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke
- 3.30 Chester—Holborn Restaurant, Foregate Street—Annual meeting—Miss Jessie Beavan
- 2.45 Tenbridge Wells—W.S.S. Office, 18, Crescent Road—Members' meeting—Mrs. Abbott
- Gateshead—115, High West Street—Social meeting for women—Mrs. W. Watson, "Vigilance Work"
- 2.30 APRIL 17. Gateshead—Coatsworth Hall—"At Home"—Speeches, music, etc.—Hosts, Dr. and Mrs. Dunn—Chair, Dr. Ethel Williams
- 7.30 Whaley Bridge—W.C.S. Rooms—Annual meeting
- 7.45 Prescot—Zion Chapel Schoolroom—Miss E. Estridge, Miss M. P. Hughes
- 8.0 Brighton—Mus Ethel Ryk, "Women and the Coming Race"
- APRIL 18. New Brighton—Green Tea Rooms—Miss Jessie Beavan—Chair, Mrs. Masters
- 8.0 Newcastle—Annual meeting—Chair, Dr. Ethel Williams—Speaker, Miss I. S. A. Beaver

LONDON.

- APRIL 11. Islington—Miss J. Bissett Smith's, 57, Hillmarton Road, N.—Study Circle
- 8.0 North-West Ham—Progressive Club, 11, Romford Road, Stratford—Meeting—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke
- 8.0 APRIL 12. North Lambeth—61-63, Kennington Road, North Lambeth—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Savory—Hostess, Mrs. Wilkie Jones—Chair, Mr. E. L. Meinertzhagen, L.C.C., J.P.
- 3.0 APRIL 14. Kennington—Wheatshaf Hall, South Lambeth Road—Women's Meeting
- 3.0 Catford—Girls' Club—Church Schoolroom, Terridon Road, Catford—Speaker, Miss M. Goddard
- 8.0 Islington—Miss M. E. Andrade's, 17, Aberdeen Park, Highbury—Study Circle
- 8.0 S. Wimbledon—Johnston's Rooms, 6, Broadway—Meeting—Chair, Mrs. Mallett—Speaker, Miss Mildred Ransom
- 8.30 APRIL 15. N. Paddington—47, Clifton Gardens, Maida Vale, W.—Drawing-room Meeting—Chair, Miss Constance Jacob—Hostess, Mrs. Owen—Speaker, Mrs. Arthur Savory
- 3.0 Rotherhithe—Ropire Club, 104, Jamaica Road—Meeting—Speaker, Miss Ruth Young
- 8.0 Islington—People's Literary and Debating Society, St. Peter's Institute, Vincent Terrace, Colebrooks Row—Speaker, Mrs. Backham
- 8.30 APRIL 16. Greenwich+St. Alfege Church Room—Young People's Meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Goddard
- 8.0 APRIL 18. Islington—Miss J. Bissett Smith's, 57, Hillmarton Road, N.—Study Circle
- 8.0 APRIL 23. Holborn and S. St. Pancras—25, Cartwright Gardens, Ruston Road, W.C.—Social Meeting for Working Women—Speaker, Miss Anna Martin—(Tea)
- 8.30

Meetings Addressed by Members of the National Union.

- APRIL 13. Birmingham—Aston Manor Baptist P.S.A.—Mrs. Ring 3.0
- APRIL 16. Birmingham—Edington Women's Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Ring 7.30
- Totterdown—Annual meeting—Liberal Women—Wycliffe Schoolroom—Mrs. W. C. H. Cross 7.30
- Bristol—St. Philip's Liberal Association, The Shaftesbury, Kingsland Road—Miss J. M. Baretti 8.0
- APRIL 17. Kirkstall—Liberal Association—Mrs. Renton 8.0
- Egmont—Wallasey Girls' Club—Miss E. M. McPherson 1.30
- Easington—The Schools—Miss A. M. Roydon, Mrs. Hancock—Chair, The Rev. G. A. West 7.30

SCOTLAND.

- APRIL 11. Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Speaker, Miss Hilda Cotterill—Chair, Mrs. Purves 4.30
- APRIL 16. Kirkcaldy—Mrs. Macnicol.

Meeting at Horsham.

The Horsham branch of the N.U.W.S.S. recently gave a very successful Social gathering at the Black Horse Assembly Room, Horsham. Colonel Savile was in the Chair, and among other speakers were Mrs. Timpany, B.A., Miss Verrall, and the Rev. J. W. Stanlake. Tea was provided during the afternoon and musical items were given between the speeches, Mrs. Wright's songs being much appreciated. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting in the belief that the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to Women is essential, as much for the general benefit of the community as for the safeguarding of women's interests, presses for a Government measure having this end in view." At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. de Fonblanque's announcement that she was inaugurating a "Qui Vive Corps" in Horsham was received with enthusiasm. The corps will no doubt prove a great success under such an able leader. Since the New Year the Horsham Society has also given a very successful Dramatic Entertainment, the plays rendered being "Miss Appleyard's Awakening," "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," and "How the Vote was Won." There were two performances, and both were very well attended.

"A Quiet Corner of Sussex."

A successful Drawing-room Meeting was held at Slinford, near Arundel, at the invitation of Miss Clara Woolner, under the auspices of the Littlehampton Branch of the National Union. The speakers were Miss N. O'Shea for the N.U., and Miss Bennett for the C.W.S.S. The chair was taken by Sir Harry Johnston, G.C.M.G., in whose earnest speech true chivalry was expressed. The close attention with which the audience followed both the speakers and the amount of keen discussion afterwards were very satisfactory evidences of the advance of the Cause in a quiet corner of Sussex.

"The British Traveller," 1832.

F. W. B., writing from 20, Swanley Lane, Swanley Junction, Kent, says: "I have in my possession an original copy of *The British Traveller*, dated August 4th, 1832, giving a full account of the debate in the House of Commons of August 3rd, 1832, when Mr. Hunt presented a petition from a lady of rank and fortune, Mary Smith, of Stamford, Yorkshire, praying for the rights of unmarried women." The writer adds that the paper is in splendid condition and that she is willing to dispose of it to a reader of **COMMON CAUSE**. Anyone desiring to make an offer for this paper should communicate to the writer at the address cited above.

Irishwomen's Demand for Government Measure.

The sixteen Societies forming the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, have unanimously adopted a resolution refusing to entertain proposals for a Private Member's Women Suffrage Bill, and demanding that a Government measure be introduced next session. Thus the large majority of Irish Suffragists, militant and non-militant, are united in their main policy.

Free Church League for W.S.

A Fair will be held at Rectory Road Congregational Hall on April 17th and 18th. Particulars can be obtained from Mrs. Trafford Williams, 21c, Evening Road, Stoke Newington, N.E.

Coming Events

We shall be glad to announce Meetings, Societies, Lectures, etc., in this column, on a charge of 2s. per insertion of 24 words will be made. To ensure insertion in our next issue all advertisements must be received no later than Wednesday morning.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, St. Jan S.W. A Lecture will be given at the above on Thursday, April 17th, at 8.30 p.m. Speaker, Rev. C. Llewellyn Smith. Subject: "The Significance of the Suffrage Movement." Chair, Boyd Carpenter.

THE MARCHERS QUI VIVE CORPS. A March Brighton will start from the depot, 60, West Street Horsham, on May 15th, and will proceed via H. field. Write for particulars to Miss A. N. P. Lasebourn, Midhurst.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. Public Meeting, Caxton Hall, Wednesday, April 10th, at 3.30. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Mrs. Bover. Chair, Mrs. Huntsman. Adm. free.



Soap in Flakes

THE PUREST FORM OF SOAP PRODUCED.

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

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

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

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

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

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

TWO SUFFRAGE DIALOGUES, 3d. each. Comedy, 6d.—"S," Fordel, Glenfarg.

GOD'S WORD TO WOMEN has never been a word of disapproval and suppression. The Bible encourages the development of woman and stands for her exact equality with man, in spite of the teachings to the contrary. Do you wish to equip yourself for meeting the arguments of those who attempt, with sacrilegious hands, to throw the Bible in the way of woman's progress? Do you wish to know WHERE and HOW they mistranslate and misrepresent it? Send 7d. (15 pence in stamps from America), for "101 Questions Answered," a Woman's Catechism, prepared purposely to solve your perplexities.—Katharine Bushnell, 10a, Ayton Park, Highbury, London, N.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

BRIDLINGTON.—High School for Girls. Modern Education. Extensive Grounds. Large Staff of University Women. Boarding-house on sea-front or a limited number of boarders, under the personal supervision of the head mistress and some of the staff. For illustrated prospectus apply, Head Mistress.

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

GARDENING FOR HEALTH. Ladies received; charming country residence. Elevated position. Efficient instruction, month or term. Individual consideration.—Peake, Udimore, Rye.

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

SINGING.—Signor Enrico Piazza, specialises with ladies' voices, guarantees increased range, power; improved quality, song or speech straining abolished. Moderate terms. Bournemouth Mondays.—Write Brinsmead Studios, 12, Wignore Street, W.

TYPEWRITING, FACSIMILE TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING OFFICES.—Two ladies of good education, sisters or friends, could be received as Pupil-Apprentices. Premium. The training would be suitable for women wishing to start in business for themselves, or wishing to take posts as secretaries, book-keepers or foreign correspondents.—Apply, Miss J. E. Cohen, Central House, Birmingham.

POSITIONS VACANT.

SUPERIOR DOMESTIC HELP WANTED by two Ladies in comfortable flat to do their cooking and housework single-handed. Wages £22-24. Good references essential.—Write or call between 12.30 and 2.30, or at 9 p.m.—Miss Thorbjorn, 14, Iverna Court, Kensington, W.

WANTED, immediately, an Organising Secretary for the Newcastle-on-Tyne Society for Women's Suffrage (affiliated to the National Union); experienced in organising and suffrage desirable; salary from £100 to £120, according to qualifications.—Apply, with recent testimonials, to Dr. Ethel Williams, Suffrage Office, 27, Ridley Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

POSITIONS WANTED.

WANTED by Suffragist half-time post as Secretary to Suffrage Society.—Miss D. Mortimer, 10, Museum Street, York.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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

"COMMON CAUSE" Fountain Pens, price 3s. 6d. each. Non-leakable, can be carried in any position. Solid 14-carat gold nib. Apply, sending P.O. for 3s. 8d. (2d. being for postage) to the Manager, "Common Cause," 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FOR SALE.—Volumes I., II. and III. of "The Common Cause," price 8s. 6d. each, postage 3d. each. Bound in red, white, and green. Indispensable as a work of reference to every Suffrage and Anti-Suffragist speaker and writer. Apply, The Manager, "Common Cause," 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FREE! FREE!—Over 200 Patterns genuine Irish Linen Fabric, "Flaxella"—Ideal for skirts and blouses. Smart, washable, durable. Beautiful shades; new designs; fast colours. Write to-day.—Hutton's 159, Larne, Ireland.

GLOVES.—Speciality, Chevrete Suede at 3s. 3d. pair, three pairs, 9s. All orders post free.—87a, Addington Street, Ramsgate.

LACE CLEANED, MENDED, TRANSFERRED. Many testimonials; embroidery. Beatrice, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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

PERAMBULATOR FOR SALE. Extra large double Perfect condition. Ball-bearing wheels, etc. Cost £14 14s. Sell £4 4s. Seen any time.—Garrett, 2, Reynolds Close, Golder's Green, N.W.

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

TO LET.

LETHWORTH (Garden City).—Compact little House to Let, 7 rooms, £28. Good situation. All modern conveniences.—"T." 3, Norton Road, Letchworth.

TO LET, FURNISHED.—Modern Cottage, very sunny and healthy situation; one sitting, two bedrooms, kitchen, scullery, w.c.; balcony and verandah, good garden; view of Solent.—Dowson, The Chestnuts, Swanwick, Hants.

WHERE TO LIVE.

(Town.)

BROOKLYN PRIVATE HOTEL.—Earl's Court Square (Warwick Road corner), finest centre all parts; 12 minutes Piccadilly; quiet, separate tables; strictly include terms from 5s. 6d. day, 31s. 6d. weekly, B. and B., 4s. 6d.; private sitting-rooms £1 1s.; electric light throughout; garage. Tel., 344 Western.

BOARD-RESIDENCE offered in pleasant, comfortable Flat of High School Mistress; quiet, open, high situation; large bed-sitting room; convenient trains and omnibuses; 25s. to 30s. Miss Martin, 201, Chevening Road, Brondesbury, N.W.

HOSTEL FOR LADIES.—Central. Highly recommended. — Miss Sullivan, 50, Osnaburgh Street, Portland Road Station, W. Terms moderate. Also Comfortably Furnished Rooms for Ladies or Gentlemen. 3, Osnaburgh Terrace. Tel.: 820 North.

LONDON HOME OFFERED to Women Workers. Breakfast, late dinners; bath (h. & c.); 12s. 6d. weekly. Near City.—Box 1665, COMMON CAUSE Office.

PRIVATE HOTEL FOR LADIES. Very quiet and refined. 13, St. George's Square, Westminster. Bedroom, breakfast, bath and attendance from 4s. 6d.—Write, or wire, Miss Davies.

WHERE TO LIVE.

(Country.)

APARTMENTS to Let, Miss Edwards, Whitethorn, Filmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

APARTMENTS.—Mrs. Crittall, 4, Surrey Prospect, Filmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

BOARD-RESIDENCE, moderate terms; sunny, dry. Recommended by officials and members of Suffrage societies.—Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoraby, Aysgarth S. O., Yorks.

BOARD and Residence.—Garden City. Mrs. A. H. Green will be glad to receive a paying guest (or two who would share room); bracing climate; an hour from King's Cross; house near station; terms on application.—195, Icknield Way, Letchworth.

PAYING GUESTS received by two ladies. Charming house; every convenience; excellent cooking. Large garden, croquet lawn; lovely moorland country, bracing. Good cycling, sketching centre. Terms 30s.—Leslie Carrington, Verwood, Dorset.

TWO LADIES or Married Couples appreciating a comfortable home. Charming surroundings. Good table; scrupulous cleanliness. River.—Hazelton, St. George's Road, St. Margaret's-on-Thames.

WANTED.

IF ANY READER KNOWS of anyone who would like to share a cheap furnished L.C.C. flat, near the Tate Gallery, will they please communicate with Miss N. Howes, 23, Paragon Grove, Surbiton Hill, Surrey.

THE NATIONAL UNION

is the great Non-Party, Non-Militant Women's Suffrage Society. If you approve of our methods and objects, please fill in the accompanying Form and send it to the Secretary.

I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district.

I herewith enclose cheque for £ postal order for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription.

Name _____

(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other title.)

Address _____

(in full.)

To the Secretary _____

Society for Women's Suffrage

Or the Secretary National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.