

# JUS SUFFRAGII

The Monthly Organ of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

FRENCH EDITION.

The French Edition of  
*Jus Suffragii* is published  
in Geneva, Switzerland.



HEADQUARTERS:

11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London,  
to which all communications should be addressed.

Telegrams: Vocorajto.  
Telephone: 4255 Regent.

Volume 11. No. 2.

NOVEMBER 1, 1916.

Price Per Year: 4 shs.; 4 mk.; 5 frs.; 2½ fl.; 3.60 kr., Scandinavia; 5 kr., Austria; 1\$. Single Copies: 4d.

## International Woman Suffrage Alliance Board of Officers.

President: CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, 2, West 86th Street, New York, U.S.A.

1st Vice-President: MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, LL.D., 2, Gower Street, London, England.

2nd Vice-President: ANNE FURUHJELM, M.P., Helsingfors, Finland.

3rd Vice-President: ANNA LINDEMANN, Degerloch, Stuttgart, Germany.

4th Vice-President: MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, rue Pierre Charron, Paris, France.

1st Treasurer: ADELA STANTON COIT, 30, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W., England.

2nd Treasurer: SIGNE BERGMANN, 15, Grevmagnigatan, Stockholm, Sweden.

1st Cor. Sec.: KATHERINE DEXTER McCORMICK, 395, Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

2nd Cor. Sec.: JANE BRIGODE, 352, Avenue Albert, Brussels.

1st Rec. Sec.: CRYSTAL MACMILLAN, M.A., B.Sc., 17, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.

2nd Rec. Sec.: MARIE STRITT, Reissigerstrasse 17, Dresden, Germany.

Chairman of Committee on Admissions: ANNA WICKSELL, Lund, Sweden.

AFFILIATED COUNTRIES:—Austria, Belgium, Bohemia, Bulgaria, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Galicia, Germany, Great Britain, and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, South Africa—Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America.

## Notice on the Policy of Jus Suffragii.

In the present critical position of affairs, when any reference to political conditions may hurt national susceptibilities, it must be clearly stated that the International Woman Suffrage Alliance maintains a strictly neutral attitude, and is only responsible for its official announcements. Reports from affiliated societies are inserted on the responsibility of the society contributing them. Other articles are published as being of general interest to our readers, and responsibility for them rests solely with their signatories.

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

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

## CONTENTS.

	Page.
Features of the Month .....	17
Headquarters Notes .....	18
Austria-Hungary—Finland .....	18
France .....	19
Germany .....	19
Great Britain .....	20
Australia .....	21
Canada .....	22
India .....	22
New Zealand .....	22
South Africa .....	23
Iceland .....	24
Italy .....	24
Netherlands .....	24
Norway .....	25
Russia .....	26
Sweden .....	26
United States .....	28
Treasurer's Notes .....	29
International Suffrage Papers .....	30
Tributes to <i>Jus Suffragii</i> .....	31
I.W.S.A. Affiliated Societies .....	31

## Features of the Month.

Another victory for Woman Suffrage comes this month, and makes the fourth this year. British Columbia, the great Pacific province of Canada, has given a majority of 20,000 on a referendum on Woman Suffrage. The final result cannot be declared until the vote of the soldiers in Europe has been taken, but it is hardly possible that their vote should alter the result. British Columbia, like the other three Canadian provinces which have enfranchised women, has done so in spite of being plunged in the European war. Another interesting occurrence during the past few weeks is the voting of Australian women in Europe. A vote is being taken in the Australian referendum on conscription. Australian nurses and soldiers in Great Britain and on the Continent are voting, and in London for the first time women have been recording their votes on a matter of Imperial politics.

No news has been received by the I.W.S.A. of the momentous vote in the Netherlands on the new Constitution, in which women claim to have their voting rights included.

For the first time for many months we have a report from Finland.

Very good news for the International Woman Suffrage Alliance is contained this month in the Treasurer's notes, showing that a sum of £1,000 has been raised in the United States to further the work of the Alliance. For this we owe hearty thanks to Mrs. Roessing, who has collected the donations.

In spite of the European war, which impedes all international work, the world-wide Woman Suffrage movement will be enabled to carry on.

The *Woman's Journal* of October 14th states that according to information from Mexico received in San Francisco by N. Gould Harrold, president of the Mexican Property Owners' Non-Intervention League, Woman Suffrage has recently been granted in the State of Yucatan, in Mexico. "This action," said Mr. Harrold in an interview with a representative of the *Christian Science Monitor*, "which was taken by Governor-General Don Salvador Alvarado of Yucatan, follows a woman's congress recently held at Merida, Yucatan, participated in by 3,000 women. Most of the members of this congress were women of the middle class, many of them were teachers in the public schools, and a few of them represented the old governing class."

### Headquarters Notes.

#### "Jus Suffragii," Volume 10.

The tenth volume of *Jus Suffragii*, containing the numbers October, 1915, to September, 1916, inclusive, bound in the colours of the Alliance, and with a complete Index, is now obtainable from Headquarters, price six shillings and sixpence; postage extra: inland sixpence, foreign tenpence. As an international record of Suffrage progress and of the steps that have brought about the extraordinary development in the recognition of women's value in the work of the State it is a valuable work of reference, and no Suffrage library should be without it. Separate covers can be had, price one shilling; postage fourpence.

#### Scarce Numbers of "Jus Suffragii."

The following numbers of *Jus Suffragii* are very scarce, and will be purchased at Headquarters for sixpence each: September, 1913; December, 1913; October, 1914; January, 1915; April, 1915. We thank those who have returned numbers anonymously.

#### Change of Address.

Please note that Headquarters have removed from 7 to 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, from which address *Jus Suffragii* is now published.

### Nationality of Married Women.

#### A Correction.

Dear Madam,—Since writing the article on the above subject, which appeared in your last issue, I have heard from a correspondent in New Zealand that although the provisions of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act have never been formally brought up for ratification in the New Zealand Parliament, the provision which causes a woman to lose her nationality on marriage with an alien has been tacitly acted on as before.

I regret that I should have given wrong information on the subject of the nationality of married women in New Zealand. My apology is that the information was given me at the offices of the High Commissioner of New Zealand in London.

My correspondent writes that, again and again, especially after the war, women's societies have protested against this, and asked Parliament to alter it, but so far without success.—I am, etc.,

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN.

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

#### Socialist Women in Austria.

The Vienna *Arbeiterzeitung* for August 27th contained an inspiring article by Emmy Freundlich, in which, after depicting the terrible grief and suffering inflicted on women by the war, she says it is the pride of the women's organisations to have been against the war, and although they have fulfilled all the duties laid upon them by the war, they wish passionately to serve the cause of peace. The women's organisations throughout the Empire are undertaking a house-to-house canvass, and women can best express their convictions by becoming members. A recent campaign in West Bohemia brought in 1,000 new members.

#### Hungary: Women and Food Prices.

The Budapest *Volksstimme* for October 5th gives an account of a great women's meeting to demand fair distribution of food and the lowering of prices. They specially urge the provision of common meals, and day nurseries for children, where they can be looked after while the parents are at work. The women emphasised the fact of their sufferings being due to their political helplessness.

#### Nationality of Married Women.

The *Arbeiterzeitung* of Vienna draws attention to an instance of the hardships of women married to enemy aliens. In the Italian Parliament the Radical deputy Colajanni asked the Ministers of War and Admiralty whether they did not think it advisable to deprive of their commands officers married to wives of enemy origin. The *Arbeiterzeitung* comments as follows: "If the State, whose nationality a woman has acquired by her marriage, considers her as a second-class citizen, looked at with suspicion, which is extended to her husband, should it not be free to her

to reacquire her original nationality? Of course, now is not the moment to deal with the position of the many women on both sides, who have been practically deprived by the war of all civic rights, who are morally condemned to be *sans patrie*, have been degraded to be alien citizens without foreign protection, like the Roumanian Jews. If we really count upon a new era of blood and iron, relief will have to be found after the war for this moral misery also. Colajanni's problem is at the bottom a question of reliable and unreliable officers. The question of the women who through marriage have become citizens of a foreign State, and mistrusted by it to-day, are rejected by their own country, is a problem which concerns the civil rights of many hundred thousands on both sides."

### FINLAND

#### The Elections and Women Members of Parliament.

It is indeed a long time since direct news from Finland reached *Jus Suffragii*. Still I dare to hope that our silence has not been misinterpreted, and that some details about our last Parliamentary elections may be of interest to the readers.

The above-mentioned elections took place on the 1st and 3rd of July, and were preceded by an election campaign which proved more eager and lively than could have been reckoned upon under present circumstances, especially in consideration of the fact that no session is likely to take place before the end of the war. Women and women's associations joined eagerly in the agitation, especially in the interest of women candidates, and it proved once more how eminently necessary well-organised, permanent associations are, such as are able to dispose of a numerous membership of similar views, trained in political and social questions, and ready for use in canvassing. The absence of organisation or a lack of solidarity within the existing associations has caused more than one failure. Thus, one of the four women candidates of the Swedish party, and that a highly valued one, was not re-elected perhaps chiefly on account of the fact that in her electoral district no women's association belonging to the Swedish party existed. Likewise leading women of the Young Finnish party consider the failure of several of their women candidates partly due to a lack of solidarity in certain branches of their association, due to the fact that not all the members belong to one and the same political party.

The sharp Socialistic agitation, which succeeded in conquering for that party an absolute majority in the re-elected Chamber, withdrew a great number of votes from the other parties, especially from both the Finnish ones, and thus reduced the chances of the women candidates of these two parties. Moreover, the Agrarian party, which displayed great activity among the rural population, deliberately worked against women candidates, pushing forward local interests as being common to both men and women, and pointing out male candidates as fittest to be the spokesmen of those interests.

The picture would scarcely be exact and true if I omitted to mention, among the obstacles women met with during the election campaign, both prejudice, which still lingers in public opinion, and women's own indifference to public affairs. Of all women in Finland entitled to vote, 51.4 per cent. made use of this right (of the male population 60.1 per cent. voted); the percentage was varied somewhat in different districts, and, according to statistics, lowest in the larger towns. Still, had every woman who voted chosen a list, on which one of the prescribed three names was that of a woman candidate, the result would have been very different. However, notwithstanding all the less satisfactory circumstances, we must feel content, in considering that this time the voting percentage of men and women together, as well as of both taken apart, exceeded that of the elections in 1913.

In all 24 women have been elected, thus 7 more than in 1913; of these, 17 by the Socialist party, 3 by the Swedish, 2 by the Old Finnish, and 2 by the Young Finnish, none by the Agrarians, which makes 16.67 per cent. women for the Socialist Parliamentary Group, 14.3 per cent. for the Swedish, 6 per cent. for the Old Finnish, and 8.7 per cent. for the Young Finnish.

It would be, perhaps, useless to enumerate all the elected and re-elected women M.P.'s, as the names scarcely would tell anything to foreign readers. I will only mention those whom I suppose already to be known within the I.W.S.A. In the

first place, of course, the Second Vice-President of the Alliance, Annie Furuholm, Swedish party, further Dr. Phil. Tekla Hultin, whose re-election scarcely needed any great effort, her capacity being acknowledged by electors of both sexes, and Lucina Hagman, the senior of our now living feminists, both of the Young Finnish party; Dr. Phil. J. af Forselles and Vera Hjelt, inspector of factories, of the Swedish party; the Baroness Ida Yrjö-Koskinen and Evelina Alakulja, of the Old Finnish party. Among the Socialist women M.P.'s we notice the names of Miina Sillanpää, leader of the Domestic Female Servants' Association in Helsingfors, and Hilja Pärssinen, school teacher, both members of the Diet at nearly all the sessions since the reform, and acknowledged even by those who do not share their opinions as clever and capable women.

We are sure that when the Diet meets our women M.P.'s will do their best in fulfilling the claims of patriotism and of good citizenship, and we hope sincerely that when this time comes happier circumstances will permit of a more regular correspondence.

E. SALTZMAN.

### FRANCE.

#### Frenchwomen's Programme for Reconstruction.

The *Française* celebrated on October 21st its tenth anniversary by a double number, in which it gave a feminist programme for reconstruction after the war. This programme follows the lines of social development already laid down by the National Council of Women.

In *Education* boys and girls should have the same advantages. Physical exercises and athletics should be developed. Moral education should insist on the same moral standard for girls and boys. At present boys and girls receive the same education in primary schools and at universities. It is important that their secondary education should be unified, and the National Council of Women is carrying on a campaign with this object. Instruction in domestic subjects should be given in all schools. Trade schools should be open to girls and boys to prepare them for future careers, and especially to teach girls trades which have hitherto been closed to them. Mlle. Sanua has opened a girls' school for higher commercial studies. Mme. Cruppi has started the Ecole Rachel, teaching four new trades to girls. Mlle. Valentine Thomson has founded the Hotel School for women. The town of Montpellier has thrown open its higher commercial school to girls.

#### EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

Mme. Avril de Sainte Croix and Mme. de Witt Schlumberger contribute valuable articles on public morality. The military authorities have done something to check vice by closing the tolerated houses in the war zone; but naturally that was insufficient. M. Justin Godart, Under-Secretary of State for Hygiene at the Ministry of War, had the courage to issue "Advice to Soldiers," in which he told them that the only sure way to avoid contagion was not to expose themselves to it, and that "chastity was only ridiculed by imbeciles."

Mme. de Sainte Croix insists that it is for women to abolish the conditions which lead to prostitution; to educate their sons to respect ALL women, and their daughters to despise and reject libertines. Feminism will have the honour of attacking this question, which is fundamental for the future of the race.

Mme. de Schlumberger speaks much-needed words of warning against the tendency in belligerent countries to resort to regulation as a means of checking the dangerous spread of venereal disease, although the failure of the policy of "morals police" is admitted by every honest doctor. She points out that the only efficacious means of combating these diseases is the abundant provision of clinics and dispensaries for treating them. The "Assistance publique" and the "Institut prophylactique" are acting on these lines. The French League for raising public morality, with the consent of the Ministry of War, has been giving lectures in camps and barracks, which have been well attended by officers and men. A pamphlet has also been distributed to the soldiers, in which the Chief of the Staff tells them that chastity is good for them.

In December, 1915, the President of the International Council of Women submitted two questions to affiliated societies: (1) What has been the effect of war on the traffic in women?

(2) What influence has the war had on the equal moral standard?

#### THE POPULATION QUESTION.

The women are taking an active part in the question of repopulation, and have two members on the Council of the League *Pour la Vie*, with whose programme feminists sympathise. Feminists recognise that the causes of the decline in the birth-rate are the same as the causes of other national ills—viz., injustice, poverty, ignorance, and vice, and can only be met by good social hygiene, sane morality, guarantees of employment for all men and women. When a nation is advanced in civilisation it will not risk bringing children into the world blindly, as in bygone days, but demands decent prospects for them.

Feminists think that wage-earning by married women will be favourable to family life by defraying family expenses and enabling the mother to pay for household assistance. When the parents of a large family are unable to earn enough to support it, the State must aid them. French women would reject with horror any suggestion for recognised polygamy. They realise that the war will make marriage and motherhood impossible for large numbers of women, who must be helped to shape an independent life for themselves. Anything in the nature of polygamy would be degrading to women, a step backward in civilisation, and lead to national decadence.

### GERMANY.

The *Staatsbürgerin* for September contains an article on "The Fight for the Illegitimate Child," by Gertrud Buetz, of Dessau; an obituary of Lily Braun, by Adèle Schreiber; and many communications on compulsory service for women.

#### The Illegitimate Child.

In Germany there are about 340,000 illegitimate children. Of these, in the autumn of 1915, about 15,000 children would have been entitled to maintenance grants if they had been born in wedlock. In order to protect these children from destitution, a petition was sent to the Reichstag, signed by 500 Courts of Guardians (Vormundschaftsgerichte), 200 local authorities, 400 associations, and 3,000 individuals, asking for State pensions for these children if they were left destitute by the father's death. Section 2c of the law on maintenance grants to soldiers' dependents assures these children maintenance till the end of the war, and it is hoped that this will be continued by the State after the conclusion of peace.

The petition to the Reichstag was a counterblast to that of the Catholic League, Caritas, which demanded that illegitimate children should be differentiated from legitimate, and that, though provision should be made for them, it should be on a different scale and footing. Thus even the blood shed by its father for his country might not wash out the stigma on his child; and yet the one essential for the healthy development of the child is the absence of any such stigma. Norway has recently placed legitimate and illegitimate on the same footing, and given the latter the right to the father's name. It is undoubted that to give to the illegitimate child the same financial claim on its father as that recognised in the case of the legitimate child increases the father's sense of responsibility to mother and child, and thus tends to promote family life. If equal rights to war pensions are denied to the illegitimate child, it will be forced back on poor relief, with all its evil results on physical and moral development.

#### Compulsory Service for Women.

A proposal of Martha Rudolph for compulsory service for women between 35 and 45 has called forth many letters of opposition. Obviously, it would take women away from homes where they are indispensable, and where they render truer service to the community than if sent away to work in public institutions. Many writers approve of compulsory continuation schools for girls, and, in this sense, of a year's compulsory service, and various suggestions are made. One writer says it should be largely devoted to physical training. The most generally accepted interpretation seems to be that for the well-to-do classes it should consist of training in social work, and for the poorer classes in domestic economy.

Dr. Elise Dosenheimer, of Munich, points out that training for social work demands a spiritual inspiration very different from compulsion and State discipline. It would constitute a further sacrifice of the individual to the State; a stereotyping of the present social conditions, with one side exercising philanthropy and the other side being objects of philanthropy.

**Physical Development of Children and Care of Mothers.**

The Central Committee for Young People of the Working Class (Zentralstelle für die arbeitende Jugend) has issued a statement of its claims. This Committee includes representatives of trade unions and the Social Democratic Party. It demands the fundamental reform of education, together with far-reaching social and political measures for the benefit of mothers, children, and young people. Physical exercises, swimming, walking, and games, should be compulsory, and to make time for these the school age should be raised to 15. Physical exercises should also be an essential part of continuation schools. All young people should be guaranteed a fortnight's holiday; one afternoon a week should be allowed for games and walking.

Maternity assistance, free attendance in confinement, lying-in homes, allowances to nursing mothers, aid to widows and orphans, should all be assisted by the State. Day nurseries should be provided free everywhere, wage-earning by school children should be forbidden, medical inspection of schools, free food and clothing should be provided. Young persons under 18 should have a six-hours day.

**Women in Industry.**

Luise Zietz, in *Vorwärts*, draws attention to the importance of facing the problems of woman's increased entry into industry. At present this increase is accompanied by lowering of wages, injury to women's health, injury to family life, neglect of children and of the home. Women, by joining the great army of workers, must conquer political power. Men, on their side, must help women to organise, must secure them education and political rights, effective factory laws, and social arrangements, through both the State and the Commune, which will enable them to fulfil their home duties as well as their industrial work. Women are now producing a large and growing percentage of the total production. They must not be allowed to lower wages and thus fight against men.

**GREAT BRITAIN.****National Union of Woman Suffrage Societies.**

(Affiliated to I.W.S.A.)

**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORM.**

Since the reassembling of Parliament on the 10th of last month, a Conference on Electoral Reform, composed of four members of the House of Lords and 24 members of the House of Commons, representative of every political party and every view on electoral reform, met on the 12th to consider, and if possible to come to an agreement on, questions which have for generations been the subject of controversy between political parties. The chief subjects on which the Conference will be asked to report are four:—

1. The simplification of the register.
2. Changes in the franchise (including Women's Suffrage).
3. Redistribution of seats.
4. Amendment of the Ballot Act to remedy the grievance of the "absent voter."

The Government is not represented in any way on this Conference, but the Cabinet will accept an agreed settlement and present it to the House of Commons in a Bill. This Bill will then be debated and voted on.

As regards Women's Suffrage, it is encouraging to note that although the personnel of the Conference cannot be said to represent fully the markedly favourable change in opinion which has taken place on Women's Suffrage, it does include several strong supporters of Women's Suffrage and some recent converts to the movement. The National Union is employing every effort to strengthen the hands of our friends.

It is an interesting sign of the altered attitude of the Press that the *Daily Mail* should have advocated the appointment of three Women Suffragists as members of the Conference. Another recent convert is the *Evening News*. In a leading article, headed "The New Partner," the *Evening News* says: "Now she (woman) is a partner in our national effort, and if she demands a partner's voice in the concerns of the firm, who shall say her nay?" Lord Courtney of Penwith, an old and loyal supporter of Women's Suffrage, gives his views in the *Times* on the work and procedure of the Conference. The following quotation deals with votes for women, and is of interest as showing some of the difficulties and the need for the spirit of compromise on the part of opponents and friends of Women's Suffrage.

The most hotly contested element of this section is the proposed enfranchisement of women. Some members of the conference desire to give the Parliamentary vote to all adult women as they would to all adult men. Others have been conspicuous for their refusal to entertain any suggestion of giving a vote to any woman. It is plain, apart from any consideration of the relation of this subject to other terms of the reference, that any agreed resolution upon it must involve the abatement of the extreme demand on one side and of the absolute resistance on the other. There is large scope for intermediate proposals. Votes might, for example, be granted to women possessing qualifications such as now entitle men to vote. But, as the reference to the conference includes the extension of the franchise in the case of men, it would be necessary to consider whether the franchise for women must follow the lines of any such extension, and this, in turn, might lead to a limitation of whatever otherwise would be extended to men.

Apart from this question of the votes for women and men being based upon the same qualifications, there is the further point of discussion, what is to be done with married women. An Adult Suffrage would include all women as all men. A Suffrage depending upon qualification would extend to independent women as to independent men. And the married woman would be left out unless it was provided that the household occupation of the man should be regarded as a joint occupation of man and wife so as to give a vote to each. I do not know, but I am disposed to assume that present franchise modified by the admission of a married woman, as joint occupier with her husband, is the minimum with which supporters of Women's Suffrage would be content, and unless those who have hitherto opposed Woman Suffrage altogether are ready to concede so much there could be no chance of an agreed resolution upon this subject. There might, indeed, remain a claim to raise the age of women above 21 before they could be competent for the franchise, and it is possible that this might meet with no strenuous resistance on the part of the supporters of woman franchise, who might easily feel that a disparity of age could not be long maintained. Dropping the question of universal Adult Suffrage, and allowing an experimental increase in the qualifying age of woman, might be considered as a fair set off against the admission of all women possessing existing qualifications and of married women as joint occupiers with their husbands.

Until the Conference has presented its report nothing can be known of the progress of its deliberations.

**SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL UNITS.**

Some idea may be given of the surroundings and conditions under which Dr. Agnes Bennett's unit is working on the Serbian frontier from an account of the war correspondent, Mr. Ward Price. "The lonely barren peak of Kaymakdalan," he writes, "from whose 8,000 feet you look down upon both Serbia and Greece as on a plaster contour map, looks to-day like a museum of war. It is deserted by all but the dead. It was here that the fiercest struggle of the war took place, in regions one might have thought inaccessible." The gradients of the road—mere donkey tracks—he describes as appalling, yet here he met "a van of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, driven by a sun-burnt girl, bringing a cart load of Serbian wounded."

Dr. Agnes Bennett asks for more ambulances to be sent out, these being urgently needed, as "we are the only transport column for the wounded in this section of the army." Dr. Pailthorpe, who has joined Mrs. Harley's motor transport section in the neighbourhood of Ostrovo, is working at a first dressing station immediately behind the firing line, from where she sends the wounded down to the hospital of the Scottish Women's Ambulances. Dr. Pailthorpe's position must be almost, if not quite, unique in the history of women doctors' work.

**MISS OLIVE SMITH.**

With deep regret the news has been received of the loss of one of the most valuable members of Dr. Agnes Bennett's unit, Miss Olive Smith, who died of cerebral malaria while on active service.

Dr. Barbara McGregor, Miss Turnbull, Miss Coulthard, and Miss Lawrence have returned from Salonika, owing to severe illness.

**LONDON UNITS OF THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.**

Dr. Elsie Inglis and her field hospitals met with a very enthusiastic reception on her arrival in South Russia. The units were inspected by the Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna. The latest news of Dr. Inglis has been given in the Press by the special correspondent of the *Daily News* at Petrograd, who writes: "The large corps of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, motor transport, etc., in the Dobrudja is earning the great admiration of the Roumanians and the Russians alike. The Prefect of Constanza said to me: 'It is extraordinary how those women endure hardship. They refuse help, and carry the wounded themselves. They work like navvies.'"

**MILICENT FAWCETT HOSPITAL UNITS.**

The unit for dealing with infectious diseases of soldiers, refugees, and peasants at Zaleschiki, in Galicia, is doing splendid work, in spite of the non-arrival of some of their

equipment from Kieff. The unit has nearly 100 patients under its care—cases of typhoid, erysipelas, scarlet fever, and diphtheria. The members of the unit have to work very hard, but they are all cheerful and enthusiastic over the work. The motor ambulance sent out has probably reached them by now, and will be of great service to the unit.

**WOMEN AND WAR LABOUR.**

The figures issued by the Employment Department of the Board of Trade, giving the increase in the employment of women up to July, show that 766,000 women up to that month had directly replaced men in the main occupations of the country. The total number of women employed, not including those nursing the sick and wounded, those in domestic service or small dressmaking establishments, is 3,220,000, an increase of 263,000 since July, 1914. It is estimated that the next quarter's return will show a still greater increase. Among the many new tasks undertaken by women in order to replace men may be mentioned light blacksmiths' work, loading and discharging trucks, weighing material in copper and sulphur works, moulding, turning, and carrying timber in timber yard works. Women are also employed in sheet iron works, carrying out all the processes of making gunpowder kegs; they work the cordite presses in gunpowder factories, an occupation in which it had been asserted women could not be employed.

The Board of Trade reports that few employers find much difficulty in replacing men.

**LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**  
(National Union of W.S.S.)

In addition to the work of successfully training and placing women in munition factories and other branches of war work, this Society has now undertaken the training of women in a new industry—that of glass blowing. This work requires delicacy of manipulation, and is a light occupation eminently suitable for women, offering them, moreover, another opportunity of serving their country.

**WOMEN DOCTORS.**

The Queen opened on October 2nd the extension of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women. Her Majesty was received by Miss Aldrich Blake, M.S., M.D., dean of the school, and the Duchess of Marlborough, treasurer of the fund. Mr. F. D. Acland, M.P., read a telegram of congratulation from Dr. May Thorne and the 29 former students of the school now working with the Royal Army Medical Corps in Malta. Throughout the war the Queen has shown her interest in the school as part of the movement for the opening up of wider fields of usefulness to women.

**EDITH CAVELL MEMORIAL.**

At the Shoreditch Infirmary, where Edith Cavell had worked for four years as assistant matron, a memorial to her was unveiled on the anniversary of her death. It was an oil painting in three panels of three female figures, representing "Faith," "Hope," and "Charity." On the carved oak frame of the picture were inscribed the words of Miss Cavell: "Patriotism is not enough; I must be free from hatred and bitterness."

EDITH PALLISER.

**Women's Freedom League.**

We have applied for representation on the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, because we consider that it is essential that progressive women should take part in the deliberations of the Council on a question of such vital importance to the nation.

We have also corresponded persistently with the Speaker of the House of Commons and with Mr. Walter Long, urging the justice of the representation of Women's Suffrage societies on the Electoral Reform Conference, and on the first day of the meeting of this Conference we sent a telegram to the Speaker (as chairman) urging the inclusion of the claims of women to political enfranchisement in the recommendations to be made by the Conference to the House of Commons. Our branches also sent similar telegrams to the Speaker, with covering explanatory letters, on subsequent days when the Conference met, and afterwards forwarded copies of these letters to their local members of Parliament. At public meetings held in London copies of the following letter have been signed by members of the audience, and forwarded to the Speaker (the Right. Hon. J. W. Lowther, M.P.) and to Mr. Walter Long:—

Dear Sir,—May I urge upon you the necessity for including in the recommendations of the Electoral Reform Conference to the House of Commons the urgency and justice of the women's "unanswerable case" for votes on the same quali-

fications as they are now or may be in the future granted to men.

It is scarcely necessary at this time to point out how greatly women's interests will be affected by the social and industrial reconstruction that will take place after the war, and how necessary it is that women should be in a position to vote at the next general election in order to protect themselves against unfair and restrictive proposals.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Open-air meetings and indoor meetings are being held by our League in London, in Scotland, and in the provinces, emphasising the necessity for granting votes to women before the next general election, and calling upon the Coalition Government to settle this non-party question without further delay.

FLORENCE A. UNDERWOOD.

**AUSTRALIA.****New South Wales.****WOMAN ON UNIVERSITY SENATE.**

Mrs. Kate Dwyer, leader of the Labour Women of New South Wales, was appointed in July to a seat on the Senate of the University of Sydney, with life tenure. The *Sydney Sun* says she is the first woman to fill such a position in the British Dominions.

**Women's Non-Party Political Association of South Australia.****ANNUAL REPORT.**

This Association, which works for the protection of the interests of women, children, and the home, and for the education of citizens in the appreciation of non-party political and industrial action under the Municipality, State, and National Government, has just issued its Annual Report for the year ending July, 1916.

**WOMEN ON WOUNDED SOLDIERS BOARD.**

During the year steady progress has been made in the recognition of women. As a result of a deputation of representative women's societies organised by the Association, which waited on the Chief Secretary in August, 1915, four women were appointed to the Board of Management of the Wounded Soldiers Fund.

**GOVERNMENT INHERITANCE BILL PROMISED.**

The Association joined in a deputation organised by the Social Reform Bureau to urge the Attorney-General to alter the law of bequests so that a judge might award provision for good wives and dependent children when fathers had willed everything away from them. A Bill to deal with the matter is to be introduced in the coming session.

**WOMEN POLICE APPOINTED.**

The Association is glad to be able to report that during the year three women police have been appointed—two in November, 1915, and one later. Though it is impossible for two or three women to cope adequately with the task awaiting these officers, the Association feels they are accomplishing very fine work, and it hopes their number may soon be increased.

**ADDITIONAL WOMEN JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.**

Two more women justices of the peace have been appointed—a practical tribute to the efficiency of those appointed last year.

**WOMEN ON SCHOOL COMMITTEES.**

During the last session of Parliament, Bills on Education and Licensing which vitally affect the welfare of women and children have been passed. In connection with the Education Bill, School Committees have been formed, and the Association is glad to note that in nearly all cases they are composed of men and women.

**WOMEN'S LABOUR BUREAU ESTABLISHMENTS.**

The Association is glad to be able to report that the Women's Labour Bureau, the establishment of which was so strongly urged by the Committee, to investigate women's work and wages has been set up. It is sure to prove beneficial to the women workers of the State.

**WOMEN AND PEACE.**

Before the departure of the Prime Minister for England the Association sent to him copies of the resolutions expressing its views of the lines on which the future peace settlement

should be made. In particular they urged that both men and women delegates should take part in the International Conference which will be held at the end of the war to decide the terms of that settlement. As the result of a meeting of women called to consider South Australian representation at the International Conference to be held directly after the cessation of war, under the auspices of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, a Committee was formed to carry on a quiet education campaign concerning the desirability of sending a delegate.

The Association also reports that it was represented at the British Dominions Women's Suffrage Mission Second Biennial Conference in London by Mrs. Wragge and Miss Lilla Hornbrook; that it is co-operating in the establishment of an Inter-State Australian Women's Paper, and that it is taking active steps to promote the candidature of women at the next municipal elections.

### CANADA.

#### Victory for Women Suffrage in British Columbia.

Although the final result of the referendum on Woman Suffrage cannot be given until the count of the vote of soldiers on active service is complete, we may confidently reckon that British Columbia is added to the Woman Suffrage States. It was announced in the Canadian Press of October 21st that the referendum gave a majority of 20,000 for Woman Suffrage, the voting being 37,910 for and 17,806 against. Unless the soldiers' vote goes solid against the women—and there is not the slightest reason to anticipate this—women will be enfranchised on March 1st, 1917. British Columbia is the fourth Canadian State to enfranchise women this year. Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan passed Suffrage measures earlier in the year. The area of British Columbia is over 300,000 square miles, and the area of the four Canadian Suffrage States over 1,100,000 square miles.

#### Women Voters in the New Suffrage States.

In Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan women have the right to sit in Parliament. In Alberta they have also the right to any civic office, whereas in Manitoba a woman may be elected to the school board, which is unpaid, but not to the city council, where salaries are paid. In Manitoba, the Political Equality League, which carried on a brilliant Suffrage campaign, is now engaged on an educational campaign, and has changed its name to the Political Education League. The first aim of the women is better laws for women and children. In Manitoba no woman has any claim on the property of her husband, however hard she has worked with him on the farm in creating it. It is hoped to secure for her one-half the property earned by the joint labours of husband and wife. Another reform demanded by the women is equal rights with the father to their children.

It is stated that in Manitoba up to the present the women are keen on maintaining an independent women's organisation, and not being swamped in the men's political parties. They wish to improve social conditions, quite indifferent as to which party does the work.

#### The Federal Vote in Canada.

Women in the enfranchised States are still uncertain whether their vote for the Dominion Parliament will be allowed. They have formed a Dominion Equal Franchise Board to bring the matter of the full enfranchisement of women before the Dominion Government, and to assist the as yet unenfranchised provinces. Mrs. Nellie McClung is chairman of this board.

#### Ontario Equal Franchise Association.

The Ontario women are carrying on an active campaign to present two petitions—one signed by men and one by women—to the Ontario Legislature, to get the women's vote before 1919, when the referendum will be taken on the maintenance of prohibition in Ontario, which "went dry" on September 16th, 1916, for three years.

At the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto the Manitoba Government had a series of pictures in their exhibit showing the year's advance in legislation; one picture was of a woman casting her ballot. The woman depicted was Mrs. Nellie McClung.

#### Women Voters' Letter to Dominion Premier.

The women voters of the enfranchised provinces in the West have addressed an open letter to Sir Robert Borden, which appeared in the Press. In it, as organised enfranchised women,

they claim a share in reconstruction after the war: "This is the only way that the sacrifice of our dear boys may not be in vain, for if we hold back now from the struggle and allow men only to continue to rule the world, what reason have we to hope that the rule of brute force will ever perish from the earth? Alone, it seems, men cannot free the world from the curse of war."

The women of the West claim the enfranchisement of the women of the Dominion.

### INDIA.

#### Ceylon.

The Ceylon Association of Professional Women has sent a resolution to the Director of Education urging the need for medical inspection of school children. The Ceylon Association has done much to promote co-operation among women teachers and between them and women doctors.

The new Viceroy, in his speech to the Imperial Legislative Council, referred to female education as one of the most important and difficult tasks to which efforts should be devoted.

In a recent case of manslaughter, at Satara, when the widow claimed compensation, she appeared in person in the court—a sign of the times, as this has hitherto been unusual.

The *Tribune*, of Lahore, commenting on the controversy in England as to women's claim to speak in church, says:—

#### Hindu Women Preachers.

In India, Hindus recognise women preachers, and listen to a *katha* by a gifted woman with as much respect as from men. But women are not allowed to perform any religious ceremony.

#### A Learned Hindu Princess.

The Dowager Maharani Jaipal Kunwar Sahiba of Balampur has recently died. She was an erudite scholar, in Hindi and Sanskrit, and knew the Hindu Shastras so well that she could excel the most learned Paudits. She was a liberal patron of education and of philanthropic and charitable institutions.

#### Education of Hindu Girls.

The Hindu Female Education Committee appointed by the Bengal Government has published its report, recommending a nine years' school course from girls' sixth to fourteenth year, by which time Hindu girls marry and leave school.

### NEW ZEALAND.

#### Political Notes.

By Our Own Correspondent.

#### WOMEN AND THE LIQUOR TRADE.

A matter on which the Coalition Government and the moral sense of the country are hopelessly at variance is the hostile attitude of the Cabinet towards restriction of liquor selling. One hundred thousand persons have signed petitions for six o'clock closing and anti-treating, and one deputation after another has waited on Ministers, from the Churches (which are practically unanimous), from the women, and from prominent citizens and municipalities. If the Parliament withstands all these a referendum will be demanded. The whole subject is at this moment before the country in the War Regulations Bill.

#### WOMEN AGAINST REGULATION OF PROSTITUTION.

This Bill contains a clause proposing to authorise the Governor-in-Council to issue regulations to suppress prostitution and deal with venereal disease. This hole-and-corner proposal has roused the women to passionate resistance to any reintroduction of the C.D. Acts. At the date of writing the Minister for Public Health has declared his views on the subject, some of which, such as free clinics at ordinary hospitals, and a campaign of education both of the young and of the general public, will be acceptable; but others involving the medical inspection and compulsory detention of immoral women will be fiercely contested by reformers.

#### ALLOWANCES TO SOLDIERS' CHILDREN.

Parliament has just increased from 3s. 6d. to 5s. a week the payment to children of soldiers up to five children. Married men with more than three children are not now allowed to volunteer for service, unless under exceptional circumstances.

#### WOMEN AND CONSCRIPTION BILL.

The Military Service Bill is passed, though there is a strong under-current of advanced opinion against conscription, and all the Labour members opposed the Bill. One clause is still held up, the Upper House insisting on an amendment giving

relief to the religious objector, the Lower House refusing any relief to conscience unless by the finding of a Central Board of Appeal not yet constituted. This attitude of the Lower House is strongly denounced by the Free Churches, the women's organisations, most of the Labour bodies, and the more advanced section of the Press.

July 20th, 1916.

#### PROSTITUTION, VENEREAL DISEASE, AND DRINK.

The dissatisfaction felt by women at the vesting of powers *re* prostitution, venereal disease, and the sale of liquor in the Governor under an Order in Council is stirring them up to consider public affairs as never before. Definite legislation and effective restriction had been asked for. An association, mainly of young university women, has been formed in Wellington, with the main object of watching social legislation and administration. It is felt strongly that these questions cannot be effectively dealt with till women are in Parliament, and only the shortness of the session prevented a campaign for Parliamentary eligibility, which cannot long be delayed.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH.

On other lines good work is being done by the Department for Public Health. Tuberculosis is being fought with vigour. Money is being spent on enlarging sanatorium accommodation, and the free advice and treatment already given is of the greatest benefit.

#### EDUCATION AND MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The Council of Education (on which four women members sit) have just issued a number of recommendations that will, when brought into effect, link up health and education in a remarkable manner, greatly enlarging the sphere of the present medical inspectors of schools (male and female), providing school nurses, providing help and advice for mothers of young children, free dentistry, and special instruction for defectives.

General satisfaction is felt regarding the entry of girls into new branches of business and civil service since the war. Girl clerks in banks and State institutions are giving high satisfaction, and the scale of pay is not ungenerous, while working conditions are well seen to. The Government is dealing well with aspirants to the telegraph service, classes being held at which the learners are paid £40 a year, and after nine months they begin work at £60 or upwards, with lodging allowance if away from home.

September, 1916.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

#### Women's Enfranchisement Association.

The amended resolution passed at the Conference of the above Association at Maritzburg, on June 29th and 30th and July 1st, will be of interest possibly for *Jus Suffragii*, and will prove that although we have been deeply involved in this war on both our east and west frontiers and oversea, we have succeeded in a measure in keeping the eyes of our women on matters of concern on Suffrage and on social reform. The Conference chose Lady Steel, of Natal, as a successor to our lamented president, Mrs. Macintosh, and we know that in her we have an enthusiast for the woman's cause, and foremost for Suffrage.

Laura Ruxton, Secretary.

#### RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT CONFERENCE, 1916.

By W.E.L., Durban.

"That as the W.E.A.U. exists solely for the purpose of Woman Suffrage, they should refuse to allow of any lessening of Suffrage work, and devote their energies to securing the vote."

By W.R.C., Johannesburg.

"That for the duration of the war our Suffrage work take the following form:—

"(a) To support any amendment in favour of Woman Suffrage to the Electoral Bill, the best means of doing which to be left to the discretion of the Parliamentary Committee.

"(b) To appoint at the Conference a Committee to be present at Cape Town during the session of Parliament for this purpose (and to take prompt action if necessary).

"(c) That the scope and powers of this Committee be to watch minutely in the interests of women all legislation which may directly or indirectly affect them, with a special recommendation to be on the watch for any opportunity of securing the vote for women.

"(d) To suggest that the local Woman Suffrage Societies may in addition to Suffrage work undertake such duties as necessarily devolve upon women."

By W.R.C., Johannesburg.

"That the W.E.A.U. work for the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act of the Cape Colony."

By W.R.C., Johannesburg.

"That in view of the good and successful work done by the Women Patrols and Women Police in Cape Town, the W.E.A.U. urge that the Government be asked to appoint Women Police in all large towns of the Union, provided that they are qualified, paid equally, and authorised equally, with men."

By W.E.L., Maritzburg.

"That this meeting views with alarm the action of the Union Parliament in inserting the provisos in Clause 3 of the Act relative to the protection of girls under the age of 16, and urges that the Act should be amended by the deletion of the said provisos. The defence allowed by the first proviso will result in many innocent girls being falsely accused of being prostitutes, while the guilty man will go free, and, finding it easy to evade punishment, will repeat the crime. With regard to the second proviso, referring to the age of accused, the records of the Courts of the Union, and Natal in particular, show that many natives have been charged with and convicted of assaults on girls of tender years, and, if pleading they are under the age of 16 they are discharged, these offences will rapidly increase."

"This Conference views with horror these provisos, which serve but to increase the dangers the Bill was brought in to prevent."

By W.E.L., Johannesburg.

"This Conference of the W.E.A.U. recognises the work done by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Solly and those associated with them in their success in raising the age of consent in the Cape Province and Orange Free State."

By Organising Committee—Natal Coast.

"That the W.E.A.U. put forward every effort to keep the W.R.C. going."

By W.C.C., Cape Town.

"This Conference of the W.E.A.U. is of opinion that the Charter of Justice should be amended so as to allow women to qualify for practice, and to practise together at the Bar, and at the side Bar, throughout the Union."

By W.R.C., Krugersdorp.

"That the W.R.C., Krugersdorp, recommend a course of study on Woman's Franchise, its history, its development in various countries, its possibilities in relation to social reform, eugenics, economics, municipal life."

By W.E.L., Maritzburg.

"This Conference views with alarm what must be termed the retrogression of the cinematograph and its harmful influence upon children; its educational and highly instructive features are of the utmost value, but the growing custom of children attending evening performances and being present at the screening of the most objectionable and exciting pictures are most harmful to their best interests; and this Congress is of opinion that the time has arrived when the Government should restrict performances for children to afternoons only, and that the pictures then screened should be those approved by a local or otherwise elected censorship."

By W.E.L., Uitenhage.

"That a Macintosh organisation fund be started."

By W.E.L., Johannesburg.

"That this Conference of the W.E.A.U. supports the principle of equal pay for equal work, and thoroughly deprecates voluntary work by means of which wage-earning women are deprived of a livelihood."

"In view of the altered economic conditions which have already taken place, and will continue to do so, in consequence of the war, together with the valuable work done by women, whereby they have proved their undoubted right to equality of citizenship with men, this Conference calls upon the Government to introduce without delay a measure of enfranchisement of women, whereby they would be enabled to play their fitting part in the social reconstruction which they see to be inevitable."

"That this Conference of the W.E.A.U. lend their support to the principles laid down in the Minimum Wage Bill, and that the W.E.A.U. through its affiliated societies pledges itself to forward by every possible means the passing of the Bill." (Mr. Patrick Duncan's, next session.)

"That this Conference urge the Provincial Council of the Transvaal to rectify the anomaly of women having the right to sit on school boards without the right to vote on the election of members."

"That it be a recommendation from this Conference to women of all the Provinces that they take special interest in the municipal affairs, such as the returning of suitable men and women to the municipal councils, the abolition of abuses, the securing to women equality with men when engaged in municipal work, and by so doing fit themselves for the larger franchise when they have obtained the same; this to be accomplished either by means of existing societies or by the formation of associations to deal with municipal affairs." (Since this a second woman has been elected Councillor of Maritzburg, Natal.)

By W.E.L., Uitenhage.

"That the presidents of the League be advised to instruct their members on the constitution of the W.E.A.U. at their executive and general meetings, to urge its value to Woman Suffrage, and the value of the *Outlook* as its organ of speech."

#### ICELAND.

##### Women's First Vote for Althing.

On October 21st there was a general election for the Althing, at which women voted for the first time, and stood as candidates.

##### Icelanders Help Manitoba Campaign.

*Kvennabladid* reports that on January 27th, 1916, the Manitoba Parliament unanimously passed at the third reading the Bill for granting women the Suffrage and eligibility on the same terms as men. Mr. T. H. Johnson (Vice-Premier), in the absence of the Premier, piloted the Bill through the House. The Icelandic women colonists, who 20 years ago started this movement in Manitoba, had the pleasure of seeing it finally passed by the son of the distant beloved country. There was a great demonstration, and the women were seated on the floor of the House.

#### ITALY.

##### SLAVERY IN MUNITION WORKS.

The *Difesa delle Lavoratrici* ("Defence of Working Women") of October 8th gives an account of conditions in munition works practically amounting to slavery. A woman, Gusmaroli, was brought before the Milan Court Martial charged with having left her work in an auxiliary factory without permission. The woman was mentally deficient, and the work on the turning bench produced nervous disturbance, in consequence of which she attempted suicide. Her earnings were only two lire a day, and she had to support dependent members of her family. For these reasons, and at the wish of her mother, Gusmaroli asked to be released for reasons of ill-health and insufficient wages. Permission was refused, and, being unable to continue, she left work. For this she has been sent to prison for two months.

##### WOMEN'S HOURS OF WORK.

The *Difesa delle Lavoratrici* gives the terms of a petition presented by the General Confederation of Labour and the General Federation of Metal Workers to the Ministers of War, Industry, and Labour, and to the Under-Secretary of Munitions, demanding:—

- (1) That with the exception of the hours of work, the laws on the labour of women and children and of the weekly rest should be in full force, and that attention should be paid to measures of hygiene, necessitated by the exceptional conditions.
- (2) That women, and children under eighteen, should work the following maximum number of hours: (a) Day, 10 hours, with 2 hours' rest; (b) night, 9 hours, with 2 hours' rest; with a strong recommendation to introduce three 8-hour shifts as soon as possible, to use men's labour as far as possible for night work, and to try to institute 5-hour shifts for women.
- (3) That the Inspection of Labour be restored.
- (4) That Communal and Regional Offices be established, with proportional representation.
- (5) That workmen returning from military service should have the right to return to their previous positions.
- (6) That the wives of conscripts who work should not thereby lose their right to the allowance due to them.

##### CONDITIONS IN MUNITION FACTORIES.

A gentleman, who was the director of a factory where projectiles were made, told me that it was inhuman to give women work of the kind; that they came into the factories perfectly

healthy and flourishing, and in the course of a few weeks they were thin and wasted. They work from ten to twelve hours a day, on a contract, and are obliged to work one week in the daytime and the following week at night. At the end their state is pitiable. Not only this, but fines are frequent in the case of these unfortunate women, who are rapidly losing their health! Who can say whether these women who are spending themselves in the workshops will not get into their blood the germs of fatigue and demoralisation? And the children who are born now, the mother bestially working at such labour during her pregnancy, will they inherit tuberculosis or an early death?

EMILIA CANDELARI, *Difesa delle Lavoratrici*.  
Milan, October 8th.

#### NETHERLANDS.

##### Suffrage and the New Constitution.

During the summer the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht used all its energy to rouse the people all over the country in favour of Woman Suffrage. Open-air and hall meetings were held wherever possible, and in those always crowded meetings never one word of disapproval was heard. Mostly, great enthusiasm and approval of our cause were shown, and lots of new members entered our society. But at the beginning of the new Parliamentary year, on September 19th, the whole strength of our movement was brought over to The Hague to influence as much as possible the members of Parliament and the Ministers of the Cabinet.

For that purpose we arranged a new kind of propaganda. During the war it is not allowed to hold processions at The Hague. We therefore invited our members to come to The Hague on the 19th of September, the day of the opening of Parliament by the Queen. On such an opening day there are always lots of people in the streets to see the Queen in her golden coach and her lace-trimmed train, going from her palace to the House of Parliament. All our members wore large yellow and white ribbons, and were placed in groups of ten or twelve all over the town, so that the Queen and the whole Government saw that day the Woman Suffrage colours everywhere. Some large shops in the streets where the Queen passed that day had their large show windows exhibiting the Woman Suffrage colours. To make sure that the Queen could not misunderstand the meaning of the yellow-and-white colours, some of our members offered the Queen that morning a large bouquet of white and yellow orchids, with a card on which was written: "At the opening of this parliamentary year, so important for the women of the Netherlands, Dutch women offer this flower homage in the Woman Suffrage colours to the First Woman of the country." That the Queen had understood this message was shown by the letter Dr. Aletta H. Jacobs, as president of the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht, received the next day, in which Her Majesty thanked the women for their kindness.

During the parliamentary session that day hundreds of women remained in the Binnenhof (the place in front of the House of Parliament) and distributed our pamphlets. At eight o'clock that night a large public meeting was held in the Dierentuin, where two members of Parliament and two of our own speakers addressed a very enthusiastic crowd.

The next day we began a Woman Suffrage watch. Every day, half-an-hour before the sessions are opened, at least twenty of our members (some days there are thirty or forty) stand at the entrance of the House of Parliament, as quiet as possible, carrying only a large board on which is written: "No new Constitution without Woman Suffrage in it"; or, "We claim Universal Suffrage for women in the new Constitution," or something else. Every day that inscription is changed. Those women remain there the whole day until the session is closed and the last member has left the building.

The result of this Woman Suffrage watch, as the newspapers call it, is that reporters of all kinds of papers come there to interview us and to photograph us, that the whole day people come and go for curiosity, and that the members of Parliament cannot forget our claim. They must pass us. There are some cowards among the members of Parliament who try to pass through a back door, but our aim is reached just as well—namely, that they must remember the claims of the Suffragists.

At the same time the different public galleries in the House are also filled with women wearing our colours, and we take care that as soon as one member speaks against Woman Suffrage his always unjust arguments are contradicted by our arguments which we send to our member-friends.

On the 18th of October we try to arrange a crowd of several thousand women to send in a petition to the House. That day, probably, the discussion of the Woman Suffrage question will have its climax.

But we feel very downhearted. The leaders of the parties which have upheld the Woman Suffrage claim with us—the Social Democrats and the Radicals,—fearing not to win Universal Male Suffrage if they bind it together with Universal Suffrage for women, are going to drop the women in order to get the Male Suffrage easier. We are afraid they will not even try to get it. But, nevertheless, we shall do our utmost to the end.

ALETTA H. JACOBS.

October 2nd, 1916.

#### NORWAY.

##### Landskvindestemmeretsforeningens Annual Meeting.

##### TRIBUTE TO GINA KROG.

The National Norwegian Woman Suffrage Association had its National Conference in Kristiania on July 7th and 8th, in the Fête Hall of the University.

Delegates from the branches as well as individual members were at the meeting.

The president, Fru Qvam, gave them a hearty welcome, and said that when we have the privilege to come together in these times, so full of sorrow and sufferings, and in peace can discuss the questions before us, we feel the deepest gratitude and thankfulness which inspires us to work more intensely than ever for the many and great tasks which we think are of use for our country and our nation. We see with sadness the empty place of Gina Krog; her stately figure shall no more be seen amongst us. We need just now her intrepid patriotism; there is so much to defend, both at home and abroad. She was one of the thirteen foundresses of the L.K.S.F.; she was one of those who aided us to raise the standard that has carried victory to the L.K.S.F., and thereby to all the women of Norway.

It is now fifteen years since that beautiful Whitsuntide when we won our first victory—Municipal Suffrage,—and victory has followed upon victory in these fifteen years. We do not mind some single trenches that were lost but have been recaptured. I had, therefore, the hope that the L.K.S.F. should this year have been able to celebrate a fête of thanksgiving and joy for all we have won of rights for women. But then came the sad tidings of the decease of Gina Krog, and all the bad news from the foreign countries, where the friends and co-workers of our Association have so great losses to bear, and so many of our stout Suffrage champions are taken away by the war monster; and we hear of nameless terrors, and of thousands of corpses drifting along our shores.

All this has laid its shadow on our minds, so that we are not able to rejoice. But over our thanks to Gina Krog for her work for the women's cause no shadow shall fall. Her memory will always be kept up by intelligent and thinking women. She is of those who make history.

When we think of Gina Krog, our thoughts will from her find their way to her friend in Eidsvold, where our branch has lost its president, Agnes Lie. She was an intimate friend of Gina Krog, and a central figure in her community, loved and respected, as was best seen from the many sympathisers in the funeral procession, when Agnes Lie was taken from her farm to her last resting place. These two were friends in life, and followed each other in death. Both on their post, working for women's rights. The audience showed their appreciation by rising to their feet.

When the annual report had been read, Fru Qvam told of the work and victories of the women of Iceland, and greetings and congratulations were sent to Reykjavik. The victorious women of Canada were also remembered, and a congratulatory letter sent to them.

##### PEACE WORK.

Now followed the question: Shall the L.K.S.F. join the work for peace? Fru Keilhau gave a picture of the journey to the Women's Peace Congress at The Hague. The tour through Denmark, where young girls from the high schools met with flowers in hair and hands, singing the national hymn of Denmark—dearest green fields, the image of peace,—and then the tour through Germany, where sorrow was to be seen everywhere, and hundreds of trains with wounded soldiers passed, and war everywhere had set its marks. The report of the Congress she ended with the words of Björnson, our great poet: "Somebody must begin to forgive." She said women ought

to work for the realisation of this thought. Fru Martha Larsen said the most touching scene at The Hague Conference was when German and Austrian women during the meeting went down into the hall and led the Belgian women, now without a fatherland, who were seated there, up to the steps of the president's chair, where they stayed during the rest of the Conference. Such a little lucid interval against the dark background, that the history of the world in these days places before us, can make us warm and glad. We who have lived to see August 13th, 1905, the peaceful dissolution of the union between Norway and Sweden, and have seen the beneficial results thereof, we have a right and a duty to work for a peaceful solution of international disputes. She also spoke of the children. It is a sin that children be educated systematically to hate other nations. What is wanted is to create a good soil for the peace idea in the soft, impressionable mind of the child. She reminded us of what Björnson said on his seventieth birthday: "If I could wish the best thing I know for a land and for a nation, it is that at least the youngest of us might live to hear the sound of bells in the air, tunes that herald that peace was coming." After the two splendid lectures followed a discussion; there was such a warmth and impetus over this discussion, as fully proved the great interest of the audience for this question, and the vote resulted in a resolution of sympathy with the work for future peace.

##### THE FOOD PROBLEM.

A discussion of the high food prices and remedies against them followed after a very interesting lecture of Fru Schöning on women and scarcity. War produces on the one side great wealth, on the other side much suffering and poverty. Therefore, those who have the riches have also the duty to help the very many who suffer want, who are badly fed and destitute of the most necessary things. The women who possess wealth ought to give of their surplus to their poor sisters. Since July, 1914, the following increases of prices have taken place: Meat, 79 per cent.; meal, groat, and peas, 76 per cent.; sugar, 69 per cent.; milk, 50 per cent.; margarine and eggs, 27 per cent.; petroleum, 48 per cent.; coal and coke, 129 per cent. The figures speak for themselves. Fru Schöning urged the women to take their place at the men's side in the commissions for food supply ordered by the Storting, and to spread knowledge of book-keeping and economy in the daily housekeeping. A proposal from Fröken Karen Retvedt and the factory inspector, Fru Betsy Kjelsberg, tending to recommend the prohibition of exporting victuals, was postponed to the next day.

Fru Gina Borchgrevink gave a very instructive lecture on direct trade. She pointed out the necessity for the housewives of a regulation of the market trade, so that consumers a day or two a week might be permitted to buy from the producers direct—without the intermediary of the buyers up of meat, fish, potatoes, and other necessaries of life, and that direct trade ought to be protected by law. A very interesting discussion followed, and the meeting resolved to bring pressure to bear upon the Justice Department and the Mayors of the towns to protect direct trade, in order that the consumers (housewives) may buy direct from the producers (farmers, fishers).

Fru Qvam's lecture on Dr. Agnes Mathilde Wergeland, late Professor of History, French, and Spanish, in the University of Wyoming at Laramie, was of very great interest. The *executor testamenti*, Dr. Grace Raymond Hebord, had just sent a sum to the L.K.S.F.'s fund, under the name of Dr. Wergeland's legacy, for the promotion of professional education for women in Norway. Dr. Wergeland, the first Norwegian woman who took the Ph.D. degree, and the first Norwegian woman University professor, was a learned and highly respected person, and therefore the whole lecture will follow later on.

The next day Dr. Marie Kjøseth pointed out the necessity of erecting municipal lying-in hospitals. She spoke of the falling mortality from puerperal fever on account of the progress of bacteriology, the necessity of cleanliness, and the necessity of rest and repose for the mother after parturition. "We understand what work a woman performs at this time when we remember that the first little cell is in nine months developed into a child of 3 kilogrammes weight." The proposition that municipal lying-in homes must be erected was warmly applauded by the meeting. The lecture as well as the cause were met with warm sympathy by the audience.

##### WOMEN CLERGY.

The next question on the programme was "Women Clergymen," by Fru Martha Steinsvik. It is impossible to give a

short summary of this lecture. It was so full of glow and inspiration that the audience were seized with enthusiasm. All faces glowed, and many eyes were filled with tears. And the thanks, spoken by Fru Qvam at the end of the lecture, were thanks from us *all*. The quintessence of what she said (not seen from without, but from within) may perhaps be expressed thus: The pale, abstract, trained male brain needs by its side the women with their warmth, their gift of intuition and of divination. Make place for us by your side, clergymen, in the House of God! Finally a resolution was unanimously voted, to bring pressure to bear upon the Church Department of the Government to take the steps necessary for admitting qualified women to clerical offices.

#### COMPULSORY DOMESTIC ECONOMY TEACHING.

The next theme was the question of obligatory instruction in domestic economy. The opening address was delivered by Frøken Inger Troften. In the following discussion Fru Morgretke Christensen, Frøken Helga Helgesen, and others, spoke. They were all of one mind—that home economics must become a compulsory branch of instruction in all children's schools. There was, on the contrary, difference of opinion as to the practical instruction later on—whether the young girls shall have their instruction in domestic science in special boarding schools, or only special courses.

Fru Qvam rendered an account of the fund, founded by the L.K.S.F., for the professional education of women.

It was unanimously voted to send addresses of appreciation to the Government for the Bill it had proposed, and to the Storting (Parliament) for the voting of this Bill, that gives admission for women as members of the King's Council.

An excursion to Tryvandshøiden, in the balmy spruce forest, with the beautiful view of the fjord, the Capitol, the valley and environs, the distant mountains clad in snow, and the nearer ones clad in pine and spruce forests, ended the interesting Congress. The ladies were all of opinion that the meetings increased in interest as the hours fled, and all had the feeling of having received many and valuable impulses and thoughts—to be exchanged in life.

#### Woman and Agriculture.

Miss Nanna Michelet has completed the examination of the High School of Agriculture. She has taken her degrees with great honour. Her father is a professor of theology in the University of Kristiania; her mother is a very highly valued lecturer and worker for the woman's cause and social work. Since she was five years old she has always wished to become a farmer. She has completed two years study in a school of agriculture, and two years at the Agricultural High School. She says: "I was the only girl among all the boy students. But it is of no matter. They were excellent boys. As student I also practised as apprentice on three farms, and I was met with great sympathy by all my masters. This was of great help to me. I should not have advanced so far as I am if I had not had an energetic mother and a good home. A good home is the first and most necessary basis for advance in the world."

#### RUSSIA.

##### Higher Education.

In April of the current year the Ministry of Education called a conference to discuss reforms concerning secondary schools. Until now the course of instruction in schools for girls has been somewhat less exacting, and it was therefore rendered necessary for girls who had completed their secondary school course to pass a supplementary examination in several subjects before they could obtain admission to the universities. It is now proposed to adopt an identical course of studies for all secondary schools, irrespective of the sex of the pupils.

Co-education was another subject under discussion, but the conclusions arrived at were somewhat vague, and it was proposed to allow experiments in co-education to be tried with due caution in certain cases.

##### Women in the Railway Service.

At the first National Congress of Women a report was read concerning the employment of women in the various branches of the railway service. It appears that women began to be employed as gatekeepers at railway crossings in 1837, the date of the opening of the first railway line in Russia. In 1909, out of 392,314 railway employees, 34,658 (8.8 per cent.) were women. The latter filled the positions of watchmen, labourers, clerks, stationmasters, telegraph operators. The pay received by female employees was considerably lower than that given

to their male colleagues. The average for men worked out at 404 roubles, that for women at 184 roubles a year. In the case of stationmasters, however, the difference was not so marked, a man receiving 595 roubles, whilst a woman stationmaster was paid 578 roubles. According to instructions from the Minister of Railways, the proportion of female railway employees is not to exceed 10 per cent. of the total number. As a matter of fact, the percentage of women employed varies from 4.3 per cent. to 2.9 per cent., according to the various railway lines. Since the war women have been allowed to serve as cashiers, guards on passenger and goods trains, as signalmen on branch lines, and in engine shops. An inquiry addressed by the Ministry to the managers of all the railway lines as to the desirability of increasing the number of women employees has resulted in favourable replies in almost all cases.

##### Women's Position in Universities and Technical Schools.

A Commission appointed by the Imperial Duma approved of the proposal to admit women as professors and as students to the Ekaterinoslav School of Mines.

It is proposed to convert the existing "higher courses" for women in Petrograd and Moscow into separate women's universities.

The Kiev branch of the Women's Protective Association has been engaged for some years in establishing women's hostels where accommodation and food were obtainable at a nominal rate for girls seeking work, workrooms and dress-making schools, employment bureaux, and free legal advice. Sunday classes, lectures, and concerts were also arranged. Soon after the exodus of refugees from Poland began it was found necessary to adapt all the available accommodation for the reception of fugitive women and children. During the twenty-one months of the war the Association has given shelter to over 2,000 women and children; employment in the Society's workrooms was given to 1,205 women, the payments for work done amounting to 16,528 roubles, and 17,324 meals were supplied from their public kitchens.

—From the *Women's Messenger*, September.

#### SWEDEN.

##### St. Birgitta's Day.

A good start was given to this winter's Suffrage work in Sweden by the celebration of St. Birgitta's Day, October 7th, by Woman Suffrage Associations all over the country. The institution of a common Woman Suffrage Day for the whole country will no doubt prove a good idea. It will help to strengthen the feeling of solidarity among women, as well as call forth fresh energy and courage in face of difficulties to be overcome.

Reports have not as yet reached headquarters from all the different places, big or small, where meetings have been held, but as far as we can gather from the information received, the meetings have been very successful and well attended.

The celebration of the Woman Suffrage Society of Stockholm took place at Vetenskapsakademien (Academy of Science), and began in a most impressive manner. At the first notes of Stenhammar's "Sweden," sung from the gallery by an invisible ladies' choir, our new Suffrage banner (yellow embroidery on white silk) appeared on the platform, surrounded by its guard of honour, young girls in white, the audience standing while the singing lasted. The beauty of the words (Heidenstam's) and the music never fails of its effect on the hearers. It is to be hoped that the sight of the Suffrage banner at that moment revealed to non-Suffragists something of the deep patriotic feeling that inspires Suffragists!

In her inauguration speech, Dr. Gulli Petrini, the president of the Stockholm W.S.S., drew attention to the emblem on our banner, adopted by the International Alliance—the familiar figure of the goddess of Justice. She declared our determination to follow that guide even in these hard times. The belief that Right shall triumph at last must not be allowed to die. That belief has created martyrs and heroes; it has been the source of many a victory. The belief in that leading star has also kept our International Alliance unbroken during the war. Across the different fronts the women have sent greetings to each other, expressing their grief at what is going on, and their hopes of receiving one day their full share as citizens in the life of the nations, so as to be able to work for the establishment of a lasting peace. We know, she said, that we claim not only a right but a duty full of responsibilities, but we do it because we believe that our country needs us. Therefore, we will rally round our banner; it shall go before us,

stimulating us, urging us on to renewed efforts. We hope that the day is not far away when we shall carry it before us, proud of our victory.

The second part of the programme was devoted to the memory of St. Birgitta, that most remarkable woman of the Middle Ages. "From the standpoint of modern scientific research there is nothing inconceivable in the presumption that Birgitta, if she had lived now, might have been among the leaders of the fight for Woman Suffrage," says Dr. Lydia Wahlström in her article on "St. Birgitta as a Politician" (*Rösträtt för Kvinnor*). And she adds, "If the Swedish Suffrage movement needed a patron saint, as a matter of course she would be the chosen one." Birgitta, the poet, not only in words but in deeds, a creature of indomitable will, who knew no fear when her conscience bade her speak her mind on political as well as on religious matters.

The first item on that part of the programme was the recitation of Miss E. Frøberg's splendid prologue on St. Birgitta (written for the summer meeting at Strängnäs). It was followed by the old medieval hymn, "Rosa rarans bonitatem," sung by the choir; and, *last but not least*, a lecture on "Woman and the Community," a historic "Looking Backward," was given by Professor O. Montelius, one of our most distinguished historians and archaeologists.

In order to understand rightly the present position of woman, the speaker pointed out, we must go back to the remote past, when woman was part of her master's possessions—a *thing owned*, to be sold, given away, beaten, may even killed, according to his pleasure. It was the remnants of those primitive ideas about the nature and position of women that, very often unknown to themselves, play such a great part in the opposition of men to the claims of women. The change that has taken place since those ancient times, gradual and slow as it may seem to us now, is, said the speaker, from the historian's point of view, nothing short of a revolution. And the thing to be kept in mind is that this great change has been brought about by *spiritual force*. *Physical force*, then, we have reason to believe, is not to be the dominant one. So, in spite of what we see before us these days, we are moving onwards to something better. He believed, he said, in the enfranchisement of women, because he believed in justice and the ultimate victory of a righteous cause. The women needed the vote, and the community needed the women.

It is scarcely necessary to state that the lecture met with great applause from the intensely interested audience that filled the room to overflowing.

Then the choir again appeared on the platform, and gave us some fine songs.

Miss Signe Bergman, the president of our National Union of W.S.S. (Landsförening), finally gave an account of "How Woman Suffrage Gains Ground in the World"—a splendid object-lesson for anti's at home. She began with the memorable days in London, immediately before the war broke out, when members of the International Alliance were busy with preparations for the Congress which was to take place in Berlin in 1915. She spoke of the spirited way in which the women took upon themselves their new burdens, and how everywhere they have met with recognition of their good services to their respective countries; how, in spite of all the fresh work they have been organising, they never forgot their Suffrage work. On the contrary, everywhere there has been great activity. She reported all the Suffrage news from abroad, dwelling particularly on the victories in America, Mr. Asquith's altered position, and the importance of the change in public opinion in the belligerent countries on the whole. She closed by reciting the resolution adopted by our Suffrage Associations all over the country. It runs as follows:—

*Resolution adopted by the Suffrage Societies of Sweden on St. Birgitta's Day, October 7th, 1916.*

To-day, St. Birgitta's Day, we Swedish women assemble to demand again our right to political citizenship. We have chosen this day because in Birgitta we revere the independent spirit that, forced by the voice of conscience, dared to express an opinion even before the mighty ones of this world.

The war has brought humanity face to face with new problems. In the service of their country the women, besides their home tasks, have taken over a great part of the work before done by men, and while so doing have manifested great powers of self-sacrifice, capacity for work, and endurance. The natural consequence of this is a radical change in the estimation of the importance of women as citizens. Well-known and influential opponents of Woman Suffrage have publicly announced their altered opinions.

No doubt the Swedish woman, under similar circumstances, would show the same civic spirit, the same capability. It would indeed be worthy of the men of Sweden to withhold no longer from the women of Sweden that right which has already been given to the rest of the Scandinavian women, although they have not been called upon to prove, in the hard trials of war, their self-sacrificing love of their country.

We express our hopes that the day may soon arrive when justice shall be done also to the women of Sweden.

The festival closed in the same strain as it began. The choir struck up a national song in which the audience joined, standing. This time it was our National Anthem, "Du gamla, du fria, du fjällhöga Nord" ("Thou ancient, thou freeborn, thou land of the fells"), which gave vent to the patriotic feelings.

And so we went away strengthened and encouraged to take up again the work that brought us together—the work of liberation that we stand pledged to.

—HÉLÈNE PHILIPSON.

St. Birgitta stands out beyond all her contemporaries as a born ruler, not only of the religious communities which bear her name, but also of men outside the convent walls. Born about 1300 A.D., of a distinguished family, wife and daughter of men of noble birth and legal position, she played an important part in the politics of her time, maintaining her conscientious opinions frequently in opposition to the King and his Court. In her "Revelations," written down by her confessor whilst she was in a state of trance, may be found the guiding ideas of many of the laws placed on the Statute Book regulating the powers of the King in relation to the peasantry—reforms of a democratic character, although St. Birgitta, through her family traditions, had distinct aristocratic predilections. She was the type of woman who in our day would assuredly have been a leader of the women's movement, and her memorial day has therefore been chosen by Swedish Suffragists as an occasion for proclaiming the principles of which she is the medieval representative.

—DR. LYDIA WAHLSTRÖM in *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*.

##### Woman Suffrage and the Programme of the Radical Party.

In the address given by Advocate Eliel Lövgren at the meeting of the party in the fifth electoral district in Stockholm, he expressed himself as follows on the question of Women's Suffrage:—

Women's enfranchisement has entered on a new phase. It is looked on in democratic parties as a necessary development. The world has not only called upon men to give their service to the State; women have taken men's place both in productive work and war work. The theory of the Suffrage being dependent on universal military service has thus been exploded. After describing the change of opinion on the subject amongst English Ministers, he expressed his conviction that the Swedish Radical party, which stands for the true democratic spirit, will support the movement for women's enfranchisement which is going through the whole world.

—*Rösträtt för Kvinnor*.

On a motion by the Malmö Women's Debating Club the Labour Union decided at their meeting at Malmö on September 25th to support the political enfranchisement of women at the party Congress. This resolution was forwarded to the Labour members in the Riksdag, with the request that they should bring forward a similar motion demanding the vote for women.

—*Rösträtt för Kvinnor*.

Fru Louise av Ekenstam, chairman of the local Suffrage Society, has been elected a member of the town council of Lund.

—*Rösträtt för Kvinnor*.

##### Women Town Councillors.

The headmistress, Frøken Amalia Lundgren, has been elected to the Town Council of Örebro at the last municipal by-election.

At the first meeting of the Stockholm Town Council, Frøken Anna Lindhagen brought forward a motion with the object of appointing expert consultants so as to facilitate the laying out of small gardens in the back yards and vacant spaces of town dwellings.

—*Rösträtt för Kvinnor*.

**Eva Rodhe.**

Eva Rodhe, one of the pioneers of the woman's movement in Sweden, has just completed her eightieth year.

Eva Rodhe has had a long and distinguished career as an educationist. After she had occupied the position of headmistress at the elementary girls' school in Uddevalla for sixteen years, where her former pupils speak with enthusiasm of their happy schooldays, she undertook a three years' journey abroad for the purpose of study. The result of her experience was the establishment of the Eva Rodhe school of housecraft and handicraft for children, which under her direction became a model establishment of its kind at home and abroad.

For twenty years she was a member of the Board of Elementary Education at Gothenburg, where she exercised a most valuable influence. She also took an active part on other educational bodies. She perceived how ignorance of domestic management amongst mothers produced poverty and misery. It was due to her initiative that instruction in cookery and domestic economy was introduced into the school curriculum. She was for many years inspector of the school kitchens at Gothenburg. She also took practical interest in the establishment of school holiday colonies, the feeding of school children, travelling school kitchens, and was instrumental in forming an association for obtaining annuities for domestic servants.

Such a woman naturally threw herself with ardour into the Suffrage movement. In the summer of 1902 the first Suffrage Society in Gothenburg was formed at her house, and she occupied the chair at its first meeting. She also in those early days wrote a pamphlet on the subject, which, though fourteen years have elapsed since she wrote it, still takes the first place as a clear and logical exposition of the principle of women's enfranchisement. Not long after she founded a Suffrage Society in Uddevalla, of which most of the members had been her pupils.

—Rösträtt för Kvinnor.

**The Position of Women's Suffrage in Country Districts.**

The *Jämtlands Kurier* makes an appeal for a more active propaganda in the country districts, where the interest in Women's Suffrage is becoming very keen, and only needs organisation to express itself effectively. It is, of course, among the self-supporting women that the need for enfranchisement is most strongly felt, and it is remarkable that the country villages seem to provide the most favourable soil for a Suffrage agitation. It is also noteworthy that several of the clergy are filled with an earnest enthusiasm for the cause. The rector of a country parish in Norrland writes: "There seems to be an impression that there is little hope of support for the Suffrage movement amongst the peasant women in country communities. This impression rests on an entire misconception of the actual conditions. Although there are at present neither Suffrage societies nor workers for Suffrage or social democracy to be found in these outlying regions, the interest in the enfranchisement of women is very great." The question of Women's Suffrage has received a sudden and strong impetus throughout the country during the last few years, and all that is needed is a sufficiency of financial and personal help in propaganda work in order to bring it to a successful issue.

—Rösträtt för Kvinnor.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.****California Laws Do Credit to Voting Women.**

California is already well known for its adoption of the Equal Guardianship Law for Children, the Red Light Abatement and Injunction Act, the minimum wage and eight-hour day for women, and the defeat of the Race-track Gambling Bill. Among other laws which have found their way into the California Statute Books, owing largely to women voters, are: One for a detention home for girls, carrying a \$200,000 appropriation; a birth registration law; an amendment to the Child Labour Law raising the age limit; regulating street trades and prohibiting children under 16 from working in certain dangerous industries; a compulsory education law keeping children under 16 in school until they have passed at least the eighth grade; the Home Teachers' Bill; the Bastardy Act, requiring the father to support his illegitimate child; the free use of all public school-houses; the Teachers' Pension Bill; a standard of weights and measures, with a provision for a State superintendent to control it; and a law for the State regulation of nurses.

**President Wilson at the Suffrage Convention.**

Attended by more than 1,000 of the most prominent and representative women in the country, and honoured by an address from the President of the United States, the recent emergency-called Convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association at Atlantic City, September 6th-10th, has gone on record as the most important Suffrage gathering in the history of the cause in America. Some conception of its importance in the eyes of the country at large may be gleaned from the fact that 43 newspaper correspondents attended its sessions, and that virtually every newspaper in the United States carried full reports of the Convention's daily activities. In addition, all of the big political parties took advantage of the opportunity to send their most prominent leaders to the Convention and pledge their allegiance to the principle of Woman Suffrage, and their co-operation in the fight which is being made for it by the women of the United States.

As announced by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, national leader of the Suffragists, the Convention was called to meet the crisis that has arisen in the Woman Suffrage movement in America. All political parties had declared in their platforms their belief in the principle of Woman Suffrage, though their statements differed in the endorsement of the method of obtaining it. Thus, with Suffrage so closely identified with politics, it was necessary for the National Association to meet and discuss questions of policy and programme, both for the full political campaign and for future activity.

The Convention voted overwhelmingly to maintain the old policy of non-partisanship that has characterised the National Suffrage Association since its organisation 48 years ago. To be sure, a resolution was introduced which was interpreted to be partisan, but it was supported by only a few delegates. The sentiment was almost unanimous that the organisation should be free to approach the next Congress and the next President, whether Republican or Democrat, without prejudice from any quarter.

The National Association also debated, discussed, and re-defined its position on the Federal Amendment, voted to continue its present policy of both State and Federal action, and instructed its Congressional Committee to concentrate all its resources upon a determined effort to carry the Federal Amendment through the last session of the 64th Congress. A nation-wide platform of work was adopted that will mark the Atlantic City Convention as the beginning of a new era for Suffrage in the United States. This programme provides for a nation-wide campaign of education, agitation, organisation, and publicity in support of the Federal Amendment. A campaign fund of approximately \$800,000 was pledged in forty minutes by the delegates to the Convention to assure the financing of this nation-wide campaign, one feature of which will be monthly propaganda demonstrations that will be conducted simultaneously throughout the country.

The Convention had the honour of an address from the President of the United States on the night of September 8th. On that night, President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson occupied seats on the stage of the New Nixon Theatre, and after listening to speeches in which the possibilities of the vote in woman's hands were strikingly presented, the President himself arose, and reiterating his belief in Woman Suffrage, told the Suffragists that he "had come to fight with them." He also confidently predicted a near victory for Suffrage.

The President's visit to the Convention was marked by a beautiful and impressive ceremony. A guard of honour comprising one representative woman from each of the 48 States formed a double line from the wings to the centre of the stage, and as the President and Mrs. Wilson, escorted by Mrs. Catt, passed through this human lane, the entire audience of 4,000 delegates and visitors arose and applauded enthusiastically. The President's guard was headed by Mrs. Frank M. Roessing, 1st Vice-President, who carried the American Flag, and Mrs. Stanley McCormick, 2nd Vice-President, who held the new national Suffrage flag which had just been presented to the Convention by the Pennsylvania Suffragists. The women in the guard of honour occupied seats on the stage during the remainder of the night session.

On the same night that the President spoke, the Convention was also addressed by Dr. Owen Lovejoy, Secretary National Child Labour Committee; Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, Chairman Parole Commission, New York City; and Miss Julia Lathrop, Chief of Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C.

Upon the resignation of Mrs. Frank M. Roessing, Miss Hannah J. Patterson, and Mrs. James W. Morrison at the expiration of their terms as 1st Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary respectively, the following new officers were elected:—Mrs. Walter McNab Miller, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Frank M. Shuler, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Smith, Recording Secretary. Miss Heloise Meyer was elected to fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Walter McNab Miller as 1st Auditor. The next Convention will be held in March, 1917, or thereabouts.

October 7th and October 21st are to be known throughout the United States as Federal Amendment Days. Every State organisation will celebrate these two days with public ceremony relating to the Federal Suffrage Amendment. Speeches, concerts, tableaux, and public reports on the attitude of the Congressional candidates towards Suffrage and the Amendment will all be features of the simultaneous programmes.

—From Press Bureau, National American Woman Suffrage Association, 171, Madison Avenue, New York City.

**Rev. Anna Shaw.**

The Rev. Anna Shaw, in a letter to I.W.S.A. Headquarters, writes:—

"Thank you for your very kind words in congratulating American Suffragists on securing the Suffrage planks in the political platform. It was a great achievement, but, of course, it was the result of many years of labour which have gone on through the past, and for which and to which our old pioneers gave such splendid service. We to-day are but the reapers of the hard pioneer service of the past, but I am thankful not only for the sowers but for the reapers as well.

"What splendid news we have from Canada. That was a magnificent vote in Victoria, one of the best results of a plebiscite which we have ever had in our Suffrage movement anywhere. That gives to Canada its four Western Provinces. It seems that both in Canada and the United States the star of freedom comes from the West instead of from the East. I hope that very soon the Eastern Provinces in Canada will be as fair to their women as have been the Western.

"I wish you could have been at our National Convention at Atlantic City. The enthusiasm and the remarkable energy shown by the women give promise of a most helpful and happy year's service. It was an inspiring hour when in forty minutes the women pledged \$800,000 to carry on the work for the coming year. The night that the President addressed us reached the climax of our Convention, and filled us with a great deal of hope in the promise of the President that in the future he would fight with us to secure our enfranchisement. He is a wonderful fighter, and, if he should be elected, his pledge to fight with and for us would be a tremendous asset in getting our measure through Congress. We have set the time of our national victory in 1922. It cannot come earlier than that, because, even if our Congress were to pass the Federal Amendment next winter, it would take that long to have it ratified by the State Legislatures. That is the shortest period of time in which we could hope for the Federal Amendment, and, if it comes, I shall feel that our work is done so far as securing the ballot is concerned."

**The Good Word from California.**

In the *Survey* for September 16 appears an illuminating article by Katharine C. Watson on the Women's Civic Leagues of California, over thirty of which have come into existence since the passage of the Suffrage Amendment in 1911. The article deals with the activities of these civic organisations, all of which are contributing definitely to California public life. The definite aim of the civic leagues is to "promote civic improvement and to acquire information upon which to base intelligent action through the ballot," and their scope has been almost unlimited. School surveys, sanitary regulation and inspection, the establishment of public employment bureaux, municipal lodging-houses and medical clinics, the study of Bills affecting women and children, campaigns for pure milk, removal of unsightly bill-boards—all of these public questions, and many more, have been covered by the women voters in the State of California. And, as the writer concludes in the *Survey*:—

"The contribution which the women of California are making to the social and political life of the State, largely through their civic leagues and the civic committees of their women's clubs, enriches the nation and the race, and, in the eyes of those who have seen its practical and beneficial results, amply justifies Woman Suffrage."

**Treasurer's Notes.**

In the October issue we were congratulating ourselves upon the encouraging influx of new honorary associates gained by the efforts of Mrs. Catt and her co-workers. We have further good news to report to-day. Fifty-five names have been sent in as honorary associates from the United States.

In addition to this increase of our annual income, a special fund has been raised by our friends across the Atlantic. The sum of 4,533 dollars has been secured in donations. Below we print the names of the Suffrage Societies and individual donors who have come to our help in this splendid fashion.

The Alliance is deeply indebted to all those who in the present world stress, realising the need for international co-operation amongst women, have come forward and identified themselves with us. We also want again to express our warmest thanks to all those who helped in collecting this fund, and especially to their energetic organiser, Mrs. Frank Roessing.

For the immediate future the financial position of the Alliance is secured. If we still feel constrained to appeal for further annual subscribers (hon. associate's subscription is £1 yearly), it is from the conviction that every new member joining our International Alliance strengthens the chain which links together Suffragists all over the world.

**HONORARY ASSOCIATES' SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

Name.	Year.	Country.	£	s.	d.
*Gannett, Mrs. Mary L.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Haff, Mrs. D. J.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Perkins, Mrs. Roger G.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Casement, Mrs. Frances M.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Clarkson, Mrs. Anna H.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Fels, Mrs. Joseph	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Bradley, Mr. John	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Lee, Mrs. John C.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Potter, Mrs. Eva Sherwood	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Scranton, Mrs. Worthington	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Blackmar, Miss Eleanor	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Lathrop, Miss Julia	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Griesheimer, Miss Laura	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Atherton, Mrs. Gertrude L.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Knight, Dr. L. Helen	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Parsons, Mrs. Elsie Clews	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Huse, Mrs. Robert	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Seager, Mrs. Henry Rogers	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Macdaniel, Mrs. L. O.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Clark, Mrs. Isabel P.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Hadley, Mrs. Alice P.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Taylor, Mrs. A. E. Scranton	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*McBride, Mrs. Malcolm L.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Oliver, Mrs. James B.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Gaston, Mrs. W. H.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Klenze, Mrs. Camillo von	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Richards, Mrs. Emily S.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Friedlander, Mrs. Rebecca	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Shrigley, Mr. John M.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Dodson, Mrs. Frank	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Smith, Mrs. Thomas Jefferson	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Dunning, Mrs. George A.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Snell, Mrs. Frank N.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Kiddoo, Miss Mary L.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Halsey, Miss Florence	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Scott, Mrs. H. B.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Murphy, Miss E. B.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Murphy, Miss Lorraine	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Edey, Mrs. Frederick	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Arthur, Miss Mary	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Meyer, Miss Heloise	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Drier, Mrs. H. Edward	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Schroder, Mrs. Eliza Pauline	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Chapman, Mrs. John Jay	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Scribner, Mrs. Arthur H.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Schieffelin, Mrs. Wm. Jay	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Erving, Miss Eleanor C.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Watson, Miss Lucy C.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Dodge, Miss Mabel	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*O'Neill, Miss Callista E.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Brooks, Mrs. Charles	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Harrison, Mrs. H. G.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Park, Mrs. Maud Wood	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Green, Mrs. Jean C.	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Lionberger, Miss Mary	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Bedford, Mrs. J. Claude	1916	U.S.A.	1	0	0
*Discou, Miss	1916	Gt. Britain	1	0	0
*Viekery, Dr. Alice	1916	Gt. Britain	1	0	0
*Martin, Mrs. How	1916	Gt. Britain	1	0	0
Seyd, Mr.	1916	Gt. Britain	1	0	0

Already acknowledged in October number . . . . . 60 0 0  
311 9 0

£371 9 0

\* New Members since October, 1916.



### The Generosity of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Legislature recently authorised married women to make contracts in connection with the management or disposition of their own property, a privilege which they had not enjoyed under their rule of chivalry.

Those interested in the past Parliamentary record, as regards Woman Suffrage, of the Members of the Speaker's Conference, should read the Leader in the November issue of the

**SUFFRAGETTE NEWS SHEET,**  
which gives authentic information on the subject.

### EVERY WOMAN and WORKER SHOULD READ "The Woman's Dreadnought"

Editor, SYLVIA PANKHURST. Weekly, One Halfpenny.  
ORGAN OF THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION.

THE ONLY HALFPENNY SUFFRAGE PAPER.

Order from your Newsagent, or from the Manager—  
400, OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E., LONDON.

### AN IMPORTANT SERIES OF LECTURES

will be given at

The Aquarian Bureau,  
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.  
(TOP FLOOR).

On MONDAYS, at 5.30 p.m., during November and December,

by

MISS ABADAM on "THE GREATER FEMINISM,"  
and  
MRS. F. E. SMITH on "THE FUTURE OF SEX IN THE NEW AGE."  
Syllabus and particulars from HON. SEC., Aquarian Bureau.  
Admission Free. Silver Collection.

All earnest Feminists are urged to attend these Lectures that they may better understand the true inner significance of their Cause.

### AN APPEAL.

#### BUY THESE BOOKS AS PRESENTS.

All the money goes to buying Christmas Gifts for men of the R.F.A. in the firing line.

Seven Stories of "Norwegian Animals" (English and French on same page), in one volume	2/6
"Blakken." Story of a Norwegian Pony (English and French on opposite pages)	1/3
"Golden Grain." English only	1/3
"Chat Noir" (The French Cat)	6d.
"Marmalade Cat" (The English Cat)	6d.
Artistic Necklaces, 2 yards long, also sold to help the Waterloo Canteen	1/- to 10/- each
Also Boudoir Caps	from 5/- to 10/- each

Gifts of Beads (large ones) gratefully accepted.  
Mrs. INGA HAWKINS, Latchfords, Chipstead, Surrey.

### LESSONS IN NORWEGIAN

Given by a Norwegian lady. Terms, 5s. per hour.  
Address Mrs. INGA HAWKINS, Latchfords, Chipstead, Surrey.  
The money in full goes to the aid of the Waterloo Free Canteen.

To the **International Woman Suffrage Alliance,**  
**11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.**

\* Please enter my name as an Honorary Associate member, for which I enclose the sum of one pound.

\* Please enter my name as a Subscriber to "Jus Suffragii," for which I enclose the sum of four shillings.

Name .....

(Please say whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss.)

Address .....

(\* Please cross out the entry not wanted,

### International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton St., Piccadilly, W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

**NO ENTRANCE FEE DURING THE WAR.**  
Subscription: One guinea per annum from date of entrance.  
(Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d.)

#### Weekly Lectures.

#### House Dinners.

Wed., 1 Nov., 7.30 p.m.—House Dinner. "CHANGED VIEWS ON THE WOMAN QUESTION." Mr. Holford Knight. Chairman: Lady Nott-Bower, P.L.G.  
Wed., 8 Nov., 8 p.m.—"THE KHAKI WOMAN." Mrs. Charles Beatty (Commandant W.R.A. Green Cross Society). Chairman: H.H. The Rance of Sarawak (Hon. Commandant W.R.A.).  
Wed., 15 Nov., 8 p.m.—"SOME CONFESSIONS OF A DRAMATIC CRITIC." Mr. J. T. GREEN. Chairman: Mr. Goldfinch Bate.  
Wed., 22 Nov., 8 p.m.—"WOMEN IN INDUSTRY." Mr. George Lansbury. Chairman: Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P.  
Wed., 29 Nov., 8 p.m.—"WOMEN AND THE CHURCH." The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kensington. Chairman: Miss Maude Royden.

Valuable Feminist Lending and Reference Library free to Members. Non-members, 5s. 6d. per annum.

EXCELLENT CATERING  
LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS FROM 1s.  
ALL PARTICULARS—SECRETARY. Tel.: 3932 MAYFAIR

### THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. Public Meetings at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Wednesday Afternoons at 3 o'clock.

Nov. 1st.—Mrs. Zangwill. "PICKING UP THE PIECES." Mrs. Corner.  
Nov. 8th.—Miss Margaret Hodge. "HOW ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS ARE MADE IN OUR NURSERIES." Miss F. A. Underwood.  
Nov. 15th.—The Rev. Hugh Chapman. "WOMAN THE LIBERATOR." Mrs. Despard.  
Nov. 22nd.—Mr. Cameron Grant. "THE FLESHPOTS OF EGYPT." Mrs. Mustard.  
Nov. 29th.—Miss Zabelle Boyajian. "WOMEN OF THE NEAR EAST." Mrs. Despard.  
ADMISSION FREE. COLLECTION. TEA 4.30, 6D.

### The Catholic Suffragist

(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

PRICE 1d. (Annual Subscription, post free, 1s. 6d.)

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY,  
55, BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.

### DISPENSING.

MRS. WOOD-SMITH, M.P.S. (Chemist),  
Coaches Women Students for the

APOTHECARIES HALL DISPENSERS' EXAM.

Session Commences MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, for the

APRIL, 1917, EXAM.

For full particulars of training, apply MRS. WOOD-SMITH, M.P.S.,  
9, Blenheim Road, Bedford Park, W.

### For Wartime Economy

See the

Sale and Exchange Columns of "The Vote."

Specimen Copy sent on receipt of postcard addressed to the Secretary, "The Vote," Advert. Dept., 144, High Holborn, W.C.

### Mrs. E. J. MOXON,

30, Maddox Street, W.

DAY AND EVENING GOWNS. COAT FROCKS.

COATS AND SKIRTS. From 4½ guineas. BLOUSES.

Orders for the British Dominions Overseas a speciality.

### NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

All communications respecting advertisements to be addressed to  
**The Advertising Manager, Miss F. L. Fuller,**  
**99, New Bond Street, London, W.**

Telephone: 2421 Mayfair.