

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Owing to war-time conditions it is now impossible to have as much matter set up on Wednesdays as we have hitherto been able to do. We therefore beg that articles and letters should be sent in not later than Tuesday morning, first post.

Notes and News.

The Prime Minister's Pledge.

We note with interest the manner in which Mr. Asquith has regarded his "pledge to the married men," for this has been spoken of as an obligation of the most "sacred" kind, while previous pledges have not always been so regarded. Is it too much to hope from this precedent that in future even pledges made to women may be held "sacred" and binding by a Prime Minister?

Women's Suffrage in Manitoba.

In the Manitoba Legislature the second reading of a Bill, introduced by the Government, to establish Women's Suffrage and to abolish retail trade in liquor was carried unanimously. All the prairie districts of Canada—Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan—are presenting Bills for Women's Suffrage; and it is expected that Dominion franchise will follow automatically, because, in any province, all who vote for their own Provincial Legislature vote also for the Dominion Parliament.

The Equivalents of Military Service.

A proposal has recently been brought forward in Switzerland that a sort of war-tax should be imposed upon all who are ineligible for military service, including women and foreigners. From a Suffragist point of view the suggested measure is of great importance, says *Le Mouvement Féministe* of Geneva, because, unlike the old system of paying for exemption which it is to replace, it is not to be paid as an extraordinary tax, but as a permanent one, and "What becomes of the democratic principle which forbids that a citizen should be taxed when he has no say in the matter? 'No taxation without representation,' said John Hampden when fighting against the arbitrary taxation of Charles I., two hundred and fifty years ago. Is the Swiss citizen of the twentieth century under a Stuart régime? For if the law provides that everyone who does not perform military service is liable to be taxed, it would perhaps be proper to inquire of women whether they also are not willing, as the

equivalent of military service, to take up work in offices and elsewhere, so as to release more men for the Army. This is preferable to putting a duty on women as if they were motor-cars or bicycles. Nor is it much more to the taste of Swiss women to class them with foreigners. Lastly, if women are competent to pay taxes, why should they not also have a word to say in matters that regard their country?"

The Anti-Suffragist in China.

"Every man in the world desires to be a hero; every woman in the world desires to be the wife of a hero. In China, thanks to foot-binding, these desires are realised. To my foot-bound wife, confined for life to her house, except when I bear her in my arms to her palanquin, my stride is heroic, my voice is that of a roaring lion, my wisdom is of the sages. To her I am the world; I am life itself. How is it possible for Americans and Europeans to seem great men in the eyes of their big, fine, active wives? How are you able to play the superior part proper to the head of a civilised household?"

"I surmise that you realise your predicament and are taking active measures to strengthen your position against further weakening. As a representative of a much riper civilisation (China), I may assure you with authority that you are on the right track. I cannot give similarly unqualified approval to the means you employ. You deny woman the ballot, handicap her in professional life, discriminate against her in industry, belittle her intellectual achievements, or, if these are too palpably solid, you cry down the value of her personality. So far, good. But the dangerous, barbaric spirit of independence among women cannot be held in check merely by throwing barriers across one and another avenue of expression. What you need for the civilising of women is a simple and radical strategy. Bind their feet." So "Suh-Ho" is reported to have said in the *New Republic*, of December 18th. The pleased anti-Suffragist in this country may find his pleasure dashed by a horrid suspicion that Mr. Suh-Ho's signature was given for publication and not necessarily as a pledge of good faith. But he will find the principle sound enough.

High Freights and the Cost of Living.

A large proportion of the general rise in the price of bread and other necessaries is due to the difficulty of securing freight from over-seas, and the consequent high rates charged by shippers.

"There is ample tonnage left available to carry our war supplies, our food supplies, and the raw material for our more important industries," a shipowner writes in a letter to *The Times*, "but not enough to maintain a peace standard . . . of personal comfort." "During the last three months," the writer points out, "we have had the carrying power of sixty-seven ships to do the work of 100 ships employed in time of peace. Under these circumstances we cannot hope to go on importing all cargoes as usual, and prices and freights will be forced up higher still by our reduced carrying power. . . ." The alternative policy is for "the State to prohibit the importation of all cargoes other than those necessary to the successful conduct of the war, and to the existence of the nation." If it were practicable for the State to assume such general direction and control of the sea-carrying trade, the complex problem of luxury-imports would be automatically solved for us at the same time.

"Insulting Behaviour."

A case recently reported in the *Dublin Daily Express* incidentally shows the urgent need for women patrols, and the difficulties in the way of bringing certain male offenders to justice. Two women patrols, crossing the Metal Bridge, Dublin, after 10 p.m., on December 27th, were accosted and insulted by a man belonging to a "most respectable family," the son of "one of the leading men in commercial business in Dublin." The offender, who seized one of the ladies by the arm, was given in charge by her for using obscene language. It was explained by the inspector, who took the man's name and address, that it was illegal for a woman to solicit a man, but not for a man to solicit a woman, and that the above course was the only way of taking out a summons. The prisoner, who was not drunk at the time, was further charged with the technical offence of assault. The magistrate, taking into account the wishes of the ladies, not to be vindictive, said that his own first intention had been to send the offender to gaol without the option of a fine, but that he would now impose a fine of £5, and require two sureties of £25, besides the prisoner's own surety, or to go to prison for three months. It is impossible

to shut our eyes to the state of the law which makes it possible for a man to follow and persecute a woman without committing any technical offence. In this particular case the counsel for the defence pleaded that the prisoner "unfortunately mistook the identity of the ladies. He had no notion that they belonged to the class to which they belonged." It is painful to reflect how very little "women of a different class" can count even upon such "protection" as the law affords (when it is enforced) to ladies upon whom "there is no reflecton."

Women and Taxicabs.

In spite of the great shortage of cab-drivers, the Scotland Yard authorities obstinately refuse licences to women. One company is reported to have 1,600 cabs standing idle; another is reported in *The Daily Mail* to have decided to take back men discharged for drunkenness and using bad language to fares. There is much to be said, on the score of economy of petrol, for taking taxicabs off the ranks altogether, but nothing to recommend the course of letting loose old offenders upon a long-suffering public. The women are not allowed to work, the public whistles in vain for a cab, and the wounded men in our hospitals complain of the incessant disturbance.

Housecraft in War Time.

BY LADY FRAZER,

Author of "First Aid to the Servantless," "Do Your Own Housework," "Economy," &c.

Before the war most of us looked upon housecraft as a necessary evil, to be dealt with as rapidly as possible in order to leave us as much time as possible for *other things*. These *other things*, so dear to our hearts, are responsible for the general neglect of home management and for the purlblindness which has hitherto ignored it both as a science and as an art. It is sad to reflect that it has required this terrible war to open our eyes on the subject. Now they are open, it is necessary to see that we are still very far from an ideal conception of our house duties, especially as they relate to economy without loss of comfort and without loss of beauty. We are reminded of the miser's words in Molière's masterpiece, "Faire bonne chère avec peu d'argent." This miracle is daily performed by our friends and Allies, the Frenchwomen, and it is doubly to their credit when we find that practically everything is much dearer in France—house-rent, wages, food, &c.—than in England.

Display versus Freedom.

How is it done? How can we imitate our neighbours? The answer is not easy, because the position of Frenchwomen and Englishwomen is so very different. In France economy is a virtue expected from everyone, from the smallest child to the richest man. In England economy is associated with meanness, with self-interest, and almost with unfairness to the labouring classes: an open purse is, or rather was, the distinctive badge of gentility—even of shabby gentility. This spending of money was not rational: it was erratic, and, alas! often merely for show. The same man who would handsomely tip a waiter with gold would refuse a shilling primer to his child. Schoolmasters could furnish volumes of such instances. Above all, display in the house reigned supreme—a liberal table, a much befrilled bevy of maids, a great assortment of plate on the sideboard, a large attendance of tradesmen's boys calling for large orders; all this was the *proper thing* to have. No matter if the house-linen was poor, if the children were left unprovided for, if poor relations were forgotten. Nous avons changé tout cela . . . since August, 1914, and we have broken the iron chains which we had hitherto forged for ourselves by means of minute, almost invisible, wires, which formed a hopeless tangle. We are now free, as free as our French neighbours; we can live as we please, and within our means. Economy is the order of the day: it is pronounced by everybody and printed on every page.

The Drain of Constant Repairs.

But economy is only one part of housecraft, which needs intelligence and practice; above all, it needs a sense of proportion. Here it is where the Frenchwoman excels, and here it is where the Englishwoman is handicapped at the start. Comparison is hardly fair. Let us take some examples. In France, every woman, of almost any class, is well stocked on her marriage, or, if single, on her parents' death, with sufficient house-linen and sufficient body-linen to last her a lifetime. This linen is carefully

tended throughout the years and, with the exception of a little mending-thread, requires no further outlay. In the same way, houses are not jerry-built in France, if rent is higher. Repairs are seldom required, and many of us know the awful drain on slender resources caused by constant necessary workmen in the house. Dresses are few. Nothing surprises a Frenchwoman coming to this country so much as the number of garments kept by us here. The first outspoken question is, "Why so many?" and the first unspoken query may be: "Why all so poor?" One new dress a year is about the average in France; two or, at most, three dresses hang in the wardrobe, even in that of a woman of wealth. Though nothing is wasted, rubbish is not accumulated. This is an art, and cannot be acquired in a day—nor in a year—not even in a couple of years of war. It can, however, be steadily practised if we set our mind to avoid all useless show; if we exercise perfect order around us and personally see to every single detail in our home.

The Tyranny of the Cook.

Hitherto, this has been impossible in this land; the mistress of the smallest home who kept the smallest servant was confined within invisible, but none the less impassable, barriers. She was allowed to examine the kitchen—every morning after it had been tidied up—the pantry may also have been accessible; but who was brave enough among us to visit the scullery or to see if the bottom of a gas-kettle was blackened? We trembled lest the smallest infraction of the unwritten law which ruled us, unwittingly, should interfere with our liberty. What if cook gave notice? What would happen? We should have to forego our social engagements; we could not leave home and travel for a change; we could not entertain our visitors. Therefore, let us willingly close our eyes; let us allow cook to hide all the things which are dirty, and which should be spotless, in *her* scullery!—no matter if by so doing she endangers our digestions, wastes our coal and gas, and ruins our utensils. But this is all now (is it not?) a matter of the past, and we must look to the present and see a bright future in the distance.

Attention to Detail.

What is required is, first of all, abnegation; it is useless to expect things to be as they have always been; we must face this boldly. Attention to every single detail is what is needed: industry, perseverance, and the utmost exercise of intelligence. Nothing will do itself. This is one of the hardest lessons that an Englishwoman has to learn; she always expects that while she does one job another one will do itself. Hence, we have had—so far, for example—the huge fires in the range in order that a joint may *do itself* (perhaps to a cinder) in the oven, and in order that boiling water might be always available to wash any object which could be as well cleaned, probably, if not better, with cold water. The examples can be multiplied indefinitely by any householder. To the novice, I cannot sufficiently recommend to undertake only one task at a time, and

First-Hand Experiences.

XI.—FARM WORK FOR WOMEN. SOME PRACTICAL HINTS BY A WOMAN FARMER.

The Importance of Suitable Clothing.

Not the least among the beneficial side-issues of the war is the emancipation from petticoats which has come to women farm workers. I have often thought that if men could have worn petticoats at their work for a single day they would never expect women to continue in such bondage. On heavy land, in wet weather, it is astonishing how the mud manages to creep up even very short skirts, and, of course, for draining and ditching they are quite an impossibility. I understand that in Thibet the women wear petticoats in the house only, and take them off to go out of doors. A widespread reversion to this ancient and sensible form of civilisation would give a wonderful impetus to women's work on the land. I am offering a uniform to those of my women farm-workers who are willing to wear one, and am surprised to find how eager they are to begin. A detestation of mud and filth is perhaps more deeply ingrained in the character of woman than of man, and the annoyance of bedraggled skirts has been a greater handicap than many imagine. Besides this, in windy weather, the hampering effect of skirts means a great waste of energy as one battles along.

Clothes that are loose at the waist and that hang from the shoulder are the ideal when work has to be done, and in these days, if ever, we are *out* for work.

A Supply of Comfortable Boots.

Then, as to boots, it is common experience amongst us here that ordinary women's boots are not wide enough for farm work; it is not merely because we are on our feet all day, but, in addition, are carrying loads, or driving a spade, or in some other way bringing extra pressure on to our feet. When once a comfortable boot has been found, a supply should be kept on hand at least a year ahead. The men who do draining round here say their boots would go all to pieces if they were not a year old when they begin wearing them. Clogs, or boots with wooden soles, we use occasionally; they are clumsy, and do not last well if worn constantly, but are useful for snow and slush.

So much for clothes; amateurs can often do several kinds of skilled work if only they have the right tools, and far more women could do farm work if they set out with the right equipment; in fact, I would place clothes before strength, because strength will improve from day to day, and use becomes second nature. A girl of sixteen who has been with me for two years was too delicate to finish her time at school; she came first to help with chicken-rearing, and has been improving in health and strength ever since; although still subject to asthma (inherited) she is out in all weathers, and even helps a little with the digging. Where do we ever find women so strong as among those who are on the land? Their life is healthy, and the steady plodding work develops muscle of a more substantial kind than does the sprint of athletics and games.

The Handicap of Bad Pay.

Those who raise the cry that women cannot do farm work should at least qualify their criticism by saying "some" and "Englishwomen." Unfortunately, on English farms, woman labour has in the past been very badly paid. When I first came to Suffolk women were getting 1s. for an eight hours' day, and told to "keep-a-doing"! As a result, all the best and most respectable girls went to service, where they could earn much more money than their brothers, and only the derelicts—those who could not keep their places—were left in the villages, to be drawn on for woman labour. Thus, it naturally came to be considered *infra dig.* for a woman to do field work. By being careful not to employ undesirables, by increasing the wages by half, and by working with the women myself I have tried to overcome the idea that there is anything ignoble in field work.

Strength Comes With Practice.

We find women in other countries not only doing farm work of a heavy kind, but, as a result, bequeathing to their families a physique and a power of endurance which many a dyspeptic amongst us would envy. Look at Serbia, for example. A friend of mine who visited the Russian Dukhobors in their Canadian settlement, found the women not merely ploughing but hitched to the ploughs in the place of horses, twenty at a time, whilst the men were away earning cash at making railroads. It may

to watch it continuously till it is done. For instance, do not put the kettle on to boil while you air the bed. The chances are that the water will boil over while you are out of the kitchen and give infinite trouble and make much damage, especially if it is on a gas-stove. A whistling-kettle might obviate this annoyance, but even a whistling-kettle is not perfect; on occasions it does not care to whistle, or if it performs its duty it might waken baby out of a deep sleep, &c., &c. Until *great* experience is acquired the rule must be: one thing at a time.

The Use of Labour-Saving Devices.

Next to this comes method in everything, and at first it is wise to make lists of the various duties in order to avoid "forgetting" which is apt to cause much extra work. It is also wise to make oneself acquainted with labour-saving devices, to study price-lists, to examine shops, and to make inquiries. Do not be afraid of exposing your ignorance; every housekeeper, the hoariest among us, has still much to learn, and in every country. In the United States, where women are most domesticated and have very skilful hands, there are proper establishments for testing the value of labour-saving inventions. We ought to copy this system in our country. We are far too afraid of using anything which has not stood the test of centuries. While few of us would write now with the old-fashioned quill pen which had to be mended with a sharp knife, most of us use antediluvian implements in our kitchens, and never pause to inquire if an improvement could not be effected.

Away with Old-Fashioned Implements.

This is because hitherto in this country we have delegated the housework to women of untrained intellect, and it was really unfair to expect of them any true efficiency. Now that we do our own work, or that we supervise it closely (I assume this), everything is altered. We have ceased to believe in serfdom, but our houses are built and arranged as if household slavery still existed, though many modern buildings are showing improvements. We are burdened with old-fashioned implements—feel the weight of our brass coal-scuttle, which was meant to be carried by a six-foot (powdered or not) footman. Examine the arsenal of useless spoons and forks, &c., on the dinner-table—it was meant to be polished by a butler with the sweat of his thumb! And what is the use of all those glasses to teetotalers? They were formerly frosted by the breath of the man-servant, who afterwards wiped them with a so-called tea-cloth, dropped about frequently in sundry places, unless it has a more or less permanent abode in his pocket, where it fraternised with the pipe and the pence.

Discard Ancient Habits.

Is this all really comfortable? Is it beautiful? Is it worth while? No; we simply follow a rut which has been traced and deepened by preceding generations, so that we are buried in it and lose sight of our goal. The war has enlightened us, and we now are discarding ancient habits, which soon will only interest folklorists. Our new friends are Intelligence, Invention, Observation, Self-Help, and Co-operation. We need never fear that housework—whether in peace or war-time—will "lower" our intellects. That is a foolish superstition, and in order to abolish it we need only look across the Channel, and even further across the ocean. The women who at this hour perform their house duties most efficiently, taking all classes of the community, are the Frenchwomen and the Americans, and women of both these nations are also the most accomplished conversationalists and the true intellectual companions of their mankind. We think of both as merely fond of dress and of fashions—they ignore neither. The very skill of the fingers which helps to shape a becoming bow at the throat also helps to make a tasty dish, to lay a table so that it is attractive, and to place the furniture so that it should lead to a sociable general talk. This last art would require an article to itself!

In the meantime, let us beware of all extremes, and also let us talk over matters freely among ourselves, so that we may profit by each other's mistakes and experience. Our conversation need not descend to the odious level of servant gossip; for it is assumed here, more or less, that we do our own work, and, having no servants, they become a negligible quantity. We must try and learn by all means which are available, and, once having mastered the lessons, we may even surpass our teachers; but we must remember that housecraft is an art, and in every art the technique has to be acquired by sacrifice.

take us a few generations to recover the build and fitness which are ideal, but it is worth trying for, and, really, with modern machinery, appliances, and horse-labour, farm work does not involve the drain on actual strength that one might suppose. It is less exhausting to the system than a day over the wash-tub or kitchen-range; let he who doubts it try.

Being belated with our mangel crop this year we called all hands to help to get them up, and had a royal time; the men enjoyed it as much as the girls, and the healthy glow of colour and good appetites that resulted were a pleasure to see.

It must have been a surprise to many of us to see the strength developed as a result of Army training by men who previously were considered delicate and almost invalids; their stories of how strength comes to them when they have to do things, in spite of cramping pains at first, should encourage us all not to fancy ourselves weak, but to learn by experiment that nature gives strength to those who use it: "To him that hath shall be given."

Back-aches, and in fact, aches all over, are an indispensable part of the process of growing stronger, and it used to interest me to find that even labouring girls experience it when they first go weeding in the spring. One told me she was too stiff to get up the following morning, and could only roll out of bed; but the stiffness soon wears off, and, as Kipling says:—

"When your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner in the Glory of the Garden."

How a Girls' Cadet Corps was Started.

AN OPEN LETTER.

DEAR EDITOR,—I should like you to know of the progress that has been made by our branch of the Active Service Girls' Cadet Corps. We started with the League of Honour, and adopted Mrs. Harley's scheme as the active expression of our ideals. It is a scheme admirably adapted to meet the needs of country places in war time. I wish every little town had its corps. There are several other older systems for bringing girls and women together for educational and recreative purposes, but this seems to embody most of their good points, and is more free of their weak ones.

I heard of it first from Miss Goodrich's article in a July number of THE COMMON CAUSE, and after seeing the Colwyn Bay Corps, I did not rest until our Committee had adopted it right out. We were most fortunate in having Miss Frost down for a month (in October) to organise us, and to explain Mrs. Harley's ideals and practical aims. She gave us the right atmosphere at the outset, and we owe everything to her able and enthusiastic help.

The A.S.G.C.C. is elastic, democratic, and undenominational; it develops self-reliance and firmness, and can be organised with the minimum of expense and red tape. Women and girls, from twelve upwards, are eligible for membership. We run three companies, each with its own officers and N.C.O.'s. These, naturally, form three classes, so that their respective club-nights can be easily handled. It is a pleasurable surprise to hear a smart corporal of fifteen directing the 3rd company "not to form fours in that sloppy way, anybody would take you for raw recruits"; and then watch her give them instruction in stretcher drill!

We have had enthusiastic help from a wounded sergeant staying in the town. He drilled us and selected the first batch of officers. Our subscription is 1d. a week, membership numbers between 60 and 70. We aim at being really democratic and self-supporting. On the other hand, we have received many generous gifts and privileges—the free use of public buildings and playgrounds, the use of a playing field, hockey clubs, a silver cup for company competition, a drum, stretcher drill outfit, and wool, &c., for soldiers' comforts. Very soon we hope to start a drum and fife band, and are working up for a display in aid of funds.

Our programme at present is as follows: Drilling once a week in the Town Hall, in companies and all together, with signalling and physical exercises. Each company has its club night, for the conduct of which companies' own officers are responsible. We are working at drilling and signalling (for those who cannot attend at the Town Hall), ambulance, knitting, health talks, and infant care. All the instruction is being given by qualified officers and members of the corps, with the exception of Infant Care, which is kindly given by a member of our branch of the National Union W.S.S. Club nights are more free and easy than drill night, and can terminate with a game, and always with "God Save the King."

On Saturdays we have our recreation, games, scouting, hockey, or route march. An ambulance party is being formed, and will be attached to the 1st company. Signallers and cyclists will also take their places, after the tests are passed.

At Christmas each cadet made a Christmas gift for a friend—to cost less than 1s. Some clever things were made, and a successful prize-giving was held in the Town Hall on drill night.

Our uniform is very simple until we can afford something more substantial. We are averse to any unnecessary expense and aim at being self-supporting as far as possible. We wear white cotton hats, red patent belts and straps, with buckles, to white linen wallets which hold a triangular bandage, and dark blue or black coats and skirts. Officers wear dark clothes with red facings (flannel), with badges of rank cut out of dark patent belts. This uniform costs 2s. now that the hats have gone up in price. The effect is quite good—and uniformity is often as much reached by leaving things off, as by putting them on!

We have started three companies at a little place four miles away. With the assistance of our officers and a local retired sergeant, another corps will very soon be in working order. We shall then meet them on occasions half-way and drill together. This corps will be worked by a local committee, and their secretary will attend our meetings.

Whatever may happen in the future, at any rate we feel we have an organisation which can immediately be put to account. We have already given solid assistance on Red Cross and Flag Days. Squads of cadets in uniform, with an officer, were sent to outlying districts to collect, to cinema shows, and to organise street collections. Our officers are getting valuable experience of this sort of work, and are fast becoming most capable and enthusiastic citizens.

We have added a simple ceremony when cadets join the corps. We hang up on a board, decorated with Union Jacks, these words from the first paragraph in the A.S.G.C.C. Rules. The cadet reads it aloud and then turns and salutes the whole corps, the whole corps returning the salute.

"I will keep the rules.

"I will try to take my place in life as a good citizen and a Christian woman and train myself to be of service to my country in her hour of need."

Our motto is—"Be strong and very courageous."

When Mrs. Harley comes home, what a great pleasure it would be to us to see her here, and be able to thank her for Active Service Girls' Cadet Corps!

BERTHA AIKIN,
Hon. Sec. and Colonel.

LABOUR SAVING EXHIBITION

The Institute of Hygiene, 33 and 34, Devonshire Street, Harley Street, W., has opened an Exhibition of Domestic Economy, which includes a number of labour-saving appliances. A model kitchen, in working order, heating appliances, and a patent washing-up machine are some of the features of interest. The exhibition will remain open till Saturday.

BACK NUMBERS OF "THE COMMON CAUSE."

We shall be pleased to send to readers of THE COMMON CAUSE back numbers of the paper for 1½d. each, post free. We have, among others, a small number of copies left containing the following articles:—

"A House that does its own Work."—Nov. 26th.
"Women as Acetylene Welders" and "Labour-Saving in the Home."—Dec. 3rd.
"Professional Chemistry for Women."—Dec. 10th.
"The Present Position of Women's Suffrage."—Dec. 17th.
"Replanning our Lives."—Jan. 7th and 14th.

There are a few hundred copies left of the SPECIAL HOSPITAL NUMBER, November 12th. All Secretaries organising Scottish Women's Hospital meetings should send at once for copies. This number will arouse great interest in the Hospitals, as it gives valuable information and interesting accounts of the work, and should be a splendid "money raiser" for the Funds.

These copies can be had for 9d. per dozen of 13 (carriage paid), so that for every dozen sold a profit of 4d. is made.

Apply to-day to the Manager, "C. C.," 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

LETTERS UNDER-STAMPED.

A number of letters have been received both at the offices of the National Union and those of THE COMMON CAUSE insufficiently stamped. May we remind our readers that only 1 oz. can now be sent for a penny?

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM A BASE HOSPITAL.

Death we call the great destroyer, but he only takes life away from our mortal sight; destroyed life lies all around us on the fields of earth. For there are wounds and sickness, and in camp and trench and hospital, life is broken into and torn up from its natural growth. Who could spend Christmas in the wards of a great hospital and not feel the dreadful pangs of life's good laws broken, and see, as never before, the joy and dignity of home?

How much more there is at each bed than one man's pain. We are used to the thought that the bullets and the shells do damage to the women and children at home. It is sometimes spoken of as a regrettable incident in war. But surely the breaking up of home is at the centre of the tragedy of war, and at the centre of the evil of war is the breaking of the laws of home; that is, the laws at the foundation of Society. War means that men have lived apart, that they love their ambitions more than each other, that carelessness of life, and waste and filth are loose in the world. Are not these things which a good home cannot hold, and are they still for ever to rule the world?

It is now that we look back gratefully to that body of ideas built up slowly in days of peace that is called the Women's Movement. We believe that it contains women's passionate faith that the gentleness of home can become the foundation of national and international Society.

With what infinite pains and thoughtfulness we have guarded our homes. When shall we find in the world cleanness and quiet, peace and rest there for those we love, and a ready welcome for the stranger, a reverence for toil that will banish waste? O, world, these are our hopes. O, women, make the world a home.

ELIZABETH STEWART.

Correspondence.

OUR MATERNITY UNIT FOR REFUGEES IN RUSSIA.

MADAM,—Having for eight years been connected with maternity work in England, I welcome warmly the establishment of our Maternity Unit for the suffering women and dying children among the refugees in Russia. It is another opportunity for us to organise the special services of women in the preserving of life, and to co-operate with another of our Allies, as we have done with our Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia. It is also another opportunity to work with women who do not share our views about the vote, as our list of patrons shows, and a chance for us to get to know and understand each other mutually. We shall never feel the same about each other after having worked together for a common object, instead of having only worked separately with a point of difference. We very much appreciate their confidence in our organisation, and their belief that we are fitted to carry through competently important work of this kind. While not all Suffragists themselves, they are willing to co-operate with the National Union in this humane work, because they know that our work is good and that our name has the confidence and support of the public. But while we use our name freely here, we entirely understand that no foreign Government can connect itself officially with a British political society, which may or may not be in sympathy with the British Government at home, while it can accept, and does accept, gratefully the co-operation of British women in its task of dealing with the refugees. As from sympathising sisters the Empress Alexandra receives our help, and encourages us to work with the Tatiana Committee, organised under the name of her daughter, not for Red Cross work, but for the relief of the refugees, and we are thankful for her Imperial support that gives us this unique opportunity of helping to relieve the terrible suffering of the Refugee women and children.

ALYS RUSSELL.

WOMEN'S AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTES.

MADAM,—My attention has been called to the article on "Women's Agricultural Institutes," which appears in the current issue of THE COMMON CAUSE. With reference to the final paragraph in this article, in which you refer to the possibilities of the development of the movement in this country, I think that you may like to know that the Agricultural Organisation Society has already taken the matter in hand. We have been fortunate in securing the help of Mrs. Watt, to whose important work in Canada your article refers in this connection, and she has held many meetings on our behalf. As the result of these meetings, Institutes have already been formed in Kent, Dorset, Sussex, and in Wales, and requests for Mrs. Watt's help in addressing meetings of persons interested in this country is, of course, only in its infancy, but it is meeting with warm support and interest, and we are hopeful that our works will have great and far-reaching results. I shall be very glad to send further particulars and copies of pamphlets that we have issued to any of your readers who may care to write to me on the subject.

J. NUGENT HARRIS, General Secretary.
Agricultural Organisation Society,
Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

MADAM,—"Mistress Macaulay," to whom reference is made by Conductor in the passage quoted on p. 513 of THE COMMON CAUSE for December 31st, must, I think, be the poetess so much admired at that time.

M. ALFORD.

THRIFT HINTS.

I have been thinking again of the lonely woman, and wondering if she would like a sheep's head. It would be rather too much for her, I am afraid, unless her general servant has a big appetite, or the daily woman who does for her has a bigger black bag than usual, but then it is very inexpensive. It should be very fresh, so the lonely woman should find out which day the butcher kills, and order the sheep's head that day.

This is the way it should be cooked:—

Take out the tongue and brains, and soak the head in tepid water. Break all the soft bones inside the head, and cleanse it most thoroughly. Let it boil for five minutes in sufficient water to cover it, with a tablespoonful of salt. Pour away this water. Put the head on again to boil with two quarts of water, six onions, two turnips, carrots, pepper and salt. Let it boil gently for three or four hours, or until so tender the meat will easily slip off the bones. Let it grow cold, remove the flesh from the bones, slice it, lay it in a greased fireproof dish, sprinkle with pepper, salt, chopped parsley, and bread crumbs. Put a few pieces of butter on, and brown in a quick oven.

The water the sheep's head has been boiled in will make excellent broth, with the addition of a little chopped parsley, pearl barley, and celery. The vegetables that have been cooked in it should be served in the broth.

The brains should be carefully washed, and then boiled fast in gravy. When done, let them get cold, divide them down the middle, egg and bread crumb them, or dip them in a little batter made of milk and flour, and then bread crumb them. Fry, and serve as sweetbreads.

The tongue may be boiled and served cold for breakfast, like an ox tongue, or it may be soaked for two hours in cold water, and then scalded, so that the skin can be removed easily. Then split lengthways, put into good gravy, boil up, and then let it simmer gently, closely covered, for an hour and a-half. Boil up again before serving.

Now I think I have done well for the lonely woman, having provided her with three meat dishes for 9d. or 10d., and an ample supply of broth for herself and for the daily woman to carry away in the black bag.

MRS. OWEN POWELL.

COOKERY IN WAR TIME.—The Westminster Technical Institute, Vincent Square, S.W., has arranged a course of six lectures and demonstrations of economical cookery during war time, to be given on Wednesdays, from 6.45 to 8.45 p.m., beginning on January 19th. The syllabus will include: The reason for economy; amount of food required; kind of foodstuffs; home products; economy in fuel and labour; marketing and storage; home preparations; nursery meals; invalid cookery; laziness versus energy in the home, &c.



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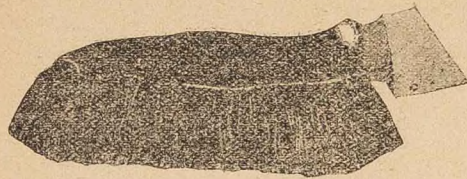
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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS to be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W., and all ADVERTISEMENTS must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday. Advertisement representative, S. R. Le Marc.

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

The Polish Refugees.

A solid national egoism bids us [Germans] stake out our frontier posts in the foreigner's soil.—ERNST HASSE.

Of the programme traced out for Germany by the Pan-German League, which has been one of the most powerful factors in determining this war, only a portion has so far been carried out; but that portion has been executed with deliberation, method, and thoroughness. Year after year since 1891 a number of professors and Pan-German writers have been urging the need of what may be called (taking an analogy from Irish history) a German "Pale." This was to be a broad strip of territory, "a day's march at least in width," to surround Germany itself with a military zone. Within this zone, east, west, and south of the empire, no foreigners were to be allowed to live or to hold land; only Germans by descent were to inhabit these borders; they were to be chosen as far as possible from among men retired from the army and half-pay officers. Only so, it was explained, could the Greater Germany hope for security, by "making a dyke against the oncoming floods of our enemies." The Netherlands on the one hand, with Alsace and Lorraine, and Poland on the other, were required to complete the scheme which was to give Germany "continental expansion." Thousands of acres of arable land on the east, and room to plant out colonies of German peasants to supersede "the lazy moujik," were required. Even before the war something had been done. Certain restrictions were imposed on acquiring real estate in Alsace-Lorraine to prevent persons of French or foreign origin from owning land; and in Poland itself 60,000 German "colonists" had been planted out, the Polish landowners being expropriated to make room for them. But these were merely preliminaries. The real foundations of the wall of defence were to be laid further out, beyond Germany itself. During the ruthless prosecution of the war this programme has never been lost to sight. The spoliation and Germanification of Belgium and North-Eastern France is still in progress, and the ravaging of Poland and Serbia has been deliberately carried out, for political ends. In Poland and Lithuania, where the "frontier outposts are to be staked out on foreign soil," the great belt has been laid waste and cleared of human beings, just as forest land is cleared of trees by a settler, and with no more compunction.

How the clearing was effected and what it meant to the miserable people of the land when Poland was made into one vast desolation we shall never fully realise; but the account by M. Doroshevitch, the famous Russian journalist, contributed to the *Russkoe Slavo* in October, 1915, a part of which was read aloud last week by Mr. Stephen Graham to an English audience, gives some idea of what depopulation means.

M. Doroshevitch went to Moscow to meet the oncoming flood of refugees, and thence to the rear of the Russian armies. At first he met the sparse survivors and first comers, those who were furthest ahead . . . afterwards they came thicker and thicker, till they were a great moving wall. He tells us how they camped in the forests, how they died by the way, how they put up crosses by the side of the road, how they sold their horses and then abandoned their carts.

Province followed province, the people from Holm—the White Mountain people—the Grodno people; then the peasants from the Lublin and Lomzha provinces. . . . There are places through which pass 12,000 fugitives a day. The towns, villages, and hamlets along the road are filled with terror. "The fugitives will eat us all up! They're like locusts!" All

the fugitives themselves are haunted by the terror of 'being left behind.' A man can be lost like a needle in a bundle of hay. For none of them can speak any language but Polish. They grope about and feel their way like people with bandaged eyes, not knowing even whither to go. . . . "And the cemetery grows, stretching itself out along the margin of the road. And one reads the heart-breaking inscriptions on the crosses: Infant. Infant. Infant."

"The fugitives camp in the forest, the bare feet of the children almost in the fire. The ground is cold as iron, and they are barefoot. The refugees' children are almost without clothing. And they die like flies. They lie with their stomachs to the fire, and their backs are as cold as ice. They turn their backs to the fire and their stomachs freeze. And they die. . . ."

"At the Relief Stations they are making superhuman efforts," says M. Doroshevitch, "but endless ranks of fugitives stream up to the bread-windows and wait hour after hour, from midnight till mid-day, for a morsel, and only the strong can stand the strain of the ordeal. Yet the Society of Northern Help works energetically, and so does the Municipal Alliance. It is arranged that relief should be given according to the certificates—such-and-such a family so many souls, so many adults and so many children. The certificate issued by their village headman must be produced. And if the certificate is wanting?"

"A young Polish sister in a white kerchief and leather jacket answers: 'We also give even when there is no certificate.' There are no better words on such an occasion in any human tongue."

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Re-planning Our Lives.

V.—GIVING UP OUR OWN MOST PRIZED LUXURY.

MADAM,—In view of the warning from a member of the Government that we must all be prepared to put at least half our incomes at the disposal of the State, you ask for expression of opinions from your readers as to how we should set about adjusting our way of life to meet this demand.

As to the demand itself, there are two obvious considerations to be taken into account:—

(1) If half the national income is required for use by the State, some will have to furnish much more than half their individual incomes, and others much less. It is plain that the labourer who earns £1 a week, or the clergyman earning £3 a week, or the professional man making £300 a year cannot give up one-half of their income and live, or at least carry on their work and support their homes and families, on the other half. Seriously, these must be let off with a far smaller contribution, and the larger incomes must provide more than their half to make up.

But (2) even those in receipt of comparatively large incomes cannot all of them suddenly halve all their expenses and throw off responsibilities that they have undertaken. Take my own case. I pay income-tax on something over £3,000. But half of this amount goes to paying interest on mortgages, by which the necessary capital for starting my business was provided, and three-quarters of the remainder to paying off debts incurred in building it up. The actual amount which I have to live is therefore some £400 a-year, to support three persons.

It is plain, therefore, that for most of us the question is not so much How can we live on half our present incomes? as How can we reduce our present scale of living by something like one-half, some a good deal less, and some a good deal more? To do so with any thoroughness would mean a revolution in our social habits. It may have to come to this if the war lasts long. Meanwhile, I see only two ways, commonplace enough both of them, of preparing to meet the need.

The first is, of course, to cut off luxuries. So far we are all agreed—when it is other people's luxuries that we are thinking of. Bishops write to the *Times* urging abstinence from alcohol and tobacco during the war. To those (like myself) who seldom use either it seems an admirable suggestion; for the same reason I should myself add motoring to the list. But when we are called upon to give up tea and coffee in order to "reduce the adverse trade balance," it seems a very different matter. New clothes I can cheerfully do without, but it is quite another thing if I must also do without new books. My own most prized luxury, foreign travel, is for the present "off," which greatly simplifies the matter for me. But this question of luxuries needs some searching of conscience, which each must do for himself.

the doctors at the relief stations can do nothing; the sufferers must sleep out in the wet forests; it is not possible to house them. Typhoid and scarlet fever spread among the ill-fed multitudes. "The doctors work with superhuman energy," says M. Doroshevitch, "but who can cope with elemental calamity?"

There are three millions of fugitives—three millions of workers turned into beggars. What existing organisation, in any country, could adapt itself to that vast flood of human needs and misery? And though Russia is a rich country, rich at any rate in natural wealth, it is a sparsely populated country, where corporate action on any large scale is almost unknown.

A number of trained and organised workers is Russia's great need just now. And it is here that the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies can give aid. For it is women, women who have been disciplined and accustomed to work in co-operation, who are above all things wanted, when the greatest number of the worst sufferers among the victims are women and children.

Do not let us say "What can be done in such desolation by a few doctors and nurses?" The members of every unit are in themselves a nucleus and centre of help, and of training for other helpers. A small number of experienced workers sent now may save an incalculable amount of suffering, and do a service out of all proportion to their actual numbers. It is for this Nucleus of Help that an appeal is made, and we hope that our readers will realise the immense importance of raising the comparatively small sum required soon.

Doing More for Ourselves.

The second requirement is to produce more necessities. Most of us can do something in this way, by growing or making what otherwise we should have to buy. Those who have not the ground (or the knowledge or skill) to grow vegetables or keep fowls, can at least do more things for themselves instead of expecting so much service from others, and waste less, whether food, fuel, and light, or time and labour, than we habitually do. If the war teaches us these two things, to do without much that we don't need, and to do more for ourselves, that will not be the least of the things it has given us cause to be thankful for. It has already begun to bring—and it is some consolation to think that the longer it lasts the more thoroughly it will enforce the lesson—some approach to simpler living and simpler pleasures which should make us, if we realise their value, a sounder people.

One thing more. Each of us is biased by his personal tastes and circumstances in deciding which are luxuries and which necessities. My profession naturally leads me to count education among the latter, and to give it a high place among them. But it is not that fact alone that makes me urge that the best education we can give our children is *not* a luxury that can be dispensed with, even at the present time. Least of all, indeed, at the present time, when a new world has to be built up out of the ruins that the war will leave, and trained intelligence and character will be needed more than ever for the task. In character, thank Heaven, the stern test of war has revealed no deficiency among us; but can we say the same of intelligence? Our education needs overhauling, like much else on which the war has brought a fierce light to bear. Amongst all the things that we are learning we must do without, don't let us be so shortsighted as to think we can economise in that, or do with any but the very best we can get.

SCHOOLMASTER

VI.—TAKING THE HOUSEHOLD IN HAND.

MADAM,—I am pleased to be able easily to reply to your letter asking for my personal experiences of the economies we have been called upon to exercise during the war, and will try to be as brief as possible.

In the first place, I made the resolution not to spend one penny upon my dress until the war was over, and set about to eliminate from my wardrobe everything that might be of use to others and that I did not require. These I carefully distributed among necessitous friends, and the Belgians.

Then I took my household in hand, and at once dismissed one outdoor man, and shortly afterwards one unmarried manservant from indoors. Then I followed our worthy and beloved Sovereign's example, and signed, with all my household and as many of my friends as I could induce, not to offer or taste alcohol during the war. Every bottle of alcohol and my wine-

cellar key were locked up from that day. I also stopped all supplies of aerated drinks and cider, and since then nothing but water has been our beverage, except, of course, milk, tea, coffee, and cocoa.

Since last June we have only had meat served in the middle of the day, either butcher's meat, poultry, game or fish, vegetables, and pudding. For dinner we have soup made entirely from bone stock, three vegetables, and pudding, stewed fruit, and fresh fruit. At first we frequently had eggs; but since August, when it was announced that they were an actual necessity for our brave wounded soldiers, the whole produce of my poultry farm has been sent to various hospitals in town and country.

I should almost add that these economies, as well as giving up travelling in England and abroad, were forced upon me by the great losses I had sustained as a direct result of the war, as well as the additional taxation; so that my position is much worse than that of those who are only called upon to give up half their income, and my economies have had to be all the greater.

But in spite of this I can give the assurance that the exercise of these economies is no detriment to one's health or happiness, but rather the reverse, if only one makes up one's mind to keep smiling. I beg to enclose my card.

ECONOMIST.

VII.—NO FRIVOLOUS EXPENDITURE.

MADAM,—You are kind enough to ask for the expression of my ideas. I speak as the man in the street, claiming no special knowledge or authority on economic subjects. And my first idea is not to be too much alarmed by the depressing views of some alarmists. One thing the war has taught us is the fallibility of expert economic prophets. Still, the fact stares us in the face that in every twenty-four hours five million golden sovereigns are being shot away or otherwise consumed, for which no return in money, or measurable in money, will ever be received.

Where are these five million sovereigns per day to come from? Obviously, they can only come from the earnings of the men and women of the country engaged, directly or indirectly, in productive work. Therefore, it is of vital importance that these earnings should be as large as possible, should not be squandered, but should be economised and rendered available to replace the products of the labour of those who are producing and consuming the five millions per day for ends which we all think are worth the money if the money can be found.

We hear that the cheap jewellery trade of Birmingham is having the time of its life, that the music-halls and cinema shows are driving a roaring trade, that the last Christmas sales at the expensive West-End drapers' shops were unprecedented in volume, and that ladies were buying freely expensive materials in anticipation of the entertainments which will follow the end of war. These facts, if they are facts, are regrettable. I am convinced that they arise from thoughtlessness, from want of appreciation of the duty of individual economy and of the effect of such economy on the national welfare and prospects. You are, therefore, performing a public service in opening your columns to discussion on the subject, which will thus be brought to the attention of many who perhaps have not at present given it sufficient thought.

Women have not, as a rule, much taste for finance, but they are the economists of the household in every class of society, and if the duty of drastic economy is brought home to them I, for one, have no fear of the result of the financial strain which is upon us. For reasons which would be too long to go into here, it seems to me that our friends the experts are exaggerating when they say that everyone must reduce his expenditure by one-half, but it is certain that very substantial private economy is necessary, and it rests very largely with the women of all classes whether it shall be effected.

S. G.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.

ROYAUMONT.

Our Administrator at Royaumont, Miss Loudon, writes:—"We had an interesting time last Friday. At mid-day we heard that 180 men were to be billeted on for the night on their way from one place to another. At one o'clock they arrived and took possession of the refectory. The cooks rose to the occasion, and the men got soup, bully beef, biscuits, and cheese, and wine, besides the remains of our meals. They had marched 50 kilometres the previous day, and most of them were tired

out. They had some provisions of their own, and at night they got straw for themselves and slept in the refectory. In spite of their fatigue they gave a concert at 7.30, which lasted an hour. They said that this was the best billet that they had had; and I think they would have been very pleased to stay longer, but they were up and away by six o'clock the next morning. The refectory looked even more picturesque than usual that night, with all the men asleep except the one sentry pacing up and down."

SERBIA.

The following letter has been received from Dr. Mary Blair, who is now at Corsica organising our Hospital for Serbian Refugees:—

"We landed on Christmas morning, having come into harbour after dark the night before. It was the dreariest Christmas that any of us had ever spent. There was something horribly tragic about the landing of these first refugees. There were over 300 in our lot, and they were of all classes. They were towed ashore in great barges, containing about a hundred each, and they looked so desolate and forlorn, though most of them put a brave face on it, that we all felt inclined to weep. Some were very old and tottering, some very ill. Some of the better-class people were well dressed, but possessed nothing but the clothes they stood up in.

"We did what we could for the Serbs that were sick during the first few days, and those that were seriously ill were removed to the civil hospital. After a few days it was found that of one shipload of 300 people, six men were ill in the civil hospital; and there was one maternity case (the one we were expecting on board). Besides this, there were a good many sick in the houses, whom we were attending; and we had a case of scarlet fever, and another serious illness in one of the hotels. The civil hospital here is quite small and not sufficient for the needs of the population.

"The second ship came in with 500 refugees, and one baby had been born on board on Christmas morning.

"At present we have commandeered one room in the convent near here, where about 150 Serbs live, and have put up five beds and arranged the place as a small ward. The beds are always full and are much appreciated. We visit several times a day and attend the patients. We also prepare food for them, as the food provided is quite unfit for sick people.

"I shall send you a map showing you the position of the Hospital, and also of St. Antoine and Chiavari, where the other depôts will be. We shall use Chiavari as a country branch for staff patients when convenient, but it will be much more convenient to make Ajaccio the hospital centre. It will be the centre for four collections of refugees, and will also be near the better-class Serbs living in the town.

"The two representatives of the Serbian Relief Fund are living in the pension, and we are all three working together and helping each other's schemes. We are using a motor-car they have hired, and we have Serbian Relief bedsteads in the temporary ward."

IN MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT MALCOLM BLANE.

A bed in the St. Margaret of Scotland Ward in the Hospital at Royaumont has been endowed by Mrs. Blane, of Alltan Donn, Nairn, and Foliejon Park, Windsor, in memory of her son, Lieutenant Malcolm Blane, of the 3rd (attached 5th) Cameron Highlanders, killed in action in September, 1915.

The death of Lieutenant Blane brings, beyond the poignant grief of a small intimate circle, a very keen regret to all those interested in things Celtic, who knew him for an enthusiast and a scholar of great promise. Letters, written in the trenches shortly before his death, are full of his Celtic scheme, planned with all the appealing buoyancy and warmth of youth.

To Suffragists also his death is a loss; he was a member of the Nairn Women's Suffrage Society, and supported our cause with firm conviction and unspoilt sincerity. We may be permitted to quote from two of his letters—written from the trenches in August and September.

"It is a pity England cannot now produce a man strong enough to stand up against the arrows of adverse criticism. For goodness' sake let us have votes for women at once, and see if the women cannot put both brains and tact, as well as virtue, into our national and Imperial organisation.

"I hope Women's Suffrage will soon be granted in England, so that, following the example in Norway and Finland, things may be made to progress."

Young, with clean hands and a pure heart full of generous enthusiasms, he fell fighting gloriously in a just cause. Such a fate brings home to us how "in short measures life may perfect be."

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: MRS HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: MISS EVELYN ATKINSON, MISS EDITH FALLISER (Literature), MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary). Hon. Treasurer: MRS. ATERBACH. Secretary: MISS HELEN WRIGHT. Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W. Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4873 Vic. & 4674 Vic.

Our Maternity Unit for Refugees in Russia.

We had hoped to be able to give many more details of the work in Russia this week, but we have had no further letters from Miss Moberly. Communication with Russia is slow and very uncertain, even by cable, and letters sometimes take as much as a month to come.

In spite of all difficulties and delays, we are hoping to get our Unit off very soon. In addition to Dr. Mabel May, we are fortunate in having secured the services of Dr. Beatrice Coxon, who worked in Serbia with Dr. May before the country was invaded, and shared the 300-mile "trek" which had to be faced when our Units retreated before the enemy. Before going to Serbia, Dr. Coxon had valuable experience in Maternity and Infant work, and she will take over the charge of our Hospital in Petrograd, when Dr. May returns to England, as she will have to do, in the course of the early spring.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Table with columns for £ s. d. and names of contributors. Includes entries like 'Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1915', 'Received from January 8th to the 15th, 1916', and various individual names and amounts.

Fund for Maternity and Relief Work among Refugees in Russia.

Table with columns for £ s. d. and names of contributors. Includes sections for 'THIRD LIST' and 'DONATION', listing names like 'Miss M. E. Barne', 'Mrs. Lucy Palmer', 'Mrs. S. Garrett', etc.

Large table with columns for £ s. d. and names of contributors. Lists names such as 'Miss Harriet M. Jones', 'Mrs. R. Dale', 'The Household at 2, Beechgrove, Hoole, Chester', etc.

Gifts in kind have been most generously given by the following firms: Messrs. Casein, 6 dozen 1 lb. tins Vitalitas True Milk, 4 dozen tins Secwa, 2 dozen tins Sanagen; Messrs. Savory & Moore, 3 dozen tins of their food; Messrs. Nestlé, 2 cases of Nestlé's milk, each containing 48 one-pound tins; Messrs. Glaxo, 2 dozen tins of Glaxo; Messrs. Oxo, 1 gross of Oxo cubes. Most useful and appropriate clothing for the women and children have been received from Mrs. Illingworth, Lady Bunting, Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Corbet Ashby, Mrs. Alys Russell, Miss Glaisihan, Miss Lassell, Miss Wood, Miss Dutton, the Misses Cooke, Miss Picton Turberville, Miss Zimmern, Mrs. Baleson, the Misses MacLagan, Mrs. H. E. Dowson, Miss Mackae, Miss de Lovey, Mrs. Craig, Miss Knutt, Miss Sterling, Miss Barker, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Glaisher, Miss Montgomery, Mrs. Turner, Miss Blair, Miss E. A. Barrett, Mrs. Zimmern, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Egerton, Miss J. Drew, Lady Henry Somerset, Miss Harker, from Mrs. Warr (Liverpool Working Party), and a fine consignment from the National Union of Trained Nurses.

CORY BROS. (Surgical Instrument Makers) LIMITED.

Advertisement for Cory Bros. featuring an image of a hot-water bottle and text: 'British Made Hot-Water Bottles Best Quality Rubber. Water Bed, Air Cushions & Invalid Appliances on Hire and sold on the Hire Purchase System. 54, MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W. (Eight Doors from Gl. Portland Street.)'

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DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Table listing donations to N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital, including names and amounts in pounds and shillings.

Table listing further donations to N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital, including names and amounts.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping...

Table listing further lists of beds named, including names of donors and recipients.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO LONDON UNITS, N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS, DECEMBER, 1915.

Table listing subscriptions to London Units of N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals for December 1915.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Reception to Members Returned from Serbia. A very successful reception was held by the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals in the Oak Hall, Edinburgh...

Scarborough. On December 17th a Stock Exchange Sale was held in the office to raise funds for materials for the working party.

Maidenhead. On December 16th Miss Florence Petty, the "Pudding Lady," who is a representative of the National Food Reform Association...

Croydon. The Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation having asked the Croydon Society to open a depot where gifts and hospital appliances could be sent for dispatch to the Serbian Unit...

passed, asking the N.U.W.W. to organise Patrols at Croydon.

A conference will take place on February 23rd, at 8 p.m., in the Pembroke Hall, Wellesley Road...

Hendon. We are informed by the Secretary of the Hendon and Golder's Green branch of our London Society that the resolution published in the last issue of THE COMMON CAUSE under the heading "Hendon," was not passed by her branch...

Forthcoming Meetings.

JANUARY 21. Birmingham (West Bromwich)—Forthcoming Meeting in Library Lecture Room—Speaker, Miss Royden...

JANUARY 26. Purley—Friends' Meeting House, Downscourt Road—Tuesday, Jan. 25th—Annual Meeting, 3.0 p.m.—Business—Tea—Address by Miss Beatrice Hunter...

JANUARY 27. Sunderland—Members' Meeting at Fawcett Street Café—Thursday, Jan. 27th, 7.30 p.m.—Speaker, Rev. W. D. French—Subject: "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement"

JANUARY 28. Brondesbury—Marla Grey Training College—Speaker, Miss Douglas Irvine.

JANUARY 29. Tunbridge Wells—W.S.S., at 3 p.m.—A Lantern Lecture by Miss Burke.

Working Parties. Birkenhead—Theological Society's Rooms, 48a, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals...

Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street, 3.0 p.m.

Buxton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited.

Chislewick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Unit of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

A SCHOOL FOR HOTEL-KEEPING.

An account of a new kind of industrial training for women, started by Mlle. Thomson at Passy, is given in the Times of January 19th. Hotel management is practically taught at the Ecole Hoteliere to forty or fifty women students who wish to learn how to keep a hotel as it ought to be kept.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ESOTERIC LECTURES by SUFI INAYAT KHAM, every Tuesday at 5, and Sundays at 6 p.m. Admission free. All are welcome at 86, Ladbroke-rd. (close to Holland-pk. Tube Station). Further particulars, Miss Mary Williams, as above.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W.—Wednesday, Jan. 26th, at 8 p.m. Mr. G. B. Burgis on "How Novels are Written."

MRS. H. M. SWANWICK, M.A.—Lecture on "Force, Power, and Civilisation," at the Emerson Club, 19, Buckingham-st., Strand, Thursday, January 27th, 7.30 p.m. Admission free. Reserved seats, 1s., from the International Suffrage Shop, 5, Duke-st., Adelphi, W.C.

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