

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

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

LAW-ABIDING.]

Societies and Branches in the Union 561.

[NON-PARTY.]

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[For the opinions expressed in papers that are signed, or initialled, or signed by a pseudonym, the writers alone are responsible.]

Notes and News.

Votes for Soldiers.

The Earl of Meath, criticising this Bill in the House of Lords, "as one who ardently desires that worthy women should be accorded the privilege of the vote," calls for "one more sacrifice on the part of women—that they should abstain at present from any attempt to urge what women conceive to be their just right. . . . Far from militating against their interests [this sacrifice], will make more secure than ever the ultimate triumph of patriotic womanhood." The N.U.W.S.S. has, of course, suspended agitation for the Suffrage during this crisis. We are glad to set the utterance of the noble lord upon record.

Women's Suffrage in Holland.

On November 1st the Government introduced a Bill for Revision of the Constitution, and Article 80 says, in part:—

"The right of electing the Members of the Second Chamber is conferred upon the male inhabitants, Dutch subjects, or recognised as such by law, having accomplished the age to be fixed by the law, which is not to be set lower than 23 years, and upon the female inhabitants possessing the same qualifications, in so far as the law will enfranchise them for reasons not derived from their economic standing."

This means a real step forward for women, since they are no longer disqualified, and the Constitution even requires the Electoral Law to enfranchise women. The real inward meaning of the last mysterious phrase will only be unravelled in the course of Parliamentary Debates. But as the Dutch people have clearly expressed themselves in favour of the political equality of men and women, and the Dutch Cabinet has often declared its willingness to carry out "the will of the people," it is to be hoped that equal franchise for men and women will be established by the Constitution.

"Defeat, with such Foes, is a Half-Victory."

The defeat of the Suffrage amendment in the three Eastern States of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and New York is attributed to the "saloon interests" and the "political machines." It was only because of this "too well oiled" machinery that the cause was defeated in New Jersey. The party leaders of both sides, being doubtful how the women will vote, are definitely hostile, and muster the whole strength of their organisations at the polls, while the liquor interest is at all times

a determined opponent of women's enfranchisement. "A defeat with such foes," comments the *New York Tribune*, "is in itself a half victory. If the women of the country can continue to demonstrate that their cause is opposed by the professional politicians as a unit, their battle will be won on the face of the evidence."

General Botha in Favour of Women's Suffrage.

The *Woman's Outlook* reports that replies have been received from the South African and Labour Parties in response to the request that Women's Suffrage shall form part of their policy at the forthcoming elections. The Labour party replies that "Women's Suffrage is part of the fighting platform of the party." The South African Party states that it considers the enfranchisement of women is still an open question; but the leader of the Party (General Botha) has openly expressed himself in favour. The Unionists and Hertzogists have not responded.

Gormandizing as Usual!

How is it that the Aldermen and Lord Mayor of the City of London dared to invite the Cabinet Ministers to an extravagant display of meats, wines, and table luxury at the Guildhall immediately after what has been described as an "economy week" in both Houses of Parliament? A more glaring instance of affront to the nation it would be hard to discover! Think of the huge sums squandered for rich food and drink, of the reckless, almost defiant, disregard of the warnings issued by the Government; and then (imagine it!) the inclusion of the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary among the guests invited to witness the scandalous spectacle. Could a more appalling proof be given of the cynical indifference of the Ministers and the Municipal Authority of the First City in the Empire to the recommendations of the Government—the absolute futility of expecting any example from those in authority, when they deliberately set themselves to undermine their own influence? While the Aldermanic Banquet with its Gargantuan menu of meat and wine was in progress at the Guildhall, our soldiers, emaciated with hunger in German gaols, are kept alive by the little parcels of food packed and sent by mothers and wives, or by the charitable societies who plead for "five shillings a fortnight" to keep heart, and even life in our British soldiers. Their pallid, sunken faces ought to have risen even before the dull eyes of Guildhall gormandizers, and made them turn, sick with shame, from their revel. And, worse still, there are Russian prisoners, gnawing the mouldy crusts our own men throw away, that they may keep life in their famine-stricken bodies a little longer. But these may want and "suffer hunger" while the Guildhall gormandizes as usual. R. L. Stevenson thought that none of us, however ungenerous, could endure to pick out his superior food from among the crusts of the poor. The City Fathers have managed this feat, and have the satisfaction of knowing that "every mouthful they put into their bellies was wrenched out of the fingers of the hungry."

A Lost Great Opportunity.

This aspect of mayoral banquets is one, we might have supposed, which should have struck the veriest glutton, who also had a heart. But there is another aspect of these Ninth of November feasts which for a long while will fill all generous minds with shame. If the gourmands who insisted on real turtle soup and "wines at 12s. the bottle" had had the least understanding of

what is meant when National Economy is urged upon us all, they would have put public duty in the first place, and announced "No banquets until the war is over!" That example would have reached the imagination of hundreds of thousands, upon whose minds words and exhortations make no impression, who are as indifferent as Aldermen or a Government department to the vital question of husbanding our resources and saving our strength for the ordeal ahead of us. "No Lord Mayor's banquet this year, because we ought not to spend on ourselves in war time!" Only think how that would have reverberated like a trumpet blast through the land! How rich and poor would have responded to it! But now self-indulgence sneaks into every self-satisfied soul. "There's no need for me to deny myself anything; there's the Lord Mayor has got his turtle and champagne as usual, and he wouldn't go on like that if there was anything in all this jabber about economy."

Waste in Camps.

"Everyone," says a writer in *The Daily Graphic*, "has heard how cartloads of bread from military camps have been dumped into ploughed fields." Other forms of waste, he points out, are the burning of all sorts of stores in training camps when a division moves on, and the delivery by contractors of supplies, such as hay and straw, which might quite well be fetched by the Army Service Corps, hundreds of whose men and lorries are standing idle. There is also a huge amount of waste in the purchase of stores for the average camp—goods being often bought at second or third hand at two or three times the manufacturers' price—and in the commissariat.

Is there No Room for Women Quartermasters?

The same writer gives an instructive example of the saving effected in a convalescent camp with an average daily strength of 2,820, by substituting women cooks for men; a saving which involved no shortage of food for any man, and at the same time resulted in a greater variety of diet, much appreciated by the men. In one month the savings effected in four items alone were:—

Meat	... 5,471 lb.	Tea	... 191 lb.
Bread	... 7,369 lb.	Mustard	... 17 lb.

"The actual cash saved was £620. By the sale of fat, £35 was realised, and by the sale of refuse £11. The total saved on the month was nearly £900. As this does not touch the question of the prices at which goods are bought—notoriously extravagant in many cases—it is possibly a moderate estimate to assume that in a camp of 3,000 men, a saving of £1,000 a month could be effected. . . . Putting the number of men in camps in the United Kingdom at this moment at 1,500,000, it will be seen that a saving of £500,000 a month could be achieved by this means (the employment of women cooks alone). . . . Is there no room," he finally demands, "for women quartermasters?"

Nothing They Can't Do.

The party of representative visitors who have been going the tour of our munition factories have been much impressed by the part played by women. "The most striking sight of all," says a French Press representative, "was to me the great workshop filled with girls at Birmingham." "Every foreman I have spoken to," states an American, "has said the same thing—that one woman is worth two men. There is nothing they can't do—if they set their minds to it." A correspondent of *The Times* points out that "the full utilization of the resources already in sight depends on female labour, and the revelation of women's capacity is a point of capital significance for the future of the war." "The point is not that women and girls are employed in great numbers on munitions. There is nothing new in much of the work they are doing. In fact, they have been doing it for years, and the general tendency is for modern machinery work on metals to pass more and more into the hands of women. The point is, they have been tried on work of which they have never before been thought capable—work requiring both strength and skill—and they have demonstrated, not their equality, but their superiority to men of the same class and standing." The same report comes from every quarter in which the experiment has been tried. . . . The organisers of the new Scottish factories have learnt so much of the capacity of women that they intend to put them on to shells for 6 in. guns, with suitable arrangements for lifting on and off the machine."

Women Substitutes.

A report has already been issued by the Committee appointed by the Home Office to consider the problem of providing sub-

stitutes for men of military age in clerical and commercial employments. The Committee estimate that substitutes will probably have to be found for upwards of 150,000 men engaged in these occupations, and considers that the bulk of these must be drawn from the ranks of women not at present employed. They recommend that the available reserves of suitable women should at once be mobilised, and make suggestions for their rapid training in the elements of office work, and for the establishment of employment registers of those so trained. They also urge that every effort should be made to attract women of intelligence and education for positions of responsibility. The names of thousands of such women are to be found upon the Special Women's Register for War Work and in the National Register. No time should be lost in organising them, and putting them in touch with their new work, before the men capable of instructing them have begun their military duties. Otherwise, there is bound to be dislocation of business as the new levies are raised.

Utilising our Woman-Power.

To urge these considerations upon the Government, the following memorial, with the accompanying signatures, has been addressed to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Home Secretary, and the President of the Board of Trade:—

"Seeing that we have in the National Register an indispensable guide to the available reserve of women's labour in the country, and since the call for more men in the Army will inevitably lead to an increased volume of employment among women, and since all the problems connected with that employment require careful consideration, both as to selection, training, wages, and conditions, we earnestly beg for the appointment of a special Committee, consisting of equal numbers of men and women, with power to examine the Register, collect information, and make arrangements to facilitate and safeguard the entry of women into positions in which they have not hitherto been employed."

The Marchioness of Salisbury, J. A. Spender, Esq., Mrs. Henry Sidgwick, Viscount Milner, F. S. Oliver, Esq., The Duchess of Wellington, The Countess of Harrowby, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Mrs. Humphry Ward, The Rt. Hon. Gerald Balfour, Mrs. Creighton, The Dowager Countess of Jersey, Lord Knutsford, Viscountess Middleton, The Countess of Northbrook, Miss Katharine Stephen, The Marchioness of Winchester, Dr. Scharlieb, The Duchess of Somerset, Miss Tuke, Lady Trevelyan, Lady Cowdray, and Mr. W. Dickinson, M.P.

Training.

With regard to training, it has been represented to the Committee that a short whole-time training, lasting from one to two months, will help to familiarise women with business routine and requirements, so that they may adapt themselves more readily to their work and surroundings on entering employment. Such a training is better than none at all; but it is unfortunate that the Government turned a deaf ear to oft repeated warning, and failed to take steps at an earlier stage to ensure a supply of properly trained women when the need should come. The London Society of Women's Suffrage has set an example by taking up this problem, and providing the training, realising that, before long, many doors now closed and barred to women workers would be opened wide, and those who rejected women's service would be clamouring for applicants.

To Replenish the Barracks.

The last achievement of German organisation, as reported by our contemporary, *La Française*, is a league for re-peopling the country "in readiness for the next war." These terrible words are printed at the heading of the prospectus issued by the league, which counts among its patrons the President of the Central Committee of Syndicalists, who "promises the support of the working classes," and, more extraordinary still, the President of the German Evangelical Women's Union.

The Chivalry of the Nurses.

A story told by the captain of the French cruiser which succeeded in saving a number of lives when a British transport was torpedoed a few months ago in the Ægean, is given in *The Morning Post*. There were thirty-six nursing sisters on board the transport, and of these ten were drowned. When the French boats came upon the scene, the nurses cried out with one accord: "Fighting men first!" "Such an instance of devotion to the flag surely deserves to live in British history."

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

LATEST NEWS FROM SERBIA.

Although much has happened since Dr. Inglis and Dr. Hutchison sent off the cables published in our last issue, they confirm our expectations that all contingencies had been provided for by Dr. Inglis in conjunction with Sir R. Paget, and we hope that the skilled services of our personnel and the generous equipments of the Units are being used for the relief of the Serbians whose courageous resistance is the admiration of the world. A cable has also been received from Dr. Blair, in which she intimates that it is believed that the hospitals are being evacuated in good time, so that there is no cause for anxiety.

From the Girton and Newnham Unit also news has been received in the form of a cablegram from Mrs. Harley, sent from Salonika on November 8th, as follows:—"Starting to-day Gevgeli," which indicates that they may be at work by this time. Gevgeli is just over or on the Greek frontier, in Southern Serbia, not far from the main railway running from Salonika to the north, along which, in all probability the wounded will be conveyed.

MORE WORK FOR OUR HOSPITALS.

The Executive Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals have received communications from Dr. Mary Blair (M.D., London), who, together with Dr. Catherine Anderson, is at present in Salonika in charge of a party of nurses and orderlies recently sent out as relief staff for the Serbian Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Dr. Mary Blair reported that most valuable work could be done by her party in or near Salonika until such time as they are able to proceed up country to join their respective Units, and that the Serbian authorities, together with the British Consul and the representative of the British Red Cross Medical Missions in Serbia, strongly recommend the utilisation of herself and her helpers in this direction. It is known that certain replenishment of equipment belonging to the Scottish Women's Hospitals is lying at Salonika, pending its transport into Serbia. The Executive Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals have therefore cabled their sanction to Dr. Mary Blair to proceed with this work, and they are immediately despatching supplementary equipment to enable her to open and be responsible for a hospital of 100 beds.

The Committee are very grateful to the public, who have enabled them to be in a position to act promptly in this matter, and to send the necessary equipment, which, fortunately, they have provisionally had on order. It is obvious that this will be a further strain upon the funds at their disposal, and they will be very grateful to any of the public who may see their way to assist this further effort on their part to relieve the suffering of our gallant ally. Subscriptions are gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, or at the Headquarters office, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or at the N.U.W.S.S. office, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

SISTER SUTHERLAND'S DEATH AT VALJEVO.

The Committee and all the supporters of the Hospitals have already received with deep regret the news of Sister Sutherland's death at Valjevo. The following extract from Dr. Alice Hutchison's letter gives some account of the funeral:—

"I was very fortunate in having a most understanding and sympathetic person in our Director to help me to make all arrangements. I had a plain white coffin with a red cross, and our supplementary Union Jack covered the top entirely. There was not one of us who did not feel glad to have it there.

"The Director sent up the coffin covered with oakleaves and flowers bound together in a long chain, and on the day of the funeral sent two beautiful wreaths from the whole Serbian hospital personnel. Numbers of people came to show their sympathy (the funeral being an official one), among others, Madame Mischisch, the Field-Marshal's wife. For the hearse I had a plain open lorry covered with a red carpet and decked with oakleaves.

"I am sure 'Sister's' people would have appreciated the quiet, sympathetic and respectful attitude of everyone."

ROYAUMONT.

Dr. Russell and Miss Kemp have just returned from a visit to Royaumont, and an account of their visit will appear shortly.

The hospital is full; the majority of the cases are serious ones, and the whole staff is working at high pressure. The gratitude of the patients for all the care shown to them, however, forms a potent stimulus and refreshment for tired minds and bodies.

A TYPICAL BRETON PATIENT.

By trade Jean Carron is a shoemaker, and, like so many of our wounded at Royaumont, he is a Breton. His

mother keeps a small shop at home in the little Breton village, and Jean and his brothers all had their trades. They lived together. Now his mother is alone. The others are in the trenches, and Jean was called to the colours last November, and already he has been wounded twice. He was first wounded in the head, at La Boisselle, whence he was sent to Amiens to hospital. In February he returned to the front, to be wounded this time in the leg. He is anxious to go back to the trenches and make the enemy pay for both these wounds.

Carron tells a significant little incident about some German prisoners. His company had taken several of the enemy alive, and he was sent to the rear in charge of a small party of them. One of the Boches walked faster than the others, and Carron ordered him—in French—to wait for them. Probably he spoke a little fiercely. To his astonishment the German fell on his knees and implored him not to shoot him. Carron wondered whether some such slight failure to please his German captors would cost a French prisoner his life. He made the man get up and follow him. Presently a shell burst behind him. He looked round for his prisoners, and found that the man who had thought he was to be shot had been killed. The irony of fate impressed this village shoemaker strongly. It is little incidents such as these that seem to loom in the memory of the wounded men. They can rarely tell one much about the campaign. Each man sees so little of it. The war, for him, is bounded by the narrow walls of a trench for fifteen days, and then, again, by a weary road to the rest billets, and again by more gravel and mud in the trenches of the second line. The marvel of it is that each man sees his duty whole. No Frenchman questions for a moment the inevitable destiny that is his—to give up everything for his country. Some do it picturesquely, retaining through all some sense of romance and drama. Some do it emotionally, and talk, with wet eyes, of *La Patrie*. Others are sullen at the enormity of the fate thrust on them by Germany—sullen and revengeful. Others, again, are gay and nonchalant, treating the horrors of war humorously. Still others accept it as part of the day's work. To them every hourly risk of death becomes monotonous and natural. It is men like this who can only remember incidents, and who treat their wounds and the risk of death as part of a daily round. V. C. C. C.

IN THE KITCHEN AT ROYAUMONT.

"In the kitchen of an old monastery," says a correspondent of *The Times*, in an article on British Cooks in France, "a group of British women, all of good education, are cooking and scrubbing and washing up all day long, and they have been doing it for many months. The way they cook potatoes is a thing to write poetry about, and the French soldiers who have eaten them will tell you that they want to go back to that monastery, which is now a hospital, because the food is so good. Not only do these women cooks of the educated classes cook well, but they are economical; not mean, but merely not wasteful; and that is a very strong point in their favour."

GIRTON AND NEWNHAM WAR HOSPITAL.

The Joint Committee which appealed a year ago to past and present students of Girton and Newnham Colleges for funds to equip a unit under the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital Committee, is issuing a further appeal for contributions towards the maintenance of the Unit, which has now been transferred to Gevgeli, just over the Greek frontier. Subscriptions may be sent to Miss E. Lawder (Girton), 25, Halifax Road, Cambridge, or to Miss I. P. Scott (Newnham), Shoreham, Sevenoaks.

OUR HOSPITAL NUMBER.

We have received a great number of letters of appreciation of our Hospital Number, which, we are glad to say, has been a great success. Unfortunately, however, owing to shortage of labour, we had a great difficulty with regard to the dispatch of the parcels, and although we believe that most of them arrived safely and in time, we are afraid that in a few cases delay occurred. Every effort was made at this office to get the paper out to time, and we went to press earlier than usual, but owing to war conditions the railways and the parcel deliveries have proved unreliable. We offer apologies to any members who may have been caused inconvenience, and can assure them that both the printers and *THE COMMON CAUSE* staff did all that was humanly possible to ensure prompt dispatch.

We would ask all members if they are returning unsold copies to send them intact, not cutting off the tops as usual, as copies can be sold as souvenirs at any future meetings in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospital funds.

Peter Robinson's XMAS BAZAAR

Now open

It is only right that the little folks should enjoy their Christmas treats and shopping excursions as usual and so we have provided many special attractions and surprises for them in our wonderful Xmas Bazaar

"Venice in London"

British-made Toys and Gift-goods are a notable feature of the displays—also the ingenious Toys made by our wounded Soldiers and Sailors.

Don't let the children miss "Venice in London"—but—bring them early.

Xmas Gifts for Everyone

Christmas Presents will this year, more than ever before, take the form of practical articles. Whether the gift is for a soldier or sailor friend, or someone at home, it should, undoubtedly, be one of utility. Our assortments of Gift-goods at the moment offer a comprehensive and excellent variety of the kind of articles most needed, but we urge ladies to avoid disappointment by making their purchases NOW.

Shop early! We close at 6 o'clock.

Peter Robinson L^{td}.
OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.



INEXPENSIVE Winter Coats

With a view to keeping our workers fully employed during the slack season, we have designed a number of warm, fur-trimmed Coats, which we are now selling at remarkably low prices. These Coats are adapted from the newest Paris models, and are made in fine quality wool velour.

VELOUR STREET COAT, as sketch, in best quality soft finished wool velour, cut on full becoming lines. Large collar of seal musquash fur, and half lined soft silk. Special price **89/6**
Actual value 5½ Guineas.

Debenham
& Freebody
Wigmore Street,
(Covendish Square) London, W.



Learning How to Make and Mend.

"Odd Jobs." These two little words bring many a picture to the mind. Visions of the good old days when Spring-cleaning was an annual rite in which all the family took part, rise before one's eyes. Before the vacuum cleaner and the O-Cedar mop had ousted the broom and the elbow grease, spring was the one season of the year dedicated to the repairing and mending of all the little household things that go wrong. It was then that all the odd jobs were done, and the odd-jobber, as the songs of the day tell us, was always father. He mended the blinds and the picture cords, put the castors on the chair legs, and "laid the carpet on the stairs," making an awful mess of it, according to all accounts.

That was in the days before odd-jobbery became a science. In those pre-war times, no one would dream that a female could be trusted to hammer in a nail without badly damaging her fingers in the process, let alone imagining that she could tackle the many intricacies of carpentry.

But now that the girl of the period is proving that she can turn her hand to anything practical and mechanical, from repairing a car to working a lathe, it is not surprising to learn that she is the first to take up the new science. And in the days to come, it will probably be mother, not father, who will lay the carpet on the stairs and mend the family furniture, or, at least, if she doesn't do it, she will have had the chance of learning all about it. All over London classes are being held under the auspices of the London County Council, in the hitherto undeveloped science of odd-jobbery, and girls from West and East-end alike are learning the use of hammer, saw, and plane.

It comes as a surprise to the uninitiated to learn that there is a right and a wrong way to cut a groove in a piece of wood with a saw, or an art in holding a chisel, but that is what I discovered before I had been a quarter of an hour at one of the London County Council "odd jobs" classes. At the one I visited, there were about twenty girls working at benches, learning all the simple, practical things which had been unknown to them before. Their instructor was an experienced joiner. It was he who first revealed to me that to repair a blind or put a washer on a tap was not the simple thing it seemed, but a job that, if it was to be done thoroughly, required more than a little knowledge and preliminary training. Such things as the quality and texture of different varieties of timber, the value of nails and screws versus glue as a fastener, are matters which have to be learnt before you can start to work. They come at the beginning of the year's course; at the end comes the making of beautiful little woodwork models of trays, and cupboards, and bookshelves, and the thousand and one useful articles which belong to a well-kept house, until finally you are turned out an expert "handyman," capable of taking on any simple job of repairing and mending, and carrying it through satisfactorily.

M. S. C.

"The Child: His Nature and Nurture."*

Dr. W. B. Drummond has handled this very important subject in a very clear and readable manner. The first chapter is devoted to Nature and Nurture, and he gives a very fair *resumé* of the position and influence of these two factors. He treads on thin ice, for he is in the happy hunting ground of conflicting biologists. Nature refers to inherited qualities, and nurture to the environment of the child. Here he points out the power and capacity for individual adaptation whereby social reformers are encouraged to improve the environment of the child so as "to hinder the development of evil tendencies and favour the preservation of good qualities."

The problem of the survival of the unfit is dealt with somewhat briefly. As he says, natural selection tends to weed out the unfit; but he does not, perhaps, sufficiently emphasise the fact that artificial selection, sanitary measures, and philanthropic efforts keep alive a large number of the unfit, who keep up the bad stock under such favoured circumstances.

A chapter is devoted to child study, in which Dr. Drummond points out the duty of both parent and teacher really to understand the child, because its education commences at the cradle. It has to be wisely and sympathetically steered through four important phases—(a) that of sensation, when the infant's brain is making observations on its surroundings; (b) the stage of perception; (c) the stage of representation, when the developing brain has the power of memory and complex motor co-ordina-

* By W. B. Drummond. (Dent, 2s. 6d.)

tions; and (d) the stage of reflection, when the association centres of the brain are developing, to reason and make use of previously acquired knowledge. In each stage of the developing brain, those in charge must obtain the best intelligence and concentration, so as to form a framework for the mind. It is an evil habit in parents and nurses to discourage questions. Such discouragement stunts the mind, and may alter the whole future career of the individual. The child who is always "worrying" with questions has a more hopeful future than the one who is always silent and "good."

Many chapters are of a useful and practical character, devoted to the management of the nursery, to diet, the rate of growth, and the care of the teeth. The care of the teeth and the causes of decay are still vexed problems. Many hold to the idea, here promulgated, that fermentation in the mouth hastens decay, admitting that some children are more liable to decay than others. The reviewer does not think we are yet able to give a reason for decaying teeth in the young. If you take the children of the poor, it is rare to find a fine set of teeth at the age of 10 or 12. Now cross over to Holland and examine the mouths of the children of the poor, and it is rare to find a bad set. The same obtained in Belgium before the cruel German invasion. The Belgians are very careful of their illegitimates and *abandonnés*, collecting them in homes, and acting parentally till they reach majority. It is rare to find bad teeth among the children. Why? One reason may be the milk. In our country children are fed on bad milk, whereas in Holland those who sell bad milk are both imprisoned and fined, and a notice of the punishment is affixed to the shop. The same supervision was exercised in Belgium.

The Dutch think an abundant supply of fresh green food goes a long way towards improving the teeth, as well as general precautions as to good bread and cheese. It is probable that bad teeth are the result of starvation in early infancy. But there is another possible cause. As a nation, we are rather heavy spirit drinkers, both rich and poor. During the pre-natal period, if alcohol is indulged in, the development of the foetus is arrested in many ways through the toxin of alcohol. It will commonly be seen that the drunkard's child has very bad teeth.

The growth of the brain, its irritability, and the prevention of nerve storms and nervousness is very well treated in Chapter V. Likewise in Chapter VI., all that is useful to know about the senses and their training is very clearly defined. Special warning is given against too much book knowledge and cramming, whilst the teacher is urged to develop in every boy and girl the habit of inquiry and research.

By following these suggestions, the intellect is developed, and the best value is got out of the brain machine. By the older methods the mind was apt to become merely a receptacle—a decanter, in fact, which could be filled to a certain point, but without any room or power for expansion. It is the object of the parent and teacher to develop the imagination, the judgment, and the will power as a basis for character formation.

There is a useful chapter on habit, good, useful habits and habits to be avoided; also chapters on the Froebel and Montessori methods. One of the most attractive features in the book is a chart of heredity of the Kallikak family. Martin Kallikak, at the time of the American Revolution, made the acquaintance of a feeble-minded girl, who had by him one normal child, and one feeble-minded son. From the latter are traced 480 descendants. Of these,

82 died in infancy,
143 were mentally defective,
46 alone were normal.

There are a great many of such on record, and it behoves each and all to examine carefully family records before entering the marriage zone.

The book is full of interest, and may be widely commended to all who have the care of the young.

ALBERT WILSON, M.D.

Other Reviews.

MOTHERCRAFT. Part II. (The National League for Physical Education and Improvement. Price 1s. 9d. net.)

The whole arrangement of this little book is admirable, and very well adapted for the class of readers for whom it is intended. Dr. Florence Willey's chapter on the development of the child *in utero* puts a difficult and complicated subject in perfectly simple language while, at the same time, the knowledge imparted is of scientific accuracy.

Dr. Eric Pritchard continues the subject with the physical development of the child. Though this chapter is in parts *stiffer* than the previous one, it well repays perusal. The points that should be

specially noted are the part played by the increase of lymphoid tissues, which we call adenoids, in acting as a barrier to disease, and the evil effect of the constant sucking of the "comforter," as shown by the elevation and contraction of the hard palate, thus lessening the capacity of the floor of the nose, and so diminishing the breathing space.

The stress he lays on muscular strength and co-ordination as a test of the development of the child is very welcome at the present moment, because the desire for physical efficiency has brought about a vogue for organised games and exercise. The fact is that children know better than we do what is best for them in the way of exercise. "Such natural exercises as running, climbing, lifting, pulling, and throwing have made the human race what it is to-day, and the instinct for these exercises is innate in the child." Dr. Pritchard's remarks on a brisk run till the child is out of breath must be read to be appreciated, but they are most valuable, and fit in with the experience of those who are working amongst specially delicate children.

The chapter on the "Problem of Breast Feeding" lays more stress on the problems of artificial feeding, and does not lay nearly enough emphasis on the paramount importance of breast feeding. Indeed, a general criticism of such an excellent collection of chapters is that it does not regard breast feeding as the usual, natural, proper way of feeding a baby, and any other method as unsuitable and in many cases improper, indeed at best only a *pis aller*. The number of women who cannot nurse their babies is far smaller than most people think, and with reasonable encouragement from doctor and nurse, any difficulties that arise might be overcome by most mothers.

The "Pudding Lady's" advice on cookery for infants and children may be safely followed in every particular.

Any town desirous of forming a School for Mothers will find a most excellent basis on which to work in Miss Eckhard's chapter on "The Organisation of Schools for Mothers." Here is no desire to make all such schemes of one pattern. It is both human and individual, and shows a wide knowledge of the people for whom such schemes exist.

The National League for Physical Education and Improvement is to be congratulated on having brought out such an interesting and instructive volume.

THE OPEN-AIR TREATMENT OF THE WOUNDED. By A. E. Shipley, Sc.D., F.R.S. (The "Country Life" Library. Price 1s.)

This small book, which is reprinted from *Country Life*, gives an account of the 1st Eastern General Hospital at Cambridge. The Hospital is built on open-air lines, and is so constructed that at no time of the day or night, in any weather, whatever the season, can the patients be shut up. It affords accommodation for 1,240 soldiers;

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The materials used are asbestos sheets for the walls, and ruberoid for the roof. The cost and speed of erection have been reduced to a minimum. One would say that the results have been absolutely startling, if one did not know what excellent results are obtained by treating diseases under open-air conditions. Indeed, just as this method does with tuberculosis, so it does with wounds of all kinds. It robs the disease of its terrors, and it makes the process of recovery and convalescence a pleasant and happy experience. No doubt the nurses suffer from the cold; indeed, it is the staff in most open-air establishments who grumble the most; but it is quite true, as one of the nurses said: "The worst of it is we have never been so healthy in our lives, so it is difficult for us to complain."

As any person of experience in this wholesome, natural way of treating disease might expect, the death rate is very low; the author wrongly, I think, says "astonishingly" low. There is really nothing "astonishing" about it. It is, however, highly gratifying to find that the total number of deaths out of 12,547 admissions is 102, or less than one per cent. Of these, four were cases of pneumonia, out of seventy-six patients who suffered from this disease.

The staff, a most important item in such a large establishment, forms the subject of a most interesting and entertaining chapter. Dr. W. J. Simpson, who visited the Open-Air Hospital at Cambridge in January, describes his impressions, and tells how he attended cases of pneumonic plague during the South African War in a large airy tent, with the result that the disease ceased to spread, and the cases assumed a much milder form.

He also tells how in 1731, a fire broke out in the building where were 150 patients suffering from smallpox. They had to be hurriedly moved and treated in the open air in beds placed under the arches of bridges and under hedges. Out of this number, viz., 150, only one died.

It is a real misfortune that this plan of treating the wounds of our soldiers and sailors has not been more widely followed, and that offers to treat them on these lines have been refused by the military authorities.

JANE WALKER, M.D.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SCOTLAND. Five Scottish Leaflets. By Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S. (The Women's Local Government Society, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster.)

If there is one sphere open to women in which they are not making the fullest use of their opportunities, it is in that of local and municipal government. There is need for a greater number of women on Councils, Boards of Guardians, School Boards, &c., and plenty of work which only they can do satisfactorily. But until women in greater numbers take more interest in the local affairs of their towns and parishes, those women who would make suitable candidates for positions of responsibility will not come forward and offer themselves as candidates.

Feeling that women only need a greater knowledge of local affairs to take an interest in them, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S., has written an interesting series of pamphlets, which are issued by the Women's Local Government Society. In this instance, however, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon addresses herself especially to the women of Scotland; for she deals only with the local governing bodies in Scotland, which are somewhat differently constituted to those in England. In dealing in detail with the constitution of each of these bodies, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon lays stress on the need for more women members, and a greater interest among women electors.

JOHN BULL'S SURPLUS CHILDREN, by Denis Crane (Horace Marshall & Son, 2s. 6d. net, 204 pp.), is a study of child emigration, with special reference to work of this kind undertaken by the National Children's Home and Orphanage. Mr. Crane is convinced of the wisdom of emigrating suitable children, and he makes out a very good case in support of his theories. He does not attempt to minimise the difficulties, but discusses them, and suggests ways of overcoming them. The question of the future of orphaned children is an important one, and the solution which Mr. Crane proposes is worthy of consideration. The various emigration schemes already tried are discussed in detail. Though the writer sometimes dwells at too great length on minor points, his book is a contribution to the subject which ought not to be overlooked by Poor Law Guardians and others who have the welfare of children at heart.

M. M. McA.

SHADOWS AND LIGHTS: REFLECTIONS OF THE GREAT WAR. By E. Mary Cruttwell.

Of the thirteen pieces in Miss Cruttwell's booklet, number three is the one which approaches nearest to being poetry; it is a sonnet rather in the manner of Rupert Brooke. The other pieces are scarcely readable, because of their sentimentality, and their lack of that perfection of technique which is the only excuse for uninspired verse.

POEMS ON ANIMALS. (Oxford Garlands. 7d. net.)

Everyone, reader and reviewer, is aware that only he himself is capable of compiling a satisfactory anthology; it is therefore without elation that he examines the frequent new anthologies. "Poems on Animals" is a hotch-potch in which Swinburne jostles Calverly: the result is mediocre.

E. B. C. J.

RUSSIAN MUSIC.

We are pleased to be able to record that the second of the series of six concerts of Russian music, in aid of our blinded soldiers and sailors, which was given at the Æolian Hall on the 9th inst., was an unqualified success, and attracted a large audience, in spite of the double handicap of Lord Mayor's Day and the most execrable weather of the week. It is hard to assign special praise in a concert which reached a very high level of excellence. The Balalaika Orchestra is, of course, already known and appreciated in London, and those who have not yet heard it are heartily recommended to do so. "In the Steppes of Central Asia," by Borodin (a first performance in London) is a striking piece of descriptive music, strikingly performed. Mr. Percy Frostick gave several violin solos with great expression and fine execution.

The vocal part of the concert was also extremely interesting. "The Letter," concert aria by A. Gretchaninov, also a first performance in England, was sung by Madame Alys Bateman, who gave full effect to the passion and pathos of both words and music, and the same may be said of Mr. Boris Boroff's rendering of "Christ is Risen" by Rachmaninov, and "Nature Morte" by Jacobson. Mr. Boroff has a very fine voice, and received enthusiastic applause, in spite of the fact that he sings in Russian. The part played by Mr. Parlovitz, who is an ideal accompanist, must also not be forgotten. Altogether, we feel that Russian music has only to be heard to become popular.

The third concert of this series is fixed for December 7th, at three in the afternoon.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS open their fifth subscription season at the Royalty Theatre, on Sunday, December 5th, with a performance of "Mouse," a new play by Mr. Edward Knoblauch. Following the prevailing custom, the Society are placing the performance at the early hour of 5.30. All applications for membership should be addressed to Miss Christopher St. John, Honorary Secretary, Pioneer Players, 31, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.

REMEMBER! IT'S JACK AND JIM.*

(Dedicated to the Marine Engineers of Great Britain, including those of the Dominions.)

Oh, "Jack's the Lad," and "We all love Jack,"
For we know him staunch and true,
'Tis thanks to him (by the Grace of God)
There's Bread for me and you;
His fame's come down through a thousand years,
From a thousand sea-fights grim;
But what of his mate in the engine-room
(For the sake of the rhyme, say "Jim.")

He's younger, "Jim," but he's grown up fast;
Now the two stand hand in hand,
Jack on the deck, and "Jim" below,
Are the men who guard our land;
We're proud of Jack and his gallant deeds,
We know what we owe to him—
But we're apt to forget his comrade bold,
The man at the engines—"Jim."

That day when the great Fleet thunder'd fast
In the wake of the fleeting Hun,
The Admiral knew what he owed to "Jim,"
"Indomitable stokers—well done!"
He knew, in the steaming engine-room,
How "Jim" had forced the pace,
And carried the weight of British guns
To join in the breathless chase.

"The price of Admiralty" Jack has paid
Through the countless by-gone years;
But "Jim," ah "Jim," he is paying too,
He's making up for arrears!
Down in the murky engine-room,
'Mid the reek of the smoke-clouds dim,
Come life, come death, be it fire or flood,
He stays at his post—our "Jim."

And so, when the hard-fought fight is won,
And the boys come sailing back,
Bring in "Jim" from the engine-room,
Remember he's one with Jack!
When we toast and cheer our heroes all,
When the joy-cup's full to the brim,
Don't leave out the lad in the engine-room,
He's Jack's little brother—"Jim."

A. DE SPON.

* Sent to us by a correspondent after reading the article in our last issue, "The Man Below," by Nell Munro.

Correspondence.

LIMITING IMPORTS.

MADAM.—In view of the present need for economy and the Government's demand to limit our imports as far as possible, may I suggest one very simple economy suitable to the season. Let every household do without its plum-pudding and mince-pies this Christmas. It would be a real economy to the housekeeper, especially as prices are so high, and it would be a vast national economy also, as many of the necessary ingredients are imports. It seems to me that every family in the country should be willing to renounce this ancient custom for once; even the children would be reconciled if it were explained to them that by this small sacrifice they were doing their bit.

A HOUSEKEEPER.

MADAM.—Surely your correspondent in this week's issue is wrong in advocating the purchase of butter from Denmark, for are we not always being told now that our gold must not leave the country for neutral countries? As I understand it, and I shall be glad if anyone will correct me if I am wrong, the duty of all housekeepers now is: Firstly, to buy only those articles of food which are really necessary; secondly, to buy home-produce whenever this is possible; thirdly, where the article is not produced in England, to buy Colonial produce, or, if this is impossible, to buy from our Allies, but never from a neutral country.

It would be a great help to many anxious housekeepers if a list were published showing where the chief articles of food are produced, and suggesting how Colonial produce could be substituted for foreign. I, for one, would be very grateful to anyone who could tell me which of our cocoa manufacturers use Colonial-grown cocoa only, and whether Natal, or any other Colonial-grown coffee can be bought in England.

GERTRUDE BELL.

The Elms, St. Andrew's Road, Malvern.

MADAM.—Miss Ford and Mr. Strachey, in their letters on Danish butter, seem to have lost sight of the larger aspects of the matter. Denmark is enabled to export large quantities of butter by reason of her excellent agricultural organisation and the superior education and enlightenment of her people. Co-operative farming is largely in operation, and in few countries are the people better clothed, better lodged, and on the whole more prosperous.

The same conditions might exist in England if our agriculture were better organised and we grew more of our own food, instead of working in factories to purchase it. England produces less food to the acre than nearly any other European country, not from adverse conditions of soil or climate, but from bad system, want of organisation, co-operation and education. If the foundations of a more general system of co-operative farming could now be built, what a wonderful thing it would be for England in the dark days after the war. Men returning from the Front would find employment ready for them, with teachers and advisers, women would find new openings in dairy farming, disabled men might find light work, food would be provided for the nation, and a free, self-respecting, healthy and independent class would arise to take the place of the extinct yeoman.

H. POWELL.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN AND THE WAR.

MADAM.—Will you allow me to call the attention of your readers to an article on "Australians and the War" appearing in this month's *National Review*? It is an emphatic testimony to the vigour of Australian Imperial sentiment, and a recognition of the sound and sane common sense which guides the democracy in that continent. We are entitled to claim for the women of Australia that they share with the men the credit of this result. Compare this statement of the condition of a country which has tried the experiment of giving its women votes with the prophecies indulged in by our "anti"-press of what would happen to this nation if it dared to make an equally hazardous experiment.

This article assures us that in those departments of public life supposed to be peculiarly the province of the male—national defence and Imperial action—Australia is in no wise behind our own country, and we know from other sources that in those departments which are the natural interest of women, she is very much in advance of us. For instance, her statistics of infant mortality are far better than our own.

It is a great proof of what Suffragists have always maintained, that to give women votes does not hinder men, but helps them. That the two sexes are not antagonists, but co-operators.

MAUD SELBORNE.

INFANT WELFARE.

MADAM.—Your account, in November 5th's Notes and News, of what happened at Bath with regard to the appointment of a medical officer for the new municipal Infant Welfare Institution, deserves much consideration from all interested in this work, including the Local Government Board. It is said that voluntary workers for infant welfare are generally opposed to municipal schemes; it is hinted that this opposition is narrow, undemocratic and Lady-Bountiful-ish in motive. But such incidents as this at Bath suggest that there are other motives behind such opposition where it exists, as undoubtedly it does in some places. This Bath incident is not an isolated one. The fact is that in many towns and districts infant welfare work can be, at this moment, more intelligently and single-mindedly carried on by a committee of volunteers, who are all really keen on the work itself, than if it were handed over to a local authority which is more interested in jobs and in "keeping down the rates" than in securing the best-suited paid officials to carry on the work. In principle, every democratic person is in favour of municipal infant welfare centres; in practice such centres would not, at this moment, always be found to put the welfare of the infants above the welfare of their friends' pockets. It has also to be remembered that from the mothers' point of view a municipal scheme is just as undemocratic as a voluntary scheme, since the mothers (except a very few unmarried mothers) have no municipal vote.

In fairness to voluntary workers it must be added that where, as at Manchester, &c., the Local Health Authority is equal to the work, the voluntary organisations are not slow to fall into line.

ELEANOR ACLAND.

THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

MADAM.—This hospital, started by Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson in 1872—the pioneer of those staffed by medical women—is in urgent need of funds to carry on its work. There is some danger that it may be overlooked at the present time, because of the pressing demands being made on behalf of wounded soldiers; but it should not be forgotten that it is, in some measure, owing to the war that the number of women seeking admission here has considerably increased, there being less accommodation for them elsewhere. Many of these women are the wives of soldiers and sailors, and it is a national duty to see that the wife is cared for while the husband is fighting abroad.

In order to cope with an ever lengthening list of patients awaiting admission, the Committee has been obliged to provide extra beds, both here and at the Continuation Hospital at Barnet; but the increasing cost of all the necessities of life is causing the gravest anxiety, and unless help is speedily forthcoming it is feared that these beds will have to be given up.

Any contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged. Annual subscriptions, which form the most reliable income, are specially desired.

ALICE WESTLAKE, Treasurer.

New Hospital for Women, 144, Euston Road, N.W.

THE DEMAND FOR DOCTORS.

MADAME.—In your issue of November 5th you remark, *à propos* of the reduction in the number of medical students, that "it is to be hoped, in the interests of the whole nation, that greater facilities for study will be offered to women and generous support to the promising students who have not sufficient means to qualify themselves to fill the estimated prospective shortage of 200 practitioners per annum."

Is there any possibility or probability of this generous support being given? I know of a young woman, in every way fitted to become a medical student, who cannot fulfil her earnest wish for the want of the necessary money. She is a graduate in Science, and would be excused Botany and Zoology in the 1st M.B. examination. Nevertheless, her training would cost £200, and with living at least £575, and it is quite prohibitive. There are, doubtless, many others similarly placed, and it will surely be a national disaster if the many capable young women, who are willing to serve their country in this particular way, should be debarred from doing so for lack of means.

L. J. CHURCHMAN.

Horsham, November 9th, 1915.

Will the writer of the letter, signed "A Mother and Grandmother," kindly send her address to the Office of THE COMMON CAUSE?

Miss Hermina Durham, who has been appointed to be Chief Woman Inspector of Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, took honours in history and moral science triposes in 1895 and 1896 from Girton College, Cambridge. She worked for a time at the Women's University Settlement on the Apprenticeship Committee, and has lately been Organiser of Technical Schools for Women and Girls under the L.C.C., many of these having been founded by her.

THE M.P. AND THE MENU.

"The Prime Minister and his colleagues might have set an example of economy to the country. What did they do? They go to the Mansion House, and there they carry on the usual Mansion House feast, with eight sorts of wine, and then they think that the workmen, when they see this waste of living going on, are going to follow them when they ask them to economise. A daily paper rang me up on the telephone and asked me whether I would give them an interview on the question of extravagance. I said 'No,' and added: 'Of course, you know the Parliamentary Committee has advised the country to eat less meat, and that on the Mansion House menu there will be 'Eat less Meat!' The paper took this seriously, and said that on the menu of the Mansion House there would be 'Eat less Meat!' Then the Lord Mayor sent a letter to the newspaper, saying that 'Eat less Meat!' was not on the top of the menu. I am sorry for misleading the journal in question."—Sir A. Markham, in the House, November 15th, 1915.

Is last winter's clothing looking dingy? Are curtains, quilts and cushions soiled? Does summer clothing need to be cleaned before it is put away? Mr. George Webb has been a constant advertiser in THE COMMON CAUSE. Our readers will all call to mind the good work he has done for them in the past, and is prepared to do again for them. Send a postcard to The Dyeworks, 254, Brixton Hill, or ring up Brixton 1852, and immediate attention will be paid to your enquiry.

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THE PROBLEMS OF THE WAR.

A SERIES of LECTURES at the KENSINGTON TOWN HALL, on TUESDAY AFTERNOONS and EVENINGS, has been arranged by the S. Kensington Branch of the London Society for Women's Suffrage.

Nov. 23rd 3 p.m.—DR. LUDWIK EHRlich (University of Lvov, Poland), on "MODERN POLAND." Chairman, The Lady Emmott. Collection for the Polish Victims' Relief Fund.
 Nov. 30th 8.30 p.m.—SIR EDWIN PEARS, LL.D., on "CONSTANTINOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT." Chairman, Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough. Collection for the London School of Medicine for Women.
 Tickets 2s. and 1s. each, at the Door, or from the Hon. Secretary, MRS. FYFFE, 79, Victoria Road, Kensington.

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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.

Wanted: 30,000 Women per Week.

Workers are wanted everywhere. Some people are afraid to save for fear of throwing other people out of work. To a large extent this was a real danger a year ago, when the war found us unprepared, and the great and imminent peril of invasion by the enemy paralysed many trades for a time. But, thanks largely to the emergency helpers, the war workrooms, and other forms of voluntary aid which have not yet received sufficient recognition, together with the rapid growth of what we must call war industries, an immense shifting process was swiftly accomplished. New hands crowded into the factories, skill and experience gained in one trade was transferred to another, and the dread of trade paralysis passed away.

The great shifting process is, however, still going on, and one way of helping is to allow it to work out unhindered. The demand for workers is, indeed, so great that the supply hardly keeps pace with the demand, and we are now faced with the prospect of releasing women, so that they may train themselves to take up the work of the men who are gone to the war.

We are being made to feel the coming of a new age in small ways already. There is a growing scarcity of domestic servants. In some places the cook-general is extinct. Here and there a servants' training home reports that, as there are no servants to train, the place is to be turned into a hostel for munition workers. But still we are scarcely at the beginning of an immense social revolution.

Think what it means, from an economic point of view, to withdraw from 10,000 to 30,000 men week by week from the manufactures and trades by which we live! How are we to produce the goods which pay for the war? How are we to replace the energy and skill withdrawn from our industries to fight for our national existence? To women it will fall to make good the output from workshops and factories; women and girls must prepare to take their places in the great armies of service which sustain the armies in the field.

It was recently stated by a writer in *The Daily Chronicle* that eighty per cent. of the young women of the country between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five had offered their services to the nation. Probably, as some critics seem inclined to complain, work on munitions as a form of war-service, appeals most strongly to the greater number of them. The same critics write almost resentfully of the scarcity of domestic servants, the cooks and housemaids, upon whose labour the old social structure was reared. They say, quite truly, that it will be impossible to carry on life as we have known it hitherto. But is that altogether to be deplored? May not the service required of older women be precisely this—the readiness to take up the burden of household work, to do to a great extent without the services rendered hitherto by the younger generation? Many women no longer young, some of them mistresses of households, are already taking courses of domestic economy and "war-cookery." Perhaps this shortage of domestic labour, greeted with a good deal of complaining from the comfortable classes, will prove in the end to have been a blessing in disguise, and to have done more to bring about a better understanding of domestic science and social economy than years of "study" of social problems.

But we must begin at once to face the situation. There is barely enough time left in which to prepare for the tremendous changes which are bound to come next year. And if our wants shrink to the measure of the things necessary for our health and efficiency, and we release every possible worker for active service at home, then we may face the coming Ordeal with confidence and hope.

Not a Crank's Show.

THE PATRIOTIC HOUSEKEEPING EXHIBITION AT 50, PARLIAMENT STREET.

"It's not a crank's show!"

That was my first exclamation, uttered with a sigh of relief, after I had glanced at the instructive and amusing exhibits displayed upon the tables around the room, and at the wall cards, some of which I found diverting, all conveniently succinct.

I call a (crank's show) one that is above my understanding, or tells me to be or do something that I do not (yet) wish to be or do; or, if it is an Economy Exhibition, one that bids me buy something for which I must pay a great deal, with the chance, if I remember to use it, of possibly saving money hereafter.

"This is an exhibition which is *not*," I said. The lady in charge looked annoyed; I thought it advisable to explain.

"It's the *nots* that strike me," I said, lucidly; but her face did not lighten.

"I mean, it's *not* incomprehensible; it does *not* forbid me to eat the food I am accustomed to eating; it does *not* advise the impossible. It is *not* what I expected, in fact."

She came back with me to the first table, and we went slowly through the exhibits together.

"It is most emphatically well worth a visit," I exclaimed; and I said so, not because I am a Suffragist and this exhibition is organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, with the co-operation of the London Suffrage Society, but because it is the most successful effort that has yet been made by any public or private body to show how economies in the kitchen may be effected. The real root of the difficulty, the problem of how to economise *wisely*, has been tackled, for the need of supplying the family with appetising and nourishing, not merely cheap, food, is never forgotten; the exhibition shows how in a hundred little ways money can be saved and the nation's bills reduced without attempting those Spartan methods that read well in a newspaper, but are pre-eminently suitable for other people's homes.

Where money can be wasted or where it can be saved is perhaps most entertainingly shown in the section containing sample meals, such as we ate before the war, and the meals labelled "war-meals," but which are by no means iron-rations. The exhibits in this section, actual dishes and artistic models—are great fun, and very instructive.

One could spend a long time studying the diagrams showing the varying nutritive values of different foods. My examination of these illuminating diagrams was, unfortunately, interrupted by my feeling suddenly very hungry. I wondered why; it was far too early for lunch. Then I noticed that there was a delicious scent of cooking. Hastily I ran the scent to earth, into a kitchen where for 3d. it was possible to learn some excellent "cheap dishes," and incidentally to pick up numerous dodgy ways of preparing food with economy in money, foodstuff, and labour. It was an extraordinarily good threepennyworth.

Then I returned to my entertaining diagrams. But, no, this exhibition must be seriously treated. For it is a serious piece of work, dealing with a serious subject. We all recognise now that economy, hitherto a matter of private concern, has been raised by the war to the standing of a general patriotic duty; general, because even those who can afford to live as they did in the days of peace cannot do so now without a disregard of national interests; patriotic, because it is one of the most vital of "war services" to keep down imports, to free labour for the crucial work of the war, and to prevent unnecessary consumption, injurious to us all, and especially to the poorer classes who must feel most keenly that rise in prices which inevitably increases with unnecessary consumption. All this is now common knowledge. But in this country economical housekeeping is not common knowledge, and amongst all classes is to be found extravagance due not to wilful luxury, but to ignorance.

The N.U.W.S.S. has rendered a real service to the country by organising this exhibition; the information it gives is offered in an easily assimilated form, concrete exhibits being of far greater force than pages of written matter. Further, the instruction, though necessarily compressed, is thorough, starting as it does from the fundamental basis of dietetics, the nutritive value of various foods, knowledge of which is possessed by few housekeepers, but yet is essential to wise economising. Lastly, the exhibition will be found useful by all classes; it is the upper and professional classes who can effect the greatest saving, and it is therefore to these classes that the N.U. has in this exhibition made the strongest appeal. But as a country member, working chiefly amongst the weekly-wage earners, I urge a visit to the Exhibition upon all who share my interests.

That the services of the N.U. are appreciated and opportunely rendered is shown by the crowded rooms; there was a large attendance even on the first day, and I hear that the kitchen has been literally packed during the demonstrations, and that there were visitors from Leeds, Devon, Carlisle, and Hants. The Exhibition is open daily until November 27th, from 9.30 to 6.30, admission free. The demonstrations (admission 3d.) take place twice daily from 12 to 2 p.m., and from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m. The organisers will be glad to arrange for special demonstrations at other hours in the day, for parties from mothers' meetings, women's clubs, &c.

THE COST OF THE WAR.

A REVISION OF OUR WHOLE SCHEME OF LIFE.

Among the interesting series of lectures arranged by the Kensington Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage was that given by Professor Urwick, of the London School of Economics, on "War and Economy." Lady Frances Balfour, who presided, said it was rather amusing that elementary economics, long familiar to us in our modest households, should be revealed to us, as if from Heaven, by Government Departments and *The Times*.

Professor Urwick, however, disclaimed any intention of dealing with economies in detail, but devoted himself to showing that it was absolutely necessary that every individual should face the facts of the situation. Three-quarters of our whole National Income was needed for the successful conduct of the war. It was not enough to "leave it in faith to financiers," we must each take up our full share of the financial burden. The whole Crimean war cost us less than two weeks of the present war. Another instance of the rapidity in which money was being exhausted was that a sum equal to the Prince of Wales's Fund "was being blown away between now and to-morrow evening." Every pound was equal to twenty hours' work or its equivalent. If this war was to be fought out, eighteen million workers had to be set free for the use of the Government, and behind every fighting man there must be four or five capable workers devoting all their time.

It was useless for the rich to lend money to the Government, and then say the Government could buy petrol if, at the same time, they themselves were exhausting the supply of petrol; but it was always easy to see that it was the duty of somebody else to do something. What was needed was, that our *whole scheme of life* with its army of specialised workers should be revised. It would raise a babel of objections, but nothing less than the "Survival of England as a Nation" was involved.

Of one source of help the Government did not make full use. Any Man's Government broke down in its use of Woman power. The Government did not know how to use this reserve. In conclusion, Professor Urwick urged his audience to consider the coming Peace, and when the workers would be getting lower wages. For the sake of social stability alone the well-to-do must realise that the working classes would not be satisfied unless all classes joined in self-sacrifice.

FOOD PRICES AND CAMP WASTE.

At a special meeting of the Hastings, St. Leonards, and East Sussex W.S.S., held at the Suffrage Club, Hastings, on October 28th, Miss Race announced that a series of lectures on "Food in War Time" were being arranged by the Committee. In connection with this, the question of waste of food in soldiers' camps was discussed, and the following letter ordered to be sent to the Parliamentary War Savings Committee:—

"Sirs,—We, in common with other branches of the N.U.W.S.S., are endeavouring to promote thrift by every means in our power. We wish, therefore, to protest strongly against the daily waste of valuable food in the soldiers' camps in this country. Your pamphlet ('How to Save and Why!') urges everyone to 'eat less meat,' because of the shortage of meat and the threatening of the milk supply. The majority of women are necessarily providing less meat for their household, but the chief meat substitutes, cheese and milk, are also dearer, and threaten to become dearer still. We have to consider the nutrition of our children in endeavouring to economise, and we therefore view with indignation the throwing away of eatable meat and other good food in camps under the administration of a Government Department. We have had before us at this meeting reliable evidence of the burning and destruction of good food in camps, the monetary value of which women could not cover by the most rigid economy in food. We most strongly urge, therefore, that some means be taken to check this waste.

"Signed (on behalf of the meeting) JANE E. STRICKLAND, Chairman of Committee."

WAR ECONOMY.

BRISTOL SOCIETY is holding a Thrift Exhibition in the Hamilton Rooms from November 25th to December 1st inclusive, which has the promise of considerable local support, the Sheriff of Bristol, the Chairman of the Education Committee, and the Medical Officer of Health having all declared their sympathy and co-operation with the scheme. For the opening ceremony the services of His Honour Judge Stanger have been secured, whose 1906 Bill for Women's Suffrage, it will be remembered, was carried in the House by a large majority.

The war meal cookery and laundry demonstrations will be carried out by the combined efforts of Miss Atkinson, of the Municipal Training College for Domestic Subjects, and Miss Janet Grant, of the Bristol Education Committee. The exhibits will be of a varied character and are designed to show how war economies may be effected in all departments of a house—not neglecting the possibilities of a backyard, which is, in most cases, a potential cabbage patch. Daily lectures on Food Values, Infant Care, War Savings and Thrift generally are planned to appeal to a wide public, and will prove a popular feature of the scheme.

Tea will be provided at a moderate charge, and good music by the

pupils of a local high school. There will also be a produce stall, for which small holders and amateur gardeners are particularly invited to send exhibits. As the territorial demesnes of the Bristol residences are of the asphalt rather than the "good rich loam" order, it is felt that neighbouring West of England, rural societies might give considerable assistance in this direction by sending exhibits. Such societies are also invited to lend their banners for the occasion and to aid generally in making this scheme one of real educational value over a large area. Admission to the exhibition will be 3d., and a further 3d. is to be charged for the lectures.

SHEFFIELD.

On Thursday, October 28th, a meeting was held at the Suffrage Offices, when Mr. F. B. Gill was the speaker, Dr. Helen Wilson presiding. Mr. Gill's subject was "Savings and Investments," with special references to the War Loan, and his admirably lucid and informing address was listened to with great interest and profit. A discussion followed.

On Friday, November 12th, Miss Tilney Bassett, of the Domestic Training School, gave an interesting talk on "War Economies." In a pleasant, informal way she gave much valuable information on the values of various foods and their uses as body-builders, heat and energy givers, followed by practical advice as to economical and nutritious dishes, both vegetarian and otherwise. She also pointed out the importance of labour and time economy, of keeping cleaning rather than making clean; of economy in fuel, and of using up things usually thrown away. Useful hints were also given on mending, patching, &c., and suggestions for inexpensive presents which children can make themselves.

HASLEMERE, HINDHEAD, AND DISTRICT.

The Society has just combined with the Women's Local Government Association in organising a Thrift Child Welfare Exhibition, which took place in St. Christopher's Hall, Haslemere, on November 9th, 10th, and 11th. The various sections comprised (1) a stall for clothes made out of scraps, contributed by Belgians living in Haslemere, and by a local working party, and showing wonderful ingenuity—petticoats made out of stockings, a coat and bonnet out of white trousers, coverlets out of tailors' patterns, &c.; (2) economical dishes, which were sold out and had to be replaced every day; (3) labour-saving devices, such as a fireless cooker, soap-saver, mops and pails, &c.; (4) model baby-clothes; (5) artificial feeding, good and bad bottles, &c.; sterilizers, suitable and unsuitable foods for older children; (6) a stall of exhibits illustrating the life-history of the fly, and methods of protecting food; (7) dental exhibits; and (8) nursery furniture. There was also a literature stall. On Wednesday and Thursday, Miss Petty, the "Pudding Lady," gave four cookery demonstrations, which were crowded, many people having to be turned away; and on Tuesday there was a lecture by Mr. Seddon on National Thrift. The exhibition was attended by large numbers.

WORK OF GLASGOW W.S.S. SINCE THE WAR.

The Glasgow Society for Women's Suffrage has been very active with its various forms of work since the war began. Its Exchange for Voluntary Workers is now a well-known centre in Glasgow, and besides being used as an information bureau and a receiving office for comforts of all descriptions, it justifies its original purpose by supplying voluntary workers in response to all kinds of applications. Amongst others, it was gratifying lately to receive letters from the N.U.W.W. and the B.W.T.A. thanking the Exchange for supplying such enthusiastic and capable workers for their canteens in munition works in Glasgow. It is amusing to find that the friendly officials in the post office downstairs make full use of our information bureau by constantly using it as a dumping ground for all applicants whom they themselves cannot satisfy with information.

In response to a letter to the Press sent out from the Exchange, 3,012 sand-bags for the troops were received at the office, and forwarded to the proper quarter. Many donations of goods have also been received for the troops, sailors, mine-sweepers, Belgians, and the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.—Last November the Glasgow Society undertook to form a branch of the Infant Health Visitors Association in the Govan district of Glasgow, and it is gratifying to know that this branch is considered one of the best in the city. There are eighteen visitors, and about 200 babies on the list. Consultations are held once a week, when the babies are weighed and advice given to the mothers by the attending lady doctor.

"CHEER UP" CLUBS FOR SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' WIVES.—These clubs, inaugurated last autumn by the Glasgow Society, have proved a great success, the women who attend them constantly saying how much the clubs have done to cheer and help them through the lonely days. So far clubs have been opened in four of the divisions of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and are being carried on by the Glasgow Society with the co-operation of the Presidents and Associates of that Association.

[The account of the work of the Society for the Scottish Women's Hospitals appeared in our last issue.]

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: **Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.**

Hon. Secretaries: **MISS EVELYN ATKINSON.** Hon. Treasurer: **Mrs. AUREBACH.**
MISS EDITH PALLISER (Literature). Secretary: **Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).** **MISS HELEN WRIGHT**
Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W. Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic. & 4674 Vic.

National Economy: Lecturers.

Professor E. J. Urwick, M.A., London School of Economics, Clare Market, Kingsway, W.C., has kindly offered to lecture on the economic portions of the Syllabus. Professor Urwick writes that it is usually difficult for him to accept evening engagements, but that his afternoons are often free. Professor Urwick is an expert on his subject, and an intensely interesting lecturer, and it will not be necessary to urge London societies to avail themselves of his kind offer.

Mr. Th. Gregory, B.Sc. (Econ.), also of the School of Economics, is available for an occasional lecture—Monday in the London area, Saturday in the Wokingham district. Fee: half-a-guinea, plus a similar amount to a war charity, and expenses; subjects: "Why we ought not to use gold," i.e., the Money Market and the War; "Foreign Exchange and the War"; "What happens when we are taxed?" &c., &c.

Miss Edith Ward, of Radlett, a brilliant lecturer, has also promised us occasional help. We hope to be able to give further particulars of this next week.

Will Societies please keep Headquarters fully posted as to their doings in connection with the National Economy and Educational Courses. We are always glad to receive for the information of other N.U. Societies particulars of lectures and lecturers.

Active Service Fund.

In August, 1914, on the outbreak of war, the Active Service Fund was started to enable the National Union to maintain its organisation at Headquarters, and to meet the many unusual demands that were being made and that would certainly continue to be made on its finances.

Fifteen months later, when our financial year closed, on October 31st, the fund had reached a total of £7,458 2s. 2d. Of this, upwards of £3,500 was given for special purposes, such as:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Hospital Work.</i>						
N.U. Scottish Women's Hospital ...	1,898	10	3			
For chloroform ...		7	0			
French Red Cross ...		1	1			
				1,907	0	3
<i>For Soldiers and their Families.</i>						
Food for Prisoners of War in Germany ...	11	5	6			
For Work in Soldiers' Camps ...		13	0			
For Babies of Soldiers killed in the war ...		36	16			
					61	1
<i>Help for Women and Girls.</i>						
Relief Workrooms ...	500	0	0			
Maternity Schemes ...	27	5	0			
Providing Hospitality ...	23	17	10			
For Women Patrols ...		13	9			
For Alien Women ...		7	0			
Women's Clubs ...		5	10			
To provide Boots for Children ...		25	0			
					615	2
<i>Belgian Relief.</i>						
Abroad ...	74	14	3			
In England ...		27	12			
					102	6

The following gifts and their objects are of special interest:—The contribution to provide food for prisoners of war in Germany, raised for the most part by working men in Westmoreland; the contribution for babies of soldiers killed in the war, sent by women of Napier, New Zealand; the contributions for Belgian relief abroad, more than half sent in weekly donations by a school, still coming in week by week.

The total of the Active Service Fund, given above is only the amount that has been raised and administered at Headquarters, and represents but a small fraction of the sum raised since the war began by the National Union Federations and Societies throughout the country.

The demand for our work is as great as ever. Please help to carry it on by renewing your donations for the coming year. Accounts of our activities will appear in THE COMMON CAUSE week by week, from which our readers will realise that any curtailment of our work for want of funds would be a grievous loss.

RECEIVED FROM NOVEMBER 1st TO 15th, 1915.—		SECOND YEAR.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Miss L. M. Evans, 15th monthly donation	2 6	Intermediate School for Girls, Llanelli (for Welsh Unit Serbian Hospitals)	5 0 0
Miss Margaret Bradley, 4th donation	1 1 0	West Riding Federation: Barnsley W.S.S. (£15), Bingley W.S.S. (£3 3s.), Harrogate W.S.S. (£1 1s.), Huddersfield W.S.S. (£5), Keighley W.S.S. (£2 2s.), Leeds W.S.S. (£4 7s.), Ilkley W.S.S. (£5)	35 13 0
Staff and Pupils of the Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science, 30th and 31st donations, Belgian Relief	3 0 0	Mrs. Carl Flugel, 5th donation	5 0 0
Mr. T. Tindle Anderson, Junr., 14th donation, COMMON CAUSE	2 6	Received for the Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund:—	
Mrs. Thomas Pares, 2nd donation	10 0 0	Women: Students of Goldsmiths College	35 0 0
East Grinstead W.S.S., 2nd donation	2 2 0	Received for Scottish Hospital	6 2 0
Miss Inez de Reyes, 5th donation	10 0		
Mrs. Todhunter, 5th donation	1 0 0		
Mrs. Alkin	5 0 0		
Headmistress and Staff, County	5 0 0		
			£109 13 0

Contributions to the General Fund.

RECEIVED FROM NOVEMBER 1st TO 15th, 1915.—		AFFILIATION FEES.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Mrs. Edward Smithson	5 0 0	Pwllheli and District W.S.S.	5 0
Miss I. O. Ford	2 0 0	King's Lynn W.S.S.	5 0
Miss Alice French	1 1 0	Harpenden W.S.S.	5 0
Miss M. S. Knight	1 0	Marlborough W.S.S.	5 0
Mrs. James Ward	1 0 0	Rotherfield and Mark W.S.S.	5 0
Miss F. M. Warrington	10 0		
			£25 10 0

Toys.

There are a certain number of Box Cottages, at a shilling, dolls' outfits and Red Cross boxes, at 7s. 6d. each, left over from last year, which we should be very glad to sell from headquarters. Applications should be sent to Miss G. W. Evans, 14, Great Smith Street.

A Thought for the Week.

Things done are won. Joy's soul is in the doing!—
Troilus and Cressida.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LONDON SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the London Society was held at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 10th, when Miss Edith Palliser took the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Lady Frances Balfour.

After a certain amount of formal business, the following resolutions were discussed and carried:—

"That for the duration of the war, the last sentence of Rule VIII. of the Society's organisation be suspended, and that the lists of nominations for President and Treasurer and members of the Executive Committee of the Society, together with the names of proposers and seconders, and a table of attendances of members standing for re-election, instead of being sent to each member of the Society, shall be published in THE COMMON CAUSE on a date to be announced in the preliminary notice of the annual meeting."

"That Rule V. of the Rules for Branch Organisation should be amended as follows:—

- "Branches may become independent, provided that:—
- "1.—They consist of not less than 50 members.
- "2.—They annually elect their Committee and officers at an annual meeting, to which a report and financial statement shall be submitted, the financial statement and list of members having been previously sent for comparison with the books of the London Society.
- "3.—They have had at the last annual meeting a quorum (exclusive of candidates for election to Committee) of 10 for 50 members, and after the first 50 members in a proportion of 5 per cent. of their membership, and that at that meeting, or at a subsequent meeting with the same quorum, they have declared their desire to become independent.
- "4.—An independent branch ceases to be independent if Clauses 1 and 2 cease to be complied with."

"That members of the Society shall be admitted as visitors to meetings of the Society's Quarterly Council without the right of voting."

Some short speeches were given on the Society's activities. Mrs. Oliver Strachey spoke on Munition and Aircraft work, Miss Frances Sterling on the work of the London Society in connection with the Scottish Hospitals, and Miss Rinder on Possibilities of Training for Women.

The following have been elected members of the Executive Committee for the coming year:—The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Noeline Baker, The Countess Brassey, Miss J. Dunlop, Mrs. Leonard Franklin, Mrs. Edmund Garrett, Miss T. Gosse, the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, Miss Emily Hill, Mrs. Kinnell, Miss M. Lowndes, Miss O'Malley, Miss Edith Palliser, Miss Wyatt Papworth, Mrs. Flinders Petrie, Miss Rosamond Smith, Mrs. Squire Sprigge, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss Helen Ward, Miss Dorothy Zimmern.

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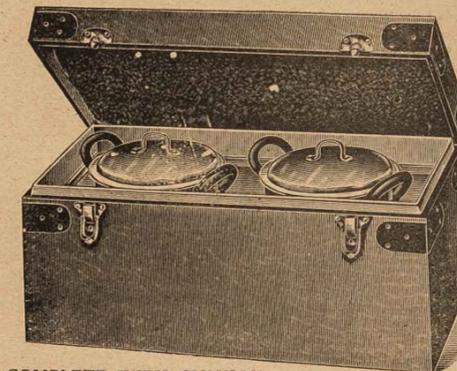
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Owing to our having a large reserve of colours at the outbreak of the war, we are in a position to dye in all the following colours:—Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Purple, Mauve, Dark Violet, Navy Blue, Royal Blue, Dark Green, Scarlet, Crimson, Claret, Plum, Dark Grey, and Black.

Special attention is given to Mourning orders.

Instructions by Post or Telephone command immediate attention.

TESTIMONIALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

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.

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

Table listing donations to The Common Cause, including names and amounts.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further contributions to carry on the work...

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST.

Table listing supplementary donations, including names and amounts.

Table listing further donations to The Common Cause, including names and amounts.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Table listing further donations to The Common Cause, including names and amounts.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

[Secretaries are invited to send in news of what their Societies are doing, and, though we cannot promise to find room for reports in the very next issue after they are received, unless we have been asked beforehand to reserve space, we will do our best to publish them promptly.]

Oxford, Berks and Bucks Federation.

READING.—The annual meeting of the Reading Society was held at Palmer Hall on November 4th. Miss Edith Sulton, the President, was in the chair, and twenty members were present. A report of the work carried on at the Reading Women's Suffrage Society Day Nursery was read, and a financial statement presented. The Nursery is carrying on invaluable work in East Reading, and the Reading Society Committee hopes most earnestly that the generous support hitherto given the Nursery by Suffragists and non-Suffragists alike will not be withdrawn. The officers and committee of the Society were elected as follows:—President, Councillor Edith Sulton; Hon. Treasurers, Miss E. C. Smith and Miss Hilda Jones; Hon. Sec., Miss Margaret Jones; Committee, Miss Ashcroft, Mrs. Boodle, Mrs. Cadman, Mrs. Evans, Miss Evans, Dr. S. Gifford, Miss Marriage, Miss K. Mason, Mrs. Robson, Mrs. Tovey, Mrs. Waite. The President and six members of the Society volunteered to sell THE COMMON CAUSE in Reading on November 15th and 16th.

WOKINGHAM.—A small informal meeting and tea for members was held at Montague House on Wednesday, November 3rd. Owing to the many calls of the war, this is the first such meeting we have been able to arrange since the early spring; but it was felt that we should try and keep up our common interest in the Suffrage Cause and our bond of union as members of the Society by arranging for an occasional friendly meeting of the kind whenever possible. Unfortunately, a great many of our members were, from various reasons, unable to attend, but a collection of £5 0s. 6d. was taken for the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Our Chairman, Miss Sturges, addressed a few words to the meeting about the necessity of keeping ourselves together as a body, even though no definite Suffrage work is possible. The Hon. Treasurer then made a statement of accounts and of the Wokingham Society's donations to the Scottish Women's Hospitals, the Reading Day Nursery, &c. The Hon. Secretary gave an address on Serbia and the wonderful work of the Scottish Women's Units there, after which the collection was taken, and at the end of the meeting Miss Letchford gave an interesting and practical demonstration of the economical time and labour-saving method of cooking by the Hay-Box—"The Cook Without a Temper!"

Oxford Women Students.

The society O.W.S.S.W.S. held its terminal meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd, at St. Hilda's Hall. The chair was taken by Miss Hadow. An address was given by Mrs. Fawcett on the subject of the work of the N.U. during the war. She pointed out how at the beginning of the war the N.U. had given up Suffrage propaganda and devoted all its activities to the relief of suffering and to "sustaining the vital strength of the nation," taking care, however, only to take up work in which it could be certain of the hearty sympathy of all its members. She then gave a brief account of the various schemes originated or supported by the N.U. Most important were those connected with the saving of life, the work for field hospitals, especially that undertaken in France and Serbia by the Scottish Federation. In acknowledgment of our duty to those who had suffered vicariously for us, the Belgian and Polish relief schemes had been set on foot. National economy, again, was largely in the hands of women, and was being actively forwarded. In spite, however, of the importance of all these non-Suffrage activities, the N.U. had not lost sight of its proper aim, the safeguarding of the interests of women, never, perhaps, so necessary as now, when war has emphasised the importance of physical force.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

The Haslemere Society was inadvertently omitted from the list of Societies that have subscribed £25 towards the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants tent in the Troys Unit of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. The amount raised by the Flag Day in Eastbourne in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals

THE COMMON CAUSE.

was £265 10s. 8d.; not £165 10s. 8d., as printed in our issue of November 12th.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE.—The Study Circles at the Sussex Pioneer Club have been resumed. One meets on Monday afternoons, and each fortnight a paper is contributed on one of the subjects contained in the new syllabus from headquarters, while the "speakers' class" on alternate Mondays takes up for further discussion some fresh aspect of the case. The Wednesday evening circle often finds somebody outside its membership to speak or to read a paper, and interest is well maintained.

This month has seen the initiation by our society of a very widely representative committee to promote a "Patriotic Housekeeping Exhibition" on the lines suggested by headquarters. The two Mayoresses are vice-chairmen, Lady Louise Loder being chairman of this committee; the hon. officers are all members of the Suffrage Committee.

The War-Time Clubs for wives and mothers of soldiers and sailors have re-opened, and a fresh appeal has just been issued, signed by our hon. secretary as chairman of the Special Committee. It is recognised at all drawing-room and other meetings for this object that it was the Suffrage Society that first moved in this matter. The women now pay 1d. weekly, and do work for the hospitals in the two towns. We hope to be able to keep the clubs open throughout the winter. An account of work for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals appeared in THE COMMON CAUSE last week.

West Riding Federation.

BARNSELY.—A lantern lecture was given in the Arcade Hall, on October 25th, by Miss Violeta Thurstan. The Mayor of Barnsley (Hon. Colonel W. G. England, J.P.) presided, and paid warm tribute to Women's Work, which, he said, was strenuous and self-sacrificing.

The Women's Suffrage Organisation was one of the first in the field to try to alleviate distress, not only in our own country but in other countries, and its members had earned the blessing and thanks of a great number of British soldiers and others.

Miss Thurstan spoke on Red Cross work in Belgium and Russia, and told how she went to Brussels at the outbreak of war, of her experiences during two months she was a German prisoner, and of her five days' journey to the Danish frontier, and on to Russia. The hall, which seats about 380, was packed, and the proceeds amounted to £40 10s.

The BRADFORD SOCIETY had a very crowded week at the end of October.

On the 28th Miss Thurstan gave us her experiences of Red Cross work in Russia and Belgium. We only regret we had not taken a much larger hall, and that many, many more people had been present. She brought home to us all the appalling destruction and suffering of the war, and made us all feel how little we were doing at home as compared with the brave and faithful women serving near our battlefields. We think our audience, though small, tried to show their appreciation of her work, when at the collection we raised £25. Dr. Margaret Sharp very kindly took the chair instead of Lady Godwin, who, owing to her husband's illness, could not attend.

On the 29th we had a jumble sale, organised by the Horton Branch of our Society. We made a clear profit of £11, which will go towards the rent of office and expenses. We thank all those who helped to sell and contribute clothing, &c., and especially Mrs. T. R. Hill.

October 30th was our Flag Day in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. We were disappointed that the proceeds had to be divided with three other societies, and at present cannot give the amount due to us or what proportion of the collection we get. The day was fearfully foggy, but the Suffragist women who promised to help turned up well, and one of our members collected £2 15s. in her box, chiefly in coppers.

The weekly Study Circle, led by Miss Pattinson, is held on Monday instead of Thursday, as previously announced. We appeal for our Christmas sale. Aprons, cakes, sweets and china are being asked for, but any gifts of money or kind will be welcomed. We hope to complete the balance of our rent as a result of this sale.

Our Belgians are very happy and contented. We have been able to give a sitting-room to each of the three families, as one family has left, having obtained a cottage at Daisy Hill. They like the new arrangements very much, as they seem to have a great longing to have a domestic hearth of their own.

Huddersfield.—On October 26th Miss Siddon gave a reception at Whiteley's Café. There was a very large attendance, and Miss Thurston held the audience spellbound as she gave her varied and wonderful experience in the war zone. The report of the sub-committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals showed that over £60 had been subscribed. A collection for the same purpose resulted in a sum of £13 2s. 7d. being added to the above £60. Sewing meetings are held every Tuesday afternoon at the Office, 41, Spring Street, and a Study Circle on Wednesday afternoons, both commencing at 3 p.m. Members and friends are invited.

The LEEDS Women's Suffrage Society has held its usual Wednesday afternoons at the Office, 35, Park Square. The addresses on different social subjects have been excellent, and in consequence our members are keeping well together. At Rawdon, an outlying district, a very good meeting was held on November 3rd. New members were enrolled, and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Money was raised for Serbia, and also for the Society through the generosity of Mrs. Naylor, who provided tea, for which a charge was made. Miss I. O. Ford gave an address on the work of the N.U.

On October 27th a public meeting was held in Leeds, presided over by Professor Grant, at which Miss Thurstan gave a most beautiful and moving account of her Red Cross work with the Allies. The collection (over £12) went towards the fund for a Hospital Bed for Serbia, to be called "The Leeds Bed." For this bed £55 10s. has been collected by our Society.

A crowded meeting, under the auspices of the ROTHERHAM SOCIETY, was held in the Concourse Road Congregational Schoolroom, on Tuesday, October 26th.

Dr. Riddell, in introducing Nurse Thurston, spoke of the work done by the local Society since the beginning of the war, their work on relief committees, their club for soldiers' wives, and their maternity scheme.

Miss Thurstan, who has just returned from nursing the wounded in Belgium and Russia, gave a wonderful account of her experiences. She told of her imprisonment by the Germans, speaking of the kindness of one German officer, and stating that in no way was she treated brutally. She expressed her surprise that on her return to England she found everything going on as usual, no one going without meals, whilst on the Continent few people had more than two meals a day, and many went for days without any.

The collection, which was for the Scottish Women's Hospital, amounted to £9 10s. 9d. Crowds were obliged to go away, as they could not find even standing room. At the end of the meeting Mr. MacLagan read apologies for absence from the Mayoress and the wife of the Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University.

A Study Circle on War and Democracy began on November 9th. Mr. Donald H. Oldham, B.Sc., introduced the book, "The War and Democracy," by a short history of Poland. The Study Circle has decided to meet fortnightly; next fortnight Mrs. Oldham will give a short sketch of Nazism.

On November 2nd there was a jumble sale in the Soldiers' Wives' Clubroom. £6 10s. was cleared, half of this being devoted to the club and half to the other work of the Society.

The work of the Suffrage representatives on the Relief Committee is still uphill work, but every week many women are helped, and much is done by constant visiting and finding out people in need of help.

South Kensington.

The Belgian Hostel at 1, Argyll Road, has been carried on by the South Kensington Society's Committee for more than a year, and it is hoped to continue through the winter. It is managed by a very capable Belgian on very economic lines, and is quite full. The South Kensington Committee has also inaugurated a series of lectures on the Problems of the War, which are well attended, and the collections for various hospitals have, so far, been very good.

On Thursday, November 25th, a drawing-room meeting will be held, at 3 p.m., by kind permission of Miss Holland at 13, Holland Park, when Mrs. Pertnell will lecture on Women's Work in France.

Cupar-Fife.

A successful lantern lecture on the Scottish Women's Hospitals was given by Miss M. Henderson, Dundee, in the Masonic Hall, on

THE COMMON CAUSE.

Forthcoming Meetings.

NOVEMBER 19.

Cambridge—Showrooms of the Cambridge Gas Co. 32, Sidney Street—Miss Morse on "Economic Cookery" 11.0 & 2.45
Cardiff—Hall of the City of Cardiff High School for Girls—Lantern Lecture by Miss Thurstan, L.L.A., on "Personal Experiences as a Nurse in Belgium and Russia."—Chair, Major-General H. H. Lee, D.L., J.P. Admission 1s. 8.0
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Mrs. Schotton on "Sixteen Years in Turkey" 4.30
Guildford—C.E.M.S. Institute, Bramley—Miss Frost on "Patriotic Housekeeping" 3.0
Shoreham and Oxford—Dorset Holme, Shoreham—Miss Burke on the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals
Solihull—The Church House—Miss Stockdale on "Food Economy" 7.30

NOVEMBER 20.

Highgate—St. Peter's Church, Dartmouth Park Hill—Lantern Lecture on the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Speaker, Miss Burke 5.0

NOVEMBER 22.

Bedford College—Regent's Park, N.W. (by kind permission of the Principal)—Dr. Helen Hanson on "Experiences in Serbia and Russia"—Collection for the Scottish Women's Hospitals 4.30

Bideford—Town Hall—Miss Churton on "War Economies"—Chair, Councillor Charlewood 8.0
Birmingham—Technical School—Food Economy Lecture
Church of the Messiah Women's Friendly Association—Food Economy Lecture 8.30

Bristol—"Drayton," Beauford Road, Clifton—"At Home"—Hostess, Mrs. Cross—Speakers, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Judge and Mrs. Stanger
Farnham—Miss Frost on "Patriotic Housekeeping" 8.0

NOVEMBER 23.

Bristol—Hamilton's Rooms, Park Street—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Henry Fawcett—Chair, the Rev. Canon Talbot 8.0

Farnham—Miss Frost on "Spending and Saving in War Time" 8.0

Kensington—Town Hall—Dr. Ludwig Ehrlich on "Modern Poland"—Chair, the Lady Emmott 3.0

Newport (Mon.)—Park Hall—Miss Geraldine Cooke on "Household Thrift" 8.30

Plymouth—Kilton Hall, Park Street—Miss Churton on "General Thrift and Public Health" 8.0

Troon (Newport, Mon.)—Town Hall—Miss Geraldine Cooke on "War Time Economy"—Chair, Dr. Lloyd Davies 3.0

NOVEMBER 24.

Clevedon—Wickenham's Room—Miss Douglas Irvine on the Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.0

Falmouth—Miss Churton on "War Economies"—Chair, the Mayoress of Falmouth 8.0

Farnham—Miss Frost on "Patriotic Housekeeping" 8.0

Marple—Girls' Institute—Miss V. Thurstan on "Her Experiences in Brussels and with the Russian Army" 3.0

Warwick and Leamington—The Spencer Street School—Miss Stockdale on "Food Economy in War Time" 3.0

Wimbledon—Meeting for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Speakers, Miss Burke and Miss Webster 8.0

NOVEMBER 25.

Birmingham—Bath Row—Food Economy Lecture 8.0

Bristol—Hamilton Rooms, Park Street—Patriotic Thrift Exhibition, daily to Dec. 1st (2 p.m.—9 p.m.)—Opening ceremony at 3 p.m. by Judge Stanger

Chelsea—11, St. Leonard's Terrace—"At Home" to receive garments for Chelsea—Stall for Women's Service Sale of Work—Hostess, Mrs. Russell—Speaker, Mrs. Oliver Strachey 3.0

East Grinstead—Miss Frost on "Patriotic Housekeeping" 8.0

Truro—Miss Churton on "War Economies" 8.0

Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Seacombe—Tinnerary Club 8.0-10.0

NOVEMBER 26.

Guildford—1a, Mount Street—Miss Frost on "Patriotic Economy" 3.0

Manchester—St. Matthew's Schools, Tonman Street—Miss Stockdale on "Economies in War Time" 3.0

Swanley—Royal Horticultural College—Meeting for the Scottish Women's Hospitals—Speaker, Miss Burke 5.30

Topsham—Boys' Schoolroom—Miss Churton on "War Economies" 8.0

NOVEMBER 27.

Richmond—16, Denbigh Gardens (by kind permission of Mrs. Gates)—Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D., on "The Congress of Vienna, and What may be Learned from It"—Admission free, by ticket only, to be obtained beforehand from Miss Henderson, "Belsize," Queen's Road, Richmond 8.30

Working Parties.

Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48A, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0

Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk—Every Tuesday, 2.0-6.0

November 4th. The hall was filled to overflowing, and the lecture was much enjoyed. Some of the audience recognised personal friends among the photographs of nurses, doctors and orderlies. Captain C. Douglas, R.A.M.C., occupied the chair, and the Rev. Gordon Paterson, M.A., moved the votes of thanks. The collection, in support of the Cupar-Fife Bed, amounted to over £70.

Kilmarnock.

The Kilmarnock Society have started their winter's work in aid of the above. Already a great number of articles have been knitted and sewed. On Friday, October 15th, a whist drive was held in our Suffrage Rooms. Miss Foggo was present. She gave us a very interesting account of the hospitals she had visited in France. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and £6 was realised for the "Hospitals." The Workmen's Relief Fund Scheme has been started, and the result is extremely encouraging.

Southport.

The annual meeting of the Southport Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. was held on November 2nd, Mrs. and Miss Wood very kindly acting as hostess. A very interesting time was passed, the business comprising the election of officers and representatives for the ensuing year, racy accounts of the Study Circles that have been formed were given by Miss Benson and Miss Herbert, and a report of the Cambridge Summer School, at which our treasurer, Miss Grundy, had spent a most enjoyable time. Miss Rigby (President) gave an encouraging account of the School for Mothers, which our branch is taking up jointly with two other societies as our war work, and a grant of £2 was made to the fund. The temporary secretary, Miss McViney, made an appeal for the Scottish Women's Hospital for Active Service, and a grant of £1 1s. was sanctioned by the members. After a vote of thanks to our hostess, the meeting concluded.

Bournemouth.

In aid of the hospital bed which the Bournemouth branch of the N.U.W.S.S. are endowing at the Boscombe Hospital, Mr. Claude Lyon gave a most interesting lecture on Wednesday last at the Wilberforce Hall, kindly lent by the manageress for the occasion.

The lecture, which was illustrated by some pretty slides, was an account of a yachting cruise which Mr. Lyon had taken from Malta to Constantinople, along the classic shores of the Mediterranean, a region doubly interesting to us at the present time. The views shown included scenes in Malta, Syracuse, Taormina and Athens, the Field of Marathon, and the steep and rugged shores of the Dardanelles, the latter gave one a vivid idea of the dangers and difficulties which our brave troops had to surmount in the landing last spring.

More fortunate than the Allied Fleet, Mr. Lyon's little yacht was able to make her way up the Narrows, past the fort-crowned hills and into the Sea of Marmara, and so to Constantinople. Beautiful views of St. Sophia and other historic buildings in the Turkish capital were thrown on the screen, and finally some lovely peeps of the winding wooded shores of the Bosphorus brought the tour to a conclusion.

The evident appreciation of the lecture induced Mr. Lyon to announce that he hoped to be able to give a supplementary lecture describing the battlefields of the Crimea and the scenes of the present fighting in the Dardanelles. We trust that this may be arranged before very long.

Shipston-on-Stour.

On Thursday, October 28th, an interesting lecture on the Scottish Women's Hospitals was given in the Picture House by Miss Foggo, who had lately visited those at Troyes and Royau-mont. There was a fair audience, most of whom had heard very little about the work before. The proceeds amounted to £1 13s., the charge for admission being 6d. and 3d.

Weston-Super-Mare.

On October 19th, 1915, the annual meeting was held in Brown's Cafe, which was largely attended. The financial report was given; then a very interesting address by Miss Muriel Matters on "Women in the New Social Order," questions being answered in the usual way. She was seconded and thanked by the Rev. Holden.

Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshamgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every Monday, 2.30

Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every Wednesday, 3.0-6.0

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party—Every Wednesday, 3.0

Buxton—At Collinson's Cafe—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited—Every Thursday, 2.30

Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia—Every Monday, 2.30-4.30

Highgate—Working Party for L.S.W.S. Sale of Work—Hostess, Mrs. Garnett, 26, West Hill, Highgate—Every Wednesday, 3.0-5.0

Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street—Every Tuesday afternoon, 2.30 p.m.

Paddington—31, Hatherley Grove, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Messrs. William Owen, Ltd.)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Port Talbot—In room over Recruiting Office—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every Wednesday, 6-8.30

Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party—Every Monday, 2.45

Solihull—F.W.S. Working Party for Italian Troops, at the Church House—Hostess, Mrs. Maurice Davis—Every Tuesday, 7.30

South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Every Tuesday and Friday, 3 to 6.30 p.m.

Wakefield—"The Laurels," St. John's North—Sewing Party—Every Thursday, 2.30-6.0 and 7.0-9.0

Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make Sand Bags—Every Monday and Friday, 2.30

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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