

The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

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JUNE 8, 1911.

ONE PENNY.

Notes and Comments.

Last Week's Calendar.

We should like our readers to be quite clear in their minds as to the order in which the views of Ministers were expressed last week. On Monday 29th May, Mr. Lloyd George made a statement in the House (which we printed in full on page 135 of our last week's issue). This statement left a good deal that was ambiguous and it suggested a postponement of a settlement to 1913 or even later. On Wednesday 31st came the reply of Mr. Pease in the House (see page 153) leaving the matter still obscure. On Thursday June 1st Sir Edward Grey at the National Liberal Club made a clear and precise declaration of the intentions of the Government (see page 152) and on Thursday 1st June in the House, Mr. Asquith definitely told Mr. Arnold Ward that the Government did not propose again to refer the question to the country (see page 153). The last hope of the Antis is therefore killed—the hope that they might hustle the Government into postponing a settlement until they had taken a Referendum on Women's Suffrage.

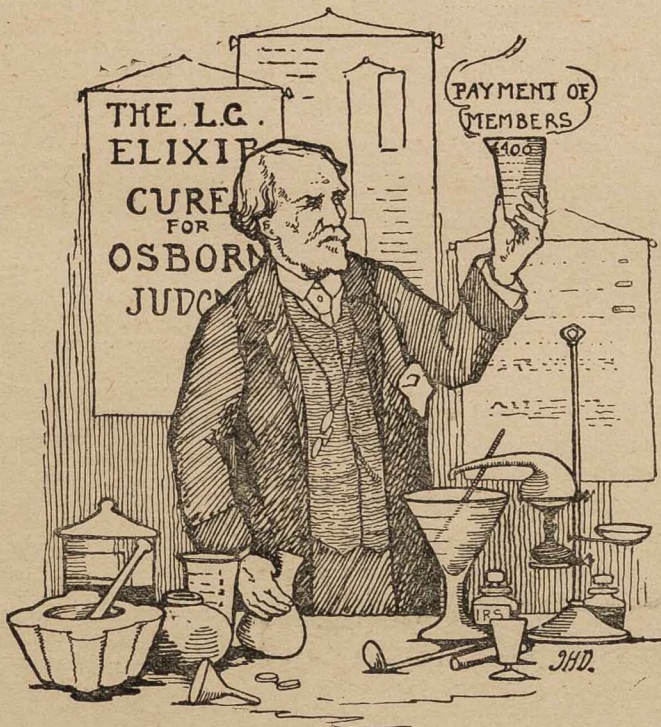
Work for the Bill.

With the promised removal of obstruction in Parliament our course is clear. The progress of our measure in Parliament will now depend entirely upon our so proceeding with our work in the country as to consolidate opinion in the House that the Conciliation Bill is a great, wise and patriotic measure and that it will enormously simplify further measures of reform. Being a non-party measure it depends for success on the vote of the private Member.

Therefore all our good work in the constituencies has justified itself and cries out now for redoubled energy. The Government boycott is to be removed. There is nothing to prevent Ministers who are in favour of the measure from lending the weight of their influence to our work in the constituencies; in fact it is not possible to imagine any just plea against such help. We may hope that the coming year may shew the full strength of our support among politicians and among Ministers.

The Immediate Future.

For the immediate moment it is our duty to make our share of the success of the Procession on June 17th. It should be the most happy and triumphant as it will, we hope, be the last of such demonstrations. The first was organized by the National Union in February 1907 and was known as the "Mud March." Many a good dress was ruined on that occasion. Since then there have been two, organized by the Women's Social and Political Union and another organized by the National Union. The great Procession on June 17th 1911 will be the first in which all the great societies are taking part and it will be the last, we hope, to be required of us. In it we mean to shew the unity and determination of all Suffragists for one object and one only—the removal of the sex disability.



LECTURER: "This interesting decoction may safely be applied to male patients as an excellent sedative, especially to those afflicted by Osborne Judgment; but I warn you, gentlemen, that, applied to females, it will cause a sudden and acute inflammation."

Mr. Snowden's View of the Situation.

We recommend our readers to get a copy of the *Christian Commonwealth* for June 7th and study Mr. Philip Snowden's article upon "Women Suffrage and the New Situation." There is no man in the House who knows more of our movement both in the House and in the country and whose advice is more single-hearted for the good of the women.

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CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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Candour.

The speech of Sir Edward Grey, reported in to-day's papers, on the character of the facilities to be offered by the Government next session to the Conciliation Bill is most welcome. It clears away the mist of ambiguities in which the subject was left last Monday. On behalf of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies I thank Sir Edward Grey for his most timely speech and for the definite character of the assurances he has given.

The National Union will act on Sir Edward Grey's advice and endeavour to combine their efforts with other organisations working for the suffrage so as to make the best use of what is a "real opportunity" and not a "bogus offer."

MILlicENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

(Letter sent to the papers on June 2nd, 1911.)

Last week was a week of great anxiety and of fluctuating hopes and fears. The answers in the House on Monday and Wednesday seemed to make certain only one thing: the determination of the Government to override our majority of 167 by allowing no more time for our Bill during this Session. They promised for 1912 that we should have a day for Second Reading, even if we had no luck in the ballot and that if the Bill got through the Second Reading, it should be given a week (which in Parliamentary language means four days) for the Committee stage. But on enquiry no satisfactory assurance was given that (by allowing the closure or the suspension of the eleven o'clock rule) the Government would provide any protection against obstruction and there are men in the House who would enjoy nothing more than to talk nonsense for a whole week if thereby they could "dish the women."

But these men are, happily, few and we are glad to think that our many friends in the House must have been as pleased as we by the manly and straightforward statement of Sir Edward Grey on June 1st. There is, we are glad to think, only a small number of men now in the House who are willing to tolerate any further trickery and evasion in this matter and this majority

of honourable men in the House will be backed by the majority of honourable men in the country. We do not resent genuine opposition; still less do we fear it. But we have nothing but contempt for "shuffling and delay." The English language is perfectly adequate to express the honest intentions of an honest man and nothing but good can result from plain and straightforward dealing with women. It passes our comprehension that anyone can think anything can be gained by keeping women in a state of suspicion and doubt. Now Sir Edward Grey's statement removes all this and we can understand where we are.

The Government offers us a week for Committee stage and Sir Edward Grey has made it clear that "if the House of Commons in a week shewed itself to have a combined, determined majority, substantial and united, anxious to proceed with the Bill," the Government would not prevent the remaining stages from being reached and further, the Government intended that the promoters and supporters of the Bill should have a fair chance and should not be left to be "the mere helpless butts for obstruction, with no powers of defence, making themselves and the Bill ridiculous."

Except for the fact that the fulfilment of this offer is postponed to next year we consider that this statement is entirely satisfactory. The chances and changes of political life are notorious. There is never any time so good as the present. The present session is crammed with legislation affecting women and we think that the Chancellor is making a bigger mistake that he knows by pressing on the Insurance Bill, which is going to make such an enormous change in the lives of women, without getting on the right side of women first. We are told the session is too full to allow of a week or ten days for us. But every fresh measure that is presented to the House presents a fresh grievance to unfranchised women. The most well intentioned schemes imaginable by the mind of man will not be good unless women are consulted and unless the good will of women has been enlisted for their administration. Therefore we would say to the most impatient and ardent reformer—free the women first. It will not be time lost for you. You may pass laws, statutes and enactments, but you cannot make them work without the goodwill of the women. We should regard it as the best thing that could possibly happen if some of the crude proposals of the Government were to be withdrawn for awhile to mature in the minds of the people and time thus be made to liberate the women this session.

But, if politicians will not do the wisest thing, this is no reason for us to be foolish and our work and our duty are clear. It would have been appropriate in Coronation Year to liberate all prisoners and captives; it would have been wise and statesmanlike to enlist the hearty co-operation of women in the National Insurance scheme; it would have been honest, while asking women to pay their share of Members' salaries, to give women their share of representation. These graces are not to be added. The thing is to be done grudgingly and of necessity. But it is to be done and we are practical persons. The gracelessness need not injure us unless we allow it to infect us. We have got something more definite than ever before. With our enormous majority the measure is sure to pass the House of Commons and the relations between the two Houses being determined this session, our course will be clear.

To many of us the prospect of another year of agitation, more money wasted in asking for bare justice, more energy diverted from constructive work may be daunting and exasperating. But it lies with us to make all this work good work. Now that the agony of suspense is mitigated; now that we have the horrible incubus removed which had haunted many of us,—the real dread lest all hope of a rational solution must be abandoned and men's sense of fair play a delusion to which it was no use appealing—now we can surely all work so that no act, no word of ours but shall help on the coming citizen.

Our position will be quite different and infinitely better than ever before, for the Government has definitely shouldered responsibility and this will bring on all those whose party feeling is stronger than any

other and who would stone every prophet until he had been sanctioned by the party whips. All over the country, all these, whose name is legion, will feel free to support us and the coming year will shew a great change among those who have always said "It is bound to come," and who will wish to be among those giving the last little push.

We have a great work before us, as we have behind us and there is nothing we do in the coming year that need be lost. There are still some women whom long years of subjection have unsexed, so that they indolently reflect a masculine view instead of approaching all the deep problems of economic and social life with an honest intention of understanding them and a determination to take nothing for granted. It is a woman's point of view which each one of us is in honour bound to take. Not as idle echoes of men shall we be doing our patriot's duty. Our contribution to the thought and conscience of public life must be truly the woman's contribution; we must study our facts and have the courage of our opinions; we must use all that power of give and take, of compromise and self-government and balance which our organization has taught us, as well as the long patience and fortitude, the sacrifice and capacity for obscure toil which have brought us so far.

So much has been done! So much remains to do! When some of the monstrous handicap is removed under which women suffer with regard to local government and many other forms of public service, there will be an immense widening of the scope for women's abilities. Ours has been largely the clearing away of obstruction it is true, but the common work has welded us together, has toughened our moral fibre, has awakened many of us from a fool's paradise and has made others feel the solidarity of women. The work, in destroying fetters has made character; if it had done nothing else, that would have been well done.

"Not on the vulgar mass

Called 'work,' must sentence pass,

Things done, that took the eye and had the price."

When we have won the vote, that will not be all we shall have won. We shall also have learned not to take our opinions ready-made from anyone and the vote will be the outward symbol of an inward freedom of mind and aspiration for public service.

Queen's Hall Meeting for Working Women.

A REMARKABLE MUSTER.

The great meeting for Working Women in the Queen's Hall on June 2nd was a conspicuous and inspiring success. We are accustomed to the excellent organization of the London Society and it was delightful to see how the women for whom they were catering last week played up and shewed their interest and enthusiasm. The Society was determined to give of its very best. Never has the platform been more charmingly decorated. Devices of doves (for Conciliation) and golden bees (for Labour) were blended with great red peonies and white daisies, while banners and bannerets proclaimed everywhere the colours of the National Union, and the numbers of electors who signed petitions praying that women should share their privileges.

The time of waiting was beguiled by Mrs. Layton at the organ and by suffrage songs sung to popular tunes with choruses for the audience to join in. A solo was also sung by Miss Margaret Layton, but the audience was so thoroughly inspired by the meeting that when it came to a suffrage version of Auld Lang Syne at the end, they sang lustily through the song with the soloist.

We understand that so large was the demand for tickets that many had to be refused and those who came shewed an appreciation of the points of the speeches which made one wish heartily for a platform of Antis to note those eager, responsive faces and hear those heart-felt comments. The "invincible ignorance" of which Mrs. Humphry Ward tells us, was conspicuous by its absence. Those women recognized and cheered their

friends; they appreciated all the orators' points; they responded in a moving fashion to the appeals to their patriotism and self-denial. What most touched them was the summons to stop war and to care for the children.

Besides over 1,600 representatives of political, industrial and social organisations, many hundreds of individual working women were present. Among the groups represented were the Independent Labour Party and the Women's Labour League, the Women's Liberal Federation (of which almost every London Association was represented), Trades Unions, Girls' Clubs, Adult Schools and Settlements. One Plaistow Settlement alone sent over 200 women from the district in which it works. The audience was with hardly any exceptions composed of the Industrial women of London who live by a weekly wage and of women who do the work of mothers in the poorest homes. Practically no seats were reserved for the general public except the orchestra. A large number of women brought babies with them, and it is to their credit that these future citizens behaved so well. The music seemed quite to fascinate them.

THE SPEECHES.

LADY FRANCES BALFOUR was in the chair and read a most encouraging message from Canon Scott Holland in which he spoke of the burdens laid upon working women, without giving them control, as making them "serfs not free citizens." Our Bill, she said, is before the Nation. The Nation is our constituency. We are not afraid of the Antis. "No one need be afraid of anyone who is trying to prove a negative." We were going to carry our propaganda into every town and village and hamlet in the country and we should win. "Before these excellent babies are many months older, we are going to get the vote. It lies with you, for it lies with the working man voter. Let every woman here lay it on the conscience of her man to use his influence as a voter with his Member of Parliament."

MR. LANSBURY was very cordially greeted by the women, who seemed to know him well.

AN INSTALMENT OF JUSTICE.

He began by declaring his belief in adult suffrage but said he believed an instalment was the only road. This movement began over forty years ago and it was too late to object to it that it only asked for votes for some women; if the objectors only had some of the enthusiasm of the women we should be a good deal further than we were. It was said that women were not the same as men; "a jolly good job too," remarked Mr. Lansbury. They did not ask to be like men. They asked for a fair field and no favour.

WORKING MEN'S WIVES.

The wives of working men had to have brains as good as men because they had to make so little money do. (Cheers.) Governments were continually interfering with domestic affairs. They would have to face entirely new conditions with regard to their health. "I know," he added, "who'll have to pay those fourpences!" (Prolonged applause). No Government had any right to interfere without women having a voice. (Cheers.) He thought it was time men ceased to unload their responsibility for the children on to the women. Men had a feeling that they were superior to the work of looking after children and it was what women could do without help and in a subordinate position. They were endangering the future. Who felt the pinch of poverty worst? (Cries of "Women!") The burden of sickness, unemployment, casual labour came home first to women. (Cheers.)

It was asked whether women under certain awful conditions were fit for the vote. If men had made such a muddle and mess of things that women had to live under such conditions, it was the best argument for giving women the vote. (Cheers.)

WHAT WOMEN WOULD DO.

Where women had the vote they used it for the helpless and hopeless. "Women will help your boys and girls to live better lives than now and they will grow up as comrades." He did not understand all the tactics

and manœuvres there had been about this measure in Parliament. They had asked for time and been told there was no time, but "you have all our sympathy." Women had had enough sympathy. They said "Get out of the road and let us get along!" (Loud cheers). The Government promises would materialize if the women agitated. They must go to their Members and worry them. "They are only human beings. They don't become archangels when they are elected. I am one of them and I know. If every London Member had a deputation of working women once a week his wife would do something to get rid of them." (Laughter and cheers).

WHAT SIR EDWARD GREY MIGHT DO.

Though they were going in their resolution to appreciate Sir Edward Grey, let them go further. He was one of our best friends and he had taken a consistent line. It would be a fine thing if, instead of leaving the private members to flounder with whips on both sides, Sir Edward Grey told the House he was going to be their leader in the fight. (Cheers).

Mr. Lansbury then referred to the "physical force argument" as raised in the House and answered it, concluding with a moving appeal to the women to throw their hearts into preventing war. He ended, "You are going to hear one of the pioneers of the movement. I would like to feel when I am old that I had been as loyal to the movement as Mrs. Fawcett has been. (Cheers). I should like to feel I had done what I could. The reason the world is not a place of beauty is because we haven't thought enough of each other. This women's movement means the uplifting of women. Because you have worked in it ever so little, your boys and girls will be able to work out a better society." (Cheers).

The resolution moved by Mr. Lansbury ran as follows:—

While regretting that the Government have refused full facilities for proceeding with the Conciliation Bill this session, this meeting of working women welcomes Sir Edward Grey's elucidation of the offer of the Government for full facilities next session, and pledges itself to use every legitimate means in its power to ensure the triumphant passage through all its stages in the House of Commons in 1912 of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill.

Mrs. FAWCETT, seconding, said that the night before last she was speaking at Ealing and "we didn't know where we were. We tried to understand the Government's pledge and in one place it seemed to give facilities and in another it looked like the old thing."

FULL OF COURAGE AND HOPE.

Since then something had happened and they had "something worth having" for next session. Sir Edward Grey had said this was a genuine offer, not a "bogus offer"; we were to have extra time if the House shewed they wished it; we were not to be thwarted by mere obstruction. "Therefore I say we are further up the ladder of success than ever before!" (Cheers.) "Our hearts are full of courage and hope. We have one year in which to increase our organization, to stand all classes together. (Cheers). My friends among women are those who work for justice to women, to whatever class they belong." (Cheers). What did the Prime Minister say—he never spoke of women, but when he spoke of men, what did he say? He spoke of "the establishment in all its fulness of representative government." Why did he leave women out? A nation of men would be a very short-lived nation!

She alluded to the payment of Members as a "monstrous injustice," since they would be paid out of taxes contributed by women, and yet give women no representation. As for the Insurance Bill, she approved of the policy of insurance, but if women had votes, it would not be possible to make them lose benefit upon marriage. (Cheers). The Census returns humorously described the wives of working men as "unemployed" but she thought they were among the hardest worked on the face of the earth. (Cheers.)

THE VOTE AND WAGES.

The Anti-Suffragists were fond of saying that Mrs. Fawcett must know the vote had no influence on wages.

"I know nothing of the sort! Wages depend upon many causes. But the vote is one tool which can raise wages, as is proved by the fair wages clause in Government contracts for men. There is no such clause for women." (Applause). She alluded to the statement made by Mr. Fisher that afternoon to the effect that in Australia there was a minimum wage for women as well as for men and at the same rate for the same work. In New South Wales there was a minimum of £110 a year for government employees. There were many problems connected with the low rate of wages, such as infant mortality and morality. There was now a grand freemasonry between different classes of women, and they asked women to stand together in this great movement (Cheers).

MRS. RICHARDSON, who described herself as having been reared by a widowed mother in a cellar in St. Pancras, said it gave her great pleasure to see so many of her own class asking to be acknowledged as citizens.

WORKING WOMEN PATRIOTS.

Over and over again she had been told that this was a middle class movement and she was delighted to shew that working women were patriots as well as men (Cheers). They had come with great difficulty and brought their babies (cheers) to ask for the vote, not as rich or as poor, but as women. She thought her mother was as fit for the vote as any man (cheers) and so was the lady doctor she knew in Islington (Cheers). She quoted from a sister who had gone to New South Wales and who had not cared much for politics until she got the vote. Now she was keen on the fiscal question, because of its effect on prices (cheers) and on temperance (cheers) and the women there were all keen to see temperance legislation passed and carried out (cheers) and to make the streets cleaner and safer for young girls (Loud cheers). "I'm proud to think my sister is the true citizen of a great empire. We can think out the problems of empire at the wash-tub just as well as the working man can at the bench." There never were so many laws being passed which affected women and maternity. "We have all the great intelligent men on our side. What we've got to do is to win over the unintelligent." (Laughter and cheers). They had to make these men fall into line. "Friends, we knew you were converted, or you wouldn't have come here. We want to turn you into helpers. You have shewn this is not a class movement but a movement for all classes."

The resolution was passed upstanding and the proceedings terminated with a very hearty singing of Auld Lang Syne (new version) and God Save the King.

Sir Edward Grey on the Government's Pledge.

At a dinner in honour of Mr. Andrew Carnegie at the National Liberal Club on Thursday, June 1st, Sir Edward Grey (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs) made the following statement concerning the pledges given by the Government with regard to the Conciliation Bill:—

I want to say a very few words to prevent misapprehension about what the Government has said on the subject. It is a very serious matter that the House of Commons should year by year have been getting itself into an invidious and discreditable position by passing second readings of a bill again and again, and not showing whether it is determined to proceed with it. It is due to the House that it should have an opportunity of getting out of that position. I resent very much the attacks which have been made on the assumption that either the Government or the House of Commons in the years which are just past could have done more than they have done. The time having now come when a definite opportunity has been promised to the House of Commons, it is important that people interested in the subject should understand that that is a real opportunity, and that neither on the part of the Government which makes it nor on the part of the House which accepts it is it a bogus offer. (Cheers.)

I would like to remove two misapprehensions which, I hear, are possible with regard to that offer. It is suggested that the week proposed by the Government cannot possibly be

sufficient for the two stages of the bill—Committee, Report, and third reading—and that being so it is suggested that even if the House completes the Committee stage in a week, then the Government will at once intervene, though only one or two days are wanted for the future stages, and having fulfilled the letter of its promise will use all its machinery to prevent those two days taking place. That is not a reasonable interpretation of the Government offer. They are not pledged to more than a week, but to suppose that if the House of Commons in a week showed itself to have a combined, determined majority, substantial and united, anxious to proceed with the bill—to suppose that the Government would then use all its Whips and machinery to say that even though one or two days only more were required it would use all its influence to prevent those two days being used—that is not a reasonable interpretation of the offer. They are pledged to nothing more than a week, but they are not pledged at the end of a week, if the House of Commons wishes to proceed, to step in and intervene.

It is also suggested that a week might be useless because the promoters of the bill will be the mere helpless butt for obstruction during the week without any powers of defence, making themselves and the bill ridiculous. That is not the intention of the Government offer. The intention, of course, is that those who are interested in the bill, its promoters and supporters, should have a fair chance which any people ought to have of defending themselves by the means which the rules of the House place at the disposal of majorities for defending themselves against obstruction, and for making reasonable progress. The whole question is now in a new situation, in which it is open for those who are in favour of it to devote the interval which must elapse between this year and next to so combining their efforts as to make the best use of what is a real opportunity in which effective progress may be made. (Cheers.)

In Parliament.

THE INSURANCE BILL.

On Monday, May 29th, the Insurance Bill (not without protest from all sides of the House) passed its Second Reading and was committed to a Committee of the whole House. In the course of the debate, Mr. Lloyd George said that originally he thought it was possible to include married women living at home in the Bill, but he was warned against this by the actuaries as being likely to add enormously to the demand upon the doctors. It would have to come some time, but it would be "very perilous." Later on he said that there was an idea that women were to receive worse treatment than men received, but again he asked the House to "consider the matter actuarially." Women were to be given full value for their money. It was proposed to have two separate funds and everything a woman paid went to the women's fund. As a matter of fact women "came uncommonly well out of the whole of the proposals." In addition to the maternity benefits, they were to get permanent disablement benefits.

THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.

Mr. Churchill (Home Secretary) informed Mr. A. Burgoyne (U.—North Kensington) that the question of the white slave traffic was receiving his serious consideration, but legislation on the subject was surrounded with difficulties. He hoped, however, that the Under-Secretary (Mr. Masterman) would in a few days introduce a Bill dealing with one important part of the subject.

THE TRADE UNIONS BILL.

This Bill which is designed to give relief to Trade Unions which have been restrained by the Osborne Judgment from using their funds for political purposes, passed its Second Reading on Tuesday 30th. No one, not even the opponents of the Bill, suggested that parliamentary representation was of no value to labour; no one, not even the supporters of the Bill, but admitted that it was intolerable that a man should be compelled to pay for a Member who did not represent him.

THE CONCILIATION BILL.

On Wednesday 31st May on the motion for adjournment, Mr. Snowden pressed for further information con-

cerning the intentions of the Government. He said the promoters of the Bill were not satisfied with the decision of the Government to give no further time to the Bill this session, but in looking closely into the terms of the Government's statement the promoters were encouraged to hope that the Government might reconsider their decision. Should it happen that some of the important measures now before the House were not proceeded with, would an opportunity be given for further discussion of the Bill this session? If not, what was the intention of the Government in regard to the Bill next year. Was the week that was promised to cover only the Committee stage in the Bill, or all stages beyond the Second Reading? Would the Government give any assistance in accelerating the passage of the Bill when it was again before the House by allowing a Minister of the Crown to move, if necessary, the suspension of the eleven o'clock rule, or a resolution for the allocation of time? It was very desirable that the question should be settled as soon as possible, for the life of this Government was especially precarious, they having no majority of their own, but depending upon a combination which might be dissolved at any time.

To this Mr. Pease, a Government Whip, replied that representations were made to the Government not very recently but some time ago, that the promoters of the Bill thought a week would be a reasonable time to devote to the various stages of the Bill after the Second Reading stage, and the Government had acted upon that representation. The Government themselves thought that four and a half days, which was a Parliamentary week, should be ample to indicate whether the House was prepared to proceed with the Bill to a satisfactory conclusion. If the hon. gentleman and his friends were not satisfied with the answer already given on behalf of the Government, a further question had better be put down on the paper to the Prime Minister, who would give an answer either before the adjournment for holidays or immediately after the House re-assembled.

Mr. Snowden called this "a most unsatisfactory answer."

On Thursday 1st June

Mr. Arnold Ward asked the Prime Minister whether the Government, before giving facilities for the full consideration of a Women's Enfranchisement Bill in the House, would afford an opportunity to the electors to give a verdict on that issue.

Mr. Asquith (Prime Minister): I am not able to give any such assurance.

Lord H. Cecil (U.—Oxford University): Will the Government, in determining what facilities are to be granted for this Bill, have regard to that principle of the supremacy of the House of Commons to which they have given such fervent expression in the Parliament Bill?

Mr. Asquith: That does not arise in the least out of this question.

Mr. Ward: Is it the intention of the Government to connive at the disposal by Parliament of a first-class constitutional question which has never been before the country?

Mr. Asquith: It is the intention of the Government to fulfil the pledge which they gave before the last general election. (Cheers.)

Lord H. Cecil: Does the right hon. gentleman feel himself bound to fulfil the pledges given by the Secretary for War and the Chief Secretary for Ireland?

Mr. Asquith: That does not arise either.

ANOTHER PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL.

On Friday 2nd June a private Member's Bill (Scottish Land Bill) passed its Second Reading and the Lord Advocate recalling the fact that the Bill was introduced in 1906 and again in 1907 said it was "vain to say that the House was now approaching an entirely new question which demanded long and elaborate debate" and he added that the Government "would give every assistance to the promoters to secure its passage into law."

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

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Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." *Secretary:* Miss T. G. WHITEHEAD, M.A. *Telephone:* 1960 Victoria.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Suffragist Deputation to the Prime Minister of Australia.

On Friday June 2nd Mr. Andrew Fisher, Prime Minister of Australia, received a deputation from the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and in cordial terms expressed his opinion that where women had been given the vote the effects had been good.

Mrs. Fawcett expressed the gratitude of suffragists for the resolution more than once passed by both Houses in Australia and said we welcomed Mr. Fisher as the official representative not only of men but of women. What our Prime Minister only talked about, Australia had done.

Mr. Fisher stated that those who had been most opposed to the enfranchisement of women in Australia were now its firmest friends and whereas they had said women did not want the vote, they now said they had had no idea so many women wanted the vote. It had not affected the balance of parties, but it had increased public interest in certain social questions and had made elections more orderly. Particularly, he thought, it had improved the women, and he added smiling, "Speaking personally of the woman I know best, I think it has rather improved Mrs. Fisher." The women's vote had been the reverse of a national danger. Australian men held that men could not justly represent women.

Mr. Fisher invited questions and in reply he said the vote had undoubtedly raised women's economic condition. There was now a minimum wage for women as well as for men and women got equal pay for equal work in government employ. Women's relations with trade unions were improving. He certainly thought an Australian woman coming to England would feel degraded at losing her citizen rights and she would probably "make some remarks" about it.

Mr. Fisher ended with very cordial good wishes and said that in Australia there would be "no going back."

The deputation, which had to be got up at 24 hours' notice, consisted of Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Auerbach, Miss H. D. Cockle, Mrs. Stanton Coit, Miss Emily Davies, LL.D., Mrs. Heitland, Miss Leaf, Miss Macmillan, Miss O'Malley, Miss Royden, Mrs. Spring Rice, Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Swanwick, and Miss Ward.

Dinner to Mrs. Chapman Catt.

The dinner to Mrs. Chapman Catt will be held at the Garden Club in the Exhibition Grounds, Shepherd's Bush, on July 4th. Miss Agnes Garrett is kindly making the arrangements, and it is hoped that a large Committee will be formed to assist her in carrying them out.

Literature Department.

The leaflet on "Payment of Members" has been revised to meet the change in the Parliamentary situation, and will be on sale at the end of this week at 1s. 6d. a hundred.

An interesting double page leaflet by Miss Eleanor Rathbone on "The Position of Seamen's Wives under the Law, a practical illustration of women's need of the vote" is also ready. (Price 4d. each.)

The National Union has recently stocked copies of a leaflet by Miss Mary Macarthur on "Women and State Insurance" (4d. each) and two pamphlets published by the Church League for Women's Suffrage: "The

Cause of Purity," by Ursula Roberts, and "From East to West," by Helen Hanson, M.D., B.S., price 2d. each.

All who require National Union badges, ribbons, or pennants for the Procession on June 17th, should apply early to the Literature Department, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

I. B. O. MALLEY, Hon. Sec. to Lit. Committee.

Press Department.

It cannot be asserted that there has been a boycott of Women's Suffrage in the London press this week. Considering the pressure on the newspapers in connection with the Imperial Conference and the Coronation, the space devoted to the subject has been very considerable. The *Westminster Gazette* (June 3) gives a good column, headed, "Woman Suffrage and the Government Attitude," dealing with Sir Edward Grey's speech. It gives a long report, under the heading "Woman's Suffrage Meeting," of the demonstration of industrial workers at the Queen's Hall on June 2nd. In the *Daily News* (June 2) "The Cabinet and the Women's Bill" is the heading of the first column on the first page. The *Times*, the *Morning Post*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Morning Leader*, and other papers (June 3) gave reports of the deputation of the National Union to the Prime Minister of Australia. Discussions and criticisms of the clauses relating to women in the Insurance Bill have been plentiful. Mrs. Fawcett's letter, thanking Sir Edward Grey for his timely speech and the character of his assurances, has been widely circulated.

The *Manchester Guardian* has, as usual, given the fullest detail and greatest space to Woman's Suffrage. On Friday, June 2, speaking of Sir Edward Grey's "manly and sincere words," it said: "There is to be an end of trifling, there is to be an end of shams, a great question is to be treated as a great question, and the House of Commons as a whole, independent of party, is to have the opportunity, hitherto denied it, of making its will effective. We thank Sir Edward Grey for this word, and there are millions of men and women who will thank him for it."

EMILY M. LEAF
 (Hon. Sec. to Press Committee).

Treasurer's Notes.

It is good news to record an increased response to our appeal, as it proves the growing enthusiasm with which all our Societies are preparing to help in making our section a beautiful and impressive portion of the Procession. The letters which I have received this week have been full of encouragement; the same post that brought a welcome donation of £50 brought 2s. 6d. from a woman who writes: "I only wish I could afford more; I am only a working man's wife, and am acting as caretaker. I am sure you will accept it, although small, as every little helps." Then another noble-hearted "friend," who desires to remain anonymous, has sent £100 for our General Fund and £20 for the "Procession Fund."

It is the women who send us their money—money which is often the hard-earned wages of their own labour—who make us conscious of our great responsibility, and by making us the trustees of their generous and unselfish hopes they help us to feel that the obligation is laid upon us all to give nothing less than the best that we have got to give.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GENERAL FUND.

MAY 25th TO JUNE 2nd, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st...	863	6	9½
Subscriptions—			
Miss E. D. Coats	1	1	0
Miss A. Bateson	10	0	0
Mrs. George	0	2	6
Mrs. R. C. Trevelyan	1	0	0
Mrs. Kenny	1	0	0
Miss Allott	5	0	0
Mrs. Aubrey Dowson	0	2	6
Mrs. Norman MacLachose	1	1	0
Mrs. G. Unwin	1	1	0
Miss Lakin	1	0	0
Miss E. F. Rathbone	25	0	0
Donations—			
"A Friend"	100	0	0
Girton College Branch Society—Collected, Self-denial Week	3	7	0
Homerton College—Half Collection, Self-denial Week	4	0	0
Miss E. Bateson	3	0	0
Lady Moor	0	12	6
Miss G. Larner	0	10	0
Affiliation Fees—			
Chester W.S.S.	0	17	6
Crowborough W.S.S.	0	5	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne W.S.S. (additional)	0	12	6
Cheltenham W.S.S.	1	6	0
Melrose W.S.S. (additional)	0	2	0
Norwood and District W.S.S. (additional)	0	4	0
	£1,024	16	3½

FOR SPECIAL WORK IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCILIATION BILL.

MAY 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	1,106	5	0
Mrs. Aldworth	3	0	0
Miss G. M. Doncaster	0	5	0
	£1,109	10	0

PROCESSION FUND.

MAY, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	49	11	6
"A Friend"	20	0	0
Miss Dodge—For railway fares	50	0	0
Mrs. Oakley	5	0	0
Mrs. John Marshall	5	0	0
Miss Morrison	2	2	0
Mrs. Spielmann	2	2	0
Mrs. H. R. Hogg	2	0	0
Mrs. Bury	2	0	0
Mrs. Austen	1	1	0
Hon. Mrs. Paley	1	1	0
Miss Alice Johnson	1	1	0
Mrs. Philip Barendt	1	1	0
Miss Ottilie Bodé	1	1	0
Mrs. Whitting	1	0	0
Mrs. Sanger	1	0	0
Mrs. Eve	1	0	0
Mrs. Armitstead	1	0	0
E. P. H.	1	0	0
Miss E. G. Henriques	0	10	0
Mrs. Gadsden	0	10	0
Lady Cory	0	10	0
Miss M. E. Crofton	0	10	0
Mrs. Sprigge	0	10	0
Miss Florence Rowe	0	10	0
Mrs. Todhunter	0	10	0
Mrs. Fallon	0	5	0
Mrs. A. F. Macgregor	0	5	0
Miss S. Jephson	0	5	0
Miss Allott	0	5	0
Lady Blake	0	5	0
Miss I. B. Sachs	0	5	0
Mrs. Marks	0	5	0
Mrs. Sparkes	0	5	0
Mrs. Junning Keen	0	5	0
Mrs. Gale	0	5	0
Miss M. Michael	0	5	0
Miss M. M. Rolfe	0	5	0
Mrs. Goltschalk	0	5	0
Miss Florence G. Fidler	0	4	6
Miss Mabel Hart	0	3	0
Miss A. M. Allott	0	2	6
Miss Beaumont	0	2	6
Miss F. J. Tyer	0	2	6
Mrs. Chilman	0	2	6
Mrs. Cleaver	0	2	0
Miss E. K. Russell	0	1	0
	£156	15	6

The Procession.

The Procession on the 17th promises to be a great success. I hope, by now, all members realise the scheme on which we are working. We want to show that our Union is really national; therefore we are arranging no Pageants and very few special groups, but our widespread Federations are emphasized. The Irish society is not

affiliated but there is close sympathy between us and them. They take first place in the societies. After them, our affiliated branches are arranged in order of their distance from London. First among them come our Scotch women, followed by the north country Federations. Then come the Welsh women and so on, ending with the London society, which on this occasion acts as hostess, bringing up the rear of our affiliated societies.

Loyalty to the Union should be our watch-word. Scotch, Welsh and English should combine to show that all three nationalities are strong for our great Common Cause and strong for the Union. With our Federations we hope to have a group of Industrial women and after them will walk the ungowned University women. These are taking the last place in order that they may be near the Graduates' section which is not carrying the colours of any Suffrage society.

Foreign and over-seas visitors will be cordially welcomed in a special contingent which will immediately follow Mrs. Fawcett and group of leaders.

We are making a great display of Red, White and Green. Small pennants in the colours will flutter all down the line. Paper medallions with a suitable motto are being printed for free distribution, and we are asking delegates to wear sashes of the colours. A new feature in the procession will be a series of banners bearing the names of Town Councils which have petitioned for the Bill. We suggest that those who are bringing their banners from a distance might find it a convenience to send the poles beforehand to these offices, or to Portman Rooms, Baker Street, clearly labelled. The banners could then be easily brought up by the delegates and there would be less risk of losing them en route.

We are anxious to do everything possible to ensure the comfort of our members, many of whom are travelling long distances in order to be present on the 17th. We have arranged to have the Portman Rooms open all day from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Tea in the afternoon will be served at 6d. a head, and light refreshments in the evening at 1s. I am trying to arrange for lunch to be served at the Rooms also, and will make an announcement on this point next week.

The Executive Committee have decided after all not to sing the hymn as announced in the last leaflet. Dr. Ethel Smyth has very kindly presented copies of her "March of the Women" to our bands and we shall be very glad if all our members would learn the words in order that they may sing the march when the bands strike up. Words and tune are printed on a penny card. Provincial secretaries can obtain them on sale or return at this office.

Brakes will line up in Queen Victoria Street quite at the back of the procession and seats may be obtained at 2s. each. Application for seats should be sent to this office.

We are having a new leaflet printed for distribution along the line of march, and call for the assistance of our delegates to carry this into effect. Volunteers to help with the sale of the "Common Cause" are also badly needed. Names will be gratefully received at headquarters.

Two widths of ribbon can be obtained from the office. One, 4½ in. wide at 1s. 3d. a yard and one 2 in. wide at 6d. a yard. 1½ yards makes a good sash and, if made with the wider ribbon, the price would be 1s. 10½d.

GERALDINE COOKE.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN.

In the ranks of the National Union will be found its affiliated societies from Oxford and Cambridge Universities. These are asked to walk *ungowned*, in order to emphasize the grievance they have in not being given the degree for which they have worked. Many Oxford and Cambridge women have the *ad eundem* degree of Dublin University, and there are women graduates from all other universities. Should they wish to wear cap and gown they should walk with their territorial society within the National Union or, if they desire, with the University Section, independent of the National Union. Naturally, the National Union wishes to have as large a contingent as possible. The only body of gowned women walking together will, however, be the University section.

"The Common Cause."

SELLING THE PAPER ON JUNE 17.

The time for preparation is now very short, and much remains to be done in order that we may adequately represent the forces of this great Union of Women before the whole world on Saturday, June 17. It behoves each one of us to undertake some definite piece of work, however small. For those who are not officers of any society, but who would like to do their utmost, a most important and interesting piece of work will be selling "The Common Cause" all along the route. The crowds will be immense, not only along our own way, but along the route where the other parts of the procession will form up, and all will be curious about us and what we want. The opportunity to make our paper known is absolutely priceless, and to realize this is to set about making the most of it. The experience of Miss Ransom, who organised the sales at our big Demonstration at Trafalgar Square last July is that one person in fifteen may be relied on to buy our paper, so that if the crowd amounts to half a million, as may easily be the case, that would mean selling more than 33,000 papers. If we have 500 sellers, each selling as many as she can carry, and drawing more supplies from our decorated carts, we can cope with the situation, but not otherwise.

Mrs. Darlington and the London Selling Corps are making all possible arrangements, but when it is remembered that the London Society will have to provide the marshals and the stewards, it becomes plain that sellers will be needed from outside London. There are 15 Federations, and if at least 5 members from each Federation sacrifice themselves, by selling the paper instead of walking in the Procession, we shall demonstrate adequately in this other way. Federations within easy reach of London, whose members have not to travel so many weary hours, at such great cost to take part in the Procession, might find more than five volunteers.

Full directions will be furnished in our next issue, but it is hoped that intending sellers will communicate direct with Mrs. Darlington, c/o the London Society, 58, Victoria Street, Westminster, by next Monday, June 12.

Last year 5 dozen copies were sold on the Manchester Special, which was a corridor train. The Birmingham sellers were not quite so successful, as theirs was not entirely a corridor train. One young lady who travelled up from Sheffield by an ordinary excursion took 2 dozen and sold them on her train. It is important not to neglect this useful piece of work this time, when the special trains are so numerous. Even those who take the paper regularly are glad of a "Common Cause" to read on the long journeys. Orders for the new number should reach the office, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, by Wednesday morning, 14th June.

The Federations and the Procession.

Midland.

Special trains for June 17th have been arranged as follows:

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.	
Wolverhampton	11 30 a.m.
West Bromwich	11 25
Birmingham (Snow Hill)	11 50
Olton	11 35
Solihull	11 40
Leamington	12 20 p.m.
Banbury	12 45
Oxford	1 25

* Ordinary train joins Special at Birmingham.

† Ordinary train joins Special at Leamington.

Train arrives Paddington, 2-51 p.m.

Return Fares—5/-, 4/6, 4/-, and 3/6.

L. AND N.W. RAILWAY.

BRANCH TRAINS.

Stafford	10 30 a.m.	Joins Special Train at Wolverhampton.
Walsall	11 20	Joins Special Train at Bescot.
Dudley Port	11 29	Joins Special Train at Birmingham.
Fare from Walsall and Dudley Port, 5/-.		
Wolverhampton	11 30 a.m.	
Bescot	11 50	
Birmingham	12 15 p.m.	
Coventry	12 45	
Rugby	1 0	
Northampton	1 20	

Arrives at Euston, 2-45 p.m.

Return Train leaves Euston at 12-45 a.m. Return Fares—5/-, 4/-, 3/9

Birmingham passengers are advised to obtain tickets in advance from 10, Easy Row.

A special train will leave Victoria Station (G.O.R.), NORWICH, at 12.3 on June 17th. Fare 4/3. Return train will leave Marylebone at 9.30.

Manchester and District.

A special train will be run between Colne and Euston, on which the fare will be 11s. return from all stations.

Colne	8-25 a.m.	Bolton	9-42 a.m.
Nelson	8-30	Manchester (Vic.)	10-10
Burnley	8-40	"	10-15
Accrington	8-58	Stockport	10-40
Blackburn	9-12	Crewe	11-18
Darwen	9-22	Euston	2-40 p.m.

Return Euston 12-30 p.m. Arrive Manchester (Victoria), 5-30 a.m.

Stopping at intermediate stations, as on the up-journey.

There will be no luncheon cars on the special train, so people are advised to bring food with them.

No special extensions can be arranged for, but the ordinary week-end ticket (19s. 4d.) if bought at this office, will be available by the special train.

The refreshment room at Manchester (Victoria) will be open at 5.30 on Sunday morning, and the train will stop there long enough for those proceeding to Colne and intermediate stations to breakfast.

Motor buses will be at Victoria at 5.30 a.m. to convey members to the different suburbs, for which no charge will be made. For those who are unable to leave Manchester until after 9 o'clock, arrangements have been made with the Victoria Hotel, Deansgate, for passengers to rest there, a table d'hôte breakfast being served at 2s. 6d. per head.

For tickets, apply to—The Procession Secretary, 85, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

The special Procession Fund within the Federation stands at about £80, but this sum does not cover all that is being given by individuals who prefer to help individually rather than pay into the fund. Eight women's Trades Unions in Manchester have decided to send representatives with their banners.

North-Western.

The hon. secretary, Miss L. Walker, Brettargh Holt, Kendal, is organizing a North-Western Federation Contingent to walk in the Procession in London on June 17th. It is hoped that all who possibly can will come to London, march under our banner, and that Westmorland, Cumberland, and North Lancashire Suffragists, resident in London, will send in their names to the secretary as willing to join us. Carlisle and Kendal are having new banners made for the occasion.

N. and E. Ridings Yorkshire.

There is to be an excursion train to London on Friday night, June 16th, which will be most convenient for those in this district who are able to take part in the procession.

The times of leaving are as follows:—

Filey	6 40
Scarborough	8 0
Malton	8 32
Whitby	7 3
Thirsk	8 58
Ripon	7 11

Via York, leaving there at 9.50 p.m.

Fare there and back, Third Class, 12s.

The return train will leave King's Cross at 10.20 p.m. on Saturday, 17th.

A special day excursion train will leave Paragon Station, HULL, at 9.20 a.m. on June 17th. Return fare 11s.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

There will be a special train for the Procession on June 17th. It will leave WORTHING at 12.30, BRIGHTON at 1.23 and HAYWARD'S HEATH at 1.43. The return train will leave Victoria Station, London, at 11 o'clock.

West of England.

There will be a day-trip excursion on June 17th from the following places:—

Weston-super-Mare	7 35 a.m.
Clevedon	7 18
Yatton	7 50
Bristol (stopping at local stations)	8 10
Bath	8 52
Bradford-on-Avon	8 27
Trowbridge	8 45
Melksham	8 57
Chippenham	9 20
Swindon	10 0
Paddington	arrive 11 53

The return train leaves Paddington at 1.15 a.m., on June 18th. Tickets can be had for 1, 3, 7, or 10 days.

West Riding.

An express day excursion to London (G.N.R., King's Cross) has been arranged. Breakfast car attached. The timetable is as follows:—

Leeds (Central)	7 50 a.m.
Holbeck	7 53
Halifax (Old)	7 1
" (North Bridge)	7 4
Bradford (Exchange)	7 25
Laisterdyke	7 11
Batley	7 45
Dewsbury	7 48
Osett	7 55
Wakefield (Westgate)	8 10
King's Cross	arrive 11 30

Return fare to King's Cross, third class, day, 11/-.

Passengers return on day of issue only, from King's Cross, at 12.25 midnight.

The 11/- day tickets cannot be extended, but week-end tickets can be obtained, 19/- return.

Scottish.

The only special trains in Scotland will be run from EDINBURGH, as there are not enough people going from any other centre to make it worth while running a special train. There will be cheap trips, 27s. return, from EDINBURGH by the N.B.R. and by the Caledonian Railway on Thursday, June 15th, at 10.50 p.m. returning either on the night of Monday, 19th or Friday, 23rd.

Ipswich Society.

A special excursion train will be run from IPSWICH to Liverpool Street Station, at a reduced fare of 4s. 3d. return, on June 17th for the convenience of suffragists taking part in the Procession. There will be a special late train back, leaving London at 12.3 p.m. Apply Miss M. E. Everitt, Rheinheim, Norwich Road, Ipswich.

Irish Contingent at the Procession.

The Irish supporters of Women's Suffrage, non-party, non-militant, are invited to meet Mr. and Mrs. Haslam in Whitehall Place, at 5 p.m., section D, and march with the green-and-white banners, each wearing green-and-white ribbon. Any who are willing to help in carrying the banners will please communicate with Mrs. Haslam at 305, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.

The March of the Women.

By kind permission of the Women's Social and Political Union, we print the words of Dr. Ethel Smyth's march, in order that our members may commit them to memory. They will be sung on the march on June 17th. Cards with the words and vocal part (ordinary notation and tonic sol-fa) can be had, price one penny, from the National Union Offices.

Shout, shout, up with your song!
Cry with the wind, for the dawn is breaking.
March, march, swing you along.
Wide blows our banner and hope is waking.
Song with its story, dreams with their glory,
Lo! they call and glad is their word.
Forward! hark how it swells,
Thunder of freedom, the voice of the Lord!

Long, long, we in the past,
Cover'd in dread from the light of Heaven:
Strong, strong stand we at last,
Fearless in faith and with sight new given.
Strength with its beauty, life with its duty,
(Hear the voice, oh, hear and obey).
These, these beckon us on,
Open your eyes to the blaze of day!

Comrades, ye who have dared,
First in the battle to strive and sorrow.
Scorned, spurned, naught have ye cared,
Raising your eyes to a wider morrow.
Ways that are weary, days that are dreary,
Toil and pain by faith ye have borne.
Hail, hail, victors ye stand,
Wearing the wreath that the brave have worn!

Life, strife, these two are one!
Naught can ye win but by faith and daring.
On, on, that ye have done,
But for the work of to-day preparing.
Firm in reliance, laugh a defiance,
(Laugh in hope, for sure is the end).
March, march, many as one,
Shoulder to shoulder and friend to friend!

Ross and Cromarty By-election.

Candidates: James Ian Macpherson (Liberal).

William P. Templeton (Unionist)

Polling Day: June 14th.

[Liberal majority in December, 1910, 3,012.]

This is the first election since payment of members was announced. Neither of the candidates has mentioned Women's Suffrage in his address. These two facts should spur us on to more than usual activity in this campaign. But funds are scant, and speakers, alas! are few. The majority of regular workers are busy organizing for the great procession of 17th June, or are deterred by the remoteness of this most lovely region of the Highlands. The local societies of Tain and Dingwall are doing what they can to help, but as these two centres belong to Wick Burghs, not to the county division of Ross and Cromarty, it is, for electioneering purposes, of little use to touch them. Some idea of the scattered nature of the electorate is given by the fact that the polling stations are thirty-two in number. Amongst them is Stornoway, where is the largest number of voters (570) in any of the county's centres. This "ultima Thule," therefore, must be reached at all costs, though the stormy crossing of the Minch to Lewis and back, with the necessary meetings, will use up two precious days.

The Scottish Land Bill is the all-absorbing topic of interest at the candidates' meetings. The Liberal, so far, appears to be a confirmed Adult Suffragist. The Unionist will support the Conciliation Bill, but makes no mention of our cause in his address. Propaganda only is consequently our policy. We hope by personal interviews to make some impression on the candidates, and shall see that they are well heckled at their meetings, so that, if by any means possible, a new supporter may be gained for the third reading of our Bill.

3, Station Road, Dingwall.

ALICE CROMPTON.

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

Famous for over a Century
for Taste for Quality for Value

FOULARD FROCK
(as sketch) beautifully made from rich quality satin striped foulard, very light and cool; in six smart combinations of fashionable colours. A most becoming and useful frock.

78/6

Ready-to-Wear FROCKS

In Zephyr 21/9 to 52/6
In Linen 49/6 to 7 1/2 gns.
In White Muslin 63/- to 20 gns.
In Foulard 78/6 to 18 gns.
Fête Frocks 98/6 to 25 gns.



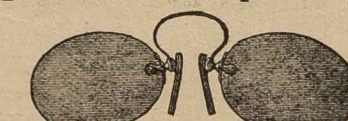
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PERSONAL ORNAMENTS,
CASKETS, SPOONS, &c.

Buttons, Pendants, &c., in Enamel of "Society" Colours.

WHY WEAR HEAVY Eyeglasses & Spectacles?



When Preston's Noted Rimless Eyeglasses and Spectacles are to be had at prices within the reach of all. They reveal the natural beauty of the eyes, and lend an air of refinement to the face.

Eyeglasses from 5/6. Spectacles from 10/6.
Made in Steel, Rolled Gold, and Gold.
Write or call for Booklet, "Imperfections of Vision," and mention this paper.

PHILIP A. PRESTON, Eyesight Specialist,
130, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Federation Notes.

West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales.

FORMATION OF NEW SOCIETIES IN NORTH WALES.
Since sending my last report of progress in North Wales I have spent ten days at Pwllheli. I have found no difficulty in getting a memorial to Mr. Lloyd George signed by his supporters, and the Liberal Executive Committee also passed a unanimous resolution asking the Government for facilities this session if at all possible. Meetings in this hot weather have been a more difficult matter, but though the attendance has not been large I have obtained a good number of names, sufficient to form the nucleus of a good society. It is thought that a formal inauguration in the autumn would probably give the society a better start, as Pwllheli is so largely engaged in entertaining visitors at this time of the year. Meanwhile we have a list of friends to the cause who would be at hand to help in any summer work that may be undertaken.

The neighbouring town of Criccieth now has a local society. It was started at a drawing-room meeting to which I went on May 30th. This was the second meeting within a month in the same house, the same people returning to assist at the formation of a branch which already has a membership of fifty. A very good start for a small place like Criccieth.

Portmadoc and Dolgelly have also established societies within the last week. The difficulty at Portmadoc has been that it is one of the few places I have found where there was no one who had previously been in touch with the work of the National Union. However, an able committee has been appointed which will, I am sure, do most useful work.

In Dolgelly it has been more a matter of organising and bringing together individuals already following our movement with keen interest.

Now that there are local organisations in all these places an open-air campaign will have much more chance of permanent effect. The great need for North Wales is a Welsh organiser. We have done very well in the last few months, but I have no doubt we should have done better had we a Welsh-speaking organiser.

EDITH ESKRIGGE, Organiser.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

NEW GROUND BROKEN AT FRIMLEY GREEN AND BAGSHOT.

New ground has recently been broken at Frimley Green and Bagshot. Mr. Gugenheim was the speaker at a meeting at Frimley Green on May 13. The meeting at Bagshot was addressed by Mrs. Robie Uniacke and Mrs. Renton, the organiser, and the Rev. A. H. G. Creed presided.

Scottish.

FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT THORNHILL.

During the recent Scottish campaign in support of the Conciliation Bill a society has been formed by Miss Wright at Thornhill. On May 17th a crowded meeting—the first suffrage meeting in Thornhill—was held in a hall which holds a thousand. The expenses of the hall, etc., were defrayed by the ardent supporters in the neighbourhood.

North-Eastern.

FORMATION OF TWO NEW SOCIETIES.

A new society has been formed at Chester-le-Street, where Mrs. Gordon has had the hearty co-operation of Mrs. Black, with whose assistance a promising beginning has been made.

A new society has also been formed at Middlesbrough by the efforts of Miss Gordon and Mrs. Mundella of the Sunderland Society.

NEWCASTLE DEMONSTRATION.

The Newcastle Demonstration is to be held on Saturday, June 10th, and is to consist of a procession and a mass meeting on the Town Moor. The procession will halt at the War Monument, where the "March of the Women" will be sung. On the Moor there will be seven platforms, among which will be the Town Council's platform, and at the sound of a bugle at 7 p.m. a resolution will be simultaneously put from each platform. Every member of the Federation is urged to make the Demonstration memorable in the North country.

North-Western.

CANVASS AT KESWICK.

A canvass of the Municipal Women of Keswick and 7 rural parishes was undertaken by Miss Marshall and Miss Dour.

Statistics are as follows:—

Keswick (3 Wards).		Total.	Per Cent.
Women of means and leisure	42	203	
Women who work for their living	165	797	
Seven Rural Parishes.			
Women of means and leisure	29	203	
Women who work for their living	114	797	

Midland.

A committee meeting of the Federation was held on May 11th at Birmingham, Mrs. Harley in the chair, and fourteen out of nineteen societies were represented. Arrangements for the annual meeting to be held in Nottingham on June 12th were discussed and settled. Special campaigns are shortly to be started in Newark and South Derbyshire, the former to be

worked by Nottingham and the latter by Derby and Burton. The procession of June 17th was discussed, and the hon. secretary announced that two special trains from the Federation area had been arranged for to convey the processionists to and from London. Further suggestions were made as to a procession and demonstration to be organized by the Midland Federation to take place at Stratford during the Summer Festival, also a caravan tour during the month of August for propaganda work in remote country parts of the Midlands.

FORMATION OF SOCIETIES AT BROMSGROVE AND BANBURY.

Another new society, Bromsgrove, has been formed which will start as a branch of Birmingham until strong enough to stand alone. Miss Barham has consented to act as secretary. A society has been formed at Banbury. At present it is under Oxford's wing, but it is hoped with Mrs. Penrose as secretary that it will soon be able to stand alone. The first meeting held there was most successful, when Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Osler and Rev. F. Spencer spoke.

Miss Tiner's Wedding.

On June 3rd Miss Tiner (late Literature Secretary to the National Union) was married at South Ealing Parish Church to Mr. Frank Henry. It was a real "Suffragist wedding." The bride, who wore a simple champagne-coloured voile dress, carried a bouquet of red and white roses which with green foliage, made the colours of the Union. Mr. Henry, who is the owner of the Royal Abbey Laundry and Cleaning Works; is a keen Suffragist, and many Suffragists were present at the ceremony.

Mrs. Henry asks us to thank Suffragists for their many kind letters of congratulation.

The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

Miss Kendall, Hon. Sec., 22, Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park, N.

The inaugural meeting of the Society is to be held at the Kensington Town Hall on Saturday next, the 10th, at 3.15 p.m., Miss Fitzgerald, B.A., in the chair. Speakers, Mrs. Morgan Dockrell, Mr. Joseph Clayton and others. Admission free. A few reserved seats at 1s. Will members make this known as we want a full hall.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage

Hon. Secretary: Rev. C. HINSOLIFF.

Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

A service will be held at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, at 3.30 on Saturday, June 17, at which members and friends are asked to be present. The C.L.W.S. contingent (Section C, 4) will meet on the Embankment near Blackfriars' Bridge at 4.30, and march to Kensington Town Hall (small), where a meeting will be held at 8.30. Chairman, the Rev. Maurice F. Bell; speakers, Miss Maude Royden, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, and the Rev. Claude Hinscliff. Clergy and others desiring to robe before the procession will find a cloakroom at their disposal at the International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam Street, Strand.

The University Section in the Procession.

The University Section, which is admitted by all to be of particular importance, is being organised by a special committee constituted by the London Graduates' Union and including representatives of Suffrage Societies in the other Universities, and of the Women's Colleges. It will be organised independently of all other Suffrage Societies taking part in the Demonstration, and will walk under academic banners.

This Section will consist of graduates and undergraduates, wearing academic dress.

We are asked to add that as the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is of opinion that it is important to have a large and representative section of graduates and undergraduates in the procession, it has agreed to the proposal that those of its members who have the right to do so should join the University Section, wearing academic dress, unless they have any particular reason for walking with their own societies. The University Women of Oxford and Cambridge who are not wearing academic dress are asked to walk at the end of the National Union Section, directly in front of the banner of the University Section.

The University Section will form up at 4.30 p.m. in Whitehall Court, immediately opposite the door of the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole. It is hoped that those who can do so, will arrive in their robes. Tickets admitting to the robing rooms, with full information as to arrangements, will be sent to those who apply for them before 12th June, and requests for the loan of robes will also be considered up to that date. A fund has been started for the hire of robes, etc. Donations to it, and applications for grants from it, should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Davies-Colley, M.D., 16, Harley Street, W. Application for the hire of academic dress is to be made direct to Mr. W. Northam, 9, Henrietta Street, Southampton Street, W.C.

Communications on points other than those referred to above should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Miss Douie, M.B., 55, Haverstock Hill, Hampstead, N.W.

The International Women's Franchise Club.

9, GRAFTON STREET.

On Friday June 9th there will be a reception at 8.30 to Miss Vida Goldstein, President of the Women's Political Association of Victoria. Mr. Philip Snowden M.P. will be in the chair. Admission is by ticket only (1s. including refreshments).

Foreign News.

A Correction.

We regret that, owing to a printer's error in our last issue, a paragraph, relating to the International Suffrage Congress at Stockholm, was placed under the heading of "Iceland."

Our Advertisers.

Those who want to walk in white in the great procession will have the opportunity of supporting our advertisers and procuring for themselves dainty and suitable raiment. A staunch supporter of the cause, who is in business as a milliner of first-class repute, is making some very charming hats, especially suitable to wear for the procession at exceptionally moderate prices. Her address is Constance Corelli, 137, High Street, Kensington, W., and her telephone number is 3464 Western.

Limes, with their thin skins and refreshing juice, would be most welcome during the marshalling and the marching on the 17th. Any other portable refreshment will be almost impossible. They are not easy to get this hot weather, the supply is limited, but Mrs. Georgina Metherell, of the Rousseau Valley Fruit Company, 46, Swan Street, S.E., can supply them if they are ordered in good time. They are small enough to go in a handbag.

Personal.

MARRIAGE.

Henry—Tiner. On June 3rd at South Ealing Parish Church, Frank Henry to Susan Tiner.

Letters to the Editor.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only.

BATH AND BRISTOL ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

Would you kindly allow me in "The Common Cause" to correct an impression which has been wrongly conveyed by a friend of mine in Bath from a conversation about the Anti-Suffrage canvass in that city? I did not state that the Bath questions had ever been submitted to and rejected by Bristol. I was comparing the question used in Bath with quite other questions showed me by different branches, but Bristol was not one of them. The mistake arose in conversation, and I am anxious to correct it, so may I ask for your courteous insertion of this letter?

E. GREAVES.

Anerley, June 3rd, 1911.

HASLEMERE AND DISTRICT ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANVASS.

Mrs. Beveridge appears to have three points against me. I will answer them in order.

(1) "M. A. Marshall" ought to have been written "Mr. Marshall." The "Mr." was so badly and faintly written in the pencil writing from which I took it that I deciphered it wrong. I have M. A. Marshall's permission to describe the handwriting thus. The correct statement is that Mr. Marshall of Tweenways, Hindhead, a Shottermill elector, was not polled; he asked a few other electors, and they had not been polled. Mrs. Marshall has also the names of more than twenty rate-paying women who said they had not been asked.

Madam, you will ask me what on earth has Mr. Marshall to do with what Mrs. Beveridge calls in her letter to "The Common Cause" of May 25th, "our women occupiers' ancient poll of 1910," of the six villages Haslemere, Shottermill, Grayshott, Pernhurst, Lynchmere, and Hindhead. I wish I knew myself. But Shottermill appears to have been singled out for a different kind of poll from the other five villages, for a poster appeared on the walls early in July, to the astonishment of some of the electors, signed by Mrs. Beveridge, and headed:

Parliamentary Voters' Poll on Woman Suffrage.
Voters on Register, and Lodgers' claims allowed to July, 1910, 289.

Lists follow of the numbers of Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists, and the results are given at the end:

Voters' majority against Woman Suffrage 183
Women's majority on the register basis 133

Anti-Suffrage majority 316

(Mr. Marshall was one of these electors.) This is a wonderful poll indeed which gives a majority of parliamentary voters of 316 out of a total on the register of 289! This can only be done, as far as I can see, by including as *parliamentary* voters the women, whoever they may be, whom Mrs. Beveridge describes in her poster as "women on the register basis." On what register basis? In her own letter to the "Farnham Herald" of July 16th last she gives the number of women ratepayers in Shottermill as 36. I feel bound to conclude that Mrs. Beveridge thinks women already have the vote, otherwise how can she include them in a "Parliamentary Voters' Poll?"

Point 2: I am unable to find which of Mrs. Beveridge's statements I have reversed. But I willingly apologise to her for the inadvertent use of the word "then." I have by mistake made it appear that her admission that "something indeed has been assumed" in her letter of July 16th last to the "Farnham Herald," was made after the Suffragists'

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The school is happily situated, and attention should be drawn to its special advantages in this respect. It is no doubt considered ideal for a school to be in the country, but in the part of Hampstead where West Heath School stands, many advantages of the country are present, while those of the town, which can be turned to good use for children, are at hand.

* * * *

The school has a large playing field; good well-treed gardens; is near to a quiet part of the heath, and itself faces across open country towards the Harrow Weald. It thus finds a freedom which many schools actually in the country cannot compass in these days of golf, motor-cars, and game-preserving. At the same time, the advantages of having the British Museum, the Zoological Gardens, the Natural History Museum, historical buildings, beautiful pictures and sculpture (to mention only part of what is available), within easy access for the visits of a class, are of incalculable value in the education of the children.

Particulars from the Principal.

Reference is allowed to THE REV. CANON SCOTT-HOLLAND, D.D., 1, AMEN COURT, ST. PAUL'S, E.C.; and DR. JANE WALKER, 122, HARLEY STREET, W.

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criticism of her poll, whereas really it was made of her own accord, simultaneously with her declaration of the numbers.

But, Madam, I must repeat that Mrs. Beveridge in her own words admits my point—namely, that her canvass was incorrect. She declares that she has counted Anti-Suffragists in "by signature to one or other" of the Anti-Suffrage petitions. "One or other" is not necessarily the latest one. The earlier ones were compiled a considerable time ago, and a poll which depends for its accuracy on assumptions, whether in her favour or not, and upon signatures of years ago, and yet claims to be "complete" and reliable, is of absolutely no value—it is a dead poll indeed, and I should like to see it buried.

Point 3: I have nothing to say on this point, as I did not criticise the second poll.

AGNES M. DIXON.

[We take it that Mrs. Beveridge's protest upon point 2 was addressed to the fact that, whereas she wrote in her letter "something indeed, has been assumed as to the opinion of a few wives of Suffragist voters," Mrs. Dixon quoted her as having written that "something had been assumed as to the opinions of the ratepayers." Mrs. Beveridge implied that they had taken wives of suffragist voters to be suffragists; Mrs. Dixon suggested that the "assumption" was the other way.—Ed. "C. C."]

MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS.

Her own statement may inspire an "Ex-Hospital Matron" with confidence. There are people who confidently assert that the world is flat. In common with them she will find few to share that confidence if she can produce no more cogent reasons for the assertion that "the mental strain of teaching in any of our public schools makes it impossible to give a baby such milk as it has a right to expect." Her first source of confidence is "work amongst infants in a Children's Hospital." It may reasonably be asked, "How many of these infants were on the breast?" If she speaks of in-patients probably everyone of them was on the bottle; if of the out-patient department, what a nurse sees there certainly does not warrant her inclusion amongst those who can give expert evidence on different varieties of breast milk.

Her second source is a period of "private nursing." Was the nursing medical, surgical, or mental? None of these branches have much bearing on the subject under discussion. Even maternity nursing would fail to provide experience of the relative values of milk in the breasts of married nursing teachers and that in those of women engaged in unpaid though equally arduous tasks at home. As a rule, a maternity nurse ceases attendance at the end of four weeks.

Without embarking on the question of what infants "expect," let me give my experience of what is good for them. Having for many years attended married women workers, including a number of school teachers, I have noticed that practically in all cases—the husbands' wages being approximately equal—the physical standard is considerably higher amongst the children of well-paid women workers than amongst those whose mothers have to undertake heavy domestic work, which the married women teachers, for example, can have more efficiently carried out by charwomen. M. D.

June 2nd, 1911.

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WOMEN WORKERS AND MATERNITY BENEFIT.

I am very anxious to put before your readers a point in regard to the benefit to be granted to women workers at childbirth, if the Insurance Bill now before the House is carried in its present form; it is a point which seems to have rather escaped notice, in spite of its far-reaching importance.

The Bill states in Clause 8 (6): "That where a woman is herself entitled to maternity benefit she shall not be entitled to sickness benefit, disablement benefit, or medical benefit, at and for a period of four weeks after her confinement." That is to say, that although a married woman worker is compelled to insure herself, at the time of her confinement she receives no more help than the non-worker who has paid no premiums at all towards the insurance fund. In short, she gets no return for this insurance at a time when she most needs the benefit; in fact, a woman worker who is kept away from work by influenza or any other ordinary illness is far better off than one bearing child, for she is to receive medical attendance as well as a sum of 7s. 6d. a week in place of her weekly earnings. The maternity benefit, on the other hand, which is the same for every mother whether worker or not, is given to pay for medical help—nurses, doctor, and all the extra needs of such a time. The benefit is rightly given only if certain conditions are complied with, and it is obvious that it will not be available for any of the ordinary housekeeping purposes to which the mother's wage is usually applied. A woman worker, like a man worker (whether married or unmarried matters not), insures herself not only to get medical aid, but to get some allowance to take the place of the wage she is unable to earn. For where a married woman works it is the joint income of husband and wife, or it may be sometimes the income of the wife alone, on which the family relies for support.

Thus if 30s. is the right benefit for all mothers at childbirth to pay for their personal needs, obviously it is an inadequate benefit for the woman worker—and a grossly unjust one.

I call upon all who read this to do all in their power to get this clause changed, by telling others about it, and thus influencing public opinion.

E. DOROTHEA LAYTON (Mrs.).

The Milstone, Hills Road, Cambridge, June 1st.

Work of Societies in the Union.

MIDLAND FEDERATION.

Notts. reports a public meeting held on May 9th in support of Sir G. Kemp's Bill. Miss Horniman took the chair. The two speakers were Councillor M. Ashton and Mr. Mitchell, the former dwelling on the need of women obtaining the vote without delay, and the latter speaking more especially on the Bill itself. Miss Wild kindly sang two songs, one being "The Awakening." The collection realised a good sum, which will be used to assist the poorer working women to go up to London for the procession. The number of processionists promises to be large, and will probably include a deputation of lace home-workers. Mrs. W. E. Dowson has been speaking on Sunday mornings both to the men and women sections of the Barford and Bulwell Adult Schools, and has created a great deal of interest on the Suffrage question, as many as 300 being present on one occasion.

BURTON reports a successful whist drive, held in Stapenhill Institute on May 10th, with an address from Councillor Hutchinson. Eight new members have been obtained this month.

OXFORD reports various activities in the towns and villages in the neighbourhood, notably at Wheatley, Wallingford, Thame, and Charlbury.

COVENTRY reports excellent meetings during the organizer's visit in May. Miss Gill addressed the Women's Liberal Association, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the Liberal Club, and Cow Lane Adult School, and had most interested audiences.

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WORCESTER reports the annual meeting, held on May 2nd. Canon Wilson took the chair, and after the formal business was transacted, the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Claud Hinscliff, who emphasized the aspect of the Suffrage movement as a crusade against all that debased body, soul, or spirit.

SHROPSHIRE reports several meetings held in May. Mrs. Timpany addressed the Co-operative Guild on "Women's Wages and the Vote," and gained five new members for the Society. On May 10th the Rev. Claud Hinscliff and Miss Taylor spoke to an enthusiastic audience in the Masonic Hall. As a result a Church League branch was formed, Mr. Harley consenting to act as president and Miss Hills as hon. secretary. Miss Gill spent a week with this Society and did some very effective work, addressing four meetings in the neighbourhood, besides visiting Wellington and Ludlow, with a view to future Suffrage work in those towns.

BIRMINGHAM reports a strenuous month, principally spent in getting ready for the annual meeting, and also arranging drawing-room meetings to stir up members to go to the London procession. "The Common Cause Week" proved most successful. At Digbeth, Institute, by kind permission of Mrs. Bassett, a Suffrage address, entitled "Citizenship," was given to 700 working women. The Women's Labour League intend to send a contingent of their number to walk in the London procession.

STRAFORD-ON-AVON reports a successful drawing-room meeting held on April 28th. Lady Willoughby de Broke in the chair, the chief speaker being Mrs. Hopes, who was much appreciated.

LEICESTER reports a meeting held on May 31st, at which Miss Hodge gave an interesting address on "Women's Suffrage in Australia." The chair was taken by Mr. Gunson, president of the Society.

SOLIHULL AND DISTRICT reports good progress, and is arranging to have a banner ready for the London procession, which, considering the youth of this Society, shows great keenness, and is highly commendable.

MANSFIELD and Rugby Societies have both been unfortunate in failing to get a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage passed by their respective Town Council and Urban District Council, "the previous question" blocking it on each occasion. In the case of Rugby Urban District Council, a strong protest was made by some of the members.

NORTH-WESTERN FEDERATION.

AMBLESIDE.—A public meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, Ambleside, on May 23rd. There was a fair audience, considering the rain. Miss Royden gave an excellent address, after which a resolution was passed expressing gratitude to Mr. L. Saunderson, M.P., for his support of the Conciliation Bill, and asking him to do everything in his power for the passage of the Bill into law this session.

CARLISLE.—This month we have had the great pleasure of holding in Carlisle the annual meeting of the N.W. Federation. The delegates arrived on Friday, May 19th, and in the evening the local committee entertained them and the Carlisle members at an "At Home" in the Richmond Memorial Hall. The first hour was occupied with music, refreshments, and conversation, and then we settled down to hear the speeches. We were all delighted to welcome Miss Royden, and were most anxious at this exciting juncture to hear what news she might bring us from headquarters. Her speech was a splendid success, and made us feel that we were for once introduced to the inner workings of our Society. Miss C. Marshall followed with a really beautiful address on the "Conciliatory Spirit." The "At Home" led to some important results—namely, an invitation to Miss Marshall to address the Executive Committee of the Carlisle Liberal Club, with a view to passing a resolution re the Conciliation Bill; and another to the secretary to address the Women's Co-operative Guild on Women's Suffrage. We are now busy trying to bring "pressure" to bear on our M.P.s, and also in designing the banner which Miss Fell has generously promised our Society for the procession.

KENDAL.—An "At Home" was held by the Kendal Society in the Town Hall, Kendal, on Monday, May 22nd. Nearly 200 were present, and all listened with the greatest interest to an address given by Miss Maude Royden. The songs, "The Awakening" and the "March of the Women," were sung during the evening by a small choir. A resolution, urging the Mayor of Kendal to send a letter to the Prime Minister, urging him to grant facilities this session for the passing into law of Sir George Kemp's Bill, was passed without a single dissident. It is hoped that there will be several members of the Kendal Society in the procession in London on June 17. We shall have our new banner completed before that date.

KESWICK.—The third annual meeting was held in the Old Court Buildings on May 17th. Mrs. Frank Marshall (president), who was in the chair, gave a most inspiring address. Miss Highton (treasurer) read her balance-sheet and report, and Miss Knight (secretary) then read her report of work done during the past year. Miss Marshall (organizing secretary) gave an interesting account of work done in the three constituencies for which Keswick is responsible. Short addresses were given on the following subjects—"Election Policy," "Tax Resistance," "What We Mean by Non-party"—by Mrs. Frank Marshall, Miss Knight, and Miss Dour.

SCOTTISH FEDERATION.

CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL.—The campaign in support of the Conciliation Bill has been thoroughly successful, and the Federation is most grateful to Miss Boyle for her stimulating visit, as also to Miss Abadam and the other speakers. Many of the meetings were reported, at date, by the organisers; others can only, through limited space, be mentioned here. On the 5th May the meeting at KINGHORN was addressed by Miss Boyle, and though a rough element in the gallery attempted disturbance (the only one throughout the campaign), the result of the address was a number of members enrolled and a foundation of what the chairman hoped would prove "a stronghold of Suffragism." On the 8th Miss Abadam addressed the meeting in CUPAR, where three resolutions asking for support in favour of the Bill were passed unanimously, to be sent to the Government, the member, and the Town Council. Two meetings at DUNDEE on the 9th were very good—a "drawing-room" in the afternoon, with attendance of over sixty, several of whom joined the Society, and a public meeting in the evening, where the

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speakers—Miss Abadam and Miss Boyle—were received enthusiastically, and two resolutions passed unanimously. A crowded meeting was held on the 10th at KIRKCALDY—the first Suffrage meeting with an attendance of men there. A new society had been formed by the organisers—Miss Wright—in the three preceding days, and seventeen members were added at the meeting, and a good collection taken. A meeting at HAWICK adopted the two resolutions unanimously (the Town Council having previously passed one) and was thoroughly sympathetic. The attendance of four reporters from district papers proves the local interest in Suffrage. On the 15th the Corn Exchange, MELROSE, held a large audience, who passed the three resolutions unanimously and with applause. They also applauded Miss Abadam's allusion to His Majesty's sympathy with the Cause. In GALASHIELS, on the 16th, a well-attended meeting passed the three resolutions—that to the member with one dissident. A large number of members were enrolled at the meeting in MOTHERWELL on the 20th, where the three resolutions were passed unanimously, and a deputation of ladies—by suggestion from the audience—was appointed to wait on the Town Council at their next meeting. The closing address was given by Dr. Elsie Inglis at SELKIRK on the 23rd. The resolutions were passed unanimously, and several members enrolled, with hope of a society being shortly formed.

EDINBURGH SOCIETY.—The only report of work outside this campaign comes from the Edinburgh Society, in addition to their work for the Conciliation Bill from May 1st to 4th, when ten crowded open-air meetings were held, and a demonstration in Princes Street, which was joined by four other Suffrage Unions. The Friday "At Homes"—the 5th, with Mrs. Napier on "The Vote in New Zealand"; the 12th, with Miss Low on "The Political Situation"; and the 19th, with Mrs. Guyer on "Some Further Suffrage Arguments"—were well attended, and realised a sum of £2 14s. 5d. On the 26th a public meeting was held in the Odd-fellows' Hall, when the addresses from Miss A. Maude Royden and Miss I. O. Ford were thoroughly appreciated, and a profit realised of over £22. Three drawing-room meetings were held, with very satisfactory results; and a jumble sale took place on the 13th which

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realised £14. A great deal of Parliamentary work has been accomplished successfully during the month—the Town Council passed a resolution on the 2nd, all the Liberal Associations have been pressed for resolutions, and members of the Society have been requested to approach their Parliamentary representatives.

SURREY, SUSSEX, AND HANTS. FEDERATION.

On May 16th Lady Maud Parry, presiding at the WORTHING demonstration, congratulated the meeting on the splendid Parliamentary majority for the Conciliation Bill; and Mr. Zangwill, who followed, alluded to the prophecy that women would have votes when men could fly. This appealed to all, as an aeroplane had been continually hovering over Worthing. After Mrs. Corbett had spoken, Lady Betty Balfour called on Conservative women to put their political rights before party. Dr. Gosling, Canon Deane, and Alderman Neale wound up the meeting.

On May 25th the Rev. Eimer Judkins, presiding in the Guildhall, WINCHESTER, maintained a clergyman's right to support Women's Suffrage openly, in reply to letters of complaint on his action. He considered that a country which allowed queens to reign countenanced political rights for women, and he strongly approved of women's conduct of local government. Miss Boyle welcomed the rector in the chair, because the women's cause was bound up with the truest religion. She explained why South African women needed representation, and was followed by Mr. Laurence Housman, who declared that the women's vote was the complement of the men's. He further discussed industrial competition between the sexes, sweated labour, and the white slave traffic. A resolution in favour of women's enfranchisement was carried unanimously.

CUCKFIELD AND CENTRAL SUSSEX SOCIETY.—On April 19th Lady de la Warr presided at a successful meeting at Horsted Keynes, Lord Robert Cecil making a fine speech. On April 26th Miss Martin, of Rotherhithe, gave a deeply interesting address at Cuckfield on the results of the vote to working women. Mrs. Denegate presiding. On May 2nd a deputation to the local member—an Anti-Suffragist—induced him to abstain from voting on the Bill. On May 10th three plays—"Man and Woman," "How the Vote was Won," and "Change of Tenant"—were performed by the Brighton Company at Hayward's Heath, before a good audience. On May 24th Lady Betty Balfour and Miss C. Corbett made interesting speeches at Lindfield. Mrs. Corbett presided in place of Lady de la Warr, who was ill. On May 26th Mr. Malcolm Mitchell won a debate in the Queen's Hall, East Grinstead, by a considerable majority, against Mr. Machonochie.

Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Amy Miller addressed a meeting at CROYDON on April 5th instead of Miss Abadam, absent through illness. There were nearly a hundred people present, in spite of dreadful blizzards, and several recruits resulted. The nine Croydon Societies held a mass meeting on May 4th at the Large Hall. Nine speakers were allotted seven minutes each, and the Rev. Claud Hinscliff specially roused the large audience by his enthusiasm. A resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill was passed unanimously, and sent to Mr. Asquith and Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P. Mrs. Atkinson gave a "White Elephant" tea at Portesbury Hill, CAMBERLEY, on May 10th, which brought in £5 for the Federation fund for an organizer's salary. There were many elephants, but thunderstorms diminished the attendance. The remaining animals have fetched £2 more since for the local society.

The EASTBOURNE SOCIETY held its annual meeting on May 15th. The report and accounts were adopted; the hon. secretary, hon. treasurer, and hon. auditor were re-elected; and Miss Gregg, B.A. (Lond.), succeeded Dr. Habgood as president. The balance was £4 9s. 2d. Miss M. O'Shea addressed the meeting on our Federations.

Miss Knight held a drawing-room meeting at Pond House, CHERTSEY, on May 16th; Mr. Scaife in the chair. Mrs. Corbett Ashby proposed a resolution pressing for facilities for our Bill this session, which was carried unanimously.

At a members' tea at Tweenways, HINDHEAD, on May 23rd, Mrs. Marshall explained the Parliamentary situation; the secretary reported work done since Christmas, mentioning an increase of fifty members since then; and Mrs. Simms exhorted people to join the June procession. Haslemere has contributed £7 towards the organizer's salary, and the Men's Liberal Association has sent the Prime Minister a resolution asking for facilities for our Bill this session, which they passed unanimously.

BOURNEMOUTH.—The members and friends of the Bournemouth branch had a real treat on the afternoon of Empire Day, when they listened to Miss Muriel Matters, who gave a splendid address on "Womanhood of All Ages." The Princes' Hall was crowded. Councillor J. Nethercoate, a recent convert, took the chair, and made some very pertinent remarks as to his own conversion to Women's Suffrage, and the help he hoped to render to the Cause in future. A good collection was taken, and several new members joined the branch.

NORWOOD & DISTRICT.—The second series of Saturday meetings held at the Suffrage Offices terminated on May 27th, when Mrs. Alan Bright gave an excellent address on "Women as Empire Builders," and Miss Abadam related some of her experiences during her Scottish campaign. A resolution, asking the Penze and Anerley Urban District Council to declare themselves in favour of the Conciliation Bill, was passed *nem. con.*, and has been forwarded to the Council. Several gifts in the colours of the Union were presented to the president (Miss Abadam), and to Miss Emily Green (the hon. secretary). A sale of work was held on May 26th, organised by Miss McKechnie, to whom the Society owes so much, and a sum of £12 12s. was added to the funds. Regular meetings will be resumed in September.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- JUNE 8.
- Sutton Coldfield—Allerton, Lichfield Road—Garden Sale. 3.0
- Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Speakers' Class. 5.0
- Newcastle-on-Tyne—Mrs. Stoney Oakley's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Mein; chair, Miss Hardcastle. 4.0
- JUNE 9.
- Birmingham—King's Norton—Mrs. Impy's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Osler. 3.30

- JUNE 10.
- Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30
- Birmingham—Lifford Hall—Mrs. Ward's Suffrage Tea—Address. 4.0
- Newcastle-on-Tyne—Grand Demonstration and Procession. 5.0
- Newcastle-on-Tyne—Town Moor—Mass Meeting. 6.0
- JUNE 12.
- Nottingham—St. Thomas's Mission Hall—"Tax Resistance"—Mrs. Kineton Parkes. 4.30
- Nottingham—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. Corbett, B.A., Mrs. Rackham, Rev. W. O. Roberts, and others. 7.30
- JUNE 13.
- Hartley Row—Common—Mrs. Renton, Rev. A. H. G. Creed. 7.45
- Darlington—Polam Hall—Garden Party—Mrs. Fawcett. Afternoon
- JUNE 14.
- Birmingham—Handsworth—Mrs. Winckle's Drawing-room Meeting. 3.30
- Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30
- JUNE 15.
- Ewshot—St. Mary's Lodge Paddock—Mrs. Renton, Rev. A. H. G. Creed. 8.0
- JUNE 16.
- Church Crookham—Post Box—Mrs. Renton, Miss S. Clark, Rev. A. H. G. Creed. 7.30

LONDON.

- June 8: Epsom, Clock Tower, Open-air Meeting, Miss C. Corbett. 8.0
- June 9: Fulham, Miss Rose Paul's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Palliser, R. F. Cholmeley, Esq. 8.15
- International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W., Reception to Miss Vida Goldstein. Chairman, P. Snowden, Esq., M.P. 8.30
- June 10: Camberwell, The Rye, Miss Ward, Miss Sterling. 2.30
- June 14: W. St. Pancras, Mrs. Lloyd Taylor's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss C. Corbett. 3.0
- June 15: Camberwell, The Tabernacle, Rye Lane, Mrs. Abbott, J. Y. Kennedy, Esq. 8.0
- Epsom, Clock Tower, Open-air Meeting, Miss A. Maude Royden. 8.0
- Sutton, Mrs. Martin's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss C. Corbett. 3.30
- June 20: Epsom, Mrs. Radford's Garden Meeting, Miss I. O. Ford. 3.30

SCOTLAND.

- June 9: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, "At Home." 4.30

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