The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

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ONE PENNY.

Notes and Comments.

The King's Speech.

Conjecture and rumour were very busy writing the King's Speech for him, and after all, Mr. Asquith has only carried his "wait and see" policy a step further. Except Finance and the Veto Bill nothing is forecast except the settlement of the Old-age Pension Scheme on the settlement of the Old-age Pension Scheme on the settlement of the Old-age Pension Scheme on the settlement of the Stephene on the settlement of the Stephene of lines already fixed, and the providing of sickness, invalidity and unemployment insurance. So no sort of Franchise Bill is promised (or threatened), not even the much canvassed Plural

Voting Bill and the Payment of Members is not mentioned.

This Year is Next Year.

In his leader, Mr. Brailsford reminds us the statements made in 1910 by Sir E. Grey, Mr. Birrell and Mr. Runciman, that we ought to be given full facilities "next year," and he holds out hopes that the Conciliation Committee will find a way to make it "this year" indeed. It is our business to back the Conciliation Committee by every means in our power, since they are the only body in the House really working for us. In the last resort it is after all upon the voting strength of the private Member that a non - party measure must rely, and we of the National Union have worked steadily to educate and influence the private Mem-This work we must continue with unremitting zeal and increased ingenuity, so as to win to our side

hand of the Government

Friends and Foes.

Some weeks ago we quoted the figures in "Votes for Women," giving the number of Members of the new Parliament favourable and unfavourable to Woman's Suffrage. The National Union has been tabulating the Suffrage. The National Union has been tanunaums replies but they are not yet all available. The answers

which candidates and Members make are frequently so ambiguous that those who are very scrupulous find the making out of reliable lists a very difficult matter. The Conciliation Committee considers that there are 408 Suffragists and 193 Anti-Suffragists and the remainder are either Adultists or of varying shades of opinion.

Three More City Councils.

Last week we had the good news of the passing of our resolution by the Liverpool City Council, and now Nottingham has followed suit, the vote being unanimous. Cardiff also has passed a resolution by 24 to 4, two of the

latter being Adultists. We hope to hear of several more very soon. These solid masses of opinion of responsible men, in part elected by women, are invaluable



Photo., Elliott and Fry

Miss Frances Sterling

CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, N.U.W.S.S.

A Discordant Note.

Mr. Ginnell, on the 31st Jan., when the Speaker was elected, greatly shocked and distressed the House by some rude speaking concerning the gagging oncerning the gagging of unpopular Members. Not being a Member of either of the two great Parliamentary parties, Mr. Ginnell will not probably be according to the desired and the desired will be according to the desired and the desired will be according to the desired and the desired will be according to the desired and the desired will be according to the desired and the desired ably be so easily got rid of as a Liberal or a Conservative who refuses to toe the

Judge or Home Secretary.

It used to be our pride and safeguard that our judicature was independent of party. We used to thank God that we were not as other countries, and that our Judges were not at the mercy of General Elections. But

such a pressure of opinion in the House as will force the certain tendencies in the present Home Secretary and among his fulsome admirers in the Press, make one wonder how long that pride will be ours. We hold no brief for Mr. Justice Grantham, but there are very grave dangers indeed in the line of thought suggested by a leader in the "Daily News," which ended with these words:—

"Is there to be no check put upon this intolerable state of things, in which a Judge places himself in an attitude of what amounts to open defiance of the Minister responsible to Parliament for the credit of our judicial system? The Home Office takes a view of penal servitude which is supported by every enlightened and experienced mind which has examined the question. The Judge takes a view that has been riddled by incontrovertible evidence again and again. And the Judge is to be free to act upon his view, secure in his own irremovability. The farce is too ludicrous—and too fatal.'

Many women are very uneasy and not a little indignant at the amount of power it is proposed to put into the hands of a volatile and emotional Home Secretary with one eye always on the gallery-of men.

The Labour Party's Pledge.

On Thursday last the Labour Party at its conference in Leicester abandoned the "pledge" for candidates and Members by a large majority. There is only one word changed, and candidates and members "must where, in the other form, they had to 'accept' ' the constitution.

"Conscientious convictions," said Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, in speaking for the Executive, "can never be imposed by a machine. All you can make of a constitution is as perfect a mechanical contrivance as possible to eject the dishonest and bring in the honest. How can a man maintain a constitution to which he is opposed? I agree that he may do it, but I say that the same man will 'accept' the same constitution. they had got to do more than they had done in the past was to use common-sense, and to rely less upon words which had very little meaning. "Build up your party loyally," was his advice; "build up a strong organization in every constituency, representative of all the societies affiliated to us; see that your men are true Labour candidates; and then leave the machinery in the hands of the

Many members of the National Union will see a It seems a common experience of living movements that there is first a screwing-up and then as boundaries enlarge and there is greater vigour, more latitude has to be given.

The Late Sir Charles Dilke and his Wife.

In an eloquent tribute to Sir Charles and Lady Dilke, 'The Nation' says:-

"They were a powerful combination. There was no guile or affectation in their interest. Both had great social qualities, which were delightful enough to their new friends. She possessed, with her woman's heart, the literary gift, the power of clear unrhetorical state-ment. He had his almost unexampled faculty for absorbing facts, his great experience, his love of Parliament, his tact, suavity, unruffled temper, his expert habit of mind, his methodical, devouring industry. Between them they unquestionably raised the labour question to a height in the thoughts and counsels of statesmen it had never acquired before. It happened in the tragedy of things that the full effect of their influence could not be felt till she was in her grave, and the lot had manifestly been drawn against him. But both of them must be counted fortunate in the choice that gave to him, who in his middle prime was freely talked of for the Premiership, a fuller and in many ways a happier and more real career than belongs to official middle-class statesmanship, and to her the knowledge that the man whom she had nobly chosen in the hour of his disaster was in touch with the vital movement of his times."

Mr. Harold Cox's Candidature.

We cordially endorse Miss McArthur's appeal in favour of Mr. Harold Cox's candidature, and we hope that all Suffragists who have friends or relations entitled to the

Cambridge graduate's vote will urge them to cast their vote for Mr. Cox, who has given us such satisfactory

Domestic Training.

The "Morning Post" of Jan. 3rd had an unusually enlightened article on the domestic training of girls, suggested by a recent report of the London Education Committee. Nothing could be of greater advantage to the status of women, the health and happiness of girls and a general increase in wages, than to raise domestic work to a skilled trade with proper conditions, freedom and honour. When domestic workers are adequately trained and protected by unions we shall begin to see that there is not a rooted objection to the work but only to the present often servile conditions of the work and its needless restrictions and inconveniences.

The Rev. Hatty Baker.

Miss Hatty Baker is making a ten days' tour in the Bournemouth district, beginning on the 12th Feb. She will speak on "The Extension of the Franchise to Women," and "The Religious Aspect of Woman Suff-On the 24th she lectures at Bexhill on "Religion and Woman Suffrage."

Emigrating Women.

We have received the prospectus of a new "Committee of Colonial Intelligence for Educated Women," which has as its object to assist the British Women's Emigration Association and the South African Colonization Society, and the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women "in the difficult and intricate task of finding suitable openings for educated women overseas." This will be done by establishing agents in the Colonies and it is also hoped to found settlements in the Colonies for training and for women to return to in the intervals of employ-

One is a little uneasy at seeing the names of Lord Curzon and Mrs. Moberly Bell among the promoters, but one is reassured by Lady Knightley, Miss Haldane, Miss Spencer and Lady Selborne. It is to be hoped that in promoting emigration they will do their utmost to keep up a standard of salaries adequate to the needs and sacrifices of the emigrants.

Occupation Diseases.

A humorous paragraph in the "Woman's Journal" of Jan. 21st, suggests that the Editor of the "Ladies Home Journal," who published Mr. Barry's silly article on "The Women of Colorado," is suffering from a condition akin to those which cause the various "diseases incident to occupation." He has, it is suggested, too long and too intently concentrated his mental vision on the point of a crochet needle to be able to see normally when attempting to fix his gaze on larger interests. 'Heart-to-heart talks on pillow-shams are not a suitable training or preparation for the consideration of economic or political questions. Woman Suffrage is both of these and more.'

Master in his own House.

A correspondent sends us the following extract from the catalogue of a picture gallery: "Portrait group: Master . . . , his mother and sisters." These are grouped respectfully round the central figure, Master . . . , aged about two, in a mail-cart. Our correspondent suggests that this is "How our electors are trained." are trained."

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

IS THIS RIGHT?

to those people who say that women should STOP AT HOME.

same case) would

if she stopped at home. She has got to go cut into the world, whether she will or no, to earn money for a roof over her head is 7s. 3½d.!" and bread to eat.

Well, then, we see her in the picture asking that, since she must go out, she should have

> SAME PROTECTION AS THE MAN HAS GOT-

the UMBRELLA which keeps off the rain. What does this mean? It means the VOTE. bv means of which the man protects himself against unjust laws, and secures to himself fair conditions of labour. One of the most striking instances of his use of the vote to protect himself is

THEOPEN MARKET

WHY CAN'T I HAVE AN UMBRELLA TOO ? YOU CAN'T, YOU OUGHT TO STOP AT HOME. VOTER STOP AT HOME INDEED! I HAVE MY LIVING TO EARM. Printed and Published by the Artists' Suffrage League, 259, King's Road, Chelsea.

FAIR WAGES CLAUSE

in Government contracts, which applies to

What can men find to say in reply when SENTATION, although they do not get it. women make this just demand for equal protection? They say: "The vote doesn't do EVERYTHING. Though men have votes, If it would have it they are often sweated and work under bad conditions." As if the man said; "The

The picture this week gives an answer umbrella does not keep off ALL the rain. My legs are getting very wet in spite of it.' Would not the woman answer: "Perhaps This woman (and there are millions in the so! But you are a great deal drier WITH the umbrella than I am WITHOUT"? And so the working women say: "Your conditions may be bad, but ours are far worse! Why, your average wage is 21s. 6d. Ours

But then the men, unable to deny that

the vote has helped them, say that it is different with women, and that thev would gain nothing by enfranchisement. As if the man said: "I know an umbrella keeps the rain to some extent off A MAN: but it wouldn't keep the rain off A WOMAN at all." The woman would doubtless reply." Well, at any rate, just give me an fumbrella, and

LET

ME TRY!"

And the working women are maintaining their right to see whether they, like the men, cannot use political

power to better their industrial position. The woman can say, "I've paid for an MEN ONLY. Men must have trade-union umbrella, for women are taxed exactly as rates of pay-women may work for a pittance. men, and in this way PAY FOR REPRE-

THE WEEK'S MOTTO.

If it would have its wrong observed by God."

THE RING AND THE BOOK.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

Advertisements should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

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THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in Britain or abroad for the following prepaid payments:

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LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

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

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 sumplied.

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The Session and the Bill.

The Editor has asked me to give some account of the prospects and present position of the Conciliation Bill. It is a request with which I gladly comply. The whole of our success during the past six months has been due to the confidence which Suffragists of all schools have so generously reposed in us. To retain this sense of comradeship and this unity in effort is the condition of our further progress. It demands a frank interchange of views

FACILITIES THIS YEAR.

Our work is governeed by the elusive pledge which Mr. Asquith gave on November 22nd. Facilities will be given for effectively proceeding with a Woman Suffrage Bill in some session of this Parliament. An inert and irresolute movement would hug that pledge and await events. It would be rewarded, if at all, by the grant of facilities in the last hurried weeks of the final session The instinct, the spirit, and the hard experience of suffragists have taught them that there is no session like the present. Two hurried dissolutions in a year have reminded us that Parliaments are mortal. We understand that if party convenience requires it, the present Parliament, like its predecessors, will be dissolved with that pledge unfulfilled. A closer calculation will show the wisdom of this instinct. It will be of little use to pass a Bill in this Parliament unless women are enabled to vote at the next General Election. A Bill passed in the last session would almost certainly be useless, because the register would not be available. Another factor still further limits the time-table. We do not know how the House of Lords will treat our question, but we do know that with the exception of Lord Selborne, Lord Courtney and Lord Lytton, all the more prominent peers, both Unionists and Liberals, are Anti-Suffragists. It will probably be necessary to set in motion the new machinery for overcoming the Veto. That means that our Bill may

have to be passed not once, but three times. It follows then, that no session later than the second would be of much immediate use to us. But the second session, by all accounts, will be one of vast legislative projects. The Home Rule Bill will be long and complicated, and may even set up a federal scheme. There is talk too, of a Bill in this second session to reform the House of Lords. Clearly, time in the second session will be a very precious commodity. There is, in short, no session so safe or propitious as the first.

TIME TO SPARE.

It will be said that the first session must be devoted to the dominant issue of the Lords. The dominant sex always has some dominant issue. It is the business of politicians to make one. There never will come a year in which no section of men has a claim to press. It is for us to urge that if it be passion and earnestness and urgent need which cause an issue to "dominate," women have a claim which is second to none. The Parliament Bill will be out of the way by mid-summer at the latest. There will be slack months in the summer or autumn, when the later stages of our Bill may with ease be taken. The Government can find time for a Plural Voting Bill. It makes thereby a fresh aggravation of the women's position. It can find time to take votes away, but none to give them, time to reform the franchise for a partisan end, but none to extend it to satisfy a human demand.

A QUESTION OF METHOD.

For the moment the time-table of the House has been closed to us. By an unprecedented exercise of its omnipotence, the Cabinet proposes to rob the House of all the usual private Members' days. In order to fetter the Lords, it proposes to muzzle the Commons. The consequence is that there will be no ballot for the introduction of motions or the second reading of bills. If we are to obtain time it must be by the favour of the Government. Luckily, the opinions publicly expressed last autumn to deputations of women by Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Birrell and Mr. Runciman, stand on record. They all declared, with various degrees of emphasis, that facilities refused then ought to be granted next year. Next year is now this year. A member of our Committee will, at the first propitious moment, introduce our Bill, probably under the ten minutes' rule. That done we shall invite the Government to live up to the spirit of its undertaking that the House itself shall decide the fate of the Bill. The Government will be asked to give it a chance of declaring its will. If it will pass a resolution declaring its desire to "proceed effectively" with our Bill this session, the further exercise of the Cabinet's Veto would become too flagrantly indecedent. To stake our fate on such a resolution may be daring But we have a right to expect the support of three Ministers at least. If private Members will not give the time we need, the lesson, one hopes, will not be lost on the party women who squandered their days and their weeks in working for them at the two last elections.

THE BILL.

Experience has taught us that while our Bill is the only one which can rally support from both sides of this evenly divided House, it must in some minor particulars be modified. It's title will be general—"A Bill to confer the Parliamentary Franchise on Women"—so that amendments may be freely moved. The amendment which Mr. Shackleton put down to the second clause last session will be incorporated this year in its text. One further change we have decided to make. We shall omit the £10 occupation qualification, leaving the household qualification only. The change is quite insignificant from the woman's standpoint, but it is important to the politician. We counted the women municipal voters in Leicester, and found that out of over 5,300 all were householders save 26. These 26 women were qualified in respect of warehouses, shops, etc. The probability is that all of them had, or could have had, a household qualification, but since the law allows only one vote within the same town they had chosen to be registered

for their business premises. The change we are now making will not in most cases disqualify them. They will simply register their names in respect of their houses instead of their shops. In counties on the other hand, it is obvious that this qualification might lend itself to the manufacture of faggot votes. A wealthy man may do what a poor man cannot do-he may for form's sake, make his daughter or his sister the tenant of a stable, a field, or a bit of woodland. This danger is probably much exaggerated, but it had a marked effect upon the House when Mr. Churchill played upon it last Session. We cannot afford to raise any unnecessary prejudice against the Bill. What remains after this elimination is the simplest and the most democratic of all the franchises—the household qualification. It is better understood than any other. It was the joint gift of Conservatives and Radicals in 1867. It will give a vote to every woman, rich or poor, who is the head of her house, and the mistress of her own affairs—to every woman who is the tenant even of one room over which she can prove that she has full control.

FEBRUARY 9 1911

THE NEW HOUSE.

The new House is, we believe, slightly more favourable to us than the last. We have lost some obstinate opponents and gained some good friends. Of resolute supporters we have in all parties 246. There are about 120 less reliable supporters, the quality of whose conviction leaves something to be desired. There are 42 adult Suffragists of the type which is reluctant to enfranchise any woman until it can give votes to all. Few of these will vote against our Second Reading, but they will make a difficulty at our later stages. There are 65 members who are neutral, or as yet undecided. Finally, there are 193 declared opponents. Our task in the interval before the testing time arrives is to make the 'wobblers' reliable, and ensure that at the worst the adultists and the neutrals will not vote against us. Every method is good which convinces these men that they have to face an urgent demand, and may serve a popular cause. It is essential to form Suffrage Societies in constituencies which still lack them. Our position in the House will be securer than it is to-day when every Member has a Suffrage Society to reckon with in his constituency. Surprisingly good results have followed from the deputations which have so far waited upon Members. The 33 Town Councils which have passed resolutions in favour of the Bill afford the best of all possible proofs of its popularity. Manchester, Glasgow, Dublin, Liverpool, Hull, Cardiff, Dundee and Cork, are sufficiently typical of the trend of public opinion, and the list of these towns will presently be lengthened by fresh accessions. The outlook has never been so bright, nor the rate of progress so rapid.

H. N. BRAILSFORD.

Our Parliament.

When large numbers of people meet at long intervals for discussion of questions which, to all of them, are of vital importance, and on which there are a great variety of shades of opinion, it is impossible to prevent what, to the impatient or the opinionated, will appear gross waste of time. Taking into account the varieties and vagaries of human temperaments and tempers, it is certain that from an idealist's point of view, there will be waste of time; but, regarded from a wider standpoint, which takes into consideration the psychological aspect of such meetings as our Councils, we shall see that the very slowness and contentiousness of the proceedings has merits. The Council is not a machine for automatically recording resolutions; it is, primarily, a body of workers from all parts of the Kingdom, come together to agree upon the greatest common measure of policy and work for the one object upon which they are all agreed. It is a necessary result of the non-party nature of our organization that its members should have widely divergent views, which necessarily colour their opinions of the best policy; it is also unavoidable that methods of work which are admirably adapted to a sparsely populated rural district shall differ from those most useful in dense urban areas; and it is a sign of healthy life, not of a disputatious temper, that every resolution should be closely scrutinised and severely criticised, because such scrutiny and criticism shew that its critics are acutely aware that they will be expected to carry it out, and it is their duty to look all round it, and see whether it can be carried out, and whether it is really the most profitable work. We do not say that people are never carried away by the spirit of "amendment," and that they may occasionally become pernicketty, and when once the meeting at large begins to suspect this, it is a bad thing, for it is then apt to become merely impatient of discussion, and not to realise that often, under a confused expression of dissatisfaction, there is a real cause, which is not yet quite articulate.

To some of us who sat out those long Council meetings, it may have seemed that one could scarcely see the wood for the trees, but now it is over, and the record is appearing, we hope and believe that the Societies will on the whole be satisfied that a good deal was accomplished. Wild schemes are not often proposed, but, if they are, they are not accepted; the Council decides generally with caution and good sense, and our readers will see that, quite apart from election work, a considerable number of resolutions were passed suggesting profitable pieces of work to be done in the near future, either in education or in putting pressure on the parties. These resolutions will be found on page 716, and we propose to draw attention to a few of them.

No. I. was the sort of resolution one may classify as a "protest resolution." It was probably too late for any material alteration in the King's Speech, and it was pretty well-known that such a promise would not be included in it. But, since we hold that a wanton and cruel piece of mischief was perpetrated by the Government in the destruction of the Conciliation Bill, we are bound to insist upon reparation at the earliest possible opportunity

No. II. will, we hope, set on foot a practical agitation which should bring before men as well as women, in a striking form, the double standard now existing as regards wrongs to women and wrongs to men. If it is admitted on all hands that the Osborne Judgment has created a situation which must be met by legislation, because it is unjust to use the money of men for purposes not intended by them,—how much greater and more urgent is the need for legislation to remove the far greater and more injurious injustice done to women! We hope that this protest will be shortly inaugurated at a great meeting to be held by the National Union in London, and it should be taken up all over the country.

No. III. embodies the recommendation so ably expounded by Miss Catherine Marshall in our issue of Dec 22nd. It must be remembered that this is only one of several ways in which the Union is recommended to work. It has always been one of our methods to use Suffragists of all parties, and it has appeared more and more plainly that, although no Society can, as a Society, work for anything whatever but Women's Suffrage. there are many societies which will find more useful allies in those party people who are willing to work for Suffrage provided they are not called upon to work against their party. The existence of the Federations has made possible a scheme of "general post," by which, at election times, Suffragists will be drafted (if necessary), into constituencies where they can work for Suffragist candidates on party lines. Taken in conjunction with No. IV. this would seem to promise to put pressure where it will be most felt. We must recognise that there are not many men who will put women first so far as to vote against their own party candidate because he is against women; but we believe there are a very large number of men who would be struck by the fairness of the proposal that they should oppose the selection of an Anti-Suffrage candidate

With regard to No. V., it is scarcely necessary to point out what a considerable effect is created by the passing of Suffrage Resolutions by Town and other Local Councils. Partly because the members of such Councils are generally held to be people of business capacity and

THE COMMON CAUSE.

bodies which are elected by women as well as by men, allow. these resolutions have a value peculiarly their own.

Resolution VII. is most necessary in view of the truly shameful conspiracy on the part of the daily press, from which no reader could obtain any measure whatever of the amount of work done and support obtained in the country, nor of the length of time the agitation has On the 3rd January, at Bristol, Mr. Birrell lamented humorously that he had been saying, "One man one vote" since 1885, and that Mr. Gladstone had brought in his Home Rule Bill in 1885; but we women have been saying, "Votes for Women" since 1867, and the House of Commons has been our House of Lords, and the Liberal Cabinet has uttered the Veto against which we protest

Perhaps some delegates were disappointed at the postponement of the decision on Tax Resistance. They would be less disappointed if they realized that a resolution adopting Tax Resistance had no chance of passing at this time. Mrs. Fawcett, who was one of its strongest advocates, held that it was not the policy to be adopted at the present moment, and the Executive did not recommend it. Upon the suggestion that it should come up again at the July Council, it was pointed out that its adoption would involve an alteration of the Constitution of the Union, and that therefore the Council would have to be a Special Council summoned for this purpose this is the explanation of the fact that the July halfthis is the explanation of the fact that the same yearly Council will take place at the same time as a Special Council to consider Tax Resistance. The Executive is commissioned to come armed with full information, and we hope the Societies will hold full meetings of their members and endeavour to obtain something like a vote upon a matter of such great and far-reaching importance as the adoption by the Union of even passive resistance to administration.

This is a policy which should only be adopted with full knowledge and appreciation of consequences and with the most grave realization of responsibility.

In Parliament.

Only formal business was done last week. On Monday, the 6th, the King opened Parliament, and the forecast of business was contained in the following words:— Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The estimates for the ensuing year will in due course be laid before you.

My Lords and Gentlemen : Proposals will be submitted to you without delay for settling the relations between the two Houses of Parliament with the object of securing the more effective work-

ing of the Constitution. Measures will be presented to you, in pursuance of intentions already declared, for carrying out and extending the policy initiated in previous Parliaments, by securing the permanent provision of old-age pensions to persons previously disqualified by reason of the receipt of poor relief, and by providing for the insurance of the industrial population against sickness and invalidity, and for the insurance against unemployment of those

engaged in trades specially liable to it. Bills dealing with other measures of importance will

plain common sense, and partly because they are the only be introduced and proceeded with as time and opportunity

The Liverpool City Council and Women's Suffrage.

On February 1st the Liverpool City Council passed a resolution in favour of extending the Parliamentary Franchise to women householders and occupiers with only 19 dissentients.

Owing to pressure of business it was not until 5-45 that the debate began, by which time a great number of our supporters had left the Council Chamber, amongst them Mr. Harmood Banner, M.P., who had promised to second the motion. In proposing the resolution Councillor Eleanor Rathbone drew attention to the memorial asking the Council to pass the resolution, which had been signed by 1,500 women ratepayers (representing seven wards), and some prominent citizens, including the Bishop, and Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C. M.P.

She also stated that one-fifth of the women voters of Liverpool had now declared themselves in favour of Woman Suffrage on the lines of the Conciliation Bill. Alderman Meade King, seconding the resolution, hoped that the Council would prove itself as progressive as

In proposing an amendment, to the effect that Parliamentary business should not be discussed by municipal bodies, Alderman Salvidge declared that he yielded to none in his desire to see women householders enfranchised, and said that he had never heard a good and sufficient reason why they should be debarred from voting. He objected, however, as a matter of principal, to extraneous matter being brought before the Council, and saw no reason why, if the resolution were passed, the Nationalists should not bring up a resolution in favour of Home Rule at the next meeting. (This remark was greeted with loud applause by the Irish members).

The amendment having been seconded, Alderman Taggert opposed it, and described Alderman Salvidge's action in proposing it as a "political trick and political dishonesty.

The amendment was lost by 30 votes to 39, and the resolution being put, resulted in its being carried by 43

Nottingham City Council and Women's Suffrage.

Councillor Swain (Conservative), proposed the resolution in a very telling speech, pointing out that it was a very moderate measure, and would enfranchise only one woman to every seven men. Councillor S. Cook (Liberal), in seconding, alluded to the alteration in the position of women, and he instanced Queen Victoria— (applause)—as an example of public spirit and statesmanship in women. Councillor Foulds and several other gentlemen spoke in favour of the resolution, and amid cries of "Vote, vote," the Mayor, Sir Edward Fraser, D.C.L., J.P., rose and put it to the meeting. He declared it carried unanimously. There were between 50 and 60 women present listening to the debate, who joined in the applause that greeted the announcement.

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.

President:
MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS EDITH PALLISER (Parliamentary).
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London."

Secretary: Miss T. G. Whitehead, M.A.
Telephone: 1960 Victoria.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

last week amongst the new vice-presidents. on Thursday, 2nd February, a letter was read from Mrs. services to the Union. Miss Frances Sterling was chosen

Executive Committee.

We regret that Miss I. O. Ford's name was omitted st week amongst the new vice-presidents.

The Committee and her membership of the National Union. The Committee passed a resolution deeply regretting her resignation and expressing their appreciation of her past and the Union. Miss France Steeling was above.

to be chairman, no one else being nominated, and Miss Ashton and Mrs. Rackham were re-elected vice-chairmen. The following sub-committees were appointed:-

FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

Organization: - Miss Dimock, Miss Macmillan, Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Tanner, Mrs. Corbett-Ashby, Miss Royden.

Finance: Miss Dimock, Mrs. Corbett-Ashby, Mrs. Stanbury, Mr. Ivory Cripps.

Receptions & Meetings: - Miss Dimock, Mrs. Franklin,

Literature: —Miss Royden, Dr. Bentham, Mrs. Heitland, Mr. Ivory Cripps. With a recommendation to co-opt Miss Howell and Miss I. B. O'Malley.

Press: -Mrs. Heitland, Mrs. Swanwick, and Mr. Ivory Cripps. With a recommendation to co-opt Miss I. B. O'Malley, Miss Chadwick, and Miss Catherine Marshall.

The affiliation of a new Society, S. Hilda's Hall, Oxford, was formally approved.

Delegates to the Annual Council Meeting will remember that an invitation from the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation to hold the next Provincial Council at Haslemere was cordially accepted. The date of the meeting has not yet been fixed, but it will probably take place at the end of the first week in April.

Mrs. Renton is doing excellent work in the Horncastle Division. Committee Rooms have been taken at Waring Street, Horncastle, and Lumley Road, Skegness. Miss I. O. Ford has interviewed both candidates, and sent a report to the Executive. Captain Weigall, the Conservative, is a strong opponent. Linfield will support a Bill on the lines of the Conciliation Bill, not one narrower, and promised if returned, put himself immediately in touch with the Women's Suffrage Committee in the House. He is an Adult Suffragist, but does not desire immediate manhood suffrage and would not vote for an Adult Suffrage Bill which would destroy the chances of a Bill to enfranchise women.

The Committee therefore resolved to support Mr. Linfield, and urge members of the National Union to give all the help they can in the Division.

Mr. Harold Cox has given thoroughly satisfactory replies to questions as to his views on Women's Suffrage, as readers of this paper will have seen from Mr. Rackham's letter last week; he is accordingly to be supported by the National Union.

K. D. COURTNEY.

Treasurer's Notes.

I crave the sympathy and indulgence of all members of the National Union on behalf of that much over-rated article-the new broom.

As your Treasurer it will be my duty to make constant appeals to your generosity and ceaseless efforts to remind you of the great and ever-growing expenses of our vast organisation. With the practice which this work will, no doubt give me, I ought, before long, to acquire some of the dexterity of a professional begging-letter-writer, but until I shall have attained that proficiency, I must appeal to everyone to help the new and inexperienced Treasurer by sending in all subscriptions as soon as they fall due, and by inducing as many friends as possible to send donations to our funds.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND.

January 14th to February 3rd, 1911. Already acknowledged ubscriptions: —
Mrs. Charles Dixon
Mrs. Charles Dixon
Mrs. Dverton
Mrs. James Ritchie
Miss E. S. Dugard
Miss E. M. Meade
Mrs. Heitland
Mrs. Heitland

Miss A. K. Williams	0	1	0
Mrs. Macdonald	1	1	0
Mrs. Harries	0	1	0
Mrs Hacht	0	5	0
Mrs. Hecht Mrs. H. Pears	0	5	0
Dr. Eveline Cargill	1	1	0
Miss Frances Sterling	5	0	0
Miss A. K. Ellis	0	1	0
	0	1	0
Madame Czene		1	0
Mrs. Hodgett	0		
Miss Claire Hodgett Miss Dora Hodgett	0	1	0
Miss Dora Hodgett	0	1	0
Miss Phebe Hodgett	0	1	0
Miss S. Chapman	0	2	6
Mrs. Hay Bell	0	2	6
Mrs. J. Day	0	2	0
Mrs. Gertrude Wild	0	1	0
Donations:—			
Miss Lightman, percentage on sales of			
lavender preparations	0	6	2
lavender preparations Lady Margaret Hall W.S.S., proceeds of entertainment			-
antartainment	2	7	0
Affiliation Fees:—	4		U
Trial Warran's Coffee 1 T 1 C			
Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Govern-		-	_
ment Association	1	1	0
Dundee W.S.S.		15	0
Driffield W.S.S.		16	9
Driffield W.S.S. Sutton Coldfield W.S.S.	1	3	0
Scarborough W.S.S	0	12	6
Romiley W.S.S.	0	17	6
Brighton W.S.S.	5	18	3
Orcadian W.S.S.	0	14	0
Cuckfield W.S.S.	3	2	6
North Wilts. W.S.S.		15	0
Godalming W.S.S.	1	14	6
Exeter W.S.S.	i	18	0
North Berks. W.S.S.	1	6	9
Edinburgh W.S.S.	9	1	
Wallager and Wind I Word			0
Wallasey and Wirral W.S.S. Leigh W.S.S.		13	6
Leigh W.S.S.	0	9	0
Berwickshire W.S.S.	1	5	0
Salisbury W.S.S.	0	18	0
Winchester W.S.S. Sunderland W.S.S.	0	4	0
Sunderland W.S.S.	0	19	0
Pontypridd W.S.S		15	0
Horsham W.S.S.	0	14	0
Woburn Sands W.S.S.	0	5	0
St. Hilda's Hall W.S.S.	0	5	0
St. Hilda's Hall W.S.S. Croydon W.S.S. Blackpool and Fylde W.S.S. Nairn W.S.S.	2	10	6
Blackpool and Fylde WSS	0	9	6
Nairn WSS	0	15	
Leith Hill W.S.S.	1	19	9
Littlehampton W C C			3
Littlehampton W.S.S. South Shields and Jarrow W.S.S.	0	6	6
Televenti W.C.C.	0	13	0
Falmouth W.S.S.	0	10	6
		-	-
	£282	19	$7\frac{1}{2}$
4.4			1115

Annual Report.

FINANCE.

The Annual Report and Financial Statement of the National Union should be read by everyone with the reminder that the National Union is a union of affiliated societies, all of them autonomous (within the lines of the common policy), raising and spending their own funds, and holding their own meetings. Miss Mason explained that, although the amount coming into the exchequer at headquarters was only between £5,000 and £6,000, the amount raised and spent by the affiliated societies and the Common Cause Publishing Co., would bring the total of money raised by members of the National Union to about £20,000 in the past year. This should be remembered when people compare the funds of the National Union with those of the Women's Social and Political Union, which are raised in a very different manner.

ORGANISATION.

The report refers briefly to the Voters' Petitions which were presented to the Parliament of 1910, and which numbered 300,000 signatures. The formation of fourteen Federations is chronicled, and it is stated that 67 new societies have joined the Union in the past year, bringing the total up to 199; these do not include smaller branch

The Committee have endeavoured to keep the staff of organisers up to ten, but could have employed double that number if only funds had permitted; for they have received so many requests for their services from societies that they have not been able to use them for pioneer work in new places nearly as much as should have been done. The Committee feel that this is almost the most important work of all, and would thankfully receive

donations towards it. Instead of £2,000, they would like to spend £10,000 on this item of work alone."

THE CONCILIATION BILL.

Political work during the past year, was directed entirely towards supporting the work of the Conciliation Committee in the House. Reference is made to the deputation at last received by Mr. Asquith, on June 21st, to the two great demonstrations in support of the Bill, one on June 28th, in the Queen's Hall (at which £1,500 was raised), and one in Trafalgar Square, on July 9th. The day after the Second Reading a meeting was held in St. James' Hall, and the arduous autumn campaign culminated in "Suffrage Week," when no fewer than fourteen other Suffrage Societies co-operated with the National Union in holding separate and daily meetings in London, with a great mass meeting in the Albert Hall to conclude with on Nov. 12th.

TOWN COUNCILS AND THE BILL.

It is recorded that 31 Town Councils passed resolutions in favour of the Bill, as follows:—

England.	Scotland.
Manchester.	Glasgow.
Barnsley.	Fraserburgh.
Southport.	Hawick.
West Bromwich.	Dundee.
Stoke Newington.	N. Berwick.
Devonport.	John O' Groats.
Huddersfield.	Thurso.
Hull.	Perth.
Wales.	Kilwinning.
Bangor.	Arbroath.
Ireland.	Hamilton.
Dublin.	Cumnock.
Cork.	Inverurie.
Limerick.	Broughty Ferry.
	Brechin.
	Saltcoats.
	Kilmarnock.
	Kirkwall.
	Lerwick.

DECEMBER GENERAL ELECTION.

Brief reference is made to the work done at the last general election, and a list of favourable Members is given, but we understand that this is not quite complete. It had not been possible to get all answers in.

Resolutions Passed at the Council Meetings.

January 26th, 27th, 28th, 1911.

The following are some of the resolutions passed at the Annual Meeting; they do not include the alterations of rules nor the amendments of election policy, which we hope to publish next week:—

I.

FACILITIES THIS SESSION.

That the Council of the N.U.W.S.S. calls upon the Government to include in the King's Speech a statement to the effect that facilities will be given for all the stages of a Women's Suffrage Bill in the coming Session of Parliament.

II. PROTEST.

That in the opinion of this Council, as an effective means of arousing interest in women who have hitherto been untouched by the Women's Suffrage Movement, a great protest should be organised against the payment of Members of Parliament, out of the Public Funds to which women are forced to contribute, as long as women are without the vote.

USING THE PARTIES.

That local Federations be urged to obtain from their affiliated societies lists of such of their members as belong to any of the political parties, in order that such members

may, during elections, be drafted into constituencies to work for candidates pledged to Women's Suffrage, in accordance with the object of the National Union, but whose views on general politics coincide with those of the workers sent to their assistance.

IV

ORGANISING A SUFFRAGE VOTE.

That in the opinion of this Council every Society in the National Union should make it one of its objects to obtain promises from electors of all parties to vote against or abstain from voting for an anti-suffragist candidate, and that these promises be submitted to Selection Committees; this work to be done, where possible, in co-operation with the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

V.

RESOLUTIONS FROM TOWN, COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS.

That in view of the fact that the Conciliation Committee is using every effort to win Women's Suffrage during the present Parliament, and that Mr. Brailsford has strongly urged the importance to the Committee of obtaining support in the form of resolutions from Town, County and District Councils, every Society in the Union be urged to secure such resolutions from the Town, County and District Councils in its area.

That, when necessary, this be done by a canvass of the Women Municipal Voters, with a view to getting a request to the representative of each ward from the voters in his ward, that he will vote in favour of such a resolution; and that where it is impossible to get such a resolution formally passed by the Council, the signatures of individual Councillors shall be collected, pressure being brought to bear through women voters.

VI

WORK IN IRELAND.

That in the opinion of this Council, invitations received from Ireland to hold meetings and to organise Societies there, be accepted, and if such work proves successful that further organisation in Ireland be undertaken, in co-operation with Mrs. Haslam, when possible.

VII. EDUCATION.

That in view of the widespread ignorance in regard to recent Suffrage action, due to the persistent boycott of the Press, this Council is of opinion:—

That a brief summary of the history of the Women's Suffrage movement, and a clear statement of the facts of the agitation for the last two years, including number of meetings held, demonstrations organised, of electors who have signed petitions, and a rough estimate of amount of money raised by the National Union, be printed and sent to all Members of the new House of Commons, such statement to include the resolutions passed by the Australian Senate on November 17th, 1910, and that all possible publicity be given to this statement.

VIII. LITERATURE.

That in the opinion of this Council the Representative of the National Union Executive Committee on the Committee of each Federation, should collect all the literature (pamphlets, posters, etc.), published by the Societies within the Federations, and should submit it to the Literature Committee of the National Union.

IX.

A SPECIAL COUNCIL TO CONSIDER TAX RESISTANCE.

That a Special Council Meeting be held at the same time as the ordinary General Council Meeting in July, to discuss the whole question of Tax Resistance, and that the Executive Committee be instructed to obtain all necessary information bearing on the subject.

X. LOYALTY TO THE UNION.

That the National Union urges the affiliated societies to put before their members the grave impropriety of supporting any candidate who is not in favour of Women's Suffrage.

XT

THE BALLOT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

That the election of the Honorary Officers be taken at the first opportunity, after the appointment of Returning Officer and Tellers, and the result announced, as this result will affect the votes to be cast for the Executive Committee

XII.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

The Council is of opinion:-

FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

(a) That in order to keep the National Union in touch with the "Common Cause," a Consultative Committee be formed, to consist of the "Common Cause" Federation or Society Correspondents, and that the Directors and staff of the "Common Cause" be requested to arrange for periodical meetings between themselves and this Committee.

(b) That at least once a quarter the National Union should pay for the insertion of a list of Societies and Secretaries at the usual advertisement rates.

XIII.

STANDING ORDERS FOR THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

That it be an instruction to the Executive Committee to draw up suitable Standing Orders for the Provincial Councils, and submit them to the Provincial Council for approval.

XIV.

VISITORS AT THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

That members of the affiliated societies be allowed to attend meetings of the General Council as visitors, as far as accommodation can be provided, but that admission be by ticket only, the names of those desiring to attend having first been submitted to the Executive Committee of the local Society and approved.

Cambridge University By-Election.

It scarcely seems to be realized by outsiders that the majority of the voters in the present Cambridge University by-election are not Cambridge residents, but are scattered all over the country. There are, indeed, few places in which Masters of Arts on the Cambridge University register are not to be found. These electors should, of course, be at once interviewed by Suffragists in the various localities (preferably by friends and relations), and urged to give their vote to Mr. Harold Cox, the only one of the three candidates who has declared himself in favour of Woman Suffrage. But the election is imminent and no time is to be lost. Mr. Cox's letter, quoted in last week's "Common Cause," shows him to be one of our very staunchest supporters; and since his candid and full declaration of his views has made him some enemies among Anti-Suffrage electors, the least we can do is to see that it gains him some friends.

We should like, in this connection, to draw attention to a somewhat amazing letter from Dr. Prothero (Editor of the "Quarterly Review," and a member of the Anti-Suffrage Society), which appeared in "The Times" on Feb. 1st. He wrote that in consequence of Mr. Cox's declaration in favour of Woman Suffrage, he had not only withdrawn from his Election Committee, but would no longer support his candidature in any way, since it "appeared to him that Woman Suffrage was more dangerous" (to the welfare of the Empire, we suppose) "than even Tariff Reform."

We do not know how this letter strikes the University electors, but to a mere woman, outside of and ignorant

of political life, it seems to be one of the most extraordinary confessions of irresponsibility and supineness
in the discharge of political duty. For what is the
acknowledgement? Dr. Prothero is an ardent Free
Trader; yet, although he thinks the enfranchisement of
woman would be a greater evil than Protection, he not
only decided to vote for Mr. Cox, but actually went upon
his Committee, before he had ascertained his views upon
this matter of paramount importance! Moreover, how
was it possible for anyone in Dr. Prothero's position to
remain in ignorance up to last Wednesday of the fact
that Mr. Cox has, time and again, both spoken and voted
in the House in favour of Woman Suffrage?

Is it thus that a male electorate seeks to prove its exclusive fitness to enjoy the privileges of representative government?

In the brief utterances on the Suffrage of the two other candidates, Sir J. Larmor and Mr. Page, we find evidence of somewhat similar ignorance and neglect of public affairs. Mr. Page allows that Woman Suffrage is a "question of the greatest magnitude," but at the same time says that he has never had time (not in all these years!) to give any real thought to it. While all Sir Joseph Larmor can say is that he "has an open" (that is to say a blank) "mind upon the subject." Yet these men are eager to get into Parliament to direct the National affairs!

It may be, of course, that the minds of these candidates, and of many others, are only "blank" where women's concerns directly come in. In which case they remind one of the clergyman who attended the Church Congress in Cambridge last autumn and who, on being offered a pamphlet and asked if he were interested in Woman Suffrage, replied testily, "No; I take no interest in women whatever!"

But what then, we ask, becomes of the favourite plea of Anti-Suffragists that women are quite adequately represented by men, and that our legislators have the interests of both sexes equally at heart—and in head?

MARY WARD.

Cambridge.

The conditions which govern the election of University representatives are such, that we who live in Cambridge may justly appeal for the active help of Suffragists throughout the United Kingdom (and elsewhere if time permits), on behalf of Mr. Harold Cox, whose views were reported in last week's "Common Cause."

The election is one which requires more than local work, since every M.A. (non-resident no less than resident), whose name is on the University books, is eligible as an elector. Such electors need not attend in person to record their votes. Under the Universities Act, 1861, it became lawful for an elector to nominate a proxy competent to deliver a voting paper at the poll. It is only necessary that the nomination should be signed in the presence of a magistrate, whose attestation is required.

I would suggest that women Suffragists throughout the country should try to secure for Mr. Cox the votes of their Cambridge M.A. acquaintances. Surely it is not much to ask! The Cambridge Suffrage Societies can deal with local supporters who, however, form a very small portion of the constituency; the responsibility of ensuring Mr. Cox's return rests upon all suffragists and can be promoted by the efforts of individuals, many of whom would be glad of this special opportunity to serve the cause. Not a day should be lost by the willing worker.

In view of the probable introduction of an amended Conciliation Bill into Parliament, the importance of securing so good a speaker and so fearless a supporter of any cause in which he believes, cannot be over-estimated.

ELLEN A. MCARTHUR.

Cambridge, 5th February, 1911.

50/-.

61 Gns.

The Common Cause.

HOW TO GET UP A "COMMON CAUSE WEEK."

There were many interesting and helpful resolutions on General Work passed at the last moment at the Council Meeting, some of them almost without discussion, and there was not any time at all for discussion on the use of "The Common Cause" for propaganda work. But a splendid idea has been sent to us by one of our readers, namely, that before we are again engulfed in the rush of demonstrations, every society should organize a special "Common Cause Week." Some societies have already begun to consider such an undertaking in a very sympathetic spirit, and it may be helpful to outline the scheme here. It would, of course, be modified by local conditions.

The first thing to do is to form a small committee of three or four active and energetic people who will each take one branch of the work, and be responsible for finding their own helpers. One will take charge of the local newsagents, and see that they are all coaxed into showing our poster and ordering a few copies in advance for that one week at least, for it is worse than useless to advertise anything that cannot be easily got. second could organise a band of canvassers, each pledged to secure at least six new readers, and a prize should be offered to the one most successful. The third would look after advertisements, and approach all the leading local tradespeople, and everyone giving a lecture, concert, or other entertainment, and get them to advertise in "The Common Cause" for this one week. All the members of the local Society should be urged to send a miscellaneous advertisemen

Besides this, the special committee would carry out the wishes of the general committee of the local Suffrage Society and order large strip posters: "Read the Common Cause," and see that the billposters did their duty and posted them properly and at the right time. They ought to be posted on the Wednesday morning, and then everyone in the town would know the name of the paper by Thursday morning, and hundreds of men and women who are quite indifferent to the cause of Women's Suffrage would buy the paper out of curiosity.

The result of such a week could not fail to be a great temporary interest in the paper, and in the cause, and a resultant permanent increase in the number of constant readers to the paper. If any society wishes to try a "Common Cause" week, the Manager will be pleased to render every possible help in making the preliminary arrangements

The Oldham Debate.

The great event of the past few weeks in the Manchester

The Oldham Debate.

The great event of the past few weeks in the Manchester and District Federation has been the public debate at Oldham between an Anti-Suffragist from Manchester, Mr. Beaumont, and a local Suffragist and medical woman, Dr. Olive Claydon. The debate arose out of a remark made by Mrs. Councillor Lees (now Mayor of Oldham) at a public meeting in November last. She said that she had never yet heard an argument against Women's Suffrage, whereupon Mr. Beaumont wrote challenging her or any other Suffragist to public debate. This aroused the keenest interest in Oldham, and for some time before the date appointed the town was placarded with a striking poster—"Manchester Anti-Suffragist challenges Oldham Women's Suffrage Society."

And Oldham rose to the occasion. There was a splendid attendance—as many men as women; and a platform representative in every sense. All parties were represented; there were men and women, councillors, doctors (a fine rally!), and ministers of different denominations. The late Mayor, Mr. William Schofield, J.P., was in the chair, and the present Mayor, Mrs. Lees, arrived during the meeting, and was received with tumultuous applause.

The debate was well worthy of so good a gathering. Mr. Beaumont put his case with courtesy and a respect for women not always shown by our opponents, whilst Dr. Claydon, with her keen wit, readiness, and complete armoury of fact and argument scored triumphantly throughout (as the audience, by their applause, evidently felt).

There is not space here to do more than give a few points from the speeches—instances of the arguments used by Mr. Beaumont in his opening speech and Dr. Claydon's replies. To one of his "arguments," which, it is only fair to an Oldham audience to say, evoked considerable merriment, Dr. Claydon attempted no reply. We will quote it: "A man cannot be turned into a woman, nor a woman into a man."

Mr. Beaumont laid great stress on the fact that majorities must rule, and declared that women were in no harder case than the always unrepresented minority of voters. To which Dr. Claydon aptly replied that it was strange that Mr. Beaumont laid such stress on government by majorities considering that women in this country represented the majority and men the minority. She would like an explanation of this.

To his contention that the vote was not widely desired, Dr. Claydon responded that the persistent boycott of the women's movement by the press made it impossible that the people in general should be educated on the question. She also pointed out that nearly all women with wide experience in social and philanthropic work desired the vote, adding that those who did not would not be dragged to the polling-booth against their will. She evoked applause by a witty parallel, saying, "What would John Smith in one street say if he was told that he could not have a vote because Tom Brown in another street did not want it? John Smith would probably say nothing just at first, because his breath would be so completely taken away."

With an apology for introducing personal matters, Dr. Claydon mentioned, as an illustration of the absurdity of women's position, that she, earning her own living day and night in the sweat of her brow, paying rates and taxes, was debarred from voting simply because she was a woman, whereas the caretaker of her surgery had a service vote.

Mr. Beaumont attributed a decline in the birth-rate to the agitation for the franchise, but Dr. Claydon pointed out that in New Zealand, where women had votes, the birth-rate was rising; and she showed—judging by the applause, to the full satisfaction of her audience—what a beneficial effect the vote might have on home life by widening the outlook of the women and increasing their sense of responsibility.

The physical force argument did service, as usual, but Dr. Claydon swept that aside with the pertinent query: "Do you think that a millionaire, who has te

each?"

In Mr. Beaumont's reply he rashly said that though Dr. Claydon had spoken of the good effects of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand and Australia she had not mentioned the four Suffrage States of America, which were, he said, the worst in the country. Her prompt reply that she had twenty type-written sheets in her hand to prove the contrary delighted the Suffragists who found their champion so well prepared.

prepared.

No resolution was put, as the debate had been in general terms, but there was very little doubt where the sympathy of the majority of the audience lay. The Oldham Suffrage Society receives every day fresh converts made on that night. One lady, moreover, was heard to say that she had never thought of joining a Suffrage Society before, but since Mr. Beaumont said that a majority of women did not want the vote, she intended at once to enrol her name to give clear evidence of one more who did.

Work in Mid Bucks.

Work in Mid Bucks.

We have just completed a very successful campaign in this district. Most of the work was done in Chesham, which has been almost neglected up to the present. One local Suffragist has been working almost alone for a long time, but various reasons, chiefly suspicion of militant methods, have held people back from any expression of sympathy.

The important event was Mrs. Philip Snowden's meeting. She was engaged to address the Co-operative Society, and hearing of our campaign, she took the Suffrage as her subject. She made a great impression in the place. Mrs. Stanbury and Mr. Kennedy came to one meeting, and Mrs. Robinson (Watford) to one for women only. The meetings were not large, but were very sympathetic. I addressed some well-attended drawing-room meetings and some open-air gatherings. The visible result is a largely increased membership and a very noticeable growth of sympathy. We feel that the ice is broken, and that the work in this neighbourhood will go steadily forward.

GERALDINE COOKE.

Federation Notes.

South-Western.

South-Western.

My fortnight's work in Falmouth has resulted in the formation of a splendidly keen and enthusiastic society of between forty and fifty members. The interest and response that was given to my appeal for members and workers made me go on my way rejoicing. I held three meetings—one a small meeting of mothers in the adult school, another a small gathering of Liberal women, and the third a large public meeting in the Town Hall.

Mrs. Fox's generous gift of £10 enables the new society to start with funds in hand, and Miss Naomi Fox has promised £5 for further propaganda work in the district.

For the splendid help Miss Naomi Fox gave me all the time I was there I am most grateful. The society owes not a little of its brilliant beginning to her energy and enthusiasm.

Mrs. Gilbert Stephens and Miss Naomi Fox have consented to undertake the work of hon. treasurer and hon. secretary, and the working of the society is left in the hands of a most capable committee. The membership of this society is likely to be considerably increased in the near future, as many people to whom I talked are in sympathy and are just "thinking it over" before coming to the point of joining. The political parties are happilly very evenly divided in their support. The chairman of the local Liberal party and the Mayor of the town, a staunch Conservative, both joined at our big meeting.

at our big meeting.

A society that begins its career with a small army of convinced and eager workers, backed up by the sympathy and keenness of those who cannot (owing to other claims) do much work, and last, but not least, a society with plenty of funds in hand, will, I am sure, accomplish much in the days

M. NORMA-SMITH

PUBLIC MEETING AT FALMOUTH.

FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

Public Meeting at Falmouth.

The meeting held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, January 31st, was very well attended. The speakers—Miss M. Norma-Smith and Mr. C. S. Goldman, M.P.—were followed with close attention. Several "Common Causes" were sold, and five new members joined the Falmouth Society. Mr. Gilbert Stephens took the chair. Miss Norma-Smith, in an excellent speech, dwelt on the 5,000,000 women workers in England to-day who were forced out of their homes by modern economic conditions, and who needed the vote for the same reason as men needed the vote—as a protection. Mr. Goldman said women were pushed by man-made laws into competition with men, and men must see to it that they gave to women the same powers of protection as they had themselves. He appealed to women to take all the opportunities for public service that were at present open to them, so that they would rapidly make a commonplace of what had seemed an irreconcilable disparity of functions. The Mayor (Mr. F. J. Bowles) remarked, in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers, that women recorded their vote at municipal elections as thoughtfully as any man, and a great deal more thoughtfully than some. Mr. Mervyn Stewart seconded, and spoke of the beneficial effects of the women's vote in Australasia. Mr. F. Gilbert Stephens was cordially thanked for presiding. We felt ourselves very fortunate in having so many influential people who show practical sympathy towards the Suffrage, and also in our two local papers, which gave full and appreciative reports of the meeting. Miss Norma-Smith has done grand work in the last fortnight. We trust we may reward her by carrying it on in the same enthusiastic way.

FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT CRIEFF.

New ground has been broken in Crieff by Miss M. J. Henderson, the lately appointed organiser to the Scottish Federation. Two meetings were held on January 31st—a drawing-room meeting in the afternoon, addressed by Miss Crompton, of Dundee; and a public meeting in the Porteous Hall at night, addressed by Miss Lamond, Canon Meredith in the chair. The Crieff Society, which already has a considerable number of members owing to Miss Henderson's successful work, will shortly affiliate to the N.U.



Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

RECEPTION AT THE CRITERION.

New ground has been broken in Crieff by Miss M. J. Henderson, the lately appointed organiser to the Scottish Federation. Two meetings were held on January 31st—adrawing-read the ferroon, addressed by Miss Federation. Two meetings were held on January 31st—adrawing-read the federation of the ferroon, addressed by Miss M. J. Crompton, of Dundee; in the afternoon, addressed by Miss M. J. Crompton, of Dundee; in the afternoon, addressed by Miss Henderson's the lately appointed or Miss Henderson's the Chair. The Crieff Scoiety, with already has a considerable number of members owing to Miss Henderson's successful work, will shortly affiliate to the N.U.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.

President: The Bishop of Lincoln.
Hon. Sec.: Rev. O. Hinseliff.

Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W. Members who have not yet secured seats for the meeting at Steinway Hall. to discuss the Cause of Purity and Women's Suffrage, are recommended to apply to the Organiser without delay. (Reserved seats, 1s. 6d. and 1s. cach.) The annual report and balance-sheet, which received the cordial approval of the General Council, will be issued at the end of the month, The Rev. C. Hinseliff is giving a series of addresses on social subjects at St. Mary's, Padding-ton Green, on Thursday evenings during Lent at 8-30 p. He will also conduct a Quiet Day at St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, on April 6th. The following meetings are announced:—February 17—8.0—Debate. Il, St. George's Terrace, N.W. Opposer: Rev. A. H. E. Lee, M.A., Cantable, Little, Miss Maude Royden.

February 17—8.0—Debate. Steinway Hall. The Cause of Purity and Women's Suffrage, Mrs. Archibald Little, Miss Maude Royden.

March 6—8-0—Borough Hall, Greenwich. Public meeting.

Free Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Hon. Organ. Sec.: Rev. E. Clark, 1, Burns Road, Harlesden,

Hon. Cor. Sec.: Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

Two meetings are to be held in February. One at the Manor Mission, Gallywall Road, Bermondsey, S.E., on the 16th inst. Another—a drawing-room meeting—on the 22nd inst., at Lavender Hill, Clapham. On the 1st March there is the Memorial Hall meeting, with the Rev. Ivory Cripps, B.A., in the chair, and the Rev. Dr. Clifford, M.A., Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Sir James Yoxall, M.P., and Mr. Walter Maclaren, M.P., as speakers. A systematic distribution of handbills is being organised among our chief London churches. Will those willing to give away, say, 25, send name and address, and name of church they will undertake, in North London to T. E. Rogers, Esq., 4, Chomeley Park, Highgate, N.; in South London to A. Foster, Esq., 65, Coombe Road, South Croydon?

Sixth Annual Conference of the Women's Labour League.

The annual conference of the Women's Labour League, which met in the Queen's Hall, Silver Street, Leicester, on Tuesday, January 31st, was of a particularly interesting character, covering a wide range of subjects and yielding many eloquent and informative speeches, all of which were commendably brief, and many of which contained highly execulated by presidence.

many eloquent and informative speeches, all of which were commendably brief, and many of which contained highly specialised knowledge.

Mrs. L. E. Simm, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, presided over the conference, and her opening address struck the note of lucidity, earnestness, and fraternity, which was the keynote of the conference throughout. Mrs. Harris, president of the Women's Co-operative Guild, and Mr. Walker, of the Labour Party Executive, were the fraternal delegates.

The first resolution was on the subject of armaments, and was moved by Miss Margaret Bondfield, of London, seconded by Mrs. Tomlinson, of Barrow-in-Furness, and passed unanimously. Resolutions were also passed referring to Trade Union rights affected by the Osborne Judgment, Equal Divorce Laws, Labour Exchanges, Women on Juries, Medical Treatment at Birth, Child Life, Education, the Liquor Traffic, Municipal Lodging-houses for Women, and Suffrage. This latter caused the longest debate, as the resolution was a composite one, as follows:—"That this conference calls upon the Labour Members to do all in their power to speedily secure the full citizenship of women, and demands that the enfranchisement of all adult men and women should be made an immediate question of practical politics."

Let we moved by Mrs. Harrison Bell. Who reviewed the

secure the full citizenship of women, and demands that the enfranchisement of all adult men and women should be made an immediate question of practical politics."

It was moved by Mrs. Harrison Bell, who reviewed the work of the organisations of women during the past two or three years, and suggested that as various kinds of W.S. Bills had failed to become law and a new Reform Bill was in the air, we should realise that the political situation is somewhat altered, and that it behoves the women of the Labour Party to act like politicians seeking what they want but willing to take what they can get, it being perfectly understood that no extension which enfranchises more men and no women will be acceptable to us. An amendment that all reference to Adult Suffrage be deleted was moved by Mrs. Annot E. Robinson, who argued that the two sections of the resolution were out of harmony, and that the removal of the sex disability must precede work for Adult Suffrage. Dr. Marion Phillips earnestly hoped delegates would not vote for the amendment. Times had changed, and from a practical point of view it was useless for them to take up the attitude of limitation. After all it was the men who were going to decide this thing, and it had been clearly enough shown that no Liberal and Labour majority was going to give votes to people they thought were likely to vote against them. Mrs. Katherine Bruce Glasier thought that the line of least resistance at the present time was to go for the resolution as a whole. Dr. Ethel Bentham concurred, and said that a year ance at the present time was to go for the resolution as a whole. Dr. Ethel Bentham concurred, and said that a year ago she would not have voted for the resolution, but that

to-day we were faced with the fact that other Bills had failed, and the whole course of events demonstrated the futility of asking for anything less than Adult Suffrage. Only four voted for the amendment, and the resolution was afterwards carried. F. N. HARRISON BELL.

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.

MRS. BRAMWELL BOOTH'S ARTICLE.

MRS. BRAMWELL BOOTH'S ARTICLE.

Until I read your note on Mrs. Bramwell Booth's article in the "Common Cause" of the previous week, and your correspondent's letter, who objects to its having appeared in the paper, I had not supposed that any readers of the paper would have objected to it. My own feeling on reading it was one of admiration for the brave, almost holy, way in which Mrs. Booth had treated the subject, and for the Editor of the paper for having printed the article. If the evil which Mrs. Booth exposes is to be cured it can only be by its being known to the public, and by the public pressure upon the Legislature, which by its remedial and preventive action alone can lift up the masses to a higher moral level. The suggestion of your correspondent that "only special papers" should expose social evils is not to be thought of; but perhaps it will meet the views of objectors if, in any number of your paper in which social sins have to be exposed, some notice or heading on the first page warns the purchaser of it "That a 'Grave Social Wrong' is discussed in this number." For my own part, having been a Poor Law Guardian and knowing in a long life the social evils hidden out of sight, I thought this special number so valuable that I ordered extra numbers of it, and have distributed them in various directions.

98, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, Jan. 30th, 1911.

We are much obliged to our correspondent for her sympathetic letter, but we do not regard her suggestion as workable; in fact, it would probably have an effect the reverse of what she intends.—ED. "C.C."]

I certainly feel that what any woman can suffer every woman should know; and although the question is whether our own girls should hear what other girls so frequently suffer, I would remind your readers that these tragedies are not confined to the working classes. I am told there was a similar case here not long ago in the middle class. Ignorance is not purity, and to choose the good implies a knowledge of evil. Mrs. John Bull is a prude and "anti."; but still, whatsoever makes manifest is light.

Westwood, Southborough, Feb. 3rd.

I think you were so right in inserting Mrs. Bramwell Booth's article. A paper like the "Common Cause," written almost entirely by women and read almost entirely by women, is just the very organ to ventilate the horrible dangers which lie in the paths of girls and children. And I think it would not be right to keep the "Common Cause" down to the level of reading for the "young girl."

[We have evidence that the paper is very widely read by men, and we are glad of it, and glad to know many men are with us in this fight.—ED. "C.C."]

Letters to the same effect as these have been received.

Letters to the same effect as these have been received from Miss Vaughan, Miss Haque, Miss N. H. Wright, Mrs. Hecht. We regret we have not space to publish them.

THE COUNCIL MEETING.

May I have space in your paper to protest against the rushing of important and far-reaching proposals (one speaker advocating decentralization as her goal) through the Council meeting by the skilful use of luck, backed by what appeared

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FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

to some of us to be an organized majority?

In a hall admittedly bad for hearing—I should say one of the worst from that point in which we have yet met,—amid roused and in some cases bitter feelings, schemes and plans were carried by this majority which only ought to have been adopted after cool debate and deliberate consideration, and already a resignation from the Frenchize has been included.

were carried by this majority which only ought to have been adopted after cool debate and deliberate consideration, and already a resignation from the Executive has been received which is the first-fruits of this policy of getting schemes through and using every advantage the accidents of strife gave to win. A minority beaten in Council, and after cool and deliberate debate, has no cause for complaint; but a majority which wins by its keenness to take every advantage of the accidents of fight appears to win not because its plans are the wisest and best, but because its leaders are determined to carry the scheme and plans through.

The Cottage, Cosham.

[We are entirely at a loss to conceive what Miss O'Shea means by an "organized majority." It has a sinister sound, but corresponds to no facts that have come to our knowledge. A considerable number of the members of the National Union think that the work is better done by decentralization and the formation of Federations was a step in this direction. Nothing appeared more plainly at the Council than that the delegates, after having carefully considered a scheme of which the societies had had notice on the agenda, did not wish to refer the scheme to a sub-committee, but wished to vote upon it then and there. The majority wished to vote, and the majority voted for the scheme, but there was no "organization" either of "accidents" or of the majority.—ED. "C.C."]

MISS MARTIN'S ARTICLES IN THE "NINETEENTH CENTURY."

May I be permitted to correct an error which has crept into your reviewer's kind notice of "The Married Working Woman"? It is not the teaching of cookery in the District School that costs 2s. 9d. per head, but the food and clothing of the children. In most schools the cost is much higher.

63, Union Road, Rotherhithe, Feb. 1st, 1911.
[We are much obliged to Miss Martin for her kind correction.
—ED, "C.C."]

Work of Societies in the Union.

MIDLAND FEDERATION REPORT.

MIDLAND FEDERATION REPORT.

During the month of January our Societies have mostly been occupied in preparation for their annual meetings, and in planning out schemes for future work.

We welcome the return of Miss Helga Gill, and heartily thank the National Union for giving us such an efficient organizer. So many Societies claim her help that she has a full programme of work right up to October.

Birmingham has been giving special attention to the systematic visiting of new or inactive members, in order to keep them in touch with their local Society and to lead them on to active work. The Secretary reports that one drawing-room meeting and one debate have been held during the month, and fifteen new members have been enrolled.

On January 19th Miss Gill commenced a factoricky

have been held during the month, and liteen new members have been enrolled.

On January 19th Miss Gill commenced a fortnight's work in Leicester and the neighbourhood, where she addressed a number of meetings which had been arranged by the local Society. The Secretary reports that the meetings have been well attended and good propaganda work done, notably in the country districts, where the Suffrage movement had not as yet penetrated.

Special interest is attached to the meetings of women ratepayers, held in eight of the sixteen wards into which the borough of Leicester is divided. On each occasion a resolution was carried unanimously requesting the Councillors representing the wards to support the Suffrage resolution which is shortly to be brought before the Town Council. The women ratepayers were visited previously and a personal invitation was given them to attend the meetings.

VOTES FOR WOMEN -THIS SESSION

DEMONSTRATION

(Under auspices of Men's League for Women's Suffrage)

OUEEN'S HALL, (Langham Place) (Sole Lessees: Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd.),

Monday, February 20, Chairman: H. W. NEVINSON.

The Right Hon. EARL OF SELBORNE, C.C.M.C.

GEORGE LANSBURY, M.P., REV. J. IVORY CRIPPS, and others.

MDME. MARIE BREMA (Actresses' Franchise League)

will sing.

Tickets (Numbered and Reserved), 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s.; (Unreserved), 6d.; to be obtained at the offices of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, 159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, S.W., and from the N.U.W.S.S., Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, and all the Suffrage Societies.

Shropshire reports that a most successful whist drive was organized by Mr. and Mrs. Thomson of Shrewsbury, at their residence, in aid of the funds of that Society, whose exchequer has suffered from the heavy expenses during election time. A nice little sum was realized, thanks to the good management of the promoters. The Committee of the Shropshire Society is bringing pressure to bear upon the Town Council of Shrewsbury to move a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage, the Mayor having promised to lay the matter before the Council at their next meeting.

West Bromwich reports a successful meeting held there on January 22nd, the chair being taken by Mr. Pearce, who is the first President of the recently formed branch of the Men's League. An interesting address was given by Mrs. Alfred Osler on "The History of the Movement."

A meeting was held in January in Worcester at the residence of Canon Wilson. Mrs. Wilson presided, and Miss Power (Hon. Secretary to the local Society) spoke on the important resolutions passed by the Australian Senate on November 17th, 1910, testifying to the beneficial results of the extension of the Franchise to women in Australia.

Sutton Coldfield—a newly formed and new approximate of the supportant of the supportant resolutions passed by the Australian Senate on November 17th, 1910, testifying to the

Australia.

Sutton Coldfield—a newly formed and very promising young Society—reports that a Franchise Club on the same lines as that of Birmingham will soon be started, and from which very good results Rugby is organizing an important public meeting to be held in

Rugby is organizing an important public meeting, to be held in March, at which Lord Lytton and Mrs. Philip Snowden are expected to speak.

March, at which Lord Lytton and Mrs. Philip Snowden are expected to speak.

A very pleasant meeting was held at Wolverhampton on Monday evening, January 30. Mrs. B. Highfield Jones presided, and Mrs. Ring, of Birmingham, was the speaker. Miss Elsa Beringer recited most delightfully "The Awakening," by Miss Elsa Beringer recited most delightfully "The Awakening," by Miss Ella Wheeler Wilcox. Mrs. Ring dealt with the need for the vote in dealing with the pressing evils of the present day. A Study Circle was formed.

The Olton Society has been doing good work in urging upon the District Council to pass a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage. A deputation of two women ratepayers was received by the Clerk of the Council, who laid the matter before the Council. No action was taken.

The monthly meeting of the Warwick and Leamington Franchise Club was held on February 2nd. Mrs. Haines took the chair, and Miss Smyth, of Olton, gave an able speech which produced a lively and interesting debate. A letter was read from Mr. Brailsford, thanking the Club for the resolution they had passed at the Xmas party, thanking him for his services. Mr. Brailsford expressed great hope of success in the coming year.

The Committee of the Federation held a special meeting on January 27th, in London, to discuss future work on the lines laid down by the last Council, Mrs. W. E. Dowson in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary of the Federation would like to call attention to the great desirability of the systematic calling upon members, and hopes all the Societies in the Federation will include it in their scheme of work.

SCOTTISH FEDERATION.

SCOTTISH FEDERATION.

The short rest at Christmas, after December's work, seems to have given the Federation full strength for a new year of untiring energy. Encouraging reports of additions to their membership lists come from most of the Societies, in some parts awakened by the election work, in others by meetings, while in outlying districts—such as Orkney and Shetland, where severe weather and distance prevent meetings—good work has been done and members gained by letters and the circulation of literature.

Several Members of Parliament have been interviewed, sometimes under difficulties. Dunbar Society seized an opportunity for a ten minutes' interview (by arrangement) with the Member for Bute, Harry Hope, Esq., at Dunbar Station, and received promise of every support to the cause in Parliament.

The appointment of Mrs. Ross (Hon. Sec. Falkirk Society) as Suffrage Superintendent of the Stirling and District British Women's Temperance Association is a very satisfactory sign, temperance societies, in some instances, having held aloof from active Suffrage work. At the Friday meetings of the Edinburgh Society very interesting papers were read—on the 6th by Miss I. Pagan, "Woman, the Home,

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the State"; on the 13th by Miss Low, "Present Position and Future Work"; and on the 27th by Miss K. Scott Moncrieff, "The Suffrage: What It Is and Is Not." A variety was introduced on the 20th, when Mrs. Cargill Knott delivered a delightful lecture on Japan, with curios; charge for admission, with tea included, raised a profit of £1 15s. On the 18th Mrs. Harrison, Warrender, gave a drawing-room meeting, when Miss Low and Miss Scott Moncrieff held the interested attention of many ladies who had never before heard a Suffrage address.

722

Suffrage address.

The Glasgow Society had a very enjoyable At Home in their rooms, 58, Renfield Street, on the 13th. An address was given by Mrs. Gemmell, Partick, followed by discussion, Mrs. Gemmell's point—that assertion of rights had gained many benefits to the people—being

assertion of rights had gamet many between perpendicular fully and interestingly proved.

On the 14th the Peebles Society—growing steadily in numbers—held a well-attended meeting, addressed by Mrs. Sanderson, on "A Voice from Abroad," and Miss Cotterill, on "The Camlachie Elec-

By the kind invitation of Miss Caw, hon. treasurer, the Cupar Society enjoyed two pleasant At Homes on the 19th, afternoon and evening, at which inspiring addresses were given by Dr. Elsie Inglis. New members were enrolled, and a collection for the Federation was

New members were enrolled, and a collection for the Federation was taken amounting to £4.

The Perth Society gave a capital concert, followed by a play, on the 19th. The crowded audience was enthusiastic in its encores, and thoroughly appreciative of "How the Vote Was Won." A sum of £12 was realised. The Society's fortnightly meetings were resumed on the 26th, when a paper on "Social Progress in the Light of Evolution," given by Mrs. Barker, was enjoyed.

On the 19th, also, the Haddington Society held a meeting at Bellevue, by the kindness of Mrs. Hope. The members and friends greatly appreciated the address, kindly given at very short notice, from Lady Betty Balfour, which will be very helpful to the cause in Haddington

addington.

An At Home in the Dundee Society's office on the 20th was much An At Home in the Dundee Society's office on the 20th was much enjoyed, an address from Miss Mair, Edinburgh, being given, and recitations from friends. Some financial profit resulted from the sale of refreshments. (The account of the December At Home and Sale, which brought in over £20, was not received in time for the last report.) The Society during the month has been vigorously carrying out, at the request of Mr. Brailsford, a system of accurate investigation of the status of the municipal woman voters of Dundee

Dundee.

The Kelso Society's Cake and Apron Sale on the 27th, in the Morn Hall, was a great success. It was opened by an address from Mrs. Mein, and enthusiastically carried through by the stallholders and helpers, realising the satisfactory sum of £17.

Another Society will probably result from a meeting at Lesmahagow, on the 23rd, arranged by the invitation of Mrs. Charles Douglas, Auchlochan, when Dr. Elsie Inglis addressed a crowded audience and gained many adherents.

A Suffrage debate, by the invitation of the Mutual Improvement Society, Gullane, took place in the Free Church Hall there on the 31st, which Miss Low, Edinburgh, opened with the motion, "The Parliamentary vote should be given to women." Miss Dick Peddie, Edinburgh, arguel against. An audience of about 300 ladies and gentlemen were thoroughly interested, and the result of a ballot, systematically taken, in which 141 votes were received, was, 94 in favour, 47 against.

SURREY SUSSEX AND HANTS FEDERATION.

SURREY, SUSSEX, AND HANTS FEDERATION.

At the Portsmouth monthly members' meeting plans for raising the Society's income were explained. It was stated that a sewing circle already met once a fortnight, in which Women's Suffrage was discussed, and garments were made that sold well among Suffragists. A whist drive was arranged for Jan. 18th, a rummage sale for Feb. 22nd, and a café chantant for February 28th, and collections were decided on at members' meetings. Other subjects discussed were: First, the best way of bringing Women's Suffrage to the notice of the meetings of the British Association and the Free Church Council, to be held at Portsmouth during the year; secondly, how to obtain more subscribes to "The Common Cause"; thirdly, the removal of the library from Cosham to a more convenient place; fourthly, a plan for forming Cosham members into a self-contained circle, sharing finances with Portsmouth, but holding separate meetings, and for organizing propaganda work at Gosport, independently of Portsmouth. A pillow-case sale and the distribution of whist-drive tickets for disposal concluded the meeting.

Mrs. Gardiner held a drawing-room meeting on January 18th at the Broadway Studio, Worthing. The speaker, Miss Basden, touched on legislation affecting the home, and the old objections to women's education.

The Camberley, Guildford, and Godalming Societies sent members

education.

The Camberley, Guildford, and Godalming Societies sent members to a debate at Woking on January 17th. Mrs. Rackham opened the debate in favour of the Suffrage in a very able manner, and was admirably seconded by Professor Urwick. Miss Stuart, seconded by a lady Local Government worker, pleaded fervently for the exclusion of women from political responsibilities. After further discussion the motion was won by five votes. Numerous Anti-Suffragists

cussion the motion was won by five votes. Numerous Anti-Suffragists were present.

Miss Abadam addressed a meeting at Milford, Surrey, on January 20th, making an extremely clever speech of extraordinary interest. Sir William Chance presided. During the visit of Mrs. Cooper, the organizer, to Godalming, on February 2nd and 3rd, the Mayor presided at a small meeting at Farncombe, and Lady Chance held another meeting for working women, kindly providing tea afterwards. Between December 19th and 23rd two drawing-room teas were given at Camberley, and an open-air meeting was held, at all of which Miss Dunean, the organizer, spoke. At the meeting Mr. Abbey, of the Men's League, spoke also. On January 21st, a Church League drawing-room meeting took place at Frimley Rectory. Miss Frances Sterling was the speaker, and five of her audience joined the Society. On January 31st Miss Edith Craig brought a capital company of pioneer players, who acted "Pot and Kettle" and "How the Vote Was Won" before a large and appreciative audience, including many Anti-Suffragists. Dr. Ethel Smyth appeared in her Doctor of Music robes, and conducted her new Suffrage marching song with great effect.

A drawing-room meeting was held at Winchester on February 3rd,

by kind invitation of Mrs. Walter Carey. Miss Hodge was in the chair, and Miss Ryle read a paper on "Women and Economics." Miss Shakespeare also spoke, and there was an interesting discussion. Two new members were enrolled, and a number of "Common

BOURNEMOUTH.

The usual monthly public meeting was held at the Princes Hall at 4 p.m. on Friday, January 15th, when Councillor Mackenzie, acting as chairman, proposed a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mayor, Alderman Bridge. Miss Muriel Matters made a brilliant speech on Women's Suffrage, keeping her audience amused by her wit, as well as deeply interested by the more serious side of the question. There was a good attendance. A combined vote of thanks to chair, speaker, and musician was proposed by Mrs. Eddison in a charming little speech, which Miss Eileen Matters seconded. A good collection was taken, and some new members added to the ranks.

LINCOLN By kind permission of Mrs. Giles, a drawing-room meeting was held on January 31st, at The Quarry, Lincoln, for elementary school teachers, both men and women. Mrs. Giles gave tea, and then Mrs. Dowson, Secretary of the Nottingham Branch, gave a very interesting address, pointing out some of the ways in which Women's Suffrage would very rapidly bring about improvements in economic and social conditions.

NORWOOD AND DISTRICT.

Never has our Society had a more successful week than the past.

Last Tuesday hearty appreciation was unanimously accorded by a
large audience to the tableaux so artistically and skilfully arranged
by Miss McKechnie, and so well carried out by the performers. The
striking display, coupled with Miss Abadam's eloquent and forcible
commentary, has aroused the neighbourhood to enthusiasm. Besides
this, although the expenses were necessarily high, our funds have
been increased by a sum of over £6. Another result was a larger
attendance at our Saturday meeting, when a debate was held between
our president, Miss Abadam, and Miss Stewart, of the Anti-Suffrage
League. Not only were all available chairs occupied, but members of
the audience sat on the edge of the platform, on the shop counter,
and stood in every possible niche and corner. The vote showed a
large majority in favour of Women's Suffrage.

WEST HERTS. NORWOOD AND DISTRICT the audience sat and stood in eve large majority in WEST HERTS.

WEST HERTS.

On January 31st we held an afternoon "At Home" for members and friends at the Masonic Hall, Watford. The hall was crowded, and the audience enjoyed a good entertainment. Kind local friends, Miss Gabain, Miss Green, and Mrs. Mackail, provided the music. Dramatic recitations were given by Miss Campbell, Mr F. Sargent, and Mr. Williams. The two latter, busy professionals, came from London on purpose to help us, and we were very grateful to them for the large share that they contributed to the enjoyment of the afternoon. The tea afterwards was very successful.

Lord Lytton's meeting at Berkhamsted takes place on the 15th. We are co-operating with the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association on this occasion.



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Other Societies.

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

On Thursday, Pebruary 2nd, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, when Mrs. Kineton Parkes gave an address on "The Principles of Tax Resistance." Mrs. Katherine Tynan Hinkson took the chair, and the attendance was good. The Secretary has also spoken at meetings during the last ten days at Bath, Brighton, Eastbourne, and St. Leonards.

On Monday, January 30th, the first annual meeting, for members only, was held at Alan's Tea Rooms, and was of a purely business nature.

Our Advertisers.

Already signs of the Coronation year are in the air. Everyone has brisked up since we turned the corner and left 1910 in our rear, and the trade world is not behind. Especially busy are the house-agents this month, and they will get more and more important as June approaches. In our columns to-day will be found Mr. White's advertisement, and in a little talk I had with him I find that applications for flats are coming in rapidly, not only for the summer events but from people who are wanting to get out of town for a while. The furnished flats with four rooms are not expensive if two women take one together, and Mr. White seems to know of suitable places in most quarters of London. Of course, his work has the other side to it, and there is quite a little mine of wealth possible for people who want to let rooms and flats in town this year. Everyone knows how, at the last moment, wealthy Americans will pay and cram in cheerfully almost anywhere just to be spectators of such an event as the crowning of a King, and for that spectacle also Mr. White has seats to let.

Forthcoming Meetings.

FEBRUARY 9.	
Birmingham—Salisbury Road, Moseley—Mrs. Max S Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Kirby, Miss	turge's
Wright.	3 Noel
Dublin-Irish W.S. and Local Government Association	
Molesworth Street-Committee Meeting.	11
Bristol-5, Berkeley Square-Drawing-room Meeting	
Abadam, Mrs. Budgete (chair). Birmingham—Soho Hall, Handsworth—Mrs. Griffiths' Dr	3
room Meeting—Mrs Osler	awing-
room Meeting—Mrs. Osler. Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Speakers' Class.	5
Hayward's Heath—Co-operative Hall Mrs. Cooper	3
Sunderland—Meng's Café, Fawcett Street—Fortnightly Me	eting. 8
FEBRUARY 10. Wells—Guildhall—Miss Abadam.	0
Cuckfield—Queen's Hall—Mrs Cooper Rev C Hipseliff	8.
Middlesbrough-Southfield Villas-Mrs. Steel's Drawing	room
Meeting-Mrs. Merivale Mayer.	3.
FEBRUARY 11.	1000
Horsted Keynes—Parish Room—Mrs. Cooper. Chair, Corbett.	Mrs.
FEBRUARY 13.	7.
Leeds-Chanel Allerton Liberal Club Mice Fielden	8.
Tynemouth-35, Percy Gardens-Mrs. Ormond's Drawing	r-room
Tynemouth—35, Percy Gardens—Mrs. Ormond's Drawing Meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden. FEBRUARY 14.	3.
Leeds—Women's Liberal Club—Miss Fielden.	
Bournemouth Assembly Rooms, Town Hall Avenue—Del	7.
MISS BULLDAIL	1
Birmingham—Queen's College Councillon Managert A.11	
"Municipal Hostels"—Chair, Mrs. Osler. Wolverhampton—Council Schools, Bingley Street—Coun	3.
Margaret Ashton, M.A.	ncillor
FEIGRUARY 15	7.
Birmingham-Ascot Road, Moseley-Mrs. Harley's Drawing	room
Birmingham—Ascot Road, Moseley—Mrs. Harley's Drawing Meeting—Mrs. Reid, Miss N. Wright. Newcastle—27 Ridley Place "Wid,	3.
	W"-
Dr. Ethel Williams. Berkhamsted—Town Hall—The Earl of Lytton, Miss M.	7.
Dirmingham—Lonsdale Road, Harborne—Mrs. Mathews'	Draw-
	3.
Scarborough—8, Falconer's Chambers—Miss Fielden. Scarborough—Westlands School—Miss Fielden.	Afternoo
FEDRUARI 10.	Evenin
Limpsfield-Mrs. Osmaston's Drawing-room Meeting	_Mice
Lostock Graham—"Black Greyhound" Clubroom—Mise	7.1
FEBRUARY 17 Chair, J. R. Tomkinson,	Esq. 8.
Bristol-Lesser Colston Hall-Debate with AS Society	Man
1. I. Swallwick, M.A., Miss Ranson	Mrs.
Leith Hill and District Society—Dorking Public Hall—A	
Leeds-Mrs. Wilkinson's Drawing room Meeting Mrs.	3.
Sunderland 4 Date 1 Date wing toom meeting Miss Field	en. 8.
Sunderland , Belford Road Speakers' Clase	7
FEBRUARY 20.	8.
Meeting—Miss Dorothy Edwards, Leeds—Mrs. Wilkinson's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Field Sunderland—4, Belford Road—Speakers' Class. FEBRUARY 20. Except—Victoria Hall—Miss Abadam.	
Colwyn Bay—Cartmell's Coff—Appeal Mastin	
Exercise Victoria Hall-Miss Abadam	3.0

FEBRUARY 21.

Exeter—Educational Hall, Women's Co-op. Guild—Miss Abadam. 8.0

Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, Town Hall Avenue—At Home—

Miss M. Jeremy, M.B.

FEBRUARY 22.

4.0 TEBRUARY 22.
Topsham—St. Margaret's Hall—Women Only—Miss Abadam. 6.0
Newcastle—27, Ridley Place—Discussion. 7.0
Leeds—North-West Ward Women Liberals—Miss Fielden. 8.0
Woburn Sands—Institute—A.F.L. in "A Change of Tenant" and "How the Vote was Won." 3 and 8
FEBRUARY 23.
Budlejeh Saltartan, Margin II." 1 Fighruary 23.

Budleigh Salterton—Masonic Hall—Women Only—Miss Abadam. 3.0

Leeds—Albion Hall—At Home. 7.0 LONDON LONDON.

Feb. 11: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson,
Miss Abadam.

Feb. 15: Epsom, Mrs. Newsom's Drawing-room Meeting; lecture, "Mary Carpenter and Frances Power
Cobb," Miss Bompas.

Feb. 18: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Abadam, Miss Green.

Feb. 24: Wandsworth, 36, St. John's Road, Putney, Drawingroom Meeting, Miss E. A. Bompas, Miss R.
Smith.

3.0 SCOTLAND.

Feb. 9: Haddington, Assembly Rooms, At Home, Dr. Elsie Inglis, Miss Mair.
Leven, Beach Mount, Miss Younger's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Lisa Gordon.

Feb. 10: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, At Home, Miss Lamond; chair, Miss Mair.

Feb. 15: Edinburgh, Mrs. Melville's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Mair, Miss Alice Low.

Feb. 16: Dundee, East Foresters' Hall, Annual Business Meeting.

Feb. 17: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, At Home, Dr. Elsne Inglis, Miss Begbie (chair).

Feb. 23: Dundee, 12, Meadowside, Debating Society and Speakers' Class, Miss E. Lindsay.

Feb. 24: Edinburgh, Café Hall, Princess Street, Annual Meeting. 4.30

Feb. 25: Edinburgh, 5a, Frederick Street, Miss Begbie, Miss Low. SCOTLAND.

Feb. 9.—Bristol, Mrs. Talbot's drawing-room, 5, Berkeley Square.	3 30
rep. 10.—Wells. Public Meeting.	00
Feb. 18.—Norwood Suffrage Office, "The Passing of the Disagree	0.0
able Man."	8.0
Feb. 20.—Exeter, Victoria Hall, Public Meeting.	8.0
Feb. 21.—Exeter, Educational Hall.	8.0
Feb. 22.—Topsham, St. Margaret's Hall.	6.0
Feb. 23.—Budleigh, Salterton, Masonic Hall.	3.0
Feb. 27.—Stoke, Devenport Council Schools.	8.0
Feb. 28.—Plymouth, Lecture Hall.	8.0
March 3.—North Hackney, Church Hall.	8.0
March 4.—Norwood, Suffrage Office.	8.0
March 7.—Shrewsbury.	8.0
March 8.—Shrewsbury.	70
March 9 London, Mrs. Stanton Coit's Drawing-room Meeting,	0.0
Tax Resistance.	3.0

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