

# JUS SUFFRAGII

MONTHLY  
THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN



ORGAN OF  
SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 10. No. 6.

MARCH 1, 1916.

PRICE PER YEAR, 4 SHILLINGS; 4 MARKS; 5 FRANCS; 2½ FLORINS; 3 KRONER 60, SCANDINAVIA; 5 KRONEN, AUSTRIA; \$1; SINGLE COPIES, 4d.



Reproduced by special permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."

**PRO PATRIA.—Women's Work in War-time.**



## Board of Officers.

President: CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, 2, West 86th Street, New York, U.S.A.	3rd Vice-President: ANNA LINDEMANN, Degerloch, Stuttgart, Germany.	2nd Treasurer: SIGNE BERGMANN, 15, Grevmagnigatan, Stockholm, Sweden.	2nd Corresponding Secretary: JANE BRIGODE, 232, Avenue Albert, Brussels.
1st Vice-President: MILLENBURY GABRIEL FAWCETT, LL.D., 2, Gower Street, London, England.	4th Vice-President: MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, rue Pierre Charron, Paris, France.	1st Corresponding Secretary: KATHERINE DEXTER MCCORMICK, 393, Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.	1st Recording Secretary: CHRISTAL MACMILLAN, M.A., B.Sc., 39, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
2nd Vice-President: ANNIE FURUHJELM, M.P., Helsingfors, Finland.	1st Treasurer: ADELA STANTON COIT, 30, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W., England.	2nd Recording Secretary: MARIE STRITT, Reissigerstrasse 17, Dresden, Germany.	

Headquarters: 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, London. Telegrams: Vocorajito. Telephone: 4255 Regent.

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

## NOTICE.

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

## CONTENTS.

Austria—France	78
Germany	80
Great Britain	81
British Dominions Overseas	83
Hungary	85
Netherlands	86
Russia—Sweden	87
Denmark	88
Norway—U.S.A.	89
Treasurer's Report	90
New Zealand	91
Correspondence	91
Notes	92

## "Jus Suffragii" Index.

The index to Vol. 8 and part of Vol. 7 is now in print, and all readers of the paper should order it, price 6d., post free. The subject matter is indexed under every country, and also under subject headings.

Some of the subjects are:—

- Age of Consent.
- Care of Children.
- Divorce.
- Economic Conditions.
- Educational Appointments.
- Franchise Bills.
- Government Action on Woman Suffrage.
- Honours for Women.
- Lawyers (Women).
- Local Government.
- Married Women.
- Men's Demand for Woman Suffrage.
- Naturalisation Laws.
- Policewomen.
- Prostitution.
- Reviews.

While under each country all the news from that country is classified, a bound volume of *Jus Suffragii* with the index thus becomes a valuable work of reference, indispensable for Suffrage workers, writers, and speakers. Two international postal coupons may be sent in payment by readers on the Continent. A cover specially designed will shortly be ready. Also index to Vol. 9 is now in the press.

## "Jus Suffragii."

Readers of *Jus Suffragii* have supported us well during the past year, but we must now call upon them for further help. Other Suffrage papers, which are the organs of national societies, have various means of arousing interest—meetings of all kinds, and intercourse among members. In the ordinary course of events the International Woman Suffrage Alliance gains members and subscribers by its biennial congresses. The Congress which should have met at Berlin in 1915 would have been a splendid opportunity for gaining fresh support both in writers and subscribers. That opportunity having fallen through, it is urgently necessary that active steps should be taken to increase the circulation of *Jus Suffragii* and to fill the unavoidable vacancies caused by the war. We appeal to our readers to help us by sending out sample copies to their friends with a request to subscribe.

Sample copies may be had for this purpose free of charge on application to the Office, 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

## BY-LAW.

"The I.W.S.A., by mutual consent of its auxiliaries, stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

## AUSTRIA.

## SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC WOMEN.

The Social-Democratic women of Lower Austria, Bohemia, Tyrol, Upper Austria, Salzburg, and Styria met in Vienna in November, and discussed the following problems:—"The working-women's movement after the war," "The organisation of young girls," and action for raising the maintenance grants to the wives and children of soldiers. With regard to the latter point, the main question was how to make the grants harmonise with the increased cost of living. A manifesto was sent to the Finance Minister after the conference.

The co-operative women in Austria have also sent in a memorial on the rise of prices, and based it on a number of careful family budgets. This manifesto has roused the greatest interest, and has been handed by the War Committee to the Ministers for War, for Foreign Affairs, and for Home Defence, and to the Minister President. A copy was also sent to the Hungarian Minister, so that all Government departments dealing with the food supply should have full information as to the effects on housekeeping.

From *Frauenbewegung*.

## FRANCE.

## THE FRENCH ACADEMY RENDERS HOMAGE TO WOMEN.

The Academy this year is crowning works of mercy, and the recipients of its insignia will to a great extent be women. Out of 70 prizes, 47 are awarded to women's doings. First come the three Red Cross Societies, who are allotted three prizes of 8,000 francs. A large number of women have sacrificed their lives in this work. M. Hanotaux makes special mention of Mme. Fontaine, Mlle. Cosse, and five Sisters of Mercy killed by the enemy, and mentioned in Army orders. A hundred Army orders are quoted, and in mentioning the Comtesse O. Gornas and Mme. Guy de Lussac, the commandant of the 18th Region says: "These ladies remained at their post with the same valiance as the wounded soldiers in the firing-line"; both died as the result of their devotion. Six nurses of the Société de Secours were mentioned in Army orders in the following terms: "They gave evidence of the greatest devotion and courage in the care of the French wounded of the ambulances of Furnes. In spite of almost daily bombardment they remained at their post until the last wounded had been removed." The names of these nurses were Mme. Panas, Mlles. D'Haussonville, Murat, Wasender, Ansart, Kossisogler. M. Hanotaux makes special mention of the fine conduct of Mme. Macherez, and of Mlle. Germaine Sellier and Mlle. Siron, of whom the surgeon-in-chief said in Army orders: "They showed the most magnificent example of military courage."

The "Union des Femmes de France" has lost Mlle. Suzanne Gilles, Mlle. Pagnard, and Mme. Phillebert, killed by the enemy; and Mlle. Guinger, seriously wounded. Very many more instances could be given; but it is not only at the front that women have distinguished themselves. Workshops for the unemployed, homes for refugees and for orphans, and many more emergency organisations, have arisen, of the greatest usefulness, and are here recognised.

In making these awards, the Academy has recognised not only the traditional feminine virtues, but has done homage in women to virtues hitherto praised mostly in men—bravery, resource, initiative, and organisation; in which women have shown themselves men's equals. Let us hope that these

qualities are as much appreciated by the State as by the Academy, and that it will be unwilling to leave fallow so much valuable force; and that if the one awards us crowns, the other will award us the rights of citizens.

—From *La Française*.

## THE WAR AND THE SCHOOLS.

The war has raised some special problems in regard to schools, and different questions have arisen, especially in connection with primary education. We think the subject will interest everyone who has the fate of the children at heart, and consequently all women. How can the numerous male teachers who have been mobilised be replaced so that the children shall not be left without instruction? Should we, on account of the scarcity of workers, allow the children to work in the fields and close the schools?

The various difficulties have, however, been met, and the remarkable devotion of the whole body of teachers has much facilitated the task of the organisers.

Nearly everywhere women have replaced male teachers who have been mobilised, often by doing double work, for the boys' and girls' schools were combined, and often two villages had not more than one school.

So little have the children been deprived of the instruction necessary in the preparation of the future of the nation, that during the holidays many schools remained open, chiefly for the sake of the infant classes, so that the mothers should be freer to work in the fields, where the big girls and boys helped them. The self-sacrifice and devotion of the female teachers have been admirable; they have voluntarily sacrificed their holidays, and were so ardent to continue their work, even abroad, that a woman teacher from the invaded district of the Ardennes, a prisoner in Saxony, wrote to her *Inspecteur d'Académie*: "I find here seventy children from four to sixteen years of age. My colleague at V—— and I asked and obtained the permission of the Commandant to give our children lessons. Thus we are working on foreign soil, following the example of our more happy colleagues who have been able to stay in France. Goodwill will take the place of equipment and material. The days of captivity will pass more quickly, we hope, in the exercise of regular work. Though far away, *Monsieur l'Inspecteur d'Académie*, I am still under your administration. The distance which separates us is only material, and is not teaching the little French prisoners in Saxony as good a work as teaching the free little scholars of France!"

As to the class attendances, at harvest or apple-picking times, it has evidently been necessary to shut one's eyes to certain excusable failings, but the Minister of Public Instruction sent in January, 1915, a circular to all the School Inspectors of the Departments, asking them to have the matter of attendance supervised by the cantonal delegates, and to ask them, "if the attendance of scholars is insufficient, to discuss with the municipalities the necessary steps for increasing it. It is on this point that I particularly beg you to attract their attention. The law in regard to obligatory attendance at school ought to be enforced this year more rigorously than ever. It would be scandalous to see children abusing the absence of their fathers, who are serving their country, by playing truant; it would be deplorable to see children deprived of education because the departure of their father to join the Army should have condemned them either to beggary or to premature labour; at the moment when grown men are fighting for the defence of our civilisation, the least one could expect is that their sons should be initiated into its principles. So you will ask all friends of the schools to redouble their generosity in order that every child may attend a class, to redouble their vigilance so that not a single one should abstain."

We shall then be able to hope that the new generation will not in the future have a burden of ignorance to add to the "terrible consequences of the war."

## THE WAR AND CAREERS OPEN TO WOMEN.

Everything that offers a new field of action to women to earn their living worthily is of immense interest to us, and it is with great pleasure that we quote below the Minister of War's recent circular:—

"The Minister of War,  
"To the Under-Secretaries of State and *Directeurs de l'Administration centrale, les généraux commandant les régions.*

Paris, 26 Janvier, 1916.

"In my despatch of November 10, 1915, I called your attention to the possibility of replacing the military personnel

occupied in copying work by a female personnel of typists and stenographers, women generally being more apt at this work than men.

"Going further in this direction, I am prepared to admit women instead of men to all posts and to all employments in the military personnel where such a course is possible.

As a consequence of the happy initiative of certain people, this replacement has already been effected by certain heads of services. This is the sort of action I should like to see more general.

"It is, of course, understood that the employment of the feminine worker should result in a correlative reduction, by at least an equal number, of the male military personnel.

"I therefore beg you to ascertain in what employments this replacement could become operative—extending this measure in the largest possible way,—and to put your propositions before me in this sense by February 15 next.

"I would mention in particular certain employments in clothing shops, in the ready-made clothes workrooms and repairing workrooms, in the hospitals, in the factories working for the Army, etc.

In another connection, and as an example of private initiative, we will give here the principal passages in a letter which a Breton lady, wife of a notary serving in the Army, sent to "La Française":—

"Above all I felt the need of filling the place left vacant by my husband to safeguard interests, which are important to me on account of my children, and at a time of such strain as we are going through, one would not wish to remain inactive. I thus had at home material to occupy my thirst for activity, but having by temperament an open mind in all feminist questions, I was not content to be the clerk of an official notary; I wished to become the official clerk. You know as well as I do that men in general, even husbands, do not like a step, however light, taken into what they consider their own domain. Finally, without encouragement, several days before the October meeting, I risked making a request to the President of the Chamber of Dinan for my admission and inscription on probation as a clerk to the notary in my husband's office. A week later I received a short and laconic reply expressing the regret that was felt at not being able to comply with my request, *the law only taking into account male applicants (la loi ne visant que les aspirants seuls) (sic)*. Having entered my name at the *Cours de l'Ecole Polytechnique de Notariat* (by correspondence in the Rue Serpente), I informed the Chef du Secrétariat of my request, and then of the reply of the Chamber of Dinan. I received here a warmer welcome. I was advised to put the question to the Keeper of the Seals, and a fortnight ago I received a certificate, stating that from the work I had submitted to the School I was certainly fit to perform the functions of a notary's clerk.

"Furnished with this certificate, and this time with authority from my husband, I last week petitioned Deputy M. B. to present a request to the Keeper of the Seals for the admission of women to the functions of a notary, or at least to those of a notary's clerk, and for my admission on probation.

"I have got so far. I have been awaiting a reply, doubtless negative, before addressing myself to the feminist Press. There are women doctors, women advocates and lawyers. Why should there not be women notaries?"

"Anyway, my husband now seems very satisfied with my services. Clients no longer seem to be suspicious of me—on the contrary; so already there is a little satisfaction for my efforts. I have taste for and interest in my studies, which I shall not give up, whatever happens; but I confess that my satisfaction will only be complete when we have succeeded; but I think that will be difficult. If I do not succeed, there will be others; it is inevitable."

At this new effort for independence we have already heard certain people exclaim: "Why should women want to be notaries?" They have no more need to be notaries than lawyers or doctors, that is understood; but they have need to earn their living, and to do that all careers must be open to them.

DE WITT-SCHLUMBERGER,  
President of the *Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes*,  
(Affiliated to the I.W.S.A.).

## PROPOSED VOTES FOR WIDOWS AND MOTHERS OF FALLEN SOLDIERS.

M. Maurice Barrès announces that he intends to introduce a Bill into the Chamber to give the Parliamentary vote to the widows of fallen soldiers, or, failing such, to the fathers or mothers; his idea in doing this is to carry out the will of the



dead. Mme. Jane Misme criticises this project as being based on sentiment rather than reason, and says that feminists will not oppose the proposal, as it will draw attention to the fact that the voice of half the living population has up to now been stifled, and that public opinion will be roused to demand that every man and every woman should vote to express the will of the living, so that no interest may be neglected and no good will lost. Thus the will of those who have given their lives for a nobler and better France will be followed by the best means for attaining that object.

### GERMANY.

#### POPULATION QUESTION.

The German Society for a Population Policy met in committee in the Prussian Parliament House in Berlin on November 15, and passed resolutions—(1) urging that, one of the causes of sterility being venereal disease, pains should be taken to combat it in the Army; (2) welcoming the steps taken by the Government to secure a good supply of pure milk for infants and nursing mothers, and emphasising the importance of the thorough carrying out of these measures; (3) establishing a committee to safeguard the conditions of illegitimate children; (4) forming a committee to supervise conditions and payment of Government officials, with a view to promoting growth of population; (5) establishing a Housing Committee.

#### THE FIGHT AGAINST VENEREAL DISEASE.

*Frauenbewegung* gives an account of the measures proposed to prepare for and combat the inevitable danger of a great spread of venereal disease such as follows every war, and which presents terrible dangers for Europe after the present gigantic war, when thousands of infected men will return to civil life. A meeting has been held of the heads of State insurance societies, when the work to be undertaken by them in the prevention of venereal disease was discussed. The military medical service takes every care and precaution where infected soldiers are involved, and the insurance societies will take over the patients with absolute privacy, and treat them without any publicity or deterrent action. The Army and Navy medical service, the workmen's and employes' societies, the civil doctors, and the insurance have all consulted and agreed together on the measures to be taken. Consulting-rooms for persons suffering from these diseases will first of all begin with patients from the fighting forces, and later be extended to the use of the civil population. Thus will a beginning be made in bringing treatment within the reach of all without any penalising or publicity, and the prevention of contagion will be secured without recourse to methods which discriminated unjustly between men and women.

#### ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND MILITARY MAINTENANCE GRANTS.

The position of the unmarried mother and her child has always occupied the sympathetic attention of the German women's movement, and especially that of the League for the Protection of Mothers. In an interesting article in the *Frauenbewegung*, Auguste Kirchhoff discusses the new aspects of the question raised by the war. There are 180,000 illegitimate births annually in Germany, and now that the problem of replenishing the population is exercising the minds of politicians, this is a serious factor. After the conclusion of peace, the Reichstag will decide the grants to dependants of those fallen in battle. The Committee suggests making them the same for children whose parentage is recognised, whether born in or out of wedlock. This would be in accordance with the demands of the League for Mothers made in November, 1914, which demands equal rights legally and socially for all children. Another demand in the same sense was made by the Society for the Care of Children, and received great support. This petition differed from the other inasmuch as it only wished equal treatment for soldiers' children in connection with the war, and did not wish for any alteration in the status of illegitimate children as laid down in the civil code, which does not recognise the father at all. The Catholic women have made their position clear in demanding that the children in question should be well cared for by charity, and not put on the same footing as those born in wedlock. The writer of the article considers that the ill-effects of differential treatment put a lifelong stigma on the child, which diminishes its self-respect and embitters its character. This stigma has done nothing to prevent the birth of such children. Ten per cent. of births are illegitimate, but the recognition by the State of the rights of the children would have a good moral effect by implying the duties of the father, who at present escapes all the obligations laid upon the married father. What is really

needed is to create the sense of responsibility of parentage, and to enforce the standpoint of the importance and value of each individual life. It is hoped that the military provision for dependants will strengthen this point of view.

#### THE WAR CONGRESS OF CATHOLIC WOMEN IN THE REICHSTAG BUILDING IN JANUARY, 1916.

The sixth meeting of the Catholic Women's League was the occasion of the most brilliant gathering which has ever graced any women's meeting in Germany. The Crown Princess was present, representing the Empress; the Queen of Bavaria was represented; the Prince Bishop of Breslau and the Cardinal of Cologne were present; the Imperial Chancellor and the Prussian Minister were represented; the President of the Reichstag was present, and a large number of public officials and societies sent representatives. The important ecclesiastics and statesmen present spoke hearty words of appreciation of the League, recognising the weight and value of its membership of 90,000.

The note struck in all discussions was the rôle to be played by women in the work of reconstruction. The President, Fr. Dransfeld, emphasised the new position taken by women, who have been forced into public life, and must now play their part in it. The population question played a large part in the debates, and was, of course, treated from the orthodox Catholic standpoint, great stress being laid by the resolution on the sanctity of marriage as the stronghold of a growing population.

The important official recognition given by the highest authorities to this meeting marks a very distinct advance in status for a women's organisation.

#### WOMEN'S WORK IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Frankfurt a/M. has a bureau for promoting the employment of women in municipal employment. This bureau publishes valuable statistics. Inquiry shows that in 45 large towns women's unpaid work has increased in five years by, in poor-law work 55 per cent. (at present 2,608 women), in the care of orphans 55 per cent., on committees 338 per cent., and in housing 287 per cent. With regard to the paid posts, the increase was also very considerable.

—From *Frauenbewegung*.

"Sozialistische Auslandspolitik" (German Socialist) has the following notes on:

#### SUFFRAGISTS AND WOMEN'S WAGES IN ENGLAND.

"In times of peace the English woman's movement has often been accused of representing the woman's point of view with too much bias against men. During the war a change seems to be taking place in the attitude of the women. . . . Margaret Ashton, a member of the Manchester Town Council, and a zealous supporter of the demand for Women's Suffrage, is working especially to prevent women from competing in such a way as to lower men's wages. At a committee meeting in Manchester, she said quite recently that the *status quo ante* would scarcely return after the war. Women would remain in certain branches of industry where they had not worked formerly, but they wished to protect men just as much as women from underpayment.

"Propaganda is being carried on for a minimum wage of £1 a week for adult women. But in certain branches of industry women are still disgracefully underpaid.

We find the same occurring in all countries. The only cure is general organisation of men and women workers together, and energetic measures against those who make large profits out of war contracts, and yet grudge their workers sufficient pay to keep pace with rising prices. "It is a matter for rejoicing that Women Suffragists in England are working towards the establishment of a decent rate of wages. Hitherto nothing has been made public as to any efforts of the German Suffragists in this connection."

"Sozialistische Auslandspolitik" has the following notes on Women's Suffrage in Holland:—

An Electoral Bill has been introduced into the Dutch Second Chamber, widening the franchise and removing the obstacles to the Suffrage for women.

"Politically, Universal Suffrage will only benefit the country; the women who have seen the horrors of war in their immediate neighbourhood, who saw the misery of the fugitives, will do their utmost to protect their country and their people from such terrors. Thus the granting of the Suffrage to women in this time of universal war may be regarded as a fresh proof of the peace policy of Holland."

### GREAT BRITAIN.

#### NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

The National Union held its annual Council meeting in February. There was a large attendance of delegates from the societies throughout the country, and the meeting extended over two days. In her presidential address, Mrs. Fawcett spoke of the progress of the movement in other countries, with special mention of the victory gained for Women's Suffrage in the province of Manitoba, West Canada, which was of great importance, because after the war the Colonies would be drawn into closer relationship with the mother country, and it would be an immense advantage if the Suffragists were able to point to three out of four of the self-governing dominions as having enfranchised their women.

Mrs. Fawcett spoke of the revolution which had taken place in the industrial position of women since the war. The great barriers that had so long kept women out of the higher-grade industries and skilled labour had now broken down, and a new weapon had been placed in the hands of Suffragists by the opportunities of training, good work, and good wages within the reach of women. Her announcement of the safe return of our doctors and nurses from Serbia was received with enthusiastic applause. "They have a heroic record," said Mrs. Fawcett, the sentence being greeted with hearty demonstrations of joy.

The following resolution was moved by the Executive, and carried:—

"That this Council reaffirms its continued devotion to the object for which the National Union was formed—namely, to obtain the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men,—and believes that the experiences of the war have demonstrated anew that the claim of women to citizenship is abundantly justified. It further pledges itself to work whenever and wherever there is an opportunity to ensure that a measure extending the Parliamentary franchise to women shall be placed on the Statute Book at the earliest possible moment."

The various resolutions passed dealt mainly with questions concerning the economic and industrial position of women, the promotion of the principle of equal opportunities of training, and equal standards of pay and promotion for men and women in those trades now open to women which were formerly open to men alone; and the proper care of the mother and child. Resolutions were also passed urging the Government to throw open the higher posts of responsibility in the civil service to women, and to make greater use of the services of experienced women in responsible positions. A recommendation to the Government, that whenever possible a fair proportion of women should be appointed on all public governing and administrative bodies, was moved and carried. In the evening a number of the delegates visited the workrooms established by the London Society for training women in oxy-acetylene welding and certain branches of engineering work required in the manufacture of aeroplanes.

#### SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

The second unit, in charge of Dr. Alice Hutchison, and fifteen members of the first unit, with Drs. Helen MacDougal and Davidson, arrived home on February 12 from Serbia, and it is hoped that by the time these lines are in the Press Dr. Elsie Inglis, the head of the first unit, and the rest of its personnel will be back in England. In spite of the many hardships they had to undergo, chiefly owing to bad and insufficient food, bad housing, and vexatious delays, the members of the units looked little the worse for their experiences, and were in good spirits. Thanks to the courage and firmness of Dr. Hutchison, and the wonderful resource and ingenuity of the administrator, Miss Jack, the women fared less badly than they would have done without their wise leadership. Dr. Hutchison was able on several occasions, in the face of considerable opposition, to obtain the privileges usually given to Red Cross workers according to the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

When Dr. Hutchison evacuated the hospital at Vrujacka Banja on the arrival of the Austrians, she took the English flag with her, wrapping it round her body under her clothes, in order that it might not be trampled on or insulted by the invaders.

The women, when ordered to go to Krushevatz to work in a hospital there, were not allowed to take their equipment with them, as the Germans demanded it for their own use; but Dr. Hutchison refused to give it up until a receipt had been given for it, in order that she might claim payment after the war.

When they received orders to go to work in a cholera hospital, Dr. Hutchison insisted on the members of her unit being inoculated first. She was accused of cowardice. She said she was quite willing to go herself without being inoculated, but she refused to allow any of the nurses under her charge to run such a risk. Some of the nurses were then inoculated, but their services were not called upon.

One night the party spent in a hut full of Austrian orderlies, because no accommodation had been prepared for them, and they were left without food. The orderlies were very kind, and gave the unit some bread. In order to sleep, the women had to lie on tables, benches, or stretchers, but many of the orderlies gave up their places, and slept on the floor. At Karevana the party were given two rooms, each only large enough to hold eight beds, and in these rooms thirty-four of them had to live, straw being given to them to sleep on.

At the end of two months the Scottish women were handed over to the frontier police, and treated as ordinary interned persons. Throughout their journeyings the members of the units cheerfully endured privations, always striving to make the best of a bad situation, and there were times when they were able to extract considerable fun and amusement from some of the incidents which occurred when they were under a military guard. The story is best told in Dr. Hutchison's own words:—

"We were not allowed to go out without a guard, and the guard had a rooted objection to long walks. After one expedition which we took him he got so tired that he complained to the captain, though we had been only about five or six miles. He reported that it would not be so bad if we would only walk, but we 'flew like geese over the mud.' The officer called me up, and gravely remonstrated; but I expressed my surprise that Austrian soldiers could not keep up with British women, and insisted that we must have exercise, or we should get ill. After this a tall, strapping young man was provided to escort us on our morning walks, and another, not quite so active, for the afternoon shopping expeditions. I used to chaff them after those excursions, and express a hope that they were not too tired, to which they would reply with a sheepish grin."

On the whole the units were not badly treated by the Austrians, who were almost invariably courteous and kind, both officers and men going out of their way to alleviate the condition of the units. At Karevana mysterious gifts of bread and fruit were occasionally found put in through the window of their dwelling-house, placed there by sympathetic civilians.

No news has come in from Dr. Elsie Inglis since she was ordered to leave for Belgrade. She was in Krushevatz when it was occupied by the Germans, and some of her nurses were slightly injured during the shelling of the town. Dr. Inglis reports that the food was scarce—they were ten days without bread, and four days without meat,—but they were more fortunate in some respects than Dr. Hutchison, because they were in the charge of the police, and not under the military authorities, and had the protection of the American Consul.

#### CORSICA.

The unit at Ajaccio is very busy among the Serbian refugees. Many of the patients are wounded soldiers, but there are also a considerable number of civilians, and it is good news to hear that a maternity ward will shortly be opened. Before the hospital was established, the staff did excellent travelling to and from Corsica on the ships which brought refugees across (a journey of three days), and attending to their needs. Several babies are born on these voyages, and the advantage of having skilled medical aid is of immense benefit.

#### ROYAUMONT.

Royaumont is opening a new ward, to be called the "London Ward," and will be maintained by the London society for six months. It is gratifying to read the various testimonies from the patients at Royaumont of the good work done there by our doctors and nurses. The following concluding paragraph taken from a letter in a French newspaper, *L'Eclair*, makes us feel proud even of the little help we can give. The letter was written by one of the former patients:—"Ne veuillez voir, dans cette lettre déjà longue, que l'hommage que je tiens à rendre en mon nom et au nom des blessés soignés ici, à l'administration de cet hôpital, aux soins dévoués qui y sont donnés, et à la toute maternelle assistance que tous y reçoivent. C'est un dernier témoignage qu'avant de quitter ces lieux je tiens à rendre au 'Scottish Women's Hospital,' témoignage qui, tout faible qu'il soit, n'en reste pas moins le fidèle interprète de ma profonde gratitude.—P.H."



## GIRTON AND NEWNHAM UNIT, SALONIKA.

Extracts from a letter from Dr. McIlroy give a vivid description of the condition of invaded Serbia:—"You will know by this time that we have reached this place (Salonika) in safety with all the staff and equipment, much to my relief. The French authorities, at my request, allowed us to stay as long as safety permitted, so as to give Mrs. Harley time to have a place ready here for us. I took care of the unit, as we still had patients in. We got all our patients off, and all our equipment, and we really felt it was a score, as the guns seemed to be getting nearer every day. Now, just after we left, Gheguelli was bombarded, and our factory building in flames. We were distressed leaving that beautiful country, with its hills. I never realised the horrors of war until I got to the front. Those villages becoming evacuated daily as the enemy got nearer; the roads full of droves of refugees, with their donkeys laden with their household goods, followed by their dogs and children! One village near which we visited a few days before we left had such a deserted look, the dogs howling in front of their empty homes. Dr. Kerr picked up a pussy cat, and she began to purr immediately. We have her with us here, a very happy animal. . . . The doors of the churches were open, and beautiful carved wood and vestments just left for the Bulgars. I have never seen anything so sad; I shall never forget it."

## BRITISH WOMEN'S MATERNITY UNIT FOR REFUGEES IN RUSSIA.

The British women's maternity unit, which left London on January 29, has, after a successful journey by sail and by sleigh, reached its destination, Petrograd. A telegram announcing this news has been received at headquarters in London, and the unit is now at work in the "barak" (shelters) handed over to them by the Tatiana Committee. The institution will be known as the British Women's Maternity Hospital. In connection with the hospital it is hoped shortly to open an out-patients' department for the treatment of minor ailments amongst the refugees, and for the relief of distress. Large stores of clothing, drugs, and milk foods are in readiness for this department, but further supplies for future use will be needed.

The need for help amongst refugees in other districts of Russia is also urgent, perhaps even more urgent than in Russia's metropolis. The organiser, Miss Thurston, working on behalf of the Tatiana Committee and the British association, reports on the necessity for help in Kazan; and Miss Moberley, the administrator, suggests the advisability of an orphanage for lost refugee children at Tsarskoe Selo, a point within easy reach of Petrograd. There are numbers of these lost children separated from their parents in their wanderings, whose claim for protection is insistent. The Countess Tolstoi has housed one hundred, Madame Stoupina provided for fifty more, and many other Russian ladies are making similar sacrifices; yet the task is far from completion.

We hear of a "barak" in the district of Gatchina (a town twenty miles south of Petrograd) sheltering some hundreds of little children, victims of the terrible hardships of their exodus. The weakest of them fall an easy prey to disease, and death claims relentlessly his daily toll. It is for these children that the British women would put forth steady efforts, so that their future may be safeguarded. Experience with Belgian refugee children in this country has at least proved that the effects of mental shock amongst the young may be alleviated or annulled by scientific treatment. Such treatment—the diversion of the young minds into new and pleasant paths, the reawakening of the rights of childhood in laughter, in dance, and song; the rehabilitation of the divine instinct for play—the British units desire to employ amongst the stricken children rescued from death by the authorities in Russia. The help of the British women is heartily invited, and many skilled Englishwomen have already offered their services. An appeal is being made for funds to carry on this constructive work of the future.

## FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL.

The following representatives of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies attended the ceremony of the unveiling of the Florence Nightingale memorial at St. Paul's by the Queen on February 14:—Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D. (President), Miss Frances Sterling (Chairman), and Mrs. Edmund Garrett (Editor of the *Common Cause*).

## WOMEN MUNITION WORKERS.

Further reports have been issued by the committee appointed to inquire into and advise on questions of industrial fatigue. The chief recommendations, stated briefly, are:—That night work calls for particular care and supervision; that there is

need for improved facilities for housing and transit; that periods of work should be limited; that for women and girls a portion of Saturday and the whole of Sunday should be available for rest; and that the usual factory holidays should be given as heretofore. Nourishing meals should be provided, and adequate time allowed for their consumption. Other reforms advocated in the interest of the workers and the output are the examination of all women applicants by a medical woman, and to arrange for girls who complain of illness to consult a medical woman familiar with the conditions of work. The committee is of opinion that if the high maximum of output of which women are undoubtedly capable is to be maintained, steps must be taken to secure sympathetic oversight of the workers, good wholesome food, comfortable accommodation, easy transit to and from the factories, and curtailment of long hours of work.

Remarkable tributes to the zeal and efficiency of the women, and the spirit of patriotism which animates them, continue to appear in the public Press, from which the following quotations are taken:—

"In every war that engages the heart and soul of a nation and calls out all its energies, the part played by women has throughout history been a great one, and the story of mankind is full of refutations of the easy fallacy that women are less moved than men by those considerations of national honour which arise when battle is joined. . . . British women will have the proud knowledge that theirs was an indispensable part . . . whether it was played in their own traditional work of the care of the wounded and sick, or in the innumerable departments of labour they have entered upon in order to strengthen the country's reserve of manhood."—*Daily Telegraph*.

"To those of us who are watching the rapid progress of the emancipation (of women), the spectacle excites both amazement and admiration of the spirit of patriotic fervour with which women of every grade of social standing are responding to the call to help the Empire. We shall need their help in almost every department of the nation's multifarious activities, and without mental reservation of any sort we ask them to consider themselves henceforth as of ourselves—not for the period of the war only,—endowed with all the responsibilities of citizenship."—*Glasgow Herald*.

"The war has already proved that woman has not hitherto been given her opportunity in most parts of the Empire. . . . To-day it begins to look as though the votes-for-women demonstrations were but manifestations of the tremendous pent-up energy of more than half the nation."—*Daily Mail*.

This paper goes even further than advocating votes for women. In a leading article the writer considers seriously the question whether it would not be well if the Cabinet were composed of an equal number of men and women. "Women, the practical-minded sex, not only talk, but act." It is difficult to believe that this paper was Anti-Suffragist before the war.

## WOMEN AND AGRICULTURE.

The Board of Agriculture is directing a campaign to secure women farm workers, and to provide training for women in this important branch of industry. Women's employment committees, organised by women divisional inspectors of the Labour Exchange department of the Board of Trade, are being established in every county. Miss Talbot has been appointed an inspector for the Board of Agriculture, and her duty will be to keep the whole organisation in close touch with that Board and the Labour Exchange Department, and to organise panels of women speakers to speak at meetings arranged by the women's employment committees. Given the opportunity, there is no doubt that women can carry out this work of first-rate national importance. A recruiting campaign is being organised to mobilise a land army of 40,000 women, a regulation uniform will be provided, and the women will wear green armlets with Royal crown. Though there is some opposition to the employment of women in certain quarters, there is no lack of enthusiasm on the part of women themselves.

It is hoped that there will be very encouraging results from the visit to France of a party of selected working women, who will be given the opportunity of seeing how French women carry on agricultural industries while their men are in the trenches. The party will consist of eight persons, including Miss La Mottie, of the Board of Trade; Miss Gladys Pott, treasurer of the Berkshire Committee of Women and Farm Labour; Miss Chillingworth, a farmer's daughter; and Professor Salmon, of University College, Reading.

## OCCUPATIONS THROWN OPEN TO WOMEN.

The London General Omnibus Company has decided to employ women conductors on their motor-omnibuses. The women will receive the same pay as men conductors, and do the same work. The company is considering the question of engaging women as drivers.

The London County Council proposes to employ women as drivers of motor-ambulances. They will be given the same wages as men, and a six-monthly war bonus.

A woman has been given the post of telegraphist at Marconi House, the centre of the wireless telegraphy in this country.

## FRENCH HONOUR FOR BRITISH NURSE.

Miss Florence Burn, attached to the French Army, has been decorated with a bronze medal for her services in nursing infectious cases at a temporary hospital.

E. PALLISER,

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies,  
affiliated to the I.W.S.A.

## Women's Freedom League.

At the end of January the W.F.L. resumed its activities, and Suffrage work is now in full swing, not only in London, but in the provinces of England, as well as in Wales and Scotland. In addition to our weekly afternoon meetings in Caxton Hall we had a political meeting on February 18 to consider the King's Speech and the political situation. A resolution pledging the W.F.L. to oppose any extension of the franchise to men unless and until women are enfranchised was carried unanimously. The Political and Militant Department of the W.F.L. is closely watching the working of the Defence of the Realm Act, and is particularly concerned with the over-riding of Habeas Corpus under that Act. We feel that this infringement of the people's liberties is not receiving the serious attention from the public which it deserves.

A standing deputation, on which other Suffrage Societies are represented, has been formed, which can be summoned at a moment's notice whenever necessity arises.

In order that our efforts in the woman's cause shall not be hampered by want of funds, we are making a vigorous effort to increase the finances of the League. We have started a shilling fund, and every member of the W.F.L. is asked to give at least one shilling herself and to collect as many shillings from her friends as she can. We aim at getting the very substantial sum of 50,000 shillings (£2,500) in this way within a reasonable time. The scheme has been warmly taken up by our members.

KATHLEEN TANNER.

## BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

## Canada.

Our great news this month is the passage of the Woman Suffrage Act of the Province of Manitoba, which not only gives all women of 21 years of age the right to vote at provincial elections, but also gives them the right to a seat in the House, if duly elected. The passing of the Bill was an occasion of great rejoicing and excitement in the House, as elsewhere. Contrary to custom, the women of the Executive of the Political Equality League of Manitoba were given seats on the floor of the House, while the galleries were crowded to overflowing with friends of both sexes. Also, contrary to the custom that the third and final reading of a Bill is a purely formal matter, on this occasion many speeches were made, only one of which was in opposition. In the unavoidable absence of Premier Norris, the third reading was moved most fittingly by the Hon. T. H. Johnson, Minister of Public Works, a native of Iceland, whose compatriots in Manitoba have ever been among the most ardent supporters of women's rights in the province.

On the passage of the Bill the whole Assembly rose, and, after prolonged cheering, broke into the national song, "Oh! Canada." Then the women sang "For they are jolly good fellows," while the men modestly kept their seats, but they in their turn rose and returned the compliment by singing it to the women.

The Political Equality League immediately sent a telegram of greetings to Premier Norris, which was signed by the "Women Voters of Manitoba."

It was expected that any women enfranchised Provincially would automatically be given the Dominion franchise, as the Dominion Elections Act gives Provincial voters the right to vote for the Federal Parliament. Some doubt has been raised as to whether this can apply to the question of women, who were not in mind at the passing of the Act. However, the Hon.

Mr. Pugsley has already given notice that he will test the question in the Dominion Parliament by bringing in a resolution stating that it does include women. Further news about this will be forwarded next month. EDITH LANG.

National Equal Franchise Union.

## GOOD NEWS FROM CANADA.

To-day we hail with joy the glad message that the Woman Suffrage Bill passed in the Manitoba Legislature yesterday, January 27, 1916, giving the women of that province the right to vote, and also recognising their right to sit in the Legislature. On this occasion tremendous enthusiasm was shown by the women. They sang and cheered as the House unanimously passed the Bill.

## A SUFFRAGE HOSPITAL.

Members of the Canadian Suffrage Association living in Toronto are still devoting both their time and means to the advancement of the Toronto University Base Hospital. This hospital contains 1,040 beds, and is situated at Salonika, Greece. Our women assist in donating all the supplies, which they prepare in a room at Convocation Hall, Toronto.

## THE MUNICIPAL VOTE.

Our Association a few weeks ago sent out another open letter to the various municipal representatives of Ontario, requesting that they should pass resolutions in favour of enlarging the existing municipal franchise, so as to include married women as taxpayers. Every member of our Association is engaged in patriotic work. Yes, each one is doing her bit.

M. LOUISE LONG,

Convener of Press Committee of Canadian Suffrage Association.

Affiliated to the I.W.S.A.

Toronto, January 28, 1916.

(Copy.) BILL. 1916.

An Act to amend "The Manitoba Election Act."

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, enacts as follows:—

1. Section 14 of "The Manitoba Election Act," being chapter 59 of the Revised Statutes of Manitoba, 1913, is hereby amended by adding after the word "person" in the first line thereof the words "male or female, married or unmarried."

2. Sub-section (a) of section 15 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words "of the male sex" in the first and second lines thereof.

3. Section 16 of the said Act is hereby amended by adding after the word "person" in the second line thereof the words "whether male or female, married or unmarried," and by striking out the letter and words "(a) is of the male sex" from the sixth line thereof.

4. Section 218 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the fifth line thereof, namely, the letter and words "(a) persons who are not of the male sex."

5. This Act shall come into force on the day it is assented to.

## AFTER MANITOBA, ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN.

A telegram to *The Times* of February 16 says:—"Mr. Walter Scott, Premier of Saskatchewan, announces that Woman Suffrage will be established in that province as it has been in Alberta and Manitoba." And in the same paper, February 26:—"At the opening of the Alberta Legislature Bills were announced providing for liquor prohibition and Female Suffrage."

## Western Australia.

## VENEREAL DISEASE AND THE WAR.

An amending Health Act has just been passed in West Australia, which has called forth a most vigorous protest from the Women's Service Guild of that State. Australia is unfortunately threatened with one of the most fearful by-products of war—an increase in venereal disease, and the introduction of new and virulent forms hitherto unknown. The new Bill, framed specially to deal with the case of men returned invalided from this cause, contains the principle of compulsory notification, and power to order compulsory examination and detention is conferred on the Commissioner of Health. An attempt was made to hurry this measure through the Houses.

The Women's Service Guild successfully prevented this last wrong by calling a public meeting in Perth, at which, and in every other possible way, they have maintained that, beyond the immediate case, the compulsory clauses can only be made



to apply to the class of unfortunate women, and that the clauses, in fact, revive some of the worst features of the old C.D. Acts.

The Archbishop of Perth and several members of Parliament supported the Women's Service Guild in the struggle.

The Women's Political Association of Victoria is now engaged in fighting a similar Bill on similar grounds.

#### South Africa.

The municipal elections in the Transvaal, which followed closely upon the Parliamentary elections, resulted in the return of nine women councillors, pledged to social progress and clean municipal government. A great deal of the credit for this splendid result is due to the Women's Municipal Association of Johannesburg, organised and set on foot by the energy of Mrs. Ramsay, with Dr. Jane Ruthven as chairwoman, and Mrs. Griffiths as secretary.

As effort directed towards the return of women councillors is a legitimate branch of Suffrage work, it is up to the Suffrage Societies of South Africa to take a greater interest in municipal elections, and to help forward the work of Women's Municipal Associations wherever formed in connection with municipal election work.

The next conference of the W.E.A.U. takes place in Easter week. No doubt the main interest of the conference will be consideration of the attitude to be adopted by Suffrage Societies when the war is over. Active propaganda work has not been possible during this time of stress and warfare, but politicians in South Africa have been reminded, in the course of the last elections, that the determination to win Suffrage is as strong as ever, and the more earnest in view of the havoc wrought amid the nations of Europe, the care of which it is the especial work of women to undertake.

Congratulations are due to Dr. Watkins for successfully piloting his Age of Consent Bill through the House of Assembly during the recent short session of the Union Parliament. The raising of the age of consent to 16 is a reform that has been urgently needed in South Africa.

Suffragists have taken an active part in the recruiting movement, several meetings and processions having been organised to foster the spirit of patriotism in our midst. A successful Women War Workers' Bureau has organised war work efficiently in many directions. At a public mass meeting of women, called by the Mayoress, the resolution of equal pay for equal work was seconded and enthusiastically adopted. A toy-making competition under the auspices of the National Service Fund of the Women's Reform Club proved a great success, and it is hoped that eventually a toy-making industry will be established in the country, in accordance with the plan of this Fund, which has successfully established centres for needle-work and rest for expectant mothers, babies' welcomes, and has materially helped forward the 4th scheme—that of a convalescent home for children.

Laura Ruston,

Secretary, W.E.A.U., affiliated to the I.W.S.A.  
December 26, 1915.

#### India.

##### WOMEN'S EDUCATION.

On January 23 about 500 representative Indian women met in Rajah Dhyani Singh's Haveli, Hira Mandi, to consider what steps should be taken to bring to the notice of the Government the importance they attach to an early consideration of suitable education for girls and women. Shrimati Punditani Sarala Devi Chaudhrani was in the chair. The speakers, many of whom had come from a distance, emphasised that the future of India lay chiefly in the hands of the women, for as the homes are so will the nation be; that at present, although they were naturally ambitious for their sons, yet they acted more often than not as clogs to the legitimate aspirations of their men, and chiefly through the lack of education; that what they did in years gone by was not sufficient or suitable for the present day; that the time had come for the women to set about the education of the girls in a determined and systematic manner, and although much could be done, and is being done, by private effort, yet they appealed to the Government to consider this most pressing need at as early a date as possible. Divisions were brought about in the homes by men having a Western education, and that little or no suitable education had been provided for the women. Also the young men more and more refused to marry illiterate girls, or to marry until their education at school and college was finished. This was naturally upsetting the usual social order of the family and national life, and that the women themselves desired education,

opponents being only the old people who were not qualified to legislate for the new conditions which prevail. The educated younger men were in favour of their women getting suitable education.

##### FEMALE EDUCATION IN BEHAR.

The report on the progress of education in Behar during 1914-15 shows that the total number of girls that were receiving primary education was only 114,000, as compared with 612,000 boys. In this province the population of females is greater than that of males. But nearly half the number of girls attend boys' schools, and Mr. Jennings, the Director of Public Instruction, remarks: "It will be seen that the department, while not discouraging co-education, is doing its best for providing separate schools for girls, where such schools are preferred." In June, 1914, a committee was appointed to consider how best female education could be extended and improved, and it is said that as a result a ten-year programme has been drawn up.

##### INFANT MORTALITY: INFANTS' WELCOMES TO BE OPENED.

At the last general meeting of the League of Help held at the residence of the Rani Sahiba of Kalsia, it was decided that the scope of the League's activities might be enlarged, and that an Infants' Welcome should be opened as soon as possible. Mrs. Mary Caleb gave the following address:—

The terrible rate of infantile mortality in India has weighed upon my mind for some years now, and when I read constantly in the home papers of the great crusade that is being waged against it in Europe, especially in my own island, I feel that we women must make a determined effort to redeem this city from the reproach that must be made against the fathers and mothers of its future citizens. We find that some 8,000 babies are born here yearly, and that about one-third—i.e., 2,666 die yearly under one year of age. Now this is not *Kismet*; it means dirty milk, or no milk at all, insanitary housing, bad food, and ignorance. We should realise the great part that education might play in reducing the terrible drain upon the strength of the nation, which is consequent upon the enormous rate of infantile mortality. In Britain, nine years ago, Schools for Mothers, Infants' Welfares, or Infants' Welcomes were started, and they proved so successful that now there are nearly 500 such. In France also splendid work in this direction is being done. In New Zealand it occurred to people that babies were worth taking care of, and they got the mortality rate down to 5 per cent. Dr. Broadbent, in Huddersfield, reduced the infant mortality of one district (Longwood) by offering the mothers a sovereign for every baby born who lived for more than one year; 112 children were born, and at the end of the period 107 of them were still living. This cost Dr. Broadbent £107, or one thousand six hundred and five rupees. Recently Mr. Bernard Shaw, while speaking on the subject, instanced the work of a French mayor who did the same thing by looking after a village for ten years, in which not a child died. The French gentleman who produced that result did one other momentous thing. He convicted us of the murder of all the children who die under one year of age, because he showed that by simply doing his duty he was able to prevent all those deaths. Shall we women sit idly by and do nothing to stop the wastage of life? We are horrified at the numbers being sacrificed in the war, yet, daily, hours, there is a greater sacrifice of the innocents going on, and we know it, and still we do nothing. I propose that with as little delay as possible an Infants' Welfare should be started, where mothers can bring their babies and get the right and best advice for their upbringing. Two lady doctors have offered their services free. It is essential that we should engage a trained nurse to be present at the consultations, to visit the homes, help the mothers, and see that the doctors' orders are properly carried out. Cannot we forego some pleasure and collect the necessary sum to ensure the nurse's necessary salary for at least one year? The Government at home contributes 50 per cent. of the working expenses of these centres, and if we can prove that we are really doing good work, I may safely say that the means will be found for carrying on this necessary and useful work. In Madras three schools for mothers have recently been opened. In Bombay Lady Willingdon, who is greatly interested in the subject, has had formed a large staff of nurses who visit the different districts of the city and help the women and children. Such work is also being done in Burma. You will be pleased to hear that one of our Punjab Maharanis has sent me for first infants twenty warm outfits made by her and her tire-women.

The Rani of Kalsia kindly contributed 150 rupees towards the League funds to be used for the Infants' Welcome.

#### HUNGARY

##### WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN PARLIAMENT.

The new session of our Parliament gave us a fresh opportunity of propaganda for Woman Suffrage. The united opposition parties resolved to claim at the indemnity debate Suffrage for all those who are fighting in the trenches. Our Society has sent a petition to Parliament, reminding it of the merits of women in upholding work in all the branches of economic life during the war, and consequently claiming Woman Suffrage. In another petition we asked at the same time the Government to give opportunity for peace deliberations.

An address was sent to each M.P., all the political parties were visited by a deputation of our Society and the speakers of the indemnity debate, and all those M.P.'s who were known to be in favour of Woman Suffrage were called on by our members. The deputies received also telegrams from their districts asking them to press for Woman Suffrage in Parliament. There was an agreement for the indemnity debate to be shortened, and so only our true friend and staunch defender of woman's rights, the Prelate Dr. Giesswein and Mr. Juriga, a representative of the Slav nationalities of Northern Hungary, spoke for Woman Suffrage. Dr. Giesswein's speech brought home to the Government all the arguments which press for a speedy promotion of peace deliberations, and represented Woman Suffrage as one of the measures which will secure lasting peace in future. Therefore, and to reward women for their magnificent work in all branches of economic life, he moved to extend the Suffrage so as to grant it to women too. Dr. Giesswein had many telegrams from all parts of the country congratulating him and thanking him for his brilliant speech. Our present action succeeded in bringing once more into the foreground the question of Woman Suffrage; it was deliberated upon in Parliament, in the Press, as well as in public life.

##### WOMEN IN UNIVERSITIES.

It is just twenty years since, by the generous and clever decision of a cultured and righteous man, Mr. Wlassica, who was Minister of Education at that time, the Universities in Hungary were opened to women. To avoid great opposition he made some restrictions, hoping that they will soon be eliminated. But since, we have had constantly Conservative educational politics, and the conditions of girls' studies were made more and more difficult. Lately, in consequence of the war, the demand for well-trained intelligent workers grew, and favourable articles appeared even in Conservative Press organs. The girl-students, in consequence, organised, and succeeded in arranging, an enormous meeting, where the most prominent professors of the University, as well as students of both sexes and all views and convictions, were assembled.

It was a grand demonstration, although some rough and narrow-minded fellows of the Technical and the Law College, who did not enjoy yet the educational influence of girl-colleagues, tried to disturb it by whistling, howling, and other noisy argument of the same value. Nevertheless, after most weighty speeches by girls and professors, a resolution was carried in favour of the admission of girls to all sorts of scientific studies on the same terms as men.

##### THE MAYOR OF STOCKHOLM SUPPORTS HUNGARIAN SUFFRAGISTS.

The Mayor of Stockholm, Dr. Carl Lindhagen, has made the considerable sacrifice to come from such distance and give us his valuable time and work to promote women's cause in Hungary. His lecture was philosophical and at the same time poetical, and contained a full appreciation of women's rights. He said that we must not cling to ruins, but we must study the past, and must find the ways of advance by making use of experience. The politics of the future must not be based on party politics, but on true democracy. Man considers himself the representative of strength, and it is perhaps, therefore, that he knows no other way of settling things than by force. He quoted some astonishing facts of economic life to prove that women must lead politics to guard their own interest. He said Sweden has led in many ways in progress, also in beginning the struggle for Woman Suffrage, for which it is still fighting.

##### PROTECTION AGAINST VENEREAL DISEASE.

A very important enquête of the "Society for Protection against Venereal Diseases" was held under the presidency of His Excellence Georg Lukac, the president of the M.L.F.W.S. It was resolved that the Society will press for a Bill ordering compulsory certificates of health before marriage, and will ask for the help of the authorities in protective measures and institutions, so as to prevent the spreading of venereal diseases. As the Society discussed also measures which would have worked in the line of regulation, against which representatives

of the N.C.W. and of our Society protested energetically, the president closed the discussion without taking a vote. We are truly grateful for the loyalty of the president and the majority who have yielded to the argument of the higher feminist morality.

##### SUFFRAGISTS AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT.

Our local branches are very active. The one in Nyiregyháza arranged a lecture by Vilma Glücklich, in which, to a sympathetic and very large audience, she spoke with very great success on "What can Women do for Peace." A great many new members increased our Permanent Peace Committee. The preceding day Vilma Glücklich spoke in the Free Lyceum of the Bessenyei Club on "The Women and War."

The Szeged branch, besides sustaining an "Advisory Office," arranged two lectures. At the first Mrs. Eugenie Miskolczy Meller reported on the history and the resolutions of The Hague Congress, and Mrs. Piroška Halassy Groák spoke, with her extraordinary rhetorical talent and with convincing arguments, on the "Aimlessness of War." The second lecture was arranged by the Mothers' and Children's Protection Committee of the local branch, at which Dr. Z. Bosnyák, State Secretary, and Mrs. Szirmay, president of our Central Committee, dealt with the problems of "Children's and Mothers' Protection in Peace and War Time." Both lectures were on a high level, and had a great and appreciative audience. The president of this local branch, Mrs. I. Turcsányi, is also chosen member of the Municipal Food Committee. The branch plans to have "Story-telling matinés" for children, in whose souls the idea of peace should be impressed very strongly.

Our successful summer campaign in the suburbs of our capital encouraged us to attempt a tour in the country, in towns, and also in villages with peasant population.

If we had been at all doubtful of the righteousness of our cause, this tour would have given us the best proof of its justice. The "Székely," a pure Hungarian race, inhabit a large part of Hungary "beyond the Királyhágó." One large town, Székely-Udvarhely, and the Valley of Homoród, inhabited chiefly by Unitarians, was the ground of our operations. A drawing-room meeting, with a discussion on general feminist topics, preceded the great meeting in the town, and its success secured the great audience of the latter. Our speaker, E. M. Meller, explained the motives and principles of the International Women's Permanent Peace Committee, and reported on the history and the resolutions carried at The Hague Congress. A great many new subscriptions proved the sympathy of the audience.

The programme of the following week contained two lectures and a discussion every day, being arranged or incited by members of our Society, chiefly of the Unitarian Clergy. It was a triumphal way, from beginning to end, with crammed halls, sympathetic audiences, sturdy, energetic, intelligent peasant women. Since the beginning of the war they work more than ever, accomplishing besides their task of minding the house, the cattle, all the work of men, even the hardest forest work. Therefore, they fully acquiesced in our argument that women, whose work is of such importance, should be enfranchised, to be able to protect their interests and that of their sons, that only in possession of Suffrage they will be able to influence politics so as to be the pledge of future permanent peace. Practically all the audience joined our Committee, and the balance of this tour shows many hundreds of new members.

The women of Székely-Derzs deserve special praise. They would not be frightened by the disturbance of a leading man of the village, nor be shaken by the Presbyterian clergyman of the neighbouring village, who emphatically claimed for the armed service of the Fatherland. They distinctly felt that their mission as mothers, wives, daughters, is to protect the men from the horrors and sufferings of war in future. They all, and with real enthusiasm, joined our Committee.

EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER,

Corresponding Secretary of the Feministak Egyesulete,  
Affiliated to the I.W.S.A.  
Budapest, the 25th of December, 1915.

##### DOMESTIC SERVANTS AND REGISTRATION.

We learn from the Feminist Society that an infamous proposal is being put forward that all domestic servants shall be made amenable to certain of the police regulations for prostitutes, and that they should be required to present themselves for medical examination monthly. We know we can rely on the women's movement in Hungary to do all in its power to prevent such a monstrous outrage being committed on the most helpless class in the community. The women of other



countries can strengthen their hands by drawing attention to the injustice of the proposal.

Women without votes are helpless in ordinary times. They are doubly helpless under present war conditions, when the Press is censored, martial law enforced, and in this case the excuse that the regulation is for the protection of the soldiers. In Hungary in normal times the regulation system is in force, which convicts on suspicion and sentences to a degrading punishment one of the two parties who have made themselves a danger to the community. The new proposal goes a step farther, and sentences without suspicion domestic servants for no other reason than that they are domestic servants, and therefore the most helpless class in the community, and the most likely to be victimised. It is an insult to every woman, and the decent men and women of every country will resent it.

Even in war-time there are some international standards of justice and decency and civilisation left, and the international women's movement should do what it can to maintain them.

C. M.

### WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE NETHERLANDS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VEREENIGING VOOR VROUWENKIESRECHT.

On December 18 and 19 of last year the Vereeniging held its 22nd Annual Meeting in Groningen. For the first time in its history it had to discuss its action towards a Government Constitution Bill which dealt with the question of Woman Suffrage. It proposes to extend to women the passive Suffrage—i.e., the right of women to be elected to the Legislature—and to remove the existing obstacles in the constitution which make it impossible for the Legislature to grant votes for women in an ordinary Bill.

Of the 126 societies, 92 had sent delegates, and the animated discussions and crowded sessions were evidence of the keenness of the workers. By the constitution of the Vereeniging each society appoints one voting delegate, who casts all the votes of her society.

As there was no election of Executive—half the members retire every second year—criticism took the form of a vote of want of confidence. The burning question was the action taken by the Executive in stating that, since the new Constitution Bill proposed to give votes to all men, they must interpret their demand for votes for women on the same terms as men, by asking that votes for all women should be included in the Bill. After a long discussion the action of the Executive was upheld by 117 votes to 20, with three abstentions.

The meeting resolved to hold a large outdoor demonstration in April.

Every evening now the Vereeniging holds large crowded meetings in towns and villages throughout the country. Many new members are being enrolled. These are mostly women, the men being told that they can give practical help by bringing pressure on their members, while the women can very effectively help by enrolling as members, and so proving that they want the vote. At Haarlem a few nights ago 108 paying members were enrolled. At these meetings there is generally one, and sometimes two or even three, members of Parliament who belong either to the Social Democrats, the Radicals, or the Advanced Liberals. For the first time the different Parliamentary political parties are inviting the Board of the Vereeniging to come and discuss the question with them. Already they have been received by the Social Democrats, the Radicals, the Roman Catholics, and one of the branches of the Clerical party. Formerly they saw only individual supporters. Many magazines and newspapers who had never taken an interest in the question before are asking for articles.

THE NETHERLANDS NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The National Council of Women is supporting the demand for the inclusion of women's active Suffrage in the Constitution Bill now before the Staten-Generaal, and has just addressed the following manifesto to the Second Chamber. It should be explained that the *Memorie van Toelichting* mentioned in the manifesto is the Government's official argument in favour of their Bill.

MANIFESTO ADOPTED BY THE NETHERLANDS NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN AT THE HAGUE ON JANUARY 27, 1916, AND SENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, THE COUNCIL OF STATE, AND BOTH HOUSES OF THE STATEN-GENERAAL.

TO THE SECOND HOUSE OF THE STATEN-GENERAAL.

The International Council of Women, to which the Netherlands National Council of Women belongs, has worked for

many years for the introduction of Woman Suffrage. In several States (Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, 13 States of the United States of North America) the experiment has been crowned with success.

The Netherlands National Council of Women, believing that the work of man and woman must in every sphere complement that of the other, if the perfect human task is to be accomplished, have missed no opportunity to make their position clear. In their address to the Minister of the Interior, in 1909, and to the State Commission for the revision of the Constitution, in 1911, they insisted upon the necessity of granting political rights to women citizens of the Netherlands, and later brought to the knowledge of the Minister of the Interior the resolution of their general meeting of April, 1914, accepting the principle of the constitutional equality of men and women.

1. The Netherlands National Council of Women wishes in the first place to express a word of thanks to the Government for giving special thought to this question in their Bill for the revision of the Constitution, and for having, in part at least, met the wishes of the women of the Netherlands.

They are grateful to note that Article 80 places on the legislator the duty of admitting women to the ballot-box.

They note with special satisfaction that the Netherlands Government recognise, to quote the *Memorie van Toelichting*, "that it is more advantageous than disadvantageous for a State that women should share in its management." They see in this conviction the only just and in itself acceptable argument which is decisive for or against the introduction of Woman Suffrage.

2. The Council is the more surprised that, notwithstanding, no guarantee is given in the Bill for the actual introduction of votes for women; indeed, the actual wording of Article 80 has the effect of making the practical application of the principle for an indefinite time illusory. Besides, in Additional Article VII. it is proposed to change the basis of the franchise by immediately giving Universal Suffrage to men, whereas the exclusion of women is continued; and the proposed constitution at the same time fails to put any pressure on the legislator suggesting that he should soon alter the basis of the franchise law so as to bring it into accordance with the new constitution.

By the immediate introduction of Manhood Suffrage the pressure now brought on the Legislature for the alteration of the basis of the franchise by men will be lost, because all men will have votes. The danger in that case is that the women of the Netherlands would have to be contented for many a long year with the empty promise in the Constitution.

3. In the second place the Council of Women is astonished that the Government propose to leave to the legislator the solution of a problem as it affects women, which they themselves have declared "to be insoluble" in the case of men—namely, to find a criterion on which could be given a *limited* Suffrage.

In the *Memorie van Toelichting* it is said:—

- (a) That capacity and economic position—"the most recent expression of the idea which originally was the condition for the granting of the Suffrage"—give no sufficient guarantee for the electoral capacity of the individual voter.
- (b) That even the idea of combining the vote with special conditions must be given up, because the individuality of the voter has been lost in that of the masses; and because the value of the decision of the voter lies in the collective opinion "about principles and justice," and because "what one asks of the voters to-day is not the capacity to judge about different questions of government, but to take such interest in public affairs that he is able to judge about the programmes of the political parties, and to make up his mind as to which political party he may wish to belong."
- (c) That, consequently, the exclusion of a part of the citizens from the right to vote has no justification, and will divide the nation into two parts—the one the governors, and the other the governed.

The consequences of such action have been quite recognised by the Government in the case of Man Suffrage. But would not the consequences be the same if the action were taken with respect to Woman Suffrage? The Government, so far as appears from their present Bill, has answered this question in the negative, quoting the opinion of those who see in women's taking part in the life of the State a weakening of their natural function.

But as this opinion must necessarily lead to maintaining the principle of the exclusion of women, the Women's Council thinks it necessary to say a word in vindication of their right.

It is of opinion that the question of what is women's calling or vocation in society can never be decided either by giving or withholding the vote. That depends upon the development of internal forces, the growth of which cannot be kept back by the peremptory decree of an external power. On the contrary, taking part in government does not cause any change in the womanly function; but the great change which the position and work of women has undergone makes her demand with ever greater force a share in government and her rights as a citizen. The factors which effect a change in the function of woman are outside the sphere of the practical statesman. He may refuse to recognise her development, but he cannot keep it back. He may stop the clock, but he can't keep back time.

The Dutch Government says that the time for a decision on this question has not yet come.

The National Council of Women declares its conviction that the vocation of women in our common life (of which it recognises the great importance and special difficulties) need not be solved by the Government, and cannot be solved by giving or withholding the vote; but that the question has advanced so far in their country that the introduction of Woman Suffrage can only be considered as the legal recognition of a phase in their development, which is, in fact, already here.

The wish of the Government to meet the opponents of Woman Suffrage made them propose a solution, by which the constitutional exclusion of women was removed, and made them leave to the legislator full liberty to give the Suffrage to women at such time and on such terms as he may decide.

This proposal, with its two sides, satisfies neither party.

The opponent does not agree with the proposal which accepts the principle of Woman Suffrage and leaves its practical application by gradual extension to the legislator.

The supporters cannot be satisfied with a theoretical recognition of the right, with its practical application postponed to the Greek Kalends, and dependent on a criterion which it was impossible to find in the case of men.

The Dutch Government, although of opinion that the present democracy is dangerous and has many weaknesses, has yielded to the general pressure because the reform cannot be held back. May this expression of the desire of the National Council of Women, the central council of the organised women of the Netherlands, help to convince them that the Woman Suffrage problem has also reached a phase when it cannot be kept back.

As the Government have recognised the danger of dividing the population into governing and governed ("division leads political energy into revolutionary channels"), they should also see the danger of excluding women. Society can only gain when the force and energy of its women, which are now concentrated on the struggle for the vote, can be used along with the men's in finding a solution of the many social problems for which the insight of both is necessary.

On these grounds the Netherlands National Council of Women demands that the Constitution Bill shall be so amended that the right of women to vote shall be not only accepted in principle, but that provision for its immediate practical application be introduced into the Constitution, so that women as well as men may immediately be able to exercise this right.

#### THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

H. VAN BIEMA—HILMANS, *President*.  
C. A. DE JONG VAN BEEK EN DONK—KLUYVER, *Vice-President*.  
C. RAMONDT—HIRSCHMANN, *First Secretary*.  
C. M. WERKER—BEAUJON, *Second Secretary*.  
M. C. REESSE, *Treasurer*.  
W. VAN ITALLIE—VAN EMBDEN.  
W. ASSER—THORBECKE.

C. BAKKER—VAN BOSSE, *Member of the Legal Position of Women Committee of the International Council of Women*.

ALETTA H. JACOBS, *Member of the Woman Suffrage Committee of the International Council of Women*.

The Hague, January 27, 1916.

### RUSSIA.

The University of Odessa has declined to accept the suggestion of the Ministry of the Interior that women should be admitted to the university.

On the other hand, under the constitution of the new Psychological Institute, women and men students are to be admitted on equal terms.

According to the report of the Education Department of the Kiev district (which includes the provinces of Kiev, Chernigov, Wolhynia, Podolia, Poltava, and Cholm), there are in all 66 secondary schools for boys, containing 20,837 pupils, and 105 secondary schools for girls, with 59,857 pupils. Only 5 per cent. of the boys finish the full school course, whilst the corresponding numbers in the case of girls amount to 12 per cent.

A Bill which recently passed the Finnish Senate has been submitted to the Ministry of the Interior for approval. It gives a married woman the right to enter or to retain a position in the Post Office Department if her husband joins in her responsibility for the safety of any sums which may pass through her hands in the course of her official duties. No additional surety has to be provided by any unmarried or widowed woman employé. The measure therefore seems to suggest that a husband's influence is likely to have a demoralising effect on his wife.

—From the *Women's Messenger* (January).

### SWEDEN.

NATIONAL SWEDISH WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING.

The Central Board of the National Swedish Woman Suffrage Association held its thirteenth annual meeting in Stockholm on the 8th-10th of January.

The meeting was opened by the vice-president, Miss Karolina Widerström, M.D., who gave a review of the principal political events of the past year. There were some events of an encouraging nature—the Suffrage victory of the women in Denmark and Iceland, and also the successful summer meeting of the S.W.S.A. at Husqvarna. We had to note several sad events though—the loss of Mr. Staaff, who had as Prime Minister initiated the first Government Bill on Woman Suffrage, and of Mrs. Martina Bergman-Osterberg, the only honorary member of the S.W.S.A., whose great bequest for social instruction had been of great importance to Suffrage work. The vice-president finished up by showing how the present war has shown both the collapse of culture and the need of thorough social reform—a work in which women have no right to stand aside.

Then the usual elections took place. Miss Signe Bergman and Miss Karolina Widerström, M.D., were unanimously re-elected president and vice-president. Mrs. Uzaline Boheman informed the Central Board that on account of increased work she could no longer fulfil her duties as secretary, and Miss Signe Jacobsson was elected in her place.

From the secretary's report we may mention the Suffrage Calendar published by the local society in Gothenbourg—a very neat little book, to be carried in the handbag of every Suffragist.

1916 being the second year in the present Parliamentary electoral period, covering three years, the Central Board decided to present the following memorial to the Government:

"To His Excellency the Prime Minister, Mr. Hammarskjöld. The Speech from the Throne of January 16th, 1914, contained a declaration expressing the conviction that justice as well as the interest of the State required a widening of political rights conferring the Suffrage upon women citizens." It went on to say that in the course of the session then opened proposals for the necessary modifications of the Constitution would be laid before the Riksdag. Dissolution of the Riksdag intervened, and was followed by the formation of a new Government which, having pledged itself to the exclusive carrying out of some particular measure, declined to move in the question of Woman Suffrage.

"The outburst of the European war led to a general wish to avoid a fresh change in the Government, the members of which, it is hoped, will remain at their posts until the cessation of hostilities. Such cessation to-day appears to be very distant, and in the meantime the neutral States cannot give up the care for their normal development. The troubled state of Europe seems to render it more urgent than ever that the smaller States should accomplish such reforms as may cement together all their various elements in a healthy feeling of common solidarity.



"In Denmark the state of war in its immediate vicinity has not prevented laws being passed introducing Universal Suffrage for men and women. The same has happened in Iceland. In Holland the Government has presented proposals tending to pave the way for introducing the same reform.

"In all the Scandinavian countries except Sweden women to-day have obtained full political rights. We feel that we also ought to get the benefit of this same inducement to solidarity. We feel that it is important to Swedish women to obtain the means of laying their views before the Riksdag, and of pleading causes which they have at heart. We feel that our country also would derive notable benefit from letting women's voices be heard in our public life.

"The Central Board of the National Swedish Woman Suffrage Association, assembled in Stockholm on January 8th, 1916, respectfully submits to His Majesty's Government that they may, following up the initiative promised in the Speech from the Throne, of 1914, introduce a Government Bill in this year's Riksdag for endowing our women with the right to vote and to become eligible for political offices.

"On behalf of the meeting,  
SIGNE BERGMAN, President."

This memorial was presented to the Prime Minister by a deputation, the head of which was Miss Anna Whitlock. Mr. Hammarskjöld received the deputation very amiably, declaring that the question would be taken into serious consideration, but added: "I must honestly tell you that we have not considered fit to introduce a Suffrage Bill during this sitting, and regret not to have a more satisfactory answer to give you."

*Dansk Kvindesamfund* had taken the initiative of calling a Scandinavian women's meeting in Copenhagen on January 17-18, where the new marriage law was to be discussed, as well as a closer connection between the chief northern women's organisations. The S.W.S.A. elected Mrs. Anna Wicksell as their representative at that meeting, and expressed their sympathy with the closer connection between the Scandinavian and Finnish women, as well as the desirability of the next meeting being held in Sweden.

The Central Board decided to institute a "Suffrage Day," and for this purpose the 7th of October, the Birgitta day, was selected. No other Swedish woman is as widely known out of Sweden as S. Birgitta, who in the 13th century wrote about her revelations and founded a religious order, still existing in several convents. Though, of course, she never spoke about Suffrage, she took a great interest in the political problems of her time throughout her whole life, and may therefore be regarded as a pioneer for women's rights.

At the first evening's meeting, which was open to members of local societies, Mrs. Gurli Hertzman-Ericsson, the editor of *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*, gave a vivid account of the American women's struggle for Suffrage, and Mrs. Frigga Carlberg gave an instructive report on the present condition of Woman Suffrage in other countries.

Next evening, at the public meeting, the demand for Woman Suffrage was illustrated from different points of view. Miss Axianna Thorstenson, member of the Board of the "Fredrika Bremer Association," pointed out that the legal and social position of women demanded Woman Suffrage. Mrs. Signe Svensson, representing the Social Democratic women; Mrs. Mary Arosenius, of the White Ribbon Society (the Christian Women's Temperance Union); and Miss Anna Kleman, President of the Swedish Section of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, each treated the subject from the point of view of the society which they represented. The meeting was concluded by adopting the following resolution:—

"The work laid down by Swedish women's organisations for advancing women's social position, for bettering women's conditions of life and work, for furthering the interests of the home and the children, for promoting temperance and a moral life, for advocating the principles of right instead of force, has proved that as long as women are debarred from political rights, these efforts will not lead to a satisfactory result. We women, assembled at a public meeting in connection with the thirteenth annual meeting of the Central Board of the S.W.S.A., claim full political rights, especially as such rights are already obtained by the women of the other countries of the North, and we call upon the women of Sweden to concentrate their efforts in an energetic work to this end."

On Monday, January the 10th, the Central Board discussed the question of compulsory domestic training for women—a subject which, while having been under discussion for some years, is now of actual importance to us as well as to the women

of other nations. After a very lively and instructive discussion the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"Laying stress upon the special domestic training for women, the usefulness of which has long been recognised by the Suffragists, the Central Board wishes to express the opinion that its realisation should, at least in the beginning, be left to private initiative and State help, in conformity with institutions already existing. The Central Board further holds that Woman Suffrage is also necessary for solving this important question."

After a discussion—including several interesting speeches—on various measures to be taken for Suffrage work, especially in the country districts, Miss Sigrid Kruse spoke on a subject of special actuality for the Swedish women: "Why is Sweden, compared to the other countries of the North, so behind in the question of Woman Suffrage?" In 1907, when the Swedish men after years of struggle obtained extended Suffrage, the claim of the women was comparatively new, none of the other countries of the North having yet adopted it. In spite of statistics from Norway and Finland, in spite of the great interest in politics of late shown by the Swedish women, the Conservative women not excluded, the Conservative party still believes that only women belonging to the Liberal and Socialistic parties would vote, and therefore only these parties would benefit by Woman Suffrage.

Though the women of Sweden are deprived of political Suffrage, they have an indirect vote as women, for as municipal voters they may elect the members of the County Councils, and on these Councils falls the duty of electing the First Chamber. An income of 500 kroner carries with it one vote, forty being the maximum of votes allowed. Maybe we have some women "40-voters" (this word was invented by Mrs. Catt), but most women, having a restricted income, have few votes, and their influence therefore is a very small one.

Mrs. Gulli Petrini, Ph.D., drew up the lines of a programme of action for the S.W.S.A. at the County Councils elections of 1916. She reminded us of the difficulty of securing united action in the S.W.S.A., which includes members of all political parties.

Dr. Petrini gave an account of a proposed reform of the municipal Suffrage, which has been laid before Parliament. The Liberal Party has proposed Equal Suffrage—no more "40-voters," one vote to everyone who is now a municipal voter,—and the Socialists want Universal Suffrage. Reform on these lines is of the greatest importance for the reformation of the First Chamber, and for the solution of the question of Woman Suffrage.

Stockholm, February, 1916.

SIGNE BERGMAN.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO CONDUCT SUITS IN THE COURTS.

In a proposal introduced in the Chambers on 24th January, the Government proposes an alteration in Cap. 15, Sec. 3, of the Litigation Act, pursuant to which married women who are above 21 years of age, in spite of the fact that pursuant to the Marriage Act they are under the man's guardianship, may not be incompetent to be empowered to conduct litigation. But she may not be empowered if her husband sits as a judge in the court. The proposition was occasioned by a communication from the Riksdag of 17th July, 1914.

—From *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*, February 1, 1916.

#### DENMARK.

Everybody knows that the Radical Party in Denmark has taken up the demand for the equality of women with men, and their rights to the same position and offices as them; but that the newly formed Conservative National Party, which has been constituted out of the former Right, has likewise taken up this demand in its programme will doubtless in some circles awaken a certain amount of surprise, especially here in Sweden, where the opposition of the parties of the Right to votes for women is well known.

The Conservative National Party's programme with regard to the legal equality of women with men is connected with the following pronouncement:—

"The party entertains the conviction that the entry of women into politics will contribute to raise the tone of social life, and the party promises women its assistance in their efforts to develop themselves to responsible and independent citizens. It is the party's sure expectation that the fact of women taking part in legislative work will lead to the carrying through of women's legal equality with men."

The women of Denmark, who have so recently received the political Suffrage, are therefore fortunate in being able to count on support and interest from several political parties in the country, and they may even entertain the justified hope that the Conservative National Party will do all that is in its power to provide women with representatives in the legislative assemblies, which is a necessary condition to enable them to exercise the influence on legislative work which they are hoping for.

—From *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*,  
February 1, 1916.

#### NORWAY.

##### High Posts for Women.

##### NORWAY APPOINTS ITS FIRST WOMEN MEMBERS OF A BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

Those who are making efforts in women's concerns and working to open up new spheres of labour for women, for the purpose of allowing individual talent and individual ability to come to their rights, have frequently and with grief had to see that competency and knowledge were set aside when it was a question of the highest posts. Women have been stopped and held back just because they were women. And this not only in questions relating to women's work in the great general labour market, but we remember even cases where, in filling posts of responsibility, the more highly qualified female applicants had to stand back in favour of less-qualified male applicants. It is such arbitrariness which more than anything else produces lack of harmony and enmity between the sexes—an unfortunate condition of things which ceases as soon as right principles are applied.

Norway, in many things the land of pioneers, has quite recently appointed its first woman member of a Board of Guardians, and the woman who has been admitted to this post of chief is Miss Ragna Bugge, formerly employed as assistant at the office of Inspector Mrs. Betsy Kjelsberg. In connection with this work of hers, Miss Bugge came into touch with those classes of the population of Christiania whom she will in future be able to assist by counsel and by deed. Her district includes 760 persons in receipt of relief. Miss Ragna Bugge has given the following account of her work hitherto to the Norwegian women's paper, *Urd*:—

"It is not to sit in an office and to pay out 100,000 kroner during the course of the year in small items which appeals to me most, but to be able to give help to those who need it; they cannot all be cast in the same mould. A manageress must have patience to listen to them, to visit them in their homes, and to exercise a good influence over them. We must handle every individual separately."

—From *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*,  
February 15, 1916.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

##### GREAT LEADER BECOMES PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association has a new president, a woman so well known and so able that her acceptance of her new position is a matter of great pride to the organisation. The recently elected officer is Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who has added to her other tasks the responsibility of leading her country's Suffrage forces to victory. Mrs. Catt is known in the United States, as throughout the world, first and foremost as President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, to which organisation her deepest loyalty and keenest interest are pledged. In taking upon herself the duties of National President, Mrs. Catt has returned to work with which she is familiar, as she served the National from 1900 to 1904, succeeding Miss Susan B. Anthony as leading officer. The Rev. Anna Shaw, the recently retired President of the National, paid a well-merited tribute to Mrs. Catt when she said, at the recent Convention in Washington:—

"I can never be honoured more than I have been by being your president, by sitting in the seat of the women who preceded me, and by being succeeded by the woman who is to-day the recognised leader of our movement. For more than twenty years Mrs. Catt and I have served side by side; we have both done the very best we knew how; we are both in harness. As we have pulled together in the past, so we will continue to pull together in the future."

#### THE FEDERAL AMENDMENT.

A series of Congressional Campaign Conferences are being planned by the National American Woman Suffrage Association, in order to stimulate their thousands of women members throughout the United States to work for the Federal Amendment. Already arrangements are completed for holding conferences in seventeen Middle West States and in States on the Pacific Coast. A number of speakers have been selected to form a Congressional Campaign Corps. Each section of the country will be addressed by women orators resident there and alive to the methods that appeal to their confrères. The eloquence of gifted Middle West women will be used to arouse in their own States, and on the Pacific Coast enfranchised women will appeal to their voting sisters. The Suffrage Committee of the United States Senate, which is composed for the most part of senators from the Equal Suffrage States, has reported favourably to the august body of which it is a part, and in view of the widespread interest in the National Amendment evinced by both Press and public, it seems to stand an excellent chance of being passed by Congress as soon as women from all the States make a determined and concerted demand for its adoption.

#### STATE CAMPAIGNS.

Suffrage campaigns are being conducted in West Virginia, South Dakota, and Iowa. In the two former States, the question of woman's enfranchisement will come up for decision at the regular Fall elections, and in the latter it will be voted upon at a special election on June 5th. The Suffragists in the campaign States are showing the ingenuity, optimism, and ceaseless activity that is characteristic of feminine campaigners, who are expert in keeping up "the rub-a-dub-dub of agitation and education" begun by the great Suffrage pioneers. Officers of the National Association are to help in the State activities. Mrs. Catt is to speak many times and to advise at all times. The Rev. Anna Shaw, who retired from all official positions to devote herself entirely to campaign work, will also be a conspicuous orator in the field.

#### INDEFATIGABLE NEW YORK SUFFRAGISTS.

The newly organised New York State Woman Suffrage Party expects to bring the Woman Suffrage amendment again before the voters of the Empire State in 1917. Mrs. Norman De R. Whitehouse, the president, and Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, the first Vice-President and Legislative Chairman, are making weekly trips to Albany in behalf of the Woman Suffrage Resolution introduced January 10. They report that a majority of the legislators are favourable to its adoption. Speaker Sweet, of the New York State Assembly, has expressed himself as believing that "women should conduct a campaign of education a year or two before they present their constitutional amendment again to the Legislature." The Suffrage workers, however, believe that it is easier to arouse interest and to educate people when there is a concrete issue before them, and they also think it good policy to follow the example of political parties, who after a defeat rarely go into retirement, but turn to new methods of appeal to the public.

On January 5 the Women's Political Union of New York City introduced a Bill in the Legislature asking for Presidential Suffrage for women. The advocates of the measure believe that the right to vote for presidential electors may be given to women by a simple, legislative enactment. Some legal authorities, however, contend that no such right can be granted by the Legislature, and assert that if the Bill passes it will have to be taken to the courts.

In New York State, then, Suffragists are working industriously for three Suffrage measures, for besides the two already mentioned they are also giving support to the work for the Federal Amendment.

#### NEW JERSEY OPTIMISM.

The New Jersey State Suffrage Association held its 25th Annual Convention at Elizabeth on January 21 and 22, and it was conceded by all to be the most important one held in recent years. The President, Mrs. E. F. Feickert, reported that the organisation now boasts 196 branches, having doubled its membership within a year. Plans of work for the Jerseyites include a determined effort to enlarge its list of supporters—their slogan being "Every Woman a Suffragist by 1920" and an alliance of the Suffrage forces in Trenton to win the passage of a Presidential Suffrage Bill. The splendid optimism and energy displayed by New Jersey Suffragists has won the cordial admiration of the public, and the proceedings of the Convention were given wide publicity in the New York City as well as in their own State papers.



## SUFFRAGE FINANCE IN MICHIGAN.

The Michigan Equal Suffrage Association has two schemes of finance that work out well when put to a practical test. One is the apportionment plan, which provides that each county association be assessed ten cents for each of its tax-paying women, and the other is a Committee of One Hundred, through which men are given an opportunity to donate money to the cause.

At a recent State Convention, held in Saginaw, it was reported that there are 100,302 tax-paying women in Michigan, and that the members of the Committee of One Hundred had pledged themselves to secure one hundred men each to give \$5 a month to Suffrage work. These two facts show the great possibilities in the two finance plans.

## SOMETHING NEW IN MISSISSIPPI.

Mrs. Nellie M. Somerville, Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the State Women Suffrage Association of Mississippi, will direct all the energies of her co-workers this year to obtaining an amendment making women eligible for positions as trustees of all educational and charitable institutions and for county and State superintendents of education. Mrs. Somerville declares that on account of the explicit and ironclad provisions of the Constitution of the State of Mississippi it is necessary to pass an amendment through the Legislature in order to open trustee positions to women.

## UNIQUE WAYS OF RAISING FUNDS.

Iowa women, in an endeavour to raise twenty thousand dollars for their campaign fund, have put into execution two original ideas. In the big cities like Des Moines, left-over bags figured largely. These were left at private homes with the request that they be filled with whatever useless articles had a junk value, and were collected and stored until bids were received from junk dealers. In the country districts the women asked the farmers to donate corn, and "Iowa Corn for Iowa Women" became a popular saying. Wagons were sent out to gather in the donations, and much money was obtained for expenses in a simple and easy fashion.

## SUFFRAGE COMMITTEE REPORT.

On January 8 the United States Senate Suffrage Committee made its favourable report on the Susan B. Anthony Amendment providing for Equal Suffrage, and based its support on the following line of argument:—

"Manhood Suffrage has been from time to time extended. Every enlargement of the franchise has been a natural and logical development of the principle of popular sovereignty. We may assume that universal male Suffrage is an established factor in our system of government. In our opinion, every argument and every principle upon which universal manhood Suffrage rests demands the extension of its privileges and responsibilities to women. They are subject to the law, are taxed for the support of the Government, and subject with men to a common political destiny. In patriotism, intelligence, devotion to the welfare of the Government, and in capacity for the franchise, they are in no ways inferior to men."

## MISS LATHROP'S REASONING.

Miss Julia Lathrop, head of the National Children's Bureau, which is located in Washington, the national capital, has this to say about Suffrage for her sex:—

"I do not care so much for the vote for myself or for men. My great test is whether it will be useful in the hands of our thirteen million mothers in their business of rearing our thirty million children. I believe it will. Which is more womanly, to vote for clean water for the whole city, or to sit at home and buy costly bottled water for your own children, not caring for others?"

## FEMINE VOTERS.

The Boise, Idaho, Chapter of the National Council of Women Voters makes a practice of sending letters every month to women all over the world expressing appreciation of worthy acts they have performed, or praising them for devoting themselves to duties that mean much to the world, but that are ignored by it. Members of the Council say that it is probable that two or more of its women may be sent to the Idaho legislature this year. The State has had no women legislators since 1912. The Council is much interested in a Bill, backed by club women, which provides for a great national park or playground in the Sawtooth Range of Idaho. While there is some opposition to the idea among men, the Council confidently predict success, and they speak quite differently from their disfranchised sisters since behind their desires lies the mighty power of their working ballots.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

(For the period June 1, 1913—December 31, 1915.)

Last year we published in the March number of this paper the cash account of the I.W.S.A. for the nineteen months from June 1, 1913, to December 31, 1914. As this was only an extract from the treasurer's books, and not audited, we have included this period again in the audited statement overleaf, and would like to point out to anyone wishing to compare the two statements that any differences must be accounted for by the fact that auditors often group single items under different headings from what the treasurer's entries have shown, and so these discrepancies must arise.

It is gratifying to note that we still have a substantial balance at the bank with which to carry on our work for a while. It is equally gratifying to see that notwithstanding the international upheaval, the sales of *Jus Suffragii* have not only not fallen off, but actually considerably increased in 1915! At the beginning of the war great anxiety was felt lest the straining of international relations, and consequent economic depression, might prove fatal to the work of the Alliance, but these fears were groundless. Most of the associate members of the Alliance who, without infringing the law of their country, could send their subscriptions have done so, and for the few members who through war conditions were forced to relinquish their membership, the Alliance has gained almost an equal number of new ones.

The same holds good for donations to the "Special Fund." Nearly all the pledges given at the Budapest meeting—which mostly consisted in annual donations promised for two years—have been redeemed. Naturally, subscribers as well as donors residing in Germany and Austro-Hungary are debarred from sending money; but we have full reason to hope that when normal times prevail once more these outstanding debts will be paid.

Literature sales, as was to be expected, have fallen off very considerably. There is little demand for Suffrage literature at the present time, and our publications must evidently get out of date if we cannot replenish our store with new matter. In fact, the greater amount of "Woman Suffrage in Practice," both in English and French, remains on our hands. The demand for this book before the war was most promising, but since August, 1914, has stopped entirely. The secretary would welcome any orders from individuals or societies to place copies at the disposal of free libraries or similar useful centres.

(N.B.—Literature cannot now be sent to European neutral countries.)

Some explanation is necessary about the edition of *Jus Suffragii* in the French language, issued for the Latin countries.

In 1911 Miss Martina Kramers, then Editor of *Jus Suffragii* at Rotterdam, asked Mme. de Witt Schlumberger, President of the U.F.S.F., as a personal favour to help her in the translation of the paper into French, and later on to undertake the publication of the French edition in Paris. Miss Kramers' object in asking for this help was to perfect the language of the edition of *Jus Suffragii* intended for the Latin countries, and the result of this change was a considerable increase of subscribers; temporarily their number has dropped owing to the war. In 1913, after the Budapest Congress, when headquarters were established in London and Miss Sheepshanks took over the editorship of *Jus Suffragii*, Mme. de Witt Schlumberger, now one of the Vice-Presidents of the Alliance, continued in charge of the French edition. An annual grant of 1,200 francs was voted by Headquarters Committee towards the expenses of this edition, which naturally cannot be self-supporting.

These payments began in July, 1913. War conditions lately made the French Editor's work very difficult through the stringent rules of the censor, and it was found more practicable to print the French edition in England, though all editing still remained in France.

The Alliance will be reimbursed for sums paid out during this period beyond the amount of the grant, but such payments will only appear in next year's accounts.

Quite recently arrangements have been made for the French edition to appear in Geneva, where Mlle. Gourd, President of the Swiss auxiliary, has most generously placed her services at the disposition of the French Committee. The January number will be the first to make its appearance under the new conditions, and we trust that Mlle. Gourd will be able to continue doing this work for the duration of the war.

It might further be useful to say a word about the sum spent on salaries in 1914, as it considerably exceeds our ordinary

expenditure under this heading. At the meeting of officers and presidents held in London in June, 1914, it was decided to create a new "Press Secretaryship," and Mme. Rosika Schwimmer consented to fill this important post, resigning her place on the International Board of Officers for this purpose. She was to reside in London and work at headquarters. Within a few days of this appointment being confirmed war broke out—this was on August 4. On August 5 Mme. Schwimmer resigned her post. Efforts were made to induce her to reconsider her resignation, but these proving of no avail, Headquarters Committee, meeting on August 8, decided to accept the resignation, and to pay her a quarter's salary in lieu of three months' notice.

These facts account for the increase of expenditure on salaries in that one year.

Another item needing explanation is the participation by the Alliance in "The Woman's Kingdom Exhibition," held in London in April, 1914. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies had arranged this exhibition, and the Alliance, considering this chance of bringing the international aspect of the movement before a larger public most important, took a stall, and exhibited an interesting and attractively presented collection of pictures and tables of International Suffrage attainments. The stall was a great centre of interest, and generally besieged by visitors, men and women; a good deal of literature was sold, and many new adherents gained.

The work done at this stall so impressed a visitor from the North of England that she urged the starting of an advertising campaign with picture posters on a large scale, and presented us with £150 to carry out her plan. Headquarters Committee commissioned Mr. Willy Pogány, the famous Hungarian artist, with the creation of a suitable design, and a most beautiful "poster" was the result. The artist's fee of £42 was paid by another enthusiastic friend, and the campaign was started. The poster, of which readers of this paper will remember the design reproduced in the August number of 1914, appeared at all London stations and other suitable places, and plans were made to extend the campaign all over England. The design is such that with a varying superscription in different languages the poster could easily be used in any country, and our hopes ran high that we might be able to do some really useful international work by means of it. The outbreak of war sadly knocked these hopes to pieces, and our London campaign came to a premature end. Great quantities of the picture remain at our office, and we would gladly send sample copies to any friends likely to make use of them for propaganda. The design—a woman pressing her infant close to her breast, while with the other arm warding off the phantom of Death, and the motto "Men! give women votes to protect the children"—will surely represent as actual and urgent a demand and as convincing a reason for this demand after the war as it was before.

The story of our one year's contribution to international women's relief work by lending our offices and staff to the committee formed for this purpose has been frequently referred to in these pages, and need not be retold here. When the Relief Committee ceased its activities with a surplus in hand it allocated therefrom to the I.W.S.A. the sum of £20 4s. 4d. in order to refund the extra expenses which the Alliance had incurred through the Relief Committee's use of their premises.

This short summary of two and a half years' work would lack the most important part of a treasurer's report if before closing we omitted to appeal for more funds. We feel deeply grateful for the continued support of our friends in all countries. We realise how difficult it is for those who give a large amount of help to national demands yet steadfastly to go on supporting the international movement for Women's Enfranchisement; still, we venture to appeal most urgently for additional subscribers. It is at the time of our great Congresses that an influx of new subscribers generally takes place; when the direct appeal from eloquent speakers can touch the imagination of the hearers and actual contact with great women leaders from all over the world stimulates the emotions and brings new enthusiasts to our international cause.

All such means of appeal are for the moment closed to us. Who knows when we shall be permitted to meet again?

Let no one be deceived by the "balance in hand" at the beginning of this year! Our income for 1916 from subscriptions and affiliation fees cannot be estimated at more than £200 at the most. "Special Fund" donations have nearly come to an end, and only a very few additional payments can reasonably be expected. *Jus Suffragii* sales are very far from balancing the cost of production, and, as mentioned before,

other literature sales are at a standstill. We are considering to move our offices to less expensive quarters when our first three years' agreement comes to an end, but beyond this reduction in rent few economies are possible. In order to continue the work beyond this year new support must be gained. The best way to help is to become an associate member of the Alliance. The condition of membership is a yearly subscription of £1, which includes free delivery of this paper and all reports, and the right to attend our Congresses without further payments. Donations, as well as promises to contribute a certain sum for any fixed period, will be most gratefully received by the treasurer, who also is prepared to answer questions relating to the appended financial statement.

(Signed) ADELA STANTON COIT,  
Honorary Treasurer.

(N.B.—Intending subscribers will find a subscription slip on the back page.)

## NEW ZEALAND.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Great interest is taken in the registration of women for war service, such registration being optional under the New Zealand Registration Bill. Offers to fill vacancies on trams had been made early in 1915, and politely refused as unnecessary at the time. Others were willing to undertake harvesting, etc., but up to the present there seems little need.

Where women have, however, not only filled a temporary want, but opened a permanent avenue of employment, is in branches of the public service hitherto closed to women (many branches had long been open), in large private businesses like insurance offices, and most notably in banks, where no female employés were ever taken on before. The banks have now a fairly large proportion of girl clerks; the managers express their high satisfaction with the work of the girls, and there is no question of the doors closing to women after the war. In the hour of such a transition it is not possible to lay down precise standards of pay, but we understand on the best authority that very generous terms are offered to these necessarily inexperienced young persons, and that future rates will be found very satisfactory by those remaining in those positions.

It is gratifying to record that the Government has just appointed Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, late Inspector of Health in State Schools, to an important post at Trentham, the Central Training Camp of the Dominion. Dr. Gunn has charge of the hospital there, and has the title of captain, which no New Zealand woman has hitherto received. The work of women has been greatly appreciated at Trentham, since a serious outbreak of illness last winter was finely treated by a number of trained nurses and voluntary sisters. Several medical women have gone to the country to relieve doctors going to the front. A medical woman also attends the one goal for women offenders, and others have Government positions as inspectors of health in State schools.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Madam.—In the correspondence in your columns on the policy of *Jus Suffragii* one aspect does not seem to have been touched, or at least, not sufficiently emphasised. That is, that there is no question, more especially no political question, with which Woman Suffrage is not concerned. At the present moment the political question which holds the stage to the exclusion of all others is that of international relations. As a living political organisation, therefore, it is the duty of the Alliance and of its organ, *Jus Suffragii*, to bring Woman Suffrage into relation with this international political question on which the eyes of the world are fixed.

Some of your correspondents seem to assume that to discuss Woman Suffrage from this international point of view, which at the moment is most alive, is to depart from the object of the Alliance, which, as Mrs. Fawcett pointed out in your last issue, is "to secure enfranchisement for women of all nations, and to unite the friends of Woman Suffrage throughout the world in organised co-operation and mutual helpfulness."

Nothing could be further from the truth. To gain the ear of the public the successful speaker or writer has always to bring Woman Suffrage into connection with the subject, which is the most likely to make it a living issue to her hearers. When mothers are addressed they are asked if they would not like to take part in framing the laws for the world in which their children are to live. When working men form the audience, do we not show how the vote has improved their position, and ask if it is just that the working woman should be denied the same right and power? The war has for ever exploded the fallacy that the question of war and peace is outside woman's sphere, or that foreign politics are not her concern. It is the most powerful argument the Suffragists have had. Suffragists, whether militarist or pacifist, can agree that war is a terrible calamity, and that they expect women to be given



equal responsibility with men to deal in future with war and peace and foreign politics.

A large body of Woman Suffragists consider that Woman Suffrage and peace are based on the principle that the world should be governed by right rather than might, and deduce from this premise that the pacifist movement is bound up with the Woman Suffrage movement. I consider that this section ought to be given their due share of attention in the international Suffrage organ, which seeks

"to unite the friends of Woman Suffrage throughout the world in organised co-operation and mutual helpfulness," but not to the exclusion of the others who do not share their views.

I was not present at the meeting of the Headquarters Committee when it passed the resolution:—

"That the I.W.S.A. and its organ, *Jus Suffragii*, having been formed to promote the enfranchisement of women, and for no other object, Headquarters Committee is of opinion that during the war other controversial political objects, such as pacifism, on which Suffragists are divided in opinion, should not be advocated in the paper. This resolution is not intended to rule out brief statements of fact."

But when I saw it later I agreed to it. As I understand it, it rules out articles unconnected with the woman question, but not those which discuss war and peace in their connection with Woman Suffrage or the women's movement.

Mrs. Pawcett in her letter in last month's issue mentions that the letters from the officers received at the Headquarters at the time of writing had supported the resolution. We have since heard from Mrs. Catt that she is opposed, and I should like to appeal to her here to write an open letter to *Jus Suffragii*, giving her views.

A correspondent in your January number expresses your duty as an editor in these words: "To reflect faithfully the spirit of contemporary feminism throughout the world." This, it seems to me, has always been the line, and should continue to be the line, of the paper. We should record any breaking down of the artificial barriers which deny to woman her right to develop as a human being. We must not be so narrow as to exclude those who approach the question from other points of view than our own, or those who work by different methods.

If there was little Suffrage news at the outbreak of war that is no longer true. We have within the last few months had three victories to chronicle; two more are shortly expected in Canada, and the Dutch women are not without hope that their present strenuous campaign will be successful. In all the warring countries at least the old barriers which exclude women from the more skilled or more privileged positions are breaking down. These lesser gains must be recorded. The big new question of the women's movement in its relation to present international problems cannot be omitted if the paper is to continue to reflect the spirit of contemporary feminism.

I hope, Madam, that the correspondence on the policy of the paper will be continued. We are cut off at present from personal discussion, and cannot learn the views of the societies in the Alliance and of your other readers except through your columns.—  
Yours truly,  
CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

#### A Suffrage Opera.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, the well-known American Suffragist, has written the libretto for a Suffrage opera; the music by Miss Elsie Maxwell. The title of the opera is "Melinda and Her Sisters."

#### Women's New Occupations.

In Scotland women are now being employed in the Broxburn oil works for the first time, and are receiving a three-weeks course of training in candle-making, after which it is said they will be paid piece rates on the same scale as the men. In the boot trade, which normally employs many women, they are now for the first time being employed as clickers. "Clicking" is the cutting-out of boot and shoe uppers, and calls for more skill than any other process. As in the case of many other skilled trades, women are now doing, after a few weeks' training, work hitherto only done by men after three or four years' apprenticeship. With regard to baking, great opposition is being shown in Edinburgh by the operatives to the admission of female labour.

## NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Telephone: 2421 Mayfair.

I enclose the sum of £1 as an associate member's fee, and ask to be enrolled as such, and a further donation of £..... as a contribution to the funds of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

Name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) .....

Address .....

To Mrs. Adela Stanton Coit,

30, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.

Printed by PERCY BROTHERS, LTD., The Hotspur Press, Manchester; and 20, Bucklersbury, London.

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

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

### Weekly Lectures.

### House Dinners.

Wednesday, March 1, 8 p.m.—Miss Anna Airy, R.E., R.O.I. "A Woman's Experience as a Painter." Chairman: Lady Muir-Mackenzie.

Tuesday, March 7, 7.30 p.m.—House Dinner. "That the Civilisation of Ireland is far more Ancient and Superior to that of England, Scotland, and Wales." Opener: Mr. G. B. Hamilton, J.P. Opposers: Miss Gladys Rinder, Mr. D. Cameron-Swan, Miss Eilian Hughes. Chairman: Mr. J. Y. Kennedy.

Wednesday, March 8, 8 p.m.—Mr. Langdon, K.C. "Woman and the Law." Chairman: Mrs. Percy Bigland.

Wednesday, March 15, 8 p.m.—Prof. L. T. Hobhouse. "The Principles of a European Settlement." Chairman: Miss Margaret Bondfield.

Wednesday, March 22, 8 p.m.—Sir Sidney Lee. "Shakespeare as a National Hero." Chairman: Lady Meyer.

Wednesday, March 29, 8 p.m.—Miss Rebecca West. "The Art of Reviewing." Chairman: Miss Otter.

VALUABLE FEMINIST LIBRARY, free to Members (non-members, 5/6 per annum).

### EXCELLENT CATERING;

LUNCHEONS and DINNERS from 1/-.

ALL PARTICULARS—SECRETARY. Tel.: 3932 MAYFAIR

### EVERY WOMAN and WORKER SHOULD READ

## "The Woman's Dreadnought"

Editor, SYLVIA PANKHURST. Weekly One Halfpenny.

Organ of the Workers' Suffrage League.

The only Halfpenny Suffrage Paper.

Order from your Newsagent, or from the Manager—

400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

BUY . . .

## THE WOMAN WORKER

The Paper for Women! The Paper for Trade Unionists!

Editors:—Mary R. Macarthur, A. Susan Lawrence.

Apply: 34, Mecklenburgh Square, W.C., or most Newsagents.

Price 1d. Monthly.

## "LES TROIS AGES DE L'HOMME"

Etude de l'évolution de l'humanité.

By GEORGE EEDS BOXALL.

PARIS: Librairie Fischbacher, 33, Rue de Seine. 3fr. 50.  
LONDON: The International Suffrage Shop, 5, Duke Street, Charing Cross, W.C. And all booksellers. Price 3/-.  
A BOOK FOR THINKING MEN AND WOMEN.

## The Catholic Suffragist

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.  
PRICE 1d. (Annual Subscription, post free, 1s. 6d.)

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