

The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

VOL. II. No. 93. Registered as a Newspaper.

JANUARY 19, 1911.

ONE PENNY.

The News of the Week.

Nature versus Tradition.

Englishmen cannot afford to smile at Frenchmen so long as Oxford and Cambridge Universities refuse to give women the degrees and prizes for which they have qualified. It is queer to think that Miss Jane Harrison and Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Montague Butler and Miss Philippa Fawcett are still without honour in what should be their University. But the French are more logical than we, and the Institute which voted against the opening of academic doors to Mme. Curie did so not on the ground of "nature" (which is our English form of cant), but on

A Paralysed House.

The annual report of the Stansfeld Trust, which was established to promote equality between men and women, shows the curious fate of Bills specially affecting women. Out of 43 such Bills, 3 only passed into law in the last Parliament. One of these was a brief amendment of the Children Act; one referred to a Scottish medical trust; the third gave additional powers to Education Authorities to assist children in the choice of employment. Important Bills dealing with Criminal Law Amendment, with Education, with Local Government, with registration of nurses, and other matters, besides of course Franchise Bills, were all withdrawn or dropped.

AND CANVTE : SAID-THVS : FAR. AND NO : FVATHER-
ANTI : SVFFRAGE : LEAGVE-



DESIGN FOR TAPESTRY PORTIERE.
(FOR THE DECORATION OF THE HOME).

the much more certain ground of "tradition." No one can deny that it is a hoary old tradition to deny women the right of independent existence. An honourable fight is, however, being made by many distinguished French men of science, and Mme. Curie has been nominated again for the Academy of Sciences. The election will take place in a fortnight. It is interesting to read that, in the voting of the Institute, the majority in science was for the admission of women and the great majority in literature and economics was against. It rather looks as if the severe test of concrete experiment had opened men's minds further than the more deductive processes of thought.

Is Marriage a Blind-alley Employment?

We read of excellent endeavours on foot for stopping what are known as "blind-alley employments." The Poor Law Commission is quoted as recommending "labour exchanges for boys leaving school" because they "would be of very great value in securing that all the more intelligent and able boys have the chance of obtaining good openings." This is very good; nothing could be better. But we sincerely hope that it will be remembered that there are "intelligent and able girls" too, and that they also should be given a chance, and that if you make more women worth a good wage you relieve the pressure of competition at the bottom, where

it is always worst, and do much to stop sweating. Further, now that people are beginning to realise the danger of "blind-alley employments," we hope it may occur to them that at present we are making marriage a blind-alley employment for many women, and that, if this is necessary for the good of the nation as a whole, the nation as a whole must insure married women. Report says the Government intends to hurry on its schemes of invalidity insurance. How can people expect that, if every advantage is given to the wage-earner, women will remain content to earn no wage?

"Women Do Not Want The Vote."

At the annual meeting of the Association of University Women Teachers there was only one dissentient to a resolution urging the Government to pass into law next session a Women's Suffrage Bill. The resolution expressed the opinion that the direct and effective influence of women in educational matters can never be secured without the Parliamentary franchise, and that the need of such influence is especially urgent at the present time, as lines of policy are being laid down which must vitally affect the welfare of the country for more than a generation.

In moving the resolution, Miss Walters said that until women had the vote the education of the children of this country would never be adequately attended to. Were they going to have it stereotyped that more money should be spent on the education of boys than girls?

It was also decided to ask for an interview with Mr. Runciman for the purpose of trying to induce him to use his influence with the Prime Minister to accede to the request contained in the resolution.

Woman's Share.

Lord Ebury has written a letter to the "Morning Post" in which he urges that Unionist organisation throughout the country needs improving by the appointment of a "man or woman who in every district will keep in touch with the workers and help them to clothe their patriotic thoughts in simple and convincing language." It seems, from subsequent remarks, that the "presiding genius" is after all to be a man, and we gather that he is to be handsomely remunerated, but, mark, he is to "utilise the intelligence, tact, influence, and enthusiasm which are to be had for the asking from leisured woman-kind." Men, we believe, were willing to canvass until it was forbidden to pay canvassers; then the women were given the job.

Vitality in Difference.

In "The Vote" of last week there is a report of an excellent common-sense speech by that refreshing person, Miss Cicely Hamilton. She was speaking up for a woman's right to her own opinions and incidentally to the expression of them, even if they happened to differ from the opinions of other women. "It is," she said, "one of the most hopeful signs in the Suffrage movement, perhaps, the divisions that there are amongst us. Because there are divisions there need not necessarily be quarrels. I do not know that we all want to think the same and do the same; I can imagine nothing more painfully dull. It is only the Anti-Suffragists, I think, who are all of one mind, and that is only because they just stand in the way. Their test is that 'men are men and women are women.' You cannot have two opinions about that."

Miss Hamilton happens to be wrong about the Anti-Suffragists, who, as a matter of fact, oppose Women's Suffrage with a dozen mutually contradictory excuses—but let that pass! The point is that she sees the life and the fruitfulness in difference, and she pleads for robustness in uttering and standing to criticism. We don't believe in pundits and high priestesses and people too sacred for criticism; we have had plenty of criticism ourselves and we know quite well what it feels like to be sure we are right and all the rest of the world is wrong; still, we think it is good for the rest of the world to utter its error and perhaps—who knows—it may be good for us to listen! We should be so glad to think that women

might enter public life free from the worst taints of the corrupt old party system, which paints all one side white and all the other side black, and never gives black a chance of stating its case either.

A Woman's Chances.

A correspondent sends us the following:—At their last meeting the Wandsworth Board of Guardians appointed a Dispenser. There were 19 candidates, of whom three were women. The Dispensary Committee was empowered to go through the applications and submit three names to the Board. The first thing that Committee did was to strike out the three women's names without even considering their qualifications. Asked at the meeting of the full Board whether the three women had qualifications as good as or superior to those of the men, the Chairman of the Dispensary Committee replied that he was unable to answer. The applications of the women had not been considered at all. A strong protest was made against the action of the Committee, and 12 Guardians—six women and six men—voted to refer back the report of the Dispensary Committee. But the majority of the Board supported the Committee, and one of the three men was appointed without the names even of the women being laid before the Board.

Canvasses and Plebiscites.

Controversy rages as to whether the opinion of persons is best taken by post-card or by personal canvass. An Anti-Suffragist in Liverpool maintains that the post-card is fairer, and he has secured in E. Toxteth 316 Anti and 239 Pro out of 2,188. In Kirkdale he secured 386 Anti and 122 Pro out of 1,541. On the other hand, Miss Rathbone states that a personal canvass of seven wards resulted in 1,611 Pro and 471 Anti out of 3,185 on the register, of whom 1,103 were not seen. Miss Rathbone's figures show the result of canvassing for the Conciliation Bill, a definite and simple issue; Mr. Phillipps, on the other hand, required signatures to two alternative statements: "I desire the Parliamentary vote, and so I believe do the majority of the women of the country," or "I do not desire the Parliamentary vote, nor I believe do the majority of the women of the country." Really, we are rather glad that more Anti-Suffragists than Suffragists were found to approve of either of such sweeping statements.

The Hand that Rocks the Cradle.

We wish especially to draw attention to the letter (on page 670) which appeared in "The Co-operative News," from Miss Llewelyn Davies and Miss Margaret Macdonald. That it should be possible for an official to say the County Council could not receive a deputation of working women on a subject vitally affecting them and their children, because the subject was "under consideration," is fairly stupefying. Will they then see the women when the matter is settled?

Mr. Ivory Cripps.

Mr. Ivory Cripps, who has been nominated for the Executive Committee of the National Union, is an excellent speaker, and among other good deeds for the suffrage was most successful in organising the opposition to Dr. John Massie in the Cricklade Division of Wiltshire, opposition which has resulted in the return of a Liberal Suffragist to the present Parliament.

Women as Professors.

At Glasgow University last week Dr. Robert Craig introduced a resolution that any woman duly qualified might be a candidate for any chair in the University. The motion was defeated by eleven votes to nine, but the fact that the vote was so close marks encouraging progress in "immutable tradition."

Census Officials.

The Census will be taken on April 2nd and 3rd of this year. Women, we are told, are eligible as officers equally with men, but preference is given to the officials of the various local authorities, civil servants, or pensioned police officers. One wonders how these "preferences" will work out.

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

How do Women use the Vote?

In Idaho they were enfranchised in 1896. The following laws are due largely, we are informed, to the women's vote:—

A Pure Food Act.

An Act raising the age of protection for girls to 18.

Providing for a department in the State University of Domestic Science.

An Industrial Reform School.

An Act making gambling illegal.

Various Educational Acts.

An Act giving a married woman the same control over her property as a married man, etc.

In Wyoming women were enfranchised in 1867. They are responsible for the same kind of reforms as those passed in Idaho, also the following Acts:—

Protection of children.

Forbidding the employment of boys under 14 in mines, and of girls of any age; and of children under 14 in public exhibitions.

An Act making it unlawful to sell or give cigarettes, liquor, or tobacco to persons under 16.

Free Kindergartens.

Laws providing for the care of deserted or orphan children, or children of infirm, indigent, or incompetent persons

In Colorado, where women were enfranchised in 1893, they have also forbidden the insurance of children under ten years of age, and require that a woman physician be placed on the Board of the Insane Asylum; that mothers be joint guardians of their children with the fathers; and that Public Schools give lessons on humane treatment of animals. They have also been instrumental in obtaining numerous Educational Acts and Industrial Acts of an excellent kind, including an eight hours' day for women whose work requires standing.

JUDGE LINDSAY writes thus:—

"We have in Colorado the most advanced laws of any State in the Union for the care and protection of the home and the children, **the very foundation of the Republic.** These laws in my opinion would not exist at this time if it were not for the powerful influence of Woman Suffrage. . . . We believe we have the best juvenile court law, the best child-labour law, the best compulsory education law, the best laws for the prevention of cruelty to children, and the enforcement of the obligations of fathers to support wife and child, and the best administration of these laws when once upon the statute books, of every city in the Union. . . . We owe this condition more to Woman Suffrage in Colorado than to any other one cause."

THE LESSON FROM EXPERIENCE.

A Leaflet on these lines, augmented by the latest reports from the U.S.A., is being prepared by Miss I. O. FORD and will shortly be published. Look for the announcement on this page.

THE WEEK'S MOTTO:

The Motto of the Mongoose family, "Run and find out."—JUNGLE BOOK.

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

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

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

3 MONTHS	...	1	9
6 MONTHS	...	3	3
12 MONTHS	...	6	6

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

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

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

Contents.

	Page
News of the Week	665
The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage	667
On Oligarchies	668
The Victimising of Young Girls	669
The L.C.C. and Medical Treatment of School Children	670
The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies:—	
Reception to the President and Council of the N.U.	671
Treasurer's Notes	671
The Common Cause	672
Federation Notes	672
Scottish University Women	673
Mr. Housman on Womanliness	673
The Church League for Women's Suffrage	673
Foreign News	673
Men, Women, and Monkeys	673
Reviews	674
Verse: Women of To-day	675
Correspondence	675
Societies Within the Federation Areas	678
Work of Societies in the Union	678
Forthcoming Meetings	679

On Oligarchies.

One wonders if there is any experienced suffrage worker who has not been told "If all women were like you, I would give them the vote to-morrow." Sometimes the remark is made particularly comic by the fact that the speaker is obviously a fool, or vicious or degenerate; we have heard it said by a man who could not write, to a University graduate; we have heard it from a cadging drunkard whose wife supported him and who evidently thought that such delicate flattery would extract a drink from the philanthropic lady whom he was addressing.

There are few remarks more intensely galling to a right-minded woman. Quite apart from the very frequent absurdity of the relation between the character of the speaker and the meaning of what he is saying; apart from the fact that he is possibly requiring in women a standard of intelligence and morals to which he does not himself attain or even endeavour to attain; apart from the probability that he actually thinks the woman he is talking to is so vain and so disloyal that she will be gratified at the clumsy flattery; apart from all these considerations, is the really important one that the remark shows the speaker to be ignorant of the very foundation and meaning of representative government.

It is not the exceptional women any more than it is the exceptional men who most need the vote. It is likely that exceptional people, whether men or women, will find means of making themselves heard, and when we read of Miss Corelli holding fifty voters in the hollow of her hand, or Mr. Frederic Harrison and Mrs. Humphry Ward having as much influence as they have any use for, we recognise that doubtless they possess the peculiar charm or the intellectual pre-eminence which makes the vote a small thing by comparison.

In a large and complex community like ours, the value of votes is essentially cumulative, and moreover the

fact that a person or a class is qualified is of an importance possibly even greater than the fact that that person or class actually casts votes. We pointed out in our A.B.C. column last week that nowadays legislation is influenced by the electorate before it takes final shape in an Act. What generally happens is that certain requirements emerge in the course of business or industry or domestic life; that administrators point out defects in existing law; that judges, magistrates, poor-law guardians, inspectors, and the other thousand and one people who do responsible work for the community make representations and commissions are frequently appointed, which take evidence and report. All these agencies are of the highest importance and value, but there is one motive power which still is the strongest, and that is interest. Whether it is the interest of a person, a trust, a trade, a class or an organised body of reformers, it is a fact that little can be done without the pressure of some strong interest, which provides the motive power for government machinery.

Leader-writers have been apt to grow dithyrambic on the subject of our wonderful parliamentary system, but lately it has dawned upon many of them that it is perhaps somewhat unsuited to modern requirements. Its cumbersome machinery and the immense extension of the sphere of government have made it more and more difficult to get business done, and the enlargement of the purely male electorate has made it increasingly difficult for women's interests to be heard at all. There is always great danger that excessively rich individuals or trusts and trades, being not only immensely powerful, but quickly mobilised and speaking with one voice, will have undue influence upon both legislation and administration. It scarcely needs illustrating, it is so evident, that a man possessing millions will have the ear of the government, will be able to make his representations heard at the heart of affairs, and will be able promptly and secretly to reward those who attend to them. The great businesses, the great trades and industries can also, by combination and organisation, make themselves heard and can affect legislation, and we find that our laws and the administration of them very plainly reflect, in their reverence for property, the influence which property has upon governments.

But a change has come over the nation. Which is cause and which effect it is not easy to see, but we can all see that, during the past century the development of women's education and status has been accompanied by a revolution in the way of looking at social conditions. Gradually all parties have recognised that, whether they like it or not, the community must interfere more and more with the individual and the old "laissez faire" Liberal and the old anti-socialist Conservative parties are finding themselves let in for an amount of interference which no one would have contemplated even thirty years ago. These changes have, then, brought us face to face with a position which is at once more full of hope and of peril than the old one. By the aid of awakened womanhood, men are becoming alive to many evils and dangers about which they have slept. Infant mortality, alcoholism, traffic in women, the lack of training and protection from which women in industry suffer, the enormously vexed questions of the proper maintenance of mothers, responsibility of parentage and marriage relations—here is a crop of problems which are clamouring for practical solution.

Wise men are calling in women to help, but these women are, at present, exceptional women. To a small extent as inspectors and administrators; to a still smaller extent on commissions and consultative committees, the exceptional women are giving of their best, and have, even under the most hampering conditions, done fine social service, which we would not wish to underrate. If we believed in government by oligarchy, and if the oligarchs were composed of equal numbers of women and of men with equal powers, we might think the arrangement equitable. But we have nothing of the sort.

The present situation is a transitional one, with the danger that many people are trying to perpetuate it. We have lip service to the representative principle. Men, it is true, are not yet adequately and justly represented,

but it is largely their own fault if they are not; women are not represented at all. The small number of exceptional women who, behind the scenes, are understood to advise in the drafting of bills relating to women are not chosen by popular vote, and the mass of women know nothing of them and have no means of knowing. We have some approach to a male democracy (and it rests with the men to make the approach nearer), together with a female oligarchy, and this oligarchy works in the dark, through men only Heaven knows how or why, and the millions of voiceless women in the country are told to be pacified because men will always "consult" women—exceptional women—as to "what women want." Women are always supposed to want one and the same thing! Or if they don't, they must be made to! Why? Would men be content, here and now, in England if they were told that a few "exceptional men" were consulted and had said "what men wanted"?

There is real danger of a deadlock. Proposals for interfering in matters vitally affecting women are being made, and every proposal is met by more or less articulate and more or less reasoned opposition from women themselves. Who is to decide what shall be done? The men cannot, and it is not fair to expect it of them. In the evidence given before the Divorce Commission, a body of philanthropic women banded together to maintain the sanctity of home life gave evidence in a sense very far differing from another body of working women speaking from need and experience. Who, in the issue, is to decide between these conflicting opinions? Men only? Can they really think that awakened women will calmly accept new laws made by men only on a matter of such vital concern as marriage? Does not the harmonious working of the difficult institution of marriage depend upon willing and joyful consent? Will it not be more than likely that men, as they begin to realise this, will put off dealing with so thorny a matter?

And what is true of the marriage question is true of all the other questions in which women are particularly concerned. You will either get laws passed by the pressure of male interests (in the interests of property and sex domination), or you will find legislators incessantly balked and hampered by the difficulty of legislating against the will of a section of the people and that section the one most vitally interested in the future, in the coming race, in education and health, and the one possessed of that intimate knowledge of these things without which legislation is a danger and administration a farce.

For healthy national life we must have the co-operation of women. Even the Anti-Suffragists will admit and urge this as warmly as the Suffragists. Where we differ is in our conviction that English women no more than English men will endure to be told what they want by an oligarchy of even the best women. When these women have not even been elected but are selected by some mysterious co-option, and have the ear of the government without any possibility of control or even comprehension by the millions of their sisters, the whole system (if that can be called system which is really due to the accidents of growth) is one abhorrent to the national tradition and bearing in itself the seeds of revolution.

The Victimising of Young Girls.

By Mrs. Bramwell Booth.

I am very glad of the opportunity afforded me by the Editor of "The Common Cause" to draw attention to a subject which every woman—or at any rate every mother—ought to have upon her heart, viz., the horrible destruction of young children.

Maeterlinck has said that there is only one crime which one can never pardon: it is that which poisons the joys and destroys the smiles of a child.

Wide as is the spread of information to-day, and great—in comparison with former years—as is the public concern about matters which make for national security,

I am sadly afraid that there are wounds in the body politic so loathsome and apparently so hopeless that those few who suspected their presence have been tempted to turn away and keep silence, avoiding the discussion of matters so unsavoury.

It will, however, be understood that the work which God has put into my hands brings before my notice facts of which otherwise I should—like many of my sister women—be unaware. These facts—staggering and agonising as they have been to my mother-heart—must, I feel, be uncovered, otherwise how can a remedy be found?

In thinking of the Rescue Work associated with my name, readers will naturally conclude that the cases dealt with in our Homes were all adults, but alas, this is not so. In one single year, 316 girls under the age of sixteen years have come under our care, and these, of course, only represent an infinitely larger number of whose ruin no record is obtainable, and for whose rescue no hand is outstretched.

Looking a little deeper, I have also found that a very large proportion of the older prostitutes of to-day date their ruin back to some such happening, during the helplessness of their tender years, as befel those whose sorrows I am about to enumerate. And, worst horror of all, often the dreadful outrage took place in the shelter of their own homes and at the hands of those responsible for their protection.

Unfortunately, it is only too easy, from our Home records, to procure dozens of stories such as the following, but I will only cite a few typical ones.

A., when a girl of twelve, went to stay with a married sister who was about to be confined. This sister went to her mother's residence for her illness, leaving the child of twelve to keep house for her brother-in-law. She remained for a month, during which time the man wronged her. The cottage was in a lonely part, and there was no one in whom the child could confide. She however, told a little girl who came to play with her that she was very unhappy, and the little visitor repeated to her own mother enough to cause that good woman to send for poor A. A doctor was called in, and the little victim's statement was confirmed. The man was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and the child came to our Home for young girls.

B., an intelligent little girl, was only ten years old when she was wronged by her own father, a capable workman, whose ill-treatment before it was discovered had so injured her health that we fear she will never grow to her normal size. The man received a sentence of two years, and the girl came to us. She was found to be most deceitful at first—another evil taught by her unnatural parent—but she quickly improved, gave very little trouble, and is now doing well.

C.'s father was a tradesman in comfortable circumstances and C. was one of a family of six. While her mother lay dying, C. was assaulted by her father, and the wrong continued for two years. A child was then born, but the man so threatened the girl that she held to a lie concocted by him, in consequence of which the case was not proved. When she came to us, this pitiful young mother was only fifteen years old.

D. was wronged by her step-father, and had a child when she was fifteen. The man was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

E. was wronged by her father, a terrible man, who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. He had turned his wife out of doors, and demanded that this child of fifteen should live with him. She finally made her escape in night attire, and was rescued by a neighbour.

F. had been wronged by her two brothers, aged seventeen and nineteen years, and she was fifteen when we received her. Outwardly her home was a respectable one, but her mother was an extremely weak woman, and gave no oversight to her children.

G.'s mother died when she was thirteen, and she was left to keep house for a terribly drunken father; who wronged her so brutally that he actually received a sentence of twelve years' penal servitude, poor little G. being placed in my care.

H. had a terrible home! Her mother died of small-pox, and the child of thirteen years was left to the mercy of her father, who treated her so disgracefully that the neighbours at last took the matter up, giving information to the police, which led to the man receiving twelve years' imprisonment and the girl being handed over to the Salvation Army.

I. was nearly sixteen when she was wronged by her uncle, in whose house she was a visitor. Her grandmother discovered the facts and informed the police. This man received a sentence of six months.

J. did so well at school that she was allowed to leave when eleven years of age and go to service. Here she was wronged by a lad of nineteen, whose guilt was proved, but whose sentence was only six months. When the poor child came to our Girls' Home she looked like a little old woman, in a long frock with her hair up, and all her childhood's innocence stolen away. She was put into shorter dresses, her hair now hangs in a plait, and she is being helped to regain the joys that were poisoned and the smiles that had vanished.

Now these are facts, and, hideous as they are, they should be known. Ignorance may be bliss, but knowledge is power, and the light of public indignation needs to be let in upon those who love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.

The law has done something, and will doubtless do more, but it has, in my judgment, so far failed to deal at all adequately with the sources of immorality. The variety of sentences, noticeable in the cases above cited, shows that their length depends too much on the leniency or sternness of an individual, and the frequent "failures to convict" which so often exasperate those who know the facts and yet are unable to produce what is considered as "sufficient evidence" point to a great need for reform.

Once they have been made to understand the law, its influence upon the moral character of the people is really very great. Unless it is openly oppressive, history shows us at every turn that the law of the land quickly becomes, among the great mass of the populace, the law of the individual conscience, and the standard of individual conduct. What the law forbids is looked upon as crime—at any rate, as dangerous. What the law permits, or what the law does not actually prohibit or punish, comes to be regarded as perfectly allowable and as having really no harm in it.

Is it any wonder then that the inadequacy and futility of the law in regard to the matters to which I have referred has led to the impression that they are not matters of any great moment?

The fact is that men of a certain kind—and such I am sadly afraid are to be found even among those who administer the law—actually look upon the destruction of members of the opposite sex, whatever their age, only as an unfortunate accident or as a slightly risky indulgence. And thus, instead of the law being the guardian of virtue, it has, by its silence and its weakness, become, in a terrible measure, the protector of vice.

I contend that if children of tender years could be really protected much evil would be prevented, and I would express the hope that those who are dealing with these matters would emphasise the necessity for raising the age of consent. Over and over again a prosecution has failed because a girl of fifteen looked older than she really was.

Another terrible difficulty in the way of getting offenders punished is that at present no proceedings can be taken after a certain quite brief time (six months) has elapsed. This urgently needs amendment.

I cannot but feel that fathers could and should be made responsible for the protection of their children in these matters. If a parent is punished for negligence which leads to his child being burned, surely it ought to be possible to make him realise the far heavier responsibility of protecting his own daughter from an infinitely more serious injury.

The London County Council and Medical Treatment of School Children.

(Reprinted from "The Co-operative News.") To the Editor of the "Woman's Corner."

Dear Madam,—The need for the better organisation of the medical treatment of London school children is being urged from many quarters. But the views of those most concerned have not yet been given the consideration they ought to receive from the responsible authorities. Recently the Women's Co-operative Guild and the Women's Labour League asked that they might, by means of a deputation, directly express to the London County Council the opinions and experience of the mothers of the children. These two organisations represent married working women, whose children are or have been attending elementary schools. The Women's Co-operative Guild has 26,000 members connected with industrial co-operative societies, and the Women's Labour League includes the women members and wives of members of trade unions, trade councils, co-operative and socialist societies. In reply to our request, we received the following letter:—

Madam,—Your letter of the 30th ultimo on the subject of the medical treatment of school children has been placed before the appropriate committee of the council.

In reply, I am directed to state that, in view of the fact that the whole question of the medical treatment of school children in London is at present under consideration, the council does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by receiving a joint deputation from the Women's Co-operative Guild and Women's Labour League on the question of the establishment of school clinics.—Yours, &c.,

R. BLAIR (Education Officer).

December 23rd, 1910.

Both our organisations have worked for medical inspection and the establishment of school clinics, as the only means of securing the regular daily treatment needed for so many of the diseases of childhood. This treatment cannot be given in the crowded homes of the workers by mothers who have not the time, skill, or appliances needed.

The attempt to deal with the children through hospitals is found both ineffective and costly. A woman from Woolwich writes: "The inconvenience of attending London hospitals is serious. The return railway fare is 1s. 2d., with many hours of long, weary waiting, and where children have mothers who go out to work it means another 2s. or more. It also means that in many cases the children are not taken to hospital at all, but are thoroughly neglected." After medical inspection, white cards are given to the parents, saying their children require medical treatment, but often no directions are given as to where they can receive it, nor is it easy to obtain the coloured ticket necessary for free treatment. Parents go from hospital to hospital, often without success. Good parents, who are anxious to do their best for their children, rush off, first to one hospital, then to another, often without success, as a coloured card is required to secure treatment. The following case shows the difficulties met with when a child has not been medically inspected. A mother was advised by the teacher to ask advice for adenoids. The mother took it to a hospital, and was there refused treatment because the child was at school, and was told to go to her proper hospital. At the second hospital she was told it could not be seen unless she brought a blue card—given as a result of medical inspection. After much trouble, she got one, and went a third time to the hospital. Then the London County Council sent in a charge form in the usual way. So the actual result of the London County Council arrangement with the hospitals is often to make it more difficult to obtain medical treatment and advice, and the advice formerly given free may have to be paid for.

In another case, a child excluded for ringworm received a card making an appointment at a distant hospital. The mother, though very poor, gave up a day's

work to take it at the appointed time. After waiting hours, she was sent away unseen, because the hospital never took more than a certain number of cases on the same day. Another woman who was waiting had been previously three times by appointment without being seen.

But there is another objection also strongly felt. A member of the Women's Co-operative Guild writes:—"Several mothers have told me that the shock to the children does more harm than good, and that they would prefer to spend their last shilling than sit four or five hours on a bench waiting to see the doctor. Their own children may have slight ailments, but they tremble with fear when they hear the screams of the children in the consulting-room. The weariness and suspense are very trying, and they often feel they must rush home just to see how things are going on." Another woman says:—"Mothers cannot and often will not spare time and money to attend hospitals, and also object to little ones seeing sad and distressing scenes at such."

The results of failure to secure treatment are too often permanent defects and ill-health. One woman speaks of

three cases in her own experience, one a stiff neck resulting from a fall, another short sight, and the third a skin complaint. Deafness resulting from neglected adenoids is only too common, and a serious disadvantage in later life. Similar cases could probably be given by almost any working-class parent.

Women are told that they do not need political power because their sphere is the home. Yet here we have an instance of refusal to give attention to their views on a question in which they have first-hand knowledge, and which is of vital importance to them. Is it because so few married working women have votes for the London County Council that "no useful purpose can be served" by hearing their views on medical treatment while the whole question is under consideration?—Yours, etc.,

MARGARET LLEWELYN DAVIES, Hon. General Secretary Women's Co-operative Guild. MARGARET E. MACDONALD, Hon. National Secretary, Women's Labour League. January 9th, 1911.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

Hon. Secretaries: Miss Edith Dimock, Miss Bertha Mason (Parliamentary). President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D. Hon. Treasurer: Miss Bertha Mason (Pro Tem.). Secretary: Miss T. G. Whitehead, M.A. Telephone: 1960 Victoria. Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Reception to the President and Council of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

A reception will be given by a few ladies, who have kindly consented to act as hostesses, on Thursday, January 26th, at the Wharnclyffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel, from 9 to 11-30 p.m., to meet the President and Council of the National Union.

There will be music and light refreshments in the Winter Garden. Delegates to the Council and friends of the Women's Suffrage cause are being invited. Invitations will be forwarded to all delegates this week.

The hotel is in the Marylebone Road, five minutes walk from Baker Street. It can be reached from all parts by tube to Gt. Central station, and by omnibus from Charing Cross, Victoria, Paddington, etc.

BERTHA MASON.

Treasurer's Notes.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.

Table with columns: Date (December 10th, 1910, to January 7th, 1911), £, s, d. Includes entries for already acknowledged, Mrs. A. H. Overton, Miss S. T. Widdows, Lady Margaret Hall W.S.S., Miss M. B. Alden, Newnham College W.S.S., Miss M. Brea, Miss C. Monteath, The Misses Hart, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Austen, Mrs. Methuen, Haslemere and District W.S.S., M. J. M. (Keswick), Gloucester W.S.S., Oxford W.S.S., Mrs. Reid, Miss Frances Sterling, Mrs. Gimingham. Total: £1,537 7 0

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND. From November 1st to January 14th.

Table with columns: Name, £, s, d. Includes entries for already acknowledged, Subscriptions (Miss Margaret Hart, Miss Nancy Fleming, Mrs. Edward Smithson, Miss M. Collier, Mrs. Archibald Little, Mrs. Enfield Dowson, Mrs. McLaren, Miss Monck Mason, The Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, Miss P. G. Fawcett, Miss Meade King, Mr. R. F. Cholmeley, Miss Julia Kennedy, Miss P. S. Goode, Miss Celia Wray, Mrs. C. Meyerstein, Miss C. Young, Mrs. Vaughan, Mrs. Pennington, Mrs. Broadley Reid, Dr. Jane Walker, Mrs. W. H. Evans, Mrs. Luff, Mrs. Brownlow, Miss E. Atkinson, Miss E. Newman, Miss Matheson, Miss Chamberlain, Miss Lovsey, Mrs. Hermon, Miss H. J. Hartle, Miss E. F. S. Mair, Donations (Miss E. Matheson, Miss Lilian Howell, Mrs. Auerbach, Miss Florence Nightingale, Kendal W.S.S., Miss Beaumont, Mr. Charles Lister, J. W. P., "A Friend", Mrs. Aubrey Dowson), Affiliation Fees (Somerville College W.S.S., Melrose W.S.S., Wells W.S.S., Tonbridge W.S.S., Cornwall East W.S.S., St. Andrews W.S.S., York W.S.S., Rhyl W.S.S., Farnham W.S.S., Norwich W.S.S., Fleet W.S.S.). Total: £719 8 1/2

Carlisle W.S.S.	1	5	3
Burton-on-Trent W.S.S. (additional)	0	0	6
Widnes W.S.S.	0	5	0
Wisbech W.S.S.	0	5	0
Altrincham W.S.S.	1	17	6
Herts. (North) W.S.S.	4	0	0
Subscriptions—			
Mrs. Gray	0	1	0
Mrs. C. Flügel	2	2	0
Mrs. Helen B. Taylor	1	1	0
Dr. Estelle Maude Cole	0	5	0
Donations:—			
Mrs. F. S. Tabor	2	0	0
Miss A. M. Royden	5	0	0
Mrs. C. Flügel	3	3	0
Queen's Hall, per London W.S.S.	13	0	0
Affiliation Fees:—			
Oldham W.S.S.	5	0	0
Whitby W.S.S.	1	11	0
London W.S.S.	40	11	3
Bolton W.S.S.	1	14	6
Macclesfield W.S.S.	0	15	0
Oxford and Limsfield W.S.S.	0	7	6
West Dorset W.S.S. (additional)	0	1	6
Ambleside W.S.S.	1	5	0

£217 3 8½

BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

"The Common Cause."

CORRESPONDENTS AND SECRETARIES.

It has occurred to us that we really are public benefactors, and we call upon Federation Secretaries to feel grateful! It is this way: Every well-conditioned person detests reporting work done and would always rather do the work than talk about it. We expect, then, that Federation Secretaries will have great difficulty in getting reports from their Societies. Now, the Common Cause Correspondents will be a real boon to Federation Secretaries, because the Correspondents will extort reports, which they will boil down for publication in our monthly record of work done, and they can then send on the full reports to the Federation Secretary.

Reports of meetings, etc., should be sent to the Correspondents as soon as possible after the meeting, first because it is sure to be a better report if it is written immediately, and secondly because the Correspondent is probably a very busy woman and it takes time to boil down a lot of reports into a readable and well-proportioned summary.

GETTING NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

The Keswick Society has a Common Cause Sub-Committee, which held a meeting on January 13th at the Battersby Lecture Hall. Invitations had been sent to a number of representative people connected with Liberal and Conservative Associations, I.L.P., British Women's Temperance Association, Christian Endeavour, Young Men's Christian Association, St. John's Ambulance Brigade, Nursing Association, etc. There was a very good attendance. Mrs. Hayes was in the chair, and Miss Marshall explained the plans of the Committee for increasing the local circulation of "The Common Cause." There was a satisfactory response to the appeal for help, and eleven new subscribers gave in their names on the spot. Mrs. Bromley has arranged for the display of the weekly "Common Cause" poster outside the principal newsagent's shop, and Mrs. Slack has kindly made herself responsible for the expense for twelve months.

We suggest that if such excellent results can be obtained in a small country town like Keswick, there should be a magnificent field in larger towns, and we recommend Miss Marshall's methods.

TEMPERANCE AND THE VOTE.

A lady writing from Canada says:—"I saw in the November number of 'The White Ribbon Bulletin' an account of your paper, . . . and I wish to subscribe. I truly believe that the N.C.T.U. should work along with Woman Suffrage. We are fighting for women's rights."

Federation Notes.

Scottish.

The secretary of the John O'Groats Society reports that Mr. R. L. Harmsworth, M.P. (Caithness), replied to her inquiry, that he could not "regard the Conciliation Bill and Women's Suffrage as the same thing at all. In my opinion, if female suffrage is to be granted it should be granted within reason to all women. If there is to be discrimination in the matter I would prefer to support a measure giving the vote to women who have no property rather than to those who are already endowed in this respect."

Subsequently, at a Liberal demonstration (on Tuesday, December 13th, in Thurso), Mr. Harmsworth was asked the following questions:—

"If the Conciliation Bill comes on again will you support it?" (A voice from the audience: "No.")

"Well, that gentleman has answered the question for me."

"Why would you give the vote without rather than with the property qualification?"

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, this simple question really marks the cleavage between Liberalism and Toryism on the question. I do not know if this demands a reply; still, I must give it. Ladies and gentlemen, I do not believe that anybody, man or woman, should have a vote merely because they own a piece of property. I have never been a believer in property being represented rather than the man being represented. The property qualification, to my mind, is the most pernicious basis for the vote. I have already stated that I believe every young man should have a vote, whether he has property or not. I think, ladies and gentlemen, I have expressed myself clearly on this question."

Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union.

Deputation to Sir Robert Finlay, K.C., Member of Parliament for the Universities of St. Andrews and Edinburgh.

On Friday, January 6th, a deputation, consisting of Miss M. Campbell Smith, Miss Hannan Watson, Dr. Jessie Campbell, Miss Ida Thomson, Rev. John Glasse, D.D., Rev. John Morrison, D.D., graduates of St. Andrews University, and

STOCKTAKING SALE

NOW PROCEEDING.

Exceptional Bargains in all Depts.



500 ONLY. Real Hand-knitted Sports Coats in a variety of fashionable colours. Perfect shapes. From 30 to 42 inches long. Original Price, 21/-, 29/6, and 35/-. All Reduced to 10/6

AT HALF-PRICE. Natural Siberian Squirrel Stoles and Muffs, made from selected skins. A most exceptional opportunity. Stole (20 skins) 49/6. Muff (16 skins) 29/6.

Fashionable Scarf, in rich silk crepon, in a variety of new shades, edged with marabout feather, also in Silk Ninon. Original Price, 21/- Sale Price, 5/-.

Debenham & Freebody.

Wigmore Street (Cavendish Square) London, W.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.

President: The Bishop of Lincoln.
Hon. Secretary: Rev. C. Hinscliff.

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

Miss Frances Simson, Dr. Elsie Inglis, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Eveline MacLaren, Professor Cargill Knott, Dr. John Macmillan, Dr. Taylor (president of the Men's League), Rev. Sidney Mellone, and Mr. James Craig, graduates of Edinburgh University, was received by Sir Robert Finlay. The arguments from the points of view of the University graduate, the working-women, and the professional women were laid before him. The inequalities in the law and the growing demand on the part of women and of the country were explained. Sir Robert Finlay said he would consider the facts laid before him. He further stated that his views are the same as those stated in a letter written by him to Mr. Walter MacLaren in December, 1909—namely, that if the question could be settled by the admission to the franchise of women graduates and householders, he would not object to it. He believes, however, that the granting of such a franchise would lead to further agitation, and, therefore, he is against granting even the limited franchise. He intends to vote against the Conciliation Bill.

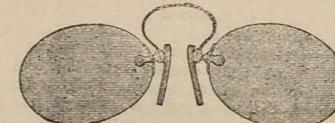
Mr. Housman on Womanliness.

One of the warmest champions of our Cause, Mr. Laurence Housman, read a paper last week at the New Reform Club on "What is Womanly?" and every woman who heard him probably thanked him from the bottom of her heart for his witty exposition of the matter. The question is not one that can be answered finally at any time—every generation has a different conception of what is womanly, so that the right we claim really comes to mean "the right to experiment." Women must be given this right, said Mr. Housman; they must make their own successes or failures. To be womanly to-day is to be in a state of development, to be finding oneself, taking possession of oneself. It is time that Milton's Eve ceased to be the model for women of this era; she stands for that ideal creature for whom men fight duels, whom they wish to protect quite out of herself; she is the woman who dares nothing, who is all meekness and resignation and the echo of her lord's will. Mr. Housman thought that the false standard of a woman's honour was responsible for duelling, and he gave us a very special instance to prove the point. In the home he would not have women suffer that others may indulge; rather than that, he would have women make man's home "a hell," if no other measure can rouse him out of idleness or slothful ease. On the social side, Mr. Housman pointed out how women are debarred from action by artificial barriers raised, and instanced the criminal cases in which women are asked to "leave the court," when it would not infrequently be more really "womanly" of them to stay in their places—such cases being nearly always those which touch very closely things concerning women.

Women are developing a social conscience, they are out for fresh adventures in the social field, and the higher training given everywhere is a sign of the times. He touched on the opening of the medical profession to women, on Florence Nightingale's work, and at length on all that Mrs. Norton did to get the law altered concerning a mother's access to her children. He was very funny in his exposition of the fallacy of the "whistling maid and the crowing hen," and from this developed the idea that the exceptional woman of one age may be the normal one of the next, and "the disputed territory of one age becomes the centre of activity in the next." A false code of "womanliness" makes a false code of "manliness"; what raises one sex raises the other, so that women must see to it that they have the right of knowledge, the right of economic independence—in a word, the right of way, and to get this they must allow themselves to be critical, and, if necessary, rebels. Vain attempts were made at the conclusion of the paper to draw Mr. Housman into a Suffrage debate, but he cleverly evaded that subject and insisted on sticking to "Womanliness," leaving the definition of the word to his hearers.

AGNES EVANS.

WHY WEAR HEAVY Eyeglasses & Spectacles?



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

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

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

UNITED STATES.
We hear from Boston that a convention of the women of the five enfranchised States is being called in order to form a national organisation of women voters to help the women of the East and South in their efforts to secure the ballot. The Governors of each of the enfranchised States are appointing one delegate to the convention, which was to be held on January 14th. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt has sent a message of congratulation, and has also invited the convention to appoint a fraternal delegate to the Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, to be held at Stockholm next June.

"The Brunswick Herald" says: "Woman Suffrage for Drummond, Montgomery County, is an assured fact. Drummond is a live village, and is one of the most attractive of Washington's suburban towns. Its affairs are managed by the Drummond Citizens' Association, and at a recent meeting of the Association it was voted to admit women to membership, which will mean that after January 1st the women members of the Association will have just as much to say in managing the affairs of the town as any man member. On December 14th five women sat on a jury in Washington for the first time under the new law."

FRANCE.

We are glad to be able to report a new and important victory for the extension of women's activities in the election of Madame Paquin as vice-president of an important tailors' and dressmakers' organisation. This is the first time that a woman has held any official position in this society, and considerable courage was required on Madame Paquin's part to stand for it, as her election was considered by no means certain.

SWEDEN.

Miss Gerda Planting-Gyllenbaga has just been elected a member of the City Council of Huskvarna, Sweden. She is the first Swedish woman to be chosen to this position, outside Stockholm, where two women are already serving. This is the first year that women have been eligible for election as councillors outside the capital city.

MONACO.

The idea of "Votes for Women" is making slow progress in this small country. Although women are as yet excluded from taking part in the elections for the National Council, they are entitled to the municipal franchise, and vote for those bodies which administer the three communes into which the Principality is divided.

Men, Women, and Monkeys.

"Votes for women? Votes for monkeys, that's what I say!"

The speaker was surprised to find the gutter rising up to meet him with a volley of shooting stars, but he was still more surprised at what followed.

The market-place, and the crowd, and the lorry, with its red-and-green flags all seemed to fade away, and in their places there came a circle of tall trees, taller than any he had ever seen, growing up out of tangled weeds and bushes; in the middle of the trees—where the town hall had been—there came a patch of long wet grass, and in the middle of this he found himself sitting.

His own words seemed to be hanging in the air, "Votes for monkeys, that's what I say!"

Before the sound had quite died away down came the monkeys out of the tall trees, hundreds of them, jumping and laughing and swinging by their tails. "Votes for monkeys," they echoed, and they came clustering round him.

"Why should we be ruled by Man?" they shouted. "Is this not our forest? Are these not our trees? We eat the nuts; we have to bear the thunder-storms! We must be consulted about the rules for the forest!" And they all chattered together and made a great noise.

Sitting in the middle of them he felt a great disgust. How horrible their long tails were! and their silly voices! and their quick gestures and grimaces! It was with infinite relief that he at last saw a human being come out on to the grass from under the trees. He was not surprised that it was a savage who came, nor that as he came the monkeys all scampered off yelling and laughing to their tree-tops. It was an unspeakable relief, and he got to his feet and went towards the savage for companionship. But why were the trees so tall, and the man so tall? What was the matter with his legs and his arms? And what was this thing that trailed after him? He looked anxiously round and saw—his own tail!

The next minute the savage had him in his hands, and he was afraid.

"I'll teach yer ter insult yer mother," he heard the savage say, and then suddenly he saw the market-place coming back, and the lorry with the red-and-green flags. But he was lying in the gutter.

"Votes for women!" he heard them saying all round him. "Votes for women," he muttered shamefacedly, as he picked himself up.

"Votes for women, that's what I say!"

RAY COSTELLOE.

The Passion for Knowledge.

There was a most interesting account of the work at the Swarthmore Educational and Social Settlement (Leeds) in last Saturday's "Daily News." Mr. Hibbert, the Warden, gave some touching examples of courage in the pursuit of knowledge. He is quoted as saying: "One of the most heroic women I have ever met sacrificed time, spare money, and even health to come to the classes. A woman of about 35 years of age, with a home to support, she had wonderful gifts, yet she never had the chance of education. She used to leave her house at five o'clock every morning to get to work at the mill at six, and she never returned home till six. She would do the housework and then get down to the Settlement at half-past seven, and put in an hour and a half at classes.

"Getting home about ten o'clock, she would sit sewing far into the night so that her little home might not suffer from her passion for knowledge. A woman, as I have mentioned, of really remarkable gifts, the classes opened up a new realm to her. Never physically strong, her health has given way because of the strain, and she no longer leads the Settlement."

Mothers Don't Count.

One of the clever picture postcards published by the Artists' Suffrage League depicts Mr. John Burns telling a poor woman to go home and send her husband instead. She wants exemption from vaccination for a delicate baby, and as it happens her husband is a sailor at sea. She being the mother does not count as a parent. This particular grievance has now been partly remedied, but the general principle remains.

Under our unfair law at present the mother has all the burden of bearing the children, rearing them, caring for them day by day, nursing them when ill, often having in a large manufacturing town to work for them, too. The father alone has the power to choose their religion, school, profession. He only is recognized as their legal guardian.

One case in point—Mrs. K.—is very well known to me. I do not say she is a model mother, but her husband, a casual labourer, is one of the kind who was born lazy. K. has been away in another town for thirteen months, occasionally sending home 5s. or 10s., which prevents his wife from receiving parochial relief. She is left with four children to keep and feed. There is another delicate little fellow of four who has been for a year now in a small hospital. When Lawrie went in he was not expected to live, but is now running about healthy and well. I went to entreat Mrs. K. to give up the child if it could be arranged for some one to adopt him (he is a dear little chap), or let him go to some institution. Mrs. K. was quite willing, for, she said, looking round the bare room, "I ken weel this is no a place for him, and I see naething before me but poverty. But," she added, "I'll

need to ken what he says." If "he" says "No," then she, poor soul, not he, will have another child on her already overburdened hands. Surely she is the parent who should count!

A SOCIAL WORKER.

Reviews.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY. (A Study in American Economic History. By Edith Abbott, Ph.D. Appleton and Co., New York and London.)

"The present study," says Miss Abbott, "is not an investigation into present conditions of women's work and wages, but an inquiry into the history and statistics of the employment of women in America." After a brief account of the situation in Colonial times and of the gradual change by which women followed their work from the home to the factory, the report divides into chapters dealing separately with separate trades, the author having discovered—as every first-hand investigator will always discover—that no two trades have precisely a similar history. Very interesting and instructive are these chapters, and very well worth the study of social workers in our own country; but far too complex to be examined except at considerable length. Finally comes a chapter upon "Public Opinion and the Working Woman," which may be commended in its entirety to Anti-Suffragists and others who believe in a fixed and pre-ordained "proper sphere" for women. And since the two main points of this chapter are put with almost as much brevity as and a good deal more authority than any reviewer could hope to attain, it will be the best plan to quote Miss Abbott's own words:—

"It becomes clear that women have been from the beginning of our history an important factor in American industry. . . . Any theory, therefore, that women are a new element in our industrial life, or that they are doing men's work, or that they have 'driven out the men,' is a theory unsupported by facts." . . . "It may be again repeated that in all of these five industries women have been employed for more than a hundred years, and it is now too late to look upon them as entering a new field of employment in which they have no right." . . . "Throughout the Colonial period, and for more than half a century after the establishment of our Republic, the attitude not only of the statesman but of the public moralist was that of rigid insistence on the gainful ('gainful' *Anglice* for 'money') employment of women either in the home, or, as the household industries grew decreasingly profitable, away from it." . . . "We see . . . the women quietly following their work from the home to the factory. This was not only the natural thing for them to do, but it was demanded of them by the public opinion of their day, and there was no voice lifted then to remind them that woman's proper place was at home." . . . "In the days when the earliest factories were calling for operatives, the public moralist denounced her for 'eating the bread of idleness' if she refused to obey the call. Now that there is some fear lest profuse immigration may give us an oversupply of labour, and that there may not be work enough for the men, it is the public moralist again who finds that her proper place is at home and that the world of industry was created for men."

In short, the public moralist in economics, as elsewhere, speaks with the voice of Adam. C. B.

WOMEN OF ALL NATIONS. Popular edition, edited by T. Athol Joyce. Cassel and Co., Ltd. 1910. 6s. net.

This abridged edition contains a great deal of very useful and entertaining matter in a handy form. In dealing with so vast a subject in the short space of 216 pages, the editor has been unable to go very deeply into the causes which react upon the condition of women in various parts of the world; but one closes the book with a sense of having learnt a great deal and of wanting to know more. One has read of trial marriages, and of marriages between one man and several women, and between one woman and several men; one has learnt of strange birth customs, by which both parents abstain from certain foods believed to injure the expected infant (South America), of the remarkable practice of *couvade*, which makes the father lie in after the child is born while the mother pursues her usual avocations (also in South America). The women of other nations have ideas as to beauty widely differing from our own: a Polynesian mother will carefully press the nose of her infant so that the nostrils may spread out, "unlike the thin, starved nose of the white race." The treatment of wives by their husbands varies enormously, and seems to bear no ratio to the usefulness of the former: the Mongol says, "Love your wife

as your soul, and beat her like your fur"; while in the Pelew group, Oceania, it is considered bad form for a man to beat or abuse his wife publicly, and such offences are punishable by a fine.

The chapters on the women of Europe are most enlightening: Russia still possesses some primitive institutions among her peasantry, such as the professional matchmaker; in Spain and among the professional classes of Ireland, it is stated, a woman loses caste by attempting to earn an independent livelihood, it being considered more dignified for her to live on her relations. Italy is in advance of England in some respects, for the Italian mother has a right to the guardianship of her children, and in cases of intestacy she is entitled to an equal share with her brothers in any patrimonial inheritance.

Altogether this book (with its sixty-five capital illustrations) should appeal to a very wide circle of readers; the anti-feminist even may taken courage when he reads of the Ainu woman, who has but one mission in life from childhood to old age—that of spending her life to minister to the comfort of man!

L. M. WHITEHOUSE.

PAMPHLETS.

We have received a little pamphlet by Lady Bunting, entitled *Mistress and Maid* (price 2d. each, 10s. per 100, from 11, Endsleigh Gardens, N.W.). In it she makes a strong plea for the better training of women, and for the reform of the whole system of domestic service so as to bring it more in harmony with modern economic and social conditions. It is a relief to find a woman approach this question in a progressive spirit, which takes into account the great changes in labour and in the position of women. What we need with regard to domestic service is something of the same nature as the raising of the status of women in the nursing profession, but with greater consideration for adequate remuneration and better treatment as regards food, housing, and personal liberty. The only point upon which we feel disposed to differ from Lady Bunting is in her recommendation of the German system of "character books." Extensive enquiry has convinced us that these are a very doubtful advantage.

Married Women and Tax Resistance, by Mrs. Ethel Ayres Purdie, A.L.A.A. (Women's Tax Resistance League, 10, Talbot House, 98, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., price 2d.), is a lively little tract showing that the liability of married women with regard to direct annual taxation is very simple and "easily grasped"—there is none! In fact, according to law, husband and wife are one, and that one is the husband, and he alone is liable and he alone can be sued. Of course, many married women pay taxes without demur, but some interesting situations may be expected to arise when they discover that the revenue officials have no power to compel them to pay; the husband can be compelled, and then, one supposes, it will be within his legal rights to recover from his wife by the use of the "beating stick no thicker than his thumb." We are in for exciting times!

THE MAGAZINES.

THE CASE OF MADAME CURIE.

The candidature of Madame Curie for the French Academy of Sciences has given rise to an excellent article in "Nature" for January 12. We quote the following passages: "There is no question that any man who has contributed to the sum of human knowledge what she has made known would, years ago, have gained that recognition at the hands of his colleagues which Madame Curie's friends are now desirous of securing for her. It is incomprehensible, therefore, on any ethical principles of right and justice, that because she happens to be a woman she should be denied the laurels which her pre-eminent scientific achievement has earned for her. There may be room for difference of opinion as to the wisdom or expediency of permitting women to embark on the troubled seas of politics, or of allowing them a determinate voice in the settlement of questions which may affect the existence or the destiny of a nation; but surely there ought to be no question that in the peaceful walks of art, literature, and science there should be the freest possible scope extended to them, and that, as human beings, every avenue to distinction, and success should unreservedly be open to them. Women have gradually won for themselves their rightful position as human beings. We have now to recognise that academies as seats of learning were made for humanity, and that, as members of the human race, women have the right to look upon them as their heritage and property no less than men. This consummation may not at once be reached, but as it is based upon reason and justice it is certain to be attained eventually."

The Light of the World.

I have been much impressed by the recorded fact that the late Holman Hunt, when painting his great masterpiece, "The Light of the World," made a composite study for the face of Christ. The picture is celebrated for the care he took over its details, and the face of the Master must have given

him much anxious thought—well repaid by the content and satisfaction which we can all feel in contemplating that face. The point I wish to make is that the composite face was largely taken from a woman as model. Is there not a lesson in this? Do we not learn that He who was the perfect Man combined all the noble qualities of both sexes? As we study His life-story in the Gospels we realize how the virile, active, and combative qualities of the Old Testament and the passive gentler virtues and sufferings of the New Testament find in Him a common fulfilment. The Christian soldier, the martyr, the hustling commercial man find a stimulus which never fails them; on the other hand, the toiling mother, the contemplative nun, the gentlewoman of every class find a response to their nature in Him. Both sexes alike feel that in Christ is a full humanity. To those who hold the Christian faith this leads to a deeper thought. For Christ is the supreme manifestation of the Father. God who is a Spirit has sought to reveal Himself to creatures of flesh, which has necessitated the use of terms of the flesh for His revelation; but the incarnation is the greatest means of the divine self-expression. In all alike the diversity of the sexes finds a place. "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you," is one gracious example declared of Jehovah; and, again, "As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings, so the Lord alone did lead him." So we are led back to the primary statement of Genesis: "In the image of God created He them; male and female created He them." Both alike are, therefore, in the image of God, and, consequently, in the Divine nature meet all the essential elements, functions, and diversities of the male and female. Why the Creator adopted the sex principle and whether in other spheres there may be beings devoid of sex we cannot say; but as we find it not only in the human race but in all animals, fishes, and plants—in fact, in all life (except apparently in the very lowest forms)—it is evidently the wisest method of ensuring the propagation of the various species. And since each sex needs the other, there should be no war, no oppression of one by the other, but equal respect; with diverse functions, equal rights; with differing responsibilities, equal privileges; till in a more spiritual sphere each shall be equal partakers of a nature in which sex, having fulfilled its purpose, shall cease, and there shall be neither male nor female.

THOS. G. ROGERS.

Women of To-day.

You women of to-day who fear so much
The women of the future, showing how
The dangers of her course are such and such—
What are you now?

Mothers and Wives and Housekeepers, forsooth!
Great names! you cry, full scope to rule and please!
Room for wise age and energetic youth!—
But are you these?

Housekeepers? Do you then, like those of yore,
Keep house with power and pride, with grace and ease?
No, you keep servants only! What is more,
You don't keep these!

Wives, say you? Wives! Blessed indeed are they
Who hold of love the everlasting keys,
Keeping their husband's hearts! Alas the day!
You don't keep these!

And mothers? Pitying Heaven! Mark the cry
From cradle death-beds! Mothers on their knees!
Why, half the children born—as children die!
You don't keep these!

And still the wailing babies come and go,
And homes are waste, and husbands' hearts fly far.
There is no hope until you dare to know
The thing you are!

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN.

Correspondence.

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

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

ELECTION POLICY.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I have read with great interest the two letters, dated November 19th and December 17th, from Miss Catherine E. Marshall. The policy that she has elaborated must receive my warmest support. I am a keen party man,

and am not prepared to dissociate myself from my party because of the Women's Suffrage question; but I am, nevertheless, anxious to further to the best of my ability our Common Cause.

I worked hard at the General Election, and attended many meetings. The candidate, in nine of his speeches, declared himself a supporter of Women's Suffrage, but this item of his programme appeared to arouse little enthusiasm.

I made inquiries, and found that the organization felt that it could ignore the Women's Suffrage support or opposition, because the Liberals worked for the Liberal and the Conservatives for the Conservative in any case. At the Men's Club the universal opinion was that it did not matter, and that neither side would lose party votes because of the candidate's attitude; and no one that I met feared opposition, because this has been completely discounted by the policy of the extreme party.

There was also a deep-seated fear in several divisions in the North-west that Suffrage support, as such, would be actually injurious. Surely the time has arrived when we must recognise the fact that our hope of ultimate success must be based upon a policy of general acquiescence in the methods of party conflict that at present exist; and this means that we must not decline to range ourselves in one or other political camp. Miss Marshall proposes to organize a series of well-drilled units, a first-class Liberal or Conservative squadron, that can be launched in the fight for or against a candidate—a keen force that, as Conservatives, might be able to turn a Liberal out, or, as Liberals, to save a Liberal seat.

We shall never make ourselves completely effective if an attempt is made to destroy our instinctive political points of view. As a Liberal, it is impossible for me to fight against a Liberal Anti-Suffrage candidate; but I would fight all the harder if my man were a Suffragist, or the opponent an Anti-Suffragist.

I sincerely trust that some attempt may be made to carry this wise policy into effect. No candidate will lightly discard the help of even a small number of his workers, and I am convinced that we must make up our minds to accept Miss Marshall's point of view. The Suffrage question will never become the sole issue in the minds of those of us who have identified ourselves with one of the political parties, and I venture to think that we represent so large a proportion of the electors that a great effort should be made to place us in the position to make our support of Women's Suffrage as effective as possible.—Yours,

ANTHONY WILSON.

Middle Ruddings, Braithwaite,
Near Keswick, Jan. 9th, 1911.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—The letter of Miss Dorothy Edwards upon the question of canvassing the electors when running a Suffrage candidate raises one of the practical points which arise. There are a number of such questions upon which a conference of workers is desirable in order that any errors made in the past may be avoided in the future. No doubt this policy will be discussed at the forthcoming N.U. Council, but that probably will not be the place for a discussion on how best to carry it out.

In East St. Pancras canvassers of varying political views took part, and quite a number were Conservatives, although working for a Liberal. This, I think is a tactical error, for either such a canvasser must use arguments which she (or he) does not believe in, and therefore cannot use effectively, or she must eschew general politics if possible, and talk nothing but the Suffrage. This latter course does not, however, square with our avowed policy, which is to run a Suffragist candidate as a rival in the same party as the Anti-Suffragist opposed in order to split that party's vote. To do this effectively our candidate must not stand for Suffrage alone, but must be sound on his party's platform, and the measures of that party must be advocated at his meetings and by his canvassers. To this end the workers (and speakers) who come into contact with the public should be of the party which the candidate represents; others can do the clerical work or help in another constituency where the conditions are reversed.

By this means we should avoid, or be better able to answer, the taunt that we are "playing the Tory game" when running a Liberal candidate, or vice versa. In East St. Pancras we were constantly asked by the Liberals why Mr. Jacobs did not stand as a Suffrage candidate simply instead of as a Suffrage Liberal, and when we explained, we were charged with having Conservative canvassers, which we could not deny, and it was difficult to explain that we were a non-party Society running a party candidate.

It would be wise if possible next time to contest two constituencies in the London district to oppose a Liberal and Conservative respectively, so that the workers could divide according to their own convictions, and each could point to the other as a vindication of our non-party constitution while running party candidates.

Others may differ from my conclusions, but that will only point the moral—that we confer, and let Camlachie and E. St. Pancras exchange views.—Yours,

THOMAS G. ROGERS.

Cholmeley Park, Highgate.

CHILDREN FED ON WHOLEMEAL



"ARTOX"
STONE
GROUND

get good complexions and healthy bodies, because the wheat makes good red blood, strong muscle and bone, and sound nerves. In addition it regulates the digestive organs and keeps the system clear and free from constipation.

To get the whole of the wheat, and nothing else, finely ground, so that the most delicate systems can assimilate it, you must insist upon

"ARTOX" PURE
WHOLEMEAL.

It not only makes the finest wholemeal bread, but also the most delicious and nutritious puddings, pies, cakes, tarts, biscuits, scones, pancakes, etc., etc. Try it for a week, and you will give up white flour. It is the most digestible and nourishing flour known. Sold only in 8lb., 7lb., and 14lb. sealed linen bags by Grocers and Health Food Stores, or 28lb. will be sent direct, carriage paid, for 5s.

"Artox" is not sold loose.

WE GIVE AWAY a handsome booklet full of recipes that will give you a banquet of health and delight. Post free on application.

APPLEYARDS, LTD. (Dept. C),
Ickles Mills, Rotherham.

Send
to-day



To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Whatever the feeling may be in the constituencies where the Suffrage candidates were run, I cannot help thinking that our cause throughout the country has been weakened (so far as it has been affected) by the small poll of our candidates, and that the possibility of repeating it should be avoided.

With regard to running candidates of our own, we are all agreed that to be any good at all a constituency must be "nursed." The question remains: Is there any chance, however much work we put in, that the actual number of voters who are willing to put our question first and vote for us will increase enough to make us a menace if we go to the poll? It would be invaluable to know the opinion of canvassers in S. Salford on this particular point.

A secondary difficulty seems to be that as our voters must (presumably) be drawn from all parties, we might get a much larger poll than we got this year without appreciably altering the balance of the parties in the constituency or lowering the majority of the Anti-Suffrage candidate.

If we consider helping party candidates, we have this advantage, that in opposing an Anti-Suffragist by supporting his Suffragist opponent, a voter whom we have persuaded to put our subject first brings (the same thing as) two votes to the Suffragist if he belonged to the Anti-Suffragist party, or in the case of belonging already to the pro-Suffragist's party, he does not weaken it by leaving it for a Suffrage candidate.

Also, if we had equally good speakers and equally good canvassers would not the opportunities for propaganda work be perhaps equally good? It seems to me that there may be other constituencies like S. Salford where everything is favourable—an Anti-Suffragist member who is not satisfactory to his own party (which is important) with a small majority, etc., etc.—and in these few cases only, I think, should we attempt to run candidates. In other constituencies with Anti-Suffrage members and smallish majorities I think we should at once try to make terms with the defeated candidate or his party agents, and where we worked efficiently at the general election I think this can be successfully done, though perhaps more especially in county constituencies. If we are prepared to "nurse" countless small villages, where the chance of propaganda work is often excellent, I believe we could make it worth a candidate's while not only to pledge himself if returned, but to run Suffrage because it is the popular thing to

run. This has many of the advantages of running a candidate without many of its weaknesses, and it is not such a great monetary drain.

I wonder would Miss Hooper's friendly agent treat the question of Suffrage candidates with the same "seriousness" now that he did before the General Election? We have found that really effective help is desired (by less wealthy candidates at least) quite as much as really effective opposition is feared. Our effectiveness will depend on our choosing our constituencies with the greatest care—either as federations or large societies—and beginning work in them without delay.—Yours,

HELENA B. DOWSON.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—May I point out that Miss Marshall's scheme is not (if I understand it) put forward as an alternative, but as a supplementary policy? There is no thought of abandoning the policy of running candidates of our own; but we know that we can only do this in a very small number of constituencies. Miss Marshall therefore proposes another policy, which can be adopted wherever a Suffrage Society—still better a federation of societies—exists, without in any way prejudicing our primary policy of running Suffrage candidates.

It has this great merit, that it uses for and against our friends and foes the one weapon we possess which politicians really value. When one of our largest and most powerful societies offered to "support" a certain candidate in January, 1910, they were asked by his agent: "What do you mean by 'support'? Will you canvass for him? That is the only kind of support that we value!" Canvassing on the Suffrage question only is sometimes welcome; canvassing on party lines always. Nor will it be done altogether without sacrifice. The canvasser must be ready to leave his or her constituency, sacrifice the influence which belongs to him locally, and go where he is unknown. And I should like to emphasise here the point made by Miss Edwards in your last issue, that for family reasons, it is often absolutely impossible for many keen Suffragists to work against their own party, however much they might wish to. This is a fact which it is not always easy for independent women to remember; nor do they realise how hard it is for the "daughter at home" to be unable to help effectively during such a crisis as a general election.

In conclusion, I would urge upon those single-minded workers who are the life and soul of our movement, that a policy should no more be adopted than condemned, simply because it demands great self-sacrifice. The only relevant ground for judgment must be its effectiveness. And here is a way in which we can use almost every member of our Union who is fit to be in the Union at all, and on such work as every candidate and every party organisation values at the highest possible rate.—Yours,

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—As the passing by Town or City Councils of a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage seems such a valuable means of bringing pressure to bear upon the Government, it occurs to me that it might be worth our while to adopt a definite policy as regards Municipal Elections, and to begin at once to carry this out when any vacancies occur. My suggestion is that women municipal voters, who are also members of the National Union, should insist on a definite and public pledge in favour of Women's Suffrage from all candidates in their ward, and should work against all those who refuse to give it, for if our motto is "He who is for us, for him are we," it is also "He who is not with us is against us." If it be objected that municipal politics have nothing to do with the question of the Parliamentary franchise for women, my reply would be, not only that several important Corporations appear at present to hold a different view but also that a man who is an avowed Anti-Suffragist stands *ipso facto* condemned as unfitted to represent women municipal voters. My hope is that a definite campaign against all such candidates would not only mean useful propaganda work, but would also lead in time to

the passing of a Suffrage resolution by all the town councils of the country; and against so strong an expression of opinion surely no Government could long hold out.—Yours,

M. E. NEWBIGIN.

24, Waverley Road, Southsea, January 13th, 1911.

A HISTORIC PARALLEL.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—While reading Bagehot, the English Constitution, I found the following paragraph in reference to the movement for extending the franchise in 1867:—"As long as a great class, congregated in political localities, and known to have political thoughts and wishes, is without notorious and palpable advocates in Parliament, we may prove on paper that our representation is adequate, but the world will not believe it. There is a saying of the eighteenth century that in politics 'gross appearances are great realities.' It is in vain to demonstrate that the working classes have no grievances, that the middle classes have done all that is possible for them, and so on with a crowd of arguments which I need not repeat, for the newspapers keep them in type, and we can say them by heart. But so long as the 'gross appearance' is that there are no evident, incessant representatives to speak the wants of artisans, the 'great reality' will be a diffused dissatisfaction. Thirty years ago it was vain to prove that Gattin and Old Sarum were valuable seats, and sent good members. Everybody said, 'Why, there are no people there.' Just so everybody must say now, 'Our representative system must be imperfect, for an immense class has no members to speak for it.' The only answer to the cry against constituencies without inhabitants was to transfer their power to constituencies with inhabitants. Just so, the way to stop the complaint that artisans have no members is to give them members, to create a body of representatives chosen by artisans, believing, as Mr. Carlyle would say, 'that artizanhood is the one thing needful'"

If women be read for working classes and artisans, men for middle class, and section of the community for "class" generally, the argument exactly fits the Women's Suffrage movement. It is only another example, of which many have been given in your columns, how a slight change in words makes the arguments applicable to voteless men equally applicable to voteless women. I thought for this reason the extract might interest your readers.—Yours,

I. J. CHURCHILL.

Firecroft, Shortlands, Kent, January 10th, 1911.

THE NATIONAL UNION AND TAX RESISTANCE.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—A fact has just come to my knowledge which is highly disturbing to the non-party woman. A friend of mine was speaking for the Suffrage in another part of England at the time of the dissolution of Parliament, when she was afterwards privately told by a lady fresh from an official meeting in London that, as regards tax resistance, "it is settled that we are to wait and see what Government gets in,"—the inference (which my friend was expected to receive with pleasure) being that if the Liberal Government came back to power tax resistance was to be shelved.

Of course, the question is not "settled," and cannot be until the Council has pronounced upon it. But the suspicion is intensely disquieting that the same tenderness to the present Government, which, as exhibited by the Women's Liberal Federation (except in Wales), makes us writhe and feel humiliated, is invading our own front ranks. Ought we not to refuse to put any of our officials under the impossible strain of being loyal in two opposite directions—to the

F. LUDICKE,

LADIES' HAIRDRESSER AND SPECIALIST IN ARTISTIC HAIR
WORK, COLOURING AND TREATMENT OF THE HAIR,
FACE MASSAGE AND MANICURE.
Lessons in Hairdressing given to Ladies' Maids, etc.

39, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite entrance to Kingsway Tram Tunnel).

NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

KINGSLEY HOTEL

HART STREET, BLOOMSBURY SQUARE,
LONDON.

Well-appointed and commodious TEMPERANCE HOTEL,
offering all the conveniences and advantages of the larger
modern Licensed Hotels at moderate charges.

Telegraphic Address:—"BOOKCRAFT, LONDON."

Lounges and Spacious Dining, Drawing,
Writing, Reading, Billiard, and
Smoking Rooms.
Bathrooms on every Floor.
Perfect Sanitation. Passenger Lifts.
Floors Fireproof Throughout.
Night Porters. Telephone.

BEDROOM, ATTENDANCE, AND TABLE
D'HOTE BREAKFAST, SINGLE,
from 5/6 to 8/.

TABLE D'HOTE DINNER, six courses, 3/.

Full Tariff and Testimonials on application.

Government which cries "Back!" and the women who cry "Forward!"—at one and the same time? Ought we not to decree that at least on our central Executive Committee only those shall be eligible for office in our non-party organisation who are not themselves inevitably swayed by membership of a party organisation?

By all means let us give the new Parliament time to show what it proposes to do for us—one session should make that clear. But unless tax resistance is to be ruled out on principle and altogether, let us decide at once to have it in readiness for another year in case the Government action is again adverse, and especially in case payment of members is at the same time carried through, whose salaries must in part be paid by women tax-payers. This would give us ample time for effectual preparation, and all the advantage to be gained from official and public knowledge that resistance will definitely follow a continued refusal of justice.—Yours, Ambleside. A. SHARP.

[We regret that suspicion should be disquieting so good a Suffragist as Miss Sharp. The whole question of tax resistance will, as she says, be for the Council to settle. It has been considered by the Executive Committee, and will, we hope, be considered by the Council solely in regard to whether it will or will not further the Suffrage cause. No other consideration is admissible for us.—Ed. "C. C."]

TAX RESISTANCE.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—In your issue of January 5th your correspondent, Miss A. Sharp, says that "Tolstoy himself justifies passive resistance to laws wrongly established." Surely he did so because he denied the authority of human government altogether. He saw that in the process of government, both in punishing crime at home and in making war abroad, men inflicted injuries on other men, and he believed that this was incompatible with Christianity. He says distinctly that it is wrong "to take part in the life of the State." See his articles in the "Daily Chronicle," July 15th, 1908, and in the "Manchester Guardian," August 8th, 1908. We can, then, hardly quote Tolstoy in our favour when we are demanding enfranchisement so that our "part in the life of the State" may be more direct and responsible.

The special breach of the law under discussion, the refusal to pay taxes, is in a sense the repudiation of a debt due to the community for various services (which we accept more or less unconsciously), beginning with the protection of life and property; nor has it yet been demonstrated what higher claim we should satisfy by withholding this payment. For what would be the direct result? Apparently to cause the officials trouble, loss of time, and (possibly) expense. Without using the word "evil," to which exception has been taken, I suppose I may conclude that no one thinks this injury to the public interest desirable in itself, but only because of some influence which it may (or may not) have on the judgment of people in general and the Cabinet in particular. It is, in fact, only to be defended by the usual arguments for militant tactics.

It seems clear that the Council cannot adopt Tax Resistance, or any other illegal policy, until it has amended that part of Rule IX. which binds members of the Executive "to adhere solely to legal and constitutional methods of agitation," and also part of Rule III.

For my part I confess that I can take no comfort in the view that passive and active resistance are necessarily on a different footing; in fact, the distinction rather reminds me of a story I once heard about a native servant who had to dispose of an unwelcome family of rats. Being forbidden by his religion to take the life of any creature, he solved the difficulty by conveying them to the ice chest. Here he "passively" allowed them to remain for some time, when it was found that they had expired from lack of warmth!—Yours, URSULA THOMPSON.

Park Road, Penarth, January 14th, 1911.

Societies Within the Federation Area.

EASTERN.

Cambridge, Cambridge University, Essex (North and East), Harleston, Hitchin, Hockwold-cum-Wilton, Huntingdon, Letchworth, Norwich, Southwold, Wisbech.

KENTISH.

Dover, Folkestone, Ramsgate, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge, Tunbridge Wells.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Buxton, Clitheroe, Crewe, Eccles, Glossop, Heywood, Hyde, Knutsford, Leigh, Manchester, Marple, Marple Bridge, Macclesfield, Northwich, Oldham, Radcliffe, Romiley, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Wigan.

MIDLAND.

Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Coventry, Derby, Leicester, Mansfield, Nottingham, Olton, Oxford, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon, Shrewsbury, Sutton Coldfield, Warwick and Leamington, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Worcester.

NORTH-EASTERN.

Barnard Castle, Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sunderland.

NORTH-WESTERN.

Ambleside, Carlisle, Kendal and District, Keswick, Penrith.

NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS OF YORKSHIRE.

Beverley, Bridlington, Driffild, Filey, Hull, Scarborough, Whitby, York.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND.

Beauly, Elgin, Forres, Fortrose, Inverness, Lossiemouth, Nairn.

SCOTTISH.

Aberdeen, Berwickshire, Cupar, Dingwall, Dunbar, Dundee, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Galashiels, Glasgow, Glenfarg, Greenock, Haddington, John o' Groat's, Kelso, Kilmalcolm, Kirkwall, Lenzie, Melrose, Paisley, Peebles, Perth, Port-Glasgow, Shetland, Tain, Tayport.

SURREY, SUSSEX, AND HANTS.

Basingstoke, Brighton and Hove, Camberley, Croydon, Cuckfield, Eastbourne, Fleet, Farnham, Godalming, Guildford, Haslemere, Hastings and St. Leonards, Horsham, Leith Hill and District, Lewes, Oxsted and District, New Forest, Portsmouth, Redhill Reigate and District, Southampton, Winchester, Winchester, Worthing, Woking, Weybridge and District.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham, Clevedon, Frome, Gloucester, Swindon, Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Winscombe.

WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, AND NORTH WALES.

Birkenhead, Blackpool, Colwyn Bay, Liverpool, Liverpool University, Llandudno, Llangollen, Southport, St. Helens, Rhyl, Wallasey, Wrexham.

Work of Societies in the Union.

NORTH OF SCOTLAND FEDERATION.

The Christmas sale organised by the North of Scotland Federation to raise funds for propaganda work was held on December 17th in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, and proved a great success. The National Union kindly lent a splendid selection of banners, which were used for decorating the hall, and were greatly admired.



FOR FINE FABRICS.

Try FLAKO this week on your Woollens, Flannels, Laces, Silks, and Fine Fabrics.

WON'T SHRINK FLANNELS.

AN EXCELLENT HAIR WASH.

From All Grocers, 1d. and 3d. Packets.

If your Tradesman cannot supply Flako at once, send Two Penny Stamps to Dept. "C. C." for a Sample Packet Post Free.

JOHN KNIGHT LTD.,

Soapmakers by Appointment to H.M. King George V.,

The Royal Primrose Soap Works, LONDON, E.

The sale was opened by the Lady Mary Grant, of Rothiemurchus, hon. president of the Inverness Society, in a bright and pleasing speech, in which she gave a short account of the Federation.

There was a crowded attendance at the opening, and business was carried on briskly, the stalls, which were loaded with plum puddings, mince pies, Christmas cakes, etc., being speedily cleared.

During the afternoon tea was served by a bevy of the younger Suffragists, and a high-class musical programme enlivened the proceedings, which all through were of a most enthusiastic and happy character. At the close of the evening it was found that the takings amounted to £36 6s.

YORKSHIRE, N. AND E. RIDINGS FEDERATION.

DRIFFIELD.

In this town, which is the headquarters of the Buckrose Division of E. Yorkshire, Miss Merivale Mayer held during the recent election several very largely attended open-air meetings in support of the Liberal candidate. On the market day she addressed in the principal square a crowd almost unparalleled in the memory of those present, consisting of town and country folk of all ranks and both political parties, the candidates and their principal supporters being present.

The Unionist candidate, Colonel Sykes, maintained the hostile attitude towards our cause shown by him at the last election, going so far as to refer Mrs. Mayer, when she interviewed him, to the "influence" exercised by voteless women, instancing in particular the occupants of the Turkish harems!

Sir Luke White (Lib.), who has been returned, is a consistent supporter, and voted in the last Parliament for the second reading of the Conciliation Bill.

WEST HERTS.

We have resumed our fortnightly meetings for working women in the two local Co-operative Halls, and shall continue to hold them during the months of February and March.

Mr. J. Erskine Murray gave the address on January 11th. He spoke on "Women's Suffrage as it Affects Men." He showed how the questions in which women are most intimately concerned, such as the Home and the Child, form the basis of the most important legislation.

Mr. Erskine Murray has also promised us a lecture on "Wireless Telegraphy," the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the benefit of the Society. Such a lecture should prove a great attraction.

Other Societies.

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

A very successful drawing-room meeting was held on January 10th at 11, Gainsborough Gardens, Hampstead, by kind invitation of Mrs. Weaver. The speakers showed how tax resistance was a logical and effective protest against the violation of the constitution which is perpetrated by taxing women without allowing them representation. Mrs. Hicks stated that for eighteen years she had paid taxes and fulfilled the other responsibilities of citizenship, and now was determined to secure recognition from the State. Mrs. Kineton Parkes dealt with the practical points involved, and showed how the League could help its members by expert advice. She pointed out that married women are not, as the law stands to-day, personally liable for taxes, and it is hoped that they will refuse to pay this illegal exaction any longer. Mrs. Brailsford was in the chair, and Mrs. Fagan made an effective appeal for funds.

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

The Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association (48, Dover Street, Piccadilly) have arranged three large afternoon meetings at the Curzon Hotel, Mayfair, on Tuesdays, January 24th, February 21st, and March 21st, when Lady Willoughby de Broke, Lady Rayleigh, and Lady Knightley, of Fawsley, have kindly consented to preside. A series of small At Homes will also be held at the Curzon Hotel on Tuesday afternoons, February 7th, 14th, 28th, March 7th, 14th, 28th, and April 4th and 11th. These little At Homes are arranged for the purpose of giving our members an opportunity of sending cards to any friends who are likely to be interested in the work of this Association, and who wish to discuss the question of Women's Suffrage informally. There will be no set speeches. It is thought that there may be many people who would like to ask questions and gain information at small gatherings who do not care to do so at public meetings. Further particulars can be obtained at the Central Office.

The newly elected Executive Committee consists of the following ladies:—Mrs. Percy Boulnois (chairman), the Countess of Ancaster, Mrs. Gerald Arbuthnot, Hon. Mrs. John Bailey, Lady Betty Balfour, Mrs. John P. Boyd Carpenter, Viscountess Castlereagh, Lady Robert Cecil, Lady Craggs, Miss Edmonds, Viscountess Mitleton, Miss Mitford, Miss Packer, Miss Rathbone, Lady Rolleston, Hon. Mrs. Abel Smith, and Mrs. Ridley Smith. Hon. Treasurers: Winifred, Countess of Arran, and Mrs. Fabian Ware. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Gilbert Samuel.

Forthcoming Meetings.

JANUARY 19. Worcester—"The College" (Canon Wilson's)—Members' Meeting. 3.30

JANUARY 20. Hull—Royal Institution, Albion Street, Public Meeting—Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., Mrs. Alan Bright. 8.0

Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30

Cuckfield—Queen's Hall—Miss Royden. 3.0

North of England—35, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester—Annual General Meeting. 5.30

Milford—School Room—Miss Abadam. 8.0

Hassocks—Hatton Hall—Miss Royden, R. Pott, Esq. 7.45

JANUARY 21. Camberley—Frimley Rectory—Church League Meeting—Mrs. Basset (hostess), Miss Frances Sterling. 3.0

JANUARY 24. Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, Town Hall Avenue—Debate—Mrs. Rowe. 4.0

Huddersfield—Parochial Hall, George Street—Presentation of New Banner by Mrs. Josiah Lockwood. 3.30

Watford—Co-operative Hall—Miss Milton. 3.30

JANUARY 26. Oldham—Co-operative Hall, King Street—Debate. 8.0

JANUARY 27. Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—35, Molesworth Street—"How the Poor Live"—Mrs. E. M. Smith. 8.0

JANUARY 30. Bridlington—Temperance Hall—Miss Margaret Ashton. 8.0

Wolverhampton—Saunders' Café, Chapel Ash—Mrs. Ring, Miss Elsie Beringer. 7.30

JANUARY 31. Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, Town Hall Avenue—At Home—Mrs. Hood. 4.0

Camberley—Drill Hall—Dramatic and Musical Entertainment. 3.0

Watford—Masonic Hall—Social Gathering. 3.0

FEBRUARY 1. Hull—17, Jameson Street—Annual Meeting. 8.0

FEBRUARY 3. Wallasey and Wirral—Public Hall, West Kirby—Mrs. Alan Bright. 3.0

FEBRUARY 4. Carlisle—County Hall—Chair, Mrs. Chance—Mrs. Philip Snowden. 8.0

FEBRUARY 7. Shrewsbury—St. Alkmund's School Room—Annual Meeting. 7.45

Bournemouth—Assembly Rooms, Town Hall Avenue—Lecture—Mrs. Hamilton Grant. 4.0

LONDON.

Jan. 20: Sutton, Miss Close's Drawing-room Meeting, Lecture on "Mary Carpenter and Frances Power Cobb," Miss E. A. Bompas. 3.30

Jan. 23: Windsor, Reception Room, Guildhall, At Home, R. F. Cholmeley, Esq. 8.30

Jan. 24: Highgate, The Athenaeum, Muswell Hill, Reception, Miss Frances Sterling, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell. 7.0

Jan. 25: Lower Clapton, Congregational Church, Debate, Miss Palliser. 8.0

Jan. 28: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Abadam. 8.0

Jan. 31: Sydenham, Park Hall, Miss Abadam, Miss Green. 8.15

Feb. 3: Sutton, Miss Close's Drawing-room Meeting, Lecture on "Miss Buss and Miss Beale," Miss Janet Thompson. 3.30

Feb. 4: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Debate, Miss Abadam, Mrs. Stewart. 8.0

Feb. 8: Windsor, Albert Institute, Play and Concert. 8.0

SCOTLAND.

Jan. 19: Perth, Bridgend Hall, Concert and Play. 8.0

Jan. 20: Dundee, 12, Meadowside, At Home, Miss Mair (Edinburgh). 8.0

Ten per cent on all orders to N.U.W.S.S. Funds.

SWEET LAVENDER.

The Chalet Lavender Preparations

Fragrant and Refreshing.

PERFUME. A perfect scent, fragrant and lasting. 1s. 9d. and 2s. 6d.

SOAP. Finest quality, delicately scented. In dainty boxes, each containing 3 tablets, 2s. 3d.

BATH SALTS. An inexpensive luxury, adding greatly to the pleasure of the bath. 1s. 3d., 1lb. tin.

SHAMPOO POWDERS. Very beneficial to the hair. In dainty box of 7. 1s. 3d.

SILK SACHETS. For linen cupboard, wardrobe, dresses. From 6d. All goods daintily packed, and post free.

MISS LIGHTMAN, The Chalet, Bullingstone Lane, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells.

ADVERTISERS' INDEX.

Table with 2 columns: Advertiser Name and Page. Includes entries like 'Clothes: Boneless Corsets' (page 680), 'Clubs: Queensbury' (page 680), 'Dentistry: Old False Teeth' (page 680), etc.

All Societies should order the new

STRIP POSTER

in Red, White, and Green,

READ The COMMON CAUSE

Size 160 in. by 75 in. Price 1s. net., postage extra.

Only to be obtained from the

National Union Office, Parliament Chambers,

Great Smith Street, Westminster.

PREPAID MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding 10 words: 1 insertion, 9d.; 2 insertions, 1s. 3d.; 3 insertions, 1s. 6d.; 6 insertions, 2s. 9d.; 13 insertions, 3s. 6d. Every additional ten words, 6d. extra per insertion. All payments for Advertisements should be made to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade.

MARY McLACHLAN, Typist, 4, Chapel Walks, Manchester.

WOMEN'S Suffrage Calendars for 1911 reduced to 6d., post free 7d.—Miss Tanner, St. Ulrich, Downs Park West, Bristol.

SHORTHAND, TYPEWRITING, RE-DUPLICATING; experienced.—M. E. Phillips, 50, Temple Road, Croydon.

EXPERT Typewriting; moderate prices.—Fairfield, s/o Brown, Stationer, Shenfield, Essex.

OLD FALSE TEETH.—We give highest possible prices for above. Offers made; if unacceptable, teeth returned. Dealers in Old Gold or Silver in any form. Bankers' references. Straightforward dealing.—Woolfall and Company, Southport.

BONELESS CORSETS, unbreakable. Illustrated List Free.—Knitted Corset Company, Nottingham.

BOURNEMOUTH.—"Homestead," Alumhurst Road. Board Residence, 25s. Close Chine; trams.

FREE!—Illustrated Sale Catalogue containing hundreds of Irish linen bargains, Damask supper-cloths, charming hailstone spot design; 36 inches square; only 1s. 6d.; postage, 3d. Patterns free.—Hutton's, 159, Larne, Ireland.

COUNTRY NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOMES, Penn's Lane, Erdington, near Birmingham. For Paying Patients. (Under the distinguished patronage of the Countess of Bradford.) Medical, Surgical, Massage. Permanent Patients received in Homes. (Care of one delicate child.) Fully certificated. Hospital-trained Nurses sent out on application.—Miss C. Fallows, Matron. Telephone: 537 Erdington. Telegrams: "Nursing, Erdington."

LONDON.

HOSTEL FOR LADIES.—Central. Highly recommended.—Miss Sullivan, 50, Osaburgh Street, Portland Road Station. Terms moderate.

THE QUEENSBERRY RESIDENTIAL CLUB for Ladies. Terms from 21s. Two references.—24, Queensberry Place, S. Kensington.

MISS BISHOP'S PRIVATE SOCIAL TOURS.—February 1st Italy, March 6th Algeria and Tunisia. Moderate inclusive terms.—Programmes, Haslemere, Wimbledon Park Road, S.W.

MISS MORRIS, Typist.—Prompt; moderate charges.—3, Westbourne Road, Sydenham.

CHAMBERS for Working Gentlewomen; inexpensive.—52, Longridge Road, Earl's Court.

VEGETARIAN BOARD-RESIDENCE, temporary or permanent. Homelike. Ladies and Gentlemen. Convenient situation.—Madame Veigelé, 63, Hereford Road, Bayswater, W.

IMPORTANT to Members of The North of England Society for Women's Suffrage.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will take place TO-MORROW (FRIDAY, 20th JANUARY) at 5.30 at 85, DEANSGATE ARCADE, MANCHESTER, when several important changes will be decided upon. All members should make a point of being present.

THE TEA CUP INN,

1, Portugal Street, Kingsway, W.C.

(Close to Lincoln's Inn, Clement's Inn, Aldwych, Strand, Holborn Tube Station, etc.)

Light Luncheons, Hot and Cold.

Afternoon Teas.

Home Cookery.

Moderate Charges.

Deansgate Temperance Hotel, Manchester. LARGEST AND BEST IN THE TOWN.

Most centrally situated. Manchester and Salford Cars to all parts pass close to the Hotel. PASSENGER LIFT. TWO NIGHT PORTERS. Re-decorated and re-furnished.

National Telephone 5535 & 5539 City, Manchester.

STANLEY D. GORDON, Manager

OXFORD.

Oxenford Hall Boarding Establishment,

15, MAGDALEN STREET

(Opposite Martyr's Memorial in centre of city).

Terms Moderate.

ALPINE SPORTS LTD.

Beg to announce that they have secured the entire accommodation at thirty-one Hotels (3,000 beds) for

Skating, Ski-ing, Tobogganing and Curling

at Murren, Montana, Villars-sur-Ollon, St. Beatenberg, Kandersteg, Lenzerheide, Ballaigues.

For plans, apply to 5, Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W.



The William Morris Press: 42 Albert St. MANCHESTER.

HIGH-CLASS PRINTING AT ORDINARY PRICES.

Printed by PERCY BROTHERS, LTD., for the Proprietors, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester. London Agents: Geo. Vickers, Angel Court, Strand; W. H. Smith and Sons, 186, Strand; Wymen, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London and Suburban Publishing Co., 9 and 10, St. Bride's Avenue, E.C.C. Manchester: John Heywood, Deansgate; Abel Heywood and Son, Oldham Street; W. H. Smith and Son, Blackfriars Street. Newcastle-on-Tyne: W. H. Smith and Son. Edinburgh and Glasgow: J. Menzies and Co. Dublin and Belfast: Eason and Son.