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ORGAN OF  
SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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### The Australian Commonwealth and English Antis.

An English Anti-Suffragist, Sir Almoth Wright, recently published a book, reviewed in *Jus Suffragii* for November, in which, amongst other silly things, he said "the woman voter in the Colonies is only a pawn in the game of politics, and of the opportunist politicians who have enfranchised her." This statement was quoted and warmly repudiated by the members of the Australian House of Representatives on October 9th, who declared it an insult and undeserved stigma on the electors and on the eminent Statesmen who enfranchised women. Mr. Kelly, the Minister, said:—"There is every reason why women should have the right to vote, and no reason why they should not; they have shown themselves as well able to exercise it as have the sex to which we belong."

### Suffragists Visiting London.

We heartily invite Suffragists from other countries to visit headquarters, when they are in London. We shall be glad to do anything in our power to be of use to them.

### Women's Work for the Care of Children in France.

Two new laws affecting women come into force in January, 1914, one for the assistance of large families, one for the care of women in childbirth. Women may and should take an active part in seeing that these laws are administered so as to do all the good that is intended. Dr. Gerard Mangin is devoting her lectures at the Sorbonne to preparing women to take their part effectively on the committees who will carry out the law.

The French Union for Woman Suffrage is urging women to be candidates for these committees.

### Raising the Age of Consent in Australia.

On November 5th the Legislative Assembly of Victoria passed the third reading of the Crimes Bill, raising the age of consent from 16 to 18, thus showing an advance on the Mother Country, which is getting to be the rule in the daughter countries in matters affecting women.

One of the speakers in the debate said that the most important protection for women lay in an improved moral education of boys, and there is no doubt that an equal moral standard for men and women will lead to a moral and physical regeneration of the race. But one of the most important steps in that direction is the protection of young girls and boys from seduction. Women in Victoria have had the vote since 1908.

### Women in the Legal Profession. Defeat in England.

In the Court of Appeal Miss Bebb's application to be permitted to practise as a solicitor has been rejected on the ground of custom. Women never have been solicitors, and that is considered enough reason why they never should be. Sir Robert Finlay, the opposing counsel, gave as a reason for excluding women from legal practice, that the male judges and barristers would be influenced by their physical attractions. It is extraordinary how ready men are to impugn the decency of their own sex, and to think their own want of balance a good excuse for debarring women from getting their living. It is the old Mohammedan principle, women must be secluded, lest men should fall into temptation.

### Woman Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas.

Two members of the International Suffrage Alliance, Miss Harriet Newcomb and Miss Hodge, have just returned from their wonderful Suffrage tour in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, and we hope to welcome them at headquarters (7, Adam Street, Adelphi), on Monday, February 2nd, at 3-30. They will give an account of their experiences, and Mrs. Fawcett will take the chair. Such great interest attaches to women's work in the enfranchised countries that everyone will be anxious to hear the results of a carefully planned tour by two such competent observers.

### Is Theology Unfeminine in Holland.

This summer, for the first time, a Dutch woman passed her examination as Doctor of Theology. It is only natural that

this lady now wishes to take the next step, and preach in church. But the authorities refuse the necessary permission, and give as their reason, that a clergyman's duties are too fatiguing for a woman! We could easily mention innumerable women's occupations infinitely more exhausting, but then they are badly paid, and have no prestige attached to them, and hence are suitable for women; somehow it is only the more dignified positions which are always reserved by men for themselves.

#### Equal Pay for Equal Work in Holland.

The Hague Municipal Council has been debating whether men and women teachers should receive equal pay for equal work, and have decided against the women, on the ground that men have families to support and women have not. This short-sighted policy not only inflicts great injustice on the women who do support families, while it unduly favours the unmarried men, but it also paves the way for the underselling of men by women.

Great agitation is also going on over a new law which came into force shortly before the fall of the last Government, forbidding night work of women. This, it is thought, will, unless repealed, drive women out of the telephone, telegraph, and postal services, as preference would be given to men, who could work night or day as required.

Opinions among working women leaders in other countries are divided as to the benefit of such restrictions. In many cases they are a valuable protection to women, and the difficulties are obviated by organisation. Obvious physical and moral dangers are involved in all-night work for women. But it is hopeless to seek for a satisfactory solution until women have a share in framing legislation that affects their employment.

#### Women Voters and Drink in Illinois.

The alliance of drink interests and Anti-Suffrage is well known in America. In Michigan the saloon bars are piled with anti-literature, and now the liquor interest in five towns in Illinois, acknowledging the temperance vote of the women, is challenging the election results and seeking to get women disqualified from voting, on the ground that without the women's "dry" vote, the men had a majority for a "wet" policy. We sometimes hear it denied that Women's Suffrage promotes temperance: the liquor dealers may be trusted to know their own business, and they are solid antis.

#### Women in Prisons.

From the *Boston Woman's Journal* we learn that Miss Doty, lawyer and member of the New York State Commission on Prison Reform, and another lady recently passed four days as convicts in the Woman's Prison at Auburn in order to investigate the conditions, which, after this convincing test, they strongly condemn. "When women have a vote in choosing the law-makers, who spend the taxes, they will be able to insist upon decent and humane treatment of prisoners."

#### Bavarian Women and the Protection of Birds.

The Bavarian Woman Suffrage Society has published a pamphlet against the cruelty of wearing feathers, which will interest many women. The leaflet is intended to rouse women to a sense of the unspeakable cruelty involved in the wholesale slaughter of birds, and appeals to the pity and good taste of all women; it also draws attention to the practical use of birds as insect killers, and the economic harm done by their destruction. Copies of the pamphlet in any number can be had free from the Woman Suffrage Office, Kaulbachstr, 12, Ghs. 1, Munich.

#### International Association for Labour Legislation.

This Association exists for the purpose of levelling up labour laws by means of international agreement. Whenever there is an attempt in any country to shorten hours of labour or to regulate dangerous trades, or to protect and limit child labour, the cry is raised that the local industry will be ruined and driven into the hands of foreign competitors. There is often some truth in this assertion, but if all countries agree in taking certain measures to protect the health of their workers, they can do much. The International Association has been pressing for the ten-hours day for women and young persons, and for strict limitation of night work by young persons, with prohibition of night work under eighteen. How badly the Governments support these efforts is shown by the report of the official Conference at Berne in September, to which the

Governments of 13 countries sent delegates, who were mostly Government officials. The great desire of these gentlemen seems to have been to maintain the *status quo*, rather than to introduce the reforms which are so urgently needed. Those countries which allow all-night work to boys of sixteen refused to raise the age to eighteen, though the ill-effects of night work on growing lads are obvious. The Conference even retained night work for boys of fourteen in certain branches of work in glass and iron works.

The Conference paid very little attention to the recommendations made by the International Association, and adopted a standard actually lower than that prevailing in many countries, thus rendering its whole proceedings futile. It is intended to hold a diplomatic conference early next year to ratify the resolutions adopted at Berne, but the International Association for Labour Legislation feels that meanwhile every effort must be made to induce the Governments to agree on a far higher standard. To adopt the miserable, tinkering draft conventions would actually mean a step back, and rather than that it would be better to drop the draft regulations altogether.

#### Suffrage Papers in Sweden.

The Swedish paper *Dogny* will, at the end of this year, cease, and Fredrika Bremer Forbundet has decided to start a paper of its own and to give it the name of *Hertha*, the title of that book of Fredrika Bremer, that most influenced the women's movement in Sweden. It will be similar to *Dogny*, but published on the 1st and 15th of every month with the exception of July and August.

Rosika Schwimmer has been in Stockholm speaking at the Suffrage meetings.

#### A Swedish Jubilee.

The Swedish woman came of age just fifty years ago, the 16th of November, 1863. The first step towards it was a Bill, 1810, granting women "of staid age and character" right to manage her own affairs if she appealed to the king. In the year 1858 another Bill fixed the age at 25, but with the same "begging condition" as before, and it was only 1863 that the law made her of age at the age of 25 with the right of refusing "self-government," should she so choose. From 1884 she has come of age at 21. The debates on this question are interesting reading. The same arguments against the Suffrage movement that we now are so sick and tired of were brought to bear on the above question, too: "The managing of her own affairs is not in accordance with true womanly modesty;" "it was not in harmony with her nature and purpose," and "the majority of women do not want it; why, then, give them a responsibility they do not wish or ask for?"

#### Does the Vote Benefit Women and Children?

The "Women's Political World," for December 1st, in an article by Nora Blatch de Forest, contains some telling statistics of the laws specially affecting women and children in the United States.

The 48 States are divided into three groups:—

- 10 Full Woman Suffrage States,
- 19 Partial Woman Suffrage States,
- 19 Non-Suffrage States.

Complete figures are given for each state. We here give only the averages:—

Age of consent	FULL SUFFRAGE STATES.		Hrs. of labour for child-worker in factory	Maximum day's work for child in factories.
	Minimum age	Maximum age		
17.5	14.3	8.6	9.2	
	PARTIAL SUFFRAGE STATES.			
16.6	14.1	9	9.9	
	NON-SUFFRAGE STATES.			
15	13.3	9.5	10.1	

These figures speak for themselves.

In Kentucky and Mississippi, both Non-Suffrage States, a little girl of 12 and 10 respectively can be ruined and the man go scot free if he can say the child "consented."

The minimum in any Suffrage State is 16, while in 7 of the 10 States it is 18. In the three States in which the age is 16 and 17 women only won the vote in the last year, and have not had time to raise it.

In the Non-Suffrage States the average age at which marriage is allowed is 4 years higher than the age of consent, thus a child can actually be ruined with impunity four years before she can legally be married!

The little girl in Mississippi can consent to her own ruin at 10, and be sent to factory work at 12, while in the most backward Suffrage State, she can only be sent to work at 14, and her honour is protected up to 16.

#### TREASURER'S NOTES.

The Treasurer proposes to acknowledge in the pages of this paper from time to time the various sums which she receives as contribution to the "Special Two Years Fund" which was raised in answer to an appeal during the Congress at Budapest. Annexed will be found the first list of donors. The treasurer hopes that the example of these generous friends may win the International Woman Suffrage Alliance new friends in the various countries into which this paper may find its way.

The Alliance has now 261 Honorary Associate Members. These members pay £1 a year, and have the privilege of receiving Congress reports and *Jus Suffragii* gratis. They are entitled to attend Congresses free, and take part in the social events of the Congress. Inquiries and application for Associate Memberships should be addressed to:—

Mrs. ADELA STANTON COIT,  
Treasurer of the I.W.S.A.,  
7, Adam Street, Adelphi,  
London W.C.

	£	s.	d.
Aldis, Mrs., U.S.A.	\$25	5	2
American Woman's Republic, U.S.A.	\$50	9	14
Ashton, Miss Margaret, Great Britain	25	0	0
Anonymous	100	0	0
Anonymous	Kr4	3	2
Austrian Delegation, Austria	Kr100	4	2
Bellini, Miss Maria, Italy	frs25	1	0
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Bruce, Mrs. Benedicks, Sweden	frs100	3	19
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German National Association, Germany	M2,000	97	9
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Illingworth, Mrs. Alfred, Great Britain	105	0	0
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Jullig, Miss Erna, Austria	Kr20	16	8
Karasz, Miss Mariska, Hungary (for 2 years)	Kr20	15	10
Lees, Mrs. C. E., Great Britain (for 2 years)	200	0	0
Macmillan, Miss Chrystal, Great Britain	2	0	0
Nathan, Mrs. Frederick, U.S.A.	10	0	0
Pelly, Miss, Great Britain	1	0	0
Perls, Dr. Klara, Germany	1	0	0
Regenhardt, Mrs. Clara, Germany	M50	2	8
Salmoiraghi, Mrs. Costanza, Italy	frs25	1	0
Schlumberger, Mrs. De Witt, France	frs100	3	13
Selenka, Mrs., Germany (for 2 years)	M200	9	14
Seyd, R., Esq., Great Britain	5	0	0
Seyd, Mrs. E. R., Great Britain	5	0	0
South African Association, Cape Colony	5	5	0
Swiss Delegation, Switzerland	8	0	0
Tabelle, Miss B., Finland	frs100	3	19
Teleki, Countess Iska, Hungary	Kr100	4	2
Tornow, Mrs. Robert, Germany	5	0	0
Women Sanitary Inspectors' Suffrage Society, Great Britain	1	0	0
Women Teachers' Suffrage Society, Great Britain	2	0	0

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#### MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE OF WOMEN IN INDIA.

On several occasions at the India Office in London, as the British Government Department dealing with India is called, inquiries as to the exercise by women of the municipal franchise in India were met with a denial that any such franchise for women existed. After several Suffragists with first-hand information to the contrary had drawn the attention of the India Office to the fact that its information on the subject was incorrect, the Department set on foot an inquiry to ascertain the exact position of women with respect to the exercise of the municipal franchise throughout the different Provinces of India.

They officially report that in Madras, Bengal, the Central Provinces, Behar and Orissa, Assam, and in certain areas in the United Provinces and the Punjab, women are excluded from the franchise, and that in other areas, excepting Bombay, though they are not excluded, they seldom or never exercise the right. In no municipal area are women eligible for election. A printed statement gives the number of municipal areas in Bombay in which women who possess the required qualifications for voters are entitled to exercise the election franchise as one hundred and nineteen.

In addition to Bombay, with a population of over nineteen millions, the important Province of Burmah, with a population of over twelve millions, is included among those where women enjoy the municipal franchise.

With reference to the official statement that women seldom or never exercise this right, excepting in Bombay, it would be interesting to know if there are any figures to prove this assertion. Mrs. Catt during her visit to Burmah reported that the secretary of the municipality of Rangoon, and other citizens there, say that women do vote quite generally, although there has never been an exciting election.

Very probably inquiries on the spot would go to show that this was true also of the women voters in other areas.

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN.

#### REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE. AUSTRIA.

THE VEREINGSESETZ.

As the discussion of the Law of Associations (Vereingsetz) has still not taken place in the Plenum of the Upper House (Herrenhaus), and there is therefore great danger that §30 will not be rescinded before the end of the year, the Austrian Woman Suffrage Committee, together with two other organisations—the Universal Austrian Women's Society (Allgemein Oesterreichischer Frauenverein) and the Union of Academic Women (Verein Akademischer Frauen)—announced a great free and public women's meeting, whose order of the day was the demand for a speedy settlement of the Vereingsetz. A large number of members of Parliament were invited to the meeting, whose chairman was the President of the Woman Suffrage Committee. After the interesting speeches of the representatives of the three societies, a very lively discussion followed, which gave evidence how deeply the necessity of women's participation in political work is felt. At the end the meeting unanimously passed the following resolution, which was sent to the members of the Upper House:—"The women assembled in a free public meeting on December 9, 1913, acknowledge with satisfaction that in the Committee of the Upper House on the Constitution, and before that in the Plenum of the Lower House, expression was given to the necessity of women's political activity, and that the new Vereingsetz contains no limitation such as that in the out-of-date §30.

In spite of this agreement of the two Houses of Parliament about the inevitable participation of women citizens in politics, women still find themselves as before, in a condition of total deprivation of political rights, as there has not yet been a vote on the Vereingsetz in the Plenum of the Upper House. As further delay in the discussion of this law would prevent us women obtaining the object we have striven for so long—viz., the abolition of §30,—for another whole year, we address to the Presidents of both Houses of Parliament the urgent request that the discussion of the Law of Associations may be put on the order of the day of both Houses as soon as possible, so that the humiliating regulation excluding women from the work of political societies, which only exists in Austria among all the civilised countries of Europe, may be expunged from

the Law of Associations before the close of the year 1913. "The assembled women further beg the Upper and Lower Houses to extend the clauses referring to the admission of young persons to political associations, so that young persons under 21 may belong to associations specially representing women's interests; and also to limit the reasons for which a society may be suppressed to that of illegality, so that no society may be suppressed for having connections abroad."

LECTURE BY MAITRE MARIA VERONE.

Another interesting event arranged by the Austrian Woman Suffrage Committee was a lecture by Maitre Maria Verone, the brilliant Paris barrister. As Austrian women are not even allowed to study law, let alone practise it, the visit of a lady lawyer provided a welcome sensation for press and public. The personal charm of the speaker gave the finishing touch to the success won by the artistic perfection of her lecture. It is to be hoped that the convincing pleading of Maitre Verone for the political equality of women will for us Austrian women be an effective proof of women's capacity to fill the professions of lawyer and advocate.

### BELGIUM.

La Chambre des Représentants (the Belgian House of Commons) has been discussing since October the plan of the new school laws which the Government wishes to introduce and which is aiming at four main reforms: (1) Compulsory education; (2) Foundation of schools of the fourth degree; (3) Improvement of the teachers' salary; (4) General free education. Number 3 (le chapitre 3, du projet scolaire) explains the ground principles of the new system concerning the appointments offered to the teachers. It gives us a clear example of the ruling spirit which guides those who are full of the best intentions, when the point in question is the remuneration of women's work.

On examining Number 3, it is easy to see that the intentions of the Government as to the law about the elementary schools will, in spite of the women teachers' rights, make an enormous difference between their salary and that of the men teachers, and that is nothing new. For men it starts with 1,200 frs. (£48), for women it is but 1,100 frs. (£44) a year. The man teacher has a right to an increase of 100 frs. at the end of every two years until he is raised to 2,700 frs. (£108), which is the legal minimum. The woman teacher has a right to an increase of 100 frs. at the end of every three years until she is raised to 2,100 frs. (£84), which is the legal minimum. Thus, for the minimum salary the difference is 100 francs (£4), for the maximum it is 600 francs (£24). As for allowances for residence, they vary from 150, 200, 300, to 400 frs. These allowances will be doubled according to the importance of the district for headmasters and mistresses and for married men teachers. A married woman teacher has no right to a double allowance. She even loses the one she was granted if she marries a teacher working in the same district.

The Ligue Belge du Droit des Femmes\*, which is the most ancient in Belgium, moved by a great love of justice, has undertaken a campaign in order to defend the rights of the women teachers. The Ligue has begged the teaching body to help by organising a petition in favour of uniform salaries. The manifesto which accompanied the formula was so worded that the men teachers and women teachers could sign it whatever be their political opinions.

The Bureau de la Fédération Generale des Instituteurs Belges agreed officially to the claim of the Ligue du Droit des Femmes by signing the petition. Men teachers and women teachers from all parties answered in great number; more than 6,000, including nuns even, signed our lists, which were deposited at the registry on October 11, tied together with the national ribbon (black, yellow, red).

A few days previously we had addressed to Mr. Poulet, Minister of Science and Art, a letter in which we begged him to introduce a reform in favour of the women teachers which will protect the rights of half the teaching staff of the elementary schools. The fate of the women teachers rests in the hands of Mr. Poulet. If he is willing, the scheme can, with the approbation of the House, be altered according to the wishes of the teaching body.

The "Left" has agreed to the uniformity of salaries; their leaders have supported it. Some rumours give us the hope that Mr. Poulet, who has under his care the protection of

\* The Ligue Belge du Droit des Femmes was founded in 1892 par Mlles. Marie Popelin, Docteur en Droit; T. Van Diest, Docteur en Médecine; et Mlle. Leonie La Fontaine; et Messieurs Louis Franck et Henri La Fontaine, Avocats.

the teaching staff, will do in favour of women teachers what is necessary to put an end to much injustice and to a most illogical situation.

On the Right the cause seems to be ours, for if satisfaction is granted to the women teachers the coffers of the State will not suffer much. We have been told a few hundred thousand francs yearly would cover the charges involved in uniformity of salaries. As far as we can judge, it would not be paying too dearly for the suppression of the shocking injustice which we have exposed.

JANE BRIGODE.

The Féminisme Chrétien de Belgique held its annual meeting on the 8th December. Mlle. Vanden Plas reported the efforts made this year to obtain the introduction of the principle of "equal pay for equal work" in the scale of remuneration of teachers provided for in the drafting of the Bill on primary education. We do not know yet whether the feminist principle will be triumphant.

Mlle. Vanden Plas reported also the recent opening of two "cercles d'étude" of the F.C.B. at Namur and at Ghent. These are not essentially Suffragist, but the question of Woman Suffrage is discussed at their meetings just as the other feminist claims, being especially considered as the means of obtaining other necessary reforms.

Mlle. Gabrielle Fontaine reported on Le Ligue Catholique du Suffrage Féminin. She mentioned the two petitions sent by the L.C.S.F. to the Houses of Parliament and to the Cabinet Ministers—the first in the name of the L.C.S.F., the second in the name of the Belgian Federation for Woman Suffrage, to which the L.C.S.F. is federated. She spoke of the propaganda made this year. About 30 members of the L.C.S.F., women and men lecturers, have taken up the defence of the good cause in all parts of the country and in the most varied centres.

The R.F. Per qüy (Dominican) then lectured on "The Whys of Feminism" considered from the points of view of education, ethics, economics, law, and politics. He meets the objections of the adversary very conscientiously, and refutes them with ample documentation.

The annual meeting of the Société Belge d'Amélioration du sort de la Femme, founded in 1896, was held at its premises, the Musée du Livre, in Brussels. After the reports had been read of Mme. Elyse Nyst on the work of the Society, that of its sections, and that of Mme. Mourm de Lacotte, treasurer, an address was given by Mme. Groudjuon, who is going to take over the Section d'étude, which will deal especially with legislative reforms and their relation to the feminist programme, with the study and spread of works on feminism and the education of women, having in view the franchise and eligibility. An elocution course is included in this section with the aim of educating speakers.

LOUISE VANDEN PLAS.

### FRANCE.

DISCUSSION OF WOMEN ON JURIES AND THE COURIAU CASE.

The feminist soirée of December 12 at the Musée Social, organised by the U.F.S.F., was a great success. The subject chosen for discussion was: "Should Women be Admitted to the Jury?" Several men and women lawyers, men of letters, and sociologists took part in the discussion, which was only lacking in one element, that of contradiction. Opinion was unanimous as to the advantages of obtaining the admission of women to the jury, and it was declared particularly unjust to try accused women without having women's judgment of their guilt.

Similar success attended the much more important meeting of 1,000 persons on December 15. The meeting was got up in connection with the Couriau case and the women printers, which was reported in the November and December numbers of *Jus Suffragii*. The U.F.S.F. had invited all women's societies, which were nearly all represented. A strong vote of censure was passed on the Fédération du Livre, who were called upon to admit women printers' trade unions on the same conditions as men's. We have not yet heard whether this appeal will receive consideration.

WOMEN AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAWS.

We have noticed for some time a happy tendency on the part of the public administration (Government offices) to take counsel of individuals and make use of their services. It is an interesting fact, of which French women should take advantage to make themselves useful and show their capacity. It will be their best claim to the vote. Two new laws are coming into force on January 1, 1914—the law of assistance to large

families and the law of assistance to women at childbirth. In connection with the first, "committees of patronage" will be organised, in which women should try to take part. With regard to the second, M. Klotz, then Minister of the Interior, said: "Women's presence on committees might formerly have been considered only useful, but it may now be said to be indispensable, when we are on the brink of putting into force the laws assisting large families and women at childbirth." A third law comes into force on March 6, that concerning children's courts. There again women are called upon to show their capacity and their public spirit, which, as we think, may hasten the recognition of their rights. A circular has been sent out to all philanthropic societies working for children and young people, asking them if they could choose from their members men or women willing to help the magistrates as reporters or delegates. Reporters will be asked to help in investigating the circumstances and surroundings of children who come before the children's courts; delegates will be asked to follow up and supervise children who after trial are set at liberty but put under supervision. This law, whose administration offers certain difficulties, is an effort in the right direction in legislating for delinquent children, and should receive the greatest help and encouragement. Let us penetrate everywhere and make ourselves necessary.

DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, U.F.S.F.

### GALICIA.

POLISH COMMITTEE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Mme. Berson being unable to continue her work as President of the Polish Committee, I take up her work, having been appointed in accordance with our rules, and proposed by Mme. Berson herself. In taking up this task, I wish to make a statement of the ideas which will guide me in my work, which, in our country is more difficult than elsewhere. Galicia being the home of two races, the Poles and Ruthenians, their mutual relations leave much to be desired. In spite of that, Polish and Ruthenian women are united whenever there is a new effort to be made for the rights of women.

Our relations with each other are perfect, personal friendships have been formed, which make our Suffrage work much pleasanter and efficacious. And we shall unite in our efforts to obtain admission to our Diet, and to our municipal councils.

Then, as Galicia belongs to the Austrian Empire, we must strive for common action with the women of the other countries in the Empire—i.e., with the Bohemians, the Germans, etc., to join in the conquest of the Imperial Parliament. To attain this end a Federation should be formed of all the women of Austria.

I am convinced that that will be done without difficulty or opposition, for I have great good faith in our fine ideal of international goodwill, and mutual justice.

The memory of the cordial words addressed by Mme. Urban to the Polish Committee at Budapest are a happy omen for our future relations.

For the moment our most important news is that the Polish Committee for Women's Suffrage has presented a petition to the President of the Diet, as our Diet is engaged in framing a law for electoral reform.

Our petition, drawn up in Polish and translated into Ruthenian, has united the Polish and Ruthenian women of all social classes; it was signed by 25 Polish societies of men and women, and by 22 Ruthenian societies.

The Polish Men's League for Women's Suffrage has taken an important part in this Suffrage effort.

The President of the Diet, Count Goluchowski, received our petition in a friendly way with words of encouragement.

EDVIGE DE TOMITSKI.

### GERMANY.

VARIOUS SUFFRAGE ORGANISATIONS AND POLICIES.

In Germany, as in other countries, various splits have occurred in the Suffrage movement. In 1907 a clause was embodied in the Constitution of the German National Union (Verband) demanding universal Suffrage. Many women saw in this a breach of the political neutrality laid down by the Constitution, gave up their membership of the German Union for Woman Suffrage (Verband), and joined an independent organisation, the "Vereinigung." In 1912 several women left the Verband because they feared that an amendment would be introduced to the new paragraph of 1907, which would endanger the demand for universal Suffrage. Some of these women joined a small society, the "Reichsverein."

Now that the general meeting of the "Verband" in Eisenach, in October, 1913, voted by a large majority for the retention of the paragraph demanding universal Suffrage, the Hamburg and Bavarian societies have left the National Union (Verband), and, strange to say, on the initiative of the keenest supporters of democratic principles, who were just the people who should have been best pleased with the result of the Eisenach meeting. It is therefore easy to understand that many newspapers have drawn attention to the fact that this split has taken place at the cost of the majority, and is incomprehensible unless it is due to personal reasons which have not been made public within the Union (Verband). A new provincial Society has been founded in Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Remarkable accounts are to hand of the effect of the campaign in the South Lanark Election. Here a Labour candidate was supported with all the energy of the National Union, and, although he was not successful, it was felt that a very good beginning was made by him, in that he polled 1,674 votes. At the last election the Liberal had got in by a majority of 1,197, and it seems certain that in this case nearly all the Labour votes must have been taken away from the Liberal—a circumstance which resulted in the defeat of the Liberal. The women in that part of Scotland are not used to taking any share in an election, but they were so greatly roused by the Suffrage propaganda as to come in great numbers to the meetings, and to shew the utmost enthusiasm. This splendid spirit among the working women has done the cause very great service with the Labour party. The men are feeling that when their women are really roused to take an interest in politics, they will be of the greatest help and value. Liberal newspapers tried to persuade the working-men not to "split the progressive vote," and declared that there was no fundamental difference between the Liberal and the Labour candidate; but the Labour men knew better, and the women too. With the Labour party, Women's Suffrage is a party question; with the Liberal party it is not.

Two deputations of Trades Union and Labour men last month requested the Prime Minister to receive them, when he visited their towns—one on December 5th, in Manchester; another of Yorkshire Trade Unionists in Leeds. Mr. Asquith is constantly receiving confirmation of our assertion that organised Labour desires the enfranchisement of women.

In Ireland the cause is making steady progress, and it is a most remarkable feat that at the present moment, with feeling at its extremest tension on the Home Rule question, the Irish Women's Suffrage Federation should have held in Dublin, from the 9th to the 12th December, a conference which was attended by delegates of all shades of political opinion in other matters, and that this conference should have been harmoniously conducted throughout. From the National Union the delegates were Miss Courtney (Hon. Sec.), Miss Leaf (Press Sec.), and Miss Thirza Potts (Manchester). A delegate from the Anti-Suffrage League debated twice—once with a Member of the University and once with the Unionist Franchise Association, and was on both occasions defeated.

An important new Association of Liberal Men has been founded in Manchester to promote Women's Suffrage within the party. This is one of the most promising signs of the times. Many Liberals hold, of course, that Women's Suffrage is a Liberal measure, and there are signs that the more progressive men within the party will not remain content indefinitely to yield their Liberal principles to mere party discipline. The Chairman of the new Association is Mr. William Barton, M.P. for Oldham, who is also the hero of a much-needed protest on behalf of the right of women to be present at political meetings. Since the militant Suffragists have made a practice of interrupting meetings, this has been made the excuse for excluding women altogether from Liberal meetings. On this particular occasion a number of devoted Liberal women, who had worked hard for the return of Mr. Barton at the last election, were actually excluded from an Oldham meeting, to be addressed by Mr. Asquith. One cannot help thinking that party men must have very bad consciences if they apprehend danger even from their own devoted workers, and one is glad to see that Mr. Barton's protest had considerable effect. The inveterate habit that men have of treating women as if they were all alike is one of the evils women must combat most strenuously.

At Oxford, an Anti-Suffragist has been chosen to stand as Liberal candidate, and some of the most distinguished Professors and Members of the University have signed a declaration to the effect that they cannot support him.

It is gratifying to read that in the House of Representatives on October 9th a Minister of the Australian Commonwealth characterised Sir Almoth Wright's allusion to women voters in Australia as "a futile and silly reflection upon half the electors of Australia and upon all its politicians." A previous speaker had very truly declared that, although Sir Almoth Wright might be a brilliant scientist, he was "lacking in common sense." (Sir Almoth Wright had written rude things about the Colonial woman voter, and about "the opportunist politicians who enfranchised her.")

The National Union is now working up for a great demonstration in the Albert Hall next month. This is to inaugurate the campaign for "A Government Measure," and it is hoped to attract many delegates from men's organisations. The Albert Hall seats 8,000 people. The speakers will include Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Creighton, Miss Royden, Lord Lytton, Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., and Mr. Fenner Brockway (Editor of the *Labour Leader*).  
H. M. SWANWICK.

### HUNGARY.

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE HUNGARIAN COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The most interesting event of the Hungarian Suffrage movement this last month was the Annual Convention of the Hungarian Council of Women, which was held in Szombathely, Countess Albert Apponyi being in the chair. The key-note of the whole meeting was woman's rights and public activity. An introductory lecture of Mrs. Szegváry's, a committee member of the Feministák Egyesülete, dealt with the new Marriage Bill and Woman Suffrage, in which she came to the conclusion that this Bill was the best proof of the necessity of Woman Suffrage as it demonstrates that women themselves have to protect their own rights and interests. Therefore she moved that the N.C. shall petition for and urge the revision of the Electoral Law which passed in Parliament in March, but which is not yet sanctioned. The proposal was discussed and passed the next day in the Convention.

The Bishop of Szombathely, Count Mikes, greeted the Convention, saying that as so far women have kept family life and the home pure, time has come when she will have to purify public life, and she will have to accept her task and duty there.

The prelate, Giesswein, who was vice-president of the Budapest Congress, and is a committee member of the National Men's League for W.S., made a brilliant and enthusiastic speech, in which he dealt with the change in women's economic position, and stated that as a result of this change her social position necessarily is altered also, as she must herself protect her own interest.

Vilma Glücklich, president of the Feministák Egyesülete, considering Rósika Schwimmer was the representative of the political work of the Hungarian Council in the I.C. of Women, moved for the Feministák Egyesülete, that as on the programme of the quinquennial meeting of the Council, which is to be in May, 1914, in Rome, Woman Suffrage is not represented, the Hungarian Council shall urge its being taken up there. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Of several other proposals the one must be mentioned which passed, and which was moved by Vilma Glücklich, urging the opening of the technical high school and the juridic faculty of the University to women.

We have also cause to rejoice at the unanimous election of Vilma Glücklich, our worth president, as recording Secretary of the N.C. of W.

#### SUFFRAGIST DEPUTATION TO MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

A small deputation of Vilma Glücklich, Mrs. Irma Szirmay, and Eugenie Miskolczy Meller, was introduced by the President of the Men's League, his Excellence Mr. Lukács, to the Minister of Justice, and presented to him the memorandum of the Law Committee of the Feministák Egyesülete, our President explaining the principles of our standpoint. The Minister promised to study the memorandum and to consider it as far as possible at the modification of the Bill. He will try to find a possibility to give us a hearing and a chance to discuss our views preliminary to the meetings of the Law Committee of the Ministry, as we, not being trained juridical persons, cannot take part in the regular deliberations, or else this would give a precedent for the admission of men of all professions to defend their cause. We see clearly that

when in the supervision of the Press Law and the law upon the juries there are such retrograde measures taken, this is no time for enlargement of rights. We have seen the State Secretary and the President of the Law Committee of the Parliament which will primarily discuss the civil code; we see that they understand our claims for the children born out of wedlock, but have not much sympathy with the improvement of the position of the wife in the family and the woman in law and society. Their own interests are perhaps too much involved. We will give an account of the principles of the Bill, our claims, and the law when it is discussed, as we see by *Jus Suffragii* that our ideas upon the subject are somewhat different from the principles of other Suffragists.

#### ELECTION CONTEST BY WOMEN CLERKS.

The National Women Clerks' Association fought a hot battle for Woman Suffrage and women's rights in the elections of Ferencz Jo'zsef Commercial Hospital. The party in opposition would not accept their conditions to put women on their list, and so they joined the party which gave them, in proportion of the number of women members of the hospital, 25 per cent. of women on their ballot list. They have lost, the men of the opposition behaving disgracefully at the election, but nevertheless by their splendid agitation they have forced the opposition party to consider the claims of women, and although they put on their list a much smaller percentage of women, the principle was saved nevertheless!

EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER.

Budapest, December 16th, 1913.

### ITALY.

#### ACTIVE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN BY SUFFRAGISTS.

During the recent electoral campaign the Suffrage Committees of Milan, Turin, Rome, and Genoa put up big placards, inviting the electors to vote only for those candidates who included Woman Suffrage in their programme. At Milan manifestoes were issued against a candidate, who declared himself Anti-Suffragist.

At Milan, Mlle. Ervise, the barrister, Prof. Teresa Labriola; Prof. Bice Sacchi, and Baroness De Bonis were elected members of the Electoral Committees for the candidates, Campanozzi, Bissolati, Gaetani.

Mme. Cecilia Planet had Suffragist manifestoes published, and went the round of the towns in Lombardy in her motor-car, distributing them to the people who collected together for the elections.

At Milan Mme. Ancano and her daughters and many other members of the Suffrage Committee worked actively in support of the Suffrage candidates who represented their political aspirations. Mme. Tasini, well known under the pseudonym, Alma Dolens, President of the Lombard Committee, made 26 electoral speeches, and disputed successfully with famous opponents.  
R. C.

### RUSSIA.

#### WOMEN MUNICIPAL VOTERS.

In connection with the report to the Municipal Council on the vote for women, an enormous meeting of women municipal voters was organised by the Russian League for Woman Suffrage on November 17th, in the Hall of the Commercial Exchange (Kalaschnikof), one of the largest in St. Petersburg. Members of the Duma were to explain the need for women to share in municipal government. The meeting was a great success; it was crowded, and the large number of women electors who joined the section of the League for Municipal Rights proves how ready the audience was to respond to an appeal to take up a task for which they felt themselves fitted.

Unluckily, as much can not be said for the deputies of the Duma. They are not yet accustomed to reckon seriously with Suffrage organisations. This was shown by the fact that out of seventeen deputies who had promised their support, only four kept their word. All the same we consider the meeting a great success.  
H. KINERT,  
Secretary of the Council of the Russian League for Woman Suffrage.

NOTE.—In Russia women do not themselves vote for the Municipal Councils, but those who pay the land tax have the right to vote by proxy through their husbands, brothers, sons, grandsons, or sons-in-law.

#### STATE REGULATION OF VICE.

The Russian League for Women's Rights as represented by its President, has, with the co-operation of several physicians who are members of the Imperial Duma, worked

out a detailed proposal to amend the existing legal status of the State Regulation of Vice.

The document contains a historical and legal statement of the origin and of the continuance of State Regulation in Russia, its abolition in other countries, especially in England. It brings forward the opinions of individual physicians and of medical congresses, which prove such Regulation to be evil under all aspects, and based upon this the Russian League for Women's Rights petitions the Government to introduce a measure amending the existing law in a way which will abolish State Regulation. The proposal contains a detailed reference to each clause in the League Code, which for this purpose would have to be amended, and the new wording of such clauses is suggested in every instance.

The Russian League for Women's Suffrage called together a Congress in December, 1912, at which, amongst other subjects, the appointment of women factory inspectors was discussed at great length. Considering the ever-growing proportions of women and children's employment in factories and workshops, and following the example of countries who have already settled this question, it was resolved to present a Bill to the Douma for the appointment of women inspectors for factories and workshops where women and children are employed. Thanks to the energy of the Moscow branch, which includes many members of experience in this question, such as Mme. Gorovetz and others, who carried on an active propaganda amongst the deputies, this Bill was presented to the Douma on February 15, 1913, by the deputy Novikoff. To prepare public opinion for the debate on this question in the Douma, the League organised a great meeting in one of the largest public halls on December 1, at which members of the Douma, inspectors, and factory doctors gave the explanations necessary to elucidate the question. The various speeches roused the keen interest of the large audience, and called forth a number of interesting articles in the press.

DR. SCHISCHKINA JAVELIN.

### UNITED STATES.

#### RESUME OF 1913.

Nineteen Thirteen has been a wonderful year for Woman Suffrage. The progress which the movement has made during this period cannot yet be measured, for the most remarkable advance has been in the number of Suffrage workers, their enthusiasm and determination to win, and to win soon. The tangible results of the year's work may be briefly summarised. First of all there is the Illinois victory. Up to the very moment that the Illinois Legislature passed the Partial Suffrage Bill, giving women the vote on all offices and questions not provided for in the State Constitution, few people outside of a small circle in Illinois itself knew there was even a chance that votes for women would cross the Mississippi. But as time goes on the importance of this "farthest East" enfranchisement grows in the minds not only of the Suffragists, but also in its effect on politics and politicians.

The passing of equal Suffrage in Alaska was another surprise. The Legislature of Alaska was created in 1912, and convened for the first time on March 1st, 1913. The first measure introduced and voted upon was an Equal Suffrage Bill, which passed both Houses by a unanimous vote, and became law on June 21st.

Very early in the year the Legislatures of Nevada, North and South Dakota, and Montana voted to submit a Suffrage amendment to the electors. In all of these States the amendment will be voted upon in the General Elections of November, 1914. The Legislature of Wisconsin passed a Suffrage Bill, which was vetoed by the governor. Perhaps the greatest evidence of the strength of the Suffrage movement is the passing of Suffrage amendments by the Legislatures of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Iowa. The New Jersey Bill was not published ninety days before the November election, a step which the Constitution makes mandatory. Therefore New Jersey Suffragists will have their Bill introduced again this year. However, every political party in the State is now pledged to Woman Suffrage. The New York, Iowa, and Pennsylvania Bills must be approved by another Legislature before they can be submitted to the voters. Suffrage Bills were passed by the Arkansas Senate and the Minnesota House. In the Texas House, the Maine Senate and House, and the Massachusetts House Suffrage Bills failed only because a two-thirds and not a majority vote was needed.

The most conspicuous Suffrage work of the year has perhaps been the campaign for an amendment to the Constitution of

the United States. As soon as it was learned that the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution would not include women, and that the Fourteenth Amendment would not be interpreted as giving the franchise to women, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and other pioneer Suffragists began to work for a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, providing that no citizen of the United States should be deprived of the franchise because of sex. This work has continued steadily ever since 1869. From 1870 until the year of her death, in 1906, Miss Anthony never failed to go before the Congressional Committees to demand a Suffrage amendment. From the time of her death until this year interest has centred largely in the State campaigns, although Suffrage Bills have always been introduced, and well-known women have always spoken at the Congressional hearings. Now that approximately 3,600,000 women are entitled to vote for President, and many more women will undoubtedly be enfranchised in 1914 and 1915, votes for women has become a question of practical National politics.

The pressure of the women voters has already been felt in Congress. This year's Suffrage Bill has been reported favourably by the Senate Woman Suffrage Committee, which for the first time in history is a majority committee. While the National Association was in convention in Washington, D.C., the first week in December a hearing was held before the Rules Committee of the House to ask for the appointment of a Woman Suffrage Committee. The arguments presented were not on the merits of the Suffrage question, but a presentation of facts showing why it was not only just but also expedient to have a special committee to consider such an important question. The Antis, of course, spent the following day in arguing against the committee. The Rules Committee has, at the time this is written, given no decision in the matter. Two days after the hearing President Wilson received a deputation of Suffragists representing every State. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw asked him to send to Congress a message in favour of Woman Suffrage. He said that he could not present to Congress his private views on any subject—that he was not at liberty to urge upon Congress any policies except those of his party, of which he was merely the spokesman. Now, Suffragists are wondering how Mr. Wilson knows what is the will of the Democratic party as to equal Suffrage. To be sure, there was no Woman Suffrage plank in the National Democratic Platform adopted in 1912, but then, as Mr. Wilson himself has said, a platform is not a programme. Moreover, since the platform was adopted in 1912, several things of interest to the Democratic Party and to Mr. Wilson have happened. In the first place the total popular vote for Mr. Wilson in November, 1912, was 6,292,718. Half of that is 3,146,359. The total Democratic vote in the nine equal Suffrage States and Illinois (where women now vote for presidential electors) was, in 1912, 1,577,254. The total Democratic vote in Montana, Nevada and North Dakota, where Suffrage amendments have this year been submitted by Democratic legislatures, is 65,112. The total Democratic vote in New York, New Jersey, Iowa, and Wisconsin, where Suffrage Bills were this year passed by Democratic legislatures, was 1,175,347. And the total Democratic vote in Missouri, where a Suffrage Bill was ordered sent to engrossment by both Houses, but was referred back to committee at the last minute by a questionable kind of political chicanery, is 330,947. Therefore the total Democratic vote in States which are either equal Suffrage States or the legislatures of which have this year passed Suffrage amendments is 3,148,660, which is more than one-half of the total popular vote for Mr. Wilson in 1912. What better indication is there of the wishes of the party of which Mr. Wilson is spokesman?  
ELINOR BYRNS, Press Chairman.

National American Woman Suffrage Association.

### WOMEN AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN.

Extract from an article by Adelheid von Welczek, in the "Encyclopedia of Child Protection."

Women's work for the care and protection of children can be divided into public work of an official kind, and charitable work. The first comprises the relief of the poor and of orphans, the second including the vast army of voluntary workers in private organisations for the benefit of children. In many towns the relief of the poor and of orphans is combined, so that the lady who is appointed by the town as visitor of the poor (unpaid) has also the care of the orphans,

and in any case the visitor usually has the care of the children of the families confided to her. Families where the head of the family is the mother, often widows with large families, are generally under a lady visitor, whose task it is to help to find work for the mother, to provide for the care and education of the children, to see that they get medical treatment, and get the benefit of schools, institutions, summer camps, suitable to them; that they are put to some trade or employment at the proper age, and so on. In 1908, 212 towns in Germany had such visitors (Armenpflegerinnen), and in 74 of these towns the women had the same rights and duties as the men.

The total number of unpaid women visitors was 4,630, and has largely increased since.

In towns where the care of orphans is organised separately, as in Berlin and Hamburg, many women are appointed as assistants to the Communal Council for the care of orphans (Waisenpflegerinnen). On these councils women are present only in an advisory capacity.

Their chief duties are the choice of families where orphans are boarded out, and their inspection. The inspector advises the foster-parents, and reports on the physical and moral well-being of the children. Usually these services are unpaid. In Berlin salaried visitors are appointed to supervise children boarded out by the poor relief authorities. Other boarded-out children in Berlin are inspected by women who are responsible to the police.

Leipzig was the first town to appoint paid female inspectors of boarded-out children, who are also medically inspected weekly. Many other towns have followed this example, and in the new municipal schools for mothers and baby clinics salaried women are employed. Since the civil code allowed women to act as guardians of children not related to them, many women have been appointed by the Guardians (Vormundschaftsgericht).

The German women's unions have made a great point of working for the appointment of women as guardians. In Berlin alone there is a society to which 400 women guardians belong.

One society for the protection of children devotes itself entirely to investigation. The Women's Social School and other institutions train young people in social work. Women's work in connection with children's courts (Jugendgerichtshilfe) is important, and varies locally; its chief object is to investigate the circumstances of the child who is suspected of criminality, and to take steps to reclaim it. In the Rhine provinces and Westphalia special committees (Fürsorgeausschüsse) have been formed, consisting of men and women, whose task it is to establish the degree of responsibility of the delinquent child or young person, for its misconduct, and to guard him or her against further wrong-doing, or misfortunes. In all this work women take an important share.

In Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, Frankfurt, and other large towns a different system prevails. Here the work centres in the Central Bureau for the Care of Children (Zentrale für Jugendfürsorge), which is managed by a woman. Members of sixty societies in Berlin work in connection with children's courts, investigating the child's conditions, being present at the trial, and supervising its future career. A large and increasing number of women take part in this work. The Central Bureau carries on many activities, has an information bureau, and a branch office at the chief police court, managed by a woman official, whose duty it is to see that all young persons in need of supervision are handed over to the care of the voluntary agency best suited to deal with them.

In the domain of philanthropic work, the following Societies deserve mention:—The Society for the Protection of Children Against Exploitation and Ill-treatment; this Society was originated by a woman, and has a large number of women members. Another Society is that for the Aid of Children Over School Age. Homes for working girls are also supported. Similar work is done by the Society Jugendschutz. Another Society organises summer holidays for delicate children.

Many societies support crèches, and kindergartens. The Social Democrats have special committees to protect children against industrial exploitation, breaches of the Factory Acts, etc.

The Women's Red Cross Society, amongst other things, works for infant schools, orphanages, crèches, and girls' homes. The societies in connection with the churches are so numerous that it is impossible to enumerate them here. The Catholic societies include many sisterhoods. The chief Evangelical activities are: The Inland Mission, the Evangelical

Young Women's Society, the German Evangelical Women's League, the Friends of Young Girls, all of which work actively for the care and protection of children. There is also the Jewish Women's League.

### THE WOMAN FACTORY WORKER IN RUSSIA.

Translated in condensed form from an article by Dr. M. I. Pokzovs Kaia in the "Woman's Messenger" of July-August and September, 1913.

In Russia specialised women's labour is in its comparative infancy. Its purpose and its meaning and the conditions which bear upon it have been but little studied because its great importance has as yet been hardly realised. The women themselves are so full of eagerness to establish the right to work in all branches of labour and to secure such right for the future, that they have yet hardly had time to look around, and to bring about a systematic investigation of the conditions and of the value of their labour. In the meantime such investigations of labour conditions of women are of the utmost importance, not only to the women themselves, but to the nation as a whole. The conditions under which women's labour is carried on are reflected not only in herself but in her descendants, in the whole people. The point of view held, however, by many, that the value of woman consists exclusively in her mother functions, and that, therefore, the conditions under which she lives and works are of importance only in so far as they concern woman as mother, and not in so far as they concern woman as individual, are equally wrong. The study and the establishment of proper labour conditions must be framed both from the points of view of individual as well as of race welfare.

Reliable information regarding labour conditions as they affect women in Russia is as yet difficult to obtain. There are no official reports or investigations available. The male factory inspectors who could conduct a systematic and detailed investigation into the labour conditions in connection with women factory workers are not sufficiently interested in the matter, and there are no women factory inspectors. The facts quoted in this paper are collected from two prominent labour papers, and from various official and private sources.

The Factory Inspectors' Report for 1911 states that 2,051,198 persons came under the inspection of the department, of which number 1,412,921 were male and 638,277 were female workers. Only factories proper come under the provisions of factory inspection: all workshops, stores and business premises, wholesale depots, and offices, as well as domestic employment, are outside the provisions of such inspection. It is, therefore, reasonable to state that the real number of women engaged as wage earners in Russia is to be counted by millions. From 1901—1910 the proportion of female workers to male workers increased 51 per cent., the proportion seems, however, to have remained stationary from 1910 onwards. Textile industries absorb the largest number of women workers. Towards the end of 1911 the number of female workers engaged in the manufacture of textiles was 452,924—521 per cent. of the whole number of workers engaged in such industries. 68,095 women (205 per cent.) were engaged in the manufacture of foodstuffs, 32,542 (178 per cent.) in various manufacturing processes connected with minerals, 24,146 (341 per cent.) in chemical works, 23,732 (255 per cent.) in the manufacture of paper and in processes of polygraphy, 16,514 (54 per cent.) in metal finishing, the making of machinery, and of tools and implements; 11,581 (103 per cent.) in the various processes of the preparation and finishing of wood, 8,049 (157 per cent.) in the treatment of mineral products.

There is also a large increase of woman labour in the book-binding, the cardboard, shoe, rubber, and brick-making industries, also in the earthenware and china works. In the year in which the report was published women also began to be employed in printing and stamping works. In 1911 in the province of Kostroma the number of women employed in factories and works, for the first time exceeded the number of men so employed. It is of interest to notice that in some of the works which employ women the latter are made to do the heaviest and hardest physical work which is habitually considered to be men's work. For instance, in several wood depots and saw mills, of which the names are quoted, women carry tree trunks and boards to and from the rafts, etc. According to the official report the number of young girls

between 14—16 years of age who are employed in factories, has, between 1901-1911, increased by 53 per cent. In the textile industries alone 50,770 girls were employed in 1911. There were besides 12,501 female children under 14 employed in textile manufactures. In the province of Moscow children of both sexes are employed chiefly in the cotton and silk mills and in the glass factories.

#### EARNINGS.

In 1911 the average yearly earnings of the Russian male and female operative was 251rbls. (£25 2s.). The highest average was in the province of St. Petersburg—i.e., 365rbls. (£36 10s.). The province of Moscow shows an average of 241rbls. (£24 2s.). Since the report confines itself to establishing the average for all workers irrespective of age or sex, it is impossible to form an exact estimate as to the average pay of women and children. Where such investigations were undertaken in factories where women are employed the average of the earnings proved to be very low—212rbls. (£21 4s.) in the silk mills; 276rbls. (£27 12s.) in textiles; 159 rbls. (£15 18s.) in the manufacture of foodstuffs; 233rbls. (£23 6s.) in mineral works; 268rbls. (£26 16s.) in chemical works; 283rbls. (£28 6s.) in paper manufacture; 397rbls. (£39 7s.) in the processes connected with metals; 556rbls. (£55 12s.) in the processes connected with the treatment of wood; 296rbls. (£29 12s.) in the treatment of animal products.

Since women are paid at a lower rate than men, the average earnings of the female worker in the above establishments must be lower than the above figures. According to investigations conducted by the Labour publications, "Truth" and "Ray," the average earnings of the female workers in textile industries varies between 124rbls. (£12 8s.) and 390rbls. (£39) a year, allowing for four Sundays each month, and ignoring all other holidays and all fines. In reality the earnings must amount to less than those figures.

In the silk factories of Moscow the female operative earns from 102-162rbls. (£10 4s.—£16 4s.) a year. In the cotton mills of Murom the earnings amount to between 48-180rbls. (£4 16s.—£18) a year. At other similar manufacturing concerns the earnings vary between 144rbls. and 300rbls. £14 4s.—£30) a year.

At some of the largest chocolate works in St. Petersburg and Moscow the average earnings of women workers are 204rbls. (£20 8s.), 142-156rbls. (£14 4s.—£15 12s.), and 145rbls. (£14 10s.). In one sweets factory they are as low as 48-192rbls. (£4 16s.—£19 4s.) a year. In the tobacco industry the average wage varies between 93-372rbls. (£9 6s.—£37 4s.) a year.

Put into concise form the earnings of a female operative in the silk industries are 102-162rbls. (£10 4s.—£16 4s.) a year; cotton, 48-390rbls. (£4 16s.—£39); lace, 192-240rbls. (£19 4s.—£24); chocolate and sweets, 107-177rbls. (£10 14s.—£17 14s.); tobacco, 93-372rbls. (£9 6s.—£37 4s.); printing, 337-505rbls. (£33 14s.—£50 10s.); rubber (average) 202rbls. (£20 4s.).

The Imperial Commission which sat between 1902-5 with the object of establishing a minimum wage standard in connection with the War Department, established a minimum wage of 21rbls. (£2 2s.) for men and 17rbls. (£1 14s.) for women per month. It is thus shown that the average pay of the female factory worker is below even the above established minimum standard, and, furthermore, since 1902 the cost of living has considerably increased.

Some working women's budgets were brought before the First National Congress of Russian Women by Mrs. Frossina in 1908. One woman cotton operative, 23 years of age, six years employed at the factory, well educated, a member of a trade union, earns 300rbls. (£30) a year. Of this sum, 25rbls. (£2 10s.) is sent to her people at her home village; rent of a corner in a room, 42rbls. (£4 4s.) a year; food, 132-144rbls. (£13 4s.—£14 8s.) a year; clothes, boots, underclothing, 43-44rbls. (£4 6s.—£4 8s.) a year; public baths and laundry (which she does herself) 916rbls. (18s. 8d.); newspapers, journals, 140rbls. (2s. 10d.); unforeseen expenses, 20rbls. (£2); savings, 30rbls. (£3) a year; the remaining 10rbls. (£1) are spent on amusements, union fees, tramways, etc. This is the budget of a worker in the best-paid (textile) industry. Another budget is that of a mother and daughter, and is illustrative of the life of women workers in one of the worst-paid industries. The mother has worked in the factory for 37 years, and she receives 075rbls. (1s. 6d.) a day. The daughter has been employed for seven years, and she receives 055rbls. (1s. 1d.) a day. On an average, and allowing for intervals in employment, they earn together 324rbls. (£32 8s.) a year. Of these

earnings 10rbls. (£1) is sent to a son banished on account of political agitation. The rent of a small room is 54rbls. (£5 8s.) a year; lighting and house expenses amount to an additional 215rbls. (4s. 3d.); boots, clothing, and laundry, 8040rbls. (£8 0s. 10d.), as, it is pathetically stated, the daughter likes to dress nicely; the food for both amounts to 13163rbls. (£13 3s.) a year, about 11s. each per month; it consists chiefly of tea and bread with a meat stew on Sundays and a bottle of milk as a special treat twice a month. Generally speaking, the Russian working woman considers herself comfortably off if she receives 20rbls. (£2) a month. A large number, however, according to the Factory Inspectors' Report, at least half, earn considerably less, and in order to make ends meet they have to rent a corner of a room, share a bed with a fellow-worker, systematically underfed, go without the necessary decent clothing, and without recreation, or any intellectual food. Thus they live not temporarily, but permanently, without any hope for improvement in their lot.

(To be continued.)

### WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION, BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

Though the Dominion of New Zealand has enjoyed equal Suffrage for more than twenty years, that country has not yet joined the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. In March last a proposal originated in the cities of Christchurch and Wellington that as a step towards the World's Alliance a Woman Suffrage Union should be formed between the four great self-governing Dominions of Canada and South Africa, where women are still unenfranchised, and Australia and New Zealand, where they enjoy the Parliamentary vote. To make known the idea of such a union, which should become a mighty force in the world movement, Miss H. C. Newcomb, the hon. secretary *pro tem.*, has, with her friend and co-worker, Miss Hodge, visited almost every one of the chief centres in New Zealand, all the States of the Commonwealth of Australia, and every one of the chief cities in the Union of South Africa. In the spring of this year Miss Newcomb and Miss Hodge will visit Canada on the same quest. In every part of all these great countries the warmest desire for the establishment of this new Women's Political Union has been expressed. A Conference will be held in London in July next, at which proposals for future work will be discussed. Good progress has already been made towards establishing regular interchange of news concerning women's political activities between the four Dominions themselves and between these and the Motherland.

### THE EFFECT OF THE WOMAN'S VOTE IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The British are essentially a practical people, and it has always been their boast that an ounce of fact is of more importance in their judgment than a ton of theories. Yet the wildest conjectures and the most baseless hypotheses of the Anti-Suffragists as to the probable result of Woman's Suffrage in the British Isles are eagerly accepted by them, while ascertained facts, accurate statistics, and serious resolutions in favour of the results of the measure by Parliaments where women have had the vote for more than a decade are entirely neglected and ignored. It is difficult in a short article to give any idea of the momentous change that has taken place in those British Dominions of the Southern Hemisphere since the women were enfranchised, and the task is not rendered easier by the numerous assertions, vague and indefinite, but uniformly condemnatory, from former opponents of the principle of equal suffrage in these countries.

These hostile criticisms have been readily credited and widely circulated as a deterrent to those countries which have not yet had the courage to emancipate their women.

The means of communication, so greatly facilitated during recent years, have rather increased than diminished the difficulties of arriving at a true estimate of the effects of any measure of reform in remote countries, for the superficial acquaintance resulting from the process of globe-trotting is frequently the only foundation for sweeping generalisations, which are accepted as gospel by a too credulous public. Some members of the Empire Parliamentary Party, on their recent visit to Greater Britain, confidently asserted that the woman's vote had made no difference at all in Australia or New Zealand, and yet these very persons had had no previous

knowledge of these vast regions, and had only vouchsafed about forty-eight hours to West Australia, a country six times as large as France. Their opinions were merely the echo of some official utterance, delivered casually, and with no idea of publication.

I have had the good fortune to live eleven years in Australia (1897-1908), to reside for a time at least in every one of the States, to work for various reforms, and to know the social conditions of the country intimately during that time. I aided the women in the fight for the vote in New South Wales from 1897-1902, and anxiously watched over the results of the acquisition of it. After four years' absence in England and the United States, I returned to the Commonwealth (1912), and was delighted to note the steady progress that the women had made in every one of the States. I had the additional pleasure of a tour through New Zealand from Auckland to Invercargill, where the most southern lamp-post in the world marks the ultimate limit of civilised settlement; and both in the North and South Island I witnessed with delight the keen sense of responsibility, the exuberant vitality, the courageous energy of the women, who have owned their full citizenship for a score of years. Although I have had exceptional opportunity of observing women's work in Australasia—for I have been in touch with all the principal Women's Societies there,—I do not rely merely upon my own observation and experience in asserting the advantage of equal Suffrage. In 1909 and 1910 resolutions were passed unanimously by the Federal Parliament of the Commonwealth affirming the advantages that had resulted from the Women's Franchise. The quick resentment shown at any slight upon the woman voter, found expression in the speeches of Dr. Moloney (a Labour member) and Mr. Kelly (a Liberal), when, in October, 1913, they resented so vehemently Sir Almroth Wright's uncalled-for contemptuous attack upon her in his "Unexpurgated Case for Women's Suffrage." They stated that they felt this attack to be an insult to the nation, and proclaimed their own confidence in and admiration for the women electors of the Commonwealth.

The conscientiousness of women is proverbial, and this quality has been shown in the very large number of women who have enrolled themselves as voters and have registered their votes. In some places the women voters who appeared at the polls showed a higher percentage than the men, and that in spite of the fact that great difficulties had to be faced by women going to the polls in a new and sparsely populated country. The greatness of the distance, the roughness of the roads—in many cases mere tracks,—and the difficulty of taking babies and young children, or of finding someone to look after them during absence, offer great and sometimes almost insuperable obstacles to the most resolute and conscientious citizeness. Yet in spite of these drawbacks the Act that imposes a fine of £2 on anyone who does not enrol himself or herself as a voter was eagerly supported by women, and a proposal to disfranchise any elector who does not avail himself or herself of the privilege of voting for four successive elections is being seriously discussed. Two German girls who refused to enrol, on the plea that they dared not—"Why, our Kaiser would cut our hands off if we voted,"—were fortunately found not to have been naturalised, or, imbued as they were with the prejudices of the old world, they would have been mulcted of £4 for their loyalty to a mediæval ideal.

Anti-Suffragists frequently asserted (before 1902) that it would be most dangerous and unbecoming to expose sensitive women to the rough and tumble of elections; but from personal experience of five of these interesting events I can confidently assert that women have succeeded in reforming the elections instead of being demoralised by them. The rigid insistence on the closing of the public-houses on election day (which is only one day's holiday throughout the Commonwealth or State) has helped in the preservation of order, and the women are largely responsible for this measure. It was my good fortune at the last Federal Election (May 31st, 1913) to occupy a room looking on to the West Sydney polling booth, and I watched the endless stream of men and women entering the building in a quiet, orderly way to record their votes. West Sydney is not the wealthy quarter; it is mainly occupied by poor people. Many of the women carried young babies, or led little children by the hand; yet they performed their duties as citizens with no less alacrity or sagacity because they were the guardians of the future generation. The work of voting was an onerous one. Those with infants in arms found some neighbour to hold their burdens while they proceeded to make their ten crosses—one for the member for the House of Representatives,

three for the Senate, and six for the Referendum questions. Their task did not appear to stagger them; they issued from the polling booth quite calm and composed. As there were very few spoilt voting papers, and as the babies and children looked well cared for, it appeared to me that the women performed their duties to their offspring and to the State quite satisfactorily.

The woman's vote has raised the whole tone of Parliamentary life, and it is a well-known fact that no man of intemperate habits and dissolute character has any chance of securing it. Even those who venture to criticise most severely the women voters of Australia acknowledge that high moral character weighs more with them than mere party loyalty, although one journalist made it a reproach that women prefer "smug hypocrisy" in a candidate for Parliament to "a certain devil-may-care type of man who has built up the Empire." This sneer may well be interpreted as a compliment, and it is as true of Australasia as it is of the enfranchised States of America, that corruption has to hide its diminished head in lands where women vote. As a distinguished Californian once said after he had visited the States where women voted, "Wherever the woman goes she sweeps the place clean." How he would have rejoiced at her admission to the franchise in his own State!

The noble comradeship that is springing up between men and women since the political equality of the sexes has been publicly acknowledged, the mutual respect for and ready recognition of these qualities which make for good citizenship, these are preparing the way for a complete equality and a hearty co-operation, which cannot but be of immense benefit to the community.

The legislation is no longer man-made, for women often have a voice in its initiation. Every candidate for Parliament has to take into consideration the views of both sexes in his constituency. "Ladies welcome!" figures on the notice of every political meeting, and each candidate for Parliamentary honours gives himself infinite trouble to ascertain the feminine points of view by urgently entreating the women in his audience to ask him questions and by endeavouring in every way to meet every objection that they urge. Thus there creeps into the Legislature the human point of view—a mingling of the man's and the woman's,—and the attitude adopted by the Legislature affects the Judicature, so that we find judges censuring most severely and punishing relentlessly men's offences against women and children—offences which are regarded as the merest peccadillos in courts of justice (?) in the older countries of the world where only the male voice has any weight.

Moreover, in these lands under the Southern Cross where women are enfranchised, great progress has been made towards the securing of economic equality for men and women, and towards the destruction of a dual standard of morality.

The economic position of women, fraught as it is in the old world with grave dangers to the community—for the underfed mother produces the weakly babe, and the immoral parent the tainted and diseased offspring,—is rapidly improving in lands where they can defend their claims with the adequate political weapon. It was my experience to meet again and again with factory girls, domestic servants, typists, and women workers of all descriptions, who were earning double the wages that they had obtained in the British Isles, with shorter hours and under better conditions. The workshops are a pleasure to visit—so bright, so spacious, and well ventilated. Some of the factories have roof restaurants, and it is delightful to watch the lively, happy workers during their dinner hour. Truly it is the best policy for the employer to secure good conditions for his employees, for the work is infinitely better and more quickly done.

Moreover, the large number of occupations open to women prevents the great pressure of competition in any one of them. In New Zealand, Victoria, and West Australia they are rapidly acquiring fame as barristers, lawyers, and even assistant judges. Some have been so effective in the political arena that they will soon be members of Parliament. Miss Vida Goldstein polled over 11,000 votes as a non-party candidate for the House of Representatives at the last Federal Election, although she stood for a constituency where no man would venture to oppose the Liberal candidate, who had the powerful support of Press and Party.

Much might be said upon the attempts of the women to secure an equal standard of morality for both sexes, and of the intimate connection of this question with the raising of woman's economic position. Throughout Australasia, except

in Queensland, the age of consent has been raised since the women had the vote, and in some parts—notably in New Zealand and West Australia—an absolutely equal divorce law has been obtained. The Women's Service Guild (a non-party Society) were most active in securing the passage of their Bill as they had drafted it through the Upper House, where it had many opponents. Deputations of this Guild attended all the debates, and by their "mere presence" secured its passage, although, of course, the surrender of the Legislative Council was said by its members to be due to the "recognition of the justice of the measure."

An attempt to restore the obnoxious C.D. Acts was baffled by these watchful women in the same way. An insidious effort was made to graft a clause on to the Health Act. When this was discovered the obnoxious clause was transformed to the Police Act. The women detected the hateful paragraph in both cases, and insisted on its being expunged, threatening to hold meetings explaining the purport of the C.D. Acts, and telling the story of Josephine Butler's fight; and they at once effected their purpose and coerced the Legislature successfully.

It seems almost unnecessary to refer to the lowered rate of infant mortality in Australasia—a phenomenon so frequently spoken of by lecturers on economics, and so rarely attributed to its just cause—the admission of women to a share in the political life of the country.

South Australia had an infant mortality of 13 per cent. (the same as Canada has to-day) before she enfranchised her women. Her infant mortality is now 7 per cent. Queensland, with its sub-tropical and tropical climates, has the lowest infant mortality in Australia, and New Zealand the lowest in the world. The care of the potential motherhood of the nation, the good wages and excellent conditions under which the girls work, the £5 maternity grant (paid to the prospective mothers), the dairy inspection, the milk institutes, the precautions to secure unadulterated food, have all played their part in reducing infant mortality.

The most potent factor of all is the instructions given in schools and training colleges upon physiology, and the care of infant life by women doctors appointed by the State. In close co-relation to these I witnessed an admirable series of practical lessons in mothercraft, given in the upper forms of the school, where a real baby is washed, undressed, fed, and put to sleep before an interested class of eager girls, in whose bright young eyes maternal love and reverence shine. I could quite believe the teacher, who said that though she had sent many of her girls out into the world as workers, they never got into trouble. "I have long talks with them when we have no visitors," she added, "and they quite understand the sacredness of infant life, and their responsibilities as guardians of it."

After I had been speaking in South Africa upon the effect of the women's vote in Australasia, a learned professor delivered himself somewhat after this fashion:—"The last speaker here was Sir Starr Jamieson. He addressed us upon the so-called higher politics, war, and finance. Those of us who have heard Miss Hodge to-day realise that, when women are admitted to the franchise, they will concern themselves with such questions as the reduction of the rate of infant mortality, the raising of the standard of morality, and the improvement of the physical health of the nation. Surely all these are important gains to the community."

We women may be content to call these lower politics (for what's in a name?), but we know in our hearts that the preservation of life is more to be desired than the wanton destruction of it, and that ameliorating the physical and elevating the spiritual conditions of the community is infinitely more important than the heaping up of material wealth.

January 1st, 1914.

MARGARET HODGE.

### THE NETHERLANDS.

The annual meeting of the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht took place December 20th and 21st at Rotterdam. It was a fine meeting. With great enthusiasm several resolutions were passed. The most important one was, that now our Prime Minister has stated in Parliament that he will follow the will of the people and not that of the political parties, we shall organise as soon as possible a petition with at least a hundred thousand signatures for constitutional political equality of men and women. In the meantime we hold a lot of public meetings all over the country to propagate the watchword, "Constitutional political equality of men and women," and as far as our influential political men are not yet in favour

of enfranchising all the women of Holland now already, we visit them and try to convert them.

An interview with our Prime Minister, Cort van der Linden, must be postponed, in consequence of a serious railway accident, by which he lost his eldest son, just the day before.

Our Society shall be very active during the coming year.

ALETTA H. JACOBS.

### Women's Municipal Vote in Canada.

On January 1 the citizens of Toronto voted on a referendum intended to form the basis of an appeal to the Provincial Government for the extension of the Municipal Franchise to Married Women on the same terms as it is now enjoyed by widows and spinsters. The proposal was carried by a large majority.

### Death of Danish Conservative Leader.

Suffrage prospects seem to be improved in Denmark by the death of the veteran Conservative leader, Estrup, on Christmas Eve, at the age of 88. His death leaves the balance of parties in the Upper House (Landsting) exactly even: Conservatives 32 votes, Liberals, Socialists, and Radicals 32 votes. This will still further weaken the Conservative opposition to Woman Suffrage.

### Corrections to the English Edition of "Woman Suffrage in Practice."

Several readers have kindly sent criticisms and corrections to Headquarters, from which the following list has been compiled. It is hoped that other readers will do the same, although it is not possible to adopt corrections in every case. As is inevitable where more than one language is in question, some of the criticisms indicate that the writer does not quite understand the idiom of a language which is not his own.

It is suggested that owners of the book should cut out this list of errata and fix it in. Copies of the errata slip, now being printed, will be supplied to those who have already purchased the book.

#### CORRECTIONS TO SECOND IMPRESSION.

Page	Line	
XV		For "Finland—Vote, 1907; Eligibility, 1907," read "Finland—Vote, 1906; Eligibility, 1906."
		Note: The first General Election with women voters took place in 1907.
31	25	for "Anti-Suffrage" read "Anti-Slavery."
54	8	for "1907" read "1906."
54	17	for "Michelin" read "Mechelin."
55	3	for "petition" read "bill."
55	10	for "Municipal Chamber" read "Diet."
55	18	for "unionen" read "Unionen."
55	27	for "Hayman" read "Hagman."
55	30	for "Ehrensooth" read "Ehmrooth."
56	16	for "union" read "Union."
57	2	for "1907" read "1906."
62	16	for "progress" read "view."
62	28	for "Aavid" read "Arvid."
79	Footnote	for "A seat on" read "Relief granted by."
82	42	for "28" read "25."
83	34 and 35	for "free. . . colleges" read "the opening to girls of boys' secondary schools and colleges."
109	17 and 18	for "League of German Women's Associations" read "Societies of the National Council of Women of Germany."
118	41	for "Franchise" read "Woman Franchise."
137	17	for "largest class of taxpayers" read "the class paying the highest direct taxes."
140	32	for "motion" read "committee."
140	33	for "carried" read "constituted."
140	33	for "Association of Hungarian Women's Unions" read "National Council of Women of Hungary."

#### ADDITION.

In June, 1913, the women of Illinois, U.S.A., acquired a limited franchise. They cannot vote for the members of either the State or the Federal Legislature, but they can vote for Presidential electors, for certain State, county and town

officials, and on questions submitted to a vote of the electors. The larger franchise can only be given by an alteration of the Constitution.

The following corrections have already been incorporated in the second impression, but for those who purchased the book at Budapest or before Budapest it is necessary also to note:—

Page	Line	
XI	25	for "of which 13" read "of which 11."
54—65		In every case for "Provincial Diet" read "Finnish Diet."
66		Add at end of line 18 the footnote: "In June, 1913, after the first impression of this book had been printed, the Parliamentary franchise was extended to women on the same terms as men."
111	25	for "1800" read "1860."
111	26 and 37	for "1801" read "1861."
111	45	for "Carniola" read "Carinthia."
112	23	for "Carniola" read "Carinthia."

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