

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
Societies.

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Notes and Comments.

The Council of The National Union.

By the time these lines are in the hands of our readers, the Council of the National Union will be in the midst of its session. Events of great importance have occurred since the Manchester meeting six months ago, and the whole future prospect has undergone a change. An alteration of tactics is consequently recommended by the Executive Committee, and comes up for discussion. The responsibility of the delegates, always great, is therefore, on this occasion, greater even than usual.

Upon one point of progress, amid many disappointments, members of the Union can assuredly congratulate themselves. The conspiracy of silence in the Press has broken down, and Women's Suffrage has been, since the beginning of this year, the most prominent of political questions.

Sabotage and Militancy.

The Labour Leader of February 20th contains an article by Robert Hunter upon sabotage which can hardly be read without a recollection of "militancy." "The term," says the author, "came gradually to include any action on the part of dissatisfied workmen to break the machines, spoil the produce of the machines, and render the conduct of industry unprofitable, if not actually impossible. Finally, sabotage ranged all the way from machine obstruction or destruction to dynamiting, train wrecking, and arson. . . . Sabotage is a product of despair. Turning from organised and co-operative effort, the advocates of sabotage believe that a minority of desperate and determined men can do by violence what the open efforts of democracy have failed to accomplish. Sabotage is a return to the individual methods of the anarchists."

The use of such methods should, Mr. Hunter holds, be, like insurrection, the last resort. Moreover, the legitimacy of sabotage must depend upon the lengths to which it is carried. In a slight form it may be little more than a piquant method of advertisement. But when it involves the useless expenditure of large sums of money; when it injures persons not responsible for the evil at which it is aimed; above all, when it endangers human life, it can be justified only by the existence of a tyranny which closes all avenues of peaceful agitation. Now, in this country, at the present day, it cannot be said that any such tyranny exists, and the public condemnation of recent violence rests upon the knowledge that it does not. Under such a system of government as prevails in Russia the judgment might be different.

The Candour of Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

The Irish Citizen has very usefully called attention to an article by Mr. T. P. O'Connor which appeared in the Chicago Tribune. It deals with the situation as it was just after the Speaker had given his ruling, and is full of enlightenment as to the "freedom" of the Irish vote which was promised, and as to the probabilities of how it will be cast when the private Member's Suffrage Bill comes up next Session. The following passages are worthy to be pondered attentively:—

"A movement against the acceptance of Grey's amendment started even among the Liberals, who are pledged to Woman Suffrage, and still more among the Irish. This movement was mainly inspired by the feeling that Premier Asquith is the greatest asset of the Liberal Party, and the most powerful and trustworthy friend of the Irish cause, and that any amendment which would force on him acceptance of Woman Suffrage in view of his well-known hostility would be bound to humiliate and weaken him.

"Throughout this whole crisis the situation of the Irish Party was most difficult. All parties threw on them the chief responsibility for the fate of the Bill. Even some suffragist members who were unable, through public pledges, to oppose Woman Suffrage, begged them to vote against the Bill, with a view of saving the Government and Home Rule.

"John Redmond was placed in a position of peculiar difficulty by a public pledge that every Irish member would be released by the Party and be left free to vote for or against the Bill. But Redmond, Dillon, and nearly every other member of the Party agreed in the opinion that the Women's Bill would be discrediting to the Cabinet and especially Asquith, and would imperil, if not wreck, Home Rule. Realising this danger, only four or five felt bound to support the women."

Suffragists should be greatly obliged to Mr. O'Connor for assuring the public that his party voted and was prepared to vote against Women's Suffrage without any regard to the merits of the case. Can any person suppose that the Irish members intend to alter their chosen course next time?

The Federated Council of Suffrage Societies.

A correspondent finds in the absolutely colourless note published last week about the Federated Council of Suffrage Societies some infusion of ill-will which certainly was not in the mind of its writer. The existence of an advisory council able to focus and guide the group of specialised societies—whose energies have sometimes seemed in danger of being too much scattered—can but be of advantage, if judiciously directed, to the general cause of Women's Suffrage. The National Union would, of course, welcome the establishment of such a body. If, on the other hand, the new council were to countenance methods of law-breaking and violence, its influence would, in the opinion of the Union, be harmful. The tone of the Queen's Hall meeting, to which Mrs. Dickinson Berry referred in her letter of last week, was such as to arouse serious forebodings; but the temper of an audience does not always reflect that of the persons who called it together, and we earnestly hope that the Federated Council of Suffrage Societies will prove to be a valuable ally to the constitutional forces of Women's Suffrage.

Table listing various Women's Suffrage Societies (W.S.S.) and their financial contributions in pounds, shillings, and pence.

Emergency Fund table listing names and contributions.

Correction, February 21st. Miss Earp 10s., should be Miss Earp 5s., Miss Douglal 5s.

Election Fighting Fund table listing names and contributions.

Buda Pesth Conference.

Further news has been received from Buda-Pesth setting forth some of the features of the forthcoming convention.

A reduction of fares has been secured on Hungarian Railways and on others and on steamers.

English, French and German are to be the only languages spoken at the Congress.

Among the new Associate members of the International Alliance are: Princess Catherine Dhuleep Singh, Viscountess Dillon, Lady Chance, Mrs. Harley, Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Lake, Mrs. George, Mrs. Henry Weston Eve, Miss B. A. Clough, Mrs. Zoppé, Mrs. Badcock, Miss M. Lees (Oldham) and Miss E. M. L. Atkinson.

"Public Support of Women's Suffrage."

In the article thus headed in the issue of COMMON CAUSE for February 14th, the names Scarborough Board of Guardians, and Scarborough Conservative Association should not have appeared in the lists.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

THE OLDEST LARGEST NON-PARTY NON-MILITANT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ORGANISATION.

THE GOVERNMENT'S UNFULFILLED PLEDGES.

Come and Hear the Important Announcement of Our Policy

AT THE KENSINGTON TOWN HALL (Kensington High Street),

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7th, at 8.30 p.m.

CHAIR: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

SPEAKERS: MRS. F. T. SWANWICK, M.A., MISS A. M. ROYDEN, THE EARL OF LYTTON, AND MR. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.

Tickets: Reserved Seats, 5/-, 1/-, and 6d., on application to Miss P. Strachey, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

ADMISSION FREE. A COLLECTION will be taken towards Funds for EFFECTIVELY CARRYING OUT THE POLICY.

News from the Societies and Federations.

London Society.

RECEPTION.—On February 14th, when Miss Sterling was in the chair, speeches of great importance were made by Miss Courtney and Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P.

HACKNEY (SOUTH).—On February 12th a meeting was held of this Branch of the B.W.T.A. and was addressed to Miss Charlotte Elkin, and some of the members were enrolled as "Friends."

HOXTON.—On February 10th Miss Goddard addressed the women's meeting at the Maurice Hostel Institute.

ISLINGTON.—The Branch Committee had a successful entertainment on February 13th, arranged by Mrs. Hadrill, one of the Committee.

KENSINGTON (S).—On February 13th Mrs. Arthur Savory held a successful meeting at 31, Bramham Gardens, S.W. She took the chair herself and Mrs. Rackham spoke.

MUSWELL HILL.—The second annual meeting of this Society was held at the Athenaeum on the 7th inst., when the Lady Frances Balfour presided.

MORPETH.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held on January 29th at St. James's Institute, lent by Canon Davies, the rector of Morpeth.

NORTHWOOD.—This Society held its monthly drawing-room meeting on February 11th at "Harlaw," Eastbury Avenue, by invitation of Mrs. Waterston, who took the chair.

PADDINGTON.—Mrs. Henry Fawcett presided over a crowded and enthusiastic meeting of the London Society at Paddington Town Hall on January 28th.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—This Society has had to be reorganised, the members having become very indifferent.

SUNDERLAND.—A meeting was held in the Subscription Library Hall, which was very well attended.

ROTHERHITHE.—A meeting of the B.W.T.A. was addressed by Miss M. Goddard at the Memorial Hall on February 13th.

SUTTON.—A very successful drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Martin's. The chair was taken by Mrs. Ballantyne, and Mrs. Rackham was the speaker.

The Federations.

North-Eastern.

CONSETT, BLACKHILL, AND SHOTLEY-BRIDGE.—These Societies, being all small and in a rather scattered country district, have decided to form a joint committee with one general fund, but separate officers.

DARLINGTON.—A well-attended meeting was held in the Temperance Institute, Darlington, on February 12th, when Mrs. Bonwick spoke on "Why Temperance Women Want the Vote."

HEXHAM.—At the Annual Meeting of the Hexham Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. the report submitted by the Secretary, Mrs. F. S. Walton, showed that 17 meetings had been held during the year.

MORPETH.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held on January 29th at St. James's Institute, lent by Canon Davies.

NEWCASTLE.—This Society had a most successful demonstration and meeting just after the fate of the Reform Bill was known.

PRESTON.—The North-Eastern Federation met at Ridley Place, when the chief interest of the meeting lay in hearing the Executive of the National Union after the withdrawal of the Reform Bill.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—This Society has had to be reorganised, the members having become very indifferent.

SUNDERLAND.—A meeting was held in the Subscription Library Hall, which was very well attended.

Mrs. Arthur Johnson. The Society is much indebted to the ladies who undertook the handbilling of the meeting.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—The thanks of this Society are due to Miss Bury for the active work done during the past month.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT. BACUP.—On February 12th, an invitation meeting was held in the Natural History Rooms.

BLACKBURN.—Following on the Suffrage Week organised in Blackburn by the local branch of the I.L.P. and the Women's Suffrage Society, an "At-Home" was held in the Criterion Café on February 17th.

BUXTON.—A successful meeting was held on February 11th at the Town Hall. The first annual report and balance sheet were presented and adopted.

FARNWORTH.—At the monthly meeting of the Farnworth District Council on February 3rd, the question of passing a Resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was discussed.

HASLINGDEN.—A well-attended meeting was held in the large room of Warburton's Restaurant, Deardengate, on February 13th.

KNUTSFORD.—The Hall Bank Room, Moberley, was well filled on January 23rd, when Mrs. F. T. Swanwick was chief speaker.

MACCLESFIELD AND DISTRICT.—The Macclesfield and District W.S.S. held a public meeting in the Town Hall on January 21st, which proved to be the best Suffrage meeting ever held in the town.

MANCHESTER.—On February 6th a successful whist-drive, organised by the Whalley Range Committee in aid of the funds of the Manchester Society, was held by permission of Mrs. Hiller at Oakholme, Alexandra Park.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Not exceeding 10 words: 1 insertion, 9d. 2 insertions, 1s. 3d. 3 insertions, 1s. 6d. 6 insertions, 2s. 9d. 13 insertions, 5s. 6d. Every additional ten words, 6d. extra per insertion. All payments for Advertisements should be made to The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

GOD'S WORD TO WOMEN has never been a word of disapproval and suppression. The Bible encourages the development of woman and stands for her perfect equality with man, in spite of the teachings to the contrary. Do you wish to equip yourself for meeting the arguments of those who attempt, with sacrilegious hands, to throw the Bible in the way of woman's progress? Do you wish to know WHERE and HOW they mistranslate and misrepresent it? Send 7d. (15 cents in stamps from America), for "101 Questions Answered," a Woman's Catechism, prepared purposely to solve your perplexities.—Katharine Eushnell, 10a, Drayton Park, Highbury, London, N.

TWO SUFFRAGE DIALOGUES, 3d. each. Comedy, 6d.—"S," Fordel, Glenfarg.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

BRIDLINGTON.—High School for Girls. Modern Education. Extensive Grounds. Large Staff of University Women. Boarding-house on sea-front for a limited number of boarders, under the personal supervision of the head mistress and some of the staff. For illustrated prospectus apply, Head Mistress.

COUNTRY NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOME. 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, 117 Erdington. Telegrams: "Nursing, Erdington."

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

POSITIONS VACANT.

SECRETARY Wanted (Speaker) for Suffrage Society Midland manufacturing city.—Box 1578 COMMON CAUSE Office.

WANTED, a **BUSINESS SECRETARY**. Must be trained Bookkeeper and Accountant and have had office experience. Apply in writing, marking letters "Personal," and stating qualifications, experience, salary required, and what testimonials could be given, to Miss O'Malley, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

WANTED, immediately, Assistant (lady) to learn restaurant business (waiting). Board and lodging given. No premium.—Mrs. Youngman, 4, Paulton's Square, Chelsea.

WANTED, an Organiser for the Oxford Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. Apply, stating age, qualifications, and previous experience, and enclosing testimonials, or giving references, to Mrs. Haverfield, Headington Hill, Oxford.

POSITIONS WANTED.

WINFRED WOODCOCK, M.A., seeks Secretarial work in London; 2½ years' experience in an editorial office.—Box 1604, COMMON CAUSE Office.

YOUNG LADY, good family, understands horses good rider, fluent French, Polish, Russian, English. Very fond of sport, animals, outdoor life, wants employment; ready to do anything from breaking in horses and teaching them tricks, to filling post as companion. Apply, Box 1591, COMMON CAUSE Office.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

APPROVED SUCCESS AS A MONEY RAISER. Federation or Society officers can have parcels of hand-made Indian lace, trinkets and embroideries on sale or return. Large profits easily made for your local work. A proved success in many branches.—Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, N.

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

FOR SALE.—Nice Airedale bitch puppy; age 3 months, price 30s. Mother from Major Richardson's kennels; father exceptional house and watch dog. Apply Mrs. Harold Cock, Kingsland House, Shrewsbury.

HAIR FALLING OFF.—Lady who lost nearly all hers, and has now strong, heavy growth, sends particulars to anyone enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—Miss C. C. Field, Glendower, Shanklin.

HANDKERCHIEFS FROM IRELAND!—Exceptional bargains! All-linen, fine hemstitched borders; ladies' size, 1s. 6d. half-dozen; gentlemen's, 3s. 3d.; postage, 3d. Extraordinary value! Patterns and illustrated List Free! Send post-card.—Hutton's, 159, Larne, Ireland.

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

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash. Costumes, skirts, boots, underclothing, curtains, gents' suits, trousers and children's clothing of every description. Parcels sent will be valued and value sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby St., Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TWO LADIES' BICYCLES WANTED. What offers?—Box 1601, COMMON CAUSE Office.

TO BE SOLD for benefit of London Society for Women's Suffrage, fine Engraving by Campbell after Burne-Jones, "The Goddess Fires," Pygmalion series, signed artist and engraver. What offers? Can be seen by appointment.—Miss Coxhead, 10, Riverview Gardens, Barnes, S.W. Other Engravings and Etchings.

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LACE CLEANED, MENDED, TRANSFERRED. Many testimonials; embroidery. Beatrice, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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ELECTROLYSIS, FACE MASSAGE.—Emelie Barnes, (certified), 48, George Street, Croydon.

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MERIONETH.—TO LET, small Country House several months; three sitting, seven bedrooms bathroom, inside sanitation, linen, stables, paddock large verandah, garden; South aspect; near village, and all conveniences; 25s. weekly. Servant, pony and trap by arrangement.—T., 25, Cambridge Road, Brighton.

WHERE TO LIVE.

(Town.)

HOSTEL FOR LADIES.—Central. Highly recommended. — Miss Sullivan, 50, Osnaburgh Street, Portland Road Station, W. Terms moderate. Also Comfortably Furnished Rooms, for Ladies or Gentlemen. 3, Osnaburgh Terrace. Tel.: 820 North.

HOSTEL FOR STUDENTS, Professional Women and other Ladies. Near British Museum, University College and Women's School of Medicine. Central, quiet. 9, Burton Street, Tavistock Square, W.C.

LADY Student. Comfortable home, Highgate; near Tube, 'bus, G.N.R. station, Highgate, Queen's Woods; share cheerful study with daughter; terms moderate; references exchanged.—Apply Box, 1579, COMMON CAUSE Office.

NEW GEORGIAN CLUB, Randolph Crescent, W. A quiet, comfortable, Residential Club for Women of good social status. Subscription, 1 guinea; country members, 10/6; no entrance fee to workers. Room and partial board, from 25/- weekly.—Apply, Secretary.

PRIVATE HOTEL FOR LADIES. Very quiet and refined. 13, St. George's Square, Westminster. Bedroom, breakfast, bath and attendance from 4s. 6d.—Write, or wire, Miss Davies.

WHERE TO LIVE.

(Country.)

AFTER-SANATORIUM, care for City Workers; terms 25s. to 52s. 6d. weekly.—Apply Miss Candler, Sussex House, Bishopwood Road, Highgate, N.

APARTMENTS to Let. Miss Edwards, Whitethorn, Pilmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

APARTMENTS.—Mrs. Crittall, 4, Surrey Prospect, Pilmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

BOARD-RESIDENCE, moderate terms; sunny, dry. Recommended by officials and members of Suffrage societies.—Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoraby, Aysgarth S. O., Yorks.

PAYING GUESTS received by two ladies. Charming house; every convenience; excellent cooking. Large garden, croquet lawn; lovely moorland country, bracing. Good cycling, sketching centre. Terms 30s.—Leslie Carrington, Verwood, Dorset.

THE NATIONAL UNION

Is the great Non-Party, Non-Militant Women's Suffrage Society. If you approve of our methods and objects, please fill in the accompanying Form and send it to the Secretary.

I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district.

I herewith enclose cheque postal order for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription.

Name

(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other title.)

Address

(in full.)

To the Secretary

Society for Women's Suffrage

Or the Secretary National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.