THE COMMON CAUSE, DECEMBER 26, 1915.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE THE COMMON CAUSE

OF HUMANITY.

Vol. V., No. 246.]

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1913.

[PRICE 1D. Registered as a Newspaper

LAW-ABIDING.

NON-PARTY.

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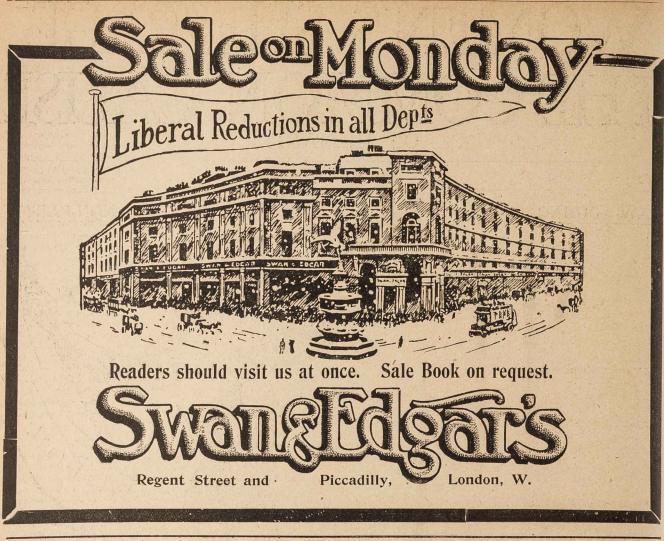
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"Stand therefore, having put on the whole armour of God:
Having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit."

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 469).

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining Votes for Women. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 45,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 469 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcrett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They use neither violence nor intimidation, but rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 720.)



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Notes and Comments.

The Albert Hall Meeting.

The Albert Hall meeting to be organised by the National Union for February 14th, will take place immediately after the opening of Parliament, which is announced for February 10th. The increasing support given by electors to the cause of Women's Suffrage, which has been noticed so often in our columns, will, is hoped, be brought prominently before the notice of the House of Commons by the presence of a large number of men at the great demonstration. We must also make the convincing form of argument which the most agile politician can hardly confute! The list of speakers now includes Lord Lytton, Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., Mr. Fenner Brockway (Editor of the abour Leader), Mrs. Creighton, and Miss A. M. Royden. Mrs. Fawcett will take the chair. The Bishop of Kensington, whose consent was conditional on other engagements, is to our very great regret unable to be present.

The Insurance Act and Deposit Contributors.

Mr. Sidney Webb calls attention in a letter to the Statesman o an anomaly in the Insurance Act as it affects deposit contri-These unhappy persons who, in any case, are in no real ense "insured" at all, but merely compelled to the exercise of thrift, since they only receive back what they have themelves paid in, are now to be deprived of the use of their own noney between October 13th, and January 12th. The Act pparently requires the Commissioners to make a deduction in nuary for the Government's expenses. The Commissioners ve elected to make it in October, and they blandly assure Mr. Vebb that what is foregone in October can be got back "in nother shape, in the ensuing year." This is singularly poor omfort for those who are ill now, who have been compelled to isure (sic) and are refused the benefit of that insurance. Mr. Webb gives the case of a labourer who is ill, and "desperately Suffragists will remember also that "deposit contribuors" include married working-women who are not employed utside their own homes.

An "Abominable" Condition of the Law.

A letter to Mr. Asquith from representatives of the great Labour organisations of women, urges the amendment of the Truck Acts, and reminds the Prime Minister that the present ondition of affairs has been described by Mr. Masterman as abominable." The Truck Acts in their application to men, as ell as women, have proved in many respects unsatisfactory ut as regards fines and deductions, the men are now practically while women are fined constantly and universally. In iew of this fact, Suffragists will not be surprised to hear that although an Under-Secretary of State has pronounced this state of things "abominable," and the Government is "fully alive to the urgency " of the case (vide Manchester Guardian, December 22nd), it is not likely to be dealt with next session, and the Prime Minister's reply only records the interesting fact that "legislation has for several years been contemplated.

Offences Against Children.

While the laws protecting children and girls from assault leave much to be desired, much may be done even now by vigorous administration. Our attention is called at intervals to reports of sentences which seem to be shamefully lenient for very serious offences; but it is exceedingly difficult to get the truth from casual newspaper reports, and we are reluctant to publish facts until careful inquiry has been made. We call on our correspondents to act on the advice given in the October Child's Guardian, which records an assault on a child of seven, for which the criminal was bound over for twelve months in the sum of £5. The Guardian goes on to say that if everyone who felt indignant at such sentences would write to the magistrate or justice responsible for it, a very strong incentive would be applied to them to enforce the law more vigorously; in the knowledge that public opinion demanded it. We earnestly advocate this course of action.

Women and Capital Punishment.

Some surprise has been expressed at the absence of comment in our columns on the case of a woman condemned to death and reprieved in order that she may first bear her child. We believe it to be a fact that in the case of women the death sentence is now hardly ever carried out, and in this particular I tion would at once become impossible.

case the judge did not assume the black cap when pronouncing sentence, from which the conclusion was very generally drawn that he did not wish to terrify with this ghastly ceremonial of death a woman on whom the sentence it symbolised would in fact not be carried out. But women, and, indeed, all Suffragists, must be quite clear what they really want and mean on a point like this. Do they disapprove of capital punishment on principle? or do they wish women to be treated more leniently than men? The latter position seems untenable to those whose demand is always for justice rather than chivalry. The former -which we approve and believe to be in consonance with the public conscience at this time—is not affected by considerations Certainly the circumstances made the outrage on human feeling more horrible; the fact that petitions can be, and are, immediately organised for the reprieve even of such a man as Dr. Crippen, seems to show that people generally regard the whole business of capital punishment as a barbarism unworthy of modern civilisation

Married Women Teachers in America.

The Woman's Journal reports the ruling of Mr. Justice Seabury in the case brought by Mrs. Peixotto against the Board of Education, which had dismissed her from her post as teacher on her applying for leave of absence to bear and rear a child. Mr. Seabury said :- "The policy of our law-favours marriage and the birth of children, and I know of no provision of our Statute law, or any principle of the common law, which justifies the inference that public policy, which concededly sanctions the employment of married women teachers, treats as grounds of expulsion the act of a married woman in giving birth to a child. . The theory that illness resulting in absence, if caused by maternity, becomes neglect of duty, is repugnant to law and

Appointment of a Woman Bailiff.

The trained nurse who was attached to the Court of Domestic Relations in Chicago, has proved so valuable that she has been taken over by the City and made a bailiff of the Municipal Court. She is the first woman bailiff to be appointed in Chicago, and doubtless the growing sense of her "value" is due to the fact that women in Illinois now have the vote. Miss Jane Addams told the delegates at Buda-Pesth how much the Chicago Children's Court had suffered when, after having been built up by women, it was taken over by the City, and the women practically turned out. "One man especially," she said, "did a lot of harm, because he disliked having the women fussing about." This was before the women had even the municipal vote. Now they have it they are no longer accused of "fussing about," and have become "valuable assets."

The Use and Abuses of Nurses' Uniforms.

In the case recently tried, of a disorderly house run under the guise of a massage establishment, evidence was given of the presence of a woman "dressed in the garb of a nurse to receive visitors." Mr. Paul Taylor spoke of this as "an intolerable outrage" on the "hard-working and honourable women who were making their living by the occupation of a nurse." expressed the hope that such an abuse of a nurse's uniform might be made a criminal offence. The fact that the profession of nursing is not protected in any way on points like these, is a scandal which no body of men would have been called upon to endure, and we notice that where women have the vote, they also have demanded protection.

A Hostel for Domestic Servants.

We have pleasure in publishing elsewhere a brief account of the Hostel for Domestic Servants which was started rather more than a year ago, in Chelsea, to facilitate a form of rescuework, by which the mother is enabled to keep her child with her. It has always seemed to us the most extraordinary conception of rescue "to help a woman to escape from one kind of sin by means which involved what was practically the abandonment of the child she had brought into the world. Obviously, the course taken by the founders of the new Hostel is a more difficult one, but it seems to us the only one worth trying. Some criticism has been brought against the scheme because it is admittedly adapted to one special class. It should be remembered that in no work is classification more urgently needed than in this, and it is not reasonable to complain that those who have realised this need do not attempt to take every kind of case. If they did, classifica-

WASTE OF CHILD LIFE. 50,000 Lives Sacrificed Every Year.

Speaking on December 9th, at the University of London, on the health of women and children in New Zealand, Dr. F. Truby King, one of the New Zealand representatives at the recent Medical Congress, stated that the infantile mortality rate for the last three years in London had been slightly over 11 per cent.

Comparing the London of to-day with the London of twenty years ago, what struck one most was the amazing improvement in general sanitation, especially in the slum areas. The earlier notification of births and schools for mothers had contributed to this improvement. Still,

and schools for mothers had contributed to this improvement. Still, 50,000 lives a year were sacrificed.

"In educating and helping mothers in England most help was nearly always directed towards the submerged fourth of the population. The Plunkett Society, started in New Zealand to promote the health of women and children, began with the more cultured people, and worked down the social scale. There were now seventy branches of the Society, covering the whole extent of one thousand miles. There were forty nurses who went about the country helping the ignorant mothers, and there was no woman whatever in New Zealand left without a nurse during the babyhood of her children. If we adopted some such system as that of Lady Plunket, we could (he said), in six years, reduce our infantile mortality by one-third."

SOUTH LONDON HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN. Professional and Business Women's League.

The scheme for starting a Hospital for Women in South London, to be officered by medical women, has already been dealt with in The Common Cause. It will be remembered that a special feature of this hospital will be the provision of private wards for women of small means. A League of Professional and Business Women has been formed, with the object :-

1. To endow or support one or more beds in the private wards for the e of its members who would, in consequence of this endowment, be abled to obtain private treatment either free or at a reduction suitable

. To help the Hospital in other ways where possible. The League

will consist of:

(a) Members, who will pay a minimum subscription of 2s. 6d.

(b) Associates, who, although they will not benefit, are interested in the scheme and willing to subscribe to the League.

(The minimum subscription has been made exceptionally low in order that it may be possible for all classes of workers to join, but it is hoped that those earning good salaries will respond more generously.)

Cheques and postal orders should be crossed, and made out in the name of Miss Mildred Ransom, Bank Chambers, 195 and 197, Edgware Road, W. Subscriptions may also be sent through Miss Courtney, at the offices of the National Union, 14, Great Smith Street.

OCCUPATIONS OF WOMEN. Interesting Census Returns.

A Blue-book, issued on December 17th, in connection with the Census, gives some interesting particulars as to the occupations in which women are engaged. There are, in England and Wales, 4,830,734 females returned as engaged in money-earning occupations, as compared with 11,453,665 males. Of these 680,191 are wives, 411,011 are widows, and 3,739,532 unmarried. Domestic service is still the main wage-earning occupation for women, employing 1,345,358; while mine and quarry working—the biggest class for the male workers—employs 1,010,834. In the following professions women outnumber

1	:					
•				Women.		Men.
	Bakers, &c. (dealers)	***		66,242		43,691
	Bookbinders	***		18,449		12,960
	Button makers			4,332		1,367
	Cartridge and firework	makers		3,784		2,934
	Cardboard box makers			26,501		4,068
	Celluloid makers			1,009		1,008
	Chocolate makers			12,508		5,368
	Corset makers			13,349		1,580
	Cooks (not domestics)			13,538		10,336
	Dressmakers			339,240		2,815
	Envelope makers			3,316		515
	Flower makers			3,977		614
	Glove makers	***		8,072		2,967
	Hospital service	***		41,639		17,394
	Indoor domestics	•••		1,345,358		54,260
	Jam and sweet makers			20,058		9,332
	Laundry workers			167,052		12,464
	Lodging-house keepers	***		91,352		25,115
	Match-box makers	***		1,957		743
	Milliners			66,578		984
	Needle and pin makers			3,094		2,130
	Nurses			83,662		1,237
	Paper bag makers	13.00		5,286		583
	Rag dealers			5,058		4,373
	Shirt makers			80,338		5,046
	Steel pen makers			4,088	4.4	454
	Straw hat makers			9,714		4,149
	Tailors	***		127,115		122,352
	Teachers			187,283		76,428
	Textile workers	***		642,041		400,474
	Tobacco makers		***	19,312		7,886
	Waiters (not domestics)	7000		27,490		23,054

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

DENMARK, SWEDEN, NORWAY.

In THE COMMON CAUSE (October 10th) we reported that a new Marriage Bill will be introduced into the Sessions of the respective Parliaments of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, by the United Parliamentary Committee of these three countri

We learn from an article by a woman barrister in Kvinden og Samfundet (Woman and the Community), that a Conference was held in 1909 by delegates of these three countries for discussing the feasibility of international legislation on questions relating to domestic life. The work began in 1910, and the report of the Danish Commissioners is now ready. The Marriage Bill appears to be an outcome of this Conference. It was fully conceded by the Commissioners that women's opinions should be heard upon these questions, and although there were no women delegates present, the questions were put before the Danish Women's Union, which has given a general assent to the opinions expressed.

A meeting will be held in Copenhagen in 1914, and women delegates will be sent from Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Finland. They will probably discuss questions relating to Family Rights.

Anti-Suffrage Methods.

Last week we reported the circulation of "opinion lists" among the women of Sweden to enable them to give free expression to their desire for equal suffrage. The Anti-suffragists, immediately perceiving danger to their cause, have organised a counter-movement of a very offensive kind. Through an influential Conservative Union, they have sent out a petition praying that strong measures be taken for the defence of the country and against women's suffrage. Röstratt för Kvinnor enters a vigorous protest against the bracketing of these two questions together, and also against the secrecy observed by the Antisuffragists as to resolutions which they have been passing in the

The Swedish Parliament begins its new session on January

FRANCE.

M. Anatole France, asked by a representative of the delegates will be sent from Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Finland. Women's Suffrage, said :-

"I am in favour of it in principle, even though in practice it may ult—in France, at any rate—in a strong reactionary vote. The Tam in favour of it in principle, even though in practice it may result—in France, at any rate—in a strong reactionary vote. The objection that the most typically feminine woman does not want it appears to me to fall to the ground, if there is a more masculine kind of woman who does want it. After all, the more feminine women need not use the vote. It is a corollary of one's liberty to do a thing that one also possesses the liberty not to do it."

The French Academy of Moral and Political Science included in its syllabus for 1912, a study of Women's Suffrage, awarding a prize of 2,000 francs, which has now been presented by the President. In his speech he justified the Academy in its choice of so controversial a subject, and stated that out of eleven students, two were hostile, three inclined to hostility, six favourable to Women's Suffrage, and that the prize had been divided between a Suffragist and an Anti-suffragist. He thought the effect of the competition had been to elucidate the subject.

Minimum Wage for Home Workers.

A Bill to establish a minimum wage for women home workers passed the French Chamber on November 13th, but has yet to pass the Senate. La Française says of it, "Not only will it improve the condition of the most unhappy class of workers, but it introduces into our code and into our social life new principles which are capable of further development." As it stands, the Bill affects only women clothiers working at home, including all branches of the industries du vêtement, even hat making and artificial flower making. The law will be administered through local "Councils of Work," upon which both employers and employed are to be represented. Such Councils were instituted several years ago by the French Government, but no functions have yet been bestowed upon them. "They are instituted, but have no existence," says La Française. It is thought that the new powers and duties imposed on these bodies will enable them to become a means of social progress. A campaign has been organised by French feminists to bring pressure to bear upon the Senate in hopes of inducing them to pass the Bill into law.

ITALY.

A correspondent informs us that the Congress for Women's Suffrage held in Rome, closed on December 8th. It was attended by several members of Parliament and representatives of the following political parties: Radical, Republican, Constiway. But satire is never divine, and scorn is never Christian. Carlyle took upon himself to deliver God's judgments; but, after all, one recognised under the fierceness of the invective the rawness of an outraged love, and the fury of a most humanhearted pity. This saved him. No one can safely stand idly outside that which is denounced and pronounce judgment upon it. Judgment can only be delivered from within, Love must have passed over inside the very life of the sin, if it is to condemn Human nature retains its claim upon us, however deeply it sins against itself. Still, all our misery over it, our indignation with it, our defiance of it, are the measure of our belief in it It need not be what it is; nor will it for ever do the things that it now does. It has got to be won. It deserves to be It is our own. We must feel the deep unity that underlies our severance. Otherwise the uttermost passion of sacrificial dedication to the cause of truth and righteousness is unavailing It may be well, in our present hour of storm and stress, to recall

Though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

The Unmarried Mother and Her Child.

[In this and following weeks, articles on the better care and protection of child-life will appear in THE COMMON CAUSE. We leave the writers perfectly free to expound facts and suggest remedies, but in no case does the N.U.W.S.S. take responsibility for the views set forward in signed articles. Our object is to provide a platform for free discussion.]

There are signs of increasing dissatisfaction with the methods which for the last fifty or sixty years have prevailed in England in dealing with the unmarried mother and her child. These methods may roughly be divided under two heads; those founded on wrong principles, and those founded on no principles.

The founders of the large penitentiaries appear to have considered that what they termed "loss of virtue" was the greatest sin (murder perhaps excepted), which a woman could commit They believed penitence to be the first need of such a woman and they considered that a spirit of penitence would be promoted by separating her from the baby she had no business to possess, nd making her thoroughly uncomfortable by incarcerating her for two or three years, and employing her during that time with laundry work, which most girls dislike, varied by long hours of silence and the consumption of unpleasant food. As time went on, a feeling arose in favour of less drastic methods; but it was a matter of feeling rather than of principle, and those who started short-time Maternity Homes adopted, as far as their kinder hearts would allow them, many of the rules and customs of penitentiaries-most particularly the laundry work-which, for some inscrutable reason, seems to be considered an essential in the promotion of penitence.

Timidly, those responsible for Maternity Homes began to allow young mothers to keep their children with them for a few months after their birth, and this is now the general rule in such institutions, though there are still Homes, supported by charitable contributions, that separate mother and baby when the latter is ten or twelve days old. At first sight this seems far more shocking than a separation when the child is a few months old. But in all probability the sooner they are separated, if separation is inevitable, the less anguish the mother suffers. In any case, in either a few days or a few months the child is boarded out, and the mother returns to ordinary service.

It would seem that the evils of this system hardly needed to be dilated upon; the fact that the death-rate amongst illegitimate children doubles that of legitimate children, would seem to speak for itself. Yet, in a recent number of The Common Cause the following may be found :-The baby, entirely removed from it's mother's care, is placed in a foster-home. . . . Despite the separation involved this would appear to be the more satisfactory course for the child as well as the mother." Surely, to all enlightened women, it must be apparent that to separate mother and child is a crime, which can never under any circumstances be either more or less satisfactory.

A scheme of rescue work has been started, founded on the principle that mother and child must not be separated at all. It was apparent that in order to carry this out on a large scale some means must be found to enable the mothers to earn a livelihood, whilst living with their children. Starting on these principles, a Hostel has been opened in Chelsea where unmarried mothers, who have previously been domestic servants of good character, can live with their children, and go out as daywas an experiment; it has now been in existence nearly two years, and it has succeeded beyond the utmost expectations of its founders. The girls come to the Hostel immediately after confinement; they do not go out as servants until after their children are weaned; they lead absolutely natural lives; they take the children out for walks; in their times off, those who have homes near can go to see their friends. They are trusted absolutely, and they respond, and fully justify the trust.

This Hostel will probably become self-supporting in the course of 1915; it is then hoped to start other Hostels, not only in other parts of London, but also in the provinces. If this movement spreads, as it is believed it will spread, its promoters hope that it may be an important factor in solving the social problem. It is "first cases," driven to despair by inhuman treatment, which constantly replenish the ranks of the unfortunates." It has been estimated that 90 per cent. of the girls in Piccadilly go there, in the first instance, in order to obtain money to support a child. If a mother with a first child can obtain a living by decent means, she will be only too thankful. Very few of them are attracted by vice in the first instance. True, what they have heard of the penitentiaries makes them a little suspicious of anything called a Home; they ask: "Shall I be shut up?" But, satisfied by the information that if she comes to the Hostel she can run away at any minute without the least difficulty, she comes; and not one girl has run away

Those who are promoting this reform in rescue work appeal to all readers of The Common Cause to help them, by making the Hostel as widely known as possible, that in time the founding of similar institutions in all parts of England may make the horrible cruelty of separating mothers and children a thing

S. M. KINGSFORD. (For information concerning the Day-Servants' Hostel, apply to Miss Kingsford, 5, Doneraile Street, Fulham.)

Christmas Eve in a Camp School.

"Nature never did betray the heart that loved her."

Adeline sat in the camp-pavilion on Christmas Eve, and looked out at the camp garden-plot. (The real garden was not far away beyond the whitewashed fence, but Adeline could not see it.) Though it was only half-past three, the sun was in the West, and the soft grey clouds had a warm flush on them, as if they knew there was going to be a great crimson sunset. The bare alders and beech trees, with their dark branches, stood out against the soft, bright winter sky, making a kind of lattice-work screen behind the cheerful whitewashed fence. The open pavilion was very still, for all the children were away -all but Adeline.

How quiet the world was. Nothing stirred in it. Adeline was knitting a woollen helmet, but she let her wool and needles fall, that she might listen to the strange silence of the winter day. All around there were houses, and on one side the houses were very tall. They stood as if asleep. "I wonder," thought Adeline, "how I came to be here. Why am I knitting in a very quiet, open house, with no door, on Christmas Eve? Last year, for example, I sat at the fireside, and thought of the poor, how they shiver in the bitter cold, and go hungry and sad to bed, and how this has gone on for many Christmases, for many years, and hundreds of years. And was glad to have a home, and to sit by a roaring fire, and to lie down at night in a cosy room after my good Christmas Eve dinner. And I went to church next day, and prayed, and then we had roast beef, pudding, and a party-all indoors. And the poor were—outside. Now I am outside," went on Adeline, thinking, "and very happy.

Presently, from behind her, came a soft, lulling, musical voice, a voice that made her wish to sleep, and also to listen, spoke at last, from out of a dream atmosphere into which Adeline had slipped.

'Come to think of it," said the Voice, "the Christmas story is an outdoor story-mostly. It has got all spoiled by being taken into stuffy rooms, with blazing fires! Just listen, my dear: 'There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.' No indoor air here. The shepherds were out all night-like us at Deptford. And the heavens opened and let a new glory shine down on the servants in the immediate neighbourhood. This first Hostel | emerald fields. And the angel-hosts came from their wider

splendour and told the earth-dwellers not to be afraid. And then the shepherds set forth on a night journey to find the shelter of the King of Angels. The stars were over them, and a great star shone like a moving jewel in the East. And when they came to Bethlehem they did not enter a house, for all the little burrows and dens of men had been closed, and the Son of Man was lying in a manger, among the straw, with the cattle round him. "I think," the Voice continued, musingly, "that the glory of the night sky got into the poor shelter, and that the Rose of Dawn found him, and mingled its perfume with that of the King's frankincense and myrrh. Do not grieve, Adeline, that you are having an outdoor Christmas. Believe me, you will learn something out here, in the campgarden, that you would not learn indoors.

I think," said Adeline, softly, "that I will go into the outer garden. There I can see the sky better. But don't leave me please, Christmas stranger. Let us go together."
And she got up and let her knitting fall on the floor.

The sun was setting when she arrived in the outer garden. Behind the high, thin branches of the big trees, the crimson fire of sunset blazed, and in the East there was already a great stillness. Adeline walked between the empty flower-beds, and past the high aviary, and the little conservatory, and the dark ugly stretch of wall beyond. It seemed as if the west was very angry, very violent, and was also going to be conquered very For the blazing sun sank like a ball behind the horizon and the crimson fires burned down almost at once. And soon, indeed, there was only a faint red glow where the royal sun had

It was chill, then, in the garden, but Adeline did not feel cold. In her healthy, wind-and-sun-kissed body the rivers of life ran full and fast. She put back her heavy dark hair, and turned with eager, searching eyes to the wonderful East. There, to be sure, shone a golden star. So fair, so stilly bright it shone alone in a vast field of blue. And gazing on it, Adeline heard the Dream-Voice again. But now it was singing. Soft and pure and unutterably sweet, it stole around her. It seemed to bear her heart up as if on wings. "Glory to God in the highest," it sang, pouring at last like rain from the wide sky, and filling the earth with its sweetness, "and on Earth Peacegoodwill toward men.

Near the bare wall was a group of lilac bushes. They were green, and green, too, was the privet-hedge beyond them flanked with two young fir trees. The narrow paths showed clear in the soft light, and the bare gardens, too, looked as if they were full of seeds ready to spring. "These shepherds must have been gentle people," thought Adeline. "The sheep loved There were hardly any flowers (the Camp-School was not very rich). She walked down the path near the wall, thinking, thinking. There were many little graves there, for the children had begun to keep pets. But they did not love their pets yet. So they neglected them, and even allowed them to die of hunger. And over one poor kitten some boys had put up a stone and written a mocking epitaph. The City boys who live in close little homes, packed together, and who see sheep only when they are going to be slaughtered, are not so gentle yet as were the shepherds of Palestine.

'Dear Dream-Voice, tell me," whispered Adeline, "tell me, can we ever see the Angels come down again on the fields of

But the Dream-Voice was sighing over the greenfinch's ave. Beyond the graves with their ungentle epitaphs there was a little rockery, with tiny plants struggling to live among the stones. The plot of winter vegetables looked pinched and vellowed, but the garden was all in order, and a kind hand had built the little wooden arch and set the cheerful evergreens in long rows like a gentle army drawn up to shield the young things yet

"There is a good deal of kindness here as well as cruelty," said the Voice. "The cruelty came out of the stuffy houses and the slaughter-houses.'

Where did the kindness come from?" asked Adeline.

There are questions, however, that Dream-Voices do not answer. Adeline walked past the old shed in the garden near the gateway. There was a heap of shavings on the floor, and on the table lay a box with very uneven sides, and a most unaccommodating lid. The starlight fell on the new tools and on the faulty work, and on the heap of shavings, and Adeline thought of another tool-shop where the King of Love had worked as a carpenter. She wondered how that shop had looked, and if it was open on one side to the air and sun, and if one could see the sky as one stood at the bench. "Yes, I am sure the air entered there freely, and the perfume of flowers wandered in and mingled with the scent of the wood," thought Adeline. "Dear me, what an open-air Christmas I am having,"

her thoughts rippled on, "all starlight, and cool air, and Dream-Voices. But I must go back now to the night pavilion.'

It was quite a merry place now, for fifty boys and girls, all outdoor sleepers, were gathered there under the brightly lighted roof. A reddish glow fell from the pavilion over the grass plot. The children were setting the tables for supper. There was a very low table in the middle for the little children, and tiny chairs were set about it. And while some of the boys and girls were setting tables, others played in a wide space near the bath-house, and one ran out on the green plot and looked up at the starry sky and laughed.

'Christmas Eve!'' she cried. "What a pretty Christmas

Eve. All the stars are coming out."

"What a pity we can't have our Christmas tree out of doors," cried a tall boy. "Why should it be dug out of the earth and die, and be put in a garret afterwards, as it is in Andersen's Christmas Tree story; I'd like to dress an outdoor

'Suppose we do dress one!" cried Adeline, coming up.

'There is a nice little group of firs in the outer garden.''
But the children, excited by the thought of the indoor tree with its glittering presents, which was now in the big hall of a mission house, did not welcome this proposal.

'Where shall I hang up my stockings? On the fir trees? Or on the the bare gooseberry bushes? But will Santa Claus find them there?

Of course, he will find them," cried the teacher, merrily. He comes over the ice-kingdoms and down through the blue, light-air, and he's tired of getting into smoky chimneys and through closed windows, I'll be bound. Why, his white beard is covered with grime, I shouldn't wonder, before he reaches all the indoor children.

"I'll run out to meet him in the morning. We must see him here, when he comes. He can't hide," laughed Louie Gold-

'Come, come; supper-time,' cried the teacher, and they all gathered round the tables.

Listen, I will tell you a story," said the teacher, as they "There was once a wise little woman who was not afraid of the winter.'

'That's me," said Louie Goldlocks, modestly.

She had scarlet clothes—

"Like us," whispered a chorus of voices.)

Scarlet flannel, I suppose, and she welcomed the snow."

'Yes! yes!" cried the chorus, a little louder.

'She loved the snow, and the starlight, and the night as well as the day. And the Summer loved her, and also the Winter. Well, the Winter gave her a lovely present—a white, white pearl, very soft and glowing. That's the whole story. He gave her the pearl because she was not afraid of him."

The children sat quiet, wondering. And then Adeline said, very softly. "What a pity it is to be afraid of anything. The Shepherds were afraid of an Angel.'

The children all looked at one another, but they did not understand Adeline very well. After supper they all went into the outer garden and sang the Christmas hymn.

An hour later they were all asleep in the tent. The night wind stole in and kissed the young faces and stirred the soft hair (for they had not all got woollen helmets yet). And the stars looked in on them, crowding out in glittering hosts and filling the great blue oceans of space, singing their unending song. And Adeline heard a voice through all the music, and it

MARGARET MCMILLAN.

THE COMMON CAUSE CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

We have received a number of orders for The Common Cause Christmas number, and have still some copies left, as we printed a very large edition. Will those who want extra copies kindly let us know at once; also will those who want copies of the Special Supplement order them also from this office.

Street Selling.
Societies which have begun selling The Common Cause in the street during our campaign month, report excellent results. Many people who have never sold before find that the work is not nearly so difficult as they had imagined, and are going on now that they have made a start. As some are still afraid that this particular kind of work is not suitable for beginners, we take this opportunity to say that sellers report no difficulties whatever, and say that people are uniformly courteous to them, even if indifferent!

DECEMBER 26, 1913.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries:
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. Leaf (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature). Secretary: MISS CROOKENDEN. Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W. Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

The Office will be closed until Tuesday, December 30th.

One new Society, Midhurst, has joined the Union, making 469 Societies in all.

Albert Hall Demonstration, Saturday, February 14th.

Tickets can be obtained by members of the National Union, for themselves and their friends, at the following rates:

Excepting for the boxes, tickets from 2s. 6d. upwards will be charged half-price to Secretaries of the National Union Societies and Federations for the use of persons living at a distance from the London area only.

Ten per cent. will be allowed off the price of ten tickets and upwards paid for at one time, but this discount will not be given on tickets sold at half-price.

Order early to secure good seats.

All communications on the subject of tickets should be addressed to The Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

Seats are being reserved for delegates from Men's Organisations, and for individual men who accept the invitation from the National Union to attend as demonstrators.

Press Report.

It is satisfactory to have to report on the increased friendliness of the Daily Telegraph, and the greater prominence and space which is being given to Suffrage news in that paper. A ong letter from the National Union, dealing with the evidences of support in the country, appeared on December 11th, and a good report of the Suffrage Conference at Dublin was inserted on December 17th. We hope, later, some articles will be pubished in connection with the Education Campaign. The Daily Chronicle has already published two articles in connection with our special series, and these appeared on December 10th and 13th respectively.

An important letter from Miss Alice Clark, replying to Mr. Mitchell Innes' communication to the Press on Women's Suffrage and By-elections has been very well inserted in the Provincial Press, although not as widely as we could have wished in the London papers.

It is also satisfactory to note that both the Perthshire Courier and the Southampton Times give much regular space to Suffrage news, and that the Church papers are becoming increasingly

Once again we have to complain of the unfair attitude of the Times, which, as was mentioned in last week's issue, omitted to publish a contradiction of the erroneous statement which appeared in its columns to the effect that the authorities of St. Andrew's University had forbidden the use of their Hall for next Summer's National Union Suffrage School.
From the West Lancashire and West Cheshire Federation

comes the news that the Anti-suffrage papers in that area have been reduced to two. We also notice that our Article Fund has been very successful in this Federation, the last article of the series being by Mr. William de Morgan.

THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT.

We are glad to hear that the printed report of speeches made at the Queen's Hall meeting last year has been re-issued, in response at the Queen's Hall meeting last year has been re-issued, in response to continuous and widespread demand. It can be had now at 6d. from the Secretary, Collegium House, 22, St. George's Square, London, S.W., or from the National Union Office. The speeches are by the Bishop of Oxford, Rev. W. Temple, Rev. Scott Lidgett, Mrs. Creighton Dr. Willoughby, Miss A. Maude Royden, and others.

Notes from Headquarters. THE BURBERRY

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REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

We regret to have to inform THE COMMON CAUSE correspondents that the plan of having a monthly supplement for reports of meetings cannot at present be put into practice. Many of those who wished for it expressed the opinion that it should not be done if it proved expensive. It would be a very considerable expense, and therefore, we do not yet feel justified in undertaking it. On the other hand, we are publishing, almost every week, a larger paper than was at one time possible, and we therefore hope to be able at least to keep the reports up-to-date.

SECRETARIES AND CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE NOTE!

The following are the dates on which the reports of the various Federations are due to appear in the "C.C." They should be sent to the Sub-Editor, The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, not later than the Monday morning previous to the date of issue. It is urgently requested that reports shall only be sent through the "C.C." correspondents, whose names and addresses are printed

Leriday in the Month:—
London Society: Correspondent, Miss Ward, London Society, 58,
Victoria Street, S.W.
Manchester and District Federation: Mrs. J. E. Tomlinson,
Byefield, Knutsford, Cheshire.
South-Western: Miss M. Slater, 23, Lisson Grove, Plymouth.
East Midland: Miss E. J. Sloane, M.A., 13, Welford Road,
Leicester

South Wales and Monmouth: Dr. Evie Evans, 23, Dumfries Place,

Second Friday:-North-Western Federation: Miss A. Graham, 9, Vicarage Terrace,

Kendal.
West Midland: Mrs. Harley, Condover House, near Shrewsbury.
Surrey, Sussex, and Hants: Miss J. W. Powell, Munstead Rough,
Godalming, Surrey.
Scottish: Miss Latta, 2, St. Andrew's Square, Edinburgh.
Bournemouth Society: Miss Kemp Turner, Calluna, 4, Westcliff
Road, Bournemouth.

Road, Bournemouth.

Third Friday:—
London Society: Correspondent, Miss Ward, London Society, 58,
Victoria Street, S.W.
North and East Riding of Yorkshire Federation: Mrs. A. M.
Daniel, 14, Royal Crescent, Scarborough.

West Lancs., West Cheshire, and North Wales: Miss E. F.
McPherson, 16, Newland Drive, Liscard, Cheshire.
Oxford, Bucks., and Berks.: Miss L. C. Jones, Jesmond Hill,
Pangbourne, Berks.

North-Eastern Federation: Dr. Mabel Campbell, 2, Graingerville,

South, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Kentish: Pro tem., Miss Mosely, 60, York Road, Tunbridge Wells.
West of England: Miss J. Baretti, 49, Royal York Crescent, Clifton,

Bristol.
Eastern Counties: Miss E. Place, 24, Quilter Road, Felixstowe.
West Riding of Yorks.: Mrs. H. F. Hall, Oaklands, Collegiate
Crescent, Sheffield.

A NEW SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

A "Service League of Workers for Women's Suffrage," with the Lady St. Davids as President, has been formed. Its object is to form trained bands of women, who will not only work for Suffrage by organising meetings, but will study the civic duties and rights of women, and also undertake some organised service for the benefit of the community-such as visiting the sick, and working to improve the general conditions of the poor. During elections, members will only support such candidates as are pledged to vote for Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons, and every effort will be made to secure such pledges from members and candidates.

Full particulars of the League can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Archibald Swan, 36, Buckingham Gate, S.W.

THE STEAD MEMORIAL FUN

Further sums received :-

Miss Greg	. 5	0
An Admirer	. 5	0
The Misses Barker		
Miss Margaret C. Crosfield	. 10	0
Perth. Bridge of Earn and Scone W.S.S., pe	r	
Mrs. Slater	1 18	6
Members of the Wakefield Suffrage Society :-		
Miss Beaumont		0
Miss Eaton	. 1	0
The Misses Spencer	. I	0

Mrs. Hindmarsh . Contributions may be sent to Miss A. Maude Royden, 111, Bedford Court Mansions, W.C.

News from the Societies and Federations.

London.

BARNES, MORTLAKE, AND EAST SHEEN.—A most successful At Home was held at the Drummond Hall, Barnes, on December 5th, at which Mrs. Jorbett Ashby, President, presided. Miss I. O. Ford was secured as speaker, and her interesting and numorous speech received prolonged applause. It welve new members joined the local branch, and several "Friends" were obtained. Two dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

Our thanks are due to Miss Coxhead, Miss Attwell, for and Mrs. Clark, and Miss Withy, who by prelimnary work and valuable assistance during the syening did so much to make the gathering a nuccess.

AMBERWELL.—November 28th—Open-air meeting ove Lane—Speakers, Miss Gloyer, Miss Walshe, I Miss Green—ten "Friends"—five copies of The

SSHER. — Shangton, Claygate — November 27th, b.m.—Drawing-room meeting Host and hostess, and Mrs. Pike—Chair, Miss M. Martineau— cakers, Miss J. Thomson and Mrs. Beatty. Sixty-en present An interested and sympathetic lience.

ULHAM.—Mrs. Mackinley Burton's meeting on ember 9th was addressed by Mrs. Rawlings on illd Life and Women's Suffrage." The Reverend H. Birlgn occupied the Chair. One member and "Friends" gained.

TH HACKNEY.—On December 11th, Miss rt-Ware lectured on "Pioneers of Education," est Hackney Lecture Hall—Chair, C. W. Hole, Ex-President of the N.U. of Teachers. The ss was well illustrated by limelight pictures much appreciated. The COMMON CAUSE sold The North Hackney Branch ordered 14t copies. HE COMMON CAUSE week and disposed of practicall.

NTRAL AND SOUTH HACKNEY.—December—Drawing-room meeting, 24, Lower Clapton I. Hostess, Mrs. Fisher—Speaker, Missentina Black—Chair, Lady Spicer

AMMERSMITH—The Shepherd's Bush Branch the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and ers passed a resolution in favour of Women's rage and also asked for speakers to address m. Mrs. Stanbury spoke on November 24th, she ived a good welcome. Twenty-five "Friends" is were signed and ten copies of The COMMON as sold.

Ward.
National Union of Clerks (Shepherd's Bush
a) have passed a resolution inviting a speaker,
embers' meeting was held on yember 27th
Rowan Road, Brook Green by kind permission
ss F. R. Gray, Mrs. Garrett Jones gave an
ss, Mrs. Webb presided.

HOXTON.—Meeting of the W.L.A. at 69. Pitfield eet. Speaker, Miss Rinder. Seven "Friends" rolled. Miss Rinder was asked to address the L.A. again on February 2nd, and members of the dience volunteered to work up a big meeting.

some jectures.

ROCHESTER.—November 27th—A pleasant social evening and reports much interest sed.

ROCHESTER.—November 27th—A pleasant social evening was spent at the "Olde Tea Shope," forty-one members present. Mrs. Cowmeadow and Missanton Street, November 28th, by kind permission fris Hogg. Good attendance—Chair, Mrs. Rendel local Committee was elected and a report of the r's work read. An address was given by Mrs. allton on "Women's Work and Wages."

At the result of entrance fees and a French little balance made.

December 4th—Mrs. Maxfield entertained a small number of members. Two very interesting papers were read. Eleven members have volunteered to distribute leaflets regularly; and five wish to form a study Circle. At a Committee meeting held on the same date an account was given of Mrs. Cow-

LAMBETH.—Miss M Goddard addressed a meeting of nurses at the Maternity Hospital, York Road, on December 7th. After an excellent discussion many "Friends" and one member joined the Society.

SOUTH PADDINGTON.—Meeting at the Town Hall, November 27th.—Chair, Mrs. Albert Dykes Spicer—Speakers, Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Sheepshanks. Votes of thanks proposed and seconded to Speakers by Councillor Mackenzie and Mrs. Spencer Graves, to Chairman by Mr Leonard Franklin and Mr. Buchanan. Many questions asked—Thirty-seven copies of The Common Cause sold—Eleven "Friends" made—Collection 15s. 8d. Local reporters attended. The resolution was carried with four dissentients.

SOUTH ST. PANCRAS.—A very successful and well-attended meeting was given by kind permission of Mrs. Ricardo at 13, Bedford Square on December Hth. The Reverend A. W. Allen in the Chair—Speaker, Miss Ruth Young—Twenty-three "Friends" and three members enrolled—Two dozen copies of The Common Cause sold.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE.—Miss Ruth Young addressed a meeting of St. Michael's Club by Invitation of the Vicar. There was a good dis-cussion.

WALTHAMSTOW.—At the meeting, already reported, on November 21st, 218 "Friends" were enrolled, and 211 copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold. Collection £2 0s. 1d.

WIMBLEDON.—On December 3rd, a Drawing-room Meeting took place at Cambisgate, Church Road, by kind permission of Mrs. Henderson. Mr. Schwann was in the chair, and Mrs. Hamilton gave a very interesting address on "Women's Work and Wages." There were on view some exhibits lent for the meeting by the National Anti-Sweating League.

The Study Circle, which meets every week at 3. The Green, has had "Infant wortality" for its subject for the last three weeks. The subject has been discussed in its local as well as its national aspect.

Kentish Federation.

The bi-monthly Committee meeting was held on December 10th, at the N.U. Offices, 14, Gt. Smith Street, S.W. Mrs. Percy Thompson (Sevenoaks) in the Chair. Delegates were present from Canterbury, Deal and Walmer, Faversham, Herne Bay, Rochester, Sevenoaks, Shoreham and Otford, Sittingbourne, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells The resignations of the Hon Sec, and the Hon. Press Sec. were received with regret. Miss G. E. Mosely (Tunbridge Wells) was appointed Hon, Sec.

CANTERBURY.—A very successful public meeting was held in November. Chair, Mr. Glanville—Speakers, Mrs. Nott Bower and Mr. Malcom Mitchell December 5th—A members' meeting was held when it was decided to have monthly meetings for members and "Friends." also an Exhibition of Women Workers' Sweated Industries in February.

DEAL AND WALMER.—During THE COMMON CAUSE Campaign week recently held, this branch disposed of twelve dozen copies in its four districts.

FAVERSHAM.—December 3rd—A good meeting took place at the Minor Hall. Speakers, Mrs. Rackham and Rev. Claud Hinscliffe—Chair, Miss Griffith-Jones.

MARGATE.—Posters of various kinds are kept in conspicuous positions in the town Three different newsagents display The Common Cause posters. The paper is left at the two Conservative, and at one of the Liberal Clubs. A weekly letter on Suffrage matters is sent to the principal local newspaper. An application for a license to sell The Common Cause in Margate-streets was made and refused. Miss Violet Harris, Asst. Organiser, has been at work here for a few days.

RAMSGATE.—A meeting is arranged for January 17th. Speaker, Mrs. Nott Bower—Subject: "Women's Suffrage and the Welfare of the Nation," and an inaugural meeting at Minster, Thanet. January 14th. Speaker, Miss Bertha Kennett, M.A., Head Mistress of Persse Girls' School. Cambridge. Some men delegates from here will, it is hoped, attend the Albert Hall Demonstration in February. Education Campaign—An attempt is being made to arrange some lectures.

meadow's work among the Trade Unions and Mrs Philip Snowden's meeting was discussed. December 7th—Miss Paimer addressed the Strood Brotherhood, and on December 8th she spoke at Delse Adult School.

SEVENOAKS—THE COMMON CAUSE Campaign. All members have been circularised to find out if they take the paper, a specimen copy being sent to those who do not. December 15th—A meeting was held in the Oddfellows Hall, Sevenoaks, when Mrs. Handel Booth spoke on "Educational Problems." The next Educational Campaign meeting will be in the Oddfellows Hall, Sevenoaks, on January 12th, when Mrs. Deane Streatfield will speak on "The Disabilities of Industrial Women."

SHOREHAM AND OTFORD.-November 28th-A successful meeting was held in the schoolroom at Shoreham. Speaker, Miss Beatrice Orange, Four new members joined and copies of The Common Cause were sold. Mrs. Alys Russell is to speak at a drawing-room meeting at Darenth Hulme, Shoreham, on January 22nd, and Miss Muriel Matters at the Village Hall, Otford, on March 24th.

SITTINGBOURNE.—A social evening was held on December 8th at the Board Room, Town Hall. Speakers, Miss Griffith-Jones and Rev. Claud Hins-cliffe.

TONBRIDGE.—November 20th—A meeting was held to the Public Hall on "Social Purity in connection with the Women's Movement." Speaker, Mrs. Nott Bower—Chair, Mr. Lowry. There have been two neetings of the Speakers' Practice Class—Subjects: 'Laws Affecting Women," and "Children and the state."

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—October 27th—At Home—Hostess, Miss Power, at office. Speaker, Mrs. Alys Russell. A most interesting speech on "Schools for Mothers."

November 13th—Public meeting at the Town Hall (Committee Room) Chair, Mr. C. Tattershall Dodd—Speaker, Mr. H. Ballile-Weaver, Li.B. Anti-suffrage facts and fallacies were handled in a manner at once masterly, humorous, and eloquent, to an appreciative audience.

November 24th—Annual General meeting and election of Officers. Tea and White Elephant Sale at Office, 18, Crescent Road
December 11th—4t Home at Office. Hostess, Mrs. Lelacheur—Speaker, Miss G E. Mosely, "Pilgrimage Remininiscences."

Study socials will start in January in Tunbridge Wells and Southborough. The sale of The Common Cause has been slightly more brisk of late.

The Committee meets on the last Monday in the month at 5 p.m. at the Office, 18, Crescent Road.

The next Federation Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 11th, at the N.U. Office. A sub-committee will meet a fortnight previously, probably at Tonbridge to arrange Agenda.

West of England Federation.

BATH.—November 12th—Annual General Meeting of the Federation, at Workers' Educational Association, Citizen House, Miss Melkle spoke on "Methods of Work" and a discussion followed. November 27th—Meeting at Avenue Hall, Combe Down, Mr. E. H. Burn in the Chair—Speaker, Miss. Meikle. Ten "Friends" joined—Nineteen copies of The Common Cause sold.

McRie. Jen Triends: joined—Nineteen copies of The Common Cause sold.

BRISTOL.—November 25th—At Home, 40, Park Street. Miss Tanner on "The Child and the State." November 27th—Drawing-room meeting at Bishopston by kind invitation of Mrs Borthwick. Duologue "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," Mrs. H. C. Hicks and Miss Vivien Ford. Speaker, Rev. Lewis Johnston. December 2nd—At Home, 40, Park Street. Miss Agnes Tanner on "The Mental Deficiency Act." December 4th—Adult School, Bishopston. Miss A. Tanner.

December 5th—Debate at Fishnonds. Speakers For. Miss Baretti, Mrs. Randall Vickers, Mrs. Cross and Mrs. Willis—Against, The Misses Price. No vote taken.

December 9th—At Home, 40, Park Street. Miss Harvey on "Girl Labour."

December 10th—St. Agnes. Mrs. Cross on "Women's Suffrage and the Moral Question."

December 10th—St. Agnes Mission Room. Jumble sale which realised £7.

On November 28th, several members went to Midsomer Norton to help with a debate in which Mrs. Rackham opposed Miss Mabel Smith. The Suffragists won the day by rather a narrow margin of votes.

CHELTENHAM.—December 3rd—Annual Meeting. Chair, Mrs. Swiney (President)—Speakers, Mr. J. Cameron Grant, Dr. Earengey, Rev. J. H. Smith and others. A resolution, demanding a Government measure next Session was carried unanimously, and also another resolution, re-affirming the Society's adherance to the non-militant, non-party policy of the Union. Good meeting considering weather; fair sale of goods and books; Officers and Committee re-elected; reports passed; small balance financially. During the past year forty "Friends" have been enrolled and Mr. Edwin Greene, the well-known author of "Sing me to Sleep" has joined as a member.

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B.A., and Miss Meikle. Packed meeting, not standing room—Several "Friends"—Fair collection.
CLEVEDON.—Fiday, December 12th—Wickenden's Room. Chairman, Rev. F. F. Irving Speakers, Miss G. Cooke. "Women's Suffrage from the Religious Point of View" and Miss Meikle. Very good audience, between eighty and ninety present, successful meeting generally. Good collection—Two dozen copics of The Common Causs sold—One member and nine "Friends"—Much interest aroused.

KEYNSHAM.—December 12th—By kind invitation of Mrs. Pole, Charlton Road. Meeting for members and "Friends." Society started, committee and officers elected. Speaker, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross. Best thanks are due to Mrs. Pole and Miss Greene.

KINGSWOOD.—December 2nd—Moravian School-room—Chair, Miss Tothill—Speakers, Professor Skemp and Miss Meikle—Audience of about 120 listen'd with interest.

MARLBOROUGH.—October. Lady Selborne and Mrs. Haverfield addressed a small meeting. Resolution carried by 48 votes to 3. October: First meeting of Study Circle. Mrs. Upcot read a paper on November: Second meeting of Study Circle. "Sweated Industries," by Mrs. David. December: Third meeting of Study Circle. "Sweated Industries," by Mrs. David. December: Third meeting of Study Circle. "Sweated Child Labour," by Mrs. Brentsell. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Bamber, 29, Kingsbury Street.

OLD SODBERY—November 28th—Parish Room—Chair, Rev. D. Wrigley (vicar)—Speaker, Miss Meikle—Excellent meeting—Several "Friends"—Resolution favour passed.

PORTISHEAD.— December and the secretary and meeting by kind invitation of Miss Hall, Clarence

SOMERSET COUNTY.—First meeting to organise work in the county area held at Bridgwater, Wednesday, December 10th. Miss Tanner and Miss Meikle spoke on "Organisation." Mrs. Ingram Baker was elected Hon. Treasurer (subject to her consent) and Mrs. S. T. Clothier Hon. Secretary.

SOUTH PETHERTON.—A public meeting was held at the Crown Hotel on Friday, December 5th. The Rev. H. S. Chesshire was the Chairman and Miss G. Cooke the speaker. The hall was crowded, and the meeting highly successful in every way.

CAUSE Sold.

THORNBURY.—December 11th—Cossham Hall—Chairman, Mr. Edward Cullimore—Speakers, Miss Cooke and Miss Meikle—Excellent meeting; 350 present—Resolution passed—"Friends" cards signed.

WELLINGTON (SOMERSET).—December 4th—Drawing-room meeting, by kind invitation of Mrs. Howard Fox. Miss Adamson (Bath) gave a most interesting address; result of meeting most satisfactory.

WESTBURY (WILTS.).—December 5rd—Laverton fall—Chair, Mrs. W. H. C. Cross—Speakers, Miss Yooke and Miss Meikle—First meeting in Westbury—Audlence of about 100 listened with interest.

WEST DORSET.—Poster Show—Private board on nain road to the station, supplied with fresh posters very week or two.

Beach Road WINSCOMBE.—November 24th—Meeting at Sandford—Speakers, Mr. W. H. Cross, Mrs. Hicks. A useful work has been begun by one of our members among the girls of the village. Occasional small informal meetings are held, when a short address, followed by discussion, is given on subjects concerning.

West Riding (Yorks) Federation.

West Kiding (torks) rederation.

BARNSLEY.—A crowded and enthusiastic public meeting was held in the Arcade Hall, on November 15th. Mr. Willott. B.A., presided. Lady Frances Balfour and Canon Ivens of Sowerby Bridge gave delightful addresses and several new members were enrolled. Five dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. A resolution demanding a Government measure for the enfranchisement of women was unanimously passed.

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WAKEFIELD.—November 19th—Address by Hon. Sec. (Miss Beaumont) on "History of Women's Suffrage" at Lake Lock Conservative Club. Very friendly and interested audience.

December 2nd—Suffrage debate for members. Hostess, Miss Holdsworth.

Eastern Counties.

BOCKING.—December 5th—A meeting was held at the Workmen's Hall. Chair, Miss Tabor—Speaker, Miss M. Martineau. Twenty-seven women signed "Friends" cards.

BOUKING.—December 5th—A meeting was held at the Workmen's Hall. Chair, Miss Tabor—Speaker, Miss M. Martineau. Twenty-seven women signed "Friends" cards.

BRAINTREE.—On December 10th, a successful atternoon meeting was held at Rayne Hall. Rayne, by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Hustry. Chair, Miss Tabor—Speaker, the Rev. Claud Hinschiffe. Twelve women signed "Friends" cards and several joined the Church League.

CAMBRIDGE.—December 5th—A very successful Exhibition of Sweated Industries, was held at the Guildhall, under the auspices of the W.S.A., the Cambridge University Society for Women's Suffrage, the Church League, and the University Men's League. Speakers, Rev. Lewis Donaldson, Miss Susan Lawrence, and some of the sweated workers. There was a good gathering; some of them "Antis" who were much impressed by the speakers and exhibits. The COMMON CAUSE and other literature was sold. An umber of well-known Cambridge ladies have sold The COMMON CAUSE and other literature was sold. An umber of well-known Cambridge ladies have sold The COMMON CAUSE in the streets with excellent results and it is proposed to continue these sales at fixed times in favourable pitches. On the last day of the term, a number of undergraduates of the Men's League did more successful street selling. December 10th—Mrs. Phillip Snowden addressed an enthusiastic meeting at Romsey Town. Fifty-seven "Friends" made. A very good discussion and many "Antis" present.

December 12th—About 400 people witnessed the performance of Miss F. Johnson's Suffrage Pageant "Britannia's Daughters" at the Co-operative Hall.

FELIXSTOWE.—December 5th—Mrs. Vulliamy gave a very interesting lecture on "Neglected Children." the Rev. E. Steinhal in the Chair, Spoke with great earnestness of his faith in Women's Suffrage Pageant "Britannia's Daughters" at the Co-operative Hall.

Norember 25th—Mrs. Haller Common Cause Sold, also a good quantity of literature. A new member with Revenue and Wertiense waring was a lively discussion after a speech by Miss Waring as li

Drganser's Work Round Norwich.

Besides the meetings under the Norwich heading, Miss Waring has addressed meetings at Wymondhum, Dr. Margaret Borllan in the Chair; MUNDESLEY, where the "Antis" had been at work in the summer; the Labour Church at Kino's Livn, and a small meeting of women at ATTLEBOROUGH. The following Trade Unions have passed W.S. resolutions at Norwich. The Brushmakers, Railway Clerks, Mill Sawyers, Gasworkers and General Labourers, Electrical Workers, Operative Bricklayers.

Workers, Operative Bricklayers.

SOUTHEND, WESTCLIFF, AND DISTRICT.—December 12th—A public meeting was held at Cak Hall, an interested audience listened to an earnest speech from Mr. J. A. Thomas. Mr. G. A. Ward in the Chair, also spoke most convincingly, these speeches led to an interesting discussion and the passing of a resolution. Several new members were enrolled and copies of The COMMON CAUSS sold.

WOODBRIDGE.—December 5th—Mrs. Vulliamy addressed a good audience on "Neglected Children." Miss Barlow of the N.S.P.C.C. also spoke, Lady Mary Cayley took the Chair.

Bournemouth Branch.

December, 1913-Mrs, Laney has debated for Charminster Road Debating Society with Militants—Subject: "Are Militant Methods Justifiable?" and spoke at Wimborne on Women's Suffrage.

Monthly At Home held December th. Mrs. Gohlike, Mrs. Hume, Claud-Lyon, Esq., speakers. Lending Suffrage Library started.

Our member, Mrs. Sykes, debated with "Anti" in the Mansion House, Dublin, December 11th—Lord Mayor in Chair, converted to Women's Suffrage. About 700 present, splendid success.

DECEMBER 26, 13 LANDARY 2 ecember 1st, 1913—The annual meeting was d at "Stoke Newington," Cardigan Road, at p.m. Mrs. Southcott occupied the Chair. Treasurer's report was read and adopted, there ag a balance of £2 7s. 6d. The Secretary read the unal report showing a good year's work, and an rease in membership. A vote of thanks was sed to the President, Mrs. Southcott, for the great p she had been to the Secretary, and her retion, moved by Mr. Gregson, was passed nimously. The Secretary, Miss Woodcock, was re-elected.

re-elected. resolution of thanks to Miss Brigham, B.A., for work as Treasurer was also passed, and much et expressed at her leaving the Society on unt of moving from the town. Mrs. Overbury elected in her place.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On November 20th, a successful At Home was held in the Trinity Presbyterian Hall, over which Mrs. H. M. Levick, M.D., presided Miss Matters gave a most interesting and inspiring ddress. Mr. A. E. Geary and friends supplied an excellent musical programme. Light refreshments were provided. Seven new members joined, six Friends" put down their names, and some copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. This form of meeting was an innovation so far as the Middlesbrough Society is concerned, but was so successful in reating friendliness and in encouraging members to the first that touch with one another that we hope it will be repeated at no very distant date. (See Saltburn.)

as into touch with one another that we hope it will a repeated at no very distant date. (See Saltburn.) are repeated at no very distant date. (See Saltburn.) are repeated at no very distant date. (See Saltburn.) are repeated at no very distant date. (See Saltburn.) are repeated at no very distance of the sale of work met eachly up to December for the sale of work met eachly up to December for the doors four political meetings; advertisements of the per were sent out with all notices to members, the copies were sale and stribution, and altogether twenty-five dozen copies resold during November. On November 25th, Missien Fraser arrived for a week's campaign. Mrs. dier, all gave drawing-room meetings at which she oke; there was aso a very successful meeting in e Office for Friends of Women's Suffrage, at which any members of the Women's Co-operative Guild represent. The last meeting of the week was the nual meeting of the Society, which began with a sisness meeting for members, at which the Hon. c, and Hon. Treasurer read highly satisfactory ports. The Rev. C. Llewellyn Smith then took the air for Miss Fraser, and gave an outline of the eart for Miss Fraser, and gave an outline of the eart points and sixty copies of The Common was sold.

My Scards signed, and sixty copies of The Common was sold.

My December 3rd, the Scarborough Trades and bour Council unanimously passed a resolution in rour of Women's Suffrage. On December 12th and h, a most successful sale of Christmas gifts took ace in the Office. On the first day Mrs. Alderson-hith presided, and Lady Tancred (President, Scalby SS) opened the sale with a delightful little each. The Rev. F. G. Stapleton moved a vote of suks. On the second day Mrs. Howard Rowntree is the opener, and Alderman W. Ascouch presided are Octavismas number were sold.

Chapter 4

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Sewell, Mr. Turnbull, of Ruswarp, kindly took the Chair

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Printed by the National Press Agency Ltd., Whitefriars House, Carmelite St., London, for the Proprietors, The Common Cause Publishing Co. Ltd., and Published at 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. London: George Vickers. Manchester: John Heywood; Abel Heywood & Son; W. H. Smith & Son. Newcastle-on-Tyne: W. H. Smith & Son. Edinburgh and Glasgow: J. Menzies & Co. Dublin and Belfast: Eason & Son.