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The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

Vol. III. No. 121.

Registered as a Newspaper. AUGUST 3, 1911.

ONE PENNY.



West Somerset By-Election.

Suffrage Stall in Taunton, opened by the Western Federation. Miss Norma-Smith (N.U.W.S.S. Organizer) in the car.



Middleton By-Election.

Central Committee Room of the Middleton W.S.S. Miss Leadley Brown and Miss Margaret Robertson (Manchester Fed. Organizing Secretary) in the car.

Putting it before the Country.

Notes and Comments.

The Big Bill in the Distant Future.

No full report has been published of the very interesting meeting which the Liberal Suffragist Members of Parliament held the other day to hear Mr. Lloyd George's views. But one all-important point emerged clearly from the discussion, and it cannot be too widely known. Mr. Lloyd George declared himself, as he has consistently done, in favour of a widening amendment to the Conciliation Bill, which will add to its million women householders some five or six million householders' wives. He intimated that his support would be with-drawn from the Bill unless this amendment were carried. He also pledged himself to use all his influence to get the Bill carried, if this amendment were passed. He even threw out vague but magnificent hints to the effect that he might manage to convert Mr. Asquith, and that the Bill would then become a Government measure. It was altogether a most alluring and even dazzling picture. But there was one depressing detail. All these great things are to happen not in 1912, but in some future session which he did not even attempt to date. He made it perfectly clear that, in his opinion, if a coalition of adultists and anti-suffragists succeeds in widening the Bill in 1912, it will go no further in that session. The great democratic adventure is still in that dim and speculative future, where it has floated for so many years. When once this programme is grasped sincere suffragists can hardly hesitate. They will rally to defeat the wreckers and pass the moderate Bill next year. When that is safely done we can afford to wait patiently until Mr. Lloyd George is ready to execute his generous We do not despair of the conversion even of Mr. Asquith—when women are voters.

The Unholy Alliance Exemplified.

Mr. G. K. Chesterton and Mr. Holford Knight have been writing to the "Daily News" in favour of a 'democratic measure." Suffragists ought to be much obliged to them for showing the type of "support" by which alone "widening amendments" could be carried.

Mr. Lloyd George and the N.U.W.W.

We are glad indeed to record that Mr. Lloyd George on the 27th received a deputation organized by the National Union of Women Workers with reference to the position of women in the Insurance Bill. Lady Laura Ridding, Miss Constance Smith and Miss Clementina Black spoke upon various points relating to the presence of Women on the Insurance Commission, the Advisory and Health Committees, to reduced contributions for women earning 9s. a week and to the inclusion of married women as voluntary contributors. It is pointed out in a leaflet issued by the N.U.W.W. that pointed out in a leastlet issued by the N.U.W.W. that the State pays 2d. a head in respect of all male workers, but in the Bill women working in and for the home are refused this contribution. If the State helped all married working women in the same way as it proposes to help all working men, 2½ millions would be added to the women's fund the women's fund.

Mr. George promised to give careful consideration to the points raised; he expressed his approval of the representation of women on the administrative bodies and said the question of there being a fixed proportion of them would have to be determined. With regard to midwives, he thought they ought to be represented on the Advisory Board, but not on Health Committees. Women should have free choice as to being attended by a man or woman

doctor or a midwife. The Women's Local Government Society is also pressing for the inclusion of women on the committees.

The Same, or Equivalent.

In a long letter addressed to Sir Ryland Adkins, Mr. George makes various points which would, we venture to think, be very differently received according as they were read to an audience of men or an audience of women. He says for instance that "the contributions in respect of all insured workmen are the same, and as in the case of those who receive low wages the employers contribute

a greater proportion, the actual burden on the workman But, as Professor Hewins correctly states, 'The benefits they receive are the same, or at any rate equivalent. That does seem fair and indeed generous.

Now the women complain that, not only are their benefits not "the same" but they are not "equivalent." The 7s. 6d. which women are to get in return for their 3d. is not the "equivalent" of the 10s. the men get.

Increasing Efficiency.

Mr. George goes on to say: "I am absolutely confident that the whole of the employer's contribution, and I dare say in the long run part of the workman's contribution too, will be paid for by the sheer increase in efficiency and decrease of waste which will result from the operation of the bill." How strange, how very strange that this increase in efficiency and decrease of waste should not appear in treating the home-keeping woman too! Is a healthy woman not more efficient than a sick one?

The Anti-Suffragists' Memorial.

The Anti-Suffragists have sent an admirable memorial to the Prime Minister protesting against the treatment of women in the Bill. It will be interesting to note, if really the Bill is pushed through this year, how many of their recommendations will be followed. They say the Bill would "in effect compel the unmarried to insure the married against the loss of their husbands, upon whom no part of the cost would fall." This is a witty and trenchant statement which it would be hard to beat. They suggest that annuities would be better than some of the benefits proposed; "it would be preferable to substitute the insurance which is needed for that which is not needed.

The anti-suffragists claim that they are at least as interested in the needs of women as suffragists are, and we willingly concede this to the signatories of this letter. The pity of it is that they cannot see that lack of direct representation encourages in many women inertia and torpidity, whereas the suffrage propaganda has awakened thousands of women to a patriotic sense of their responsi-

The Scene in the House.

Whatever may be one's views of the present crisis with regard to the veto bill, we cannot but regret the outburst in the House last week. Whether it was premediated or spontaneous, it was indefensible. It is amusing to see the "Times" and other newspapers which have been so very pious about the women who disturbed meetings (and who, being voteless, had far more excuse) apologizing for the Opposition and saying their conduct was "human." So, we submit, was the conduct of the militant suffragists and to err is human. If men as well as women were refused the vote because they were human and therefore erred,—none but the angels would vote.

A Human, not a Party Question.

The following appeared in the "Manchester Guardian" of July 24th:

The Birmingham Women's Liberal Association

recently decided by a majority of two-thirds at a representative meeting to retain as a part of its constitution a rule pledging its members to use their best endeavours to promote the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women. A protest against "such a policy of intolerance and exclusion," urging that "women's suffrage is not, and has never been, a party question, and an attempt to make it so can only lead to the weakening of the party organisation," has been signed by Mr. E. F. M. MacCarthy, chairman of the Management Committee of the Birmingham Liberal Association, and thirteen other local Liberals, and by a few who are not local Liberals, including Lord and Lady Haversham and Lord

and Lady Charnwood. It is true, women's suffrage is not a mere party question; it ought to be the first article of every women's political organization in the country.

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

SOME OR NONE

To those supporters of Women's Suffrage who are also advocates of ADULT SUFFRAGE!

We ask those of you who sincerely believe that sex should not disqualify a person from voting in Parliamentary Elections to support the Conciliation Bill as the only immediately practicable measure.

It is of course possible to quote many arguments in favour of Adult Suffrage; moreover, the Conciliation Bill is a compromise, and, as such, open to criticism. But the women's choice does not lie between the Conciliation Bill and Adult Suffrage, but between the Conciliation Bill and nothing! The Conciliation Bill passed its Second Reading on May 5 by a majority of 167. But there is not even a bare majority in the House of Commons in favour of Adult Suffrage. When an appeal was issued to all M.P.'s asking them to sign a memorial in favour of Adult Suffrage, in two months only 100 signatures (out of a possible 670) were obtained.

Moreover, Mr. Philip Snowden has pointed out that of the 310 men who voted or paired for Sir George Kemp's Bill, 78 are Unionists who would all vote against an Adult Suffrage measure. Also of the 170 Liberals who voted or paired for the Bill a large number are opposed to Adult Suffrage (for instance, Mr. Birrell declared to a meeting of his constituents at Bristol in January, 1910, that he would only support a Bill to enfranchise women householders and would vote against Adult Suffrage). It follows that an Adult Suffrage Bill, if introduced, would be overwhelmingly

The Conciliation Bill is small, but it is democratic.

The qualification is not property, but residence. Every woman householder, however small her rental, will be enfranchised, and no woman will be able to have more than

It is calculated that 82 per cent. of the million women enfranchised will be working women—i.e., 820,000 of the new voters will be working women and only 180,000

Do not oppose this small measure of justice which is all that the House of Commons and the country are yet prepared to give.

Once the disability of sex is removed, it will lie with you to see that women are included in any further extension of the franchise to men.

This is printed in the form of a leaflet, to be obtained from the Offices of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster,

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

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

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A Discreditable Manoeuvre.

I du believe in bein' this Or thet, ez it may happen One way or t'other hendiest is To ketch the people nappin'.

We are glad to publish this week another letter from Mrs. Acland because we are in entire agreement with her in her desire for a better understanding. We have been unable to find any of the "abusive" terms to which she takes exception and until she comes to the rescue and indicates the page upon which they occurred, we must perforce confine ourselves to the one phrase which we undoubtedly used, in "Notes and Comments" last week and which we are prepared to defend as amply justified by the facts of the case. We characterized Mr. Lloyd George's attempt to evade the Prime Minister's pledge as a "discreditable manœuvre" and far from admitting that this is "abusive", we hold that it was language of extreme moderation when applied to his conduct. have no desire whatever to emulate Mr. George himself in the picturesque latitude of his rhetoric. No one would, we presume, deny that most members of governments do manœuvre" constantly to secure what they wish, and the question at issue is whether Mr. George's various "manœuvres" on this question have been to his "credit" and to the credit of the Liberal party. We think Mrs. Acland would find that such undoubted Liberals as Sir Edward Grey and Sir Alfred Mond would not wish to claim any share in whatever "credit" she would give Mr. George for his conduct of negotiations. There are manœuvres which are legitimate, which are merely the wise marshalling of forces and the clever handling of them. These, even if they are directed against our aims, we should regard as reflecting no discredit upon the user. But, when a great advantage has been gained by our party (as in the majority of 167 for May in the House, Mr. George said:-

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Sir George Kemp's Bill) and when the urgent pressure all over the country for further facilities this year is met by a Government pledge for such facilities next year: when Suffragists all over the country have, in view of the constitutional crisis consented to hold over their great and unquestioned claim for nine months and devote the whole of the interval to patient, orderly, educational work; when even those who have hitherto warred with the Government because the Government stood in the way, have accepted the pledge and abandoned their war, because the Government no longer stands in the way; when all suffragists of every party have treated Mr. Asquith as an honourable man, to be believed on his publicly spoken and written word, then we say that to attempt to put on Mr. Asquith's pledge an interpreta-tion it will not bear, in order to foist upon the House a Bill for which it will not vote reflects little credit upon either the mental or moral condition of the man who makes the attempt.

We wish to be clearly understood. We do not object how could we?—to Mr. George's professed wish to give the vote to more women. We do not object—how could we?—to the enfranchising of married women. After nearly fifty years of steady propaganda and six years of a national campaign which we venture to say has no precedent for force, fire and truth,—a campaign in which Mr. Lloyd George has done nothing whatever to help us-we have, through the medium of an organisation of Members of Parliament drawn from all parties, (the Conciliation Committee) secured agreement within the House for a practicable measure of immediate enfranchisement. A large number of men who desire a wider measure (including such men as Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Ponsonby) are willing to vote for this practicable measure in order to secure the early recognition of women, leaving it to Parliament to extend or not, in the future. We have done this, be it noted. with no help whatever from any party, as a party, and with very little help from politicians. If the party in power were to take up the question as a party question they might dictate terms, and though we might think them unwise, we should not think them unfair. Until the party does this, even a member of the Government, since he acts only as an individual, can not command a majority for a Bill much wider than the Conciliation Bill. Mrs. Acland says Liberals are Conciliation Bill. Mrs. Acland says Liberals are "thinking hard" as to which Bill (the Conciliation Bill or the Bill known as "Dickinson II.") has the better chance! We commend hard thinking. When their thinking has resulted in a "firm offer" of a majority of over 100, we may believe that, whatever may be the case in the constituencies, the House of Commons is prepared for a wider Bill. Till then we prefer facts to spirations

Mrs. Acland talks as if she were the first to attempt Conciliation. But the existence of the Conciliation Committee, the drafting of the Conciliation Bill, the triumphant majorities for practically the same Bill two sessions running are monuments of Conciliation. The women's suffrage societies have always been agreed in their demand and it is the suffrage societies and no other that have carried on the campaign in the country and have created the popular and overwhelming demand. Politicians, out of touch, for the most part, with women, were all at sixes and sevens about the form in which enfranchisement should come and many are the Bills which have been drafted by various sections. It was necessary to unite in the House, as we were united outside, and the Conciliation Committee is formed of men of all parties, each of whom has given up something in order to come to an agreement.

But this is to argue the general position and Mrs. Acland's letter raises the specific issue as to whether the Prime Minister's pledge to give facilities next year refers to the Conciliation Bill or (as Mr. George attempted to maintain) to any Women's Suffrage Bill. We maintain that not only did the Conciliation Committee and all the Suffrage Societies interpret the pledge as being given to the Conciliation Committee for their own Bill, but that no other interpretation is possible. On Monday 29th

Objection was raised at the time to the suggestion that a bare week, with no provision for fair debate and voting, was adequate, and these points were subsequently met by Sir Edward Grey (National Liberal Club, June 1st) and confirmed by the Prime Minister himself (Letter to Lord Lytton June 15th). The Prime Minister's pledge was to be fulfilled "not only in the letter but in the spirit" and it remains for a Liberal Cabinet Minister and a section of Liberal Women to throw doubt upon the good faith of their own chief. one at the time could or did doubt that Mr. George was speaking about the Conciliation Bill on May 29th and in fact, since this is the Bill which "was read a second time the other day" and the only Bill which could be again read a second time" (since it was the only bill which had once been read a second time) it is evident that Mr. George's statement on July 20th was an afterthought and that he has forgotten the exact terms of the has the right to the one because he must pay the other. pledge he gave on May 29th. Moreover Mr. Asquith's letter was a reply to Lord Lytton, Chairman of the Conciliation Committee, who had written anxiously asking to be assured upon certain points about his Bill. These assurances were frankly given and frankly accepted. Does Mrs. Acland really ask us to treat respectfully the pretension that Mr. Asquith was pacifying Lord Lytton with pledges for Mr. Lloyd George's castle in the air?

If Mr. George wants to pass a wider measure he must put it before the country. This has never been done. He must stump the country from end to end as we have done; he must make it an issue at every election, as we have done; he must get support in and out of the House sufficient to carry it. If he will do that, we have no word to say. But to attempt to fileh our facilities, for which we have toiled and craved and sacrificed, is to shew a contempt for the intelligence of the people and a security in their ignorance of the true facts of the case which we believe to be unfounded. Our memories are long enough to cover every step of the concessions yielded by the Government. We do not forget and we do not intend that the electors shall forget. Our movement is alive in a sense of which Mr. George has evidently no to insist that all who pay direct rates and taxes conception. If he had, so clever a man would not have attempted so discreditable a manœuvre.

The Meaning of the Franchise: and the Political Justice of the Demand for Women's Votes.

(By the Vice-Principal of Brasenose College.)

It is likely that at no time in history were so many terms used in common parlance that will not bear definition, so many arguments that cannot stand the test of common sense. Nearly every political speech teems with unmeaning words, which are part of the speaker's stock-in-trade, and with fallacies which no one has time to examine. The vehemence of the general interest in politics is soon spent, and during an election, to which it is really confined, men have not the time to define current terms or search out arguments. They take what is set before them, are excited for the moment, vote with their present party or their forefathers, and straightway turn and forget all about it; for by politics alone no men between 35 and 72, or to those who could produce

It is therefore not amiss to ask, what is the franchise, and why women are justified in asking for it, why Gov- from the vote on the ground of sex.

"The position of the Government in regard to this matter was stated on behalf of the Cabinet by the Prime Minister in the last House of Commons on November 22nd, 1910. The exact language used was as follows: 'The Government will, if they are still in power, give facilities in the next Parliament for effectively proceeding with a bill which is so framed as to admit of free amendment.' The Government recognizes that the bill which was read a second time the other day (Conciliation Bill, May 5th) satisfies the last-mentioned condition and that consequently it is their duty in this Parliament to give the promised facilities . . . They will be prepared next session, when the bill has been again read a second time, either as the result of obtaining a good place in the ballot or (if that does not happen) by the grant of a Government day for the purpose to give a week (which they understand to be the time suggested as reasonable by the promoters) for its further stages."

Objection was raised at the time to the suggestion individual is weak and the State is strong. individual is weak, and the State is strong,

But however slender this privilege, it is inseparable from the taxpayer's rights, and those who support the State must be consulted about its levies and the control of its expenditure, growing heavier each year. That is, the old Liberal maxim, Taxation means Representation. If once this principle is allowed to disappear, the whole commonsense basis of government and democracy goes with it. It is a grave pity, and politically a most serious blunder, that the majority of voters do not directly pay taxes and rates. There is not the slightest effort made to teach the workers the duties and responsibility of a voter; the sole topic that is welcome is the rights. When rates are included indirectly in a landlord's rent, and Imperial levies or income-tax not exacted at all, it is impossible to keep in men's minds the natural and indispensable connection between vote and tax; he only

A parliament is conceivable in this land with a majority composed of paid delegates of the labouring class, and trade unions; the veto of the Lords on money bills having completely disappeared. Such a majority (it might be of 5 or 10, actually representing a minority of votes) might vote an income-tax of 20s. in the £1, the confiscation of landed property, the secularising of all Church endowments, however recent Legally, this is possible, and according to the present theory of constitutional government, the Sovereign would be bound to accept the measures of a majority of the Commons, representing a minority in the country. That this is not likely to happen in such an extreme form is due, not to the perfection of our institutions, but to the British character, and the good sense and love of

But we might get very near this in the excitement of a crisis, and in the unchecked absolutism which would be exercised by the dictators of the party in power. [This applies to both parties alike.] It therefore behoves every man. so far as is possible, to deprecate the divorce of vote and tax, and should have the (very small) privilege of casting a vote for a representative. There is absolutely no argument against Female Suffrage (on the ground of justice), except the shallowest futilities of a priori reasoners. What has sex to do with the rating and assessment? Why is a woman disqualified for the one if she is not relieved of the other? If she is a householder, she can vote for her borough: why not for the Empire, of which she is no

less a paying member?

The Middle Ages, with all their illogicality, would never have adopted a position so anomalous. Parliaments met, that the several orders, peers, clergy, burgesses, might help the king's government with subsidies. Other classes paid nothing directly to the State, and women, not being payers, were like the labourer and serf (who lived largely on charity) not voters either. But the State now directly and immediately confronts every householder and income-tax payer. What conceivable reason is there for picking and choosing on the ground of sex? From the point of view of common fairness, the woman is, in this matter, on exactly the same ground as the man. What would be thought of a franchise restricted to bald a certificate of vaccination within the last six months? Yet this is no more absurd than to debar the tax-payer

No reference is made above to the deeper moral grounds on which women feel strongly, to the disgraces of our civilised and Christian life, by which they suffer wrong. From the purely political and legal point of view I have endeavoured to make more patent the obvious fallacy of those who deny the franchise.

F W. BUSSELL.

A Dialogue.

Socrates (the philosopher). PANURGUS (a member of the Council).

I was going down yesterday to take my seat in the Council House and to give my vote upon the affairs of the city, in accordance with my custom, when I fell in with Socrates, the philosopher, who thus addressed

SOCRATES: How now, Panurgus! go you to the Council House?

PANURGUS: I answered him: I go, Socrates, as is

my custom. Will you accompany me?
Soc.: I will if you wish it. But what matter of high moment claims your attendance to-day?

PAN.: A matter, indeed, of high moment, Socrates. The women of the city wish to vote in the Assembly and even assist us to make the Laws!

Soc.: That is indeed wonderful.

PAN.: Wonderful? It is perfectly ridiculous. What

would our friend Aristophanes, the poet, say to it?
Soc.: We will tell him to write a comedy on the subject. But come, Panurgus, since we are so met, let us discuss the matter further. You know I love all manner of discussion, especially discussion upon affairs of State, and many statesmen resort to me, even as yourself, and inform me of many things, for I love to be informed by able and sagacious folk like you. Tell me then, Panurgus, for you are a citizen and a councillor,

what is the thing you term a vote?

PAN.: A vote? What—is—a— Why, Socrates, are you so simple as not to know what a vote is?

Soc.: To be sure, I have heard of it. But, you know, I take no part in politics, and it is to this fact that I attribute my present security from interference.

Pan.: True. I had forgotten. Learn, then, Socrates,

that a vote is the distinguishing mark of a citizen; it House bef enables him to declare his mind in the affairs of State you run. and direct the operations of the Council.

Soc.: Very good. I see.

PAN.: Moreover, the possession of it distinguishes him from malefactors, imbeciles, those who pay no taxes, and persons of unsound mind, who are unable to control alike their own affairs and those of the State.

Soc.: Just so. Tell me more.

Pan.: It is the gravest obligation that a citizen can undertake. It taxes all his intellect. Even I, at times, am at a loss how to cast my vote.

Soc.: Why, Panurgus, you surprise me. And is voting, then, in itself so difficult an operation?

PAN.: Why—er—not in itself. You merely drop a pebble in an urn; or perhaps a tablet, as the magistrate may direct.

Soc.: I see... that does not seem very difficult...
I think, my dear Panurgus, we must consider this question a little further.

PAN.: Excuse me, Socrates, I must be in my place. Already the last of my fellow-councillors is disappearing. Soc.: Yet wait a moment. You said, I think, that the women of the city wished, like the men, to vote

PAN.: Yes. Like the men. Soc.: But is a woman a man? Pan.: Why, no, Socrates. Soc.: Nor a man a woman? PAN : Certainly not.

Soc.: They are different, in fact.

PAN.: Of course, wholly different.

Soc.: But are not men, however-equally with women—at times malefactors and imbeciles?

PAN.: They certainly are.

Soc.: Then it is not as men that they are forbidden to vote, but as malefactors or imbeciles?

PAN.: Assuredly-but-

Soc.: Is a woman, as woman, an imbecile?

PAN.: I suppose not. Soc.: Nor a malefactor? PAN.: No. not as woman

Soc.: Then it seems that the laws forbid her to vote not as an imbecile or a malefactor, but as a woman?

PAN.: It appears so.

Soc.: But is not a woman a citizen?

PAN.: No. Socrates. Soc.: Why not?

PAN.: Because she has no vote.

Soc.: But, my friend, you argue in a circle. We must consider the matter from the beginning. Tell me, then, Panurous what is a citizen?

PAN.: Really, Socrates—time is getting on—if you'll excuse me-

Soc. : Nay, but we must follow the argument whither

PAN.: Well, let us make haste. A citizen, Socrates, is one who is freeborn and who pays taxes to the city.

There you have my definition in a word. Soc.: Thank you, Panurgus. I think it is a very good definition. But have I not heard men say that in our State the women pay taxes, even as the men; such, at least, as are not foreigners, but are freeborn?

PAN.: Well, but they are women.

Soc.: And yet by your definition, must be citizens.

PAN.: Apparently.

Soc.: And yet they do not vote?

PAN.: Um-No!

Soc.: Then, my dear Panurgus, it is manifest there is a muddle somewhere in the affairs of the State, and I hope you will speak boldly on the matter in the Council

PAN.: Indeed not, Socrates. I am very angry with you. You have wasted my time, put me in a perspiration, and unsettled all my previous notions on this subject. You are like the ray-fish, that numbs whatever it

Soc.: Be not angry with me, Panurgus. The touch of the ray-fish has done you no harm. Go to the Council House before the doors close. You'll be in time yet, if

But I being wroth, ran to the Council, and being too late, went, blaming Socrates, to my own house, where I told my wife how I had defeated the philosopher in

H. A. V. RANSOM.

The Latchkey Voter.

On Thursday 27th July the Court of Appeal decided that "complete control" over rooms would not in future be deemed sufficient to give the occupier a vote. The rooms will have to be separately rated unless (1) the rates are compounded by the landlord or (2) the whole house is let out in tenements; tenement houses and flats will be included in this exception.

Some play has already been made by Anti-Suffragists with the idea that this decision will "vitiate all the figures" upon which the Conciliation Bill is based. Mr. Brailsford, in reply to Mr. Holford Knight, points out that this is not so. He writes:-

that this is not so. He writes:—

"The latchkey voter was first heard of in the Kent v. Fittall judgment in 1905. His claim was not secured till 1906. It was only in 1907 that a registration order directed landlords to make a return of tenants enfranchised as householders by this decision. In other words, this new class of householder voters has enjoyed a somewhat precarious existence, subject always to the individual caprice of Revising Barristers, from 1906 or 1907 down to the present year. Now the calculations to which Mr. Holford Knight refers were made in 1904. It was in that year that the I.L.P. found, after a canvass in fifty places, that 82 per cent. of

the women on the municipal register belong to the working class, that the Women's Co-operative Guild (after a less extensive inquiry) put forward the still higher percentage of 91, and Mr. Gerrey, the Liberal agent of Bolton, ascertained that 90 per cent. of the women voters in his town were working women. All these figures, in short, were reached before the recognition of the "latchkey" householder. If the law has now gone back to the position which existed before 1907, our figures are still valid. If Mr. Knight will make inquiry (as I have done) from agents and revising harristers they will tell him, I believe, that women nowhere, even between 1907 and 1911, derived much advantage from the Kent v. Fittall judgment. Its application to the municipal voter was never generally accepted. The woman who inhabits a room or two in a tenement house will still be entitled to the vote, and her claim becomes doubtful only where the landlord resides on the premises. That was the position in 1904 when the canvasses to which Mr. Knight refers were carried out."

It is only the investigations made last year in Bangor,

It is only the investigations made last year in Bangor. Carnarvon and Dundee which may need some—probably slight-modification.

Text of the Bill.

The Bill popularly known as the "Conciliation Bill," which was introduced by Sir George Kemp and passed its Second Reading on May 5th 1911 by a majority of 167 (only 88 voting against), reads as follows:—

shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the County or Borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.

2. For the purpose of this Act, a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be registered as voters in the same Parliamentary Borough or County Division.

3. This Act may be cited at The Representation of the People Act, 1911

It will be seen that this Bill would not give the vote to all women, nor to women "on the same terms as men," but only to women householders, whether married or unmarried.

In Parliament.

A ROWDY OPPOSITION.

On Monday July 24th, when the Prime Minister attempted to make a statement with regard to the Parliament Bill and the proposed creation of Peers, he was refused a hearing by members of the opposition, who howled him down. Supply, India and the Copyright Bill took the remaining days.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND THE REFERENDUM.

On Tuesday 25th Captain Faber asked the Prime Minister whether, with a view to ascertaining the views of women on their desire to have the Parliamentary vote, A BILL TO CONFER THE PARLIAMENTARY
FRANCHISE ON WOMEN.

Be it enacted, etc.:

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884)

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage

Societies on a non-party basis. Hon. Secretaries:

President:

Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Ll.D.

Mrs. Geraldine Cooke.

Mrs. Auerbach.

Mrs. Edith Palliser (Parliamentary).

Hon. Secretary to Press Committee: Miss Emily M. Leaf.

Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." Hon. Sec. to Literature Committee: Miss I. B. O'Malley. Telephone: 1960 Victoria.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Treasurer's Notes.

TO ALL WHO ARE ABOUT TO START ON SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

I want to remind you that while you go away to enjoy a welcome rest or pleasant change of scene, the work of the National Union has to go on without a moment's break or without any relaxation of effort or expenditure. If, while you are all holiday-making, the contributions to our funds should cease or should even temporarily slacken-as they already show signs of doing-I beg you to remember that the strain of our work will be increased and our anxiety will be doubled.

I am so afraid that if you wait till you return from your holidays, by then you will have spent all the money you may have to spare. So will you not all send us something before you go off to enjoy yourselves? I know how badly many of you need this rest and that to most of you the summer holiday is as much a necessity as a luxury, but surely rest will be the more grateful and the holiday will be the happier for the knowledge that you have helped us to maintain our present rate of progress just at this critical time. There are many parts of the country where precious work is being done all through these summer months and at headquarters where we would gladly lay aside our harness and take a rest if we could, there will be no cessation of effort and no moment's break in our long campaign. It is this ceaseless constant plodding that alone can bring us to our journey's end. Many of you have long been our devoted supporters and have already sacrificed much to the cause of women's enfranchisement, but, among you, many also are new to suffrage work and perhaps have not yet realized how much financial assistance can do to lighten our labours and to cheer us on.

Wherever you may be REMEMBER OUR WORK, REMEMBER OUR UNION, REMEMBER OUR CAUSE!

And now a pleasant holiday to you all! HELENA AUERBACH. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND.

JULY 21st TO 27th, 1911. £1.558 13 104 PROCESSION FUND JUNE. 1911.

Press Department.

The Christian Commonwealth this week has a most sypathetic paragraph on the dangers of the attitude of some Liberal M.P.'s towards the Conciliation Bill.

The Western Daily Mercury printed in full the letter

from the N.U.W.S.S. to the group of Liberal Suffragists in the House of Commons.

The East Ham Echo and the West Ham and S. Essex Mail asked for and inserted a full report of the London Society's meeting at Stratford on July 20th.

M. L. MACKENZIE, Assistant Press Sec.

Literature Department.

Specimen copies of seven new or revised leaflets were sent round to the societies last week. Several of these have been issued on purpose for the present political situation, and it is hoped that those who are doing propaganda work in support of the Conciliation Bill will find them a useful addition to general suffrage litera-

The titles and prices of these special leaflets are:-"ALL OR SOME, SOME OR NONE."

B. 35. 6d. per 100. This appears in our ABC page

"Mr. Asquith's Pledge."

Shows that Mr. Asquith's promise of facilities next session was given not for any large quantities.)

Women's Suffrage Bill but specifically for the Conciliation Bill.

"Votes for Women Householders."

A brief description of the Conciliation Bill (Reduction for (printed in red and green).

"Party Leaders on Women's Suffrage."

B. 35. 9d. per 100.

Gives the opinions of the Party Leaders not (Reduction for only on Women's Suffrage in general but large quantities.) on the Conciliation Bill in particular.

Among publications which do not relate especially to the Conciliation Bill, but are equally appropriate for the present moment are Miss Martin's "MATERNITY BENEFIT."

And "Why Midwives and Nurses Want Votes."

B. 33. 9d. per 100.

The Executive Committee has decided to purchase 5,000 of this leaflet for free distribution among nurses. Miss Lilian Jones has undertaken to distribute it among London Nursing Homes and Miss Margaret Ashton is giving some away in Manchester. Other suffragists who are in touch with nurses and midwives can have some of the 5,000 if they will write at once.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

PUSHING "THE COMMON CAUSE."

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin has generously offered £10 for the purpose of increasing the circulation of "The Common Cause" during the holiday season, and suggests several ways in which free copies of "The Common Cause" would be an invaluable advertisement.

1. They might be put in the reading-rooms of hotels, in railway station waiting-rooms and free libraries.

2. All women's clubs might be approached with a specimen copy and asked to become regular subscribers.

3. The chief doctors and dentists in each locality might be approached and asked the same, or if not, if they will consent to allow a copy to be sent them to place on waiting-room tables.

4. Railway bookstalls might be asked to have them on

5.Men's clubs might be asked to subscribe. Specimen copies being sent at first.

I have circularised those Societies on the N.U. list which are situated in holiday resorts, asking whether they will undertake the distribution of a certain number of 'Common Causes' during the six holiday weeks beginning August 3rd; the response has been enthusiastic. Will anyone add to Mrs. Franklin's generous gift and so enable me to send all the papers that are applied for, and, if possible, to extend the six weeks to seven, as the holiday season goes on at least till the middle of September?

I would add that the papers must be taken (not posted) to the various waiting-rooms, hotels, etc., and some member of the Society should make herself personally responsible for seeing that this is done.

All contributions for this scheme should be sent to me at the offices of the National Union.

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

Miss Royden's Address in Oxford.

For the next two weeks Miss A. Maude Royden will be at 50, High Street, Oxford (not 51, as stated last week).

By-elections.

MIDDLETON.

Candidates: Sir Ryland Adkins (L.). Professor Hewins (C.).

Polling Day: August 2nd.

Committee Rooms: 32, Market Place, Middleton, and Victoria Street, Littleborough.

On Tuesday last week a deputation mainly of voters counting amongst them Mr. Philip Ashworth, J.P. (chairman of

the Liberal Association), Mr. Fred Bagot, Dr. Butterworth, Alderman Bentley, Councillor Monk, Councillor Coates and Mr. Jones Brown waited upon Sir Ryland Adkins to hear his replies to the questions sent him concerning the Conciliation Bill. His attitude proved to be very evasive. Every question beyond that of his vote on the second reading he designated "hypothetical" and refused to answer. The deputation was by no means satisfied and several of the men announced their intention of writing at once to Sir Ryland Adkins telling him that he had forfeited their votes.

On Wednesday morning Mr. Hewins received a deputation, Fewer men were able to go on this owing to the inconvenient hour fixed by the candidate; but those men who were present considerably surprised Mr. Hewins by telling him, after he had declared himself opposed to women's suffrage, that, had he given a different answer, they would have voted for him. Mr. Hewins knew these men not to be of his party, and he was obviously dumbfounded at their attitude in making all other questions subordinate to the suffrage for women. He then volunteered an offer that he would give no vote on the question till he had met them again and heard their views more fully. (Though he had started by saying that he would certainly vote against the Bill.)

Immediately after these interviews, the following manifesto was issued.

festo was issued.

To the Electors of the Middleton Division.

Gentlemen,—On behalf of the Middleton Society for Women's Suffrage we have approached both your candidates asking for their support of the Conciliation Bill, by which women householders would be enfranchised. This bill is, by Mr. Asquith's promise, to be fully dealt with next year, and we have therefore asked each candidate whether, if elected, he would support the Bill throughout all its stages and vote against amendments which were likely to wreck the bill. Sir Ryland Adkins has replied as follows:—

"I consider that the question of women's suffrage should be dealt with by Parliament without delay, and accordingly I will do my best to facilitate this, and I will vote for the second reading of a bill such as that of my friend, Sir George Kemp. I will consider and vote on amendments on their merits, and I shall be happy to meet any of the Middleton electors and their friends who may wish to confer with me on the subject before I vote on the third reading of such a bill that has passed through Committee."

Asked further as to his attitude with regard to certain proposed amendments, he refused to reply, and when asked whether if the Conciliation Bill in its present form reached a third reading he would support it he still declared himself unable to say.

We consider this reply by no means satisfactory, as a favourable vote on the second reading, if not followed by sup-

unable to say.

We consider this reply by no means satisfactory, as a favourable vote on the second reading, if not followed by support in Committee and on the third reading, is absolutely worthless. Sir Ryland Adkins has, however, promised to meet a deputation of Middleton electors again after the second reading. We therefore beg of you, gentlemen, should you return Sir Ryland Adkins as your member, to do all in your power to make him realise that in continued support of the Conciliation Bill he would have your enthusiastic backing, and that his failure to support it would deeply disappoint you.

and that his failure to support it would deeply disappoint you.

Professor Hewins declares himself to be opposed to women's suffrage, and intends, if elected, to vote against the Conciliation Bill. He, however, expresses himself willing, if elected, to meet his constituents when the question arises for discussion in the House of Commons and to listen to their arguments with an open mind. Should you therefore return Professor Hewins as your member, we beg you to press this question upon him and to do all in your power to make him realise its seriousness and urgency.

It will be clear to you, gentlemen, that neither of these candidates is a sufficiently strong supporter of the Conciliation Bill to merit the support of suffragists. All we can do, therefore, is to beg of your as you recognise the justice of the women's claim and their need—to give such evidence of your determination to support them that no member will feel that he represents you truly unless he works and votes for the enfranchisement of women householders. Being ourselves voteless and helpless, we appeal to you, who alone have the power, to help us to bring this long struggle of women for simple justice to an end.—We are, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

M. Jones-Brown, Hon. Secretary.

M. Jones-Brown, Hon. Secretary. M. Robertson, Organiser.

The electors have received our manifesto in a manner beyond our hopes. They grasp the position at once, and no man in the division, having read it, has even suggested that we ought to support Sir Ryland Adkins because of his promised support on the second reading. Many of our workers have remarked how every man to whom it is given reads it carefully from end to end, folds it, and puts it away in an inner pocket. Not one copy, so far as we have seen, has been thrown away in the street.

We have two committee rooms open: the main one, in

We have two committee rooms open; the main one, in Middleton, is in charge of Mrs. Aldersley, and there our workers mostly congregate. It is in a magnificent position, on the Market Square, and as the parties have no committee rooms except their clubs, and no picture posters, our shop windows make a great sensation.

The other committee-room is a tiny lean-to shop in Little-borough. This is in charge of Miss Hilston, of Darwen, who is putting in grand work in getting in touch with local organisations, and making us friends everywhere.

The constituency is large and scattered, but we have been very fortunate this week in having Miss C. Leadley Brown and her motor-car to help us. We have accordingly managed to get in four or five meetings every night, as well as dinner-hours, and we shall have completely covered the constituency before polling-day.

everywhere is most inspiriting. The Con-Our reception everywhere is most inspiriting. The Conciliation Bill has, we find, only to be understood to be approved. At the end of every meeting we take a vote, and so far we have not at any meeting had a single hand held up against it. We tell the men that the only two men in the division who are opposed appear to be the two candidates, and great cheering greets the additional remark that they are neither of them Middleton men, and it behoves Middleton to keep them up to Middleton's standard!

As both candidates have offered to receive deputations later on we are concentrating our energy on (1) gaining

As both candidates have offered to receive deputations later on we are concentrating our energy on (1) gaining volunteers to go on this deputation, (2) laying the foundations of suffrage organisations in all the chief places in the constituency with a view to a later campaign, (3) getting the candidates heckled by the voters. We have been told by some of the men that the candidates can now get through no meeting without a question on the Conciliation Bill.

We have asked all the friendly M.P.s who are speaking for Adkins to mention women's suffrage in their speeches, and we

We have asked all the friendly M.P.s who are speaking for Adkins to mention women's suffrage in their speeches, and we were delighted when, on Saturday night, Mr. Harold Cawley, M.P. for Heywood, came to our lurry and volunteered to speak for us. Would that this might become a common practice amongst suffragist M.P.s!

We have had good help in speaking and working from members of our own Federation, and we are most grateful to those who have come from far to help us. Mrs. Ring, of Birmingham, has impressed the people deeply with her intimate knowledge of the conditions of life of the sweated worker—they listen to her rapt—and Miss Jones, who has given up a week of her holiday to help us, has been an invaluable worker.

Seldom, moreover, do we get the help from local men

valuable worker.

Seldom, moreover, do we get the help from local men which we are getting in this election. The Socialists, many of whom were prepared to vote for the suffragist candidate, whichever he was, are now abstaining, and are helping us in every possible way. They are determined to get such a backing of voters to our demand that the member shall be bound to yield to it.

to yield to it.

Finally we must express our profound obligation to Mrs.
Jones-Brown, secretary of the Middleton Society, who is
keeping open house for our workers throughout the election.
We may invade her house at any moment, singly or in
troops. She is always ready to feed and rest us and always
glad to see us. Those of us who have experienced her care
are prepared to refuse ever to enter upon another election
campaign without some such provision for the commissariat—
such a difference has it made to the comfort and efficiency
of us all.

MARGARET ROBERTSON.

Mr. Masterman	
Liberal majority over Unionist	184

The Liberal majority has been decreased by over 500 votes,

The Liberal majority has been decreased by over 500 votes, in spite of the candidate being a member of the Government, and supported by a galaxy of distinguished speakers throughout the contest.

"If seven maids, with seven mops, swept it for half a year,"—no,—if eight speakers with resonant voices, fresh and strong, and a gift of clear vivid language were even now to arrive, shall we just win the seat? Thus I lay dreaming this morning on a cliff by the sea, starting up from my dreams every few moments to realise it was over and even if the speakers and ten swift motor-cars belonging to members of the London Society were to appear they would be too late, and that if eighty-two per cent. suffragists,—no, if, of the suffragists who are members of the London Society eighty-two out of every hundred were to step out of the 'bus at the "Salmon and Ball," Bethnal Green Road, they would have to wait for the next by-election for the honour of taking part in our fight. Such were my drowsy musings, and as I gazed at the bathing machines. I realised they were bathing machines and not "lorries" and that though heavy casualties had been inflicted, the very luke-warm friend had just saved himself from a complete rout. It is not always safe to define how far the women's question has affected an election, but there seems no reasonable doubt that in this case (as the caretaker at one of the central halls told us) it has made a "profound impression."

Each time Mr. Masterman, or his supporters, uttered their fulminations against "the propertied women asking for votes for a few rich people" they gave points to Mr. Hoffgaard. Such electioneering methods deserve to fail and they did fail at Bethnal Green—for at Bethnal Green there is at least as much love of truth and fair play as there is of clap-trap partisanship. The appeal to class prejudice

failed, but so also did the appeal to sentimentality. Mr. Masterman declared that he could not support the Conciliation Bill because it did not give his wife a vote, and, for once, we met the electioneering "tactic" in its own kind and issued a sprightly little leaflet "Why should Mr. Masterman's wife be more entitled to vote than a Bethnal Green costermonger's widow?" This pertinent inquiry, in spite of "The Morning Leader's" hysterical characterisation of it as "imbecile," had quite a vogue among the Bethnal Green Road stallholders, several of whom adorned their stalls with it.

Bethnal Green Road stallholders, several of whom adorned their stalls with it.

There is only space for a word about our helpers. They did splendid service, and if there had been enough of them we should have won—for though we were for several days alone on the field, the three other societies have done most vigorous and admirable work. Among members of the N.U.W.S.S. Executive Committee, who encouraged us with their presence, special mention must be made of Miss O'Malley, who, in spite of an extra heavy strain in her N.U. literature department came for the greater part of every O'Malley, who, in spite of an extra heavy strain in her N.U. literature department, came for the greater part of every day. The heartiest thanks of the Society are due to her, as well as to Miss Dimock (who directed affairs, electoral and otherwise, from the office) and to Miss Alice Dimock and the other members who came so constantly and worked so hard through all the heat and dust. This election has shown more than ever before the paramont importance of all our members who can in any way call their time their own, holding themselves in readiness to fill the ranks whenever the call comes, and therefore of, so far as possible, making other claims subject to their duty as fighters in our great fight for the emancipation of women.

A. H. W.

Federation Notes.

West Midland.

STRATFORD PROCESSION AND DEMONSTRATION.

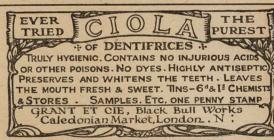
A joint procession and demonstration of about 500 members representing the Midland Suffrage Societies took place at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday, July 25th. The Procession formed up at the Fountain at 5.30 p.m. and proceeded, with banners and flags, amidst large and interested crowds in the following manner:—Band, National Union (West Midland Federation), the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, Church League for Women's Suffrage, Women's Social and Political Union, Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement and Men's

INCOME TAX.

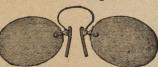
ETHEL K. THOMAS, F.L.A.A., ACCOUNTANT AND

46a, High Street, Slough, Bucks.

Special attention given to Recovery of Income Tax,
Assessments, Overcharges and Appeals.



WHY WEAR HEAVY Eyeglasses & Spectacles?



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

Eyeglasses from 5/6. Spectacles from 10/6. Made in Steel, Rolled Gold, and Gold.

Write or call for Booklet, "Imperfections of Vision," and mention this paper.

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

League for Women's Suffrage and ended up with decorated motors of all societies. The route followed was Rother Street, Chestnut Walk, Church Street, Chapel Street, High Street, Bridge Street, Guild Street, Henley Street and Wood Street returning to the Fountain at 6.30 p.m., where speeches were given from three platforms representing the Women's Social and Political Union, the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, the Church League for Women's Suffrage and the National Union. On the latter platform the chair was kindly taken by Dr. Hamilton McCombie, of Birmingham University, chairman of the Birmingham Men's League for Women's Suffrage, who read a letter from Mr. P. S. Foster, M.P. (Stratford Division), in which he said:—"I fear my letter may not reach you in time for your meeting to-morrow, as owing to having been away for the week-end, I had to hurry down to the House to-day without going through my correspondence. I am hoping to see the Government give facilities for the Conciliation Bill next session, and shall have much pleasure in supporting it by my votes. I hope you may have a successful meeting." A letter of sympathy was received from Mrs. F. R. Benson and also from Mr. F. R. Benson who sent a donation of 10s. towards the expenses of the Demonstration. The speakers for the West Midland Federation were Mrs. Julian Osler and Mrs. Ring (Birmingham) and Mrs. Timpany, B.A. (Shrewsbury). League for Women's Suffrage and ended up with decorated pany, B.A. (Shrewsbury).

pany, B.A. (Shrewsbury).

At the second platform the Rev. Claude Hinscliff (Church League), Lady Selborne and Lady Willoughby de Broke (C. and U.W.F.A.) were the speakers. On the third platford Miss Margesson, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel spoke for the W.S.P.U.

Hazel spoke for the W.S.P.U.

At the close of the Demonstration the following resolution was proposed and carried by all platforms: that, "This meeting calls upon the Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, to fulfil at the earliest possible date, the promise he gave to the Conciliation Committee in his letter to Lord Lytton, and this meeting pledges itself to do all in its power to bring about this fulfilment." The last resolution was put from the N.U. platform at 7.45 p.m.

The following societies in the West Midland Federation sent representatives and banners:—Birmingham, Olton, Oswestry (banner), Shropshire (banner), Stratford, Solihull and District, Warwick and Leamington, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton (banner), Worcester

The energetic Worcester Society had chartered a motor, which was decorated with the N.U. colours and bore the suffrage legend "Women's Franchise"; it contained from twenty to thirty Worcester members.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

The Executive Committee of the Brighton and Hove Liberal and Radical Association passed on July 5th the following resolution, and sent a copy of it to the Chairman of Committee of the Brighton and Hove Women's Franchise

Society:—
"That the Executive Committee, etc., desires to express its hearty approval of the proposals of the Government, recently outlined by Sir Edward Grey and the Prime Minister, as to grant of facilities next session for the Conciliation Bill for Women's Suffrage, and trusts that the final passage of the Bill into law may be accompanied or immediately followed by the introduction of a general measure of franchise reform framed in a completely democratic spirit. The Executive, however, having regard to the expressed intentions of the Government, does not consider it advisable to unge now the great of facilities for this session." to urge now the grant of facilities for this sessi

A letter of thanks and acknowledging with pleasure this resolution approving the grant of facilities has been sent in reply, and comment has been made, on the lines of the letter from Miss Courtney and Miss Palliser to Liberal M.P.s., on that part of the resolution which expressed trust in an accompanying or immediately following measure of "Franchise reform framed in a completely democratic spirit."

North-Eastern.

North-Eastern.

A joint demonstration in which all the local Suffrage Societies took part was held at South Shields on July 29th. A procession, led by Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A., on horse-back, and accompanied by two bands playing the March of the Women, started from Tyne Dock and walked through S. Shields and along the shore out to the Bents, a route which took nearly an hour and a half to cover. The procession produced a very favourable impression, as one old inhabitant informed us, he had lived, "man and boy, in Shields for 70 years, and Shields had never seen such a sight,—it was beautiful!" He assured us our Cause was won! The demonstration had effectively been advertised by poster parades, and the long route was lined by expectant and admiring crowds who seemed much impressed by the number of societies represented by the banners. The speakers for the N.U. were Miss Robertson (chairman), Mrs. Harrison Bell and Miss Margaret Mein, B.Litt. W.S.P.U.: Mrs. Taylor (chairman), Miss Ainsworth, Dr. Alice Burn. Church League: Miss Bury (chairman), Revs. J. O. Aglionby, M.A., E. C. Harris, B.A., Miss G. Fenwick, Mr. W. Foster. Women's Freedom League: Mrs. Ridley (chairman), Mrs. Hansen Coats, Miss Violet Taylor. The resolution urging M.P.s. to vote only for the Conciliation Bill was passed

unanimously at every platform. Owing to the near approach unanimously at every platform. Owing to the near approach of the holidays and so many workers being away, preparations were carried on under difficulties in the organiser's absence by Miss Annie Dickinson (Jarrow) and Miss Robertson, an active S. Shields member, who kindly undertook the local arrangements. The success of the demonstration is undoubted and does much to strengthen the hands of the local societies by giving a visible token of the extent of the Suffrage movement.

Manchester and District.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. SWANWICK.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. SWANWICK.

There was a small but representative gathering of members of many of the societies of the Manchester and District Federation on the 26th July to bid farewell to Mrs. Swanwick before she removes with the "Common Cause" to London, and to make a presentation to her in token of the affection and esteem felt for her by her colleagues. Miss Ashton in a few words expressed the personal regret felt by all in bidding her goodbye and the gravity of the loss to the cause in Manchester of so brilliant a speaker and worker. The gift was a watch-bracelet and a cheque for £135 subscribed by 140 friends and Miss Darlington on behalf of the office staff presented a lovely sheaf of red roses, with an expression of deep feeling for the officer and friend they were so soon to lose. Mrs. Swanwick's reply showed that she too felt keenly the severing of happy fellowship in work but hoped to be able to

MANCHESTER MEN

Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage

Hon. Secs.: S. Brooks, 5, Hill Street, Radcliffe, and W.Bentley Capper, junr., 21, Oxford Road, Manchester. Treasurer: H. V. Herford, 47, Parsonage Road, Withington. Subscriptions range from 5s. to 1s.

The International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

Just Published. Price 6d. net. "IN THE ORKHOUSE," By Margaret Wynne Nevinson.

"There is nothing to approach it in direct-ss and force."—"Pall Mall Gazette."



West Heath School,

HAMPSTEAD.

For Boys and Girls between the ages of six and eighteen

[ESTABLISHED 1897.]

The school is happily situated, and attention should be drawn to its special advantages in this respect. It is no doubt considered ideal for a school to be in the country, but in the part of Hampstead where West Heath School stands, many advantages of the country are present, while those of the town, which can be turned to good use for children, are at hand.

The school has a large playing field; good well-treed gardens; is near to a quiet part of the heath, and itself faces across open country towards the Harrow Weald. It thus finds a freedom which many schools actually in the country cannot compass in these days of golf. motor-cars, and game-preserving. At the same time, the advantages of having the British Museum, the Zoological Gardens, the Natural History Museum, historical buildings, beautiful pictures and sculpture (to mention only part of what is available), within easy access for the visits of a class, are of incalculable value in the education of the children.

Particulars from the Principal.

Reference is allowed to THE REV. CANON SCOTT-HOLLAND, D.D., 1, AMEN COURT, ST. PAUL'S, E.C.; and Dr. JANE WALKER, 122, HARLEY STREET, W.

do even more effective work for suffrage when the paper is in closer touch with the headquarters of the N.U.W.S.S.

I should like personally to thank the 140 friends who combined to give me the beautiful gold watch-bracelet and the munificent cheque. But I am not able to do so and therefore ask them to accept my thanks in this form. The sadness of parting bears little thinking about and it is impossible to speak of it. The loyalty, energy and generosity of the Manchester Federation made my work delightful and remain happily embodied in their chairman, a representative woman of whom Lancashire is proud.

H. M. SWANNUCK.

South Wales.

We have been so busy that the various Societies have failed to send in their reports with the exception of Penarth. May I ask that when the Autumn Campaign begins I may receive the reports of each Society (addressed to 23, Dumfries Place, Cardiff) by the third Saturday in the month—in order that the work of the Federation may be known to the outside world? The first consideration certainly during the coming winter will be the work which has to be got through, with a view to consolidating our position before the Conciliation Bill is introduced next year. But it may be that unless the work of each Federation is made known, that work may lose something of the effect it might produce.

(Dr.) Erie Evans.

Organization.

WEST MIDLAND FEDERATION CARAVAN TOUR.

WEST MIDLAND FEDERATION CARAVAN TOUR.

Helpers for the first week of the caravan tour will join the van and Miss Helga Gill (organizer) at Frankley (2 miles from Northfield, N. Worcestershire Division) on August 7th. The van will then pass through Honington, Halesowen, Hasbury, and through the neighbourhood of Stourbridge into Staffordshire (Kingswinford Division). Then through Enville and Bobbington (Shropshire), Claverley, Worfield, Badger, Ryton, Shifnal, near Wellington, Coalbrookdale (Mileage from Frankley to Shifnal 40-50 miles.) The route is, of course, liable to alteration according to local conditions.

ons.
From August 14th-21st the probable route will lie brough Tonge Norton, Brewood, Penkridge, Coalwich, llythfield, Abbots Bromley, Christchurch under Needwood

blythneid, Abbots Formley, Christenarch and Treedwood to the Burton Division.

Miss Coyle, Cullen House, New Road, Solihull, will be most grateful to receive any offers of hospitality—or help in getting up meetings—from Suffragists in any of the above-mentioned villages.

WHITBY.

SELLING THE COMMON CAUSE.

The seaside towns and villages along the Yorkshire coast offer, during August, a splendid field for the sale of "The Common Cause," a way of helping on the Suffrage in which everyone can join. Any Suffragist, staying in or near Whitby, who is willing to help in this way, should kindly communicate at once with Miss Thornton, Sleights, Yorks.

Local Councils and the Bill.

The Weybridge Urban District Council, at their meeting on July 3rd, passed a resolution urging the Government to grant facilities at an early date for extending the Parliamentary franchise to women ratepayers on the lines of the Bill now before the House. Both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman voted in favour of the resolution.

The Universal Races Congress.

The first Universal Races Congress opened on July 26th in the great Hall of the London University, South Kensington. Twenty nations sent delegates, and over twenty Governments were officially represented. The object of the Conference is to further scientific study on all questions regarding race, in order to promote amongst nationalities a "more human contact which eventually may establish the eternal principles of justice between man and man." of justice between man and man.'

of justice between man and man."

The present position of women was one of the two subjects selected for dicussion on the first day, from a programme which included nine. An interesting letter was read from Olive Schreiner and another from Sister Nivedita, authoress of the "Web of Indian Life," expressing the hope that the Congress would help to clear away "those mists of verbiage that so often surround the controversy regarding women."

A general discussion on anthropology followed.

In the afternoon the discussion opened with a brief summary by Professor Margoliouth of the points enumerated in the paper by Sister Nivedita, who was not present.

(1) Is the equalisation of the sexes desirable?

(1) Is the equalisation of the sexes desirable?
(2) Is it possible?
(3) Is it in progress in India?
(4) What are its consequences on communal life?
(5) On political life?

The Golden Rule for Summer eating is to avoid anything that clogs the body. Salads, providing they are fresh and clean, and Fresh Fruits, if ripe and sound, are cooling and delicious at all meals.

But over-starchy foods should be avoided. White bread and flour clog and overheat the system. A finely ground wholemeal—none could be finer than Artox—keeps it gently regulated, well nourished, and yet cool.

Try Cucumber or Cress and Tomato Sandwiches made with "Artox" Bread. You will give up white flour when you taste the good, nutty flavour of



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is issued with every bag of "ARTOX" Wholemeal, together with an analysis which confirms our guarantee that "ARTOX" contains all the wheat, in its natural and correct proportions.

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Ist of nearest agents. Post free on application.

Speaking of the question generally as to whether woman is to be regarded as a member of the family only, or also of the State, Professor Margoliouth referred to the interesting figures tabulated by Miss H. Zimmern in regard to the results obtained in those countries where women had demanded or obtained the suffrage. The tendency towards equalisation of the status had nearly always culminated in the demand for political equality. As to the question of the desirability of this result, Sister Nivedita would doubtless reply in the negative. She insisted on the beauty and the sacredness of the Indian woman's home life, and the high degree of sweetness which her motherhood obtained. Then Professor Margoliouth who evidently disagreed seriously with her optimism earnestly recommended his audience to study the other side of the question, forcibly put in a recent magazine article ("19th Century and After"). The question of the desirability of the equalisation of the sexes brought up at once the question of child marriage in India. Was this to be treated merely from the point of view of race and climate? as an unalterable convention of law, or was it to be faced as an individual problem which took account of the happiness of woman? There did seem strong evidence pointing to the fact that there was a tendency in India at the present day towards the equalisation of the sexes. A new type of woman was springing up and this would ultimately re-act on political life. (At this point an individual in the audience objected that whereas the subject of Women's Suffrage was to be avoided, Professor Margoliouth was making a speech in ravour of it. Why had two subjects only been selected out of the nine put down for discussion?) Professor Margoliouth in reply said, that he had sought to treat the subject as a whole in as broad a way as possible, but did not see how in dealing with women's position generally, he could entirely exclude this aspect of it. The chairman, Mrs. Pember Reeves,

seek to delay the age of the marriage of boys. This might be done through the native schools, for there was a Hindu precept which disallowed the marriage of men while yet students. The college of Benares had succeeded in excluding married scholars, and if missionaries would follow the example of those bodies under Hindu management, much might be done to check the evil, for on obtaining a maturer age, students themselves objected, on leaving school, to marrying children. Miss Nina Boyle also strongly deprecated the tone of Sister Nivedita's description of Indian life. "It represented too exclusively" she said "the standpoint of men;" and she stated her conviction that the present opinions of advanced women demanded the attention of the Congress. She also reminded her hearers that the recent Congress of Stockholm had shown unmistakably the essential connection between the Suffrage movement and international relationships. The Eastern woman must learn from the Western that her individuality and personal rights are sacred. The Western woman must learn from the Eastern that devotion to the race and the future family demands personal sacrifice. In conclusion she expressed the hope that at the next Congress more pains would be taken to represent adequately the women's point of view, to which all men, even the men of this Congress, must learn to listen patiently. (Loud cheers.) seek to delay the age of the marriage of boys. This might

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the men of this Congress, must learn to listen patiently. (Loud cheers.)

Mrs. Leim Boon Keng (China), whose speech was greeted with loud cheers, said, "The history of our race has proved to us that when women are in earnest, men will obey." "Women" she said "must be the apostles of universal love and peace, and teach reverence and honour in the home." At the same time there was undeniably in China a tendency towards better education amongst women.

Dr. Rega Tevfik (Turkey) deprecated the idea that women there were merely ignorant and idle. A Musselman woman possessed rights of a social, proprietary, and legal nature. She could receive her guests at home like an English woman, and could go out if she was covered. She was often a good linguist and studied European literature, but he admitted that the great mass of women were ignorant, and before their rights could be claimed with advantage, they must be better educated.

Colonel Maine spoke strongly on a subject of Eastern sex

their rights could be claimed with advantage, they must be better educated.

Colonel Maine spoke strongly on a subject of Eastern sex morality. In spite of Miss Noble's championship of Indian life, he strongly deprecated the false impressions regarding this question. Most terrible evils existed in the East under Government supervision, even under its sanction. He was glad however to report that even the Japanese themselves were protesting. In a recent fire which had occurred in one of the worst quarters in a Japanese town known to him, the natives had refused to sanction re-building in the neighbourhood. "They ask our help" he said "to prevent the spread of evils which to some degree at least are having decent burial in the West." The discussion of the women's position ended with a claim from Mr. Tudor Pole that the Western man should place woman on the footing of spiritual equality, and with a protest from Mr. Calderon against Mrs. Besant's condemnation of child marriage. He also expressed his sympathy for the feelings of Lord Weardale, which must have suffered at the prominence given by the Congress that day to the discussion on the subject of Women's Suffrage. He appealed to the audience to form a section within the Congress whose objects should be to preserve race and national distinctions, not to obliterate them, and pointed to the costumes of those present as a melancholy example of the attempt to attain uniformity in dress. The Congress then passed on to the question of Racial Miscegenation.

In the third session in which the subject for discussion was Conditions of Progress in respect of Parliamentary Rule, there was little which bore directly on the Women's Movement. An interesting point, however, was made by Dr. Razon, who put forward, as one reason why the "strong stimulant of civilisation" had not done so much harm in Samoa and Tonga as in others of the Pacific Islands, the fact that in those two islands the woman was the mistress of the home, while in Tonga her position was so favourable that she w

she was usually able to choose her own husband.

One after the other the speakers insisted on the need for justice in the relations between the peoples, and a fair chance in life for one and all; a plea which must appeal with peculiar force to those who are spending their lives in the endeavour to abolish the handicap of sex. The speeches of Mrs. Besant and Mrs. Archibald Little were received with immense applause. One could not but feel that they gave proof of the necessity for the woman's point of view in all the concerns of life. For these two women showed an insight into the feelings of the people for whom they spoke, and a sympathetic understanding of the disadvantages under which they labour, which the men-speakers, interesting as they were, did not possess. they were, did not possess

Dr. Du Bois, in opening the discussion on the position of the Negro, compared it to that of women. If you do not intend to crush certain races and classes, you must allow them freedom to expand and develop as their nature prompts

There were two speakers representing the two sides of a question which cannot fail to rouse the sympathies of women. A South African negro, Dr. Rubasane, and an Englishwoman, Mrs. Macfadyen, spoke of the Black Peril in South Africa. Dr. Rubasane said that there were only isolated cases of misconduct on the part of black men towards white women, and



that these were due to the example set by white men. Mrs. Macfadyen regarded the danger as more serious, but she too blamed the white men, who for the sake of gain are ready to risk women's honour. Among those races which preserve their own ideas, unstained by the influence of civilisation, a white woman is still safe; the penalty of misconduct on the part of a man to a woman is death; it is only when the black races, in contact with the lowest type of white men, are introduced to the debauchery and evil living of so-called civilised people that women become endangered. The crimes committed by black men on women living in lonely houses are often the result of the harm done to their own women. This question was in danger of being made a political one in South Africa; a fact which was resented alike by English and Dutch women; this was not a matter of race prejudice, but of morality. Mademoiselle de Pissaryevsky put in a claim for economic freedom for women, while an American negro woman gave an account of the part which negro women have taken in raising the status of their race.

In a Congress such as this there were of course many subjects of intense and world-wide interest. It is only possible, however, here to touch on those which have a more or less direct bearing on our own question.

direct bearing on our own question.

M. L. MACKENZIE.

Review.

A SHORT HISTORY OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS, by Eugene A. Hecker. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London. 6s. net.)

In his preface to a "Short History of Women's Rights," Mr. Hecker says that his purpose in writing the book "will be gained if he induces the reader to reflect for himself on the problem in the light of its historical development." In the problem in the light of its historical development." In this object he is likely to be successful. The book is, as it were, the first gropings of an early pioneer in a hitherto neglected region of history. Mr. Hecker has wisely confined himself to the Latin and Anglo-Saxon races, with but a cursory indication of the customs of Germanic tribes, and an investigation, necessarily incomplete, of the influences—Christian, Roman, and Teutonic—that went to build up the position of the Anglo-Saxon woman of to-day.

In putting his case, Mr. Hecker shows a partiality for everything Latin, and is obviously not a dispassionate historian. He compares Roman law, seen by the light of literature, where its occasional brutalities are shown to be modified by public opinion, with Canon law, as interpreted

by theologians, without an illuminating appeal to contemporary literature. The compariscon, which is to the disadvantage of Canon law, is hardly fair. In Latin literature Mr. Hecker is obviously an expert, while mediaeval literature, when not written in Latin, is evidently a sealed book to him. Whether Mr. Hecker is right in tracing the double standard of morality to the influence of the Early Church and the Pauline doctrine of the inferiority of women, and whether Roman laws about inheritance were altered for the worse so that fathers could disinherit unorthodox children is a question which might well provoke an endless controversy.

Mr. Hecker's allusions to woman's position in the later Middle Ages are curiously out of focus. He dismisses "chivalry," a most remarkable social phenomenon, in a few contemptuous words, oblivious of the fact that Sir Galahad was the highest ideal of purity that literature ever achieved, and that the Quest of the Holy Grail, with its mystic suggestiveness, has been an inspiration to all subsequent ages. Of the influence of the cult of the Virgin Mary, which permeated mediæval art and literature, and eventually found its most remarkable expression in the writings of Abbé Constant, and how far it modified the monastic notion of woman as the author of evil, Mr. Hecker tells us nothing.

"Of any participation of women in intellectual life there could be no question until the Renaissance," says Mr. Hecker. Nevertheless the literature of mediæval theologians is full of advice to young women about what they shall read, it being nearly always assumed that they can read. Marie de France and Lady Constance Fitz-Gilbert played no inconsiderable part in the development of chivalrous literature.

In his allusions to the East, Mr. Hecker is also inaccurate. In his allusions to the East, Mr. Hecker is also inaccurate. In his allusions to the East, Mr. Hecker is also inaccurate. In his allusions to the East, Mr. Hecker is also inaccurate. Win the Orient woman has from the dawn of history to the p

dise."

Mr. Hecker's description of the feminist movement in America is fascinating, and he gives us definite, almost exhaustive, information about the laws affecting women in every State. This part of his book supplies a real want in Suffrage literature, and ought to be invaluable to speakers.

Mr. Hecker's inaccuracies will sometimes amuse English readers. He states, in one passage, that "the great leaders of the Woman Suffrage movement from Mrs. Stanton to Mrs. Snowden have in their home circle led lives as beautiful and have raised families as large and as well equipped morally and intellectually as those who are content to sit by the fire to spin!"

L. F. WARING.

Foreign News.

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND.

The present Government is the result of a coalition of Calvinistic and Roman Catholic clericals, the latter having the majority. It is backed by the remnants of the old Conservative party. The Roman Catholic clergy have not yet openly expressed an opinion on Women's Suffrage, but we have a fair number in the Dutch Bond in favour of it. (Nederlandsche Bond voor Vrouwenkiesrecht.) The Calvinistic party has officially declared itself for granting the vote to widows and other female heads of a family. Among its members there is a tendency to grant it also to unmarried women above thirty years of age who earn their own living. From the present Government no proposal in favour of Women's Suffrage need be expected.

The Liberal party, although in favour of Women's Suffrage, has not definitely decided to whom it intends to offer it.

The Radical and Socialistic parties demand universal suffrage for men and women. The Dutch Bond counts amongst its members men and women belonging to all these parties. If nothing unforeseen happens general elections will take place in 1913.

Summary of Fifth Report of the National Anti-sweating League.

Profound regret is expressed at the recent death of Sir Charles Dilke, to whom the League was indebted for its policy, and a tribute of admiration and gratitude paid to him for his devoted service to the cause of the poorly paid

The Report states that whereas the League was at first The Report states that whereas the League was at first concerned with holding meetings and exhibitions and in in investigating the passing of the Trades Boards Act gave it more definite employment in watching the workers' interests on the new Boards. Thus the League has allowed its Secretary (J. J. Mallon) to serve upon certain of the Boards and of their numerous District Committees, and in connection with each of the Boards has done its utmost to bring the workers thereon together and secure them advantage comparable to those enjoyed by the representatives of employers.

The operations of the Trades Boards Act have resulted in minimum rates yielding wages of 11s. 3d. to women and of from 22s. 6d. to 31s. to men being fixed at Cradley, these rates being as much as 80 per cent. in advance of the rates previously paid. Among the lace workers at Nottingham a rate of 2\frac{1}{2}d. an hour, rising in twelve months to 3d., has been proposed, and the latter rate, yield 13s. a week, is at least 33\frac{1}{2} per cent. better than the pre-Board rates.

In the paper box trades a rate of 3d. an hour is proposed and it is hoped to secure an improvement of this rate when its effect on the trade has been ascertained. As many thousands of workers in this trade are said to receive less than 10s. a week, it is apparent that the new rates constitute a general advance.

In these three trades the number of workers for whom minimum rates have been proposed is about 40,000. When the rates are fixed also for the wholesale tailoring trades, the total number of workers affected exceed 200,000.

The Report urges that the powers as referred upon the Boards by the Act are in some ways too narrow and foreshadows an amending Bill and an extension of the Act to additional trades.

Letters to the Editor.

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

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the

"ABUSE."

You ask me to give instances of abuse. I do not need

You ask me to give instances of avoids. To both to look far.

On July 20th Mr. Lloyd George was asked by a member of the Liberal Suffrage group: "Did Mr. Asquith's pledge refer specifically to Sir George Kemp's Bill and to no other?" He replied—No.

On May 29th Mr. Lloyd George quoted as the pledge Mr. Asquith's words on the 22nd November. "The Government will give effective facilities for a Bill so framed as to admit of amountment."

of amendment."
On June 1st the Prime Minister also says: "It is the intention of the Government to fulfil the pledge given before the last election."
In Mr. Asquith's letter to Lord Lytton the words "a Woman Suffrage Bill" are again used.
Under the circumstances, to refer to Mr. Lloyd George's answer on July 20th as "a discreditable manœuvre" is abuse—rather gross abuse.



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I do not write thus out of enmity to the Conciliation Bill. As proof of my good faith I would like to say that I have tried my best to get the Liberals that I have met to drop party feeling and only to think of the Suffrage. For instance on July 18th at the Women's Liberal Federation Executive I moved the following amendment to the resolutive of the resolution of the re

tion re concentration on a democratic measure:

"That this Committee desires that full advantage shall be taken of the promised facilities for a Woman Suffrage Bill, hopes that democratic amendments may be possible, but trusts that Liberal M.P.s will do nothing likely to endanger

the third reading majority."

This amendment was unfortunately not carried. I again urged this point of view at the meeting on July 20th. But

not successfully.

The truth is you non-party Suffragists are making things very difficult for us who remain within the Liberal party but yet put Suffrage before all else.

In your leading article to-day you complain that Liberal members are averse to close thinking. The truth is a great many of us are thinking hard as to whether the Bill as it stands or the Bill with occupiers' wives added has the best chance of a third reading majority. Only you don't want us to think us to think

us to think.

Your attitude seems to be this: "We have got a second reading for an amendable Bill. Having got it we declare that anyone who presumes to think of that Bill as amendable is a traitor to the cause, a hypocrite, an anti-suffragist in

A much more politic attitude would be to ask for conferences of all Suffrage bodies—Adultists, Conservatives, Dickenson II. supporters, militants, constitutionalists. Don't hurl your conclusions at our heads. Submit them gravely, ask for Liberal consideration—in a word "be

I beg of you to take this suggestion in a friendly spirit, and to drop your epithets of "traitor," "anti-suffragist in disguise" (applied to Mr. Dudley Ward, etc.), and so on, epithets which hurt and alienate.

In writing this I speak for myself; one knows one's own feelings more accurately than other people's. But I should not trouble to write only that I know there are many others, men and women, who feel the same.

ELEANOR ACLAND.

ELEANOR ACLAND.

[We deal with Mr. Lloyd George and the Government pledge in our leader. Mrs. Acland is in error as to the terms of Mr. Asquith's letter to Lord Lytton. He wrote: "In reply to your letter on the subject of facilities for the Women's Enfranchisement Bill." Lord Lytton's letter was about the Conciliation Bill. As for Mrs. Acland's reference to the use of the words "traitor" and "anti-suffragist in disguise" as applied to Mr. Dudley Ward, we have searched our columns in vain for them. Perhaps Mrs. Acland will name the page upon which she read them. They certainly have not occurred in any leader. We should like to add that we never for one moment doubted Mrs. Acland's good faith and we hope she will continue to do her utmost to promote the speedy enfranchisement of women.—ED. "C.C."]

FALSE SENTIMENT OR CHIVALRY?

On page 278 of the current "Common Cause" there is a paragraph speaking of the "false sentiment" in the story of the little schoolboys taking the punishment, or offering to take it, and one taking it, of a little girl.

Supposing none of them had offered to take it, would there have been a paragraph asking "Where is chivalry:

F. LUDICKE.

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FACE MASSAGE AND MANICURE.
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here was an opportunity of offering it, and none was forth-

feet was an opportunity.

If a little girl was drowning, and someone said to the boys, "Try and save her," and one had done so, would the paragraph have called it "false sentiment" in the teller of the story? The saving of a thrashing was saving a little girl pain, and we all should try to save the weak from pain. No doubt girls would save little boys from pain if the occasion offered. I really think such a paragraph is a mistake.

I quite agree as to the entire wrongness of the punishment of a thrashing for the dropping of a book.

Helen C. Ford.

Yealand Conyers, Carnforth, July 28th, 1911.

Yealand Conyers, Carnforth, July 28th, 1911.

[Mrs. Ford's comparison does not seem to us to be on all fours. If any person is drowning, it is obviously admirable in any other person to save him or her. In this case the master had threatened a certain punishment for a certain offence, and when the offender proved to be a girl he appealed for a substitute among the boys. We do not blame the boys, and if the master had not made his appeal to them no one would have dreamed of asking "Where is chivalry?" If the punishment was a fitting one to threaten, it was fitting to inflict upon the person incurring it. To suggest to a girl that she cannot bear a just punishment is to suggest cowardice.—Ed. "C. C."]

IRISH WOMEN AND THE LODGER FRANCHISE.

The time has again come round when women lodgers, who wish to retain their vote, must take the trouble of calling at the Registration Office of their respective associations, and signing their claim. This must now be done on or before the 4th of August; but, without entering into details, the room, or rooms, inhabited by the lodger, must be value for £10 per annum, if unfurnished, to entitle her to the vote. On behalf of the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association.

ANNA M. HASLAM (Hon. Secretary).

125, Leinster Road, Dublin, 27th July, 1911.

Our Advertisers.

Persian Kitten. Mr. Richard Bates has sold one of the blue Persian kittens advertised in "C. C." and presented the Manchester Society with one-third of the price. Who wants the other kitten for 30s.?



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Work of Societies in the Union.

SOUTH-WESTERN FEDERATION.

AUGUST 3, 1911.

SOUTH-WESTERN FEDERATION.

EXETER.—A garden-meeting was held in the pleasant grounds of Spreytonway, Pennsylvania, on July 5th, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Pring, president of the branch. There was a numerous attendance, including several ladies who joined the Society at the close of the meeting. Addresses were given by Miss Tanner (Bristol) and Miss M. P. Willoocks. An open-air meeting has also been held, when Miss Baly, Miss Splatt, and Mrs. Frank Fletcher spoke on the Insurance Bill and the history of the Suffrage Movement to a small but attentive audience.

The "Express and Echo" is always open to items of Suffrage news, and gives splendid reports of all our meetings.

Other Societies.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The second week in the Maldon division of Essex has proved a complete success. On Wednesday an open-air meeting was held at Gosfield, Miss Courtauld in the chair; address by Miss Helen Ogston. On Thursday a large crowd assembled at Market Hall, Halstead, where Mrs. Vaizey took the chair, and the speakers were Miss Letitia Dixon and Miss Helen Ogston. On Friday village meetings were held at Boreham and Hatfeild Peveril; Miss Ogston, assisted by Mrs. E. Sadd Brown. Important work is being started in Lowestoft on the 15th, and then in Norfolk.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.
Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.
Branches have been established in Paddington (hon. sec., Mrs. Shewell Cooper, 8, Warwick Avenue, W.) and Central Sussex (hon. sec., Mrs. Goldring, "Woodlands," Cuckfield). The Brighton and Hove branch have established successful Suffrage services on the beach opposite the Bedford Hotel at 6 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays. The Rev. T. Hampden Thompson, of St. Barnabas', Hove, preached on July 11th, and the Rev. Vicars Boyle, vicar of Portslade and president of the branch, will give an address on August 22nd. The C.L.W.S. was represented at the Stratford-on-Avon demonstration on July 25th. The Rev. C. Hinscliff's announcement that the Bishop of Worcester had joined the League was received with cheers by a very sympathetic crowd. Mr. Hinscliff will be pleased to hear of opportunities for putting forward the religious aspect of Women's Suffrage at open-air meetings during the holidays at the seaside.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Members are asked to note that Miss Jeffery has been obliged to resign her post of hon. secretary on account of her health; but Miss Gadsby, 5, Carlton Road, Tufnell Park, London, has kindly consented to take her place as organising secretary. All information can be obtained from her.

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less than washing. Southalls' should not be confused with substitute brands. Users should insist upon the genuine Southalls' Towels, thus securing their advantages. 200 Carrent lake

Forthcoming Meetings.

LONDON.

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9 a.m.

August 21: Southwark, Crossway Central Mission Hostel, New Kent Road, Mrs. Richardson.

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

BEAD Chains, Suffrage Colours; 3s. 6d., 2s. 6d.—Mrs. Porter, Huntsbridge, Matlock.

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