

The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

VOL. III. No. 119.

Registered as
a Newspaper.

JULY 20, 1911.

ONE PENNY.



Photo., "Newcastle Illustrated Chronicle."

POSTER PARADE IN NEWCASTLE.

Notes and Comments.

The Women's Protests.

The one topic of conversation in suffragist circles is the Insurance Bill. As committee progresses and as people become more familiar with the provisions, the position of the women shews more and more deplorable. It looks as if Mr. Lloyd George were really a better suffragist than would have appeared, after all, since he is providing an object lesson of what may be done to a disfranchised class which even the most obstinate Anti must understand. The women are protesting with all their might, but they would not need to work so hard or so wastefully if they could command some votes.

A Concession.

Mr. Lloyd George made a much-needed concession to bare justice when he consented on Monday to give a married "employed" woman sick-pay during the period of her lying-in, in addition to the 30s. maternity benefit which would be paid in respect of her husband's insurance. As the Clause stood, it had been provided that, although a woman was regularly paying her insurance (and her employer also) she was to get nothing whatever in return for it if she were disabled by child-bearing; in fact a woman who had influenza was better provided for than a woman who had a baby.

Three Condemned Women.

Recent papers recorded the cases of three women condemned to death for murder as men have defined murder. Mrs. Proudlock of Singapore shot a man who attempted to outrage her; Angelina Napolitano of Ontario with four little children under seven and a baby coming, killed, in his sleep, her husband who had brutally ill-treated her; Margaret Murphy, flower seller of Shore-ditch, a widow with six children, hard-working and respectable, could not see her way to live and attempted to poison herself and her baby; the baby died but she survived.

The first has now received a free pardon and the last has been respited. As we go to press, although the petitions for Angelina Napolitano continue to pour in from Americans as well as Canadians, she still lies under sentence to be hanged on August 9th. We imagine that the sentence will not be carried out. But what decent purpose could be served by passing sentence of death upon a pregnant woman? What fantastic notions of the "sacredness of life" can men have who will perform such monstrosities in the name of justice? Her husband had stabbed her nine times and she had been long in hospital. He had lately threatened to kill her if she did not earn money for him by street walking. She tried to drown herself, but was "saved." So she killed him. If ever there was a case of killing in self-defence, this was one.

The Divorce Commission.

The report of the Divorce Commission is looked for with much eagerness and it is anticipated that wide reforms will be recommended. The point of view of those who maintain that divorce is always and altogether wrong is a clear and defensible one. What we cannot away with are laws which relieve men of responsibility and compel women to endure the shameful results.

A Source of Demoralization.

The Personal Rights Association has presented a petition to the House for the reform of the Divorce Laws, in which it states among other undeniable facts:

- (2). That the present Law of Divorce, in England, practically exempts men from fidelity in marriage, while it exacts such fidelity from women.
- (3). That this law thus sets up a double standard of morals, one—a lax one—for men, and the other—a strict one—for women, and is thus a violation of justice and a source of demoralization.
- (4). That men and women are coerced into this double standard of morals, since they have, in England, no opportunity of entering into legal unions of marriage outside of these provisions.

Making Night Hideous.

We are glad to see that people are at last beginning to protest against the quite useless howlings and hootings of motor-cars, especially at night. There would be no hardship whatever in reducing the speed of motors between, say, 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. and insisting upon only a moderate use of a low-toned horn. If horns were standardized we should very soon learn to respond to the warning of quite a low note. The way in which robustious people are allowed to trample over this crowded world is discreditably. Why should the hideous always be allowed to rule?

Flowers of Speech.

Mr. Churchill sent a letter to Baron de Forest, dated July 3rd, in which the following remarkable passages occur: "The cruel waste of disease and unemployment breaking down men and women, breaking up homes and families will for the first time be confronted and encountered by the *whole strength* of the nation armed with knowledge and directed by power." What can he have been talking about? However he went on to say "Social organization and political freedom must advance hand in hand"; so that's a good thing. It is time a beginning was made.

In Good Company.

Our good friend "The Lambeth Gazette" had on June 30th some pertinent reflections on the total absence of women from the honours list. Even granting the enormous superiority of men, it is hard to believe that not one woman had earned any honour whatever and the names of a good many women occur to one's mind which are more easy to remember than some of the obscurities that have been lighted up with a title. Yet we are not sure that the honours list is not one which gives more honour by its omissions. Remembering for what reasons Kings ennobled women in the past and seeing how honours may yet be purchased by men, we feel that women are in the best company after all as commoners.

Vain Repetitions.

In a long letter to the "Nation" the week before last, Mr. Holford Knight again repeated the assertions which he mistakes for observation and argument. He appears to have a pathetic belief in the value of mere iteration, but we seem to see signs of wavering. He now admits that "sections of women, such as the professional and working women will in the main pass the test"; since the Conciliation Bill would enfranchise these in an overwhelmingly large proportion to any other class Mr. Knight ought to be satisfied. But he says we must "turn from a bare demand to an explanation of what the acceptance of that demand is intended to promote"! Has he never,

one feels inclined to ask, attended a meeting of the National Union? He is well answered as to several points by Mrs. Fawcett and Mr. Nevinson in last week's issue.

Portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett.

It was announced in the *Manchester Guardian* of July 14th that the portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett by Ford Madox Brown which Sir Charles Dilke bequeathed to the National Portrait Gallery was added to the exhibition. We find on enquiry, however, that it will not be visible until November.

Treatment of Nurses.

We are glad to see that the matron of the infirmary under the Lambeth Board of Guardians has stated in her report that the work in the wards is too hard and the hours too long. The matron thinks two hours daily should be allowed off duty and suggests that one nurse for 31 beds is not enough. "Owing to illness, it is seldom that the staff is at full strength." One does not wonder at illness where nurses are so overworked. The vicarious charity that is exercised by many hospital boards which underpay and underfeed and overwork their nurses is an abomination. We know of one great and celebrated infirmary where a nurse was on night duty for eleven months on end and for several months never went out, because she was too exhausted at the end of her twelve hours' toil. We are so ready with sentimentality about the nurse. We should do better to feed her well, give her bright sitting and quiet bedrooms, reasonable hours and good pay.

The New Reform Club.

A lady, Miss Julie Coe, has been elected secretary of the New Reform Club in place of Mr. A. Symonds, who has resigned.

Poetic Sisters.

The Poetry Society offered a prize for the best poem for the Festival of Empire and the first and second places have been won by two sisters, Miss J. P. Nott and Miss N. L. Nott, of Clifton. The adjudicator was Mr. Alfred Noyes.

Hardy Perennials.

It does not do to nail a lie to the counter merely. You must draw the attention of people to the false coin. The following appears in the *Boston Journal* of July 8th:— One of the many falsehoods scattered by the opponents of equal rights for women has been the charge that Denver shows a great amount of juvenile crime—presumably due to mothers neglecting their children for politics. Judge Lindsey stigmatises this as an "outrageous slander," and he gives statistics. He says:

"Out of a school population of over 50,000 children, there were complaints against only 608 children in the entire city of Denver during 1910 that were considered serious enough even to justify the filing of a formal petition for their correction. The great majority of their offences are of a rather trivial character. Out of the entire number, only 49 were complained against a second time. The police officers of Denver and others who know what they are talking about would, I am sure, cheerfully testify that the criminal conditions among youths that formerly existed in Denver have not only greatly decreased, but, with very few exceptions, the serious cases that we formerly had to cope with through exceptionally bad gangs that congregated in Denver have almost entirely passed away."

Our Cartoon.

We are proud to shew a photograph of the devoted ladies who paraded Newcastle last week in the interests of the Common Cause. Very few women can enjoy doing this sort of thing and some, we know, feel it intensely disagreeable. That they are prepared to do it and do it so well must and does impress outsiders with the vitality of the movement and the intensity of the demand which inspires such sacrifice.

The A. B. C. of Women's Suffrage.**VOTES FOR WOMEN HOUSEHOLDERS.****THE BILL.**

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

THAT IS TO SAY:

If this Bill becomes law, the Parliamentary Vote will be granted to any woman who owns or rents **and lives in** a house or dwelling place of any value, however small (*a woman paying 2s. 6d. or less a week for a single, unfurnished room, separately occupied as a dwelling, could qualify*).

Of the women who are enfranchised under this Bill (about one million, whilst there are 7½ millions of men voters), the greater number will be WIDOWS. In Bangor, for example, where there are 404 women who would get the the vote, 288 of them are widows, and 116 are spinsters.

Also, of those 404 women, 368 either work for wages or do all their own housework. Only 36 have independent means.

Altogether, it is calculated that of every 100 women who get the vote, 82 will be **working women**.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

On May 5, 1911, this Bill was introduced by SIR GEORGE KEMP and passed its Second Reading by a majority of 167. This was an increase of 57 on the majority on the Second Reading of the similar Bill introduced by Mr. Shackleton in 1910.

Whereas in 1910 there were 189 men voting against the measure, IN 1911 THERE WERE ONLY 88.

The Conciliation Committee then asked for FACILITIES THIS SESSION for the Bill. This Mr. Asquith refused, but on May 29th he offered (through Mr. Lloyd George)

A WEEK OF GOVERNMENT TIME NEXT SESSION

for the further stages of the Bill. He further promised (in a letter to Lord Lytton on June 15th) that—

"The week offered will be interpreted with reasonable elasticity, that the Government will oppose no obstacle to a proper use of the closure, and that if, as you suggest, the Bill gets through Committee in the time proposed, the extra days required for Report and Third Reading would not be refused.

WOMEN must, then be enfranchised NEXT YEAR, if their majority in the House of Commons stands firm.

Electors! press your representative to vote in favour of the Bill and to vote AGAINST WRECKING AMENDMENTS. If he is an opponent, urge him to abstain from voting at all.

Men and women, do all you can to make the Bill UNDERSTOOD by Members of Parliament and by the public. Almost every criticism directed against it is due to MISUNDERSTANDING. Could this be removed there would be no obstacle between us and

VICTORY!

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

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

British Isles: 3 months 1s. 9d. Abroad: 3 months - 2s. 3d.
6 " 3s. 3d. 6 " - 4s. 4d.
12 " 6s. 6d. 12 " - 8s. 8d.

Copies of back numbers 1½d. (post free), or 2½d. when more than three months old.

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

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

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

Contents.

	Page
Cartoon: Poster Parade in Newcastle	261
Notes and Comments	263
The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage	264
The Insurance Bill in Committee	265
Mrs. Annie Besant	266
In Parliament	267
The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies— From Headquarters	267
Treasurer's Notes	267
Literature Department	268
The Common Cause	268
London Society's Urgent Notice	268
By-elections	268
Holiday Work	269
Federation Notes	269
Women and the Insurance Bill	270
Reviews	271
Correspondence	272
Work of Societies in the Union	273
Other Societies	274
Forthcoming Meetings	275

The Insurance Bill in Committee.

"He blamed and protested, but join'd in the plan;
He shar'd in the plunder, but pitied the man!"

So far as we have gone with the amendments to the Insurance Bill moved on behalf of the women, we have little positive satisfaction, but some of them are at least to receive further consideration. Whether married women may be admitted on a voluntary basis is still to be discussed and the question of admitting wives and children to sanatoria is to be considered again later; the case of domestic servants and nurses will come up again later also, the suggestion being made that in their cases employer and employed shall each pay 1d. less, and the benefit be correspondingly restricted to sanatorium, permanent invalidity and maternity benefits.

But on the great question of the admission of wives into the scheme Mr. Lloyd George flatly replies that it can't be done because it would cost money; also the persons in receipt of a legal minimum wage (mostly women) and the casual worker (among whom there are also very many women) will have to pay insurance, although in their case it will often mean taking the amount off the already inadequate food.

No one can read the verbatim reports without realising the growing sensitiveness of Members of Parliament to the needs of women. Suffragists naturally tend to regard women as their constituents; anti-suffragists are tumbling over one another in their desire to prove to women that their interests are being looked after although they have not the vote. Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Hills and Mr. Pringle have especially constituted themselves the champions of the married women. The cynical fact remains, however, that their sympathy has so far expended itself in words and has not taken the practical form of a majority of votes. We are reminded of Mrs. Norton's bitter reflection,—"all go away home, like a party of miners who have given up the attempt to dig out persons buried in the superincumbent earth. They would

be very glad to do something towards amending the laws for women, but really 'the subject is so surrounded with difficulty.'"

The speeches and answers made by various Members at different stages of the discussion shew how few of them have formed any consistent civilized theory of the position of women in a civilized society. Mr. MacCallum Scott, for instance, who said quite truly that by her labour in the home a married woman enabled a man to go out and do his work, yet contended that married women needed only medical attendance, not sick pay. Now when a married woman is too ill to do her work properly her first need is for someone to do her work for her; in endless cases, rest and nourishment would put her right without doctor or drugs. To us it seems of immense importance that the sick wife should have sick pay, for we know how dreadfully poor women suffer from having no one to nurse them and no one to give them a rest from the children. Again, Mr. McKenna (10th July) in maintaining that a person in casual employment should pay the whole amount and receive full benefit said "If the Bill is an advantage to the man, it is better that he should pay the whole contribution and receive the whole benefit. It is no gain to him to be let off five-sixths of the contribution if at the same time you cut him off from five-sixths of the benefit. . . . The Hon. Members would be doing such a man a real hardship if they did not get for him the benefit of the employer's and the State's contribution in respect of any week." The next day in opposing an amendment to leave out workers receiving a minimum wage, Mr. Lloyd George was even more emphatic: "The Hon. Member speaks about the deduction as a fine upon the workers who are making a bare subsistence. But really it is for something for which they are paying now. In some cases they do not pay, because they resort to the parish; but long before they do that they make very great sacrifices for medical and other purposes. . . . My hon. friend speaks as if it were a deduction made for the first time from their wages. On the contrary, it is a very considerable relief in respect of a payment which they are making now."

Yet Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. McKenna opposed the inclusion of married women because it would be too great a "burden" on the fund! What does that mean? We were told last week that "as long as the man was strong and hearty it was his duty to provide for the needs of his wife." Is sickness not his wife's direst need? And if insurance is going to help him so much in his own sickness, if it is really a "very considerable relief in respect of a payment he is making now," how is it that it will not help him in his wife's sickness? It would seem as if insurance against a man's illness was an irestimable boon to the man, but insurance against his wife's illness was an intolerable burden! It looks almost as if Mr. George thought the working man did not care how neglected his wife was in illness and as if Mr. George cared as little as he imagines the working man to care. In considering real wages you have to consider not only the money coming into the house but what you can buy with it. If the wife is ill, she can only be properly cared for at present by a charge on the income of the house: too often, as we know, that charge is not made, for one reason or another and Mr. George thinks it is of less importance because the woman does not actually get paid in cash for her work: he does not seem to see that she can't rest from work unless someone else is paid in cash.

"If there is any money left," he said (July 11th), after the men have received full benefits, their wives may receive "additional benefits" and he is fond of telling us that he is "making a beginning" and you can't do "everything at once." But he has not "made a beginning" with taxing the women! He calls it a "National" scheme and women are taxed equally with men to pay the 2d. of the State which goes to the men; women are taxed equally with men to pay for the machinery which is to work the bill if it becomes an act (and to some of us it seems as if he hardly realized what that machinery will cost); women when they are employers will pay as employers and no one can tell how

much they may eventually have to pay as consumers; lastly, the working women know well that even the man's 4d. will mostly be screwed out of the housekeeping, not out of the man's pocket money.

The men of the House of Commons and all the men of the country are by this Bill at last brought face to face with a question which most of them have never really thought out. Whenever they want to curtail women's freedom or to cut off the competition of women, men are in the habit of talking as if men maintained women. Now in the working classes at any rate, that is to say in the overwhelming majority of households, the men do not keep the women. The women to a very great extent actually earn wages and where, owing to the cares of the family, they do not earn money wages, they more than earn their keep by work in the house and by bearing and rearing children. The husband is, in fact, the woman's employer and the women have not deserved to be left out of the scheme in the manner proposed. The state ought to help the man to keep his wife in health every bit as much as it helps him to keep himself in health. The proposal made by Mr. George to establish sanatoria for insured persons was defended by him partly on the ground of removing infection. If we were to say that small-pox, scarlet fever, etc., were only to be notified when the persons attacked were men, we should be considered to be fit for a lunatic asylum; yet Mr. George gravely proposes that if a woman has tuberculosis she shall not be removed. Is she not an even graver source of infection?

The discrimination in this bill between men and women is indeed in the words of Mr. MacCallum Scott "a foul blot upon the measure,—a harsh and cruel injustice." If women had votes the Members would have to find ways of improving so unjust and tyrannous a measure.

Mrs. Annie Besant.

President of the Theosophical Society.

HER WORK FOR WOMEN.

Wide, world spread in fact, as is now Mrs. Besant's reputation as a golden-mouthed speaker, it is interesting and pleasant to read in her Autobiography that "My first lecture was given at the Co-operative Institution, 35, Castle Street, Oxford Street, on August 25th, 1874. I resolved that my first public lecture should be on behalf of my own sex, so I selected for my theme 'The Political Status of Women' and wrote thereon a paper."

And all through those busy, stormy, stirring years of the seventies and the eighties in which together with Mr. Bradlaugh and many other social reformers, Mrs. Besant was engaged in pleading with voice and pen for the weak and oppressed, she worked directly and indirectly to free and uplift women. For even the events of her own life—the agony Mrs. Besant underwent when, on account of her atheistical doctrines, she was deprived in 1878 of the custody of her little daughter, Mabel; the many law suits and the notice the case excited, helped, no doubt, to manifest the injustice of the then existing law, which gave all the power over the children of a married woman into the hands of the father and so helped to bring about a change in the law and a more equitable settlement. A pioneer of the movement for the emancipation of women, Mrs. Besant may justly claim to be. A pamphlet on the subject is one of her many writings.

Mrs. Besant, née Annie Wood, born 1847, is of Irish descent, her mother being pure Irish and her father half Irish. Owing to her husband's early death, Mrs. Wood was left in somewhat straightened circumstances, and to educate her son, kept, by Dr. Vaughan's permission, a boys' boarding-house at Harrow. The little Annie was taken by Miss Marryatt—sister of the famous novelist, a lady with a genius and a passion for teaching,—as companion for her own niece. Miss Marryatt's method of education was original and sensible, and Mrs. Besant owed—as she always gratefully acknowledges—a great

deal to the solid educational foundations on which Miss Marryatt formed her pupils' characters and tastes.

On finishing her education Miss Wood returned to live with her mother at Harrow and in 1867 married the Rev. Frank Besant "with no more idea of the marriage relation than if I had been four years old instead of twenty."

The child was—as is usually the case with strong characters—early mother to the woman and from her childhood Annie Wood had displayed a marked interest in religion, had shown as she developed into girlhood a strong leaning towards mysticism and a deep devotion to the "dear dead Christ." That her fiancé was a clergyman was a great factor in bringing about her engagement, though even before her marriage Mrs. Besant had encountered, faced and, as she fondly hoped, laid her first religious difficulty.

Her son, Digby, was born in 1869 and a daughter in 1870. But from the first almost the marriage proved unhappy. Temperamental differences in character produced a domestic tension soon much aggravated by Mrs. Besant's increasing religious difficulties. "The presence of pain and evil in a world made by a good God, the pain falling on the innocent as on my seven months old babe" (the daughter Mabel had been dangerously ill with whooping cough) "the pain begun here reaching on into eternity unheeded, a sorrow-laden world, a lurid hopeless hell; all these while I still believed drove me desperate and instead of like the devils believing and trembling, I believed and hated."

In 1873 a legal separation was arranged and Mrs. Besant, taking her little daughter, went out to face the world. It is probable that Mrs. Besant was the first English woman to conduct her own case in the law courts. She appeared in person in the Courts in the suit brought against herself and Mr. Bradlaugh regarding the publication of the Knowlton pamphlet (a pamphlet on the voluntary limitation of the family) and "had received the high compliments of the Lord Chief Justice on my conduct of my own case," and she conducted her own case with regard to the custody of her daughter. The loss of the child brought on Mrs. Besant a dangerous illness, the result of grief and distress of mind, but on recovery she was very characteristically determined that, robbed of her own, "I would be a mother to all helpless children I could and cure the pain at my own heart by soothing the pain of others."

The pioneers of advanced thought in those days faced some rough experiences. At Congleton, sitting by Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy, at a public meeting, Mrs. Besant received a rather heavy blow on the back of the head from a stone, and next night Mrs. Elmy received a cut on the temple from a flint. But persecution did, as is ever the case, but fan the glowing embers; the sale of the Knowlton pamphlet was triumphantly continued; Mrs. Besant's own tract on the Malthusian teaching, written largely with a view of palliating married women's endless sufferings, had an enormous sale, only terminated (on Mrs. Besant's acceptance of the Theosophical doctrine of the Universe and Man's relation to God and Man) by its withdrawal. In Mr. Bradlaugh's long Parliamentary struggle for the right to retain his seat and to affirm, and in the many legal actions for blasphemy brought against him, Mrs. Besant was ever his right hand.

In 1884, the doctrines of Socialism claimed Mrs. Besant's attention and she began to turn from politics to devote herself to the amelioration of the social condition of the people. Her splendid work on the London School Board, to which she was elected in 1888, her work on behalf of Bryant and May's match girls which ended in the establishment of the Match Makers' Union, in which for years Mrs. Besant worked as Secretary, her work for the dockers, for tin box makers, and for many social and philanthropic reforms laid deeply the foundations of that respect and esteem which survives in even the London crowd of to-day, as the Procession of the 17th June amply testified. Writing, lecturing, organizing, Mrs. Besant spent her busy years always in work for the poor and helpless.

But Mrs. Besant found in time that the materialistic philosophy she then held did not satisfactorily answer the problems of life, and she began to study superphysical phenomena, such as the mysteries of spiritualism, clairvoyance, clairaudience, telepathy, etc. The review of the celebrated Madame Blavatsky's monumental work, "The Secret Doctrine," brought her in touch with the author and in 1889 Mrs. Besant joined the Theosophical Society and became one of the best known exponents of the Theosophical teachings.

In 1890 Madame Blavatsky was given £1,000 to use for human service and, if she thought well, in the service of women. She utilised the sum to open a Club in East London for Working Girls which was maintained by the Society for some years, the girls falling at once under the spell of Mrs. Besant's personality. On the death of Madame Blavatsky in 1901, Mrs. Besant took her place as teacher in the Society's inner circles and later left England to live at Benares, India, where a still larger field of work awaited her energies.

In 1907, Mrs. Besant founded the now well known celebrated Central Hindu College for Indian Youths, and its complement, a Central Hindu College for Girls soon appeared. This Girls' College is directed by an English Theosophist, Miss Arundale, and receives girls of the higher castes, in some cases—exceptional, of course—retaining them as pupils after their marriage. Mrs. Besant never loses an opportunity for insisting on the importance of education for Hindu girls. In one of her speeches dealing with this subject she said: "Until the girls also are educated, until they are taught and trained, until they know the glory of the past and teach it to the children on their knees, what India was and may be; until Indian mothers are also worthy of the Indian women of the past; until they become patriots as well as the men and love the land as well as their husbands; until the curse of early marriage is removed, which makes the girl a child, wife and mother, while she should be playing with her dolls and learning in the school . . . until these things are done in India, India must remain as weak as she is to-day. Until you remember that knowledge is just as much the birthright of the daughters of India as it is of her sons; until you remember that in the old days Indian women sang parts of the Vedas to which modern Indian women may not even listen from the lips of another. . . . India cannot rise." And as Mrs. Besant is nothing if not practical, and theory with her is always put into practice, married boys are not admitted to some classes in the College, and in others have to pay double fees. The Theosophical Society hopes to open at Benares, as soon as funds permit, in conjunction with the Girls' School an institution for training Hindu widows as teachers.

As all over India Mrs. Besant is known and revered, is consulted as an authority by all schools of thought on the many educational and sociological reforms now being started in that great Dependency of the Empire, it is obvious that Mrs. Besant is in a position to do, as she has done and is doing, a great deal to raise the status of Indian womanhood. For in the activities she initiates, women and men ever work side by side and undertake the same responsibilities. In the "Order of the Sons of India," a very large organisation whose members are pledged to loyalty and to patriotism, and to serve their country only by constitutional and loyal means, of which Mrs. Besant is Chief, the kindred Order of "The Daughters of India" soon appeared. In the Order of Universal Free Co-Masonry, which Mrs. Besant headed in the Procession of June 17th, an Order of Freemasonry of French origin, in which women are admitted to the "privileges and mysteries of speculative Masonry" on the same terms as men, women of all nations, including Indian women, Parsi and even Hindu are found.

In 1907, Mrs. Besant, on the death of Colonel Olcott, President Founder of the Theosophical Society, was elected President and as such lives at the Society's Headquarters, Adyar. This is not the place, nor does space permit, to dwell on the inner aspects of Mrs. Besant's work. Suffice it to say that her influence in the East

is largely based on her position as a guru, or spiritual teacher. She is recognised there as an occultist—and the belief in the East in occultism and its possibilities is traditional and in accordance with religion—a woman who knows by direct knowledge and first hand experience many of the mysteries of life and death; of Man and God, and their inter-relation.

And in all Mrs. Besant's spiritual teaching in East and West alike, she lays stress on the importance of service and ever reiterates the fundamental teaching of true mysticism and practical occultism, that knowledge is won only to be used in the service of humanity.

One of the most celebrated women of our time, holding a unique position in the East, recognised as an important Imperial factor in the welding together of East and West by her work in bringing Hindu and English into more sympathetic understanding and relation, a thoughtful and voluminous author, acknowledged to be the foremost woman orator of the age (and now drawing overflowing audiences—hundreds are nightly turned away—every Sunday evening at the Queen's Hall, London) Mrs. Besant recognises the humanity underlying sex distinctions and holds that sex differentiation should bar none from any service they have the capacity to render. It was on this wide ground that Mrs. Besant sanctioned the appearance of the Co-Masonic Order and the wearing of Masonic regalia on June 17th, for she regards the Woman's Movement as a matter of national concern and not one of party politics.

Love of humanity, the desire to serve, and the ability to serve, the most willing spirit of self-sacrifice, endurance, and above all strength are the fundamentals of Mrs. Besant's character. So from some, as is always the case with the strong, she elicits hatred, from others love and reverence. But however men may regard the religious doctrines she teaches, they cannot question Mrs. Besant's ability. She has marked it deeply on the social history not only of England but of her adopted country, India. Probably only posterity will fully estimate Mrs. Besant's work at its true value and few will then deny to her the only epitaph she covets, "She tried to follow Truth."

ELISABETH SEVERS.

"Annie Besant": An Autobiography. T. Fisher Unwin.

In Parliament.

EXEMPTIONS FOR DOMESTIC SERVANTS AND OTHERS.

On Monday 10th July on Clause IV. (Rates and rules for contributions by employed contributors and their employers) a very long discussion took place on an amendment moved by Mr. Charles Bathurst to exempt agricultural labourers. Mr. Lloyd George promised to submit a scheme by which contracting-out could be allowed for labourers, domestic servants, nurses and others who habitually receive wages while sick for short periods.

CASUAL WORKERS AND YOUNG PERSONS.

An amendment moved by Mr. Hunt to make special provision for casual workers was defeated and so was an amendment moved by Mr. Godfrey Locker Lamson to exempt young persons under the age of sixteen from paying the employee's contribution.

AN ALTERNATIVE SCHEME.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Worthington Evans and negatived, which was part of an alternative scheme, dividing the nation into members of approved societies (who would be exempt) and the rest of the nation who would be compelled to join a Health Society.

THE PROPORTION OF EMPLOYED WIDOWS.

On Tuesday 11th Mr. Ramsay Macdonald asked (1) whether the figures of the actuaries in the Memoranda on the Insurance Bill with regard to the employment of women, especially those who are spinsters, married women and widows respectively, were based upon a

report presented by his department to the Treasury; if so, whether he will lay such report upon the table of the House; (2) whether the figures of the actuaries in the Memoranda on the Insurance Bill with regard to the employment of women, especially with regard to spinsters, married women and widows respectively, were based upon a report from his department, and if so, whether he will lay such report upon the table of the House?

To this Mr. Hobhouse replied that the numbers of women employed or working on their own account were deduced, as explained in the actuaries' report, from an examination of the census returns for the three Kingdoms.

We recommend our readers to remember that what the actuaries do say in their report is that "it is impossible to say" in what proportion married women resume wage-earning upon widowhood! (p. 24).

SWEATED WORKERS.

On Tuesday 11th the debate on Clause IV. was resumed and an amendment exempting those who were being paid a minimum wage under the Trade Boards Act was defeated. Clauses V., VI and VII. were passed, dealing with voluntary contributors and the machinery for the payment of contributions.

WIVES AND CHILDREN.

Clause VIII. (dealing with rates and conditions of benefits) was reached after 9 o'clock on Tuesday. After

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

Hon. Secretaries: Miss K. D. COURTNEY. President: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
Miss 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.

From Headquarters.

MRS. DARLINGTON'S ENGAGEMENTS.

Mrs. Darlington, the Common Cause organiser, is now engaged until the middle of November. Societies wishing to apply for her services after that date should write as soon as possible to the Hon. Sec. N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

Mrs. Darlington's holiday engagements are as follows:—

July 24—31 Berwick-on-Tweed.
August 1—19 Blackpool.
August 21—September 4 Scarborough.

Will any who can help in these places write as soon as possible to the following address:—
For Berwick-on-Tweed.
Mrs. HOPE,

Sunwick, Berwick-on-Tweed.

For Blackpool and Scarborough.

The Hon. Sec. N.U.W.S.S.,
14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

Mrs. Darlington's addresses will be given in a later issue.

Treasurer's Notes.

I believe our members have only to realize that the money we spend will help very materially in deciding the fate of our Bill in the House of Commons in order to do everything they can to assist us.

This is shown by the splendid donations which we have already received for the special purpose of increasing our staff of organisers, and we have this week again received £100, from another anonymous friend of the Cause, for the same object.

Perhaps all our readers do not bear in mind that there are now seventeen Federations within the Union, and of these only four or five can supply their own organisers. Of the remainder, two or three are now in a position to assist by paying expenses if we can

supply the organiser, but there still remains a large number of Federations for whom we shall be called upon to provide an organiser entirely at the expense of the central funds, and of course it is just the weak Federations where work is most needed, who are the least able to raise money themselves to defray this expenditure. It is, and must always be the case, that the wealthier societies and individuals will have to contribute on behalf of those who are less well off, and indeed it is considered a privilege to be able to do so.

The Federations which require assistance at the present moment can easily provide work for ten or twelve organisers, and everyone can reckon out how much money would be needed to supply them.

Besides that, nowadays by-elections seem always to be with us; two took place last week and two more are still in full swing, and our best and most experienced organisers have always to be reserved for these important emergencies.

Most of the new societies, founded during the past year, are due to the hard spade-work done by our organisers, and all who are responsible for the progress of the Union are firmly convinced that this department is second to none in importance, and will welcome any donations for this special object.

SANATORIA.

On Wednesday 12th a long discussion took place on the merits of sanatoria. Mr. Lansbury moved to include the wives and children of insured men in sanatorium benefit. Mr. Lloyd George promised, if the amendment were withdrawn, to re-introduce the subject when local authorities were dealt with and "make it optional out of the funds at their disposal to cure the wives and children of insured persons in those institutions." He promised to re-commit the bill if necessary to get a full discussion in this matter and with the reservation that he should move the provision should be compulsory, not optional, Mr. Lansbury withdrew his amendment.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUNDS. JULY 6TH TO JULY 13TH, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since Nov. 1st	1,369	2	2½
Subscriptions—			
Miss M. B. Thornton	25	0	0
Mrs. Arthur Leon	1	1	0
Mrs. A. Finch	1	1	0
Miss R. Cooke	0	2	6
Miss A. Forrester	0	1	0
Donations—			
Mrs. Otto Kahn	3	8	6
Miss M. C. Crossfield	2	0	0
R. (for additional organizers)	100	0	0
Affiliation Fees—			
Cambridge University W.S.S. (Old Students)	3	12	6
Uxbridge W.S.S.	0	8	9
	£1,505	17	5½

PROCESSION FUND.
JUNE, 1911.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	318	15	9
Mrs. Le Lacheur	5	0	0
Mrs. G. C. Thompson	10	0	0
Miss M. C. Crosfield	1	0	0
Chelsea Local Committee	0	6	6
Mrs. Garrido	0	5	0
	£335	7	3

CORRECTION.—£2 2s. given by Mrs. F. C. Tubbs and acknowledged last week should have been entered as a "Subscription," not Donation.

Literature Department.

Mr. Snowden's pamphlet on the Conciliation Bill, reviewed in "The Common Cause" last week, can be obtained from the National Union. It is very clear and concise, and sums up the present situation with regard to Women's Suffrage better than anything that has yet been published. Every suffragist should possess it. (Price 1d. each.)

Revised leaflets explaining the Conciliation Bill are also ready, and will be found useful for distribution at open-air meetings. (Price 6s. per 1,000.)

Those who have read Miss Anna Martin's pamphlet "The Married Working Woman" will be glad to learn that her articles on the maternity benefit recently published in "The Common Cause" are being issued as leaflets in a slightly expanded form.

By the end of the week we hope to have ready some literature suitable for propaganda among midwives and trained nurses.

The following pamphlets and leaflets have recently been stocked:—

"Josephine Butler," a Cameo Life-Sketch. Published by the "Women's Freedom League"	Price 2d. each.
Suffrage Addresses by the Earl of Selborne	1d. each.
Lord Robert Cecil	1d. each.
Speeches by The Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour	3d. per dozen.
The Rt. Hon. Alfred Lyttleton	dozen.
Lord Hugh Cecil	dozen.
Edward Gouling, Esq., M.P.	dozen.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

"The Common Cause."

REMOVAL TO LONDON.

It is hoped to remove the editorial and publishing offices of the Common Cause Publishing Co. Limited to London in the middle of August. We hope to be able to give notice of the change of address next week.

Common Cause Weeks.

An imposing poster parade, a strong corps of sellers in the streets, a poster up at every newsagent's shop, and the strip posters on the hoardings were only some of the ways in which the Newcastle Society advertised their Common Cause Week. Full reports are not yet to hand, but Mrs. Darlington, the Organiser, tells us that all concerned worked with a devotion and self-sacrifice which cannot fail to make the Newcastle Week one of the most brilliant successes. Mrs. Darlington is doing some preliminary work in Manchester this week, with a view to ensuring that the second Manchester Week at the beginning of September shall be the most complete and satisfactory of "Weeks." Berwick-on-Tweed, Blackpool, Scarborough, Eccles, Glasgow, Leeds, Shrewsbury, and Wakefield all hope to have a share of Mrs. Darlington's services in the near future.

London Society's Urgent Notice.

BY-ELECTION IN SOUTH WEST BETHNAL GREEN.

Committee Rooms: 367, Cambridge Road, E.

A by-election is shortly to take place in this constituency. It will therefore be a great convenience if all who can give any form of help will at once communicate with the office of the London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W., giving such particulars as are possible of the form their help will take and then await further

instructions. Personal service of all kinds will be needed, also outdoor speakers, motor-cars, carriages, and money for the Special Fund.

The value of the work done at North-West Ham was indisputable, but those who were active there are, many of them, greatly in need of rest, and it is earnestly hoped that a large number of new helpers will come forward to fill up the ranks for Bethnal Green. Immediate, even if conditional, offers of service will be greatly valued. Mr. Masterman has been adopted as Liberal Candidate and Mr. Eric Hoffgaard as Conservative.

The National Union Banner.

The statement made last week to the effect that the banner was designed by the Artists' League was incorrect. The design of the banner was made by Miss Lowndes and given by her to the National Union. Miss Sterling stated this in her speech at Edinburgh and we are sorry it was incorrectly reported.

By-elections.

SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE.

Candidates: C. Harmsworth (L.).
J. O. Hickman (U.).Committee Rooms: 54, Wellington Street, Luton.
55, High Street, Leighton Buzzard.Organiser: Mrs. Renton.
Polling Day: July 20th.

All through the town of Luton, to say nothing about other places in the constituency, political excitement is now waxing high. It is very difficult to secure the good pitches for open-air gatherings—in fact so many are in the field that it is a case of mutual accommodation from everyone concerned.

Miss Royden has been down twice and has spoken three times for us, once at a meeting at the committee room for women only, and each time she has moved her audience very deeply.

We were very glad to welcome Mrs. Cooper back from her campaign in the western part of the constituency. In the villages round Leighton Buzzard and in that town itself she spoke at no fewer than three meetings daily and met with a most gratifying reception everywhere.

STOCK-TAKING SALE
NOW PROCEEDING.Wonderful Bargains
in all Departments.

Travelling Coat (as sketch), new shape, made from the best quality Scotch rugs. Perfectly cut and finished.

Original Price

50/-

Sale Price - 35/-

Debenham & Freebody,

Wigmore Street,
(Cavendish Square) London W.

One of the most pleasant of our experiences was at Mr. George Kent's hydraulic engineering works, where we were invited by the master himself to hold a meeting in the packing room. Four hundred odd of the men were present and Mr. Kent junior took the chair. Miss O'Shea, whose help we have been lucky enough to secure for a few days, charmed the men with her Irish wit and they gave us a rousing cheer when we left.

We have been able to show the Lutonians that our movement has the support of men as well as women. Mr. Mirrlees very kindly came on Friday and made a splendid speech giving his audience the pith of the suffrage movement from a man's point of view.

We have an excellent report from Leighton Buzzard committee room. Thanks to Miss Edwards' work the cause has become very popular there.

Since Monday we have held 23 meetings.

M. H. RENTON.

WEST SOMERSET.

Candidates: Lieut. Colonel Boles (C.).
Dudley Ward, Esq. (L.).Organiser: Miss M. Norma-Smith, 14, The Crescent, Taunton.
Polling Day: July 21st.

Our campaign in support of Colonel Boles is proceeding with great success. The audiences have been in many places keenly enthusiastic and have shown their approval of our claims in a very practical way by giving in their names as members of our Union. The electors in the constituency are genuinely in favour of the Conciliation Bill. When I explain the scope of the Bill, that it will enfranchise women householders, the statement is received with a cheer.

The Liberals are more and more puzzled that their Liberal candidate will not accept the Liberal watchword that taxation and representation should go together. "We'll talk to him, Miss. We'll talk to him the next time he comes here," the Liberal men in some of the villages have said. The men and women in West Somerset are obviously opposed to adult suffrage.

In most parts of the constituency the Liberals have given us a fair hearing and listened to our point of view and, while they regret our supporting the Unionist candidate, they have acknowledged over and over again that they see the reasonableness and logic of our policy.

At Watchet we had a very large open-air meeting. The audience was very hostile at the beginning and quite prepared to break up our meeting on the least provocation. I talked suffrage for nearly an hour before dealing with the political situation and by the time it came to mentioning party, they were all in a more friendly spirit and recognised that the women have a very strong case and that there is something to be said for our policy of working for the candidate who promises to support the Conciliation Bill. Many questions were asked and there was a good deal of heckling, but the audience that threatened in the beginning to put us in the harbour ended by giving "three cheers for the lady"; four or five hundred people joined in giving these and we drove away amid the waving of hats and the invitation to come back again soon.

We have had thirteen meetings during the week in different parts of the constituency. Mrs. Cross came from Bristol and held a successful meeting at Milverton. Miss Tanner kindly came and spoke for us at Bishop's Hull and Miss Barretti addressed a meeting at Kingston. Miss Dutton and Miss Chambers have worked loyally in canvassing, meeting and getting into touch with possible sympathisers.

The pledge that Colonel Boles has given us is known from one end of the constituency to the other and his supporters are genuinely pleased that he has promised so definitely to support our Bill. The local papers have again published a long letter I sent explaining Mr. Ward's attitude and they have given a good report of many of our meetings. There is no doubt that our movement is gaining ground every day here.

Every day we recognise more and more how impossible it would have been to work this constituency without the aid of a motor-car and we feel very grateful to Mrs. Roger Clark for her splendid generosity.

A pleasant surprise came yesterday in the shape of a cheque for £3 3s. from Miss C. Neuman (Hove) which she kindly sent to help the election work here.

MARGUERITE NORMA-SMITH.

Mrs. H. T. Willis, the Bristol secretary, is going to Taunton to open a stall in the market-place for a week.

Holiday Work.

Tour in Cornwall.

Miss Hatty Baker is going to organise in Cornwall for the National Union during the month of August.

The places it is proposed that she should visit are as follows:—Launceston, Penzance, Redruth, Liskeard, Bodmin. Members of the N.U. who will be in Cornwall in August are asked to send in their names and addresses at once and mention dates when they could offer help in or near any of the above places. Names and addresses may also be sent direct to Miss Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

East and West Midlands Federations' Joint Caravan Tour.

The West Midlands Federation Caravan with Miss Helga Gill as organiser, will start from the Evesham district, where all helpers for the first week will assemble, on August 7th.

It is proposed to work up through Worcestershire into Shropshire and thence into Staffordshire—ending at Burton-on-Trent on August 21st when the van becomes the property of the East Midlands Federation.

It is intended to devote as much time as possible to the constituencies of North Worcestershire, and Wellington in Shropshire, and to pass through the neighbourhoods of Bridgenorth, Much Wenlock and Newport and across the West Staffordshire and Burton divisions.

All offers of hospitality, or help in getting up meetings and finding camping ground, etc., in the villages through which the van will pass, will be most gratefully received.

Sympathisers in the above mentioned districts should communicate with Miss Coyle, Cullen House, New Road, Solihull, Warwickshire; and subscriptions to defray expenses however small will be gratefully received by the treasurer, Mrs. Harley, Condoover House, near Shrewsbury.

Federation Notes.

West Midland.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON DEMONSTRATION.

A suffrage demonstration is to take place at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday July 25th during the summer festival when a great number of visitors will be assembled in the town. The Women's Social and Political Union is organizing the demonstration and the Midland Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies (National Union), the Conservative and Unionist W.F.A., the Church League and the Men's Leagues are all taking part. The object of the demonstration is to show the unity of purpose underlying the work of all the Suffrage Societies, namely their support of the Conciliation Bill. The Procession will form up at 5.30 at the Fountain and on its return at 6.30 speeches will begin.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

Suffrage week at Woking came to an end on Monday 17th with a meeting at South Hill where the Lady Betty Balfour very kindly spoke. We had seven meetings, all of them very successful, especially the open-air meetings, where large crowds were attracted. Many intelligent questions were asked and much interest was shown in the Conciliation Bill. We made several members as well as forming a nucleus of a "Men's League." Excellent speeches were made by Mr. J. Y. Kennedy, Prof. Urwick, Mr. Stables and Mr. MacKinlay.

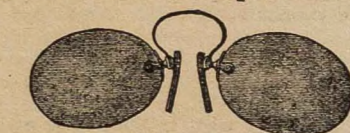


ZARA
71, NEW BOND ST.
LONDON, W.

: HATS, GOWNS, :
BLOUSES, LINGERIE.

Evening Gowns from 6 gns.
Day Gowns from 3½ gns.
Hats from 1 gn.

This large red French Yedda with narrow binding of black straw, bow of black velvet edge with narrow red Yedda straw, can be copied in any colour for 38/6.

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.

West Riding Federation. ORGANIZING WAKEFIELD.

About 50 members have been enrolled as a result of Mrs. Cowmeadow's campaign here and the local Men's Liberal Association passed a resolution by 67 to 3 asking the Government to grant facilities for the passing of the Conciliation Bill. In consequence of the refusal of the Town Council to consider a Women's Suffrage resolution a deputation of 28 women ratepayers attended the Council meeting on the 13th June. As the Council declined to receive this deputation an indignation meeting was held, 12 of these ratepayers joining the Suffrage Society. Full accounts and several letters were sent to the Press. The Council by its action has helped the Suffrage cause and it will probably now bring forward a resolution itself without further outside pressure.

North and East Ridings Yorkshire.

A committee was held in Scarborough on Saturday July 15th. Representatives from Hull, York, Scarborough, Whitby, Harrogate and Tiverton, York, Scarborough, Whitley, Harrogate and Filey Societies. Organisation was planned for the autumn, and taking into consideration that the scheme for having local demonstrations had been adopted by the Edinburgh Half-Annual Council the committee thought it advisable to make immediate arrangements for a Procession to be held in Scarborough contemporaneously with the Provincial Council in October. It would start from the Station, and proceed to some suitable point for a meeting to be held. It is hoped that all Societies available will co-operate in the undertaking, and that Yorkshire will be worthily represented. The secretary of the Federation will be grateful for any offers of help, such as the loan of banners, etc.

Women and the Insurance Bill.

THREE MEETINGS.

No one can say the women are not protesting against the Insurance Bill. They will not let their case go by default and if they fail to get more equitable terms it will be because they have no political power to back them. At the Caxton Hall on Thursday 18th, every speaker pointed the lesson of women's need for the vote. They were mostly experts in their own line, and represented the National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, the Manchester Women's Trade Union Council, the Lancashire and Cheshire Women Textile and other Workers' Representation Com-

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.

mittee, the Domestic Workers' Union, and the New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, etc.

Miss Gore Booth from the chair spoke forcibly of the injustice of differentiation between men and women, not on the ground of the value of their contribution but of their sex.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in moving the resolution, spoke in particular of the position of nurses under the bill. She pointed out that the nursing profession, being composed entirely of women, was a badly paid one, but that if this bill, in its present form became law, nurses would be infinitely worse off than before. She spoke also of the injustice of denying sick benefit to women who were in receipt of maternity benefit.

The chief points to which Mrs. How Martyn raised objection were the exclusion of married women from the bill and the fact that by allowing a smaller benefit to women for the same contribution the Government formally pushed the sex disqualifications one step further. Mrs. Dickenson was interesting in that she was the only speaker who entirely disapproved of the system of National Insurance. She spoke of the work done amongst women in Manchester through voluntary insurance, and deprecated the unnecessary expense of a State system. She quoted Mr. Lloyd George's cry, that women must show a demand for enfranchisement before they can hope to get it. "What women," she said, "had asked for the Insurance Bill?" She ended with the words—"Leave out the women and give them the vote."

The peculiarly hard case of domestic workers was well presented by Miss Grace Neal, whose speech was only ended by the fact that she "dared not say all she thought of Lloyd George."

Lord Lytton was received with tremendous applause. He characterised the bill as grossly unfair. The one good point about it is that it finally and wholly gives away the case of the Anti-Suffragists, who say that women do not need the vote; first, because political affairs do not concern them, and secondly because they depend on the chivalry of men to look after their interests.

Miss Roper further emphasised the fact that the person without a vote was a negligible quantity from the Government's point of view, and Mrs. Pember Reeves showed very clearly that it was the classes of people who least needed help who would benefit by this bill, while the case of the P.O. depositor would be rather worse than before. She gave some interesting but terribly pathetic examples of a workman's budget, in which, in times of stress, less than 3d. per week could be allowed for food for each member of the family. And now 4d. a week must be paid for insurance! Mr. Lloyd George meant well; he had done all he could without women's help, but we did not mean to lie down under men's shortcomings.

The dominating note struck by each of the speakers in succession was that the National Insurance Bill was a signal proof that the enfranchisement of women was absolutely essential, in order that justice might be extended equally to men and women. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"This meeting protests against the different standards of benefits for men and women under the National Insurance Bill, and against the exclusion of about half the female contributors from any money health benefit whatever, and their exclusion from out-of-work benefit, while they are at the same time obliged to pay their employer's contribution and their own. They regard maternity benefit as no adequate substitute for ordinary sick pay, and they protest against the disqualification of married women as voluntary contributors. They consider the bad terms given to Post Office contributors as specially injurious to women. They regard the blindness of the Insurance Bill to the interests of women as an instance of that political negligence which is always the lot of the unfranchised, and they urge upon the Government to give the franchise, and they urge upon the Government to give the earliest possible facilities next year for the passing of the Women's Suffrage Conciliation Bill."

It is impossible in the brief space at our command to do justice to the other great meetings which took place in London on Saturday under the auspices of the National Federation of Women Workers. At the annual meeting in Caxton Hall and afterwards in Trafalgar Square, speaker after speaker protested against the bill as showing profound misunderstanding of women's needs. The following resolution was passed with acclamation:—

This meeting declares that no Bill providing for the compulsory insurance of workers can be accepted as satisfactory unless,

1. It places women on an equal footing with men in respect to benefits.
2. It places upon the employer the whole burden except that portion paid by the State, of insuring all workers, whatever their age, who earn less than a living wage.
3. It provides sickness as well as maternity benefit for all women wage-earners who are compulsorily away from work during the time of child-birth.
4. It gives to the woman who leaves her trade on marriage, the surrender value or other compensation, for the contributions paid by her up to that time.
5. It excludes the Employers' Sick Clubs from participation in the Insurance Scheme, by taking away from them the right to become approved societies.
6. It simplifies the conditions and reduces the membership required for a trade union to become an approved society.

And further, those present pledge themselves to do all in their power to impress upon the Government the necessity of thus amending the National Insurance Bill now before Parliament.

Mrs. Lamont (vice-president) said that their own federation gave them better terms than the Government and she protested against "approving" employers' clubs. Mrs. Young (Women's Trade Union League) spoke of the Bill as instituting a system of "fines and deductions" against which they were fighting. Miss Phillips preferred that people should not get medicine at the expense of their food and she very ably brought forward the case of the widows who will scarcely benefit by the Bill. In the Square she also spoke of the widows and of the casual workers and Mr. Lansbury, M.P., referred to the Bill as a "Truck Act." Mr. Barnes, M.P., Mr. Herbert Burrows, a tailor, a chainmaker and many other experienced women also piled up their experience against the Bill.

Reviews.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN.

The July number has an interesting philosophical article by Miss Geraldine Hodgson on the philosophic theory of polarity of the sexes. An article on Women in the Civil Service would indicate that on the whole the conditions are better for women there than in private employment. Mrs. Chew has written a moving account of an average working mother's day,—moving just because it is so plain and true a tale of ceaseless selfless toil, obscure and precious. The number begins with a clear and brief statement of the political situation, as regards women's suffrage, by Miss Palliser.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE, by Cecil Chapman. (David Nutt. Woman Citizen Series: No. 1. Price 1s.)

"Marriage and Divorce" has the advantage of coming in every detail from the hand of an expert, and is consequently a most valuable contribution to feminist literature. The chapter on marriage has for the most part been thrashed out before, and Mr. Chapman's conclusions are the sum total of Suffragist beliefs; but nothing could be more telling for propaganda work than his appendix to it, where he gives his own personal experiences as a magistrate, and shows up the law from the point of view of the man in the street. He tells us of a man who married his housekeeper, because as housekeeper he had to give her 5s. a week, and as wife he gave her nothing. Another man, obliged by a bastardy order to give 10s. to the support of his five children, married the mother to quash the order.

When Mr. Chapman comes to the question of Divorce, he is aware that his opinions are unorthodox, and he approaches the subject with a tact and a sympathy for the opinion of those who may differ from him which are beyond all praise. He indicates how the granting of separation orders rather than divorce increases immorality, and shows by an exhaustive table concerning divorce in civilised countries that England is one of the few in which a wife cannot get divorce for adultery alone. He instances the opinion of the Bishop of Birmingham, given before the Royal Commission, that he would not give the relief of divorce even to a woman forced by her husband to earn her living on the streets.

All true Suffragists will agree with Mr. Chapman in asking for equal facilities for divorce, but many will probably differ in their views as to the strictness of the marriage tie. What the author ably points out is that no one is going to be forced against his or her will to divorce husband or wife—that is between oneself and one's conscience, and it is a question whether people are not already divorced when mutual regard and respect cease, rather than when the mere legal contract is dissolved by law.

He points out that in Norway, where divorce is exceptionally easy, cases of divorce are rare.

He says that "when the proposition has been accepted that no true system of ethics can admit distinction of sex, the dual standard of morality will go by the board," and again, "the vain repetition of fine sentiments is said to be one of the devil's favourite methods of preventing right action, and the Church is seriously injured by association with it." In these two sentences we have Mr. Chapman's views in a nutshell. The writer has the great gift of imagination, that is, the capacity to put oneself in another's place, which makes chivalrous men Suffragists. He sees the point of view of the toad in Kipling's stanza, which he quotes:—

"The toad beneath the harrow knows
Exactly where each footprint goes;
The butterfly along the road
Preaches contentment to that toad."

L. F. WARING.

WORKING WOMEN AND DIVORCE (an account of evidence given on behalf of the Women's Co-operative Guild before the Royal Commission on Divorce. David Nutt, pp. 74, 6d.)

The Member of Parliament who says "I will consult my wife" upon any questions relating to women and thinks that that promise ought to satisfy women who want votes, might

A Signed Guarantee of Purity

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.

"ARTOX"

has always been guaranteed. It has been analysed again and again by medical men and food experts. It has undergone the severest tests ever devised, and has always emerged with flying colours. Do not run the grave risks attaching to the use of coarse wheatmeal or chemically bleached white flour. Insist upon having "ARTOX," the flour with a signed guarantee and a reputation at stake.

SEND NOW for our dainty booklet and name of nearest agent.

APPLEYARDS, Ltd. (Dept. Z), Rotherham



The Sign of Purity
and the Guarantee of
Excellence.

Real Standard Bread

IS good. Doctors and every-one qualified to express an opinion will support the statement. The trouble is to secure THE genuine, unless you know the merits of Standard Bread made SOLELY from BROWN'S STANDARD FLOUR, which contains fully 80% of the wheat berry, and more than fulfils the requirements of the Doctors' Manifesto.

BROWN'S STANDARD FLOUR

contains all the rich body-building and health-making constituents. No adulteration whatever.

If your baker cannot supply Standard Bread made with Brown's Standard Flour, write to us for list of bakers in your district who only use Brown's Standard Flour. Waddon Flour Mills.

CHARLES BROWN & CO.,
Waddon Flour Mills, Tower Bridge Flour Mills,
Croydon, London, S.E.

N.B.—Messrs. Charles Brown and Co. not only do not, but never have, bleached any of their flours in any way whatever or added any admixture—chemical or otherwise—thereto.

have his eyes opened by this little book declaring the opinions of an organized body of working women upon the marriage state as it now is in England—for how many Members of Parliament are there whose wives know anything about the needs of women of another class? This evidence carried very great weight with the Divorce Commission and rightly so, for the women spoke out of the fullness of their knowledge of the dire effect on home, health, morality and the coming generation of the present unequal and inequitable marriage laws. The stark horror of some of the cases, showing how women suffer from incontinence in the marriage relation and from the legalized unfaithfulness of their husbands makes this little volume one that will haunt every sensitive conscience, whether of man or woman, until these abominations have been swept away. The paralytic toleration with which many so-called Christians view these things adds to one's sense of shame and the ignorance of their own, their wives' and children's health which doctors and teachers have permitted among men is another crying scandal. We hear much of educating women to be wives and mothers; who is going to educate men in their tremendous responsibility of being husbands and fathers? This little book should help. But until the law is altered the brute who chooses to give the rein to his passions may, among the poor at any rate, make his wife the most abject of slaves, ruin her body and prevent healthy maternity with absolute impunity. And there are priests who bid women tolerate these iniquities in the name of the religion of Christ.

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 paper only.

WOMEN AND THE INSURANCE BILL.

In these days when we hear so much about the fall of the birth-rate and kindred subjects, it seems to me that every encouragement should be given to our young people to marry, and stumbling blocks should not be placed in their way. Surely the clause in the Insurance Bill which makes a woman on her marriage forfeit every penny she has been compelled to save does not tend towards inducing marriage, but rather is extremely dangerous, and is likely to increase immorality. Why should not the woman when she marries receive a certain per cent. on what she has saved, in order to provide herself with clothes, household linen, etc.? By the time the weekly compulsory deduction has been made from her already too inadequate wage there will be nothing left to put by for this or any other purpose. It is, I know, only another instance of the utter inability of a man to enter into the women's needs. This, of course, is shown throughout the entire Bill.

M. M. WILLIAMS.

19, Droitwich Road, Worcester, July 10th, 1911.

THE MATERNITY BENEFIT.

Miss Martin has misunderstood my letter. I was not putting suppositions or wishes of my own, but mentioning facts. A resolution asking that the maternity benefit should

be used to provide the services of doctor and midwife and the small balance paid to the woman in cash was passed at the Co-operative Women's Congress of 600 delegates at Bristol. The local meetings of the Guild are open, but a delegate meeting of course is not, though it has not the less authority. I have nothing to say against an experiment in the "State endowment of maternity" myself, provided it is not accompanied by a system of official tyranny.

The public provision of elementary and other education does not imply any doubt that people can spend money well, and surely the same is true of State provision of sanatoria, medical attendance, etc. It is just a question of what is practical. As to milk, where it can be got without difficulty at an ordinary shop or farm, as I infer it can in Miss Martin's experience, there would be no need of help from the local authority. My own experience both in town and country is that working people often cannot get good milk or any milk at all. In matters of this kind people's knowledge of their own business does sometimes want supplementing in all classes. Ignorant rich people can get the best expert and scientific advice on any subject, and it is generally their own fault if they get bad doctoring and bad food. Ignorant poor people cannot help themselves in the same way, so it has fallen to public authorities to help them, and when there is a really helpful scheme that they understand, they are quite ready to welcome it. The medical part of the insurance scheme is in such doubt at present that no one can say whether it is going to be useful or not.

R. NASH.

Miss Anna Martin's statement that I am "quite wrong in assuming" that fees of 10s. 6d. to 15s. for maternity work are "in any sense 'charity' ones" is, to say the least of it, abrupt. Nor does her airy summary of the kind of case in which the doctor is urgently called show her at all qualified to give such an *ex cathedra* utterance on medical matters. This is by no means a question of the "ordinary laws of supply and demand," because it is complicated by the humanitarian element which (to his cost) enters so largely into a doctor's work. He knows the remuneration is inadequate to the work he does, yet because of the physical danger to the patient entailed by his refusal to attend he does it. And, as usually happens, what was once rendered in kindness is soon looked upon as a right. That the fees are inadequate is easily proved, but not in the columns of a lay paper. The State has now made it a penal matter if a woman other than a registered midwife habitually attends maternity cases. It has also made it penal for that midwife under certain conditions to fail to call in a doctor. Surely the just claims of persons required by the State to act, should be the first charge on money granted by the State. If the worker called upon were a manual labourer, this would never have been questioned. But the case your correspondent pictures is that of a house so improvident that the "old baby" cannot be provided for or the blankets got out of pawn without the aid of Government money. Does she suppose that this household will pay the doctor and the midwife? The "contented medical service" will doubtless consider virtue is its own sufficient reward, and that the fact of its services being so essential renders it quite unnecessary to pay for them. These are grand days for the "working" classes, but even professional work deserves a living wage.

MEDICAL WOMAN.

WIVES OF STRIKERS.

It was somewhat of a shock to find your "A.B.C." page occupied this week by a spirited vindication of the Manchester strike. Some of your readers think this strike even more dastardly in its methods and disastrous in its results than is usual with strikes. Nor is the matter made any better because the wives of these men whose wages are about as good as industrial conditions permit, walk through the streets with banners bearing platitudes about a living wage. The "Manchester Guardian" has demonstrated that this strike will be paid for by the ratepayers and the unfortunate holders of ordinary shares in the Ship Canal, who will have to wait an extra two years before they may hope for a farthing's return on their investment. It will be granted therefore I think that there are two sides to the question of admiration for the women who abetted the strikers, and that some of your readers may be alienated by finding such a sentiment classed as the A.B.C. of Suffrage. Your contributor's views may be correct, but they are not Suffragism and being dragged in by the horns may be a block of stumbling to many non-Socialist readers.

NON-SOCIALIST.

[The writer of last week's A.B.C. did not defend or advocate any of the violence which was indulged in by some of the strikers, nor did she say anything that has not been endorsed by all parties about the necessity of a living wage. The Trade Boards Act was not a party measure, yet it recognized the need for a minimum wage if the nation is not to suffer from steady physical deterioration. If the women did not back their men in the demand for a living wage we should never hear the end of the cowardice and slavishness of women holding men down. If an industry can only be carried on by giving wages upon which men, women and little children starve, it is surely not "party-

politics" but sound economics and true patriotism to say that that industry is either mismanaged or illegitimate.—Ed. "C. C."]

Work of Societies in the Union.

WEST OF ENGLAND FEDERATION.

WINSOMBE.—A meeting of members and friends was held on July 3rd at Fordlynech, by the kind invitation of Mrs. W. G. Tanner, the hon. secretary, who read a report of the work of the last six months. This included several meetings on social legislation, which had aroused much interest. Miss Tanner, hon. secretary of the Bristol Society, gave an account of the procession, as none of the members had been able to go, although their banner was carried to represent them. Miss Tanner pointed out the geographical strength of the N.U. and the general recognition of its great future work, and the best way of impressing the M.P. of the constituency. A new member joined. The meeting, although small, showed great interest and enthusiasm. Mrs. John Grubb presided.

BUSTON.—A meeting of teachers was held at 111A, Whiteladies Road, on the 13th July, to discuss the best way of helping the Suffrage Bill within their ranks, in accordance with the resolution passed at the Edinburgh Council meeting. The meeting, although not large, was very representative, private schools, High schools, elementary and secondary and the Clergy Daughters' Schools being represented, as well as the Federation of University Women. It was decided to get a good Suffrage speaker from the N.U.T. to address a meeting of elementary and secondary school teachers before the meeting of their own Executive, and also to hold two debates to be arranged by themselves, Miss Keen kindly promising to secure one or two speakers. It was also decided to get resolutions sent to the N.U.T. from every teachers' association in Bristol.

TAUNTON.—A joint meeting of the West Somerset Midwives' Association and Nurses' Social Union was held at 16, Elm View, Taunton, on July 15th. Mrs. W. Cross, hon. secretary of the Bristol branch of the N.U.W.S.S., gave a most excellent address on Woman's Suffrage, in the course of which she explained how the Insurance Bill will affect midwives, trained nurses, and women workers in general. She explained her whole subject in such a convincing manner that one lady who had been an Anti. proposed a vote of thanks to her, and said that she was now a Suffrage woman, having heard such a lucid explanation of the movement. Many others said that they had never before thoroughly understood the question. At the end of a very enthusiastic meeting, a resolution was unanimously passed, to be sent up to Miss Paget and Miss Hughes, recommending that similar meetings should be held at the different nurses' associations; and a resolution to Mr. Lloyd George, requesting that a clause to protect midwives and nurses should be added to the Insurance Bill. Numerous copies of the "Common Cause" were quickly disposed of, the supply being insufficient to meet the demand. Miss Orr, the matron of the Taunton Hospital, was present. Miss Pullen, from Weston-super-Mare; Miss du Santoy, the County Superintendent; and Mrs. Pearce, Inspector of Midwives, from Oxfordshire, helped at the meeting.

CHELTEMHAM.—We held a garden meeting and sale on Saturday, July 8th, at the house of Mrs. Barry Gibbons, Mellington. Mrs. Swiney took the chair, and Mrs. Bewick Colby was the chief speaker, giving a most able and inspiring speech, partly dealing with the situation in America. Everyone was delighted with her. Besides the meeting, tea, and sale, there was a concert, which was an artistic success.

NORTH-EASTERN FEDERATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, June 13th, a very successful garden party was held in the picturesque grounds of Polam Hall, kindly lent by Mrs. Baynes and Miss Lockwood. The great feature of the afternoon was Mrs. Fawcett's speech, which was as hopeful and inspiring as the sight of her. There was a large attendance, including representatives from nearly all the societies in the Federation. G. E. Markham, Esq., was in the chair and moved the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. O. B. Baynes. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs. Fawcett and the chairman on the motion of Councillor Crooks and Mr. Turner.

NEWCASTLE.—For the present nearly all efforts are being concentrated on "Common Cause" week, of which perhaps the most prominent feature has been the "Poster Parade," which attracted a great deal of attention in our somewhat conservative city, and at least brought the Suffrage cause with peculiar insistence before the busy inhabitants. The paper has been advertised in every possible way, including an advertisement slide at the largest cinematograph theatre. Since Thursday sellers have been stationed in the principal streets and in the suburban high streets in the evenings, but the greatest inconvenience from which we have suffered has been the absence of very many of our most strenuous workers in this holiday season. Much more could have been done both in canvassing and selling had there but been a greater supply of workers to meet with all Mrs. Darlington's ideals of effective work. On July 5th, under the auspices of the Midwives' Association, a meeting was held at the office, at which Miss Eaton spoke on "Women and the Insurance Bill." Dr. Ethel Williams took the chair, and there was an excellent attendance. The Society is organizing demonstrations in Tynemouth on July 22nd and in South Shields on July 29th, and it is hoped that all members in the Federation will do their utmost to support their societies' banners on either of both of those dates in these towns, where the Suffrage cause is greatly in need of stimulus.

SHILDON.—An open-air meeting was held on June 30th at the Railway Crossing, Church Street. Miss Mein addressed a large and attentive crowd composed largely of men. Thirty-six "Common Causes" were sold.

HEXHAM.—On June 8th a meeting was held at Mrs. Walton's, Stocksfield, when a paper was read by Mrs. Brown. On June 13th Mrs. Howson, of Borrowdale, Stocksfield, had a meeting, at which Mrs. Walder Cairns was the chief speaker. The sale of "The Common Cause" is increasing steadily.

WEST RIDING FEDERATION.

Much valuable work has been done during the past few weeks. BAYLET, DEWSBURY, GOOLE.—Indoor and open-air meetings, some of the latter in myriads, have been held in these places, and some canvassing has been done.

BINGLEY AND KEIGHLEY.—As a result of Mrs. Cowmeadow's efforts, a society has been formed with forty-five members in Keighley and seven in Bingley. In addition to meetings held in these towns, others have been addressed at Ingrow, Oakworth, and Haworth. The reception at the Brontë village was satisfactory—a distinct improvement,—for on a previous occasion the Women's Suffrage speakers were stoned all the way to the next village.

LILLY.—A meeting of the representatives of the societies in the Federation was held in the Ladies' Club on the 13th July. In the absence of Miss I. O. Ford in London, Miss C. Wray, of Barnsley, presided. Miss Margaret Ashton attended on behalf of the National Union. Satisfaction was expressed at the amount of strenuous work performed at so moderate a cost. The best ways and means of organizing Suffrage Societies in every constituency, and schemes for raising sufficient funds to make such methods possible, were considered.

A garden party and White Elephant tea, with sale of second-hand books, cakes, sweets, etc., will be given by the Misses Ford at Adel Grange on Wednesday, July 26th. There will also be speeches and debate.

EASTERN COUNTIES FEDERATION.

NORWICH.—On June 30th a drawing-room meeting was held for teachers, by the kind invitation of Miss H. Greene. Miss M. Hunt gave a most interesting address. The audience, though enthusiastic, was unfortunately small. On July 7th a garden meeting for members was held by invitation of the secretary, Miss E. L. Willis. It was a perfect day for an outdoor meeting, and a large proportion of the members were present. After tea Dr. Mary Bell, Miss L. E. Sewell, and others spoke, and plans for future work were discussed. £8 10s. was collected for work in the Norfolk constituencies.

WORURN SANDS, ASPLEY GUISE AND WORURN.—This Society has been doing what it can since June 30th to help forward the campaign in South Beds. for the by-election, and we hope that, as a result, societies will be formed in Luton and Leighton.

CAMBRIDGE.—Several meetings have been organized by this Society in outlying districts, notably one at St. Ives and one at St. Neots. In Cambridge two very successful meetings have been held this month in the Market Place, on Mondays, 7.30 (for the remainder of the month these will be on Tuesdays). Attentive crowds of from 300 to 400 have assembled. The chief speakers have been Mrs. Rackham, the Rev. Duncan Jones, Mrs. Ramsey, Mr. Vulliamy, and Miss Cicely Corbett. Garden meetings and Suffrage "At Homes," by invitation, also have been held at Mrs. Bidder's (about 80 being present), at Mrs. Tillyard's, and at Mrs. Crosfield's; others are to follow at Mrs. Adam's and Mrs. Thompson's.

HITCHIN AND DISTRICT.—Work has gone on as usual, and ten new members and associates have been enrolled, but we have been unable to hold one or two proposed village meetings owing to the difficulty of obtaining a room. We are hoping to overcome this difficulty, however, by having open-air meetings. The Stevenage Women's Liberal Association, which is affiliated to the Women's National Liberal Association, passed a resolution on June 29th, by 20 to 4,



**THE
LAST
WORD
IN
SOAP.**

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

WON'T SHRINK FLANNELS.

AN EXCELLENT HAIR WASH.

From All Grocers, 1d. and 3d. Packets,
JOHN KNIGHT LTD.,
Soapmakers by Appointment to H.M. King George V.
The Royal Primrose Soap Works.
LONDON, E.

Buy The Royal Primrose Soap from the Suffrage Shop, 54, Long Row, Nottingham. Send for price list and samples. All profits to the cause.



TAILOR-MADE SUITS AT ALEXANDER WILKIE'S.

Mr. WILKIE specialises in Tailor-made Costumes made to measure from

3½ Guineas.

Our illustration is one of "Wilkie's" smart styles, made in blue worsted. These Costumes are carefully cut, fitted, and tailored. They are indeed stylish, pleasing, and comfortable.

Patterns, Sketches, and Measurement Forms will be forwarded on request.

ALEXANDER WILKIE,
LADIES' TAILOR and
DRESSMAKER.

61, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

urging the W.N.L.A. to make Women's Suffrage one of its objects. We were also fortunate in getting a resolution passed at the Edinburgh Council meeting, urging the societies to do their utmost to persuade the W.L.A. of the democratic character of the Conciliation Bill. We are glad to be able to report that our Society furnished one speaker for the West Ham by-election, and hopes to send another worker to Luton for two or three days.

LONDON SOCIETY.

CORONATION.—The office balconies were decorated with a large bunting flag and many pennons and smaller flags in the National Union colours, and four signposts were erected bearing the motto, "We maintain—Our Loyalty—and defend—Our Right." The display caused much interest among the customers of the Army and Navy Stores opposite, and one Suffragist, a "Clubwoman" from California, after consultation with the Stores' porter, came across to visit us.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.—The Quarterly Conference took place on June 26th, Miss Ward in the chair. Members of Local Committees and others had been asked to send in subjects for discussion, and about five different topics were discussed, the first being the following proposition, sent in by Chelsea and ably supported by Miss Murrell Marris:—"That individual women municipal electors be urged to bring pressure to bear on their special councillors, requesting them to write to their member of Parliament asking his support of the Conciliation Bill." Other subjects discussed were "How best to interest members in the work," "How to work for the Conciliation Bill in the holiday season," and "Whether more women could not give up other forms of work to devote time during the coming year more exclusively to Suffrage work" (proposed by Miss Theobald). Miss Palliser spoke in favour of concentrating on the National Union official programme for the Bill rather than organising new schemes. One of the practical results of the Conference was that the following ladies promised to place, between them, about thirty-eight copies of the "Common Cause" in hotel reading rooms at holiday resorts and in railway waiting rooms for the three holiday months—viz., Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Bertram, Miss Eve, Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Hollins, Miss Gosse, Mrs. Garrido, Mrs. Longson, Miss Martinon, Miss Murrell Marris, Miss A. M. Monk, Miss Morris, Miss O'Malley, Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Spring Rice, Miss Theobald, Mrs. Vinall, and Miss Ward.

BLACKHEATH.—A very successful garden party was held on June 29th, by kind permission of Mrs. B. S. Green, at Ellersdale, Blackheath Park. Miss Nina Boyle gave an interesting and moving address, illustrating the need of political power being given to women workers. About 100 were present (members and many ants). Mr. Close Shipham and Mr. Long also spoke, and Miss V. Drummond recited. Mr. Monk was in the chair.

EALING, ACTON, AND BEDFORD PARK.—All helpers will be glad to hear that the financial result of the meeting in the Ealing Town Hall on May 31st was as follows:—Sale of tickets, £1 18s.; collection, £2 6s.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH HACKNEY.—At a special meeting of the committee held early in the month we decided to join in a local procession through Hackney, and until the 17th all our efforts were directed towards making this as great a success as possible. A large number of our members came to the demonstration, and the National Union section, which headed the procession, made an excellent show with red, white, and green flags and pennons. We were very proud of our beautiful banner, the work of Mrs. and Miss Clennell, to whom we owe a hearty vote of thanks. After the procession we were interested in the garden party on June 28th, organised by the North Hackney branch. A considerable number of friends from Central and South Hackney were present, and we spent a most profitable and enjoyable evening.

HACKNEY NORTH.—A delightful and most successful garden party was held at Moreton Lodge, Upper Clapton, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, on June 28th. The weather was very fine, and about 150 guests were present. The chair was taken by Dr. Sidney White, LL.D., who introduced our speakers in a most inspiring speech. Miss I. O. Ford delighted the audience with her humorous and at the same time thought-provoking remarks. Mrs. Bewick Colby followed, and gave us an interesting account of the working of the franchise in the five Suffrage States of America. A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Miss Eve, whilst Mr. and Mrs. Bishop were also cordially thanked for their kind hospitality. Several new members were added to the Society, and a considerable number of "Common Causes" sold.

HIGHGATE.—A pleasant little gathering was held on July 6th at the house and in the garden of the Misses Sharpe, of Sibhavon. Mrs. Garnett opened the meeting with a few appropriate words, and Miss Lina Eckenstein gave an address on "Pioneer Women in the 12th Century." Her hearers listened with marked attention and joined in discussion afterwards. Some new members joined the Highgate branch, and the recently issued posters for tax-paying but voteless women attracted much interest and sold readily.

MUSWELL HILL.—A very successful open-air meeting was held at The Exchange, Muswell Hill, on June 16th. The speakers were Miss J. H. Thomson, Mr. A. Long Brown, Rev. A. R. Hancock (Vicar of St. Peters-le-Poer), and Mr. G. A. Tyler. There was a very good attendance and much interest was shown. Mr. Long Brown said that the Society was not allied to any political party, as was clearly shown by the speakers of the evening, he being chairman of the local Liberal Association and leader of the Liberals in the local Parliament, while the Rev. Ardan Hancock proclaimed himself a Socialist, and Mr. G. A. Tyler was a prominent Conservative member of the local Parliament.

S. PADDOINGTON.—A very successful garden meeting was held at 51, Porchester Terrace, on June 27th, by kind permission of Mrs. Huxley, to meet some of the oversea visitors, over 100 of whom accepted the invitation of the South Paddington Committee. Mrs. Fawcett was in the chair, and proposed the resolution. Professor Bickerton, in seconding, spoke of the effect of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand, and stated that the special qualities of both men and women were required by the State. Madame Schmahl then gave a most interesting account of the women's movement in France, and Miss C. Corbett also spoke to the resolution, which was carried nem. con.

EAST ST. PANCRAS.—A very successful meeting was held outside the Metropolitan Market on June 16th, from 3-30 to 5-30, when

Mrs. Rogers and Miss Cockle gave most interesting addresses, Miss Deverell presiding. The audience naturally fluctuated, amounting sometimes to about 150 persons, and was at first somewhat unruly, but gradually became interested and attentive.

WIMBORNE, NORTH.—On July 11th an evening open-air meeting was held at the corner of Merton High Street. Mr. Ellis, who was in the chair, is a member of the Surrey County Council. He asserted that woman's place is wherever she can do good, and bade us look forward to the time when men and women, working together on an equal footing, will improve and beautify the world. Mr. Kennedy gave an explanation of the Conciliation Bill, and laid stress on the fact that five or six working women would be enfranchised for every woman of the leisured classes. Miss Ford spoke of the difficulties of working women, who can get no wrongs redressed because they have not the power of the vote to back them up. She spoke of the sweated wages which are paid to women, and of the shameful way in which some employers treat their women employees. The Insurance Bill would be very different in the part relating to women if women had the vote, and surely it is the grossest injustice to expect women to pay for members' salaries when they have no voice in their election.

Other Societies.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W.
This Society is planning an extensive country campaign, which started with a meeting in Bourne End, South Bucks., on Wednesday, the 12th, and resulted in the formation of a local Propaganda League. At a drawing-room meeting, most kindly given by Mrs. Whitfield at "Redlands," Beaconsfield, Bucks., on Thursday, the 13th, a local society for that district was also successfully started. On Monday our organiser will commence a fortnight's campaign in the Maldon division of Essex. All who can give offers of help in the neighbourhood of Witham, Felstead, Halstead, Tiptree, etc., are asked to communicate with our secretary.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Organising Secretaries *pro tem.*:
Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholemeley Park, Highgate, N.
Hon. Corresponding Secretary:
Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.
The Brighton branch secretary reports a most successful garden meeting at invitation of Executive Committee on 8th inst. Mr. Strickland was speaker and Miss Hatty Baker chairman. From East Ham we hear that weekly outdoor meetings are held. From Camberwell that joint secretaries have been appointed, so that this branch will now be formally organised.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss Gabrielle Jeffery, 75, Harcourt Terrace, The Boltons, London, S.W.
Miss Kendall, 22, Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park, N.
All Catholics going to the Congress at Newcastle are asked to communicate with the hon. secretary, also to wear the badge of our Society at lectures, meetings, etc. It is hoped that we shall be able to send a representative there. Ladies are asked to volunteer to lend their drawing-rooms for meetings after the holidays. Badges on sale, price 2d., also "Views of Cardinal Moran and the late Cardinal Vaughan on Woman's Suffrage," pub. by N.U.W.S.S., price 1d.

WOMEN WRITERS' SUFFRAGE LEAGUE.

A prize of £10 is being offered by the Women Writers' Suffrage League for the best one-act play dealing with the "Woman Question." As the Society is giving a matinee in the autumn for the benefit of its funds, it is more than likely that the successful play will find a place on the programme. All particulars to be obtained by letter only from the Secretary, at the office of the League, 55, Berners Street, W.

The office of the Women Writers' Suffrage League will be closed during August, but all letters will receive prompt attention.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

President: The Bishop of Lincoln.
Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park.
The Regent's Park branch held a well-attended meeting on Wednesday last at 11, St. George's Terrace, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Seal. The Rev. Maurice Bell was in the chair. The Rev. C. Baumgarten gave an excellent address on the revision of the marriage service. Father Conrar, S.S.I.E., Father Healey, and others joined in the debate.
The secretary will be glad of offers of help during the Church Congress at Stoke-on-Trent. Workers are much wanted.
The Rev. Claude Hinscliff will speak at the demonstration at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday, July 25th.

SOUTHALLS' Towels possess many great Advantages:—

- Their elasticity gives comfort to the wearer.
- Their complete absorbency promotes cleanliness and gives security.
- Their unique softness gives warmth and ease.
- Their thorough antisepticity is the greatest safeguard of health.



SOUTHALLS'
SANITARY TOWELS
WARNING. Do not ask for Sanitary Towels—ask specially for Southalls' Other makes lack the many advantages which distinguish Southalls'.
Sold at Ladies' Counters in all Drapers, Chemists, etc., in silver packets containing one dozen at 6d., 1/-, 1/6 and 2/-. A Sample Packet of Towels (varying in size) will be sent post free for six penny stamps. Write to THE LADY MANAGER, 17, Bull St., Birmingham.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Table with columns for date, location, event, and time. Includes entries for July 20 (Winsford), July 21 (York-Butts Close), July 22 (Marple-Brentwood), July 24 (Newcastle), July 25 (Cambridge), July 26 (Brighton), July 27 (Leeds), July 28 (Huntingdon), July 29 (Newcastle Society), August 1 (Cambridge).

LONDON.

Table with columns for date, location, event, and time. Includes entries for July 20 (Epsom), July 21 (Blackheath), July 22 (Windsor and Eton), July 27 (Epsom), July 30 (Epsom).

186,
REGENT ST., W.



PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Not exceeding 10 words: 1 insertion, 9d.; 2 insertions, 1s. 3d.; 3 insertions, 1s. 6d.; 6 insertions, 2s. 9d.; 13 insertions, 5s. 6d. Every additional ten words, 6d. extra per insertion. All payments for Advertisements should be made to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

PROFESSIONAL.

LADY, 26, keen enthusiastic Suffragist, seeks engagement in connection with Women's Suffrage work. No previous practical experience.—"W. H.," 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

LADY requires Engagement in connection with Women's Suffrage work; no previous experience; anxious to be trained as organiser; would volunteer as Assistant Secretary; has knowledge of typing and shorthand.—Apply G., "Common Cause" Office.

MISS HELEN FRASER can take speaking engagements August on.—Terms, etc., in National Union's List of Speakers, or from Nithsdale, Langside, Glasgow.

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

MRS. MERIVALE MAYER can accept speaking engagements.—For particulars address N.U., or 24, Queensberry Place, South Kensington, London, S.W.

NATIONAL UNION LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.—Clerk wanted. Salary, 30s. per week. Must be experienced book-keeper and business woman.—Apply to Miss O'Malley, 51, Paultons Square, Chelsea.

GENERAL.

BICYCLE BARGAINS for comfort and easy running. Ladies' High-grade Models, £4 10s. and £5 5s. Three-speed Gear, £5 15s. and £6 15s. Cash or deferred easy payments. Catalogue post free. 30 years' first-class reputation. Awarded over 50 Gold and Silver Medals. Supplied to 20 Royalties.—New Rapid Cycle Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

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

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

CORSETS to pattern or measure.—CHARLTON WHITE, White ladies Gate, Bristol.

FOR SALE, "Englishwoman," 1910 (5s. 6d.), unbound.—To The Rest, Haslemere.

GREAT REMNANT SALE!—Genuine white art Irish linen; big pieces suitable for tea-cloths, d'oyles, traycloths, etc.; 2s. 6d. bundle; postage 4d.; illustrated sale catalogue post free.—Write to-day, HUTTON'S, 159, Larne, Ireland.

MISS MARTYN will do fancy work and painting for bazaars, private sale, etc.—Glyn Neath, Hales Road, Cheltenham.

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

PAPER BAGS FOR COOKING.—Large stock in hand; 6d. packet, 8d. post free; cash with order.—Miss Ransom, 135, Edgware Road, London, W.

SECOND-HAND Clothing, Furniture, or Stocks of any kind. Best prices given. Postcards promptly attended to.—Mrs Russell, 100 and 102, Raby Street, Byker, Newcastle.

WHERE TO LIVE.

COUNTRY NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOMES, Penn's Lane, Erdington, near Birmingham. For Paying Patients (Under the distinguished patronage of the Countess of Bradford) Medical, Surgical, Massage. Permanent Patients received in Homes. (Care of one delicate child.) Fully certificated. Hospital-trained Nurses sent out on application.—Miss C. Falgout, Malvern. Telephone: 117 Erdington. Telegrams: "Nursing, Erdington."

LIFTONVILLE, Margate.—Paying guests received in large house few minutes from sea. Tennis, croquet.—"Kent," 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

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

HOSTEL for Professional Women.—Miss Broadbent, Elmhurst, Victoria Park, Manchester.

LADY, vegetarian, seeks Home with refined family in pleasant neighbourhood, on mutual terms, for help in house; or separate rooms; no attendance; or to keep house for business lady.—D. M., Glyn Neath, Hales Road, Cheltenham.

LADY receives Students, Teachers, and other Ladies; full or partial board; references exchanged.—"H.," 9, Burton Street, Tavistock Square, W.C.

LAKE DISTRICT.—Small comfortable cottage to let furnished, July 29 to August 12. 15s. per week.—Mrs. Kitching, Deepdale, Patterdale.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thornaby, Aysgarth, S.O., Yorks.—Paying Guests received; sunny, dry situation; rambles and excursions in Wensley, Wharfe, and Swaledale; lovely moors, waterfalls, and river scenery; special terms to professional women.—Particulars from Miss Smith.

84, REDCLIFFE GARDENS, London, S.W.—Board-residence (ladies) from 25s.

UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT, MANCHESTER.—Women Residents able to help in social work welcome. Good opportunities for training in Girls' Club and other work. One guinea a week. Apply The Warden.

VEGETARIAN BOARD-RESIDENCE, temporary or permanent. Homelike. Ladies and Gentlemen. Convenient situation. Room and Breakfast from 3/- per day.—Madame Veigelé, 63 and 65, Hereford Road, Bayswater, W.

NOW READY.

Volume II. of The Common Cause

Bound in red, white and green.

Price 8/6. Postage 7d. Extra.**Also Covers for Binding, complete with Title page and Index
2/- each. Postage 4d. extra*****Order at once from The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade,
Manchester.****WOMEN OF TASTE**

Will Appreciate the Teas at the

CLARION CAFE,**50a, Market Street, Manchester.**

QUIET AND ARTISTIC SURROUNDINGS.

**Alice S. Kinkead,**

Worker in Metals and Enamel,

**23, Clareville Grove, Onslow Gardens,
LONDON, S.W.**PERSONAL ORNAMENTS, GASKETS, SPOONS, &c.
Buttons, Pendants, &c., in Enamel
of "Society" Colours.**The William Morris
Press: 42 Albert St.**

MANCHESTER.

Telephone: CENTRAL 2295.

High-class Printing with promptitude
and Fair Prices.**ROYAL ABBEY LAUNDRY
AND CLEANING WORKS,**

CHISWICK PARK, W.

All Workers in Receipt of Living Wage.

Telephone: 688 Hammersmith.

THE TEA CUP INN,

1, Portugal Street, Kingsway, W.C.

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

Light Luncheons, Hot and Cold.

Afternoon Teas. Home Cookery.

Moderate Charges.

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

Most centrally situated.

Manchester and Salford Cars to all parts pass close to the Hotel.

PASSENGER LIFT. TWO NIGHT PORTERS.

Re-decorated and re-furnished.

National Telephone 5538 & 5539 City, Manchester.

STANLEY D. GORDON, Manager.

"INVISIBLE COURIER" TOURS
(Dr. Seelig's System).This is a system which eliminates worry, and unites the
economic advantages of the CONDUCTED TOUR with the
privacy of INDEPENDENT TRAVEL.

EXAMPLES OF TOURS ON THIS SYSTEM.

8 days' tour in beautiful Shannon District	£5 15 6
8 " " to Glasgow, Trossachs and Edinburgh.	£5 15 6
8 " " in English Lake District	£5 15 6
9 " " to Holland and Belgium	£5 15 6
Fortnight's tour in glorious Devon	£10 10 0
" " to Sweden	£11 11 0
" " to Luxemburg and Ardennes	£6 16 6
" " to Switzerland	£10 10 0
" " Denmark, Finland, and Sweden	£14 0 0
19 days' tour to the Northern Capitals of Europe.....	£15 15 0

Full particulars and Programme from Tourist Dept., 50,
Parliament Street, S.W.**AN ARTISTIC HEALTH HOME**within 18 miles of London, where Headache, Depression,
Dyspepsia, Anemia, and Allied Ailments are treated by re-
formed diet under Medical Supervision and at most moderate
terms. Large secluded lawns, woods, lake, and meadows of 80
acres. Most picturesque, and restful; and near Eton, Windsor,
Burnham Beeches, etc., etc Write for illustrated prospectus
from The Secretary, Baylis House, Slough, Bucks.

NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

KINGSLEY HOTEL

**HART STREET, BLOOMSBURY SQUARE,
LONDON.**Well-appointed and commodious TEMPERANCE HOTEL,
offering all the conveniences and advantages of the larger
modern Licensed Hotels at moderate charges.

Telegraphic Address:—"BOOKCRAFT, LONDON."

Lounges and Spacious Dining, Drawing,
Writing, Reading, Billiard, and
Smoking Rooms.
Bathrooms on every Floor.
Perfect Sanitation. Passenger Lifts.
Floors Fireproof Throughout.
Night Porters. Telephone.BEDROOM, ATTENDANCE, AND TABLE
D'HOTE BREAKFAST, SINGLE,
from 5/6 to 8/.

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

Full Tariff and Testimonials on application.

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