

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] *Societies and Branches in the Union 524.* [NON-PARTY.]

Vol. VII., No. 334.]

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1915.

[PRICE 1d.
Registered as a Newspaper.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes and News	265
First-Hand Experiences. II.—Harvesting in Essex. By Miss K. M. Courtauld	266
Correspondence	267
Emptying the Money Box	268
Food and Efficiency. By Miss D. M. Ford	269
Notes from Headquarters	270
What Some of Our Societies are Doing	271

Notes and News.

Cholera in Europe.

Asiatic cholera is officially declared to be prevalent in Austria, where the Minister of the Interior has reported 929 cases, and to be spreading over Germany, from East Prussia and Silesia as far as Hanover in the West. The Italian Government is meeting the danger with compulsory inoculation of the Army and Navy. Here in Great Britain we are taking the most stringent precautions at all sea-ports. But the greatest and most important precautions against cholera were taken by our fathers, and the great sanitary engineers who devised and carried out our water-works and safeguarded our town water-supplies. All the most terrible cholera epidemics have been traced to infection and re-infection of drinking water by the infiltration of sewage; it was seen that the disease in some mysterious way followed the course of rivers, but the significance of the fact was not recognised. In Hamburg, in August, 1892, the death-rate rose in one week to 1,000 per day, and it was found that the tide was bringing the sewage back up the Elbe, past the water-intakes for the town reservoirs, where the filtering arrangements were notoriously imperfect. In neighbouring Altona, where the river water was filtered through sand beds, there were very few cases of cholera. The police in Potsdam and Berlin are now issuing orders that all drinking water must be boiled, for the rivers Oder and Spree are both contaminated.

Where We are Wasting Our Money.

"What sort of imports are we not to buy?" asks an inquirer, anxious to spend with a view to national economy. "So much of our food comes from overseas that we seem obliged to pay for imports." There is an answer from the Board of Trade returns. The quarterly appendix published this month informs us that this year's imports from the United States have reached the sum of £124,000,000. The details form an exhaustive list of what "not to buy." "If this enormous import from America took the form of munitions and necessities of life," says a writer in *The Economist*, "it would not be alarming . . . but we are buying enormous quantities of wasteful, useless articles." Here are some instances—cinema films, £672,812 (actually five times as much as in 1914!); motor parts, £1,200,671; silks (excluding French), £1,439,967; hosiery, £413,841; and chocolate confectionery, £1,385,162! On these items, which in all cases are purchased from neutral States, we have more than doubled and trebled our expenditure at a time when we have no surplus income, and must spend as little as we can upon our-

selves and as much as we can upon national needs. Let us make a note of imports, when shopping, and "go without" wherever we can.

"The Best Holiday We Ever Had."

This is the report received from one area of Worcestershire where the plums are being picked by a contingent from a boys' school, who camp by the river, and get an early swim before their day's work in the orchards. As fruit pickers they have won almost enthusiastic praise from the growers, who have asked them to come another year. A short distance away a settlement of women university students have spent a month, first picking beans, then helping to get in the harvest, and, lastly, gathering plums. They cannot praise their holiday enough, nor the friendliness of the villagers, who took a personal interest in their success. They worked the regulation hours for the regulation pay. There is plenty of work after harvest for anyone who wants a real health-holiday. A lawyer, well known in the Midland counties, is now hoeing onions instead of climbing the Alps or motoring in France; and a head-master has spent three weeks on hoeing turnips. "I could do with fifty men on this farm," says one grower, whose men have enlisted; and, indeed, the weeding is terribly behindhand. And "one year's seeding means seven years' weeding!" Who will cease worrying about a restricted choice of watering-places and take a holiday working on the land, "the best holiday they ever had?"

Organisation of Women Workers.

The agenda of the Trade Union Congress, which opens at Bristol on Monday, contains several resolutions dealing with the position of women who are taking men's places during the war. A resolution in the name of the National Union of Clerks expresses anxiety with regard to the entry of large numbers of women into industry without any adequate safeguards against under-payment and unsatisfactory conditions of labour, and demands that "where women are so introduced by the agency of national institutions, and in response to a national appeal, they shall be required, on entry into any trade or industry, to become members of the trade union appropriate to that trade or industry."

Equal Pay for Equal Work.

The same demand is made by the National Federation of Women Workers, with the addition "that those unions which exclude women be urged to admit women as members." It is also urged by the Federation that where a woman is doing the same work as a man she should receive the same rate of pay, and that the principle of equal pay for equal work should be rigidly maintained. This principle has in a great number of cases been disregarded, largely owing to want of organisation among the women, who have often no idea of what wages their predecessors have been paid, and are not sufficiently alive to the duty of keeping up the standard. Some girls who are replacing men seem, indeed, to consider it unpatriotic to refuse an inadequate wage, but in their eagerness to help are ready to work long hours for whatever is offered to them. There is need of an educational campaign to bring the seriousness of the wage question home to them, and to show that by accepting a low scale of pay they are not only helping to stereotype sweating conditions for women, but are also damaging the interests of the men who are fighting for their country, who may return to find that a lower scale of pay has been established through women's "war service."

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: Miss Evelyn Atkinson, Miss Edith Palliser (Literary), Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary), Miss Geraldine Cooke.

LOST LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE N.U.

In view of the fact that several letters containing Cheques and Postal Orders have lately failed to reach us, we shall be glad if any contributors who have not received an acknowledgment will communicate at once with the Hon. Treasurer, at 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. In order to ensure safe delivery all letters containing money should be registered, and all cheques and postal orders should be crossed.

Active Service Fund.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Already acknowledged £7,052 12 4', 'Miss M. Domaille 1 0 0', 'Miss Mary A. E. Milton 5 0', etc.

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Brought forward £58,117 1 8d', 'Miss Jean B. Montgomery (Screens for Kragulevatz) 4 0 0', 'John L. Doig, Esq. 5 0', etc.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Beigate Society, per Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Fed. (Serbia) 8 2', 'Mrs. Macgregor 1 0 0', 'Proceeds from "Paper Roses," per Mrs. Grindley and Mrs. D. Ritchie 1 0 0', etc.

Erratum.—In list of subscriptions from the Scottish Serbian Flag Day Committee, from Flag Days in Scotland, as published in the "C.C." of August 23rd, for "Kilmallie" read "Kilmacollm," £141 1s.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Table with columns for Name of Bed, Donor, and Amount. Includes entries like 'Vive la France (France) From two Glasgow Members', 'Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Fed.' Per Miss O'Shea, Hon. Treas., The Cottage, Cosham, Hants.', etc.

THRIFT NOTES.—IV.

Eggs will be scarce and very dear in the coming winter, and to-day I am giving some simple recipes for cakes and puddings with no eggs, or only one. The prudent will have preserved eggs earlier in the year, when they were cheaper than they are likely to be for some time.

My first recipe, Newark Pudding, was described by the cook who gave me the recipe as a "deceitful" pudding. "It is not a grand pudding, and yet people think it is," she said.

Newark Pudding, with one egg.—3 oz. bread crumbs stale, 2 oz. sugar, 1 1/2 oz. butter, 2 tablespoons plum, or raspberry, or apricot jam, 1 egg, 1/4 teaspoonful of carbonate of soda, 1 tablespoon of milk if necessary.

Lunch Loaf, without any egg.—This is a favourite cake in the schoolroom. 1/2 lb. flour, 2 oz. butter or fat, 1/2 lb. raisins, 3 oz. sugar, spice, or lemon peel, 1 teaspoon carbonate of soda dissolved in a little milk. Mix and add more milk if required. Bake carefully.

MRS. OWEN POWELL.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

The Summer School at Cambridge. The Summer School at Cambridge, organised by the Oxon, Berks., and Bucks. Federation, has been very well attended, in spite of the general preoccupation with the war.

Manchester and District Federation.

CHINLEY.—£25 has been collected for a Chinley and Chaple-en-le-Frith Bed for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital. A jumble sale, arranged by Mrs. Preston, and supported by a working party which renovated old garments, yielded £15.

BOLTON.—A successful American tea was given by Mrs. F. Taylor, and £27 realised. Working parties have met regularly at the Suffrage Shop, and day shirts, night shirts, pyjamas, pillows, blankets, &c., have been forwarded to the hospital.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—A donation of £27 14s. 6d. has been sent to the Scottish Hospital Fund, and a large parcel of shirts, socks, and bedroom slippers has been forwarded.

FARNWORTH.—A donation of £5 has been given by this Society. HYDE.—A working party has been organised, and its members are busy with shirts and socks. About £5 has been collected for the hospital.

WHALEY BRIDGE.—A donation of £50 on behalf of the Scottish Hospital. MARBLE has raised £50 for the hospital. Donations have been sent direct from many members.

Kentish Federation.

THE ROCHESTER SOCIETY is running a Club for the wives of Service men.

AT TENBRIDGE WELLS members are actively helping the various branches of war work being carried on. The "Comrades" Club for girls and soldiers, the Red Cross, V.A.D. Hospitals, the Soldiers' Laundry, organised by the N.U.W.W. with its regular band of voluntary menders, all draw appreciated support from the Suffrage Society.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

- Paddington.—8, Hatherley Grove, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Messrs. William Owen, Ltd.)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Blackheath Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital.—Tuesday, 2 to 6, at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk.
South Kensington.—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital. Every Tuesday and Friday, 3 to 5.30 p.m.
Huddersfield.—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street, every Tuesday afternoon, from 2.30 p.m.
Glasgow.—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Miss Millar, Fernhill, Rutherglen—Chair, Rev. George H. Morrison, M.A., D.D., Wellington Church—Speaker, Miss Emily Foggo, on "Scottish Women's Hospitals," N.U.W.S.S.—September 6th, at 3.30 p.m.
Worcester.—Tuesday, September 14—Lantern Lecture, at the Co-operative Hall at 8.30—Chairman, The Mayoress—Lecturer, Miss Thurston, on her personal experiences in Red Cross Work in Belgium and Russia.

THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCERS' AND DISTRIBUTORS' JOINT COMMITTEE, 41 and 42, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C., has issued some useful little leaflets pointing out the advantages of the use of home-grown produce, and giving various ways in which fruit and vegetables can be used.

MANY WAYS OF COOKING BANANAS (Elders & Fyffes, Ltd., London, W.C., 3d.), gives a number of recipes for appetising dishes, both sweet and savoury, made with bananas. Some of these, such as "banana trifle," can be made without cooking the fruit.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Advertisement for Debenham & Freebody featuring a woman in a dress. Text includes 'Dainty & Inexpensive REST FROCK', 'Designed by our own artist and made in our own workrooms from rich quality materials.', and 'CHARMING WRAPPER in soft silk Moire Radium, trimmed with lace and cabuchon fastenings, bodice lined Japanese silk. Special price 49/6'. Address: Wigmore Street, Covent Garden, London, W.

Advertisement for Bendable Boots & Shoes. Text includes 'For Smartness & Comfort—WEAR BENDABLE BOOTS & SHOES', 'Guaranteed all British Manufacture', 'Maximum Comfort at Minimum Cost.', and 'SEND NOW FOR FREE BENDABLE BOOK'. Price 13/6. Postage 4d. Address: The "Bendable" Shoe Co., Commerce House, 72, Oxford St., W.

