

# The Common Cause

## OF HUMANITY.

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

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*The National Union does not hold itself responsible for views expressed in signed articles and correspondence.*

### Notes and News.

#### The Queen and Training for Women.

On Monday Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to the London Society's workshop for training women in acetylene welding and elementary engineering. The Queen, who was attended by Lady Bertha Dawkins, was received by the Countess Brassey, Miss Lowndes, and Mrs. Oliver Strachey on behalf of the Committee. Her Majesty showed great interest in the work, and spent nearly half-an-hour at the Welding Workshop, watching the flames through coloured glasses. Miss Woodward explained the process and the responsible nature of the work, and her Majesty expressed herself highly pleased with the work, and with the fact that as soon as they were trained the women were placed in aircraft factories, and received the same rates of pay as men.

At the elementary engineering workshop in Chelsea, her Majesty spent nearly three-quarters of an hour, and spoke to each of the pupils. She consented to partake of workshop tea, and sat upon the battered workshop chair, which, though solid, is extremely shabby. The only table available was a packing-case, and the tea service was miscellaneous, including a tin box lid for a cake plate and a teapot without a handle. Her Majesty accepted some samples of the metal objects made by the pupils, and expressed her approval of the work of the Women's Service Bureau, and her great appreciation of the splendid work women are doing in so many directions, and of the capacity they are showing. She said that it was essential that they should be properly trained before undertaking skilled work.

#### "For Showing What Women Can Do."

In a vivid and deeply interesting paper read before the Royal Society of Arts, Dr. Hanson, of Mrs. Stobart's Unit, gave an account of her experiences in Serbia, including two months' work with our own Units.

"A number of Serbian women helped in the hospitals," she said, "but it was not considered the business of any to desire a place in the limelight of the firing line. Naturally all the British Units coveted that most of all, and the Serbians, with their usual gracious desire to please, I fear, involved themselves several deep in their promises of priority. They perhaps hardly took us seriously at first, for I remember, the day after the air raid, the head of the medical department—having been

struck by the fact that it had improved the tone and vigour of camp rather than otherwise—said to me, 'I see you do really want to go to the front.' Dr. Inglis also, the head of the Scottish Units, said that she had been amused at the change of front on the part of the Serbians in giving excuses for her not to go north whenever a skirmish had taken place on the Danube. At first it was 'No; there are shells being fired up there. You would not like it.' Latterly the excuse became, 'There really is nothing doing there. You would find it dull.' It was to Dr. Inglis also that one of the Serbians remarked, 'We, of the Progressive Party, are almost more grateful to you for showing what women can do, than we are for the help you have rendered to the Serbians.'"

#### How It Cuts Two Ways.

"The Serbians are no more sensible than ourselves in the matter of forcing a man's nationality on his wife when he marries her," says Dr. Helen Hanson. "Just as the custom here has immensely increased our alien difficulties, so there also, in the case of suspected spies, they were unable to proceed against Austrian women without the most conclusive evidence. In the case of one woman who came up to camp, the authorities could do no more than warn us that they were practically certain that she was a spy, for the contents of some telegrams she had been handling had mysteriously leaked out. But they could do nothing against her, as her husband was a Serb. I was not a little amused the other day to notice that the same difficulties were troubling another of our Allies, the French, so much so that, indeed, they were even contemplating making it illegal to marry enemy aliens. Forbidding marriage is a large order, even for war time, and it would seem a much simpler thing to some of us to let the woman retain her own nationality."

#### The Health of Munition Workers.

Several new memoranda have just been issued by the Health of Munition Workers Committee. A Report on Industrial Fatigue and its Causes notes that evidence of a state of "staleness" among munition workers is "becoming increasingly common and obvious," this condition being attributed by experienced managers and medical officers almost wholly to persistent long hours and the deprivation of weekly rest. The accumulated results of fatigue are not only damaging to general health, but are also found to be reflected in the sickness returns and in the returns of lost time.

"Proper attention earlier in the war to the need for weekly rest would," says the Report, "have prevented a large part of the diminished capacity of this kind that has been allowed to appear, and would have averted much costly and wasteful expenditure upon imperfect work." It is suggested that not only should daily and weekly rests for the workers be regulated, but that the breakdown of individual workers might in many cases be avoided by an occasional "day off."

A Memorandum on Sickness and Injury shows an increase both in the rate of sickness and accidents. It urges the importance of appointing one or more trained nurses in factories to look after cases of sickness and minor injury, and of having a properly-equipped dressing-station in each workplace, arrangements for "first aid" being altogether inadequate in many factories.

### The Peril Behind the Purdah.

Not so very long ago in England the position of the fatherless heiress was a terrible one. During her childhood covetous nobles, with influence at Court, fought for the guardianship of the rich orphan. The battle raged over her defenceless head, and though abducting an heiress was a serious crime, her liberty and life were not always secure. Before she was fourteen she was forced to marry the husband chosen by her guardian to keep the money and lands in his family, and had no say in the bestowing of herself or her goods. The lot of a fatherless high-caste girl in Ceylon to-day is very much like the lot of our heiress of the fifteenth or sixteenth century. Her money is used by relatives without regard to the benefit of the child to whom it belongs, and mysterious early deaths of such children are not unknown. It seems that the machinery for dealing with such cases is in existence, but the administrative power is not effective. Would it not be desirable to do in

Ceylon what has been done already, we believe, in India: to appoint a native lady with the required legal training and the special knowledge of Purdah conditions, which only a native lady can possess, to look after the interests of wards and minors? The precedent of Miss Cornelia Sorabji's appointment as Legal Adviser to Purdah-nishins ought to be followed in Ceylon.

### The Torpedoed "Sussex."

Our readers will be very sorry to hear that a member of the Royaumont staff, Miss Vera Collum (known to them by the familiar initials "V.C.C.C."), was among those injured by the explosion on board the Channel steamer "Sussex" on March 24th. Miss Collum was on her way back to Royaumont, after her first holiday in England since she had taken up her duties there as orderly in 1914.

## News from the Overseas Dominions.

### NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND. (From our own Correspondent.)

During the last weeks of the old year an innovation was introduced when the banks of New Zealand admitted girl clerks to fill the war-depleted ranks of their employees. The managers speak highly of the new-comers' work so far, and expect that many now entering will remain after the war is over. Naturally, until the experiment has advanced further, the question of pay cannot be finally settled; but the girls, though new to the work, have been well dealt with. In the leading bank, indeed, we are told the girls who entered were paid more liberally than boys beginning the service under the same conditions of experience.

Branches of the public service also closed to women before, have now opened their doors, and there is no doubt that the business of New Zealand will be largely handled by women in days to come, since they already had the entry to many departments. Though equal pay for equal work has not been the rule in New Zealand, pronouncements have been made in Cabinet to that effect regarding women called on to replace men at the front, and in no case could the starvation salaries given to women for clerical work in England be offered here.

Another innovation is the appointment of Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, formerly Medical Inspector of State Schools, to the medical staff of the main training camp at Trentham, Wellington. Dr. Gunn is in charge of the hospital, and is the first lady in New Zealand to bear the title of military captain. As the hospital arrangements at Trentham have been a subject of embittered controversy since the war developed, Dr. Gunn's appointment is the highest compliment to the medical women of New Zealand.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

In an article in *The Woman's Outlook* on "Woman's Attitude Towards the Vote," Mr. F. Bancroft urges the need in South Africa for a scheme of "spade work," such as has been inaugurated by the suffrage unions in Great Britain. Women in South Africa, he says, need to be educated to their real need of the vote and the special reasons for that need, and he suggests that all connected with the suffrage leagues throughout South Africa should agree to lay aside their differences, and unite in a whole-hearted and strenuous educational campaign, "which will kindle within the heart of every woman the determination to take part in this struggle for the uplift of the status of the womanhood of the land, the determination to work for women's franchise until it is attained, until in the representation of the country her sex shall at least stand on a level with the Kaffirs. In the councils of the nation the woman's voice shall at last be heard, and her presence felt."

In South Africa, Mr. Bancroft points out, woman's paramount need for enfranchisement arises from a condition peculiar to that country:—

"This special need arises from the presence in our midst of the coloured races, and more particularly, from the presence in one Province of the Union of the coloured voter. This outstanding fact—that the Kaffir man can vote, while the white woman cannot—is in itself the gravest which our legislators have to face. It places the white woman upon a lower status than that occupied by the black man. . . . It is this lowering of the status of the white woman beneath the level of the status of the black man which in itself is provocative of native crime upon white womanhood.

"Let women question honestly: What is the South African woman's political status? Women know and accept, complaisantly or otherwise, the fact that they are politically unenfranchised, and therefore rank with the feeble-minded and the criminal. Voiceless, and unable to make

themselves heard or felt where the Government of this country is concerned, they stand, in the eyes of the law, on an altogether lower level than the white man—with whom, as co-partners, their pioneer mothers built up this same white South Africa. Woman laboured shoulder to shoulder with man during those early years of peril and struggle, of toil and suffering, sharing with him in the gigantic task of planting in the wilds the standard of civilisation, of bringing to birth a nation, of turning a wilderness of waste and savagery into a land of order and prosperity—yet sank below his level in the hour of achievement. This injustice to their sex women recognise and protest against half-heartedly, or accept complaisantly. But let them ask still another question: *What is the political status of the white woman of this country in regard to the coloured and Kaffir man?* The answer every woman in this country—Suffragist or Anti—shrinks from, and will not, or cannot, bear to face. But it becomes the duty of the leaders and members of the W.E.A.U. to face the position, to answer the question."

### INDIAN WOMEN AND POLITICS.

It is interesting to find how the spirit of the age is touching even the women of the East. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, "India's Singing Bird," the well-known Indian poetess, of whose work Edmund Gosse thinks so highly (*The Times* published on December 17th, a fine war poem by her—"The Gift of India"), actually went as a delegate to the Indian National Congress lately held at Bombay, and made what is described in an Indian paper as "a feeling speech on behalf of the sisters and daughters of India, appealing to the audience steadily to work out self-government." Mrs. Naidu, who had the strength of mind to break away from caste, and to marry a man not of the Brahmin caste to which she herself belongs, is doing a good deal of public work in India, often speaking to large audiences on the various social and now apparently political interests of the moment, and is welcomed and feted wherever she goes, India being very proud of its "Singing Bird."

At the National Congress I read, moreover, "There was a separate batch of lady volunteers this year (looking after the coming of the delegates), and all hearts were delighted to see young Indian women sharing the drudgery of the work with their brothers. Women acted as volunteers, women chanted the invocations before the Congress proceedings began, women attended the Congress as visitors and as delegates, and women spoke with their musical voices from the Congress platform, not merely on questions affecting women's interests alone, but of the Indians as a class. One's heart thrills with joy when such things happen. God's blessings on them." (*New India*.)

Eight hundred ladies also attended the Social Conference held in the same week—Christmas week—at Bombay, at which Mrs. Naidu also spoke. Ladies attended in large numbers the intercaste dinner given in connection with the Social Conference—attended in such large numbers the *Sandesh*, a Marathi daily of Bombay, notes—that men had to vacate their seats to make room for the women.

When one reflects that until comparatively lately, women behind the purdah or the gosha were the main obstacles to any religious or social reform—for Indian women are paramount in the home, and rule their men right royally—the change that is taking place under our eyes is quite marvellous.

Mrs. Naidu's poem, "Past and Future," opens with the significant line:—

"The new hath come and now the old retires."

The poetess, having, with her poetic intuition, grasped that fact of the dawn of a new age, is using her fame, her Western education, her own emancipation from the fetters of caste, to impress on her Indian sisters the necessity for Indian women to enlarge their circle of interests from the home to the nation.

ELIZABETH SEVERS.

## The Amateur Munition Maker.

There must be few young and sturdy women in England who did not ask themselves during last year whether it was possible for them to help in the manufacture of munitions. Women of all classes have devoted themselves to the work in their thousands; and even those who, owing to business or household ties, could only give a limited amount of time, longed to offer their mite. In some munition factories use is made of these latter by a system of week-end workers, and it was my good fortune to take part in one such experiment. In the works where we were given this opportunity the regular women munition makers are arranged in two twelve-hour shifts, working from seven to seven. Day and night shift are taken alternate weeks. The night-shift girls, who leave work at seven on Saturday morning, have a twenty-four hour interval before beginning their day-shift week at the same hour on Sunday; while the day-shift girls leave at noon on Saturday and do not return till 7 p.m. on Sunday evening. Thus, at the week-ends, there is a gap of about eighteen hours when the machines are idle, and this gap it was proposed to fill, at least partially, with the work of women who could give only a few hours a week. The week-enders were organised in two shifts—each of about nine hours—the first working from 1 p.m. on Saturday till ten the same night, the second from ten on Saturday night till seven on Sunday morning, each with a break of half-an-hour in the middle.

We were trained in groups of twelve, and it will be long before I forget my first day in the fuse shop. You get to it by a long, dreary road, with the apparently endless line of works on one hand and a wilderness of mean streets on the other. When we arrived it was the dinner hour, and hundreds of girls, in their blue aprons and bright mob caps, were walking up and down in couples and strings. Within the works gates we were led down a muddy railway line, between great piles of brass filings and all kinds of metal refuse, hurried through a shop full of machines which seemed to be oozing a kind of butter of churned oil, across another, where huge shells lay in stern, grey rows, and so into the fuse shop, where we were to learn our work.

We found ourselves among long benches, filling about half the length of the shop, piled with trays of shining brass parts; here are done by hand a bewildering number of processes with quaint names, such as ragging, tapping, and plugging. I have seen a complete fuse—a little thing, smaller than a girl's clenched fist—consisting of fifteen detachable parts, as difficult to put together as a Chinese puzzle, and far more fascinating. But even this gives little idea of the amount of work put into it; of the holes excavated and closed again with tiny screws, of the smoothing, the polishing, the filing, the washing to which every part is subjected; and, finally, the gauging and inspection tests which insure that nothing below standard shall be sent out. But in speaking at all of the life history of a fuse I am venturing beyond my depth; a few minute processes I saw and learnt; of the relation and arrangement of the parts I know as little as the regular girls, who are quite ignorant of the exact meaning of the tasks in which they spend their lives. There is a legend among them that once a complete fuse was kept in the shop, passing from hand to hand for the general instruction, but it has long since disappeared, and we week-enders were always filled with an eager desire to visit the shop some day, not as workers, but as mere visitors, that we might enjoy the privilege, never granted to those most interested, of having the system of the place explained, tracing the progress of each part from hand to hand till it reached completion, and seeing it finally take the place it was destined to from the first.

I did not stay long, however, at the benches; the other end of the shop was full of machines, and here several of us were taken to learn indexing from the girls there. At first I watched my teacher working her machine with something like despair; never, I thought, should I be able to handle that complicated creature which clacked its appointed round so obediently under her skilful direction; but an indexing machine is not really difficult, though, like most things, it requires practice. Round the bottom ring of a time fuse the seconds are marked, and indexing consists of cutting these second lines; this, of course, is done by the machine, the worker's business being to set and feed the machine, and to regulate the tool. It is this last which unnerves the beginner; you are shown a brass ring about 1-24th of an inch in depth and told that the tool must cut about half this depth; if the stroke is too deep and goes right through the ring is spoilt; if it is too shallow and the surface merely scraped, it has to be done over again. Nor would this be so bad if the depth were uniform, but it is apt to vary from a good, stout

1-24th to a regular knife-edge. On the other hand, this element of personal control makes the work absorbing, whereas merely feeding a machine, without in any way guiding it, is extremely monotonous, as I found when later I was put on to an indexing machine of a newer pattern.

Nothing could be more encouraging than the friendliness of the girls who taught us; and also of those pale, silent men, the fitters, whom we afterwards came to know well. Some of these latter were in khaki, having been recalled from the front for even more urgent duties at home. It takes seven years, they say, to make a good fitter; and yet part of their work, the delicate adjustment of machines, appears to be well within the powers of a woman, if she were properly trained. Yet I feel I am too daring even to hazard this opinion; for the impressiveness of the fitters, their air of knowing everything, and saying little, makes their trade seem a mystery indeed. But they have their human side; and when in the midst of the night-shift the grateful scents of coffee and stew steal through the shop, you know that breakfast time (2 a.m.) is approaching, and that the fitters have something ready "het up."

Another pleasant memory is pay night, which came round once a month. The first time it was pouring with rain, and the narrow allies between the shops were running rivers, so some adventurous spirit undertook to guide us through the shops themselves to the bureau. We dodged beneath silent machines, skidded over piles of iron spars, picked our way through pools of oil; in one place we crossed a narrow causeway over a dark pit, giving forth steam and evil smells, and in another we were brought up short by a notice-board explaining methods for bringing round the apparently electrocuted. But the end was worth the perilous passage, and we came away, each holding an envelope containing crisp notes and shining new silver.

The week-enders were of all ages and classes, but a large proportion were middle-aged, and in enthusiasm they outdid us all. One day, when we were making our way home from night-shift in all the desolation of seven o'clock on a Sunday morning, a white-haired lady, with whom I had been working, asked me what I should do when I got home, and I replied, with conviction: "Go to bed, after something to eat." "Ah, I thought so," she said, shaking her head, though sympathetically, over the weakness of the younger generation. "I shall have a cup of tea and go to early service." D.

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## WOMEN ON THE LAND IN WILTSHIRE.

I have been campaigning in Wiltshire for the Women on the Land crusade, and find there, as I feel sure people do everywhere, that the soundest appeal is to the patriotism of the women and of the farmers, and the surest response comes from the realisation of the country's need of them to do their best in the fighting line at home. Wiltshire is one of the counties in which of recent years women have done less and less on the land, so there is a good deal of prejudice to overcome; but most farmers have come round, and we must get them all round. We cannot have cows sold off and land uncultivated.

Prejudices that cause these evils are too expensive to be clung to in these days. We cannot afford them.

The women and girls have prejudices too; but in every schoolhouse and little hall we have in our audiences older women who have done almost everything there is to do on the land, and are talking, at sixty and seventy, of doing it again, and are not a little amused now and then at our appeals.

I had a woman of sixty in one audience who did all her own work on twenty-three acres, with only a very little help, and in the same audience a girl who ploughs and does field-work while her sister runs the dairy.

The allotments and gardens are more than ever done by the women since war started, and many cannot possibly do more than they are doing in this way. Opportunities for training are being offered; the registers are just being made up, and good results are hoped for.

N.U. members will be interested to hear that one well-known agriculturist, speaking with me one evening, finished up his speech by saying the war had convinced him women must have votes—a confession of faith war-converted men seem to be making every day in these times. H. F.

## "Common Cause" Scholarships for Commercial Chemistry.

In chemical manufactures there are possibilities of original discoveries with far-reaching results. "It may well be said that the material prosperity of empires has increased manifold since the time oxygen became known, and the fortune of every individual has been augmented in proportion. Every discovery in chemistry has a tendency to bring forth similar fruits," wrote the great chemist Liebig, in 1859. "The highest economic or material interests of a country, the increased and more profitable production of food for men and animals, as well as the preservation and restoration of health, are most closely linked with the advancement of the natural sciences, especially of chemistry."

Who will help to put two qualified women workers into this big field? In coal-tar products, in the chemistry of mining, of agriculture, of the thousand-and-one "waste products" now being poured away into our rivers or thrown upon the rubbish-heap lie potentialities of wealth, waiting for the chemist-pioneer. Production is the greater half of national economy, and in this sphere women should be ready to put their energies as quickly as they can be trained. With great pleasure we acknowledge further gifts received.

## "C.C." SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Amount already acknowledged	60 14 8	Miss Christine M. E. Burrows	1 0 0
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			477 5 2

## NATIONAL ECONOMY.

The campaign for national economy has been taken up by the following women's party associations: The Women's Unionist Tariff Reform Association, the Women's Liberal Federation, the Women's National Liberal Association, the Ladies' Imperial Club. These societies have issued a joint circular, and invite the co-operation of other women's organisations through their local branches. N.U. societies which are working for national economy might do well to get into communication with these groups which, for this purpose, are working on non-party lines.

## COME TO WELCOME DR. ELSIE INGLIS!

On Tuesday next, April 4th, 1916, a meeting will be held at 3 p.m. at the Criterion Theatre, by kind permission of Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, when Dr. Elsie Inglis will give an account of her year's pioneer hospital work in Serbia and her experiences as a prisoner of war.

## Correspondence.

## LAMP DAY.

MADAM,—Everybody has heard of Lamp Day, and, having found out the significance of those mysterious words, has determined to keep Florence Nightingale's birthday on May 12th free from all other engagements, and dedicate it to decorating every citizen of London with one of the curiously attractive little emblems by which they will show forth their reverence for the memory of the Lady of the Lamp, and their practical support of our modern "Women's Service in War Time."

But we want more than this; we want every kind and busy person who reads this to spare at least an hour or two a week (or a day!) to helping us now—at once—so that we shall be duly equipped on the great day.

Our ambitions for the day are colossal, but our minds are frugal, and we do not want to spend an unnecessary penny on "plant"—collecting boxes, for example—are not cigar boxes always with us, and cocoa tins? Lady Brassey has most generously opened a depot at her house, 24, Park Lane, W., to which people send their cigar boxes and their large-sized tins, and it is becoming a hive of industry—a paradise for anyone who has a spark of the school-boy or school-girl left in them. We paint, we snip, we paste, we punch holes, we use hammer and nails and chisels, we float off old labels with hot water—we exercise all sorts of unexpected gifts, and produce dozens, hundreds, thousands of neat and elegant collecting boxes. Everyone with an hour to spare is asked to send me a postcard to 58, Victoria Street, S.W., and then, after their first visit, they can drop in, without notice, at whatever hour suits them. Even those who are occupied with really responsible work may find a little relaxation in taking their turn. If they will only come once, it is certain that an irresistible line will draw them to it again and again during the few weeks left in which to make good.

A. HELEN WARD.

## THE "ANTI-SUFFRAGE REVIEW."

MADAM,—Despite the war, the *Anti-Suffrage Review* remains true to its traditions, and continues to afford both amusement and encouragement to its opponents. The last issue ignores the recent victory for Women's Suffrage in Canada, but devotes more than a column to an exhaustive record of defeats suffered by Women's Suffrage in the United States during last year. In Arkansas, we learn, the Women's Suffrage amendment was crowded out by the provision that only three constitutional amendments may be submitted at one time; while in Illinois, the resolution for a constitutional convention for Women's Suffrage failed to pass the House, after receiving a nearly unanimous vote in the Senate. The italics are my own, and further comment seems needless. Surely the inclusion of two such events in a record of this kind contains at least a tacit admission that the Anti-Suffragists are the ones who always lose? They started with everything, and every victory for us, no matter how small it may be, is a defeat for them, and they have nothing to face in the future except one long series of defeats. Let us lift up our hearts.

T. TINDLE ANDERSON, JUNR.

## THE YOUNG OFFENDER IN WAR TIME.

MADAM,—Information gathered from many districts of the United Kingdom shows that there is a disquieting increase in juvenile delinquency. The children's offences are usually house-breaking, raiding of shops and stalls, stone-throwing, the use of air-guns or toy pistols, and wilful damage and destruction. An outcry has been raised against what is termed the growing depravity of children, and severer and more repressive punishments are demanded.

It is important to remember that the children are not alone to blame. Being the most impressionable and imitative material, they reflect immediately in their conduct and their play every phase of national emotion or local feeling.

What have been the influences acting upon children during the last eighteen months? The strongest has inevitably been the war spirit, which has produced in them a desire for adventure. This desire in many cases can only be gratified through acts of lawlessness. In thousands of homes the father is absent; in many the mother is employed outside her home; school hours have been curtailed, and there is a serious lack of men teachers in the boys' departments. The darkened streets, the lessened number of police, and the absence of social workers from boys' clubs, church brigades, and scout organisations, all have their widespread effect. To these, though not a consequence of the war, must be added the exciting influences of sensational cinema shows, inciting imaginative youth to imitation.

In Germany similar war influences and conditions have produced a like result; but from France come no accounts of an increase of juvenile offences. This may be because the French Minister of Education, in March, 1915, addressed a circular to the local authorities, urging them to enforce more rigorously than ever the usual regulations as to school attendance, a striking contrast to the "half-time" education, caused in various districts of our own country by the use of the schools for purposes connected with the war, and to the statement by Sir James Yoxall, M.P., that from 150,000 to 200,000 children between the ages of 11 and 13 have been let out of school to do war time work.

In some quarters the outbreak of misdoing is said to be the result of leniency in the Children's Courts and of the Probation system. The assertion is not borne out by experience. Although the Children's Courts and the working of the Probation Act are still far from perfect, yet had it not been for the careful and sympathetic consideration of the children's cases by the magistrates in the Juvenile Courts, and the moral support given by patient and friendly Probation Officers, the present condition would have been far more serious. Report after report from Magistrates and Chief Constables tells of the many cases of first offenders placed on probation who never come again before the Court, as well as of many finally reclaimed after several appearances.

We firmly believe, on the contrary, that if the children are to be saved at this crisis, it will be by an extended use of this system of reclamation through friendship, and not through an increased use of the birch and the reformatory. It is surely a monstrous thing that fathers returning from the Front should find their sons—for girls play but a small part in this increased delinquency—sent for terms of years to industrial schools or reformatories, in consequence of the abnormal conditions which prevail.

With a praiseworthy desire to serve their country, men and women have taken up every kind of war work, some even relinquishing their old social service to undertake new duties more intimately connected with the war. But in the reclamation of the Juvenile Offender lies a work the national importance of which is beyond measure, the effect of which will outlast even that of the war.

We have already lost a large part of the best of our young manhood, a loss which will be continuous till the war ends. With all the earnestness born of a long experience of work for children, we would appeal to the public, and in particular to women of education and experience, to take up the task of befriending those boys who are rapidly graduating for citizenship. Let them offer themselves (a) to the Justices of the Children's Court as Probation Officers for one, two, or more children, as their time permits; (b) for work in connection with boys' clubs and kindred organisations, many of which are in abeyance for lack of helpers; (c) as guides for educational visits to places of public interest, and in every personal way to counteract the lack of recreative occupation which has left the children more than ever open to the abnormal influences of the times.

"He who helps a child helps humanity with an immediateness which no other help given to human creatures in any other stage of human life can possibly give again."

(Signed) LYTTON (Chairman), ALBERT SPICER, HENRY BENTINCK (Vice-Chairmen), LOUISE OLIVER, FRANCA BUXTON (Hon. Treasurers), HENRIETTA O. BARNETT (Hon. Secretary).

State Children's Association, 53, Victoria Street, S.W.

## ECONOMY IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

MADAM,—I have read with interest the articles on "Economy in France and England" by Madame Rudler, and I would like to raise one or two points. But first let me say that, as I have a great admiration for Frenchwomen in housewifery as well as other ways, I am not attempting to dispute the fact that, on the whole, they are more thrifty than Englishwomen, and carry their economies more gracefully. What I do want to say is that there are thousands of Englishwomen who have been practising all their lives the economies that Madame Rudler and other writers preach to us. These suggestions for economical housekeeping are offered to us with such an air of their being entirely novel that I feel I must say something on behalf of the army of middle-class housewives (keeping one, two, or three servants) to whom they are, and have long been, familiar. These women superintend their maids—visit the pantry daily, see that scraps are used up, if there are any; do their shopping themselves, know the price of all they buy, have the meat and fish weighed on delivery, check their weekly books—all this is a matter of course. Even here in the North, where coal is comparatively cheap, we burn coke as well on the kitchen fire. Gas fires are the rule in the less-used rooms, and the other fires are lighted at a suitable time of day. Washing is frequently done at home, and we in the North bake our bread at home. Soap is stocked to dry, jam is made, and fruits are bottled at home. An eye is kept on the store cupboard, but I hope few housekeepers keep the key. Food locked away produces a bad atmosphere between mistress and servants.

Our houses are bigger than the flats of those similarly circumstanced in Paris, but their rents are very much lower. They are more expensive to work owing to the stairs, but they possess many advantages. Economy is a wide term—would it be true national economy in these days to adopt any system of living which may lead to further artificial restrictions on the size of families? It must be well known to Madame Rudler that there are many flats in Paris where children are not allowed, and even where that is not the case restricted space must limit the number of residents.

My final protest is against Madame Rudler's indictment of English servants. In twelve years' experience I have only had to deal with one lazy girl. I don't know what Madame Rudler means about English girls not being willing to work in the afternoon. I know that many people in Paris have difficulty in getting maids if they have children. Here many girls prefer to go out where there are children. Servants may not care for economising, but I would ask those who wax eloquent on that theme, if one of the uses of education is not to enable us to take a wider view of things than those less educated. Let us remember, too, that the servants have to do the economising, and do not get the savings. I know of three cases among my immediate friends where the kitchen as well as the dining-room eats margarine. In one case the maids, after sticking to butter for a while, felt ashamed, and came and asked to have margarine instead. In another, all the money saved on butter is sent to the Scottish Women's Hospitals in the name of the household. In the third the maid receives the difference in cost in the shape of sixpenny stamps for investment in 15s. 6d. certificates. There must be many similar cases.

LAURA MUNDELLA.

## ODDS AND ENDS OF WOOL.

MADAM,—May I be allowed to thank all those who so generously responded to my appeal for "odds and ends" of wool, made through your paper last July? Through their kindness I have been able to send to children in Belgium 250 garments (petticoats, jerseys, socks, &c.), and twenty garments for the Serbian refugees, all made entirely from the wool sent me. If, in these days of busy knitting, more "odds and ends" should have accumulated, I shall be only too glad to receive them and make them up for a few of the many who are still in such sore need.

AMY MALDEN.

Kingsley Mead, Nr. Haslemere, Surrey.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

"From the honoured dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion.

We here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

—Abraham Lincoln, Speech after Gettysburg.



## COATS

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LADIES should not miss an inspection of the new Coat Models for the Spring now being shown at Peter Robinson's—the smart, practical styles of the Garments, and their helpfully moderate prices cannot fail to interest. Note the example pictured above:—

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**FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.**  
On TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, at 8 p.m., at CENTRAL HALL,  
WESTMINSTER (Room B). A PUBLIC DISCUSSION,  
opened by Mrs. PEMBER REEVES, Rev. Dr. R. F. HORTON, M.A. (Chair),  
on "The New Industrial and National Position of Women."  
Among those taking part in the discussion will be Miss Beatrice Harraden, Miss  
Winifred Holiday, Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., Miss Esther Roper, Miss Helen  
Ward, and Rev. O. Fleming Williams. ADMISSION FREE.  
Tickets, 1/- and 6d., to be obtained from 15, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

**A YEAR'S PIONEER HOSPITAL WORK IN SERBIA.**  
**Dr. ELSIE INGLIS**  
will lecture at the Criterion Theatre, on Tuesday, April 4th,  
at 3 p.m.  
Chairman: The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Selborne, K.G., G.C.M.G.  
ADMISSION FREE.—Reserved seats at 10/6, 5/-, and 2/6 obtainable from the  
Secretary, London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service,  
58, Victoria Street, S.W.

**RURAL EDUCATION AND THE WAR.**  
PUBLIC MEETING.  
Organised by the NATIONAL LAND AND HOME LEAGUE.  
On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th, at 2.30 p.m., at the CAXTON HALL,  
WESTMINSTER. Col. LORD HENRY BENTINCK, M.P., President of the  
League, in the Chair.  
Speakers:—The Rt. Rev. the LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD; Col. LORD  
SAVE AND SELLE; Mrs. DEANE STRETFIELD; Mr. GEORGE ROBERTS,  
M.P.; Mr. CHRISTOPHER TURNOR, C.C.; and Mr. JAMES CURRIE, C.M.G.  
Resolutions advocating the Employment of Women on the Land will be moved.  
Tickets of Admission Free, from Mrs. EDWARD PEASE, The National Land  
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**IDEALS IN SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION.**  
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April 1st. Mr. W. R. Lethaby. "The City as it might be."  
8th. Mr. Ebenezer Howard. "The Household as it might be."  
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Langham Place, and Social Reconstruction Secretary, 19, Tavistock Square,  
W.C., from whom full particulars of further Lectures of the Series can be obtained.

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**The Mothers' Magazine,**  
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future of rearing a strong and healthy race; and in the "Mother's  
Magazine" recognised authorities discuss the many and varied problems  
that confront the parent, the teacher, the social worker, and the legislator.  
The April Number contains contributions by—  
Miss CLEMENTINA BLACK, Dr. ELIZABETH SLOAN CHESSER, Mr. GABRIEL  
COSTA, Miss BETHAM EDWARDS, Miss ALICE RAVENHILL, Mr. GEORGE A.  
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on Wednesday. Advertisement representative, S. R. Le Mare.

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

**What Serbia Thinks of British Women.**

"We of the Progressive Party are almost more grateful to you for showing what women can do, than we are for the help you have rendered to the Serbians," said a Serbian to Dr. Elsie Inglis, after the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals had proved their ability to cope with the great problems of epidemics and war conditions in a foreign land. Here, in Great Britain, perhaps what has most impressed the mind of the average man, reading the story of the Hospital Units in Serbia, has been women's capacity of physical endurance and fortitude; proved by the winter trek across the Albanian mountain ranges, where shelter there was none, food was scanty, young lads perished of fatigue; and cattle, and even men, dropped and died by the wayside; proved by the dignity and resolute energy with which women doctors and nurses upheld their rights to decent treatment even from vindictive German officers and a soldiery accustomed to treat prisoners of war and the helpless with cruelty and indignities. The Serbians know how Balkan women can endure hardness, even in times of peace, and with what stoicism—which seems like the heritage of a race which has borne the brunt of an age-long battle for civilisation against Mohammedan militarism—they have taken their share of suffering. Evidently it was no surprise that women could bear cold and discomfort; but they were deeply impressed with the disinterestedness of their helpers and with their power to plan and carry out their plans. In Dr. Helen Hanson's account of Miss Margaret Neil Fraser's funeral,\* she says: "I walked with a relative of the aide-de-camp of the Crown Prince, a charming girl who spoke broken English. She was terribly distressed by the fact that two deaths should have occurred, and kept on saying, amidst tears, how noble was the work the Unit was doing. It was brave enough to risk one's life for one's country, but for someone else's country it was wonderful." But more wonderful still, in Serbian eyes, was the spectacle of hospitals managed by women, of women doctors, of women taking a prominent part in administration and matters of public concern; all this was entirely new and strange in a country where, as Dr. Hanson says, "the position of women, although there are a few doctors and dentists, cannot on the whole be called advanced." Even on ceremonious occasions, as one Serb put it in broken English, "the women do not sit on the table," and at the farewell dinner given by the military authorities, no Serbian womenfolk were present.

For the women of more than one Balkan country the auguries are, or have been until the introduction of German militarism, full of hope. There have been no bitter prejudices to overcome. It is true the education of girls has been neglected, but education has only been obtainable at the price of heavy sacrifices, so that comparatively few of the cleverest lads were sent to foreign universities, whence they returned to found colleges and schools at home. And of late years, while the number of women students has rapidly increased, obstacles are not placed in the way of exercising their talents. In countries full of ambition, and awaking to consciousness of their nationality, the need of the full power of every citizen to serve the country is recognised, even in the case of women. In this sense, their women have as their birthright a freedom to develop which has only been

\* Serbia as Seen by a Red Cross Worker. A paper read before the Royal Society of Arts by Miss H. B. Hanson, M.D. (The Church League for Women's Suffrage, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.)

partially won now in England and France, after generations of noble and devoted women have expended their best powers in removing mountains of obstruction from the path that leads to full citizenship.

Here, in Great Britain, can we not echo the Progressive Serbian's words? We also thank the women workers even more for showing what women can do, than for what they have done for their country. In the hour of need, the British nation has suddenly discovered that a generation of great women has arisen, not of one class, but of all classes; and not one or two, but many thousands of women (even Prime Ministers have realised that) have come forward to serve and save their country. It is the day of great decisions, when in the ears of men and women the words ring: "This night thy soul shall be required of thee," and the goods stored up are as naught, and only the things of the soul remain. Yet—

"Spirits are not finely touched,  
But to fine issues; nor Nature never lends  
The smallest scruple of her excellence,  
But, like a thrifty goddess, she determines  
Herself the glory of a creditor,  
Both thanks and use."

Shall it be recorded hereafter of this generation of English-speaking men that the only way in which they could use the

**How Can We Win the War by Saving?**

By SIR VICTOR HORSLEY.

What shall we save on? Luxuries, of course. Probably we are all agreed about that, except, perhaps, those who dine with Lord Mayors. What is the very least we must save?

A MILLION POUNDS A DAY,  
for that is the trade balance (between exports and imports) against us at the present time, and it must not be forgotten that, in addition we have to pay large sums of money to help our allies, and, above all, to assist our own Dominions.

What luxury, then, shall we give up, so that we can save this £1,000,000 a day? There is no financial question easier to answer than this one, and none easier to fulfil with loyal and patriotic satisfaction, since the King himself has long ago (April 6th, 1915) solved it. The King's solution is that—

WE MUST ALL OF US GIVE UP SPENDING ANY MONEY ON ALCOHOLIC DRINK OF ANY KIND.

Spirits, wine, beer, cider, are all luxuries. If everyone imitated the loyalty shown by the King towards his country, and immediately stopped spending any money on alcoholic drinks, the required million pounds a day and much more could be saved to the nation forthwith. Everyone, therefore, who wishes his country to win this war must follow the King, and become a total abstainer.

How is it possible that a million pounds a day would be saved by the nation becoming teetotal? May be asked by some. In the first place, nearly half the sum required, viz., £165,000,000 a year, would be directly saved in cash, and, let us hope, invested day by day in War Loan, thus not only maintaining the country's financial balance, but earning interest. A small part of the expenditure on drink is, of course, returned to the nation through taxation, but not without causing wholesale poverty during its transfer from one pocket to the other. If the 165 millions had been diverted into the War Loan from the first, they would have added to our strength and resources in the day of trial.

**£130,000,000 SHORTAGE IN WAGES AND WORK.**

In the second place, if everyone ceased to purchase or consume alcoholic drinks, another much larger saving to the country would be effected. For to the effect of these drinks is due such an enormous diminution both in the output of work, and in the number of working hours and days that the loss has been estimated at over £130,000,000 per annum, and this costly diminution is due not by any means to drunkenness only, but also to the common habits of drinking, not necessarily causing actual drunkenness. The foodstuffs wasted in alcohol would keep the Army in bread.

In the third place, another large saving to the country of many millions of pounds would be effected, for enormous quantities of foodstuffs of which the vast majority are purchased from foreign countries, and which are estimated by the Government at 4,661,000,000 pounds weight for 1914, are now lost to us as food by their conversion into alcohol. That is comparable to more than one thousand million four-pound loaves, which is the bread supply for the whole French and British Armies together, 10,000,000 men for an entire year.

powers of their generation of great women was by haggling, restricting, making pedant's rules; by refusing services except upon jealously drawn up conditions; saying, in fact and deed, "Yes, we want your help, it is true—in fact, we can't very well do without it; but, understand, you shall serve below us, and you shall serve, gagged and partly bound, for fear our interests should suffer?" You shall have no vote, no voice in the nation's affairs; for we are the country, and you we do not recognise (except for the period of the war only) as fellow-workers; and even so, you shall have the burden of the monotonous labour and receive less reward for your toil, and under no circumstances shall a woman's powers (other than physical) receive recognition. In physical strength the woman is inferior. To the plane of physical inferiority, therefore, her work shall as much as possible be restricted."

As far as it is possible, women are showing what they can do; and this is perhaps the greatest of all services. But they have not shown yet anything like their full powers. And the men of Great Britain need to be reminded, before inexorable fate teaches some very bitter lessons, that it is bad policy to leave women out of the rôles of administration, and organisation, and criminal policy to follow the advice of Mrs. Beecher-Stowe's slave-driver, to "use them up and buy more."

**FOLLOW THE KING.**

In the fourth place, another great national saving would be effected if the whole nation followed the King, for then nearly one million (968,000) acres of agricultural land, which at present are occupied in this country by crops destined only for the production of alcohol, would be employed in raising food-stuffs and real nutriment for our people.

In the fifth place, another saving would be effected by universal total abstinence because, since, according to the Government estimate the number of agricultural labourers employed in growing materials for the manufacture of drink is 33,800, and since the census returns show that 127,000 persons are employed in the direct manufacture of drink, it is clear that the services of no less than 160,000 workers, either as soldiers in the ranks or as munition workers, would be available for the defence of their country, instead of their helping Germany to destroy it from within as at present.

In the sixth place, another saving, urgently needed to increase the nation's greatly reduced means of transport, would be effected, for our ships have to carry, and our railways are blocked by, nearly 40,000 tons of foodstuff per week destined only for the manufactures carried on in our breweries and distilleries. If the nation truly followed their King, the whole of this cost of carriage, of railway labour, and of delay to genuine business would be saved.

In the seventh place, another saving would be effected, namely, the cost of 6,000 miners employed in getting the 36,000 tons of coal which are consumed every week in the metamorphosis of the nation's food into alcohol.

Finally, in the eighth place, if the nation became teetotal, it would save the loss of two army corps, for the drink kills between 50,000 and 60,000 persons every year, besides injuring the health of several hundred thousand other men and women annually.

**CONCLUSION.**  
Since it is clear that universal total abstinence from alcohol will secure adequate saving on the part of the nation to continue the war to its legitimate end, let us hope, speedy end, is it not the duty of every man and every woman in the country not only to follow the King, but to make every effort to persuade others to join in this Economic Campaign against Germany?

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: Mrs HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: Miss EVELYN ATKINSON, Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).

The Work of the N.U.W.S.S. in Russia.

After many weeks of hard work, of difficulties and disappointments, the British Women's Maternity Hospital in Petrograd was formally opened on March 13th. A letter has been received from Miss Moberly, the administrator, dated March 18th, in which she says that, in spite of difficulties, the hospital now looks very inviting.

Even before the refugees began to pour into Russia, the medical women had already been mobilised, and practically every woman who could possibly be trained in any degree had been called upon to care for the sick and wounded soldiers.

There is no doubt that the resources of the Hospital will be taxed to the utmost. The Administrator is in communication with the Governor of Kazan, and we hope before long to be in possession of further information concerning the development and possibilities of our work there.

We are sending speakers to address meetings of all kinds in many parts of Britain. A set of lantern slides is now available, and they form a very interesting record of Miss Thurstan's experiences in Russia.

THIRTEENTH LIST OF DONATIONS.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Already acknowledged since February 1st, 1915' and 'Mrs. Field'.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Already acknowledged since February 1st, 1915' and 'Nuneaton W.S.S.'.

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Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Miss F. A. Geoghegan' and 'Miss Frances Wallis'.

The Passing of a Great Woman Doctor.

DR. MARY MURDOCH, "Physician, Surgeon, Philanthropist, and Reformer," thus Father England named her at the requiem service, and loyal-hearted and noble woman (so we who knew her best would add).

To-day all those to whom she devoted her life in serving and helping, crowded the city streets as she was borne along. Her coffin was carried from that consulting room, where so many had found help, comfort, and healing.

The car headed the procession. Its sound of impatient hurry silenced; others must rush to help the sick. There were flowers in the car instead of the eager, courageous woman and her restless little dogs, so well-known and loved in the streets of Hull.

There had already been a crowded congregation, early in the day, at St. Francis' Mission Church, Sulcoates Lane, where the requiem service was conducted by the Bishop of Hull and Father England.

She would have welcomed the presence of distinguished colleagues, of members of the corporation, and of many societies, as a tribute, not only to her, but to all womanhood. It was a proof of how much she had accomplished, and how valiantly she had carried the "warlike flag of a great idea."

We know that mothers feared to tell their little children that their beloved physician was gone. One little boy, in bringing his bunch of flowers, said: "Oh, nurse, I am so miserable!"

Twenty-two years ago, in the days when medical women still had to fight against prejudice, she gained respect and love

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. LAMP DAY.

THE QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DENNISON HOUSE, VAUXHALL BRIDGE RD., S.W. On SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, 1916, at 3 p.m.

Chair - Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Speaker - Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY. A full explanation of the scheme for raising money by means of "LAMP DAY" will be given, and discussion is invited.

through the thoroughness of her work and her great skill, proving to Hull that she, at least, was needed. To-day there are six women doctors in the city.

Perhaps her two dominant characteristics were courage and joyousness. Courage to go straight for the right, regardless of consequences; courage to use the knife promptly and skillfully when necessary; courage to speak out on platform or in committee-room; courage to go out in the night to help and save, when the warning note sounded and the enemy was at hand.

Joy was her creed of life. However anxious and sad at heart—and she felt the pain of others with the sympathy of a fine, and understanding nature; however tired from strain and few hours of sleep, however sharp her own physical pain—and she had more than her share of this—she always had her radiant smile. "Joy is the grace we say to God," was on the last Christmas card she sent out.

Her memory will live in the grateful hearts of her generation; but we must see to it that the causes she cared for thrive, as she would wish. In addition to the memorial fund already started in Hull to name a cot in the Children's Hospital and to re-open the Babies' Ward, there will be some other general memorial raised which will appeal to her colleagues and friends throughout the country.

H. F.

At Royaumont.

OLDHAM WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE BED.

(Written by the patient himself in English.)

On the 18th of December, 1914, belonging to the 1915 class, I was called to the depot of the 36th Infantry Regiment at Cacy. After a few months of instruction, I volunteered for a new regiment, the 403rd, starting at once for the front.

After a few minutes' rest I was taken out of the trenches, and from there an English Red Cross car transported me over to the ambulance, where I was looked after by the doctor, and the next day I was taken to a sanitary train, which brought me to Creil.

My stay at the hospital has been very pleasant, as one is so well cared here by all ladies, who are always very kind. I will always remember the Christmas festival I spent here. It was a real Christmas. On the same day I got my War Cross, following my citation of the 1st June.

After seven months of such good care, I am feeling all right again, and the day I will leave Royaumont, I will carry with me a grateful remembrance of the "Scottish Women's Hospital."

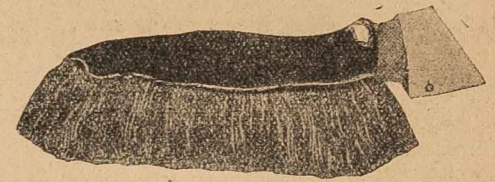
J. G. ELRARD.

Caporal au 403ième Régiment Infanterie, 7ième Compagnie. Royaumont, the 4th March, 1916.

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The Challenge

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The wider recognition of Women's Contribution to the Affairs of Church and State is one of the vital problems constantly dealt with. Among those who contribute are Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Luke Paget, Miss A. Maude Royden, Miss Ruth Rouse, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Mrs. Pember Reeves, &c.

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Manchester and District Federation Field Hospital. Under the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Manchester and District Federation Field Hospital. Includes names like Mrs. C. E. Lees, Bolton W.S.S., Manchester Corporation, etc.

Table listing donors and amounts for the collection at Miss Pares's Meeting at Higher Broughton. Includes names like S. W. Meek, Meyer & Richardson, Morgan, etc.

CORY BROS. (Surgical Instrument Makers) LIMITED. British Made Hot-Water Bottles. Best Quality Rubber. Includes an image of a hot-water bottle.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing. Another Flag-Day in Sheffield. Saturday, March 18th, which had been appointed our Flag Day on behalf of the Refugee Allies...

Hunstanton. On March 9th a most successful meeting, organised by the Hunstanton and District (National Union) W.S.S., took place in the Town Hall, on "Thrift," Mr. C. H. R. Ball,

M.R.C.S., presiding. The lecturer was Mrs. Anderson, of the National Food Economy League, who dealt most ably with her subject. The Vicar (the Rev. M. F. Bell) invited the audience to enrol themselves in a War Saving Alliance...

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB. Picoadilly, W.—House Dinner, 7.30 p.m. "The Ideal Man," by...

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Central Counties Federation.

A Lantern Lecture in aid of the Wardley and Stechford Red Cross Hospital, and the Scottish Women's Hospitals combined, was held at the Council Schools, Stechford, on Tuesday evening, March 14th. The chair was taken by Dr. Lydall, nephew of General French and Mrs. Harley. Dr. Mary Phillips gave a lantern lecture to a large and appreciative audience on her work and experience with the Scottish Women's Unit in Calais and Serbia. The success of the meeting was largely due to Mrs. Marc (a member of the Birmingham Society residing in Stechford) and her Red Cross Nursing Class, who worked indefatigably in getting up the meeting. The amount realised by the sale of tickets was £10, and after the lecture a plate at the door was found to contain £2 3s. 4d. given by the audience as they went out. This sum was given for the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and the ticket money divided between the local Red Cross and the S.W.H.

RUGBY.—On March 17th, a lecture on "Hospital Work in Calais, Malta, and Serbia," illustrated by slides taken from her own photographs, was given by Dr. Mary Phillips at The Laurels. Miss Dewar briefly introduced Dr. Phillips, speaking of the valuable services which she had rendered to the Scottish Women's Hospitals abroad. The lecture was followed with keen appreciation, and a collection of £9 8s. was taken in aid of the Serbian Hospital Fund. Mrs. Steel, President of the Rugby W.S.S., warmly thanked Dr. Phillips for her very interesting lecture. Previously to this the Rugby Society had collected £16 15s. for the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Tiverton.

This winter's third meeting for the receiving of equipment and money in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals was held on March 13th, at Bank House, by kind invitation of Mrs. Jefford. There was a good attendance, and seventy-five articles of hospital equipment were received, as well as £1 6s. 6d. in money, which was equally divided between the S.W. Hospitals and the Russian Maternity Unit.

Miss Frost very much interested all present by her talk on the great value of Englishwomen's work among the Allies in bringing about a better understanding between the nations. She, of course, specially dwelt on the splendid work of the S.W. Hospital Units in France and Serbia, and of the great need for the work of the Maternity Unit in Russia.

Miss Frost showed how we could all help our Allies, as well as ourselves, by practising thrift in every possible way, and testified to the great success and usefulness of the Patriotic House-keeping Exhibition in many places, and the desirability of having it in Tiverton. At present, however, there are great difficulties in arranging it here, but these may be overcome later.

Norwich.

The annual meeting was held on March 17th. The Society was fortunate in securing the services of Dr. Alice Hutchison, who held her audience spellbound for over an hour listening to the vivid descriptions of her thrilling experiences in Serbia. Mrs. Corbett Ashby gave a short account of the work of the National Union during the war, which was followed with the greatest interest by those present, who included many who were not in the habit of frequenting Suffrage meetings. Mrs. James Stuart took the chair. The Society is pleased to be able to hand over £32 to the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service as the outcome of this meeting.

Richmond.

On March 17th the Richmond Society held a very successful Household Thrift Exhibition at the County School for Girls, Parkshot. The exhibition included fuel and labour-saving appliances, made-over clothing, home-made cleansing materials, comparative food values, substitutes for meat, dishes made from scraps, &c., &c. Mrs. Graham Lacey, of the National Food Reform Association, gave three very interesting and instructive cookery demonstrations, the objects of which were to show the possibility of economising in food without diminishing its nutritive value.

The attendance at these demonstrations was very large, and those present gained a good many valuable hints. The possibilities of fireless cookery by means of a "hay box" were shown in the afternoon, and an appetising dinner for four people, at the cost of 6d. a head, was also cooked and was much approved. The exhibition was under the patronage of the Mayor of Richmond (who attended), Alderman Clifford Edgar (Chairman of the Education Committee), and Dr. Crocker (Medical Officer of Health).

North-Western Federation.

CARNFORTH.—The annual meeting of this Society, on the 23rd, was held at Red Court, by the kindness of Mrs. Barton. The attendance was small, a fall of snow keeping the country members away. The officials and Committee were re-elected, with the exception of the Treasurer, Miss Slinger, who could no longer give the time necessary for the work. A hearty vote of thanks was given to her, and Mrs. Walker was elected in her stead. The report of the year was satisfactory. Four lectures on the war during the winter had paid their way. The supply of THE COMMON CAUSE at the Working Men's Clubs had roused interest and brought new members. As the Federation could no longer carry on the scheme, some members offered to send their own copies each week. A short address was given by the Vice-President, Mrs. Barton. Miss N. Walker-Jones, Hon. Secretary of the Federation, gave an account of the Annual Council Meeting. A paper on "War Work in Carnforth" was read by Mrs. Walker, and one on "The Education of Young Children" by Miss Clay, who was unable to be present, was read by Mrs. Barton.

KENDAL AND DISTRICT continues to hold sewing meetings for the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Many members are engaged in the agricultural registration for women, and two are on the Tribunals, while some are entirely responsible for the Red Cross work done in the town and district.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MARCH 31st. Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" Speaker: Miss S. P. Morrison; Subject: "Experiences in Serbia." 4.30

APRIL 1st. London Society—Quarterly Council, Dennison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W., Saturday, April 1st—Chair: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.—Members of the Society are cordially invited to be present.

APRIL 3rd. Birmingham—Sparkbrook—Motherhood—Mrs. Barrow Cadbury 3.0 Birmingham—All Saints' Church House—Motherhood—Sex Teaching, Mrs. Alice—Second letter 3.0 Birmingham—Bradford Street Wesleyan Mission—Motherhood, Sex Teaching—Mrs. Harrison Barrow 3.0 Birmingham—Harrison Road—Motherhood—Mrs. Ring 3.0 Birmingham—Soho Co-operative Guild—Motherhood—Mrs. Wynne 3.0 Birmingham—St. Basil's, Deritend—Motherhood—Miss Albright 3.30 Reading—The Abbey Hall—Meeting in support of the Maternity Units for the Relief of Refugees in Russia—Chairman: The Mayor—Speakers: The Countess Gurowska, Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

APRIL 5th. Wallasey and Wirral—Liscard Concert Hall—Speakers: Miss G. Cooke and Miss E. F. Rathbone 5.0

APRIL 5th. Birmingham—Acoc's Green—Meeting—Motherhood—Mrs. King 3.0

Scottish Women's Hospitals APRIL 4th.—The Criterion Theatre—Dr. Elsie Inglis, on "Pioneer Hospital Work in Serbia"—Chair: The Earl of Selborne, K.G., G.C.M.G. 3.0

Working Parties. Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48A, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0 Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk. Every Tuesday, 2.0-6.0 Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Monday, 2.30 and every Thursday at 8.0 Bournemouth—At 167, Old Christchurch Road—for the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit Every Monday, 3.0-8.0 Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 3.0-6.0 Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street—March 29th 3.0-5.0 Bristol—Working Party at St. Agnes Vicarage—March 30th

Buxton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited. Every Thursday, 2.30 Chiswick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Thursday, 5 to 6 p.m. Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia. Every Monday, 2.30-4.30 Farnham—At Bourne Lodge—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit. On Thursday, at 2.45-4.15 p.m. Gillingford and District—Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals and Russian Maternity Unit, at the Office, 1A, Mount Street. Fridays, 3.0-6.0 Hastings—At the Suffrage Club—A Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Tuesday, 2.30-6.0

Highgate—At 26, West Hill—Hostess, M. Garnett—Members and friends cordially invited every 3rd Friday. Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street. Every Thursday. Paddington—22, Kildare Terrace, West Grove (by kind permission of Mrs. Barrow) Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every day. Redhill—At Miss Woodward's, 10, Road—Sewing Party. Every day. Reigate—For N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals and Maternity Unit. Refugees—February 28th and alternate. Scarborough—6, Falconer Chamber Party. Every day. Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour, Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting. Every Thursday, 2.30 Solihull—Church House—Working Party for making comforts for the Italian troops. Every Monday, 5.0 Southampton—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit, at Hazelhurst, Hulse Road—Hostess, Mrs. Farquharson. Every Wednesday, 3.0-6.30 South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 11, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30 Walsley—St. John's Institute—Sewing Party. Every Wednesday, 2.30-6.0 Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make sand bags Hospital Garments. Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.30. Every Wednesday, 2.30

Erratum.

By an error, Mrs. Townley appeared as Organiser to the South-Western Federation instead of to the East Bristol Society in the of Federations and Societies.

Announcements.

There will be a meeting on Rural Education and the War, on April 5th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Caxt Hall, under the auspices of the National Land and Home League. The President, Colonel Lord Hen Bentinck, M.P., will be in the chair. Admission free; tickets from the League office, Queen Anne Chambers, Totill Street, Westminster, S.W.

A recital of Henry Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" (translated by William and Charles Archer), given by Miss Arna Henle, on Saturday, April 1st, at the Margaret Morris Theatre, King's sea. (For further particulars, see page 6)

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