

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE THE COMMON CAUSE OF HUMANITY.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining Votes for Women. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 45,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 460 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They use neither violence nor intimidation, but rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 590.)

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LAW-ABIDING.

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"BETTER IS WISDOM THAN WEAPONS OF WAR."

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES
(NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 460).

Notes and Comments.

Women's Suffrage and Men.

This week has brought us an exceptional amount of evidence of the feeling among the men of this country in favour of Women's Suffrage. Women have been told to "appeal to the electors." They are doing so, and the response is immediate and inspiring. In one week, we publish the demand of a large body of Trade Unionists for a Government measure of Women's Suffrage; the news of the interview of the Federation of Northern Men with the Lord Provost of Glasgow; and the formation of the Committee for "Suffrage First." There has been a Mass Meeting in Edinburgh (organised by the Federation of Northern Men), at which the City Councils of Edinburgh and Glasgow were represented, and a meeting at Guildford, where the platform was composed wholly of men. The awakening of the men of the Jewish community to the claims of the women's movement is also evidenced in a recent issue of their weekly paper. From all the by-elections come reports not only of splendid meetings, but of "Friends of Women's Suffrage," cards literally signed by the thousand. The Bishop of Winchester's appeal has evoked a response which will find expression in a great Queen's Hall meeting on December 5th (not November 21st as originally arranged). It would be hard to find a more representative reply to our appeal to the country. At the Unionist Congress, too, the fine speech of Lord Robert Cecil met much sympathy. The local press reports that he stood head and shoulders above the other speakers on the ordinary "party" question. He was well supported, at short notice, by Lord Willoughby de Broke.

Our Friends.

We have much right to be proud of the type and calibre of our friends as individuals. They will, of course, have to suffer for their principles, for the nearer we are to victory the more fierce becomes the opposition. From Edinburgh we hear that bills advertising a Suffrage meeting on the tram-cars were removed by an Anti-suffragist director! This is only one instance among many.

A "Lead" to Mr. Lloyd George.

Cabinet Ministers have recently been engaged in telling Suffragists what they cannot do for them. We may be allowed in return to tell that what they can. They can follow the lead given by Sir John Simon (prospective candidate for North-West Manchester), who, in his opening speech at the Free Trade Hall on November 12th, made "the plainest and clearest avowal" of his faith in Women's Suffrage as "a part of the democracy and of the Liberalism he desires to promote." Here is a way in which those who desire to help us can do so. Let all Liberal Suffragists—and above all, Cabinet Ministers—speak at their own party meetings in terms as sincere, as courageous, as unequivocal as this, and they will do great service to a great cause. We rejoice to read that applause punctuated Sir John Simon's references to Women's Suffrage, as part of "the wider Liberal faith."

The Harborough Division of Leicestershire.

In the *Times* of November 15th we notice an obviously officially inspired communication attacking Sir Victor Horsley's position as prospective candidate for the Harborough division of Leicestershire, on the ground that he is an advocate of Women's Suffrage. As the *communiqué* in question is very inaccurate in important particulars, and our readers may not have seen the correction published in one edition of the issue of November 17th, we would point out that Sir Victor Horsley was formally and officially adopted as prospective candidate at a public meeting of the Council of the Harborough Liberal Association. It is true that the Executive of that Association have sent him a communication on the subject, but it is not correct to say, as stated in the *Times*, that that communication expresses any respect for his Suffrage—or other—opinions. As, of course, the Executive have no authority to act in this matter, Sir Victor Horsley has referred the communication, and his answer thereto to the Council of the Association, by whom he was adopted. The Council meets on Saturday next, and it will be extremely interesting to learn whether the Suffrage question is going to be made a shibboleth for Liberal candidates. Mr. Asquith, of course, has declared it to be an "open question," but it is quite possible that the authorities of the Harborough Liberal Association do not value his opinion.

Suffragists Recover Damages.

We congratulate the three members of the N.U.W.S.S. on winning their case against the Borough of Hastings. It will be remembered that these ladies were made to agree to pay for damage caused by a mob to the hotel in which they had taken refuge. They claimed that such damages should be paid by the Borough, under the provisions of the Riot Act. Judge Mackarness gave judgment in their favour, and "certified for costs on the higher scale, on the ground not only that the matter was of public interest, but that 'the question litigated' was 'of importance to that body of persons' who were concerned either for or against the movement for the enfranchisement of women." We warmly congratulate Miss Rance and her fellow-sufferers on their courage and public spirit. The case has aroused great interest locally, and the decision will go far to destroy the vague but exceedingly dangerous impression in the public mind that Suffragists and Suffrage meetings are "fair game" for the hooligan.

Women in the Court.

We rejoice to see that the decision of the House of Lords against the right to "clear the court" at the will of the individual judge is already bearing fruit. It was recently reported that the Lord Chief Justice *requested* women to leave on being informed by counsel that the cross-examination about to begin must be "very unpleasant to listen to." This is a great advance. But women will certainly be prepared to hear "unpleasant" things rather than abandon the right, made good with so much difficulty, to be present when cases against women and girls are tried.

The Sweated Industries Exhibition.

The Sweated Industries Exhibition (of which we give an account elsewhere) has made a profound impression on all who visited it. The speakers, among whom were Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, Lord Lytton, Mr. Clynes, the Bishop of Oxford, and Mr. J. J. Mallon, were representatives of all parties and all schools of thought; but the speeches made by the sweated workers themselves moved the audience even more. For the benefit of those who were not there, it should be explained that the object in raising a fund for the workers is to enable them to organize in such a way as to take full advantage of the extension to them of the Trade Boards Act. Our readers will remember the struggle which the chain-workers and lace-workers had to obtain these benefits at once. The Anti-Sweating League, with its able Secretary, Mr. J. J. Mallon, is determined to be in the field at once on behalf of the 100,000 women who will be affected by the extension of the Act. Suffragists (who were present in large numbers) will be eager to help. We are told that a reference to Women's Suffrage by Mr. Clynes, M.P., was received with a perfect thunder of applause.

Dublin Women and Children.

Dr. Barbara Tchaykovski appeals for help for the women and children who are suffering from the terrible industrial warfare in Dublin. Dr. Tchaykovski's work in connection with the grievances of women engaged in the rope-making industry (recently reported in THE COMMON CAUSE) resulted in the matter being taken up by the Home Office. She wants our help now for sufferers in Ireland. "Some 80,000 women and children are in need," she writes. "Money and clothes should be sent to Mrs. Rudmore Brown, 74, Thomas Street, Dublin, where several hundred mothers and babies are being helped with milk and bread. . . . Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE gave us over £100 last year for the victims in the London Dock strike. Will they do so again now?"

The Mental Deficiency Act.

Mrs. Hume Pinsent, of Birmingham has been appointed Unpaid Commissioner under the Mental Deficiency Act. We congratulate her and ourselves. She is one of the first authorities on the subject. Mrs. Pinsent is a City Councillor, who would have lost her seat if Mr. Asquith's Reform Bill had gone through, as she is a married woman, and holds her seat only because Birmingham has an unusually liberal-minded Revising Barrister.

Unionists and Women's Suffrage.

At the Unionist Conference which met in Norwich last week, a Women's Suffrage resolution was moved by Lord Robert Cecil and seconded by Lord Willoughby de Broke. Lord Robert Cecil said, in the course of a most impressive speech, which put the whole matter on a lofty level:—

"I say that it has always been part of the Conservative policy ever since the days of the great William Pitt that those citizens who are possessed of the property qualification necessary for a vote should be allowed to exercise the franchise. It is a profound and a very damaging mistake—damaging in the eyes of the democracy—to represent the Conservative as always opposed to any extension of the franchise. It is not true, and if it were true it would not be creditable to us as a party. Was it reasonable to say that with respect to a large number of citizens who were unquestionably possessed of the qualification of the vote that they should not vote because they were women and not men? He was of the same opinion as the late Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury that no such disqualification existed. What were the objections ordinarily put forward to this reform? The first and foremost one of which they heard most at the present moment was the objection founded on what was called militancy. He agreed most thoroughly that militancy was indefensible. It was entirely in the interests of those opposed to the suffrage, and not in the interests of those who were in its favour. The number of militants was exceedingly small. They were fanatics, and had all the defects and the qualities of fanatics in all parts of the world, and he did say that it was really unfair and unjust to make all the law-abiding suffragists suffer because of the eccentric and lawless acts of what was after all a very small number of women who were fanatical on this subject. The second argument was that it was said they would not so much mind allowing women with the property qualification the vote. There were many women with the property qualification who were at least as qualified to exercise the vote as many of the male voters at the present day. He did not deny the force of the thin end of the wedge argument, but he did say it was not an argument that ought to be pressed very far.

"Surely for self-respecting persons the only true rule was this, We will do justice and fear not. If a case could be made out for a certain change, they must not be frightened from making it because somebody in future would use a legitimate reform in order to press forward something that was not legitimate. Every case must be judged on its own merits. He would be ashamed of his party if they were to decide that they would not do what they thought right, because ultimately they might be forced into doing what they thought wrong. He passed to the third ground, which, after all, really lay at the bottom of the whole thing. The view was held by a large number of people that whatever merits women might have, they were politically incompetent. That, of course, was the whole difference between them."

Lord Willoughby de Broke seconding, said he agreed with every word of Lord Robert Cecil's speech, and defied anyone who wished to see the Tory Party turned into a national party, to leave the women entirely out of the case.

Mr. Arnold Ward moved an amendment deferring consideration of the question "until Women's Suffrage has received the express sanction of the electors." This was seconded by Mr. Chapman, and carried.

Very active work was carried on by the Norwich Women's Suffrage Society during the Conference. On the Saturday before it met, an At Home was given by Miss Finch, to which a number of elementary teachers were invited. This resulted in eight new members and many Friends.

On Monday Mrs. Rackham came to the neighbourhood and addressed meetings at Yarmouth and Great Ormesby. On Tuesday, the eve of the Congress, she spoke at Hetherset in the afternoon, and in the evening at a large Suffrage meeting in the Assembly Room of the Agricultural Hall, Norwich. This meeting was well attended and enthusiastic. Mrs. Hazard took the chair, and Miss Abadam seconded the resolution proposed by Mrs. Rackham, "That this meeting demands a Government measure of Women's Suffrage." One or two Anti-suffrage organisers asked questions, but were received with cries of "Sit down" from men in the audience. When the resolution was put, Mrs. Hazard asked those in favour to stand. Practically the whole hall rose. Only three people could be seen to be still seated. About 800 were present.

The meeting brought us forty new members the collection amounted to £6 os. 3d., and tickets were sold to the extent of £11 12s. 6d., while donations towards expenses amounted to £7 12s. About ten dozen COMMON CAUSES were sold.

In the meantime, thirteen new members have joined at the shop. About the same number of Friends have also been enrolled there, and a brisk trade has been done in general literature. Miss Willis, the hon. secretary, has been indefatigable. Members of the Society have also sold THE COMMON CAUSE outside the Conservative meetings.

The Conservative and Unionist-Franchise Association have had an afternoon meeting, well-attended in spite of torrential rain. Workers of the same Association also distributed leaflets, signed by Lord Robert Cecil and Lord Willoughby de Broke, to all delegates to the Congress, asking them to support the Suffrage resolution.

The *Eastern Daily Press* has been the greatest help to the Suffrage Cause during our campaign. It gave an excellent account of the Suffragist work, and also an almost verbatim report of the discussion on Women's Suffrage that took place at the Congress. It has also published letter after letter dealing with the question.

Trade Unionists and Women's Suffrage.

A Demand that Must be Heard.

On the occasion of the recent visit to Watford of Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, M.P. (Financial Secretary to the Treasury), a deputation representing local trade unions wished to wait upon him with regard to Woman Suffrage, but were notified that he was too busy to receive them. Since then they have forwarded to him the following: "We desired to place before you some points in connection with the question of Women's Suffrage, which it appears the Government either has no knowledge of, or deliberately ignores.

"We would draw your attention to the fact that there is a continued and increasing demand from the electorate that the Government shall deal immediately and honestly with this question, and, by doing justice, end the deplorable and unhappy agitation and disorder that has arisen amongst the usually most law-abiding portion of the population.

"The enfranchisement of women is demanded by the whole organised body of labour in the country. The Trade Union Congress meeting at Manchester, in September last, and representing over 3,000,000 workers, passed a very strong resolution in this connection by an overwhelming majority, there being only six dissentients. The annual conference of many individual trade unions, the Miners' Conference at Scarborough, the Scottish Liberal Federation, many Town and District Councils, and every organised body of women in the country, such as the National Union of Women Workers, the British Women's Temperance Association (over a million members), the British Women's Doctors' Association, &c., have all registered declarations calling for the immediate and serious attention of the Government to be given to this important question.

"It must surely be obvious to you that the continued display of indifference on the part of the Government to these demands from the organised workers of the country will result in the alienation of the support of the electors even in constituencies where the fight is a straight one between Liberal and Conservative candidates, and unless some more satisfactory utterances are forthcoming than those recently given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Foreign Secretary, a great deal of determined opposition to the Government will be roused amongst those whose demands have so persistently been ignored.

"JAMES SOUTHWOOD, Trades and Labour Council.
HENRY ELLIOTT NEAL, Trades and Labour Council.
F. HEDGES, Railway Clerks' Association.
E. G. LARKIN, National Union of Clerks.
P. T. HEADY, Railway Clerks' Association and Independent Labour Party.
J. WOOD CUNNINGHAM, Trades and Labour Council.
W. SIMMONDS, General Union of Carpenters and Joiners.
JAMES McMANUS, Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees.
A. W. SMITH, Shop Assistants' Union.
E. A. HEWLETT, Shop Assistants' Union.
EDWIN GEORGE YATES, Watford Typographical Association.
H. W. JULIAN, Hon. Secretary, Watford Labour Council.
R. A. HOLMES, A.S. of Carpenters and Joiners.
W. H. WIGGS, U.S.C. and J., Watford Branch.
FREDERICK RACKHAM, National Union of Clerks.
A. COOPER, Independent Labour Party."

Sweated Industries and Women's Lives.

The Exhibition of Sweated Work at the Caxton Hall, and the Conference on the same subject held at the Duchess of Marlborough's house, have during the last week brought the question of the low wages of women and their resultant evils vividly before the eyes of those who are not blind to the un-beautiful and miserable. Our first involuntary remark on seeing the price of pence for making a coat and skirt complete is "how wicked!" and we rail inwardly at the inefficiency of the system which allows these things to be. The second thought which assails us is not so much the wickedness as the folly of man-made Parliaments which leave unchecked the sweating and grinding of the nation's motherhood. "Parliament has not yet

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN PRACTICE

1913,

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CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,
President of the Alliance.

Compilers
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MARIE STRITT,
MARIA VERONE.

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had time," we are told, "to deal thoroughly with the question of a minimum wage for women workers." The reason for this is not far to seek. It is that the wise far-seeing mother-mind is not represented in the councils of the nation.

Till quite modern times, the vocation of men has been to destroy rather than preserve life, and though this tradition is slowly being displaced by a more humane and intelligent attitude of mind, men have not yet learned to value life as women do. It is the waste of energy and vitality which women resent, energy which, had it been rightly used, instead of exploited by commercialism for its own ends, would have prevented much of the poverty and misery which disgrace our cities and towns to-day. "Woman's place is the home," we are told by those who would keep women in a cage. Yet through the folly of mankind that home is often but a bare room littered with card-board for match boxes, which a woman who was "made in God's image" is making at threepence a gross. Does not commonsense tell one that you cannot get the best out of any woman on those terms? What right have we to expect her to take a pride in a home which, no sooner it is tidied and cleaned is strewn once more with match boxes in the making?

From the point of view of pure expediency, would it not be better for the nation as a whole that those of its women, who are forced into the labour market, should be in a position to earn sufficient money to keep them and their dependents strong and healthy, without condemning them to a ceaseless round of monotonous hours, which destroy enterprise and imagination, and everything which gives zest and joy to life? When life is only one long weary struggle to make two ends meet, which at the slightest relaxation of effort will spring apart, whence can come that impulse to self-expression which is the only source of good work?

For the sake of the men no less than for the sake of the mothers and children, we demand that women shall be given their political freedom, in order that their experience and wisdom may guide the mind and hands of Parliament in work which is still strange to men, and which women throughout the ages have made their own—the work of life-protection and health-preservation. M. M'K.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING AT GUILDFORD.

The Mass Meeting at Guildford, organised by the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, was an extraordinary success. The building was well-filled, and when the Bishop of Kensington opened the proceedings, he drew attention to the fact that the platform was composed wholly of men.

He was himself present, he remarked, not because it was a political movement—it could not help being that—but because it was a great moral and spiritual movement, and the Bishops and clergy ought, without any delay, to be inside it and not outside it. To-day women wanted to discharge with men the great and tremendous responsibility of bringing up their children, and of contributing to the whole solution of the problems which surrounded their lives. Both political parties were saying, with what sincerity he did not know, that the one supreme question before the country was social reform. There could be no social question dealt with by any Parliament which did not touch the whole. The "anti's" were always telling them that woman's proper place was the home. And so it was, by reason of the fact that she knew more about the home than anyone else, and because the home and everything that concerned it were vitally dear to her. The State, then, when it came to be confronted with tremendous social problems, must ask those who knew about the home to contribute their share towards it; and women were asking to be allowed to have a voice in the solution of those problems which were far too big for men alone to tackle.

The Hon. Sir John Cockburn (formerly Premier of South Australia) said women were turning into every avenue of employment, and they wanted the vote for just the same reason as the men—to protect their interests. He stated that the granting of the reform to women had been of the most beneficial description. Women were born administrators and born economists; the help of women was required in building up the Empire and was necessary to put their Imperial house in order.

Mr. M. D. Mason, M.P., Dr. Bather, F.R.S., Mr. Cecil Chapman, Lord Farrer, and the Bishop of Guildford also spoke in favour of the resolution:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that the time is ripe for the grant of the Parliamentary vote to women, and considers the violent action on the part of a small minority affords no excuse for refusing the vote to the overwhelming majority of constitutional and law-abiding women who ask for it."

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

AUSTRIA.

In Austria women are forbidden by law to take an active part in politics or to join any political association. This prohibition is set forth in paragraph 30 of the Vereinsgesetz, which is now being reconsidered by Parliament. Last spring the Chamber of Deputies decided to cancel the prohibiting clause, and the Political Committee of the Upper House has now endorsed this vote of the Deputies, with the explanation that "the part taken by women in associations with political tendencies is well known, and, under the circumstances, can scarcely be prevented." This advance in conservative opinion is a gain to the women's cause; but the offending paragraph still remains, owing to disagreement as to the amendment of other clauses. The Bill has been sent back to the Deputies for further consideration. Every effort is being made by the Austrian Committee for Women Suffrage to accelerate the discussion of the Bill, and will not rest until it has gained for women the right to take part in political associations.

The women of Austria have been leading an agitation against the rise of prices which they, as housekeepers, feel most acutely. They have been successful in cheapening coal in Vienna and milk in Brünn. The leaders of the movement have been elected on to municipal committees, and for the first time a woman has been put on a committee of a Town Council, viz., that of Housing.

BELGIUM.

The Socialist Party has decided to undertake a new campaign in favour of the revision of the Constitution and the establishment of Universal Suffrage. After a lecture given last September, at the Maison du Peuple in Brussels, by the Dutch Socialist leader, Hegeraat, who conducted in Holland the movement in favour of Universal Suffrage, the General Committee of the Socialist Party decided to study how to organise in Belgium a petition to obtain political equality analogous to that which was organised by the Dutch Socialists.

DENMARK.

We have pointed out already that Women's Suffrage in Denmark, though ultimately assured, depends for its immediate victory upon the attitude of the Conservative Party towards the Reform Bill as a whole. During the third reading in the Lower House, Mr. Borgbjerg, the leader of the Social Democratic Party, warned the Conservatives that they would have to pay dearly for every year that they resisted the Reform Bill, and that ultimately those who have tried to hinder progress would themselves have to promote it. The next day the Premier, in a speech at a Press banquet, said, "There is nothing but Universal Suffrage, and that includes votes for women on the same terms as men. The last election showed that the people will not tolerate any privileged franchise. This knowledge gives us great power, and the Conservatives must understand that they cannot destroy this power."

On October 7th and 8th, the Reform Bill passed its first reading in the Upper House. The most prominent leader of the Conservatives expressed his willingness to discuss it, "on the proposed basis"; while the other Conservative speakers spoke very cautiously, though kindly. The Bill was transferred to a Committee of members of the Upper House, with Mr. Piper as chairman.

The First Woman Sea Captain.

In Copenhagen, the widow of a doctor, Frau von Banditz, has passed the last examination of the School of Navigation with great success, and has received permission to act as sea captain. She has succeeded in getting an appointment, and will, at the end of this month, take command of a 3,000 ton steamer to English and Russian ports.

Obituary.

The death some weeks since, of Madame Zeneide Mirovitch was a source of deep regret to those who were privileged to meet her last year during his visit to England. On that occasion she called at the National Union Offices, and most kindly agreed to consider herself as one of the National Union foreign correspondents. She followed with a sympathetic and very special interest the course of the women's movement in this country, and readers of the *Standard* will remember her articles which appeared in the "Woman's Platform" columns.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Central News correspondent, Washington, says, "To hear arguments on the question of Women's Suffrage, the House of Representatives has appointed a Committee. Representative Suffragists and Anti-suffragists will appear on equal terms before the Committee, and no time limit will be set to the arguments. It is probable that Mrs. Pankhurst will speak."

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ABC OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. WHAT WE WANT.

[NOTE.—This page is perforated and can therefore be torn out and given away separately.]

"Women," say the Anti-suffragists, "are very much favoured by the existing laws. Had they votes, this favouring must cease and women must be

IN THE SAME POSITION AS MEN.

How foolish, then, to ask for the vote!"

Suffragists maintain, on the other hand, that there are many laws which favour men—such as the divorce laws, and the laws of inheritance—while the privileges which women risk losing if they insist on being enfranchised, are of very little value.

What are these privileges?

A WIFE IS FREE FROM CERTAIN LIABILITIES.

She is not liable for her husband's debts, nor to bankruptcy on account of her own. The husband, not the wife, is liable for the income tax due on the wife's income. These advantages, however, are not so great as they may be made to appear.

A HUSBAND IS LIABLE FOR THE SUPPORT OF HIS WIFE'S CHILDREN, LEGITIMATE OR ILLEGITIMATE.

But this liability is difficult to enforce, and even his liability to support his own children can easily be evaded in the present state of our law.

THE WIFE CHARGED WITH A CRIME CAN SHELTER HERSELF BEHIND HER HUSBAND

by pleading that she acted with his knowledge or consent or by his direction. And further, Anti-suffragists assure us, an accused woman is sure to be given the benefit of the doubt, her sentence will probably be lighter than a man's for the same offence, and (unless, of course, she is a "Suffragette") judges and magistrates are always ready to strain the law in her favour.

Granting, for the sake of argument, that we possess these privileges and that the vote would necessarily deprive us of them, we nevertheless demand the vote.

WE DO NOT WANT PRIVILEGES: WE WANT FAIR PLAY.

By all means let a woman be made to pay her debts as strictly as a man. Let her be liable for the tax on her own income—and let her claim and receive the due abatement on it herself. And let her be regarded as a responsible being, and be duly punished for any crime of which she is fairly convicted. We want equal laws for men and women, and we do not want unequal administration of them.

Then with regard to women's wages we are told that

EQUAL PAY WOULD MEAN LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT

for women, that women's work is necessarily so inferior to that of men, that no one who could get a man to do it for the same price would ever employ a woman. No doubt many a woman is doing a man's work now, simply because her labour is cheaper, and the employer does not care to pay more for it; but in that case it would be better—better for the man and also

BETTER IN THE LONG RUN FOR THE WOMAN—

that the man should get that particular job, and do it well, and be fairly paid for it, rather than that she should wear herself to death struggling to do it for a starvation wage. There is work that men must always do better than women can; there is also work that women can do better than men; and there is much that some women at any rate could do as well as men if they had the same chance of learning it. But thanks to artificial restrictions of women's labour, and to the double standard of wages, we have

MEN AND WOMEN DOING ONE ANOTHER'S WORK,

cutting one another's wages, usurping one another's rightful sphere. We want to see men and women gravitate each to the kind of work which is most fit for them; but they will not do so until employers pay for the work done, regardless of who does it.

"And then," say the Anti-suffragists, "you will be angry because you find that you don't earn as much as the men." Not at all.

WE CAN BEAR TO BE OUT-STRIPPED IN A FAIR RACE.

To owe a defeat to one's opponent's superior swiftness is no such matter for resentment as being heavily handicapped or arbitrarily disqualified from entering. Men will always outstrip women on some courses—but not on all. It is yet to be proved on how many. There are races for which only one woman in a thousand will care to enter, but why should that one be debarred? And if she should win, why grudge her the prize? But let it be realised that

WOMEN ARE NOT ASKING FOR PRIVILEGES.

We recognise that we must often be defeated; that, if we choose to risk it, is our own affair. We do not ask or wish to have the rules of the race modified to suit our supposed weakness; but we do ask to be allowed to enter for any event, and to

START FAIR.

THE NATIONAL UNION

Is the great Non-Party, Non-Militant, Women's Suffrage Society. If you approve of our methods and objects, please fill in the accompanying Form and send it to the Secretary.

I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district, and to receive their organ "The Common Cause."

I herewith enclose cheque for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription. Plus 6s. 6d., one year's subscription to "The Common Cause."

Name _____
(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other Title.)

Address _____
(in full.)

To the Secretary _____ Society for Women's Suffrage,
Or the Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

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The Woman's Theatre.

A Co-operative Suffragist Enterprise.

One of the most inspiring things about the Woman's Theatre is its towering ideals. The mere announcement that the Woman's Theatre will produce at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill Gate, on December 8th, for the first time in England, a new Brieux play translated by Mrs. Bernard Shaw, though interesting dramatically, conveys little of the true significance of the enterprise; so a representative of THE COMMON CAUSE went to the fountain-head of the energy and enthusiasm that has made it possible, and persuaded Miss Inez Bensusan to talk about her project.

"HITCHING ONE'S WAGON TO A STAR."

Miss Bensusan is an artist and an idealist of that practical type that knows no rest until the Star is caught and hitched to her wagon, with a business committee firmly grasping the reins. Thus, while she talks of her high ideals for women's work and for human art in her profession, she is actually chained to an office-desk surrounded by evidences of a remarkably solid business basis for her scheme.

A CO-OPERATIVE ENTERPRISE.

"I want people to realise, first, that we have no intention of ousting men; and second, that this is a co-operative enterprise run by women," explained Miss Bensusan. "Our business basis is interesting. We need £500 to cover the cost of our inaugural week, and that sum is being put up by Suffragists in one pound guarantees, in return for which they receive one seat in every part of the house at a reduced figure, so that before the curtain goes up our expenses will be paid, and before the box-office at the Coronet Theatre opens for the general public we shall have already disposed of a certain number of seats. Each guarantor, when signing her guarantee, nominates some Suffrage Society to benefit by the profits of the week earned by her sovereign guarantee—and if we have full houses, as I feel sure we shall, the Suffrage agitation will benefit to a considerable degree." Guarantors are allowed to sell their tickets, but at the full face value, and thus, on every sovereign's worth of tickets, in addition to the expected profits on the week's performances, a further profit of five shillings and sixpence is realised, and this sum the guarantor is expected to donate to her own particular Suffrage organisation.

NEW BRIEUX PLAY.

Miss Bensusan then began to talk about her cast. "It is an all star cast," she said; "just you listen to these names!"—and then she reeled off a list of which I can only give a selection: Miss Lena Ashwell (in the leading Brieux part), Sarah Brooke, Arthur Bachner, Nina Boucicault, Leonard Calvert, Cicely Hamilton, Fewless Llewellyn, Nancy Price, Christine Silver, Dorothy Warren, Muriel Wylford. *La Femme Seule*, the Brieux play, is to be given for the first time in England, and is translated by Mrs. Bernard Shaw and billed as "Woman on her Own"—hardly such a graceful name as the original, but the only possible title that would suggest the right

THE COMMON CAUSE CAMPAIGN.

A large number of Societies are taking up THE COMMON CAUSE Campaign, and working it splendidly. Even those Societies which had entered for the competition a little while ago are throwing themselves into the campaign now. Several secretaries write that as they have so recently canvassed their members they are now concentrating on street-selling. We commend their example to all and sundry!

The Bugler Girl design will, we believe, make street-selling much easier work. Many have written already to say how much more attractive the paper now looks, and so far we have only received two unfavourable criticisms, of which one was generously withdrawn when the Bugler Girl design actually appeared. From the Lanark by-election we hear that "the new cover makes an enormous difference; we have sold out at every meeting so far." Another correspondent "is pleased to say she had all THE COMMON CAUSES in five minutes, and wishes she had more!" The Hon. Secretary of another Society reports fifty-five new subscribers—"an increase of fifty-nine on last year!"

shade of meaning. "The Gauntlet," in Mr. Farquharson Sharp's translation from Björnson, has been presented before by the Actresses' Franchise League, but is so rarely performed that its production is almost as interesting from the literary point of view as that of the new French play. Both Björnson in Norway, and Brieux to-day in France, are supporting and forwarding the women's emancipation movement by their dramatic work, and M. Brieux is giving the Woman's Theatre his play at very advantageous terms as a further practical proof of his support. He is even coming over to London especially to preside at the final rehearsals and to see it performed. The cast is also helping the movement forward by giving its services free during this inaugural week.

PRACTICAL IDEALS OF THE WOMAN'S THEATRE.

And now to turn to the ideals of the new theatre. Broadly speaking, its aim is to give woman her proper chance in dramatic art, both as professional artist and as typical specimen of her sex reflected in the drama. Miss Bensusan particularly objects to that style of piece, usually imported from across the Channel, which makes cynical capital out of the sexual escapades of frivolous males and their smartness in deceiving the women to whom they are married, or engaged to be married, as to their true character. The Woman's Theatre, while refusing to divorce itself from a serious consideration of life and human interests, will set up an high artistic standard, and stick to it. It will offer to women artists a definite chance of doing good work, and will abolish, as an abomination, the sex standard of physical attractiveness so often set up by a male management, and which is a degradation and an insult to a serious artist. Artistic ability, and that alone, will be the professional's passport to a position in the new theatre. Managed by women, from the production to the box-office—and the new Brieux play has an admirable producer in Miss Janette Steer—artistic and business efficiency will be put first in this Theatre of the Future, and employees and supers will be treated as human beings, from the girl who "walks on" to the charwoman who scrubs the floors behind the scenes.

SUFFRAGIST INSPIRATION.

If this inaugural week is a success, the Theatre of the Future, as we called it just now, will become a permanent part of the actual present, an artistic and moral force in the dramatic world, and still one more evidence of the first-class capabilities of modern women. It is characteristic—inevitable—that the inspiration and organisation of this artistic adventure and common-sense enterprise should be Suffragist, and readers hardly need to be told that it is the Actresses' Franchise League that is behind Miss Bensusan, and that it is to the associated Suffragists of the dramatic profession that the scheme owed its inception and its first hundred pounds' worth of guarantee. It is up to Suffragists now to make the scheme a success for the inaugural week, and to place the Woman's Theatre on the permanent footing it deserves.

Advertisement Cards.

We have a number of show-cards, which stationers and newsagents who cannot exhibit a poster can be asked to show in their shops. Please write to this office for them. One newsagent who consented to show a card has since become a member of the N.U.! We have still posters in stock advertising Miss Hamilton's story, which may be had free.

W. H. Smith.

Posters will be displayed near Smith's stalls throughout the entire country during the Campaign month, and THE COMMON CAUSE will be stocked at all. Please let us know at once if you fail to get them when you ask. We should be glad if readers who are told by any newsagent that he cannot get the paper "on sale or return," will call his attention to the fact that he can.

More Posters for "The Common Cause."

The generous response to our appeal for money for posters on stations has been sufficient to provide them for a year at Victoria, Charing Cross, and Streatham Hill Stations. We acknowledge most gratefully from

Mrs. A. E. Beckett ... 12s. 6d.
Mrs. Ellen Chapman ... 12s. 6d.



Xmas-present Land at Peter Robinson's, Oxford St.

THE splendidly-diverse assortments in our Gift-goods Sections offer an almost limitless choice of beautiful Yule-tide presents priced from 1s. to £100. Here is a veritable Xmas-present Land which offers timely and useful suggestions in Jewellery, Art Needlework, Picture and Photo Frames, Umbrellas, Perfumery, Handkerchiefs, Silverware, Leather Goods, Stationery, Gloves, Fans, Calendars and Cards, Gramophones, Slippers, Laces, Furs, etc. And in the Gentleman's Department ladies will find many practical and useful articles equally suitable for Xmas-present giving.

Why not pay a visit of inspection THIS week?—it's not a moment too soon to commence to buy the presents—and those to friends abroad should be forwarded immediately.

Here are a few examples:—

MANICURE SETS.—The new "Roll-up" Manicure Set, made in soft suede leather, lined with moire silk, containing 8 articles; rolls conveniently into a very small compass. **16/11**

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The Children's Dream-Train

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Correspondence.

HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

MADAM,—In the account of the Newcastle town's meeting in last week's COMMON CAUSE, doubtless owing to the exigencies of space, you omitted the fact that the original memorial of ratepayers asking for the meeting was initiated and carried through by the local branch of the National Political League, the original idea being due to their honorary organiser, Miss Laura Ainsworth. Further, perhaps the most effective speech of the evening, made at the only moment when the meeting was inclined to get out of hand, was made by Miss Violet Taylor, Hon. Treasurer to the same association. We of the local branch of the National Union feel we cannot let this occasion pass without saying how much we owe to our sister organisation in this particular matter.

ETHEL M. N. WILLIAMS.

A WOMAN AT THE CHURCH CONGRESS OF PLYMOUTH, 1876.

MADAM,—I should like to call your attention to the fact that at the Church Congress at Plymouth, in 1876, Miss Ellice Hopkins addressed a large meeting for men only on the subject of purity. My father was there, and remembers what a great impression Miss Hopkins's speech made upon those present. I have heard it stated at a meeting, and seen in THE COMMON CAUSE that you were the first woman to be asked to speak in this way. You are courageously carrying on the work that was begun forty years ago; but we must not forget those who have worked so ably in the past in the cause of purity.

RUTH M. FREEMAN.

[We print with great pleasure Mrs. Freeman's letter. We feel, as we think most women would, that no honour could be greater than that of following Miss Ellice Hopkins.—ED., C.C.]

THE COMING URBAN AND BOROUGH ELECTIONS.

MADAM,—Will you very kindly permit me to remind your lady readers that the elections for the Urban and Borough Councils are coming on in January; and that not a day should be lost in selecting suitable women candidates to fill a fair proportion of those important offices.

It is now universally recognised that the help of capable, experienced women is needed upon all our Local Boards, especially in all matters affecting the well-being of women and children; and the success which has attended their labours as Poor Law Guardians, &c., during the past dozen years or more, is sufficient guarantee that their services will be equally valuable in the offices just now open to them. A large proportion of our electors, both male and female, are fully aware of this, and will everywhere gladly vote for them. The elections for the Poor Law and County Council Boards will not come off till June.

ANNA M. HASLAM.

(Hon. Sec., Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association.)

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

MADAM,—In reference to Miss Bloxam's letter in the issue November 7th, may I state that at our last election of Rural Councillors here, my sister and I talked with the two candidates and told one plainly we should not vote for him because of his attitude towards Woman's Suffrage. When the election took place I was too unwell to vote, but my sister voted for the other candidate, who professed himself a supporter of Woman's Suffrage. We have shown plainly that every other consideration sinks before this one. I believe a good deal might be done in this way.

MARY L. PENDERED.

THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

MADAM,—As an ardent supporter of Women's Suffrage, may I say how heartily I endorse your Election fighting policy. Working for a non-party measure on party lines has certainly failed utterly in the past, and by waiving party interests entirely and working simply for Suffrage, I believe you are at last on the right track. I was greatly disappointed on reading a report that Mr. Lloyd George stated to your deputation that on account of militancy he would give no help in educating the country to a right view of the Suffrage question. No one could help in this more than he, and to withhold that help from the law-abiding because of the lawlessness of a few seems a poor kind of justice! It amounts to forsaking friends in order to punish foes. I notice that to every deputation he makes the same declaration—viz., that it was militancy alone which destroyed the Women's Bill last May.

No one who carefully followed the course of events at that time really believes this. I do not deny that militancy was one of the causes of its defeat, but it was by no means the chief. May I suggest that the next deputation to Mr. George asks this plain question: "Can you as a man of honour really say that you believe that apart from militancy the Dickinson Bill would have been passed?" Press the question well, and note the answer. Members of Parliament did a great injustice to women, and now they are trying to shield themselves behind militancy.

But if Mr. George's attitude is not satisfactory, the attitude of the Labour Party is very encouraging. By all means in our power let us back up their efforts. The case of Mr. Jim Larkin teaches us this lesson—what the Government will not do as an act of justice they may do through fear of losing votes. If at the next General Election

Our Unrecognised Fellow Citizens.

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

[Next week Dr. Esthen Carling will contribute "Open-air Schools."]

1. "The law regards the illegitimate child as *filius nullius*, and consequently neither the mother nor the putative father has a legal right to the guardianship of it."—Lord Mansfield, 1757.

2. "You must look at having to put baby out to nurse as a way for her good; children are not worth grieving about. . . . I think the more children rough it when they are little the more dutiful they grow up."—Extract from the letter of the grandmother of an illegitimate child to its mother, 1913.

These two quotations may serve to indicate with sufficient clearness the position of the child of illegitimate birth in relation (1) to the law of the land, and (2) to its immediate maternal relatives. With regard to the father, the usual position is only too readily defined. By a special provision of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1874, the illegitimate child may be registered in his father's name (on the joint request and under the signatures of both parents). It would not be too much to say that this provision is obsolete. Rather than acknowledge the relationship with its attendant responsibilities, the father will, as is well-known, leave not only the neighbourhood, but, if needs be, the country itself.

Such is the beginning of life for the child of unmarried parents. Where there is no attempt on the part of the mother towards concealment of the birth, the baby commonly enters the world within the walls of a Union Infirmary. As soon as the mother can take her discharge she starts forth to resume her life in the outside world, and two main alternatives present themselves for the child's future in accordance with the future career of the mother as (a) factory employee, &c., or as (b) domestic servant. In either case no enviable lot is the portion of parent or child.

(a) On the one hand, the girl will find the cheapest shelter in which to leave the baby whilst she seeks occupation in a neighbouring factory or workshop. It is the beginning of an almost desperate struggle for subsistence, and during the hours of the working-day the mother has to leave the baby to such care as may be obtainable from the woman of the house in which she is lodging or boarding. This woman is probably already overworked in the effort to comply with the demands of her family. The position, it may be remarked, of the average working-woman or wife of the working-man; but in the present instance it is necessarily the unmothered little one, as yet too young to help itself, who suffers most seriously from the results of these conditions.

The factory-girl may struggle on, or the struggle may easily become too much for her moral or physical strength, and may end at best in a return to the care of the Poor Law Guardians and consequent separation between mother and child. At worst, an alternative course frequently presents greater attractions to the over-burdened mother, and, following the line of least resistance, she adopts a life of habitual immorality, guiding the first steps of her child along the same path.

(b) On the other hand, the mother, upon leaving the Infirmary after the birth of the baby, may begin her life of increased responsibility as a domestic servant.

In this case the baby, entirely removed from its mother's care, is placed in a foster-home, 5s. weekly being needed for its maintenance. Despite the separation involved, this would appear to be the more satisfactory course for the child as well as for the mother: probably for two main reasons—(1) The foster-homes come under the supervision of the Health Inspectors, and since the Children Act, 1908, provision for the protection of these "boarded-out" little ones has become more thorough and effective. (2) At the same time, the foster-parents to whom the entire charge of the child has been entrusted, acquire for it an affection not developed to an equal degree where (as in the case of the factory employee) the charge is immediately shared with its own mother. Frequently the foster-parents would even adopt the child as their own, or would keep it without payment did financial conditions permit. But, again, the monetary question intervenes and the child suffers. As long as the mother works steadily in her place of service, uninterrupted by illness or other vicissitude, the payments can be made by means of considerable self-sacrifice upon her part. But when her patience or her courage fails, and she too follows the course pursued from

one escapes from this tremendous power and responsibility—a power which rules us, a responsibility by which we rule others.

No Anti-suffragist—and no Suffragist—can know how far women have been affected by the workhouse taint. They are, according to Sir Almroth Wright, "bankrupt citizens." Are they? Is it a fact that they have given practically nothing to the human race? Are they parasites merely, supported by the unremitting, unpaid toil of men? Have they the workhouse taint in them all their lives? Certainly if they have they have a worse grievance against men than they have yet dreamed of! Education has constantly been withheld from them, and even now is rarely given as it is given to boys. Technical education is still more generally kept for the fortunate male. The mere idea that women's work requires any training is only beginning dimly to be apprehended. And women fulfilling the heavy and arduous duties of child-bearing, child-rearing, home-keeping, without training, are told they are insolvent!

It is not good for human beings to be, or to be held, bankrupts. To regard oneself for ever as by Nature a parasite, bound if one lives at all to receive much and to give little—how demoralising, even to the strongest! We Suffragists, of course, hold that the charge is unfounded, that women as a sex cannot be bankrupts as long as they discharge the great and dangerous duty of bearing and rearing the race; and that as individuals they can give as good service as men if they are given the same chance. But the other belief has affected all of us more than we realise. From the poor factory-girl who takes lower wages than a man as a matter of course, because "you see, I'm only a woman," to the leaders of great movements of social reform, there is not one who can measure the difference it would have made to her to know that as much was expected from her *always* as from her brother, and that she was no more to be a "bankrupt" than he.

We remember a woman now who works hard all day, and every day, at charring, and has found time to bear and rear ten children as well. She is not a Suffragist; her husband "would not like it." Pressed as to her husband's right to form her opinions for her, she explains, "Well, after all, you see 'e keeps me!" That he does not keep her (for he rarely does a day's work) but she him, is a fact which for a long time she could not grasp, and when she did, it presented itself in the light of a singularly exquisite jest. That she, as a matter of fact, was not parasitic, was an idea too humorous to be seriously considered. Women are accustomed to the belief that they are bankrupt. It is not a very inspiring idea.

Again, it is very generally believed that women are incapable of wide views and public spirit. They are "personal" in their attitude towards life. They cannot "think imperially." So hypnotised are they by these assurances that some of them abandon the attempt with the same hopelessness that some men—under the same hypnotism—abandon the idea that personal chastity is possible to them. It is not good for man or woman to think so contemptuously of themselves; but it is difficult to escape the contagion of prevailing thought. Not one of us is really "free." Not one of us can ever know what he or she might have become, but for the "weight of custom" on the soul. We recognise this as a fact—a fact which concerns both men and women, but which does not concern them equally; for the weight lies infinitely more heavily on women than on men. Who would dream of suggesting to a soldier, giving his life to the service of his country, in danger and hardship, that he is "a bankrupt citizen" when he dies? Who would cast such unworthy jibes at a great body of men? Yet at women, suffering, even dying, in the performance of a duty not less heroic, even more sacred, this contemptuous and unworthy insult is hurled; the mothers of the race are parasites; they are bankrupt citizens.

We desire, we Suffragists, to suggest to women that they are not after all so worthless as to be "natural bankrupts"; that they can "think imperially" if they will take the trouble. We will persuade them to take the trouble by giving them the responsibility. Human beings, as a whole, will always respond to the demand of a new responsibility. Here and there an individual will fail. Perhaps many will fail. But slowly, gradually, the great mass responds. Gradually the bondage of old traditions breaks down and new powers are developed with new hopes. We cannot be free alone; we can never be completely free, as long as we are human; but we can at least break the yoke of custom which lies on all of us—

"Heavy as frost and deep almost as life."

We can, and we will, free ourselves of the evil suggestion that women are naturally insolvent, and clear their minds for ever of that habit of thinking little of themselves, which is the essential "workhouse taint."

the first by the father, leaving the child for whose support she is no longer able to pay; then, once more, as in the case of the factory employee, the child's path leads to the protection of the Poor Law Guardians. Deserted by its parents and unrecognized by the law, this victim of individual misdoing and of communal error, becomes the child of the State.

Although much water has flowed under the bridge since the days of Oliver Twist, although when we contemplate the establishment supervised by Mrs. Corney and Mr. Bumble, we may congratulate ourselves, possibly with justice, upon our scheme of Cottage Homes, yet the deprivation from which these fatherless children suffer during their early years is of a character for which no subsequent conditions, however favourable, can wholly compensate. Practical wisdom as well as spiritual insight inspired Bishop Westcott's dictum, "As the home is, so is the nation." What then of the nation, or of that not inconsiderable section of the nation, which has no home?

It will be readily deduced from the foregoing statement of facts that this question of the homeless condition of our illegitimate children is to a large extent a pecuniary one. If the mother possessed an income sufficient to keep herself and the child, in the great majority of cases it is not to be doubted that the maternal instinct would so far prevail that mother and child would be united by a tie possibly the more intimate for the loss of the other parent, and subsequent desertion would be unknown. A home so constituted would be necessarily imperfect in the absence of the father, but the enforcement of a reasonable contribution from him towards the support of his child would enable the mother to devote an adequate portion of her time to its upbringing.

The removal of the pecuniary difficulty would not, however, afford a complete solution of the problem. Although our existing system of legislation has tended towards rendering the child dependent upon the mother whilst freeing the father from his responsibility, yet the mother is, unfortunately, by no means always capable of acting as sole guardian to the child; and there is no provision, as the law at present stands, which will ensure on the child's behalf a judicious expenditure of the paternal contribution (*when made!*).

But the evils attendant upon this nameless and homeless position do not exhaust the list of disabilities incurred by the children of unmarried parents to whatever social grade they may belong. (a) As a corollary from non-recognition by the law, the illegitimate child has no right to inherit real or personal property from his parents unless it is so devised by will, when he may, of course, succeed equally with any legatee unrelated to the deceased. (b) The converse of this position likewise holds. An illegitimate son is never legally liable for the support of his parents, even though his mother may have maintained him until he has reached the wage-earning age. (c) Again, the disability of illegitimacy is experienced throughout life whenever an application for certain appointments, a birth-certificate is required. Mr. J. King (to whom I am indebted for some valuable information) states in his recently published pamphlet, "Filius Nullius," that "there is a canon of the Church of England debarring them" (*i.e.*, persons of illegitimate birth) "from admission to Holy Orders. Some Bishops at least, demand proof of legitimate birth, and the Archbishop of Canterbury has granted dispensation to an illegitimate candidate for Holy Orders." Thus, from the moment of birth to the close of life, these disabilities subsist for at least 40 out of each 1,000 of the population born annually in England and Wales.*

The first step towards securing a redress of grievances is necessarily so to expose them to public observation that they may not be ignored. The object of this paper has been to make a plain statement of existent evils without offering suggestions as to possible remedies. We are not here immediately concerned with the parents of these unfortunate beings, with the unfair incidence of punishment whereby the penalty is assigned almost exclusively to one when both are guilty. If the woman suffers unduly, it may be urged that her position is, after all allowance has been made, the outcome of personal action, whether of weakness or of error. But when we concentrate our attention

* This is merely a rough calculation; but it is probably an under-estimate of the proportion of illegitimate births. In 1882 the numbers were quoted as 48 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

LONDON SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES,

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 Next Week:—Miss Edith Palliser (Chair); Speakers: The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss M. Sheepshanks, Lord Robert Cecil

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upon the conditions amidst which *absolute innocence* finds itself, through no error even of its own, handicapped at the outset of life, branded with an indelible birthmark of shame, we can but marvel at the continuance of such conditions in a land proud of the freedom of its citizens and of the justice of its laws. "What mean ye that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?" Twenty-five centuries ago the Hebrew prophet made this inquiry of his fellow-countrymen; then, confident in the divine inspiration of his mission, asserted, "Ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel." To-day we ask when in Christian England shall we also "not have occasion any more to use this proverb"?
 E. M. NAISH.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LONDON SOCIETY.

The question of the re-organisation of the London Society will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on November 24th. The work has grown to such a tremendous extent that some development on the lines of decentralisation has become necessary, and various schemes will be laid before the members at the meeting. As the matter is one of the utmost importance, not only to the London Society, but through it to the whole Union of which it is the largest single Society, all members are urgently requested to be present.

THE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.

The education campaign organised by the N.U.W.S.S. is proving one of the most successful efforts it has yet made. A very large number of Societies have taken it up, and are working it in accordance with local needs and possibilities. Study-circles, debates, lectures, and lantern slides are all pressed into the service of Women's Suffrage and "the Child and the State" campaign. Societies report that people whom nothing hitherto had "reached" are coming in now, and "the echoes of the work," writes one lecturer, "are everywhere."

Every Society which has not yet begun work should do so at once. They will evoke sympathy and support where they never had it before, when they make clear the connection between Women's Suffrage and "a better chance for the Child." People have too long been allowed to suppose that the question was a "merely political" one, in the narrowest sense. Let them once realise that it is a profoundly human one, and the cause is won.

POLITICS AND WORKING WOMEN.

The first meeting of the Rotherhithe Women's Political Association was held on November 4th. Over 120 women were present, of whom 90 gave in their names as members. Miss Anna Martin gave an address on "The Mother under the Law." She said that a long experience in a poor London district had convinced her that the main reason why the political and philanthropic efforts of the last sixty years showed such poor results was the low legal status of the married working-woman. Before marriage the whole law of England was behind the factory hand to ensure that she received an equivalent for her labour. After marriage, though she worked just as hard, she was absolutely at the mercy of her husband for the maintenance of herself and her children. The speaker showed in detail how illusory the supposed legal safeguards of the wife were. In most cases, it was true, the great natural forces of human life atoned for the badness and the injustice of the law, but to hundreds of thousands of weak or vicious men, the helpless position of the wife proved an irresistible temptation, and led them to divert the wages they owed to their families into ignoble channels. Of this the enormous sums spent by the workers on drink and gambling were sufficient proof.

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The London Society's Work in East London.

"Votes for Mother, she works for us now Father's dead," read out in a sing-song voice, is what comes to our ears through the open door of the new Suffrage Shop, 219, Mile End Road, E.

The big placard in the window attracts the attention of all who go by, and the children who crowd round the door spell it out word by word, and then, more often than not, remark in a burst of confidence or in order to attract attention, "My teacher is a Suffragette."

That placard is the keynote to our work in East London. There is no sentimental myth of "Women's sphere in the home" to be dispelled. *More often than not, Mother keeps the home going by her work, whether Father is alive or dead.* For in speaking at open-air meetings I have noticed that it is when women's work and wages is touched on that real interest is roused in the audience, and there is no difficulty in pressing home the connection between the vote and economic conditions, or between politics and the home. *It is almost a revelation what an important factor the law is in working-class homes;* a woman at one of our open-air meetings in Whitechapel came up to me and said, "I'll sign one of your cards, Miss; I've suffered a lot from the law in my time;" and one had not to look twice at her face to see that what she said was true.

It is because the stern hand of the law is such a real thing to them that our work among East Londoners is so encouraging.

It is true that we cannot show a big return in actual subscribing members, but our Friends often do more than a member's share of work, and give us in time what they cannot spare in pence.

And they are increasing in numbers very rapidly. During October alone we made nearly 200 new Friends, and it begins to be a problem how we shall get them all visited and posted up in our meetings. Most of our support in East London comes from people who are already working to their utmost either to get their own living, or in social, religious, or public work, and they can give us very little time for actual Suffrage work, though we receive from them a store of sympathy, encouragement, and influence which is of priceless value. Our local committees, which now number six, include members of the Borough Councils of Whitechapel and Stepney, members of the Boards of Guardians in Whitechapel, Bethnal Green, Poplar, and Bow, and members of the Stepney Council of Public Welfare, as well as clergy of all denominations, and prominent social workers. I think few people realise how little we should be able to get at the real working women, wives and mothers—women who are too busy to come to open-air meetings—if it were not for the enthusiasm and kindness of the heads of Settlements, Schools for Mothers, Girls' Clubs, Women's Meetings, Temperance Associations, Domestic Missions, and other organisations, who allow us to send speakers to their meetings.

And there is another side from which we get support that I should like to mention, and that is the Trade Unions. While it is undoubtedly true that Trade Union organisation is nothing like as strong, politically, as in the industrial districts of the North, still we do get very weighty, although largely unadvertised, support from Labour organisations in London. This can be best shown by the recent action of the London Trades' Council, a body representing over 100 different Unions, and 70,000 working-men. The London Trades' Council passed the following resolution at a meeting of delegates last August by an overwhelming majority.

"That this delegates' meeting of the London Trades' Council is of opinion that having passed resolutions in

favour of Adult Suffrage, the time is now opportune that further steps should be taken to give effect to the same." And the Secretary, a strong friend of Women's Suffrage, has told me that if anyone at any of these meetings should suggest Manhood Suffrage in the place of Adult Suffrage, the rest of the meeting would never stand it for a moment.

For ten years now the Council has combined a demand for votes for all women with its demand for votes for all men, and they do not intend to let the subject rest. "We are as anxious to see something done about Women's Suffrage," the Secretary said to me, "as you are."

It would be impossible for me to mention all the Trade Unions belonging to the Council; the list is far too long. I have it before me as I write. I will only pick out two—the Compositors, whose union sends ten delegates to the Council meetings and the Furnishing Trades, which are both strongly in favour of Women's Suffrage. It is significant that the furnishing trades have a large number of women employees.

If we get at the homekeeping women through the organisations I have mentioned above, we get at the industrial men and women, and particularly young women, through the labour organisations. It is thanks to them that we get the workers on our side, and what forces of reaction will be able to stand in the face of the organised workers, especially as they grow to realise their power? It is the force of the law-abiding movement that gets hold of them and enables us to make the headway that we do.

But we could do more and more, with ever-increasing return for our labour, if only we could get more people with leisure to come down and help us, and more speakers for our meetings. There is a tremendous field of work, too, in selling THE COMMON CAUSE, especially at midday on Tower Hill, if we could get volunteers to come forward. If we could get six people to give us two hours once a week, we could man Tower Hill daily, and it would be a splendid advertisement for our work. I feel sure this appeal will not fall on deaf ears. And then there is always work to be done at the shop, 219, Mile End Road, which it is now impossible to keep open as long every day as we

should like owing to the press of work in other directions. Mrs. Foulkes would welcome assistance here with open arms. She works day and night, for the light in the Suffrage Shop is often burning when people, even in East London are off to bed, and if readers of THE COMMON CAUSE could realise what it means to try to keep work going in eleven constituencies, all crying out for meetings, I feel sure they would give us the help we need. And will each remember that every little helps, and that no half-hour's work even is fruitless. A cheque for £100, or a P.O. for 6d. would cheer us too.

For the only alternative to Militant methods, and the one that appeals most strongly to those in East London, is sheer dogged propaganda work, teaching and explaining, and showing the sense and value of Women's Suffrage.

FAITH BAGENALL.

The "Suffrage First" Committee.

A committee of men and women has been formed with the object of inducing voters to pledge themselves, at the next election in their division, to "put Suffrage first" in using their votes. Mr. Pethick Lawrence has consented to act temporarily as honorary secretary (4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.).



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Registration Work.

Every beginner at her first by-election is immensely impressed by the activity and prominence of the Suffragists whom she has come to aid, as with flags flying and gaily decorated wagonettes they pervade the constituency. Throughout the election they distribute literature, hold innumerable meetings, indoor and out, put in an appearance with unflinching regularity at the meetings of the candidates, and finally focus interest on their cause by holding large and enthusiastic demonstrations in the principal towns in the division. But it takes her some time to realise that this, the more showy side of an election campaign, is also the less arduous, and that what tells in the long run and really makes for victory is the months of systematic and continuous organisation.

This year for the first time the National Union has definitely undertaken one very important branch of this indispensable preliminary work, viz., the scrutiny of the existing parliamentary register and the formulation and defence of new claims. The party agents who do this work are almost invariably men, but there is no law to exclude women, and Miss Dring, one of the North-Eastern Federation organisers, acted as Labour Registration Agent in Mid-Durham, where no contest had taken place for thirteen years and the register was very incomplete. In doing so she undertook no light task, but the work proved both interesting and instructive, the handling of assistant overseers and other officials in preparation for the Revision Courts forming an excellent course in the management of human nature. They were unaccustomed to a woman agent, but by the time the Courts took place all opposition had ceased. One overseer, in reply to an inquiring reporter—disturbed at the unaccustomed sight of a petticoat at the official table—exclaimed "That! Why, she's a suffragist! She's all right!" and the reporter's "Lord, what next," caused a ripple of laughter throughout the room. The Press, thus reassured, treated us generously, and this new occupation for women proved an admirable opportunity for a discussion on the various aspects of the Women's Movement.

When Miss Dring undertook the constituency she divided it into districts and organised groups of men, most of whom were either members of the I.L.P., or became recruits to that organisation.

These committees went carefully over the lists, noting omissions, tracing removals, and putting forward new claims. This year we confined our efforts to bringing forward names of our supporters and were so successful in the Courts as to sustain every claim, with the single exception of one lodger vote. We specialised particularly in lodger claims, for although they are more difficult, both to establish and to maintain, than are those of the occupiers, it is among the lodgers that we find the younger men who are breaking away from their old traditions. In one place all our claims were for sons who were lodging with widowed mothers. The Barrister, scrutinising the first on the list asked the overseer "Whom do you intend to put in next year as occupier?" "The son, Sir," replied the overseer, Miss Dring, "I shall object," "the parliamentary vote may be granted to women on the municipal register." The Barrister: "Certainly, I should require the women's presence here to say for themselves that they are willing to make such an arrangement."

The state of the register varied considerably from town to town, in proportion to the interest taken by the overseer in his work. In some wards, which for lack of sufficient workers we were unable to touch, there were apparently no "deads," no removals, and no changes of address! In Durham City, whose registration claims were heard by the same barrister before whom Miss Dring pleaded, there were actually three wards in the episcopal parish not one of which contained a single voter. Notwithstanding this, the fortunate assistant overseers who had charge of these mythical wards, drew for each the sum of twenty-two shillings for services rendered. The Barrister commented on this and noticing that one overseer, a man, was making a higher charge for his services than another, a woman, who was doing the same work, asked "How is it that you charge more than the lady?" The man replied rather sullenly "It has always been that" but the discrepancy is to be inquired into next year. We are indeed moving.

The Revising Barrister was quite friendly and perfectly well aware that whatever Sir Almroth Wright and his fellows hysterics may say, the vote is bound to come and to come quickly. Consequently throughout the sittings of the court he kept a watchful eye on the interests of women. Thus when one assistant overseer objected to a municipal vote, alleging that the woman moved out of the area seven months ago, the Barrister replied, "I cannot allow her name to be struck off, you must bring more proof, women are very tenacious of their rights these days."

It was amusing to notice the difference in tone in one particular village, the only one in the constituency in which we met with any opposition. On the occasion of Miss Dring's first visit, the audience were rather hostile. A second suffrage meeting was held a few days later and immediately thereafter Miss Dring paid her second visit, this time arriving with the Revising Barrister in his car. The attending constable commented on the change of tone saying, "There might be a red carpet down this time, Miss."

There was, however, one depressing element in this piece of work, namely the apathy shown by the men about their votes, many having to be stirred up individually to put in a claim. To suffragists it seems hard, not to say absurd, that they who labour so strenuously to confer votes upon men, should not be permitted to claim them for themselves, and at no time does this anomaly come so closely home as when we are compelled to master the very complicated intricacies of registration law.

The Fight in South Lanark.

SOUTH LANARK BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: Mr. Tom Gibb, Labour.
Mr. George Morton, Liberal.
Hon. William Watson, Conservative.

Number of Electorate.—10,357.

Liberal Majority, 1906.—1,275.

Organiser in Charge: Miss C. M. GORDON, M.A., 10, Bannatyne Street, Lanark.

The constituency is thirty miles long, and twenty-five miles broad. Between most of the tiny villages—scarce any place is big enough to be styled even a small town—lie immense tracts of entirely uninhabited moorland, wild and picturesque enough to the eye, but unprofitable as electioneering ground. Numbers of the tiny hamlets and villages are guiltless of any pretensions to modern civilisation, and are untouched by railways; and those which have attained this dignity do not think it necessary to have more than a couple of trains per day; and the distance between most of the villages is too great for walking, when there is work to be done. The difficulty of working such a constituency, with a view to covering it effectively with Suffrage propaganda, not to speak of affording effective help to the labour candidate, must surely be obvious. Motor cars are not a luxury here—certainly not to those who ride in them across the bleak moorlands by night, but they are an absolute essential to the accomplishment of any work.

Our centre is in Lanark, which, however, is not in the constituency, the latter stretching out around it in all directions. Lanark itself belongs to the Falkirk Burghs. From this centre with (at present) one hired motor car, and a very small band of workers, Miss C. M. Gordon is managing to "excite" remote villagers sufficiently to make them eager to come and listen to the speakers.

A Crowded Meeting.

The meetings began on the 12th with a crowded Town Hall at Carluke, one of the few towns in the constituency. About 800 people were present, and five dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Next day, meetings were held at Carstairs Village and Carstairs Junction. At the Village the meeting was in the open-air, and in spite of a raw, cold atmosphere, a large crowd of men and women stood patiently to the end. The Junction meeting was indoors, and the hall was crammed to suffocation. Four dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. At New Lanark, on the same evening, another meeting was held, also crowded, copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and two dozen badges were sold, and eleven "Friends" cards signed.

On the 14th, Friday, three open-air meetings were held—at Lamington, Symington, and at Thankerton—at which the greatest interest was shown in our Cause. At Thankerton we had been assured that it would be impossible to hold a meeting because there was a village treat of some kind going on in the schoolhouse. Certainly the place had a deserted air when we arrived. There were three men outside the one shop, however, so we duly mounted a chair and began to exhort them. Before Miss Lisa Gordon had addressed half a dozen remarks to the three gentlemen, their number had mysteriously grown to a dozen, and then doors opened one after another and men hastened up, reinforced finally by a detachment from the schoolhouse which marched up in a body. Women were there, too, and listened with much astonishment to the views of the strange women. Especially did they wonder, perhaps, that there were women who dared to come out and criticise the powers that be—in other words, male rule. This was a fighting meeting, and the heckling came thick and fast. Twenty-eight copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold however, so it is to be hoped that the hecklers were left with something to think of!

Saturday was a very wild, wet, cold day, and the open-air meetings which Miss Gordon had planned had to be abandoned. At Biggar, another of the "large" towns, an evening indoor meeting was held, which, in spite of the heavy rain, was magnificently attended, a packed crowd at the back of the hall having to stand during the whole evening, and another crowd not being able to effect an entrance at all. The attention of the listeners was so absorbed, so appreciative, so unwearied, that both speakers responded by speaking longer than the allotted time, and the hour was late when (apparently even then unwillingly) the meeting broke up. One hundred copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and fifteen badges.

Up to the time of writing (Monday), that completes the list of meetings. The speakers and workers responsible for what has been accomplished so far, are Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A. (in charge), Miss Lisa Gordon, Miss Pressley-Smith, Miss St. John, Miss Dring, Miss Brearley, Miss Wallhead, and Mrs. Chew. To-day Miss Margaret Robertson and Mrs. Annot Robinson arrive, but considering the fact that four meetings (as far apart as these meetings have to be) are arranged for to-night, it will be obvious that this little band have no idle time on hand.

The Candidates.

And now a word about the political situation and the candidates. Mr. Morton, the Liberal is a Suffragist and a member of the Edinburgh Society. He, together with the other two candidates, has been asked to answer the usual questions, and to receive a deputation. He has not answered the questions, and does not receive the deputation till the 25th. There is not a great deal to be hoped from him. The Hon. William Watson received Miss Lisa Gordon and Miss Pressley-Smith last Friday, and said "No" to all the questions, so now at least we know where we are with him and can frankly oppose. We know where we are with Mr. Gibb, also, and can as frankly support him. Mr. Gibb received Miss C. M. Gordon as soon as his name was mentioned as that of a likely candidate, and he promptly and unhesitatingly answered each question in the affirmative. We know also, that his promise means what a promise always should, and that not only he but his Party will see that it is carried out.

Liberals and Conservatives in Difficulties.

The candidates really only began their campaign last week, and both Liberal and Tory have already "put their foot in it." The Tory was asked if he believed in a minimum wage and replied "no;" he believed in a "fair wage." Asked if he thought twenty-one shillings a fair wage, he replied "Yes." He is now busily engaged at every meeting in explaining that he did not really mean that, but that he meant that its fairness "depended on circumstances." The Liberal is hard put to it to explain his Government's action in Ireland, and at several meetings amendments have been moved in favour of Mr. Gibb. Even the Liberal papers have admitted that "the voting was fairly even," but the amendments were declared lost by the Chairman. At another meeting the counting was challenged, but the Chairman refused to have a re-count. At another Liberal meeting the heckling was so fierce that the harassed Chairman refused to have one question answered at all, on the ground that it had "nothing to do with the subject." The heckler: "But isn't it the truth?" Chairman: "Maybe, man, but we don't want the truth here now!"

Mr. Tom Gibb.

Meanwhile, the Labour Party are pressing home the fact that a working-man like Mr. Gibb (who is actually working at his job as a checkweigher by day, and speaking at his meetings

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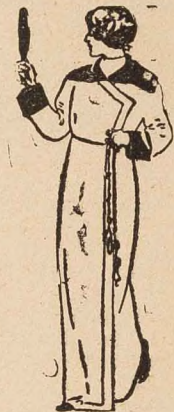
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by night), who does not think twenty-one shillings a fair wage for a working-man to earn, would be a much better representative for South Lanark in Parliament than either of the two lawyers who are the nominees of the other two parties.

Mr. Tom Gibb was born, one of seven, in a single apartment slum house. His father was a miner, and all his early life was spent in poverty. At eleven years of age he was working in a brickfield; at fourteen he was navvying in a quarry; at sixteen he was hawking coal; and, with three months exception, he has been working on or about mines ever since.

Do those people who go to school till they are men and women ever realise, one wonders, what it means to have to go to work and to educate oneself at the same time? This was what Mr. Gibb did, in common with most others of his class who attain to any education. He studied in night schools, pored over his books by the flicker of a candle light during the hours stolen from sleep. One year he spent in study at Glasgow University, having some idea of becoming a minister. Instead of doing that, however, he came back to the "Miners' Row among his ane," concluding that so he could better serve his class. He was active in developing the Lanarkshire Miners' Union, founded the branch at Howmuir, Cleland, where he lives, and is a member of the Lanarkshire Miners' Union Executive. He is a member of the I.L.P., which is guarantee of the soundness of his Suffrage principles.

We don't even yet know when Polling Day is to be. It may not be until the middle of December. May we appeal once more for money, workers, speakers, and—a motor-car?

It is estimated that this election will cost us £300, and we ask confidently for donations to cover this. A subscription list was opened at the Council meetings in Newcastle, and the following amounts given or promised. We appeal specially for the loan of motor-cars:—

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Dr. Williams and Miss Hardcastle
Mrs. Dunn	...	5	0
Miss Jones	...	0	10
Scarborough W.S.S.	...	2	0
Miss Margaret Robertson	...	5	0
Miss Royden	...	5	0
Mrs. Harley	...	2	2
Miss Stoehr	...	1	0
Miss E. Graham-Thompson	...	1	0
Miss Augusta Jones	...	0	10
Miss D. G. Lawson	...	0	6
Miss Amy Herford	...	2	0
Miss Ella Westwood	...	1	0
Collection	...	3	6
	£38	14	10

Results of Keighley By-Election Work.

A thousand Friends of Women's Suffrage in a fortnight! Keighley By-Election was a Suffrage Campaign with fresh victories every day. The polling day saw a seller of THE COMMON CAUSE at every booth in the division for at least an hour or two. We accomplished this through the kindness of Mrs. Alfred Illingworth, who lent us her car. We decorated it gaily, and the chauffeur feared we might become a target in consequence; but a man in the crowd said, "No; let them show their colours and then we shall know who they are, and they'll be safe!" This compliment was much appreciated.

Our work in Keighley was purely propaganda, but we believe that in his hour of victory Sir Stanley Buckmaster will not forget his promises to the National Union, and will do his utmost for Women's Suffrage.

Rotherham Campaign.

The campaign is over, and everywhere we have been received with sympathy and interest.

Among the many fine meetings held indoor and outdoor, Mr. John Robertson's meeting of miners at Dalton and Mr. Egerton Wake's dinner hour meeting outside Hadfield's works were specially enthusiastic. Our friends of the Labour Party who spoke for us during the campaign were much impressed by Rotherham's keen interest in the fight for women's political freedom, and the determination of the electors to have their views on the subject actually represented in Parliament.

We offer our best thanks to all those who worked so splendidly during the week's campaigning. Geographical conditions make the constituency a difficult one to work, so that we are all the more grateful for the ungrudging help they gave.

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The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. D. COURTNEY, MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary), MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press), MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).
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Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Literature Department.

In connection with the Educational Campaign on "The Child and the State," a leaflet, published by the Women's Labour League, is being stocked for the convenience of speakers. (Price 1d. a dozen.) The title is "Facts Told in Figures—Infantile Mortality."

Contributions to the General Fund.

Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913	Received November 11th to 17th—	£	s.	d.
...	...	116	2	11
Subscriptions.				
Miss I. O. Ford	...	2	0	0
Miss Dillwyn	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Meyerstein	...	1	0	0
Miss S. E. S. Mair	...	2	2	0
Mrs. Meade-King	...	10	0	0
Mrs. H. Enfield Dowson	...	3	3	0
Miss L. Willis	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Luff	...	5	0	0
Miss H. Moro	...	5	0	0
Mr. R. L. Reiss	...	10	0	0
Mrs. A. S. Dixon	...	5	0	0
Mrs. Hermon	...	2	2	0
Miss Celia Wray	...	3	3	0
Mrs. Smithson	...	5	0	0
Mrs. Walter Wigram	...	10	0	0
Miss Callander	...	2	6	0
Donations.				
Mrs. Strange (Reception-room china)	...	1	0	0
Miss Baylis, per Mrs. Ring (percentage on sale of hand-made jewellery)	...	3	0	0
Mr. M. Willan	...	10	6	0
Education Campaign Fund.				
Mrs. Marriage	...	1	1	0
Mrs. Walter Wigram	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Frankard	...	2	6	0
Mrs. Alex. Balfour	...	2	0	0
Mrs. F. Littleboy	...	3	0	0
Affiliation Fees.				
Bridge of Weir W.S.S. (entrance fee)	...	3	9	0
		£156	13	2

Election Fighting Fund.

Already acknowledged	6,048	6	5
Miss Jessie M. Barker	25	0	0
Miss Bertha Newcombe	1	0	0
Miss M. B. Smith	2	6	0
Mrs. Godfrey Tate	1	1	0
Romley W.S.S.	1	1	0
Miss Bella D. Candler	1	0	0
Miss D. Nelligan	1	1	0
B. B.	25	0	0
Miss Salt	2	2	0
Miss E. Jacobs	2	0	0
Miss Emma Miller	1	0	0
Mrs. Fitzroy Hecht	5	0	0
Mrs. Philip Percival	2	2	0
Special Campaign.	800	13	2
Miss A. M. Allen	10	0	0
	£6,922	11	1

THE STEAD MEMORIAL FUND.

Mrs. Atlee ... 2s. 6d.
Contributions should be sent to Miss A. Maude Royden, 111, Bedford Court Mansions, London, W.C. A contribution sent by Miss Edith Sewell (2s. 6d.) should have been acknowledged to the McLaren Memorial Fund. Miss Sewell had already sent a generous contribution to the Stead Fund.

MCLAREN MEMORIAL FUND.

Miss Edith Sewell ... 2s. 6d.
Miss Stoehr ... 10s. 0d.
Mrs. Fyfe ... 10s. 0d.
Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Stanbury, 88, Westbourne Park Road, London, W.

THE JEWISH STANDPOINT.

The issue of the *Jewish Chronicle* for November 14th gives evidence that the stirrings of the woman's movement are being felt even in a community where women are not allowed to take active participation in public religious ceremonies. In no less than three expressions of opinion, from such varying points of view as that of a Rabbi in an East-End Synagogue, of the President of the Union of Jewish Literary Societies (Mrs. M. A. Spielmann), and of a man-correspondent, is the position of women in modern days discussed in this single issue of the *Jewish Chronicle*.

A passage from the quoted sermon preached by the Rev. J. F. Stern in the East End is well worth consideration:—

"It has been reserved for this modern age to question women's claim, I will not say, to the possession of a soul, but at any rate to the right to express it in ways that in men it is freely permitted and encouraged to assert itself. To my mind, the denial to woman, simply because she is a woman, of every right which by her material instincts, by her education, by her desire to uplift herself and society generally, she is as qualified to exercise as efficiently as her brother-man, is not only a gross injustice to, and an outrage upon, womanhood, but a weakening of those influences and aspirations that make for the common good."

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TRY THEM FOR TWO MONTHS.

Then, if within that time a hole should appear, send them back at once with our Guarantee Ticket, which is sent with every pair we sell, and we will present you with new hose without extra cost.

The comfort and pleasure of good wearing hose to men conveys a sense of well-being and satisfaction all day long, while to business girls and busy housewives, to whom the weekly darning is a long and tiresome task, the benefit is incalculable. Many of the officials of the "Common Cause" have worn our hose, and are highly satisfied with it. Prices:—

Two Pairs of Gent's Socks, 2/10, post 2d.

Two Pairs Ladies' Stockings, 3/10, .. 2d.

Colours: Gent's—Grey, Fawn, Tan, Drab, Purple, Navy, Dark Saxe, Blue, Green and Black. Ladies—Grey, Brown, Saxe Blue, Navy, Champagne, Tan and Black.

SILK HOLE-PROOF. Sold under same guarantee as above.

Two Pairs of Gent's Socks, 7/6, post 2d.

Two Pairs Ladies' Stockings, 10/6, .. 2d.

Colours: Ladies—Black, Navy Blue, Empire Blue, Pearl Grey, Purple, White, Champagne, and Tan. Gent's—Black, Navy, Pearl Grey, Tan, and White.

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"Cranston."
A Modish Wrap Coat, in Striped Fancy Brown Velour Cloth, trimmed Black Silk Ornaments and handsome Collar of Skunk Opposum. Half-lined Silk.
6½ Gns.

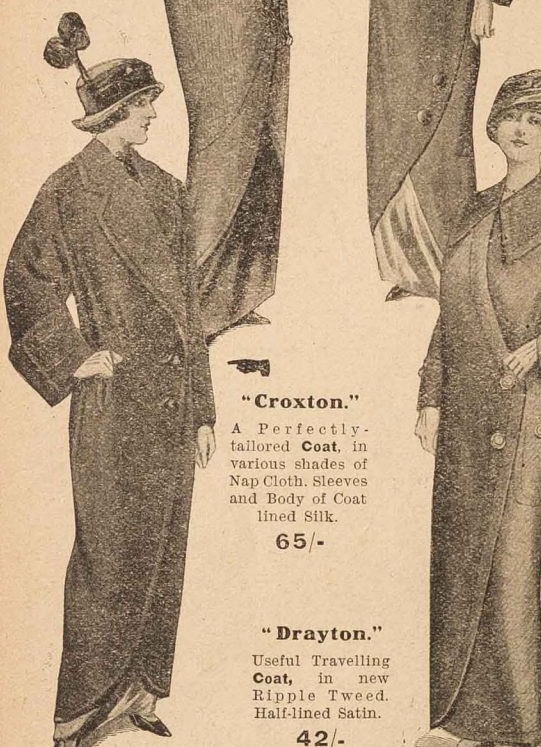


"Harcourt."
A Charming Wrap Coat, in Peau de Pêche, a new material with all the richness of velvet. Lined silk throughout.
£4 18 6
Also in Nap Cloth, half-lined Silk.
63/-



"Maida."
Astrachan Cloth Coat, in Black, lined colours. Large square Collar at neck with Revers, fastened with Ornament.
52/6

"Ena."
Very smart Wrap, 3-length, of Black Caracul Cloth, trimmed Black Velour round Skirt. Collar and Fronts up-to-date shape.
69/6



"Croxtan."
A Perfectly-tailored Coat, in various shades of Nap Cloth. Sleeves and Body of Coat lined Silk.
65/-

"Drayton."
Useful Travelling Coat, in new Ripple Tweed. Half-lined Satin.
42/-

A very large assortment of Winter Coats in all styles at all prices can be seen in our Showrooms.

Customers can see the largest choice of Black Coats in London. We specialize in Outsizes in suitable styles.

"Margery."
Handsome Coat, in Fancy Black Velour, lined colours, also Black. Perfectly new shaped Collar of plain Velour with stole ends.
4½ Gns.

"Cleo."
Elegant Broad-tail Cloth Coat, lined Satin, with a large rolled Collar of Black Wallaby Fur (can be turned to stole at neck).
7½ Gns.

All Drapery Orders sent Carriage Free in Great Britain.

News from the Societies and Federations.

Federations, Hon. Secretaries and Key to Letters.

- B. Scottish.**—Miss Elsie Inglis, M.B., C.M. Office: 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.
- Area.**—All Scotland.
- Number of Societies.** 62.
- C. North Eastern.**—Miss Hardcastle, 3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Organising Sec.: Miss Gordon.
- Area.**—All Northumberland and Durham.
- Number of Societies.** 22.
- D. North Western.**—Acting pro tem., Miss Millington, c/o N.U.W.S.S., 14, Gt. Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.
- Area.**—All Westmorland, Cumberlan, and in Lancs. the Divs. of North Lonsdale and Lancaster, and the Borough of Barrow.
- Number of Societies.** 24.
- E. North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.**—Mrs. Catt, 3, Pavilion Terrace, Scarborough.
- Area.**—N. and E. Ridings and the Ripon Div. of the West Riding, and in Lancs. the Divs. of Gt. Grimsby, and Louth.
- Number of Societies.** 16.

- F. West Riding of Yorkshire.**—The Secretary, Suffrage Office, 3, Park Lane, Leeds.
- Area.**—All the W. Riding with the exception of the Ripon Div. and Todmorden.
- Number of Societies.** 17.
- G. Manchester and District.**—The Secretary: Grosvenor Chambers, 16, Deansgate, Manchester.
- Area.**—E. Lancs. the High Peak Div. of Derbyshire, all Cheshire (with the exception of the Wirral Div. and the Eddisbury Div. of Chester) and Todmorden in W. Riding.
- Number of Societies.** 33.
- H. West Lancs., West Cheshire, and N. Wales.**—Miss Jessie Beavan, 12, Ulet Road, Liverpool.
- Area.**—West Lancs., the Wirral and Eddisbury Divs. of Cheshire, and in N. Wales the Counties of Anglesey, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery, Carnarvon.
- Number of Societies.** 25.
- I. Midlands (East).**—Miss Maud Dowson, Sulney Fields, Upper Broughton, Melton Mowbray.
- Area.**—The Counties of Nottingham, Derby (with the exception of the High Peak Div.), Leicester, Rutland, Northants, and in Lancs. the following Divs.—Lincoln, Grantham, Gainsborough, Warrack, Stamford, Stamford and the Burton Div. in Staffordshire.
- Number of Societies.** 20.

- J. Midlands (West).**—Miss Knight, Southside, Warwick Road, Solihull.
- Area.**—The Counties of Shropshire, Stafford (with the exception of Burton Div.), Worcester, Warwick and Hereford.
- Number of Societies.** 44.
- K. Eastern Counties.**—Mrs. Kellott, M. A., 4, Belvoir Terrace, Cambridge.
- Area.**—Cams., Essex (with the exception of Romford and Walthamstow Divs.), Essex (with the exception of the Westford Div.), Hunts, Norfolk, Suffolk and the Spalding Div. of Lincs., including the Borough of Boston.
- Number of Societies.** 40.
- L. South Wales and Monmouth.**—Mrs. Price-Williams, 57, Kimberley Road, Roath, Cardiff.
- Area.**—The Counties of Glamorgan, Brecon, Radnor, Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Pembroke in Wales, and Monmouth in England.
- Number of Societies.** 20.
- M. West of England.**—Miss Tanner, St. Ulrich, Downs Park West, Bristol.
- Area.**—The Counties of Somerset, Gloucester and Wills.
- Number of Societies.** 24.
- N. Oxford, Berks, Bucks and Beds.**—Miss Dunnell, Chesterton, Banbury.

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- Area.**—The Counties of Oxford, Berks, Bedford and Bucks, and the Watford Div. of Herts.
- Number of Societies.** 26.
- O. South-Western.**—Miss Mathieson, Otterbourne, Reading, Salterton.
- Area.**—The Counties of Devon and Cornwall.
- Number of Societies.** 22.
- P. Surrey, Sussex and Hants.**—Miss M. O'Shea, The Cottage, Coombe Hants, Ass't. Miss M. E. Verral, The Lydd, West Hants, Sussex.
- Area.**—The Counties of Surrey, Sussex and Hants, and the Isle of Wight.
- Number of Societies.** 46.
- Q. Kentish.**—Pro tem., Miss Griffith-Jones, 88, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.
- Area.**—Kent.
- Number of Societies.** 13.
- R. Societies outside Federation Areas.** 8.
- The London Society.**—Miss Philippa Strachey, 68, Victoria Street.
- Number of Branches.** 60.

[All reports must be sent in through the "C.C." Correspondents, whose names and addresses will be found on page 517 of the issue of November 7th. Exception will be made in the case of meetings taking place shortly before we go to press.]

BOURNEMOUTH.—The Annual Meeting of the Bournemouth Branch was held (by the invitation of Mrs. Hume) in Freedom Hall, November 1st, at 4 p.m. The only changes made were that Mrs. Lyon was elected Hon. Secretary in the place of Mrs. Warren. Mrs. Laney took office as Financial and Organising Secretary, and one member of Committee retiring, her place was filled by Miss Newson, who also undertook the work of Literature Secretary in place of Miss Kemp Furner. Mrs. Warren was presented with a magnificent silver rose bowl by the members on her retiring after eight years of office.

Oxford, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

MID BUCKS.—October 15th.—Drawing-room meeting at Wendover—Miss Dora Mason spoke—One new member. October 22.—Campaign at Aylesbury, with the assistance of Miss Dora Mason and Miss Elias, including—Meeting by invitation of the Railwaymen's Union—Resolution carried—Twenty-five "Friends."—Meeting by invitation of Women's Co-operative Guild, October 20th.—Social meeting—Five members; collection, 8s. 4d. October 22nd.—Public meeting—Mrs. Swanwick—Resolution carried—Twenty-five "Friends"; collection 13s. 9d.

CROWTHERNE.—October 20th.—Meeting for members and friends. In the absence of Miss Dora Mason, owing to the election in Reading, Miss Nora Marshall was speaker. At the end of her admirable address seven new members joined. Tea was provided by Mrs. Hardcastle, F.W.S. Sec., and Mrs. Corbett Singleton—Same evening, meeting in small hall at Sandhurst—Chair, Mrs. Hardcastle—Speakers, Miss V. Eustace, Miss N. Marshall. The majority of the audience were men. Two new members joined.

WEST HERTS.—October 13th.—Members' meeting, addressed by Mrs. Robinson. October 27th.—Drawing-room meeting at Hatten Bridge—Speaker, Miss Matters—Five new members and two associates; good sale of literature, and the hostess, Mrs. Beardson, brought four dozen COMMON CAUSE for distribution in the afternoon and evening, when a well-attended open-air meeting was held, addressed by Miss Matters. Mr. Masterman, who came to speak at Watford on October 30th, refused to receive a large deputation representing a number of local trade unions, who wished to interview him on the subject of Women's Suffrage. They propose to write to him, expressing regret that he could not find time to hear their views. November 3rd.—Mrs. Meyerstein gave an interesting lecture, the first of a series of three, on "The Child and the State." It was well attended.

MAIDENHEAD.—October 10th.—Discussion on Women's Suffrage—Chair, Mrs. Robie Uniacke—Speakers: for, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A.; against, Mr. Lucien Aldersham, M.A. October 10th.—North Town Working men's Club—"Friends" meeting—One new member, four new "Friends"—Speaker, Mrs. Robie Uniacke.

NEWBURY.—October 14th.—Meeting of members and friends at the School House, to choose members of Committee for the new Society—Miss Dora Mason assisted. The F.W.S. scheme was discussed, and it was decided to follow up names already received, and to obtain more. Arrangement for two public meetings were made, and a study circle was formed, to meet on alternate Tuesdays at the Grammar School.

OXFORD.—October 29th.—Annual Meeting of O.B.B. Federation in the Masonic Hall, 3 p.m.—Report of Hon. Treasurer showed that more than £500 was subscribed in the Federation area for the Pilgrimage Fund. Public meeting in the evening in Town Hall—Chair, Professor W. Geldart—Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Susan Lawrence. Sale of tickets, £8 10s.; collection, £3 5s.; sale of literature, £1 8s. 1d.—134 copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold—Eighteen new members. November 1st.—Thame Town Hall—Well-attended public meeting—Chair, Sir Lawrence Gomme—Speakers, Mrs. Haverfield and Miss Heiga Gill—Resolution carried with three or four dissentients—Twelve copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold—"Friends" enrolled. There had been a good deal of rowdiness in Thame at the time of the Pilgrimage, but there was none on November 1st, and the hall was nearly full. THE COMMON CAUSE is now sold regularly at Carfax on Friday afternoon by members of the Oxford Society.

READING.—The autumn campaign arranged has been temporarily deferred, owing to the by-election. Besides the great amount of help from members of neighbouring societies, many members of Reading have been active, among whom, Miss E. M. Sutton should be specially mentioned, as, besides presiding at the large and successful Town Hall meeting on November 4th, she has spoken at open-air meetings, given or arranged for hospitality for workers, helped to sell in the stall taken in the Arcade, and sold many copies of THE COMMON CAUSE on polling day. Many "Friends" and some new members have been gained, and it has been a great help to the

Society to have the fine opportunity for propaganda provided by the by-election.

WOBURN SANDS.—October 29th.—Public meeting in the Institute—Chair, Mrs. Prothero—Chief speaker, the Rev. F. Lewis Donaldson, Vicar of St. Mark's Leicester. A great interest was shown by the speaker, who emphasised the spiritual significance of the awakening of women. The resolution was carried *unanimously*, and a collection was made to defray expenses.

WOKINGHAM.—October 15th.—Meeting in the Village Hall, Shenfield—Chair, Mr. R. Curtis—Speakers, Mrs. Robie Uniacke and Miss Violet Eustace—Twenty-four "Friends" enrolled. October 27th.—Twyford Mutual Improvement Society, addressed by Miss V. Eustace.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation Meetings. **ALDERSHOT.**—Parish Hall—October 22nd.—Chair, Mrs. Robie Uniacke—Speaker, Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell—7 new members, several friends joined—20 COMMON CAUSES sold.

BRADING.—Drawing-room Meeting—October 21st.—Hostess, Miss Wood, Chair, Miss Helen Wright, Speaker, Miss Aston. A very promising centre for friends has been formed here.

COSHAM.—October 22nd.—Chair, Miss M. O'Shea—Speakers, Mrs. Terret on Working Women and the Vote, Miss Zoe Smith on "Why Women want the Vote"—Resolution in favour of a Government measure passed, *nem. con.*

LYMINGTON.—New Municipal Buildings—Chair, the Mayor—Speakers, Mrs. Dempster and Mrs. Timpaney—good collection. The Society canvassed from October 20th to 25th for this meeting. The Town Council favours our movement.

NEWCHURCH.—Parish Room—October 15th.—Chair, the Vicar—Speakers, Miss Aston and Miss Helen Wright—5 "Friends" signed.

PORTSMOUTH.—Annual Meeting—September 25th.—Report and Balance Sheet very satisfactory. After the business was concluded, the Pilgrims present gave their experiences, showing how much good had been done by the Pilgrimage.

REDHILL.—Small Market Hall, October 22nd.—Chair, Mrs. Amberbach—Speaker, Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, partly on "Schools for Mothers"—10 members joined and 10 new "Friends," making the number of "Friends" over 100. The Meeting was large, and was followed by music.

REIGATE.—Meeting at Miss Crossfield's, October 2nd.—Speaker, Mrs. Timpaney.

REIGATE HEATH.—At Mrs. Arthur Thompson's—October 22nd.—Chair, Mrs. Percy Thompson; Speaker, Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell. Many "Antis" were present, causing interesting discussions.

RYDE.—Small Town Hall, October 6th.—Chair, Sir William Chance—Speakers, Miss Aston, Lady Chance.

WORTHING.—New Offices, 1, Warwick Street—October 14th.—Chair, Mrs. Chapman—Speaker, Miss R. Smith on "Friends of Woman Suffrage." Also, October 21st.—First of a series of meetings on "The State and the Child"—Chair, Mrs. M. Smith—Speaker, Miss Irene Cox (of the Industrial Law Committee), on "Infant Mortality." October 28th.—Chair, Mrs. Thompson—Speaker, Mrs. Tappan, on "The Notification of Births Act." The hostesses at these meetings were Miss Whiteley and Miss Rich and the Misses Thorpe.

HASLEMERE will have two lectures before Christmas on "The Child and the State," and two after Christmas on "The State and the Woman." The particulars are as follows:—St. Christopher's Hall, November 3rd, 5 p.m., "The Poor Law Child," by Miss F. Penrose Philip, Secretary, State Children's Association. December 1st (same place and hour), speaker not engaged. Arrangements are being made there for a study circle on "Woman in Industry."

MITCHEAM.—November 4th.—Drawing-room Meeting at Breenley—Chair, Mrs. Duncan Harris (of Crofton)—Speaker, Miss M. Hardman (of Esher). Three new members joined the Crofton Society. It is hoped to start a new branch here.

CHICHESTER.—East Street—November 16th.—Speaker, Mrs. Alys Russell on "How Women's Votes could affect the Hissing Question." Mrs. Russell started an outdoor Chichester meeting because she was crowded out of the debate in the Corn Exchange between Lady Selborne and Miss Pott.

SOUTHSEA.—New Suffrage Rooms, 2, Kent Road—November 4th.—Speaker, Mrs. Archibald Little on "Women in the East and West"—Reclter, Mrs. Victor Blake.

Miss North O'Shea acted as hostess at the opening of the Southsea Suffrage Rooms—a drawing-room, committee-room, and large shop, suitable for meetings, where posters and notices will be displayed. Books, papers, and magazines will be kept, literature sold, periodicals members' meeting held, and tea supplied daily. Members will help every afternoon. Mrs. Laphorn largely initiated the scheme.

LITTLEHAMPTON.—Successful meeting, November 10th.—Chair, Sir Harry Johnston—Speakers, Lady Maud Parry, Mrs. de Fonblanque, Mrs. Victor Blake, and the Hon. Mrs. Russell. Some 250 to 300 people attended the majority of whom were enthusiastic. When Sir Harry put the question, at the close of the meeting, eighty-six hands were held up for the vote, and only nine against. A small but successful meeting at Napton on the 8th, with only one dissentient.

Scottish Federation.

ORGANISATION.—New ground has been broken last month in Mid-Lancark and in Galloway. Miss Craigie, in Mid-Lancark, addressed four gatherings in the neighbourhood of Hamilton, and arranged a meeting under the auspices of the Educational Committee of the Hamilton Central Co-operative Society, which Dr. Elsie Inglis spoke. On October 15th the Hamilton Town Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, many being refused admission—addresses were given by the Lady Frances Balfour and Dr. Elsie Inglis. Twenty-two new members were enrolled, making a total in Hamilton of over fifty.

As soon as officers are secured, we shall have a new Society in Hamilton (being our second society in the constituency of Falkirk Burghs. Miss Crompton in Galloway (viz. Wigtownshire and the Stewartry following up the work begun by Miss Coyle in February. In Kirkcubright a new Society has affiliated—small, but containing the seeds of life; in Stranraer, forty-eight new members have been enrolled, and the Society has affiliated. Miss Marjory Lees, of Oldham, and Miss Crompton addressed a crowded meeting in Stranraer on October 17th, at which twelve new members joined. Otherwise, the Organiser's time was taken up by individual calls on residents in Stranraer and the surrounding districts.

Changes at headquarters include the taking up by Mrs. Laurie, of Greenock, of the arduous duties of Treasurer, and the appointment of Miss Alice Crompton as Organising Secretary in the Federation's Office (2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh). The development of organising work in the constituencies have been hindered by the plethora of by-elections—contests in Linlithgow, Wick Burghs, and South Lanark having come upon us almost simultaneously. Mrs. Drester and Miss Bury have been giving excellent help to our Societies near Inverness, and in Sutherland, Caithness and Orkney, but are now to be called to Burghs.

A great deal of work has been done in the Office in connection with the Public Meeting held in the Music Hall on November 20th, and at which the speakers were Miss A. Maude Royden and Mr. Fenner Brockway (Editor of the Labour Leader). The chair on that occasion was taken by Mrs. Fawcett. The thanks of the Society are due to the following helpers:—Miss Westwood, Miss Norman, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Broadbent, Miss Moody, Miss Scott, Miss Kemp, Mrs. Rees, Miss MacKay, Miss White, and others too numerous to mention.

We have had a record sale of COMMON CAUSE, Miss MacKay, Miss Marriot, and Miss Kemp having sold in the streets. In all, a total of 2,310 copies have been sold during the month of October, a large number being disposed of being at election meetings. Miss Low has addressed meetings for other Societies with her accustomed success, namely, at Leven, Bridge of Earn, and Stone.

GLASGOW.—October has been marked by the renewal of Suffrage activities, and our Society is fortunate in the possession of our new Organiser, Miss Lucy Shakespeare. A debate on "Should Women Have the Parliamentary Vote" was arranged for Crosshill Hall, Glasgow, on October 24th, under the auspices of the Young Scots Society, the Glasgow Society and the N.L.O.W.S. taking part. Mrs. Harold Norris put the usual anti-suffrage resolution, supported by Mr. Brummer, of the Young Scots; Dr. Elsie Inglis (Edinburgh), and Miss Lucy Shakespeare (Glasgow) moving the direct negative. After four platform speeches, questions were allowed, to be followed by alternate speeches, pro and con, from the hall. As the supply of anti-speeches gave out, many of our friends had no opportunity of speaking. Dr. Elsie Inglis replied, and Mrs. Norris wound up the debate, being allowed an extra five minutes, on her own request, owing to the poor support from the hall. The vote was taken, and the Chairman declared the "Anti" resolution lost. Miss Lucy Shakespeare declared at two meetings held on Tuesday, October 24th, in connection with the B.W.T.A. Thirteen "Friends" of Suffrage were obtained from the afternoon meeting, and sixty-five at the evening, at which our Secretary, Miss Lindsay, made a very successful *debüt* as a public speaker.

An account of meetings at Partick, St. Rollox, East Renfrewshire and Motherwell appeared in a recent issue.

ALLOA.—The winter session opened on October 18th with an address by Mrs. Philip Snowden in the Museum Hall. Every seat was occupied, and Mrs. Snowden's eloquence won eighteen new members.

AYR AND TROON opened its winter session with a meeting in Ayr on October 23rd, addressed by Lady Frances Balfour, Dr. Gairdner, taking the chair. The hall was overflowing, and the speaker given an enthusiastic welcome. Mr. Ballantyne, of Glasgow, also spoke. Some twenty new members were enrolled—November 5th a devotional meeting was held in Troon in the Old Parish Church, in connection with the week of prayer to which the various church leagues issued a call.

ARDROSSAN AND SALTCOATS.—A very well-attended meeting was held on October 1st to hear Miss Wakefield. Good press notices were obtained, and a financial profit was realised.

[We regret that owing to pressure on our space, we are obliged to hold over the remaining reports till next Friday.]

Public Meeting at Walthamstow.

A meeting organised by the Walthamstow Branch of the London Society for Women's Suffrage will be held to-day (November 21st), at 8 p.m., at the Walthamstow Baths. Sir John Simon, K.C., M.P., and the principal speakers are Mrs. Philip Snowden and Mr. R. F. Cholmeley, M.A. When it is remembered that this Branch held its inaugural meeting last February 1st, and that it now counts 66 members and about 250 "Friends" within its fold, the zeal of its organisers will be appreciated.

Children's Welfare Exhibition.

A Children's Welfare Exhibition (promoted by the Daily News and Leader) is to take place next Easter at Olympia. It is hoped that every important problem affecting child-life will find concrete expression in this far-reaching enterprise. There is to be one section devoted to children's playthings, where it is proposed to show a loan collection of toys and games of children of all nations and all civilisations throughout the ages. If any readers are willing to add to the interest of this exhibition by lending any curious or interesting playthings they may possess, they are invited to communicate with Y. 6, Woodside, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London, N.W.

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Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly, and to send in not later than the Monday before the announcement is to be inserted.

London.

Balham—Open-air Meeting at corner of Ormsby Road, Balham High Road—Speaker, Miss Agnes Dawson 8.15

Islington—Suffrage Club at Barnsbury Hall, Upper Street 7.30

London Society's Reception—Westminster Palace Hotel—Speakers, Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G., and Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A.—Chair, Miss Helen Ward

Walthamstow—Public Meeting in the Walthamstow Public Baths—Chairman, the Right Hon. Sir John Simon, K.C.V.O., K.C., M.P.—Speakers Mrs. Philip Snowden and Mr. R. Cholmeley.—Tickets, 1s., 6d., and 3d.

NOVEMBER 24.

Caxton Hall—Annual meeting of Members of the London Society 3.0

Central and South Hackney—Meeting at Northfields School, Stamford Hill—Hostess, Miss Alice James—Speaker, Mrs. Swanwick—Chair, Miss Campbell 8.0

Croydon—34a, The Arcade, High Street—"At Home"—Miss Hull, on "Facts about Women in India" 3.30

Hammersmith—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, at the Bush Hotel, Goldhawk Road—Speaker, Mrs. Stanbury 9.0

Hoxton—Mothers' Meeting, Manrieh Hostel, 51, Hornet Street—Speakers, Mrs. Rogers 8.0

S. Hackney—Northfield, Stamford Hill—Hostess, Miss Alice James—Chair, Miss Campbell—Speaker, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A.—Women's Suffrage and Social Reform 8.0

S. London—"At Home"—Trade Union Hall, 30, Brixton Road—Lantern lecture—Speaker, Miss Hibbert Ware, "Pioneers of Education"—Chair—Mrs. Spring Rice 8.0

NOVEMBER 25.

Bethnal Green—Meeting at St. Paul's Institute, St. Paul's Church—Speaker, Mr. T. Ernst Jackson, D.S.S.

East St. Pancras—Women's Liberal and Labour Association, at Gladstone House, 23, High Street, Camden Town 3.30

Highgate—Drawing-room Meeting—7, Brookfield Road, Highgate—Hostess, Mrs. Burr—Chair, Mrs. Ronald Garrett—Speaker, Mrs. Oliver Strachey 3.30

Richmond—Independent Labour Party meeting, 119, Kew Road, Richmond—Speaker, Mrs. Stanbury

Shoreditch—Mothers' Meeting at St. Leonard's Church Room (next to Shoreditch Church) 7.30

S.W. Hampstead—Men's Social Meeting—Wilson Institute, Plaistow—Speaker, Miss Hamilton 8.0

NOVEMBER 26.

East St. Pancras—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Davies, 187, Camden Road—Speaker, Mrs. Ford Smith 3.30

Hammersmith Lodge, General Union of Operative Carpenters and Joiners at "The Jolly Gardeners," Hammersmith Road—Speaker, Miss Helen Ward 9.0

Hoxton—Women's Adult School, Hoxton Hall, 130, Hoxton Street—Speaker, Miss C. Elkin 8.30

North Hackney—Drawing-room Meeting at 93, Stamford Hill, N.—Hostess, Mrs. Rushbrooke

South Kensington—Annual Meeting, 23, Horton Street—Speaker, Mrs. Hamilton 8.0

Brixton—7, Herne Hill Mansions—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Henderson—Speaker, Miss Rosmond Smith 8.0

NOVEMBER 27.

Dulwich—Drawing-room Meeting at 38, Alley Road—Speaker, Mrs. Hamilton 5.0

Esher and East Molesey—Meeting at Shangton, Claygate—Chair, Miss M. Martineau—Speaker, Miss Janet Thomson, M.A. 7.45

Hammersmith—Members' Meeting at 48, Rowan Road—Hostess, Miss Gray—Speaker, Mrs. Garrett Jones—Music 8.30

Hampstead—I, Redington Road—Mrs. Henry Cadbury's Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. George Morgan—Chair, Mrs. Ronald Garrett 3.30

Kingston—Drawing-room Meeting at Melrose, Kingston-on-Thames—Hostess, Miss Fanner—Speaker, Mrs. Homan, P.L.G., on "Children and the State where no Mothers are Enfranchised" 8.30

Northwood—The Local Committee "At Home" in the Church Hall—Speaker, Miss Hay-Cooper 3.0

Paddington—Town Hall—Public Meeting—Chair, Mr. Albert Dykes Spicer—Speaker, Lady Frances Balfour and Dr. Florence Willey

Westminster Liberal Association—46, Marsham Street, Westminster—Speaker, Miss M. Ransom—Opposer, Mr. C. Johnston Edwards—Chair, Mrs. Scaramanga Baki 8.15

West St. Pancras—William Stores, High Street, Camden Town—Meeting—Coffee—Chair, Mr. Spring Rice—Speaker, Mrs. Oliver Strachey

Willesden—Miss Hibbert Ware's Lantern Lecture on "Pioneers of Education," in St. Gabriel's Hall, Cricklewood—Chair, The Rev. Noel Gill—Admission, 6d.; Reserved seats, 1s. 8.15

NOVEMBER 28.

Camberwell—Open-air Meeting in Grove Lane—Speakers, Miss A. Glynne, Mrs. Ellen Walshe

London Society's Reception—Westminster Palace Hotel—Speakers, Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Sheepshanks, Lord Robert Cecil (engagements permitting) 3.30

The Provinces.

Berkhamstead—Public Meeting at the Town Hall—Speakers, The Lady Betty Balfour and Mr. H. Rolleston Stables—Chair, the Lady Scott Moncrieff 8.0

Budeleigh Salterton—Public Rooms—Speaker, Mr. Cameron Grant—Chair, Mr. B. Bean

Campden—Drawing-room Meeting, at Ivy House—Hostess, Miss Olive New—Speaker, Miss H. Fraser—Chair, Lady Blomfield 3.0

Guildford—At the Suffrage Office, 1a, Mount Street—Speakers to be provided by the National Committee for the Prevention of Destitution

Jarrow—Mechanics' Institute—Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.D., Miss I. S. A. Beaver, the Mayor—Chair, Councillor John Hall 7.30

Launceston—Meeting at the Town Hall—Speaker, The Lady Frances Balfour—Chair, Mr. T. S. Trevelyan 8.0

Newton Abbot—Ambulance Hall, East Street—Mrs. Knight Bruce—"At Home"—Speaker, The Lady Frances Balfour 3.30

Reading—Town Hall Chambers—Education Campaign Meeting—Miss Ashcroft, on "Child Mind" 6.0-7.0

Saltburn-by-the-Sea—Annual Meeting—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 8.0

NOVEMBER 22.

Manchester—Meeting in the Rusholme Public Hall—Speakers, Miss Muriel Matters, Mr. T. Gugenheim, supported by Mr. W. Royle, Mr. G. Armstrong, and others 7.30

Totnes—Seymour Hotel—Speakers, Mr. Cameron Grant and Miss Watford—Chair, Mr. G. M. Fleming 8.0

NOVEMBER 23.

Birmingham—Somerset Road Brotherhood—Mr. A. D. Mathews 3.0

Selly Oak Labour Church—Mrs. Osler 6.30

Boucton—At the Adult Schools—Annual Meeting—Speaker, Miss Griffith Jones (afternoon and evening) 8.0

Norwich—Labour Church—Speaker, Miss Waring 7.0

NOVEMBER 24.

Benton—Mrs. Harry Forbes' Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Miss F. S. A. Beaver—Chair, Dr. Mabel Campbell

Berealston—Parish Hall—Meeting—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 7.30

Park Street—Kinton Hall—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 3.30

Birmingham—Tyburn Women's Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 3.0

Selly Oak Workers' Trade Union—Mrs. Ring 8.30

Dartmouth—Literary Society—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke—Chair, Mrs. O'Regan 8.0

Darlington—Public Meeting at the Mechanics' Institute—Speaker, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D.—Chair, Dr. Ethel Williams 7.30

Widford—At the Suffrage Shop, 1a, Mount Street—Sale of Christmas presents from Nov. 24-29 10.30 a.m.—6.30 p.m.

King's Lynn—Members' Meeting—Speaker, Mr. Rackham 5.0

Manchester—Meeting in the Islington Hall, Ancoats—Speakers, Miss Muriel Matters, Mr. Gugenheim—Chairman, Mr. J. E. Gilchrist

Hulme—Suffrage Club—Temperance Hall, York Street—Speaker, Miss Hatton 7.30

"At Home" at Parker's Restaurant, St. Ann's Square—Speaker, Lady Rochdale 4.0-5.30

Popley—Village Hall—Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Dempster and Miss Payne

Redcar—Institute Hall—Hostess, Miss Stead—Mrs. Edwin Gray on "The Enfranchisement of Women" 3.0

Scarborough—Office—Meeting for F.W.S.—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 8.0

Tunbridge Wells—18, Crescent Road—Annual General Meeting 11.30

White Elephant Sale from

Wallasey and Wirral—Public Meeting, Deeside Assembly Rooms, Heswall—Speaker, Miss Eskridge—Chairman, Mr. Leadley Brown

Warrington—Aikens' Cafe, Bridge Street—Mrs. Ward and Porritt, of Hartford, Conn., on "Women's Suffrage in U.S.A. in 1913" 7.30

NOVEMBER 25.

Alrexford—Town Hall—Speakers, Mrs. Dempster, Miss Payne, the Rev. J. D. Carter

Birmingham—People's Hall—Hurst Street—Furnishers' Trade Union—Mrs. Ring 8.30

Bristol—40, Park Street—"At Home"—Speaker, Miss Tamer 3.0-5.0

Haddington—Parish Hall—Speaker, Dr. Alice Hutchison—Subject: "Women's Place in the Balkan War" 8.0

Hungerford—Corn Exchange—Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Robie Unacke, Mr. Mirrieux—Chair, Mr. George Platt 8.0

Letchworth—Gerron Road B.W.T.A.—Speaker Mrs. Ramsay 3.0

Speakers' Class and study circle at the Church Room—Mrs. Ramsay 5.0

Manchester—Ancoats Suffrage Club, 396, Oldham Road—Speaker, Mrs. Hiller 7.30

Morpeth—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett, L.L.D.

Scarborough—Drawing-room Meeting at 1, Filey Road—Hostess, Mrs. Sydney Jones—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 3.30

Subbury—Town Hall, Chipping—Meeting—Speakers, Miss Wilma Melkie and Miss Barretti—Chair, Mr. Arthur Daniel 7.30

Tynemouth—Grand Hotel—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D.—Chairman, the Mayor of Tynemouth (Councillor H. Gregg) 8.0

Wallasey and Wirral—Congregational Church—Schoolroom—Miss C. Leadley Brown on the "Fatherless Child" 3.30

Woking—Central Assembly Hall—"At Home"—Miss Feilden on "Women's Suffrage and Wages"—Chair, Miss Stables (To the local Shop Assistants' Union) 8.15

Worthing—1, Warwick Street—Miss Penrose Philip (State Children's Association) on "81,000 Poor Law Children. What shall we do with them?"—Hostess, Mrs. Thomas 4.0

NOVEMBER 26.

Birmingham—Christmas Sale at Fallowfield 3.0-7.0

High Wycombe—At Ulverscroft—Mrs. Seathes on "Votes for Mothers" 3.0

Monton—Village Hall—Speakers, The Vicar and Mrs. Dempster

Pelton Lane Ends—Public Meeting—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson

Scarborough—Drawing-room Meeting at Deepdale, Filey Road—Hostess, Mrs. E. R. Seller—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 3.30

Drawing-room Meeting at Bunting's Boarding House—Hostess, Mrs. Hancock—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 8.0

Topsham—Boys' Schoolroom—Miss G. Cooke—Chair, Mr. W. Larford Brown 8.0

Tynemouth—Public Meeting at the Grand Hotel—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett

Watford—Meeting for Trade Unionists at Y.M.C.A.—Speaker, Miss Ruth Young

Weston-super-Mare—Annual Meeting at Brown's Cafe—Speaker, Miss Melkie 8.15

NOVEMBER 27.

Basingstoke—Town Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham—Chair, Mr. H. Stratton 7.30

Bath—Meeting at The Avenue Hall, Combe Down—Speaker, Miss Melkie—Chair, Alderman Bush, J.P.—Supported by Major Boileau, Alderman John, J.P., Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Peters, and others 7.30

Crowthorne—The Women's Suffrage Society, Iron Duke Rooms—Miss K. Browne on "Women and Children in Factories and Workshops" 8.0

Dovercourt—Co-operative Hall—Speaker, Mr. W. T. Mirrieux—Chairman, Mrs. Cookin

Gateshead—Christian Mission Hall, 53A, High Street—Mrs. Hutchinson on "Josephine Butler"—Soloist, Mrs. Peat 2.30

Maidenhead—Meeting at the Town Hall—Subject: "The White Slave Traffic"—Speakers, Mrs. Vulliamy (Criminal Law Amendment Committee) and Mrs. Robie Unacke 3.0

Ottery St. Mary—Church Institute—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 8.0

Rochester—Public Social Evening

Southampton—At the N.U.W.S.S. Rooms, 194a, Abney Bar—Miss Sylvia Clarke on "Women of Leisure and the Moral Aspect of Women's Suffrage" 8.0

Spennymoor—Public Meeting—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson

Street—Crispin Hall—Meeting—Speaker, Philip Snowden, M.P.

Sunderland—Subscription Library—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett, L.L.D.

Wallasey and Wirral, New Brighton—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Sidney Roberts—Speaker, Miss Cherry 3.0

NOVEMBER 28.

Barnstaple—Parish Room—Speakers, Miss G. Cooke and Miss M. P. Willcocks, B.A.—Chair, Miss Chichester

Bishop Auckland—Public Meeting—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson

Camberley—Kingsclear—Hostess, Mrs. W. R. Davies—Mrs. J. B. Leathes on "The Children and the State" 3.15

Hartlepool (West)—Town Hall—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett, L.L.D.

Widmer Norton—Debating Society—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham and Miss Mabel Smith 7.30

Old Sodbury—Meeting at the Parish Schoolroom—Speaker, Miss Wilma Melkie—Chair, The Rev. D. Wrigley 7.30

Reading—Town Hall Chambers—Educational Campaign—Guy on "School Children" 6.0-7.0

Scarborough—3, Pavilion Terrace—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Catt—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 3.30

Annual Meeting at Matthews' Boarding House—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser—Chair, The Rev. Lewyn Smith—Business meeting 7.15

General Meeting—Tea and light refreshments

Shoreham—Schoolroom—Speaker, Miss Beatrice Orange—Chair, Miss D. Scott 8.0

Wallasey and Wirral, New Brighton—Mr. and Mrs. G. Stallybrass's Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Miss Jessie Beavan 8.0

Winchester—7, The Square—Public Meeting—Miss K. D. Courtney on "Educational Campaign of the National Union" 3.0-5.0

Scotland.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Andrew Young, Mr. (Headmaster, Canongate School) on "Children in Schools" 4.30

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Office Meeting—Miss Margaret McDonald on "Some Aspects of Browning's Poetry"—Tea at 4.0

NOVEMBER 24.

Aberdeen—Round Room—Music Hall—Miss Chrystal Macmillan on "The Position of Women under Scotch Law"—Chairman, Mrs. Black 8.0

Glasgow—Eglington Church Literary Society—Speaker, Miss Lucy Shakspeare 8.15

NOVEMBER 25.

Glasgow—62, Great George Street, Hillhead—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Miss Currie—Speaker, Miss Lucy Shakspeare 8.0

NOVEMBER 26.

Glasgow—Annie-Land Co-operative Women's Guild, 846, Crow Road—Speaker, Miss Stuart Paterson 7.30

NOVEMBER 27.

Glasgow—Public Meeting—St. Andrew's (Berkeley) Hall—Speakers, Miss Muriel Matters, Miss Lamden, L.L.D., Fred Soddy, Esq., M.A., F.R.S.—Chair, Miss Frances Melville, M.A., B.D. 8.0

NOVEMBER 28.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Mrs. Lennox Beattie (Aberdour School Board) on "Children in Schools" 4.30

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Office Meeting—Miss Brownlee on "The N.U.W.W. Conference at Hull" 4.0

Chapter 13

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Coming Events.

AN EXHIBITION OF WOMEN'S WORK in all Branches, and Sale of Arts, Crafts, and Industries, will be held at the Zoo Buildings, Glasgow, from December 1st to 13th. Daily demonstrations. Also cinematograph and lantern lectures will be given in connection with the exhibits. Full particulars from James M. Freer, 30, Ludgate Hill, E.C., or from Miss F. L. Fuller, 52, New Bond Street, W.

AN EXHIBITION AND SALE OF RUSSIAN Antiques, Icons, Jewellery, Costumes and Embroideries, also Lace and Modern Peasant Industries, will be held at the Church Institute, Albion Street, Leeds, from Monday, December 1st, till Saturday, December 6th. Open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entrance free.

EXHIBITION AND SALE OF CRAFTWORK.—The Queen's (Small) Hall, Regent Street, W. (Chappell & Co., Lessees). November 20th till 28th. Admission 1s., 11 a.m. till 7 p.m. Secretary, Maud Venables.

JEWISH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE. The Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C., November 24th, at 8.30 p.m. Cameron Grant, Esq. "The Moral Aspect of Woman Suffrage." Chair, Mrs. C. A. V. Conybeare.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, LTD. 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. Wednesday, November 26th, 8.30 p.m. DEBATE: "That while the Suffrage Movement is an excellent thing for young men, it is a thoroughly bad thing for young women." Proposer, Mr. Th. Gugenheim. Opposer, Miss Mildred Ransom. Chairman, Mrs. Stanbury.

Memorial Hall, Albert Square, Manchester. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th, AT 7.30 P.M. CONCERT BY HOPE SQUIRE AND FRANK MERRICK. Unfamiliar Works for two Pianofortes. Tickets, 5/-, 2/6, & 1/- at Messrs. Forsyth Bros., 126, Dean-gate.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, St. James's, S.W. Tuesday, November 25th. Men's Political League for Women's Enfranchisement. Speaker, H. J. Gillespie, Esq. Chair, Mrs. Walter Roch. Subject: "Women as the Brake on Civilisation."

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will be pleased to give practical and helpful suggestions on "Dress" to lady members of N.U.W.S.S. Measurement forms and all particulars forwarded. No fittings necessary. Interviews from 9 to 11, at 24, Upper Wimpole Street, W. (1719 Padd.), and from 12 to 2, at 15, Lower Grosvenor Place, S.W.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ALTRINCHAM DISTRICT INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY. WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MEETING. An Address will be given by Miss THIRZA POTTS, of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, at the PUBLIC HALL, GEORGE ST., ALTRINCHAM, on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1913. Chair taken at 8 p.m.

Admission free. Retiring collection. A few Reserved Seats, Tickets 1/-, may be obtained from: Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, Stamford New Road; Mr. J. Danon, Tobacconist, Manchester Road, Broadhead; Richard Robinson, Chairman, Yew Bank, Bowdon; T. E. Merrifield, Secretary, 42, Wharf Road, Broadhead.

MRS. SWANWICK has just published her book, "The Future of the Women's Movement." Have you read it? It discusses every phase of the Women's Suffrage Question. Price 2s. 6d. (post free 2s. 9d.).—Bell & Sons, 6, Portugal Street, W.C.

NEW SUFFRAGE PLAYLET (two ladies); Price 6d.—S. Fordel, Glenfarg.

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(Continued from page 607.)

EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL.

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MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A., recovers overpaid Income Tax, buys or sells Stocks and Shares, effects all kinds of Insurances and Annuities, Mortgages, Loans, or Reversions, or any business of a legal or financial nature.—Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. Phone 6049 Central.

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