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Women's Suffrage

Societies.

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ONE PENNY.

Notes and Comments.

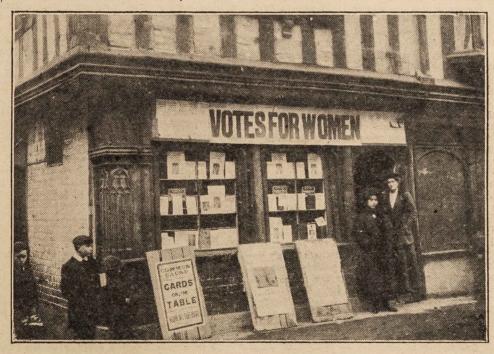
Is the Conciliation Bill Torpedoed?

We publish an impression of the Bath meeting from the pen of Miss K. D. Courtney, who was there. Our readers will note that Miss Courtney voices what we feel sure will be the unanimous opinion of the National Union in protesting against Mr. Lloyd George's statement that the Conciliation Bill is "torpedoed." It may be that the torpedo was discharged, but it failed to hit its mark, and that mark is there and will stay there until

time. It is one of the results of abusing the privilege of questioning a speaker.

The Liberal Federation.

At the public meeting on Friday evening, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, with regard to the proposed Reform Bill, "you can't give votes to millions more of men without confronting the problem of whether you are going to exclude more than half the citizens of the land." He urged that Liberals should not "refuse to listen to a case which is put forward on behalf of the whole sex," because of the action of "a



SHREWSBURY SUFFRAGE SHOP.

Mrs. Harley (President Shrewsbury Society and Member of the N.U.W.S.S. Executive) standing on the step.

we have something better. Of course, everyone knows that Mr. Lloyd George hated the Conciliation Bill; he never made any secret of it. But we got a majority of 167 for it and we have a pledge of Government time for it, so unless Mr. Lloyd George can get a majority for a larger measure and pass it before the Conciliation Bill comes on, he will have to support the Conciliation Bill, and he has himself, at another time and place, said so. It is a very great pity that, owing to the tiresome conditions under which he was forced to speak, it was not possible to raise this question at Bath at question

very small coterie"; and he asked, "Are there no crazy men?" He proceeded to make a fine suffrage speech in which he extolled the work women did, and had to do, and showed how much the admission of women to the Councils of the nation would help on national and social reforms.

We are glad to hear from Miss Courtney that his eloquence was well received by the party men, and the newspapers record how Lady Bamford Slack, the day before, was accorded three cheers by the delegates when she asked them to send thanks to the Prime

Minister for his promise to allow Women's Suffrage amendments to the Reform Bill. This was ruled out of order, but the suggestion was cordially received.

Our Real Lever.

We should, indeed, be foolish to abandon the Conciliation Bill, seeing that it was the wonderful strength of the combined forces for this measure which was the real lever with the extremists of the Liberal party. They were content to leave all women without votes, but did not like a measure to enfranchise a million women. It is up to them now to produce and carry the larger measure. Till they have done this, the smaller measure remains. In a struggle of this sort it is wits and temper and hard work that tell. Let us use our wits and keep our temper and pour out work and sacrifice as in the past.

Expediency.

The best and noblest statement we have seen of the point of view of some at least of the W.S.P.U. was given by Miss Evelyn Sharp in a letter to the Manchester Guardian of November 21st. Among letters to the Editor in this issue we publish one by Dr. Ethel Smyth more or less to the same effect. With regard to the first point, of "expediency," we do think signs are all our way. The W.S.P.U., with all the other Suffrage Societies, and unwillingly like all the other Suffrage Societies, accepted the Conciliation Bill compromise, which only enfranchised a little over one million women; we can see no "expediency" whatever in refusing this new compromise which will enfranchise six times as many. To say that men will go on in precisely the same way no matter what women do is to ignore the most obvious lessons of experience. Men are not compounded of pure reason and if a few women annoy them they are very much tempted to "take it out of " all women. It is not logical, but do we need to say men are not logical?

The Point of Honour.

With regard to the point of honour. We, of the National Union, feel the insult of the proposal to enfranchise all men, while leaving all women unenfranchised, every bit as much as other women, but we react to it differently. The proposal is made by one man, Mr. Asquith, and we think it more effective to beat him on his own ground than to refuse the combat. We believe the majority of the country and the House are with us. Till now he has run away from a fair fight; now, at last, he will stand his ground with other anti-Suffragists and it is for us to vanguish them and wipe out the insult in the only way appropriate. Mrs. Bernard Shaw had a delightful letter in the Times, last week, which began by confessing that she had felt the "overwhelming need for some violent protest," but had recovered her self-possession "under the usual coldwater douche of calm reasonableness from the domestic supply," and she went on to say, "it is no use jostling policemen and appealing for melodramatic sympathy when they jostle us back again. To relieve one's temper by jostling somebody may be a sufficiently masculine proceeding to establish on our behalf some of man's worst claims to the franchise; but the present crisis has passed beyond that sort of thing; and there is nothing to be done now but resolutely go on with the Conciliation Bill and then with the amendment to the Manhood Suffrage Bill. If we jostled all the policemen in London into the river we could neither ask nor get anything more than we are now offered; that is, a square Parliamentary fight with our avowed enemies."

Sub-Editing in Excelsis.

A striking example of how the Old Adam comes out in sub-editing is the heading given by the "Daily News" to Sir Edward Grey's letter (which we print in full elsewhere). Sir Edward Grey writes: "The essential

thing is that there should be union amongst the supporters of Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons," and the "Daily News" heads this: "Sir Edward Grey's view: Necessity for Union among the

Dickinson Two.

Allusion is constantly being made to a Bill introduced in April, 1909, and commonly called "Dickinson II." ("Dickinson I." being a Bill simply to give the vote to women "on the same terms as men"). Dickinson II. is described as removing the disqualification at present attaching to the female sex, and providing against plural voting by women; it provides that marriage shall not disqualify a woman, and

3. For the purposes of this Act, a married woman who is living with her husband in a dwelling-house or lodgings for which the husband is entitled to be registered and to vote shall be deemed to be a joint inhabitant occupier as owner, tenant, or lodger of such dwelling-house or lodgings, and nothing contained in section 3 and 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1867, or section 6, sub-section (3) of the Parliamentary and Municipal Registration Act, 1878, shall be construed so as to prevent both husband and wife from being registered and voting as joint occupiers of such dwelling-house or lodgings. se or lodgings.

Of course, with a new qualification for men, the wording of this would have to be quite different. But when people talk of an amendment to the Reform Bill on the lines of Dickinson II.," they mean that, while the Government brings in a Bill to enfranchise all men over a certain age who have resided in one place a certain time, the amendment should include all women ratepayers, and wives of ratepayers. This would, of course, necessitate a register of male ratepayers, and it may be that an amendment will be suggested enfranchising women ratepayers and wives of male voters. The more one looks into the matter the more possibilities appear, and the more necessary it becomes to thresh out the whole question thoroughly, and find what amendment secures most support. The proposal to en-franchise women ratepayers, while men kept their present qualifications, bears a very different aspect when it is proposed to give the vote to practically all men.

The Women's Social and Political Union.

On Tuesday, 21st, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence led a demonstration of the W.S.P.U. in Parliament Square and the vicinity. She and 222 others were arrested and charged next day with various offences. A large number of windows were broken in Parliament Street, Whitehall, and the Strand. Among those arrested were Mrs. Brailsford, Lady Constance Lytton, and Miss Evelyn Sharp. Mrs. Lawrence was sentenced to one month in the second division.

A Noble Frenchwoman.

Madame Avril de Sainte-Croix seldom visits England. and we feel sure many will welcome the opportunity of hearing an address from her on "Les Lois et les Mœurs: l'Unité de la Morale." Madame de Sainte-Croix is well-known for her work in fighting the abominable "White Slave Traffic," and her position as an expert was recognised by the French Government when she was appointed (the only woman to receive such an appointment) a member of the "Commission Extra-Parlementaire du Régime des Mœurs," which held its sessions in Paris, 1903-7. We feel sure that there will be a large attendance at Morley Hall, George Street, Hanover Square, on December 5th, at 5 p.m., at the public meeting organised by the Association, founded by Josephine Butler, for the abolition of State Regulation of Vice. Madame de Sainte-Croix is an orator, and we do not often enjoy the opportunity of an address in French on this important subject.

Another Suffrage Play.

The £10 prize offered by the Women Writers' Suffrage League for the best one-act play dealing with the woman's movement has been awarded to Miss Violet Pearn for her piece "The Will and the Power."

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.O.

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

NOTIOE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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The New Brotherhood.

A new era in the Women's Suffrage movement was begun on Friday last, when a prominent member of the Cabinet spoke fervently to a great public meeting of his own party in favour of the immediate enfranchisement of women, and when his audience (with the exception of a few men who had come with the resolve to interrupt the meeting), heartily endorsed his plea. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in last week's Common Cause, sent a message to the National Union, in which he said: "I am willing to do all in my power to help those who are labouring to reach a successful issue in the coming session," and the day after the publication of this message he began the redeeming of his pledge by his great speech to the Liberal Federation at Bath. If one may judge by Mr. Lloyd George's record in the past, it is not likely that he will let the grass grow under his feet now he has embarked in earnest along the Suffrage road; and he is, we understand, to have the active co-operation of Lord Haldane, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Birrell, and Mr. Runciman. The advocacy of men like this ought to go far indeed towards removing the ill-defined, but profound misgivings that still lurk in the depths of the more narrow party minds, that, because Women's Suffrage has not been advocated by Liberalism, it is therefore opposed to Liberalism. We may now hope that the case for Women's Suffrage may no longer suffer from this party bias.

Of course, Mr. Lloyd George spoke of the solution by amendment to the Reform Bill, and we hope that he may, after consultation and weighing of evidence, soon be able to indicate what amendment will secure most support from all parties in the House. That amendment will be the one Suffragists outside the House will be wise to support, and Suffragists outside the House, who have done such endless educative work in the constituencies, know a good deal about the state of feeling in 1909, when we of the National Union, alone and

in the country; their knowledge is at the service of their friends in the House.

Pessimists who declare that no amendment enfranchising women can be carried to the proposed Reform Bill appear to us to be extraordinarily out in their calculations. On what grounds do they make such a prediction? They state that the Government has now 'made Women's Suffrage a party question," and it must have the support of party in order to pass. But is this the case? Most certainly not. Women's Suffrage is now no more a "party question" than it has ever been. The Government declines, at present, to put women into the Bill at all. Not only private members, but oppositions can and do frequently move amendments, and so long as the Government whits do not tell against them, these amendments may be and are carried by a non-party vote, what is to prevent genuine Suffragists of all parties in the House from voting according to their principles, in favour of the inclusion of women? Had the Government insisted that only one amendment should be unopposed by them and had they with fiendish ingenuity selected for this privilege an amendment for which they knew there was no majority either in the House or in the country, then there would have been much to be said about "tricks and treachery." But the Government has not done this. Last year Mr. Asquith stated in the House that he wanted "the whole question" discussed, and our only legitimate grievance was that this would take time, and he would not give time. Now, not only will time be granted for next year's discussion, but the interest of a number of prominent men is at last secured, and a campaign of education throughout the country will enormously reinforce the efforts of Suffragists in the constituencies. Moreover, there is now the added security that, once the amendment is passed, it will stand or fall with the whole Reform Bill and thus have the driving force of party at the most critical stage.

What is to prevent our friends from voting for an amendment? We are told the Conservatives will not do so. Why on earth shouldn't they? To begin with, it is by no means certain that the Conservatives would unitedly oppose the Reform Bill itself, but even those who do not wish to see more men enfranchised may and do think that the Bill—a bad Bill as now proposed -would be improved by the inclusion of women on some terms or other. Lord Lytton, we know, thinks so; Lord Selborne has said so; we should be very much surprised to find that Mr. Balfour, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Lyttleton, Mr. Goulding, Lord Hugh and Lord Robert Cecil did not think such an amendment would really "amend." To vote for an amendment is not to vote for a Bill; the amendment will pass, as the result of our long, long years of non-party education in a great principle; it will pass because, by our steady work in the constituencies, a majority of Members of Parliament believe in the principle and are willing to carry it out; it will pass just because it is non-party, and be-

cause it will embody a great human need. We should have been best pleased if a great party in

the State had taken up the measure heartily and with conviction, as a great patriotic advance. If no great party in power will do this, we think it far better for women to get their freedom by consent of a majority composed of all parties voting freely in a free House. We have no great love for the party system in its most tyrannical form, and to say "We won't have Women's Suffrage unless a party can be smashed up over it," or 'We won't have Women's Suffrage unless it is rammed down unwilling throats," is to take very much lower ground than the ground we have occupied as non-party Suffragists desiring to take the people with We don't want party bitterness introduced into

this matter. We don't want men to say, or think, that Women's Suffrage was carried by manipulation of party wires. We want the majority of our men freely and gladly to give freedom to their women; we said so unaided, sent out hundreds of women to stand in snow and sleet and fog and frost at the polling booths to ask men freely to give freedom at the very moment they themselves were exercising it; we were not disappointed then. By means of our steadfast non-party propaganda, the feeling in the country has changed, and the men and women are ready for the new brother-

Domestic Servants and the Insurance Bill.

The Insurance Bill, as first introduced, provided that sick pay was not to be payable to insured persons who were in receipt of board and lodging from their employers. There was practical unanimity in condemning this clause as very hard, both on servants and mistresses, and it was declared from the Bill on July 18th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer promising that he would, later, introduce a new clause to meet the case. The promised clause, however, was not forthcoming till November 15th. It is so elaborate, and hedged in with contingencies, that there is little wonder it is not clearly understood. There is certainly justification for the outcry against the delay of four months in making public this clause, which directly affects more than two million wage-earning women, and, probably, some 700,000 women employers. In my opinion the present arrangement is as fair to domestic servants as to other employed women, some £800,000 per annum is to be paid from State funds towards their insurance, which would be lost to them as a class were they excluded from the Bill. And it is as fair to mistresses as to other classes of employers.

Apart from the discretion left to the Insurance Commissioners and others, the provisions for domestic servants in Great Britain—in Ireland they are slightly different-are as follows:-

Either I., if the mistress guarantees that she will pay full wages to her servant for six weeks' illness in a year, the compulsory contributions are: -

By the mistress, $2\frac{1}{2}d$. a week; By the servant 2d. a week;

And by the State 2d. a week; making 61d. a week available for her insurance.

Or II., if the mistress does not guarantee the payment of six weeks' wages—that is, if she stops wages during sickness, or pays them for some less period of sickness than six weeks—the compulsory contributions

By the mistress 3d, a week; By the servant 3d. a week;

By the State 2d. a week; making 8d. a week available for insurance.

The servant's own contribution is not reduced when she has small wages, as in some trades, because she

receives board and lodging.

Payments by mistress and servant do not need to be made while the servant is ill, but arrears accruing during unemployment, both the mistress's and the servant's shares, need to be paid up. Any society, however, may make a rule excusing its members from paying up the mistress's share of arrears.

The benefits received by the servant are, both in Case I. and Case II. :-

(a) Medical attendance and medicine:

(b) Treatment for consumption in sanatorium; and (c) A maternity allowance of 30s., whether a child is legitimate or illegitimate.

In addition to these benefits, servants under Case II., above, receive exactly the same cash allowances as other women,-namely, 7s 6d. a week for the first 26 weeks of illness, and 5s. a week for as long as the servant is unable to work. [There are certain reductions for those under 21 and over 50.] These sums are payable whether the servant is in receipt of board and lodging or not, but they are not payable if she is receiving full wages while she is ill.

The only difference between those coming under Case I. is that no cash payments are made for the first six weeks of illness. Sick pay begins to be payable at the same rates as in Case II. after the six weeks in which full wages are paid.

A servant may either have the money placed to her credit in an approved society, or in the post office, but it is very much to her advantage to join a society. The society is better because (a) in the post office she can draw out exactly what has been paid in to her account, but in a society the good lives help the bad lives; and (b) it is only one who joins an approved society who has, paid into that society for her, the particular sum of money out of the Insurance Fund, which will enable the society to pay full benefits to her. This is an extremely imporant provision, and applies to every employed woman up to the age of 65.

I believe that servants will get the best value for their money if they form societies of their own, because it is in the power of any society to make its own rules regarding any surplus money. If it is found that servants do not get their money back in the ordinary benefits mentioned above, they could make rules in their society enabling them, perhaps, to have a superannuation fund, or an unemployment fund, under which, I hope, it would be possible for them to claim a grant from the National Exchequer of one-sixth of their outlays as provided in the Unemployment part of the Bill, or to provide that those who had not drawn their money out in sickness benefit might get some of it back in another form.

These arrangements are equally applicable to a governess, or to a young woman who works for her parents or keeps house for a brother or other relation. If a contract is made with such relation and the sixpence a week paid, such a woman would not lose her insurance. It is specially important that older women, who have been doing work of this kind probably for their keep and their clothes, should join the insurance scheme, because they will get the benefits as if they had been subscribing all their lives.

The mistress is relieved of paying the doctor's fees. She may, if she chooses-most poorer mistresses will probably find it necessary—arrange to pay no wages during any illness of a servant. Indeed, it will be possible for a mistress-necessary, perhaps, for a poor mistress who does not want to turn her girl out-

to be paid by the girl out of her sick pay for her keep.

The position of the servant is naturally to a considerable extent conditioned by the rules regarding married women. Next week this subject will be dealt with, and, in the following week, the subject of the possibilities of approved societies adapted for women's CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

Mr. Handel Booth, M.P., on Clause 34.

In reply to a request that Mr. Handel Booth would kindly explain the meaning of a letter which he sent to the *Times*, saying that Clause 34 had been made practically useless to working women, we have received the following explanation. The more we consider the Insurance Bill the more hopelessly entangled does any measure appear which attempts to graft on to a wageearning basis the insurance of people whose work is

earning basis the insurance of people whose work is largely not wage-earning: —

House of Commons. November 27, 1911.

Dear Madam,—Yours of 22nd to hand.

I think Clause 34 is calculated to make the Bill useless to working women if they cannot circumvent it. One effect of it will be to discourage men's societies in admitting women, and thus a larger number of women will go to the Post Office. The Clause admits married women as contributors who are not in receipt of wages. It will, in my opinion—and that of all I have consulted—be grossly unfair to connect workers and non-wage receivers in the same society as the latter can claim payments—without losing their income. The working women can only claim sickness pay on their wage stopping and will often work when they would prefer to rest.

on their wage stopping and prefer to rest.

This is subject to the Report stage amendments, and is not a sex question, as I should be equally against men who were not wage receivers being admitted.—Your faithfully,

F. HANDEL BOOTH.

Mr. Lloyd George at Bath.

NOVEMBER 30, 1911.

"The admission of women to the franchise in New Zealand and Australia is accepted by men of all parties, and accepted as a great triumph. It has widened the horizon of the home—that is what one statesman said. It has founded a new comradeship in the home. Men have lost slaves and found comrades; women have achieved emancipation and equality of great ideals. I appeal to the Liberal Party to be true to its high and conoured traditions, and once more next year widen the bounds of liberty and set the bond free.'

With these words Mr. Lloyd George ended his great speech at Bath on November 24th; and they were received with an immense burst of applause from an audience of over 5,000 which packed the skating rink. Mr. Lloyd George had prefaced that part of his speech which was devoted to Women's Suffrage with the remark that he did not expect to meet with unanimity on the subject; unanimity there may not have been, but it is certain at least that the cheers which greeted each point in the appeal for justice to women were scarcely, if at all, less hearty than those which greeted the defence of the Insurance Bill or the demand for Land Reform. Perhaps the enthusiasm he evoked exceeded the expectations of the Chancellor himself; if that was so, the attitude of this great meeting of Liberals, many of them delegates from all parts of the country, must be an immense encouragement to him at the outset of his campaign in the country in support of Women's Suffrage. It is clear that the party are ready to follow him; they have only been waiting for what they have always lacked-a definite lead from their Suffragists have reason to be well satisfied with Mr. Lloyd George's statement of the case for Women's Suffrage-a statement urged with great earnestness and eloquence. They have also reason to be satisfied with the enthusiasm with which the audience received it. The attitude of the audience would, indeed, have been even more significant if Mr. Lloyd George had indicated the general terms of the amendment to the Reform Bill which he is prepared to support. He spoke generally of a "fair democratic representation," though, perhaps, his allusion to "an amendment which would include the working man's wife" is a hint that he favours an amendment on the lines of what is known as Dickinson No. 2. If this is so, it is noteworthy that the audience warmly cheered the proposal to include the married working-woman. But if Suffragists are satisfied with Mr. Lloyd George's statement of the general arguments for Women's Suffrage, there are one or two points in the speech which we cannot but regret. It is unfortunate that he should have spoken of the Conciliation Bill as "torpedoed" by the proposed Manhood Suffrage Bill: to begin with, it is not true. We have had the most emphatic assurances from Mr. Asquith that his pledge to give time to the Conciliation Bill still stands; and, what is more, Mr. Lloyd George stated, at Whitefield's Tabernacle, that he would support the Bill if he was convinced that a wider measure could not be carried in the House of Commons. We can only suppose that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is so strongly convinced that an amendment to the Reform Bill on broader lines will be carried that he can safely speak of the Conciliation Bill as "torpedoed," but it is a pity that he did not make this clear, otherwise the expression lends colour to the accusation that the Reform Bill was introduced in order to shatter the chances of the Conciliation Bill.

Equally regrettable, in our opinion, was the attack upon militant Suffragists as "less pro-Suffrage than anti-Liberal."

We agree with Mr. Lloyd George in deploring militant tactics, and we welcome his appeal to a great audience not to allow the action of a small section of Suffragists to exasperate them against the whole movement. We also recognise the fact that the policy of

the W.S.P.U. is such that the man in the street can scarcely be blamed for interpreting it as anti-Liberal. But Mr. Lloyd George must realise that the W.S.P.U. have an explanation of their policy, and we think that he would have taken higher ground if he had at least given them the benefit of the doubt, and had opposed their tactics on general principles, while he would have been more generous if he had regarded them as misguided supporters of their own cause rather than as opponents of Liberalism sailing under false

Mr. Lloyd George has, indeed, overlooked the facts. He accuses the W.S.P.U. of being anti-Liberal, because they are running the Conciliation Bill which, he says, is a Tory measure. Here are two misapprehensions; the W.S.P.U. have repudiated the Conciliation Bill and demand adult suffrage; and the Conciliation Bill is not a Tory measure. It was framed to meet the views of all parties; and the Conservatives sacrificed quite as much, of what might have been to the advantage of their party, as the Liberals. In the opinion of the National Conservative Association they sacrificed too much, for that body voted against the Conciliation Bill, because it would enfranchise "30,000 charwomen." Mr. Lloyd George, who alluded to this fact at one point in his speech, had evidently forgotten it when attacking the Conciliation Bill, a Bill which on its second reading last May obtained a majority of all parties except the Conservatives. The National Union still holds to the Conciliation Bill and will continue to do so until something better has been secured; it still hopes to receive something better by means of a nonparty vote, believing that many of those Conservatives, who supported the Conciliation Bill, will support an amendment to the Reform Bill to include

Several of the newspapers, in reporting the speech, laid particular stress on the interruptions. As a matter of fact these were not important, and would have been less important if the audience had controlled itself. more perfectly. Amongst an audience of 5,000 there were only twelve interrupters; they were promptly ejected, in most cases by policemen; and, as far as could be seen, without unnecessary violence. The disorder occasioned by interrupters is, in fact, mainly due to the attitude of the rest of the audience, who seem unable to refrain from standing up, turning in the direction of the "voice," and shouting. We wonder what the effect would be if the audience remained placidly seated waiting for the police to remove the disturber, unless indeed he should in the meantime have subsided. It remains to be said that at Bath the audience was extraordinarily good-tempered, and that Mr. Lloyd George never appeared in the least discomposed by the interruptions. From the point of view of those who interrupted, it is a little difficult to understand why they did not avail themselves of Mr. Lloyd George's offer to answer questions at the end of the meeting. He could scarcely have met them more fairly, and by adopting this course they might have elicited interesting replies, and put their own case before the audience. As it was they preferred to create a disturbance, and to be turned out. It seems to us a curious method of promoting a cause. K. D. COURTNEY.

The Secretary for Foreign Affairs on the Situation.

Sir Edward Grey has addressed the following letter to the Earl of Lytton, Chairman of the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee for Women's Suffrage:-

"Knebworth House, November 20.
"My Dear Lytton,—I have been asked to give my personal view as to the effect upon the prospects of women's suffrage of

recent developments.

"I have no doubt that the prospect of a real and substantial extension of the suffrage to women is now better than it was when it depended upon nothing but the chances of the Conciliation Bill. In the interest of union I was prepared to support that Bill, and am still prepared to do so. But it has been

apparent throughout that a very large number of those who support women's suffrage would not be satisfied with it. On the other hand, I am convinced that it would be unreasonable to expect Parliament or the country to adopt a measure of adult suffrage that would not only admit women voters to the

adult suffrage that would not only admit women voters to the Parliamentary register for the first time, but would give women an absolute majority upon it.

"I am prepared to support a measure that will enfranchise all the women who would have obtained a vote under the Conciliation Bill and also married women. It has been announced that the Government Suffrage Bill will be drawn so as to be open to an amendment of this nature. If such a proposal can secure union amongst the supporters of women's suffrage, it can be carried more quickly and certainly as an amendment to the Government Bill than as a separate measure.

"The objection that a private member's amendment to the Government Bill has no chance does not apply in this case. As the Prime Minister has declared the question of women's suffrage to be an open question so far as the members of the Ministry are concerned, there will be no difficulty whatever in having a separate amendment moved by a member of the

Ministry are concerned, there will be no difficulty whatever in having a separate amendment moved by a member of the Government from the front Ministerial bench if this be thought desirable by the supporters of the movement.

"The essential thing is that there should be union amongst the supporters of women's suffrage in the House of Commons on the proposal to be made there. Without union no opportunities are of any use. With union there will now be a greater opportunity than has ever yet been the case for a real and substantial extension of the Parliamentary suffrage to women.

"Yours sincerely,
"E. Grey."

The Secretary for Ireland on the Situation.

Mr. Birrell, speaking at Bristol on the 21st inst.,

"He had always been a strong advocate of the Conciliation Bill. If it should pass, and it would have a good opportunity of passing in the next session, it would add a very considerable number of women to the electoral roll, and he believed able number of women to the electoral roll, and he believed that the great majority of them would be working-class women. However, an opportunity would be given in the electoral bill of raising the whole question of women's franchise. He should not shirk that question. If the Conciliation Bill did not go through, he should support an amendment to the Reform Bill, which would give the same class—perhaps a larger class—of women the electoral right. He was a little bit surprised that anyone should think that the cause of women's franchise had suffered in consequence of what had occurred. Speaking as a Parliamentarian of many years' experience, he said that the chances which women had of being on the electoral roll before another general election were immensely improved by what had taken place."

Lord Selborne on the Situation.

At a splendid meeting in the Sun Hall, Liverpool, on the 22nd, Lord Selborne said he would rather leave public life than be responsible for a proposal, like the Manhood Suffrage Bill, which

Mannood Suffrage Bill, which "scours the whole Kingdom and sweeps into the net every man, however criminal, however foul, however vile, and he is given a vote, while the Queen Victorias and the Florence Nightingales who are to be found in every rank of society will have no vote. I say it is an unutterable wrong and an unutterable folly."

"I am wholly opposed, in the circumstances of the day, to manhood suffrage or to adult suffrage—(cheers)—but if I had manhood suffrage forced upon me I personally would rather have the women too, because, although by that mad plan vast numbers of voters, male and female, unfit for the franchise, would be given votes, yet there are two things I care for more than anything also religion and country—and in my experithan anything else—religion and country—and in my experience the average woman cares more for religion and country than the average man. Therefore, in my cpinion, the inclusion of women would be a mitigation and not an increase of the risk. But that is not the plan I would recommend to you. If manhood suffrage is forced upon us, the greatest mitigation of that great risk would be the admission to the franchise of the most fit among the women. That would be, in my opinion, a very great and valuable mitigation of the risk. In the meantime go on with the Conciliation Bill. The Conciliation Bill gives you two changes instead of one. Conciliation Bill gives you two chances instead of one. Do all you can to get it through next year, and if you succeed, or if you fail, it is still open to those who wish it to move amendments to the Manhood Suffrage Bill. That is your second chance. Do not lose your first. There is no greater folly in politics than to refuse half a loaf because you cannot get a whole one."

get a whole one."

In conclusion Lord Selborne asked the militant suffragists to think twice and thrice before they abandoned the splendid weapons of constitutional agitation which would give them

Great Liverpool Demonstration.

Well over two thousand persons assembled in the Sun Hall, on the 22nd, to hear Lord Selborne, and, in spite of the scenes at Westminster the night before, the audience was consistently sympathetic and at times enthusiastic.

The Chairman, Mr. Robert Hield, Editor of the Courier, after explaining the policies of the different societies under whose auspices the meeting was held, apologised for the absence of Lady Constance Lytton, "whose attendance had been urgently demanded elsewhere." Proceeding to speak of the Manhood Suffrage Bill, Mr. Hield said that the Government's answer to women's demand for the vote was a proposal to enfranchise another one or two million men. "You complained," he remarked, "that you were being whipped with rods, and the Government has changed the rods for scorpions." The claims of women were, he declared, not only ripe for recognition, but long overdue, and their grievance was a scandal as well as a danger to

Lord Selborne, in proposing the resolution, spoke of the need, under a Democratic Government, of every class being represented, and pointed out that the more perfect the democracy the greater the danger that un-enfranchised classes would be treated unjustly. He alluded to the great and important questions affecting women now before the country, and showed the impossibility of securing fair treatment for women workers, who are necessarily in competition with men, whilst the laws which govern that competition depend

on the votes of men only.

Mrs. Egerton Stewart Brown, President of the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Women's Liberal Associations, seconded the resolution in a forcible speech, and said that if the Government next year failed to grant some measure of Women's Suffrage, the Liberal women should refuse to work for that party. No Government, she declared, could afford to dispense with a million stalwart supporters, and many of these women had kept the torch of Liberalism alight when it would have fallen from the hands of feeble men; yet the Government had seen fit to attend to the claims of young men before they attended to those of duly qualified women. She ended by declaring her belief that we were on the eve of a great historic victory, and that the battle in which we were engaged would prove a veritable Sedan to our opponents.

The resolution was carried without a dissentient, and votes of thanks to the speakers and Chairman were respectively proposed and seconded by Colonel Hill Holme and Mr. Hugh Rathbone, Mr. Ziegler and Mr.

The platform was filled with a number of leading Liverpool citizens, including Mrs. William Rathbone, Mrs. Horsfall, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, C.C., Alderman and Miss Meade King, and Professors Bosanquet and Elton, and, in spite of the fact that all seats were paid for, a good collection was taken.

The greatest credit is due to Miss Davies, Miss E. Rathbone, and Miss E. Deakin, the secretaries of the three societies, who made the arrangements for what was undoubtedly one of the best attended and most unanimous political meetings ever held in Liverpool.

C. LEADLEY BROWN. (A portion of Lord Selborne's speech will be found on this page.

Members of Parliament and the Reform Bill.

On November 23rd a meeting was held at the House of Commons of Liberal and Labour members interested in securing the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill of the Government on the broadest and most democratic lines. Mr. A. Henderson presided. The Chancellor of the Exchequer attended the meeting, and in the course of an address he urged the importance of a campaign being organised in the country in the interval between now and the introduction of the Bill. He felt sure that there was a large amount of opinion, both in the country and in the House of Commons, prepared to support the enfranchisement of women on broad democratic lines. The support of the measure in the House, however, would largely depend upon the expression of opinion in the country. He intimated his willingness to assist in such a campaign, and was of opinion that other members of the Government would be prepared to take their part. A sub-committee was appointed to consider the best arrangements for the commencement of the campaign in the country. It was also suggested that the sub-committee might consider the desirability of inviting members of the respective organisations for Women's Suffrage to a conference to see how far common agreement could be reached to take united action both in the country and in the House of Commons in support of the enfranchisement of women. The sub-committee consists of Mr. A. Henderson (chairman), Mr. Walter Rea (secretary), Robert Harcourt, Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Charles Roberts, Mr. Neilson, and Mr. G. N. Barnes.

NOVEMBER 30, 1911.

In Parliament.

OUTWORKERS.

On Tuesday, November 21st, the Insurance Bill reached the end of the Committee stage. The question of the position of outworkers was discussed on Monday. Everyone admitted that they constituted a great difficulty and Mr. Worthington Evans criticised the Government's proposal to include outworkers in such classes of work as may from time to time be specified in any special Order made under Part VI. of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. He objected to "legislation by reference" in a matter of this sort, because people might be brought under the Bill quite accidentally in this way. Sir Rufus Isaacs admitted the the railway companies and their employees, and Thurscontention and deleted the words objected to in paragraph (6) of Schedule I., Part I.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Sir Philip Magnus wished to exempt secondary school teachers, but this was not allowed.

SUBSIDIARY EMPLOYMENTS.

The discussion on November 21st, upon the exclusion of those engaged in "subsidiary employments," revealed the great difficulty there will be in defining these, and an addition, moved by Sir Rufus Isaacs, to exclude married women employed as outworkers, and not wholly dependent on their earnings, was the subject of a confused discussion; it seems that such women, though they will be excluded as "employed contributors," can come in under some of the "options" of

DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer resisted the proposal to exclude domestic servants "at the option of such servants," declaring that there could be no real option. Mr. Hills, in protesting against exclusion, yet said the Bill did not give servants what they wanted.
The poorer class of servants wanted free medical attendance and sick pay, because their employers could not afford to provide them; the better class did not want either; both classes wanted sanatorium and invalidity benefit. He thought servants needed insurance more than most classes of workers, but what they most needed was not medical benefits and sick pay, but invalidity and an earlier old-age pension. Mr. Lloyd George answered sympathetically to these suggestions, and said he believed these modifications could be introduced by working the Bill as it stands: there should be special societies to meet the special needs of domestic servants. He gave figures from those issued by the Local Government Board, showing what a large proportion of women in infirmaries were Domestic Servants.

Wednesday (22nd) was occupied with a discussion on day and Friday with the Report stage of the Coal Mines

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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

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

How. Secretaries:

President:

Secretary:

How. Treasurers

Hon. Secretaries:

President:

Secretary:

MISS K. D. Couetney.

MES. Heney Fawcett, LL.D.

MISS Geraldine Cooks.

Hon. Secretary to Press Committee: MISS Emily M. Lhav.

Telegrams;: "Voiceless, London." Hon. Sec. to Literature Committee: MISS I. B. O'Malley.

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

From Headquarters.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The Executive Committee has summoned a Special Council meeting of the National Union to consider the political situation. It will be held at 10.30 on Friday, 8th inst., at the Small Queen's Hall, Langham Place. In view of the great importance of the present situation, the meeting will be of the greatest moment, and all societies are urged to send delegates. The latest date on which resolutions for the agenda can be received at the office is Saturday, December 2nd. K. D. COURTNEY.

National Union Manifesto.

On Thursday last, after a special meeting of the Executive Committee, the following manifesto was issued :-

At this critical stage of the women's suffrage movement it has been felt necessary, in order to meet misapprehensions, to issue a plain statement of the position of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, which represents the largest organisation for promoting women's suffrage in this country.

A new situation has been created by the Government's proposal to introduce a Manhood Suffrage Bill next session, and there is no doubt that an immense increase of public sympathy and support for women's suffrage has been aroused by the injustice of the proposal to extend the franchise to all men before considering the claims of any women.

"The National Union, while deeply resenting the initial exclusion of women from the Government Reform Bill, yet welcomes the pledges given by the Prime Minister with regard to any women's suffrage amendment which the House of Commons desires to pass. The National Union believes that an additional opportunity is thus offered for the solution of the women's suffrage question on non-party lines, and that taking this fact into consideration, together with the pledge already given for facilities for the Conciliation Bill, the new situation can be turned to the advantage of women's enfranchisement.

can be turned to the advantage of women's enfranchisement.

"It should not be necessary for the National Union to repeat what has already frequently been declared—that it does not approve, on principle, of militant methods. Had the National Union approved of such methods, clearly it would have adopted them."

The Reform Bill and Amendments.

As some credence has been given to a mis-statement as to what occurred in 1884, when a women's amendment to the Reform Bill was defeated, it becomes necessary to call attention to the fact that the position

they now occupy in relation to the proposed Govern- at the meeting. ment Reform Bill of 1912. In the first place, the Government of that day had not given any promise that the Bill would be open to a Women's Suffrage amendment. It had, on the contrary, informed the supporters of Women's Suffrage on the Government side of the House that they would not be left free to vote as they desired on this question.

A memorial signed by 79 Liberal Members of Parliament, was presented to Mr. Gladstone, asking him to leave a Women's Suffrage amendment to the unbiassed decision of the House of Commons. In his reply, Mr. Gladstone said that the introduction of such an amend-

ment would endanger the Bill.

When Mr. Woodall moved for the insertion of the clause to enfranchise women, Mr. Gladstone announced that he would offer it the strongest opposition in his power, and would moreover, renounce all responsibility for the Reform Bill if the clause were carried. It was not surprising, therefore, that the amendment was defeated, 104 supporters of Women's Suffrage voting with the Government against the clause.

The position now is entirely different. The Government has given a pledge that the Reform Bill of 1912 will be open to a Women's Suffrage amendment, and that members will be left quite free to vote as they please, and that, should the Women's Suffrage amendment be carried, the Government will make it an integral part of the Bill, and be responsible for it. EDITH PALLISER.

Treasurer's Notes.

Last week Mrs. Auerbach asked for the first donations for what will certainly be the greatest, and may be the final campaign—that of 1912—work for which is already upon us.

I have the great pleasure of announcing that the first donation arrived with a distinguished name attached to it, and one which should be of good omen that of Miss Cons. She has always been among our most staunch friends, and now, with all the other heavy claims upon her generosity, she sends us her cheque with hearty good wishes. Her age and health no longer allow her to give active personal service. May I hope that others will follow the lead of one whose long career of splendid work in the public service is a standing argument for the cause? Another valuable gift is from one of our staff, at the National Union Offices, who sends her "overtime" pay, as, she says, she would only be doing Suffrage work if she were not kept at her desk. Is everyone doing Suffrage work in their overtime?

A message of farewell to Mrs. Auerbach, and of greeting to me, shows the zeal of two friends; Mrs. Lawson sends us what, in less momentous times, would have been turned into a Christmas present for

her daughter (who is also, of course, a Suffragist).
Our old friend Miss Dalby, who foresaw our need, kindly sent a contribution, even before we had had time to ask. We have several large donations this week— £25, £20, and two of £10, one of which comes from our Godalming Society, a fine example to others who may find the year closing with something to spare! There is need of a good many more large donations, if the finances of the Union are to be in good order when Mrs. Auerbach returns.

It has been found necessary to call a special meeting of the Council at this crisis, because it is most impartant that our responsible workers all over the country should have the most complete information as to the situation, and that the National Executive should be able to act with their fullest sanction. This is an unexpected expense, and I have, therefore, to press for some extra help immediately. Those, however, who cannot give at once will, I hope, send me promises for

of women in respect to the Reform Bill of 1884 was, in our Albert Hall meeting (February 23rd), as I should like to open the list now. Promises will be announced

Frances M. Sterling (Treasurer pro tem.)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND.
Received for Central Fund from Nov. 1st, 1910, to Oct. 31st, 1911,
£5,194 18s. 11d.
November 18th to November 25th, 1911

November 16th to November 25t	n, 191	1.	0 -	
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1911			£ s. 276 17	d 8
Subscriptions:—				
Miss M. A. Sloane			4	6
Miss Lade (2 years)			6	0
Mrs. Parsons (3 years)			6	0
Miss Dalby			2 2	0
Mrs. Sevd			1 0	0
Mrs. Shillington			10	0
Mrs. Seyd Mrs. Shillington Mrs. C. Meyerstein		1	1 1	0
R. F. Cholmeley, Esq			1 1	0
Mrs. Luxmoore			5	0
Miss Meade-King			10	0
Donations:—				
Miss Cons			5 5	0
Gloucester W.S.S. in gratitude for Mrs. Fawcett's	s visit		1 1	0
Mrs. Ross			1 1	0
Miss Dalby			3 3	0
Mrs. Carl Flingel			25 0	0
Mrs. Carl Flugel Miss M. L. Mackenzie (overtime)			10	0
Mrs. Lawson			1 10	0
Godalming W.S.S			10 0	0
			1 0	0
Colchester W.S.S. (Collection at meeting)			1 10	4
R. F. Cholmeley, Esq			1 1	0
Miss E. M. Macnaghten	16		5 0	0
Miss E. M. Kirby (for Organiser's Fund)		7.	5 0	0
Miss K. Lowndes (for Organiser's Fund)			5 0	0
Miss C. H. Stoehr (for Organiser's Fund)			20 0	0
Mrs. Berry (for Organiser's Fund)			1 0	0
Mrs. White (for Organiser's Fund, Cornwall)			1 0	0
Mrs. Stanton Coit	1. 7		10 0	0
Affiliation Fees —	The same		7	
			7	9
Selkirk W.S.S. Innerleithen W.S.S. Farnham W.S.S.			10	0
Downham WOC			1 1	0
Hockwold and Brandon District W.S.S.			4	9
Transfer and District Control of the			BULL 125	
			£384 8	0
		-		
	To lake	1000	A	

Correction.—The West Midlands Federation gave half the collection taken at the Stafford Meeting, not a ½d. collection as announced.

Press Department.

Press Department.

The Press Department has been literally inundated with press cuttings this week. Following on the confusion caused by the announcement of a Manhood Suffrage Bill, we find in the leaders of the large provincial papers, from all parts of the country, a striking increase of support for Women's Suffrage, showing the recognition of the fact that present chances are most favourable.

The Times indicates in its attitude a change from that of last week. The militant position, that a non-party solution of the question of Women's Suffrage is rendered impossible by the introduction of a Government measure, is no longer emphasised as "more correct" than that of the National Union, and Mr. Lloyd George's speech at Bath in relation to Women's Suffrage calls forth little criticism beyond a general protest against the Reform Bill, with "its inclusion of probably millions of women," if the speech is to be taken as a guide.

The leader of the Morning Post (Nov. 25th) implies that the speech relates only to Adult Suffrage. It may be pointed out in this connection that the Chancellor did not specify at Bath the precise amendment which he was prepared to support. The Morning Post states elsewhere, in relation to the discussion held by the members of the Parliamentary Council of the People's Suffrage Federation, on the question of Adult Suffrage, "that there is a good chance of getting an amendment to the Government Bill passed that would give women the rate-paying franchise, which is the object of the Conciliation Bill, with the addition of votes for married women. But, if this be not achieved, then the advocates of universal adult suffrage will find themselves morally bound to support the Conciliation Bill, the handle of the Poople's declaration to good account." The speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Bath has been acclaimed with enthusiastic applause by the Liberal Press generally.

The Daily Chronicle (Nov. 25th) says: "The crowning effort was the masterly plea for the admission of women to a share i

also by a beginning to the enfranchisement of women."

The Manchester Guardian, in its report, gives some indication of the lines on which an amendment may be moved by Mr. Lloyd George. From this we may take it that his words refer to the likelihood of a modified form of suffrage including married women, "a broad and democratic amendment to the new Reform

Bill, enfranchising not a limited class of women, but including also the wife of the artisan."

The Westminster Gazette deals more particularly with this point in (Nov. 25th): "Last night the Chancellor did not tell us exactly what the amendment is which he would like to see carried, though it is to "include the working-man's wife. This points, we imagine, not to adult suffrage, but to a register made up of (1) men residents; (2) women householders; and (3) wives of men householders." The Westminster Gazette criticises Mr. Lloyd George's reference to the Conciliation Bill, and his assertion that "it would have been grossly unfair to Liberalism." It points out that "last year's voting on the second reading gave, Liberal, for 162, against 61; Unionist, for 88, against 114; Labour party, for 32, against 51; unionist, for 88, against 114 follow Mr. Lloyd George in saying that the Conciliation Bill is 'torpedoed.' Our own impression of the Prime Minister's recent statement is, that the Suffragists have now a double chance, either of carrying the Conciliation Bill, or of obtaining a wider measure of suffrage in an amendment to the Reform Bill."

The Standard has fully recorded during the past week the activities and policy of the National Union, and the Press has shown wide recognition of the services which Mrs. Fawcett has done the country, in the clearness of the questions presented by her to the Prime Minister, questions which elicited from him definite promises on the occasion of the deputation on November 17th.

EMILY M. LEAR.

Miss C. E. Marshall writes that she has found the distribution of back numbers of the "Standard" containing specially good articles by Lord Lytton and other prominent members of the Suffrage Movement, a useful means of propaganda, and calls attention to the announcement of the "Standard" that for the next three months, the price for back numbers to readers of the "Woman's Platform" will be as follows:—1½d. per copy (2d. post free) for back numbers, if less than a dozen are taken; ½d. per copy (plus carriage) if more than a dozen are ordered. For over five dozen ordered in one lot, an extra dozen will be given gratis. Orders should be sent to "The Standard," 104, Shoe Lane, E.C.

By-Elections.

HITCHIN. Result of the poll:—

Lord Robert Cecil (U)

Mr. T. T. Greg (L) 3,909

most successful meeting.

Market day in Hitchin was busy, and our committee-room was a centre of attraction. We had many callers. The help given by Miss King and Mr. and Mrs. Nowers was much appreciated.

Miss Elphick and I are indebted to Miss Pepper and Miss King for their very kind hospitality. The valuable support given by many members of the Hitchin and Letchworth Societies has made the work of the organisers comparatively easy, and we are most grateful.

The London Society.

EAST LONDON DEMONSTRATION.

POPLAR OVERFLOWS.

The meeting at Poplar Town Hall on November 27th was the first of the demonstrations arranged by the London Society in

the four quarters of London, and its remarkable success may surely be taken as a token that East London, at any rate, knows its own mind about Women's Suffrage. When the London Society organiser applied beforehand for an extra hall, in case it proved necessary to hold an overflow meeting, she was met with smiles and the assurance that no political meeting had filled Poplar Town Hall yet. If that was a true statement one can only gather that the people of Poplar are more interested in Women's Suffrage than in any other political question. The hall was not only filled, it was packed, the overflow meeting was packed, men and women stood right out into the passages, and, alas! a large number had to be turned away altogether. It was almost entirely a working-class audience; many, both of the men and women, obviously represented the very poor. One of the doorkeepers said afterwards to a member of the society that if there was a place where men really understood what women wanted it was Poplar. "The men here see what the women's lives are, and know what they have to go through; that is why they believe in Women's Suffrage." It was these men and women who filled the hall on Thursday night, and who greeted every point made by the speakers with vigorous applause.

Mr. Lansbury was, of course, at home amongst them, and his

the hall on Thursday night, and who greeted every point made by the speakers with vigorous applause.

Mr. Lansbury was, of course, at home amongst them, and his noble demand for justice for women for the sake of humanity received the response it deserved. Miss Sterling, who was in the chair at the larger meeting, was listened to with great attention while she set forth the political position of the National Union. Mr. Chancellor spoke for our friends in Parliament, and Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Richardson showed themselves eloquent representatives of the working women of North and South. Miss Helen Ward took the chair at the smaller meeting, and the speakers and the choir valiantly pressed backwards and forwards through the crowd between the two. Much honour is due to the latter for the great success with which they led the Suffrage songs, an artistic triumph, considering that in the smaller hall there was no piano.

there was no piano.

In spite of the discomforts of standing in a crowd, the audience stayed till the end and carried, with four dissentients in the large room, and three in the small, the resolution:—

That this meeting, representative of 13 East London constituencies, expresses its indignation at the exclusion of women from the proposed Government Reform Bill, holds to the pledge of facilities for the Conciliation Bill next session, and being determined that a Reform Bill shall not pass into law which does not include women, welcomes the promise of the Prime Minister that any Women's Suffrage amendment carried will be made an integral part of the Bill, and calls upon the Members of Parliament of the 13 East London constituencies here represented to do all in their power to ensure the enfranchisement of women in 1912.

The thanks of the Society are due to the committee of residents in the neighbourhood, whose energy did so much to make the meeting a success. Mrs. Foulkes, the secretary, is much to be congratulated on the results of the work which she undertook at such short notice, and among many who laboured, special mention should be made of Miss Shore of the Artists' Suffrage League, whose decorations were effective and charming.

The London Society held a Reception on November 21st at the Empress Rooms, Mrs. Theodore Williams in the Chair. Speeches were delivered by Mrs. Rackham and Miss Macmillan (on the Insurance Bill), and much interest was also aroused by Miss Sterling's account of the deputation to the Prime Minister and statement of N.U. policy. Much discussion took place, at which an anti-Suffragist was allowed nearly fifteen minutes.

On December 5th and December 12th, at the last two receptions, there will be stalls for the sale of Christmas presents. Members and friends are invited to come and purchase. Contributions for the stalls will be gratefully received at the office. 58, Victoria Street, S.W. The usual result of the sales is a satisfactory sum towards the expenses of the receptions.

CAMBERWELL AND DULWICH.—Open-air meetings were held on October 20th, October 31st and November 9th, speakers being Miss Lockwood, Miss Gloyn, Miss A. Hutchinson and Mr. Gugenheim. On November 13th Home?" at 38, The Gardens. On November 12th Miss Ruth Young addressed the I.L.P.

CLERRENWELL—Mothers' gathering passed resolution unanimously;

Mrs. Stanbury addressed a deeply interested audience at the montary addressed the LL.P.

CLERKENVELL.—Mothers' gathering passed resolution unanimously; speaker, Miss Helen Ward.

DEPTFORD.—A very successful Drawing-room Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 22nd, at 4, Park Road, New Cross, S.E. The hostess was Mrs. Tuppen. Mrs. John Roskill took the Chair, and Miss H. D. Cockle spoke. Common Causes were sold.

EPSOM AND EWELL.—The National League for Opposing Women's Suffrage arranged a debate in the Epsom Town Hall, on October 27th, when their speaker was Miss Gladys Pott, and ours, Miss K. D. Courtney. The Hall was full, and the debate aroused great interest. Miss Courtney was much applauded, and it was a great pity that the "Antis" would not put a resolution to the meeting. The other speakers for and against were Mrs. Stephens, Miss Lawrence, Mr. Braithwaite, Major Lorrance, Mrs. Rushworth and Dr. Daniel. On November 16th Miss M. Martineau addressed the Epsom Parish Church Doreas Society on the subject of "Women as Citizens." On November 16th a reception was held at King's Head Assembly Rooms (Epsom), where Lady Frances Balfour paid her first visit to Epsom and addressed a crowded and deeply interested meeting. The Epsom Branch is arranging a Jumble Sale on December 2nd and would be glad of any offers.

HACKNEY CENTRAL.—A very successful Drawing-room Meeting was held at Croyland, Clapton Common, on November 13th, Mrs. Gimingham (local secretary) in the Chair. Miss G. Dykes Spicer gave a convincing address on "Some Practical Aims of the Women's Suffrage Movement." Much interest was expressed, and six new members joined the Society. On November 14th Mrs. Gimingham addressed a well-attended meeting of the Unionist P oneers in Central Hackney on Women's Suffrage. It

music and literature.

Kensington, North.—On November 8th, by kind permission of Miss Kensington, North.—On November 8th, by kind permission of Miss Gladys Pott. The resolution was carried.

ROTHERHITHE.—On November 9th Miss Anna Martin held a Drawing-room Meeting for L.C. teachers, nearly eighty being present. Speaker: Miss Janet Thomson. On November 10th, Miss Helen Ward addressed the Liberal, Radical and Progressive Association. The resolution was carried unanimously.

unanimously.

SOUTH ISLINGTON.—Under the auspices of the Conservative Association an interesting meeting was held at 132, Upper Street, on November 22nd. Speaker: Miss Cockle. A large audience of men and women followed her speech with interest. The Secretary, Mr. Southgate, an Anti-Suffragist, spoke on the other side, and a discussion followed, Mr. Lionel Harris, the prospective candidate, expressing his sympathy with the work of the London Society.

SOUTH PADDINGTON.—On November 9th, at the Ethical Lecture Hall,

spoke on the other side, and a discussion followed, Mr. Lionel Harris, the prospective candidate, expressing his sympathy with the work of the London Society.

SOUTH PADDINGTON.—On November 9th, at the Ethical Lecture Hall, Queen's Road, Miss Roper spoke on Pit-brow Women's Work, Councillor Charles Constable in the chair.

SOUTHWARK WEST.—On November 13th, at Guy's Hospital, with many nurses, students and staff present a debate took place between Miss Janet Thomson (L.S.W.S.) and Mr. Calderon ((N.L.O.W.S.), Dr. Hall in the Chair. The resolution was carried by 60 to 22. Among those who spoke in favour were Miss Clementina Black, Mrs. Rhyll, Sister Lydia, Nurse Pattison, and Mr. Mollaire and Mrs. Sanderson spoke in the negative. On November 9th, Miss Fielden addressed the St. Michael's Ward (3a) of the Liberal and Radical Association, Mrs. Fay in the Chair; resolution proposed Councillor Ward, seconded Councillor Woodcock, passed with six dissentients. On November 8th, Miss Ruth Young addressed the St. Michael's Ward (3) of the Liberal and Radical Association, Mr. J. Pascallin the Chair. On November 6th, a Borough Road, an open-air meeting was addressed by Miss Gloyn and Mrs. Rogers.

Stepner.—On November 6th, Miss R. Smith addressed a branch of the B.W.T.A. at Stepney Green Tabernacle. The audience consisted of the mothers of the branch, and about 200 were present. On November 15th, at 587, Commercial Road. Speaker: Miss Helen Ward. Small meeting of men passed resolution (with two only neutral).

WEST ISLINGTON.—On November 13th the Wandsworth Committee held their fifth Annual Conversazione at Wandsworth Town Hall, under the presidency of the Vicar and Rural Dean, the Rev. Wm. Reed, between 300 and 400 being present. After the reception the Lady Frances Balfour gave a very impressive address on the present situation. Miss Winifred Mayo (Actresses' Franchise League) then gave some excellent recitations, which were loudly applauded. A cordial vote of thanks to all who had taken part was moved by the Rev. Dr. G. Ta

part was moved by the Rev. Dr. G. Tarrant, B.A., and seconded by Associman Cresswell.

WESTMINSTER.—On November 16th, by invitation of the Liberal Association, Miss Helen Ward (L.S.W.S.) debatedwith Mrs. Morris(N.L.O.W.S.S.), Mrs. Ralli in the Chair, at Caxton Hall (Room 18). There was an admirably representative audience of men and women. Several excellent speeches were made, chiefly in support, and there was a strong "Suffrage" feeling, but unfortunately it had been arranged that no vote should be taken. On November 21st Miss Helen Ward addressed the Women's Adult School. Resolution large majority and nem. con.

WIMBLEDON, NORTH.—On Thursday evening, November 11th, a meeting was held at Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton, and was attended by a large number of the Staff. Dr. A. L. Reade was in the chair, and Mrs. Stanbury's speech was listened to with much interest and enthusiasm by the audience; most of whom had never been to a Suffrage meeting before.

meeting before.

On November 22nd the Annual Meeting was held at 3, North View, by kind permission of Mrs. Cotton Minchin, Mrs. Paston Brown, P.L.G., in the Chair. Miss K. D. Courtney described the deputation to Mr. Asquith, in which she had taken part, spoke most hopefully of our chances, and urged all to support the Society by work and money. Miss Gavin also spoke, and three new members joined.

WINDSOR.—On November 14th, bykind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Gibb a most successful sale of work was held at 3 Claremont Road. A high-class programme of music was performed, and Mr. Llewellyn Smith spoke twice on the Women's Suffrage movement. 420 was taken.

Federation Notes.

West Lancs., West Cheshire, and N. Wales.

Common Cause Weeks.

This week the Present and Shropshire Societies are making special efforts for the paper, and we publish accounts of these

PRESTON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Todd, Penwortham House,

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. 10dd, Felworenam House, near Preston.

The formation of a society in Preston was inaugurated last November at a meeting of 2,500 persons, addressed by Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Allan Bright, and Mr. Lyon Blease. Miss Waring's persuasions induced about 50 persons to join the society at once, and the membership to-day is about 100. During the year a successful public meeting has been held, addressed

was arranged that no resolution should be put, but a very animated discussion took place, and much interest was shown in the subject.

November 16th, by kind permission of Miss Veitch Brown, a most pleasant Drawing-room Meeting was held at 9, Burton Street. Speaker, Miss Helen Ward.

Isturgron.—The "At Home" on November 17th, arranged by the Isturgron threest and enthusiasm were kept up. Interested crowds from 4 to 10 the interest and enthusiasm were kept up. Interested crowds listened to speeches from Mrs. Wiles, Rev. A. A. Charlesworth, Mr. Kennedy by the London Society; he had always advocated the presence of women on public bodies, and considered that any woman possessing the Municipal Franchise should also have the Parliamentary Franchise. There was a Franchise should also have the Parliamentary Franchise. There was a brisk sale of literature, 33s. worth being sold, and several new members were enrolled. The Actress' Franchise League and others helped with music and literature.

homes" for the winter.

Mrs. Darlington is at present working among us, and we are very grateful for the inspiration of her methodical presence. As we go round asking for advertisements, we notice that our reception is more friendly than it was a year ago, and so we hope we have not worked in vain to influence public opinion in our favour and to advance the Common Cause.

and to advance the Common Gause.

West Midland.

Shropshire Women's Suffrage Society.

Secretary: Miss Hills, 13, Butcher Row, Shrewsbury.

The Shropshire Suffrage Society began its existence in May, 1908, during the by-election in the Newport division of the county. We had then only 20 members, but during its county. We had then only 20 members, but during its three years of life our branch has grown and flourished. Now its membership exceeds 200, and while but eight of us walked in the first procession, 50 marched in the last.

We have not rested content to preach Women's Suffrage in Shrewsbury only, but have shouldered our banner and spread our cause throughout the length and breadth of Shropshire. In Church Strettan and breadth of Shropshire. In Church Strettan as an off-shoot of our own. Oswestry, now a flourishing society directly affiliated with the N.U., also began as a 'child of ours.

As soon as it was at all possible we opened our shop in Butcher Row, Shrewsbury, and have found it an immense gain. It brought all sorts and conditions of people to our side—some to scoff, certainly, but the many to sympathise and eventually join our band. The eloquence of the speakers who have honoured our platforms, combined with the untiring work of our members, have borne good fruit, for out of the dark ignorance and dense prejudice which once surrounded the women's movement in Shropshire has emerged a gleam of light. That so many who once walked in the darkness are now "following the gleam" is the result of the fine enthusiasm of the society's president (Mrs. Harley) and committee.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants

Harley) and committee.

R. M. Timpany (late Hon. Sec.).

Surrey, Sussex and Hants
FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT VENTNOR.

The Pavilion Hall, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, was crowded on Saturday afternoon, 25th inst., with an audience which listened with the greatest interest to addresses from the Lady Betty Balfour and Mrs. Russell Cooke. The chair was taken by Dr. Robertson, chairman Urban District Council. Lady Betty Balfour spoke from the Conservative standpoint and Mrs. Russell Cooke took the subject from the Liberal point of view. The resolution urging the member to do all in his power to ensure the enfranchisement of women in 1912 was carried with six dissentients.—Mr. Wicks, in a neat speech, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to speakers and chairman.—Mrs. R. Lyall Dempster, in seconding, announced the formation of a society in Ventnor. The platform was beautifully decorated with specimen chrysanthemums sent by Miss Armstrong, who has kindly consented to become hon. secretary of the new society. Unfortunately both Miss Armstrong and Miss Nicholson-Ashleigh were prevented from being present at the meeting.

MEETING OF THE FEDERATION COMMITTEE.

The committee met at Worthing by kind invitation of Mrs. Chapman and the local society on November 22nd. Before business began the president and committee members of the Worthing Society came to the meeting, and Mrs. Auerbach spoke to us on the political situation, and gave us an account, and her impression, of the deputation to the Prime Minister. Whilst wishing Mrs. Auerbach all pleasure in this rest from her strenuous work, the S.S.H. Federation maturally feels regret at knowing it will be some months before she attends its meetings again. Great pleasure was expressed on hearing that Miss Frances Sterling has consented to be the Executive's representative on this committee during Mrs. Auerbach's absence. It was reported that Rotherfield, Shanklin, and Lewes desired to federate. That since September 27th Shanklin and Eastleigh had affiliated to the N.U., and two more socie

Manchester and District.

FORMATION OF TWO NEW SOCIETIES.

During the past month two new societies have been formally inaugurated in this area—at Northwich and Todmorden. We had already a small Society at Winsford, in the Northwich division, but communication is hard between the two places, and it has been found necessary to have a distinct society in each.

On October 17th much interest was aroused in Northwich by a public meeting, at which Mrs. Philip Snowden and Miss Robertson spoke; and this was followed up by a drawing-room meeting, kindly given by Miss Pierce, on November 22nd, and addressed by Miss Robertson, at which 17 new members joined and a committee of officers were elected. The society will affiliate as soon as sufficient subscriptions have been received. At Todmorden, also, the first impulse was given by a crowded and enthusiastic public meeting, on November 7th, at which the mayor-elect took the chair, and Mrs. Snowden and Miss Robertson spoke. Sixty-eight people put down their names to join the society, and at a small invitation meeting, held on November 24th, and addressed by Mrs. Barnes and Miss Robertson, a committee and officers were elected for what bids fair to be a most energetic branch.

energetic branch.

On November 9th a meeting was held in Haslingden, the Rev.
J. W. Nairn taking the chair, and Mrs. Snowden and Miss
Robertson speaking. The hall was packed, and the passages and
entries crowded with a wholly sympathetic audience. Mr.
Barnes, who did the stewarding almost single handed, took the
names of 22 intending members, and it is hoped that a society
will soon be started there.

will soon be started there.

The Accrimgeon Society held its first public meeting in the Town Hall on November 10th, when between five and six hundred people were present. The speakers were Mrs. Philip Snowden and Miss Margaret Robertson; Mrs. Haworth, of Altham, the president, was in the chair. Among the thirty supporters on the platform were twelve women graduates in academic dress from the Accrington and Burnley branches. The churches were represented by Baptist, Congregational, Unitarian and Wesleyan ministers and two Anglican clergymen. Twenty new members were enrolled. Farnworth—A very successful meeting was held in the Kearsley Mount Wesleyan School, on November 3rd, Mrs. Andrews, of Westhoughton, and Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., were the speakers, and Mr. F. Shippobottom, J.P., was in the chair. Mrs. Andrews pleaded the cause of the pit-brow girls, and Mrs. A. Bames seconded the resolution. Miss Margaret Robertson proposed a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill, and it was seconded by Mr. Cunliffe, a member of the Board of Guardians, and was carried unanimously. Fitteen new members were enrolled. Knutsford.—On Thursday, November 9th, the Knutsford Society held a cake sale and entertainment with good results, the proceeds to be devoted to the bazaar fund.

Leigh.—The Leigh Society held its annual meeting on November 15th, when the honorary secretary reported favourably of its first year's work. The officers and committee were re-elected.

Manchester.—Two meetings of the South Salford Suffrage Club for Working Men and Women have been held—one on October 30th, the speaker being Mrs. Chew, of Rochdale, who spoke on "Working Women and the Suffrage"; the second being on November 20th, when Mr. D. Thompson, of the Fabian Society, spoke on the Insurance Bill. The Club is proving very successful. Nearly thirty new members have joined during the past month.

A'well-attended public meeting was held in St. Paul's Schools, Withington on November 20th, when Councilles Med.

against. No resolution was put to the meeting.

Miss Robertson addressed the Bolton Liberal Association on November 23rd. The chair was taken by Wm. Brimelord, Esq., who, in an interesting speech, sketched the growth of the franchise movement since the time of the People's Charter. Miss Robertson dealt with the chief events that had led to the present position. She said women demanded that some amendment should be passed to the Reform Bill, which should include them in. the Bill. A discussion followed, and Miss Robertson answered questions.

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Lastern Councies.

Work at King's Lynn.

No Suffrage work had been done in King's Lynn before I went to try and work up a meeting which the Lady Frances Balfour had kindly consented to adddress.

Lynn is interested in politics, and owing to the interesting position created by the proposed Government Reform Bill it was not very difficult to call attention to the question of women's claims to the vote and their bearing on coming changes. On Monday, November 20th, we had a crowded and most successful meeting in the Central Hall; large numbers stood and others failed to get in. The mayor acted as our impartial chairman, and Lady Frances Balfour, who came down at considerable personal inconvenience, gave a clear and reasoned speech on the grounds of women's claims to full citizenship. Mr. Mirrlees contributed one of his excellent and persuasive speeches. No one could have left the hall thinking that in the future the repetition of platitudes about "Woman's sphere" could be regarded as an answer to the Suffrage case. I was the third speaker.

When the mayor put the resolution to the meeting about one-third of the large audience voted, and very few hands were held up against it. Votes of thanks were moved and seconded by the Rev. A. W. Hayes, the rector of South Lynn, and seconded by the Rev. G. W. Bremner, of the Congregational Church, both of whom spoke convincingly and sensibly in our support. On the platform we were supported by some of the leading residents. Mrs. Ransford, of the Wisbech Society, gave most valuable help in preparing for the meeting. Hearty thanks are due also to the staff of the High School and other ladies, who made most efficient stewards, and also to Miss Willis, our Norwich secretary, who gave great help in the hall. After the meeting a sufficient number of members were given in to form a local society, and I am hoping to form the society during the coming fortnight, and to carry on the work by having a public debate on women's suffrage.

Both the local papers, The Advertiser and the News, assisted greatly in giving prominence to our work by publishing leaders and interviews with me, and by giving excellent accounts

The member, Mr. Ingleby, voted for the Conciliation Bill last May, and can be relied upon to vote again for the enfranchisement of women householders. Mrs. Ingleby has expressed considerable sympathy with our movement. Eva Ward.

West Riding of Yorks.

OAK CHESTS.

CHAIRS.

TABLES.

West Riding of Yorks.

Leeds "Common Cause" Week.

Mrs. Darlington reports:—A Common Cause secretary (Miss Catterall) has been recently elected, and is most enthusiastic, and she is organising a selling corps. Thanks are due to Mrs. Hess for kindly allowing a drawing-room meeting to be held, and for giving hospitality to the organiser. Miss I. O. Ford had

collected money to defray the expense of the COMMON CAUSE week, and good work was done in calling upon members of the society.

South Western.

Bideford.—A meeting was held on November 7th at the "Cutround Tea Rooms" by the kind permission of Miss Doolette. Mrs. Merivale Mayer gave a very interesting address, in which she described the Women's Suffrage movement in Australia. The Rev. de Courcy Treland was in the chair, and the vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. McNeil Martin, and seconded by Mr. H. R. Bazeley.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON.—A drawing-room meeting was held on November 11th, when a branch was formed, with Miss E. F. Mathieson as Hon. Sec. and a membership of 40. In the evening a Public Meeting was held at the Public Rooms, at which Mrs. Merivale Mayer gave a most interesting address, Miss M. P. Willcocks in the chair. There was a good collection, and new members were enrolled.

PLYMOUTH.—We have had a busy month with a multiplicity of small meetings, and we congratulate ourselves that they have been convened for the most part at the expense and by the efforts of others. The Plymouth branch arranged four meetings, the first at St. Budeaux, when Dr. Slater took the chair, Mrs. Cyril Williams gave a most interesting address and Dr. Mabel Ramsay spoke on the Insurance Bill. In the following week we had the visit of Mrs. Merivale Mayer, who introduced a less familiar aspect of the subject in speaking of "How the Vote was Won in Australia." She addressed three meetings, two very successful drawing-room meetings given by Mrs. Hambly at Saltash, and Mrs. Phillips in Plymouth, and a public meeting at Hyde Park Schools. All these meetings have been used to lead up to and advertise a mass meeting in the Corn Exchange on November 23, addressed by Mrs. Philip Snowden, the most successful meeting which the Plymouth branch has ever held. The hall was crowded, 136 Common Causes were sold, the collection amounted to £2 Ss. 9d., and there had been a good sale of tickets for reserved seats. Dr. Rosa Bale took the chair, and Mrs. Cyril Williams seconded the resolution. Mrs. Snowden's eloquence is too well known to need to be enlarged upon here, but

but the response elicited was a most welcome encouragement to the local workers.

The members of the Plymouth Society have been active in addressing other societies. On October 31st, Dr. Mabel Ramsay gave a lecture to the Ebrington Street Young People's Guild on "Women and the Insurance Bill," and the following week she went to the Saltash Baptist Literary Society to lecture on "Florence Nightingle." On Sunday, November 5th, Miss Phillips for the second time went to Morley Street Men's Adult School. The men thereupon offered to steward our next big meeting, an offer of which we have since taken advantage. On the same day Miss Slater addressed Mutley Men's Adult School, and had an excellent audience. On November 5th, Miss Slater lectured at Clarence Chambers on "When Women Vote," and on the 10th many members attended and joined in a debate at the Y.W.C.A., opened by Miss Anthony; the resolution was carried unanimously.

carried unanimously.

OTTERY ST. MARY.—A largely attended meeting was held at the Church Institute. The Rev. J. W. Metcalfe (Vicar) presided, and the speakers were Mrs. Merivale Mayer and Miss Montgomery, of Exeter. The Chairman gave very hearty support, and after the audience had heard the impressive and well-reasoned speeches, they passed the resolution with only three dissentients, and a large number of new members were enrolled.

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SALOPIAN, WORCESTER, DERBY. Etc., Etc., Etc.

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J.&B.BLOWER, CASTLE GATE & PRIDE HILL, SHREWSBURY. TEIGNMOUTH.—On November 10th, at the Assembly Rooms, a public meeting was held, at which Mrs. Merivale Mayer gave a most excellent and convincing address on "How the Vote was Won in Australia," and discussed the subject from an entirely new point of view. The audience, which was a sympathetic one, passed a unanimous resolution in favour of the principle of Woman's Suffrage, and accorded Mrs. Merivale Mayer a hearty vote of thanks at the close of the meeting.

East Midland.

A FEDERATION Meeting was held at Nottingham on November 15th. The work of The Common Cause was discussed, in view of the meeting of Common Cause correspondents, to be held in London on November 24th, and certain recommendations were made with the object of increasing the circulation of the paper. The Derby Society kindly offered to organise a Garden Fete and Sale next summer, in aid of the funds of the Federation and the societies. A very favourable report was received of the work of Mrs. Renton in the new districts. The new Society which she had helped to form at Ketternen was already prepared for affiliation to the National Union, and the Society at Melton Moweray was hoping to be affiliated at the beginning of the year—either before or after a meeting which Mrs. Fawcett had promised to address.

The Bueton Society held its Quarterly Meeting on November 8th. The proceedings opened with a pleasant social gathering and concert. At the business meeting Mrs. M. Sadler (President of the Society) took the chair. She expressed grave misgivings as to the prospects of Women's Suffrage for next Session, in consequence of Mr. Asquith's sudden announcement of a Bill for Manhood Suffrage. The Rev. J. H. Tomlinson said that the work of the clergy would be greatly aided by women's influence in political matters. Their vote would get better living conditions, and thus prepare the poorest class to receive spiritual influences. How could clergy influence people for religious life when their ordinary lives were spent in conditions unfit for human beings? The speaker also touched upon the moral question, and the valuable legislation which had been passed in New Zealand since women obtained the vote. A resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was unanimously passed.

South Wales and Monmouthshire.

South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Brigend.—The first public meeting took place on November 8th in the Town Hall. Miss Janet Price, of Cardiff, presided, supported by clergy and ministers and members of the Council of the town. The speakers was Miss Helen Fraser. The Hall was filled, and a resolution was passed, to be forwarded to the Prime Minister, and to the Member for South Glamorgan demanding that time should be allowed for the Conciliation Bill before the introduction of the Manhood Suffrage Bill. This meeting formed the principal topic of conversation in the town the following day, and the general verdict was that no more orderly, more interested audience had been known at any previous political meeting in the Town Hall.

LLANELLY.—The first public meeting was held at the Town Hall on November 10th. The speaker was Miss Helen Fraser. She laid emphasis on the importance of the Conciliation Bill in view of Mr. Asquith's recent memorable announcement. A resolution was unanimously passed, calling upon the Member for the Carmarthen Boroughs to do all in his power (1) To secure the consideration of the Bill before the Government proposed Reform Bill. (2) To secure its passing into law next session:

CARDIFF AND DISTRICT.—On November 3rd the long series of meetings arranged for October came to an end with a splendid meeting in the Park Hall, which took the form of a reception. At this meeting Lady Betty Balfour and Miss Helen Fraser were the speakers. About sixty new members joined the Society, making the total number close on 700. The President, Mrs. Henry Lewis, received the guests. Professor Norwood and Mr. Robinson also spoke.

bers joined the Society, making the total number close on 700. The President, Mrs. Henry Lewis, received the guests. Professor Norwood and Mr. Robinson also spoke.

PENARTH.—On November 2nd a drawing-room meeting was given by Mrs. Roger. Two new members joined, and five or six ladies took away literature, and said they would almost certainly join us later. On November 4th a public meeting was held. Mr. Brace, M.P., presided. He clearly stated his intention of supporting the Conciliation Bill, and said that although, as an adult suffragist, he would prefer a wider measure, he saw no chance of such a measure passing into law next year, and he would therefore vote for the present Bill. Miss Helen Fraser spoke eloquently, and a resolution was passed unanimously, calling upon our supporters in the House of Commons to see that the Conciliation Bill became law next year. Mr. Harold Lloyd, one of the most prominent Unionists in the district, sent a letter regretting he was unable to be present, and Mrs. Lloyd moved the vote of thanks to Mr. Brace. With a view to raising further funds, a cake and apron sale has been arranged for November 29th at All Saints' Church Rooms. Miss Nautel, the Cardiff Literature Secretary, will undertake a literature stall.

I.L.P. to Oppose Manhood Suffrage.

The National Administrative Council of the Independent Labour party has passed the following resolution:—"That in view of the Prime Minister's statement in regard to proposed franchise reform, the National Council of the Independent Labour party insists strongly that no measure will be acceptable which does not include both men and women, and urges that proposals for franchise extension which do not confer citizenship upon women should be definitely opposed. The Council therefore calls upon the Government to introduce not a Manhood Suffrage Bill, but a genuine measure of adult suffrage, establishing political equality between the sexes. The Council resolves to inaugurate a national campaign throughout the country in favour of full and complete political democracy."

More Support for Women's Suffrage.

At the annual meeting of the Council of the Women's Liberal Metropolitan Union, a resolution, pledging the Council to continue its active support of the Conciliation Bill until the Government gives an assurance to include women in the new Reform

Bill, was passed by a large majority.

The Armley and Wortley Branch of the League of Young Liberals has passed nem. con. a resolution welcoming the Reform

Bill, and hoping that an amendment enfranchising at least those women who possess the municipal franchise will be included in it. The West Ward Liberal Club, Leeds, has passed a similar

The East Lambeth Teachers' Association has been added to the list of those which have passed the resolution circulated by the N.U.T. Executive.

Crieff and Innerleithen Councils have each passed, nem. con., a

resolution in support of women's suffrage.

Foreign News.

Germany.

There are many gratifying signs of the progress of the Suffrage movement in Germany. The German Union of Women's Suffrage Societies now has a membership of 8,000, distributed among ten national and 74 local societies. The new president is Frau Marie

Stritt.

The Prussian Association, which could only come into being after the alteration of the Association Laws in 1908, has spread its activities over the whole of Prussia. It has a membership of over 3,000 and 31 local branches.

Dr. Anita Augspurg announces the impending publication of a new paper devoted to Women's Suffrage. Hitherto an appendix has appeared once a month in Die Frauenbewegung, which sufficed for the Suffrage news. Now this is to be published separately in enlarged form, with the title of Frauenstimmrecht.

Dr. Augspurg invites the collaboration of Suffragists in other lands, and her many admirers here and elsewhere will wish her all success in her new venture.

France.

France.

Another Union of Suffrage Societies that has grown quickly is the French, which, founded only two years ago, now has local sections in half the country. In Parliament the cause numbers 240 friends, who are working on behalf of the Bill for Municipal Suffrage, introduced by M. Buisson. The Union is planning an active agitation during the municipal election next year. Denmark.

Demmark.

Immediately after Parliament met in the beginning of October, the Prime Minister, Mr. Berntsen, introduced in the Upper House the motion for the amendment of the constitution, which in the previous session had been carried in the House of Commons. Owing to the lateness of the season (March) in which the motion came up in the Upper House, it only got through one reading (each motion has to have several readings in each House).

The motion includes full suffrage for women on the same terms

The motion includes full suffrage for women on the same terms as for men, with only an insignificant restriction for the election of Upper House.

The suffrage for women has friends in all parties, which have given their adherence through their party-programme. But the extent of the sympathy for the cause varies in the different parties, and from the ranks of the Conservative party, one hears the wish that the municipal suffrage, which the women got in 1908, might be allowed to work for several decades yet before women are given full suffrage.

parties, and from the ranks of the Conservative party, one hears the wish that the municipal suffrage, which the women got in 1908, might be allowed to work for several decades yet before women are given full suffrage.

But the present Government-party and the Cabinet Ministers are more sympathetic to full Women's Suffrage, and the Prime Minister has several times in the House of Commons, as well as to deputations from the different women's organisations, pronounced his views so strongly for its being carried out on the basis of the Bill of the amendment of the constitution now presented that nobody can doubt that the Government will exert all its power for it.

As there is no fundamental resistance to Women's Suffrage from the side of the Conservatives, the prospects of its being carried are at this moment the brightest possible. It is not quite certain, however, that it will be carried in the Upper House when it appears there, for the majority of this House objects to another amendment of the constitution included in the above-named motion (concerning women). This is the reducing of the age for the electors. Probably the amendment of the constitution will be carried in the Upper House in a form differing from that passed in the House of Commons. This will be followed by a joint discussion of a joint-committee of the two Houses by members elected from both.

But the motion will scarcely reach this joint-committee stage in this session, for the Government and the two Houses will this year concentrate their work on the carrying of the great laws for taxes. If the Upper House will have nothing to do with Woman Suffrage this year, it will most likely be taken up again by the joint-committee next session.

Even so its passage is not a certainty, for the amendment of the constitution must be passed and carried by two succeeding Parliaments, and the dissolution of the Houses with the consequent elections will occur in the spring of 1913. In this way it will only be in the session of 1913-14, that the Women's Parliame

Reviews.

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and political reform in a broad and open-minded manner, rarely, if ever, to be found in the practical politician, we find the following sentence, which must appeal to all our readers:—"There is a manifest injustice in such a system of restricted franchise as our own. There are in our community about 16,000,000 adults, and about 7,000,000 are voters; all the voters are males. The greatest injustice is that suffered by women. Such questions as those relating to the education of children, the feeding of school-children, women's labour, and the like, are decided without direct reference to those who are principally concerned. No man would consent to live under laws which were made for him by an electorate and an assembly composed of women. It might be good for him to live under such laws, but his rightful sense of independence would rise in revolt. Why should women be forced to submit to the exclusive rule of men?"

ANOTHER CENSORED PLAY.

ANOTHER CENSORED PLAY.

Mr. Laurence Housman's censored play "Pains and Penalties" was "privately "performed at the Savoy Theatre on Sunday 26th. We are unfortunately unable, for lack of space, to review it in detail. It is full of interesting and pregnant sayings and the character of Queen Caroline is most tenderly human. The part was exquisitely played by Miss Gertrude Kingston. In one of the intervals Mr. Granville Barker moved a resolution condemning the appointment of Mr. Brookfield to be a member of the censorship committee. Mr. Brookfield can be relied upon to continue to deprive us of "Monna Vannas" and "Blanco Posnets" while indulging us freely in "Dear old Charlies." Why not put a woman on the censorship committee? We have seen plays that men laughed at, every word of which was a burning insult to women.

THE FREEWOMAN.

THE FREEWOMAN.

We welcome the appearance, on November 23rd, of a new threepenny weekly, entitled, The Freewoman. It is edited by Dora
Marsden, B.A., and Mary Gawthorpe, and aims at being feminist,
but not exclusively political. We are all for plain speaking and
clear thinking about women as about everything else; much that
appears in this number will challenge criticism and contradiction,
and there will be some lively passes. We hope that future
numbers will show more variety in the subjects; to harp on the
one string of sex will jar the nerves of readers in the long run.
One article of the type of "The Spinster" would be stimulating
in a number, but five or six give the impression of an obsession.
The sensible and well-expressed remarks about "militancy," are
very refreshing. very refreshing.

Letters to the Editor

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

respondents are requested to write ON ONE SIDE OF THE

DOMESTIC SERVICE.

Re "Mistress" criticism of Miss Neal's argument about domestics working 112 hours per working week, I desire to support Miss Neal's statement.

support Miss Neal's statement.

First, we all know that the domestic is at the beck and call of the employer from getting up in the morning to going to bed, and thousands of domestics will testify that these hours are from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., and longer in some cases.

Second, I say that every minute (of the employed person) that the employers have at their disposal is considered work in the Trade Union world, and must be paid for.

By way of illustration take the case of any member of the Society to which I belong. Say he has a working day of nine hours. Should there be a job come along necessitating his being constantly on the job, he would be paid as follows:—For nine hours he would get ordinary pay, 9d. per hour; for the next two hours, 114d. per hour; for the next two hours, 114d. per hour; and for all the following hours 1s. 6d. per hour, up to the end of 24 hours.

hours, 114d. per hour; for the next two hours, 1s. 14d. per hour; and for all the following hours 1s. 6d. per hour, up to the end of 24 hours.

Now this is the point I want carefully noted:—It does not matter whether the man has been taking the last ounce out of himself, or whether he has been merely "standing by," his time has been at the disposal of his employer and must be paid for on the terms mentioned. These terms are not conceded because the employer loves paying away extra money, but because the men are strongly organised, and through their Union can and do take a hand in controlling their own lives and conditions.

Moral: Domestics Unite!

"Mistress" says, "Great stress is laid upon the liberty of the factory worker, etc., etc." Can "Mistress" deny that the factory worker has far more liberty than the domestic?

The Domestic knows only too well that the wages and condition of the factory worker are not ideal, but the Domestic also knows that the highest-paid factory workers are those that are the best organised, further the Domestic knows that these same factory workers had much longer hours and much shorter pay in the days that they were not strongly banded together in strong Unions.

Moral: Domestics Unite!

W R H

Moral: Domestics Unite!

W. R. H.

I wonder if "Another Mistress" imagines I put in 16 hours' work a day for a hobby? If she does, then she is far wrong. I do it because I am obliged to. Does she think I can prepare and serve a meal at 6 o'clock when it has been ordered for 8, or can I serve hot refreshments after returning from the theatre, at 9 o'clock? Can we call our employers at 9 o'clock when they wish calling at 7 a.m.? I would willingly give her a list of my duties, and the number of people I wait upon. She can then see what time I "fritter away."

Yes—there is something wrong with me which badly needs

Yes—there is something wrong with me which badly needs righting, namely "dissatisfaction."

I somewhat regret that I have not vet seen any mistress writing on behalf of the domestic servants. I can hardly be called a mistress myself, as I am not my own housekeeper, but in default of anyone more suitable, I must write and say that I think the lot of the domestic servant in a small household a miserable one. In big houses, in hotels, in asylums, etc., things are managed in a businesslike way. Numbers permit of regular off-duty times, and the servant has plenty of companions. But in the case of general servants the hours on duty are a scandal: from 6 in the morning till 10 at night is by no means unheard of. Their meal-times are liable to disturbance; they are seldom allowed their friends in the kitchen, certainly not their men friends, and if the day is wet and they have no home near, it means walking up and down rainy streets, however tired they are, if they are to get any companionship at all. Then they are frequently liable to rudeness and crossness, for which they have no redress, except by leaving the place.

In these cases I do not blame the mistress in households with one servant; the mother is often such a slave herself, with hours even longer than the maid's, and with perhaps more to worry her, so that her nerves get on edge and her temper is uncertain. But when once women's work is appreciated at its true value, maids and mistresses will have a better time.

Meanwhile, there are naturally many servants who, considering the bargain a bad one (and the pay for "generals" is only just ceasing to be a scandal, and, including board and lodging, sometimes now works out at under 2d. an hour), retaliate in carelessness and unpunctuality. Of course, there are many kind mistresses and good general servants; but so are there many women happy without a vote. What we want is an alteration to meet the case of the unfortunate.

When hours and pay are properly adjusted we can demand a higher quality of service, but I may say that good pay for domestic service is in many cases impossible until the financial sit

I write to make the suggestion that the correspondence on domestic service, which is proceeding in your columns, should be dropped. There is much pressure on your space, and I believe many of your readers would prefer to hear more about the conditions of employment in factories and in the sweated trades. Most of us know a good deal about the lives of domestic servants at first hand, and cannot resist the impression that this employment compares favourably with any other which is open to comparatively uneducated women. It is well paid and not so monotonous as much other work. The hours are certainly long, but the more strenuous work is confined to a small proportion of those hours, and is not performed at high pressure. It is probably the length of the hours which makes domestic service unpopular, but the only alternative is an arrangement of shifts, which would prevent many people from keeping servants at all, and make lower wages a certainty. I notice that letters from employers are remarkable by their absence, but feel sure that it is not because they feel the futility of reiterating what is so well known. Of course, there are bad places as well as good, but no servant need remain in one long for the demand always exceeds the supply, and servants can practically make their own terms. The question of the "character" may be a weapon in the hands of an unscrupulous mistress (she must indeed be an inhuman monster to make an unjust use of it), but think of all the cases where a mistress gives the servant. a far better character than she deserves, simply because she knows that the servant would never get another place if the whole truth were told. The chief cause of friction between employers and servants is the want of training on the part of the latter. There is no system of apprenticeship for service, very few servants have any training except what they pick up casually, and all servants object to being told how to perform any duty. It is only during the last few years that it has been recognised that every woma

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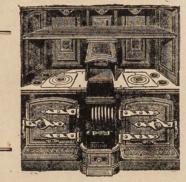
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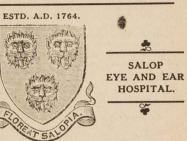
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lead them to suppose that their lot is in any way one of special society and joining the Conservative and Unionist Association hardship.

T. M. FOLEY.

lead them to suppose that their lot is in all, neadond Smith.

12, Eaton Place, S.W. November 26th, 1911.

[The flood of correspondence which we receive on this subject indicates that it is a matter which greatly interests many of our readers, and, as we think, rightly. The fact that so many servants and so many mistresses, too, prefer not to sign their names shows that they are glad of the opportunity of speaking out, while they fear domestic dissension should their names be known.—Ed., "C.C."]

Any discussion of servants' grievances must be unprofitable which does not somewhat limit their sphere. Totally different statements may be made, not only concerning good or bad mistresses and good or bad servants, but concerning the social or economic grade of the mistress. If they were discussed concerning homes where a young girl is kept to work along with the mistress, those in which one servant is kept, those in which two, or three, or a large establishment, they would require different criticisms. In the first class, perhaps, mistresses sometimes expect too much, forgetting that the very young girl is not quite so physically developed, and is certainly not as developed in experience as herself (being sent to her without previous training). She may expect too much without any real unkindness. The single servant often complains of loneliness, as well as monotony. When more are kept that complaint goes.

But servants never seem to consider the amount the mistress has to pay for them; hot only in direct wages, but for lodging, board, washing, etc. Let us suppose a middle-class family have two servants each at £18 a year, a sum easy to be reckoned at 1s. a day, her food at 1s. 6d. a day at the least, and if the house is a flat, the rent of the servant's bedroom may be reckoned at £10 a year, or 4s. a week, besides washing, generally 1s. 6d. a

is a flat, the rent of the servant's bedroom may be reckoned at £10 a year, or 4s. a week, besides washing, generally 1s. 6d. a week—that is 23s. a week, without wear and tear, presents, breakages, and holidays. (I know they cost me that.) Does any servant know any other business where she can earn as much as easily and healthfully? Do the dressmakers have more freedom or exercise, or less monotony? Do the factories give anything like that amount? In my past life I had two contented servants who staved with me sight years and only left to be married. I like that amount? In my past life I had two contented servants who stayed with me eight years, and only left to be married. I am glad to know that they are "bringing up" their girls to be servants as "the easiest, safest, surest, and most meney-making business open to them." I am afraid that much of the discontent among servants of the present day lies in the fact they expect to give too little and get too much. In ordinary houses the work is over before lunch, then comes rest, dressing, comparative leisure for reading and sewing until tea and late dinner. Most have the chance of fresh air by going errands at least. "Godliness, with eontentment, is great gain."

C. C. Stopes. C. C. STOPES.

M. B. writes a very long letter on both sides of the paper, protesting against "chaining up" girls, and says that the constant need of attending to the bell and the narrow confinement of the kitchen make self-improvement very difficult. She admits that "some girls are appreciated and even loved," but others are "snubbed and exploited and treated as social outcasts." Another grievance is that "the domestic servant is the only class of worker who cannot choose her friends," and she states that she has had to sleep in the same room with a woman whom her mistress knew to be a drunkard, while others were immoral. As for those who work 16 hours, she knows that some girls have to, and she thinks employers would do better to co-operate to make such things impossible, rather than deny that they are done. She does not believe much in a scheme for training domestic servants, as "the whole routine of domestic work can be learnt in six months," and the main difficulty is in adapting oneself to individual employers, who all want things

work can be learnt in six months," and the main difficulty is in adapting oneself to individual employers, who all want things done their way.

"Another Domestic Servant" writes to say she was born of very poor parents and educated at a village school, which she left at the age of 11 years to start as a domestic servant on £4 a year. She had six situations before she was 20, and passed from one to another without thinking a holiday necessary, and with a yearly rise of only £1 a year. She did not find her life monotonous, and used all her spare time in educating herself, being conscious of not having exceptional abilities. She did not mention night classes, because she knew they did not exist for domestic servants.

exist for domestic servants.

M. P. complains of the "deplorable lack of truthfulness—and in a lesser degree of honesty—so prevalent among the lower classes." Nevertheless, she wishes God-speed to "any effort made to raise the standard of domestic service to a higher moral

SOMETHING BETTER.

SOMETHING BETTER.

At the end of your first leader you state that we—i.e., the National Union—stand for "our pledge"—the Conciliation Bill—"unless we get something better."

The question is, what is better? The Conciliation Bill would enfranchise about one million—and the Government's antidote to the effect of this Bill, and to their own unwilling promise, is the proposal to enfranchise two million of the most uneducated many in the country.

men in the country.

This is not only an insult to the Suffrage Societies, but an attempt to force them to work for Adult Suffrage, however much as individuals they may be against such a movement, and to work for such a Bill at once destroys the non-party character of the National Union, and will simply lead to many leaving the

[The National Union did not adopt the Conciliation Bill as a perfect measure, giving all we wanted, but as the only measure practicable at the time. Should a wider measure prove practicable in 1912 the Union would be obliged to support it.—En.,

THE "CRAZINESS" OF THE W.S.P.U.

In blaming the W.S.P.U. for demanding the withdrawal of the proposed Reform Bill in favour of an Adult Suffrage measure you remark, "It would be crazy to hinder parliamentary Suffragists in the help they are prepared to give." But does it follow that our policy will have this effect? Evidently not, since Lord Lytton will go on with the Conciliation Bill, and Mr. Lloyd George propose his amendment to the Reform Bill, with or without the blessing of the W.S.P.U.

Or do you prepays mean to imply that the resumption of

without the blessing of the W.S.P.U.

Or do you perhaps mean to imply that the resumption of militant tactics is in itself a brake on the wheel? That, of course, brings us to another question, the "practical" value of militancy; and we cannot expect you to share our conviction, that, indispensable in the past, it has never, perhaps, been more "politically expedient" than at the present moment. Be this as it may, since the device of the Union is a claim to the vote on the same terms "as it may be offered to men" what other

"politically expedient" than at the present moment. Be this as it may, since the device of the Union is a claim to the vote on the same terms "as it may be offered to men," what other course can we pursue than fight for our basic principle to-day?

But there is an even deeper-lying justification. The characteristic note of our society is a particular view of the collective honour of women. This honour has been more grossly, more cynically outraged than ever before, and—the stones have cried out! Again, I ask, how can this be otherwise? Lord Lytton tells us that as long as we get the vote it does.not matter a brass farthing whether it be by a clause in a Bill or by an amendment. I quite agree, but it matters very much how you take an insult. The worship of expediency has done more towards degrading men's politics than any other factor, and it is chiefly as defenders of the flag—sometimes the most valuable thing on board the ship—that we of the W.S.P.U. look to our leaders. They have not failed us.

I hope I may be forgiven for trying to make this point clear to friends who disagree with us, especially to members of the National Union, since, if it be not impertinent to bring in personal matters, I owe a debt I can never repay to the family of your revered leader. When I was a young girl, struggling in

the people who, by counsel and encouragement to righteous revolt, did more than anyone else to point the way were Mrs. Fawcett's sister Agnes, and that white flame of militant genius, her cousin, Rhoda Garrett.

ETHEL SMYTH, Mus. Doc. [We refer to this letter in "Notes."—ED., "C.C."]

THE THREATENED MANHOOD SUFFRAGE BILL.

The N.U.W.S.S. is professedly non-party; but inasmuch as there is a Conservative and Unionist Association for Women's Suffrage, we may suppose that the great majority of our members are of the Liberal party. I, as a male member of that party, desire to put it to my sisters whether it is expedient and consistent to continue their support of the present Government. In the newspapers of the 8th inst. we are promised a Bill for, practically, registered residential manhood suffrage. It will be open to the House of Commons to amend the Government proposals and to make it adult suffrage for men and women. But is that House likely so to amend them? As time goes on the Government of the day becomes increasingly powerful, and Parliament less powerful. I admit the anomalies of the law, and of the Registration Courts; but surely it should not have been beyond the wit of his Majesty's advisers to remedy these anomalies without the reckless, sweeping extension of the franchise foreshadowed. There was, and is, no demand for it. There was, and is, a demand that women should be recognised as citizens. The country is not ripe for adult suffrage; it is ripe for the moderate measure known as the Conciliation Bill. Liberal women who are Suffragists, when asked to help Government candidates, should refuse, saying, "No, your Government refuses to regard us as citizens." Their male relatives will tell them not to be selfish, but selfishness becomes a virtue when in the interests of a whole sex. I venture to suggest that the altered situation calls for altered tactics.

Lewis Thompson. THE THREATENED MANHOOD SUFFRAGE BILL. LEWIS THOMPSON.

Wembdon Road, Bridgwater. November 15, 1911.

"ON THE SAME TERMS AS MEN." NO OTHER TERMS!

"ON THE SAME TERMS AS MEN." NO OTHER TERMS! By Mr. Asquith's pronouncement on the 7th inst., the Government, with the connivance of 90 members of the House of Commons, have played their last card against you, and have given women a further object-lesson on the utter worthlessness of Parliamentary pledges.

Although 18 months ago I exposed in your columns the slippery nature of the measure known as the Conciliation Bill (which was only a gratuitous whitling down of your just demands), I continued, nevertheless, to work for the proposed instalment which, we were then promised, would become law immediately. But the whole history of this "Conciliation" Bill has been one long and discreditable Parliamentary wrangle, varied by occasional cries of "Peace, peace," where there was no peace. Even the Committee in charge of the Bill have, since

Mr. Asquith's pronouncement, merely passed a milk-and-watery resolution in regard to "facilities."

It is, of course, for the National Union to settle its own policy, but I for one would not now be a party to any arrangement or promise on the specially limited basis of the "Conciliation" Bill at the time when a "manhood" suffrage measure is actually dogging the women's footsteps. Not only do I object most strenuously to any prior extension of votes to men, but (although it may seem a strong thing to say) I consider that women, and especially Liberal women, who will sit down tamely under such an insult as the Government have hurled at them are totally and absolutely unworthy of freedom.

an insuit as the Government have hurled at them are totally and absolutely unworthy of freedom.

Some easy-going suffragists may, however, adduce the proverb, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"; but you have not yet got a bird in the hand, and it is doubtful whether the "Conciliation" bird ever was properly in your hand—if so it. not yet got a bird in the hand, and it is doubtful whether the "Conciliation" bird ever was properly in your hand—if so, it assuredly is a phantom by this time. Only by a determined, rapid, and combined movement of real suffragists in pursuance of their simple and consistent demand for the vote on the same terms as men, will the enfranchisement of women be secured; and at this grave juncture in the history of your movement it would be wrong on my part to preserve a complacent or convenient silence.

50, St. George's Road, Charing Cross, Glasgow, Nov. 11, 1911.

ANTI-SUFFRAGE MEMBERSHIP.

ANTI-SUFFRAGE MEMBERSHIP.

Your readers may remember a letter from Miss Jordan which appeared in The Common Cause the first week in October, protesting against a report in the September Anti-Suffrage Review, announcing a meeting held at Mr. Boulton's, draper, Market Place, Cirencester, in which they stated that the whole of the staff, with the exception of ten, joined the Anti-Suffrage League. I am sure you will be interested to hear that I also held a meeting in the same establishment this morning at 9 o'clock, by the courtesy of Mr. Boulton, and when I announced the statement made by the "antis," there immediately arose protests of indignation, one lady asking for a show of hands of those who had joined the League. Not a single hand was held up!

I then asked for a show of hands of those who had bought buttons (knowing the "antis'" little ways of claiming membership). About nine young girls wearing their hair down their backs held up their hands! They had had their names and addresses taken, but had not understood this implied membership, and asked me what they could do to withdraw their names.

The following resolution was carried unanimously, not a single

and asked me what they could do to withdraw their names.

The following resolution was carried unanimously, not a single hand being held up against it:—"This meeting believes that sex should not be a bar to the full rights of citizenship."

Since then I am informed that a few young girls who were not present at my meeting became members of the Anti-Suffrage League. The majority are now writing to the secretary for the withdrawal of their names.

S. A. FLATMAN (Organiser, W.S.P.U.).

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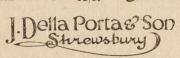
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AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND WOMEN VOTERS' COMMITTEE (LONDON).

604

COMMITTEE (LONDON).

At an "At-Home" given by Lady Stout to the members of the Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Committee, at her residence in Hampstead, on November 16th, an interesting discussion arose on the attitude of the committee during the present crisis in the Woman's Movement in England. Some members held that to confine the work strictly to matters Australasian, and to show what a power women might be in preserving the unity of the Empire was the best service to the cause. Others maintained that as long as men have so preponderating an influence in Imperial legislation the first work of the A. and N.Z.W.V.C. is to aid the women of Great Britain to gain the franchise. As long as it is only the women of Australia and New Zealand who have a voice in Imperial legislation, it is always possible that the interests of even those women may be overlooked, and their expressed wishes over-ridden. Such a possibility is in itself a menace to the unity of the Empire.

The majority of the members present adhered to the latter view.

H. C. Newcomb, Hon. Secretary, A. and N.Z.W.V.C.

ARE VOTES ASSURED? I do not understand why we are supposed to take it for granted that because Mr. Lloyd George makes eloquent speeches in favour of woman suffrage therefore votes are assured to us. There are extant several speeches, equally eloquent, made by equally eminent men, statesmen and prime ministers of the past, upholdin woman suffrage, but these have not brought us enfranchisement.

Valley End, Surrey. November 27, 1911. ENNIS RICHMOND.

[As far as we know no one has said votes are assured to us. On the contrary, unless we work very hard indeed, and are very vigilant, we shall not get them. But we have at last that opportunity for which we have craved, and we must use it.—En. "C.C."]

Preston Newsagents who can Supply the Paper.

Mr. W. S. Heane, 23, Fishergate.
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Mr. J. Topping, 93, Friargate.
Mr. J. Smith, 35, Fylde Street.
Mr. J. Barrow, 21, Corporation Street.
Mrs. Parkinson, 27a, Church Street.
Mr. Hesketh, 115a, Church Street.
Mr. Baldwin, 93, Church Street.
Mrs. Raddwin, 93, Church Street.
Mrs. R. Chamley, 20, Lune Street.
Mr. R. Chamley, 20, Lune Street.
Mr. W. A. Dawson, Bow Lane Post Office.

Forthcoming Meetings.

(The Meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.) ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.

NOVEMBER 30.
Sowerby Bridge—Industrial Hall—Mrs. Aldersley, Miss C. S. Banks, and others, Rev. W. C. Evans, (chair).

Swindon—Victoria Hall—Members' Meeting.
Slackpool—Tower Roof Gardens—Suffrage "At Home" and Sale—The Lady Frances Balfour.

Wigan—Ince Public Hall—The Lady Betty Balfour, Councillor M. Ashton, Miss M. Robertson and others. W. G. Lord, Esq. (chair).

Streat (Sussex)—Parish Room—Miss Merrifield, Miss Chute Ellis, B. Kidd, Esq. (chair.)

St. Helens—Co-operative Hall—The Lady Frances Balfour, H. Martin, Esq. (chair). ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION. Esq. (chair).

Esq. (chair).

Stocksfield—Mrs. Pumphrey's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Rackham
Mickley—Mission Room—Mrs. Rackham.

Wallasey and Wirral—Drawing-room Meeting, New Brighton—Miss
Charry Cherry. 3.0
Bridgend—Public Hall—Miss Helen Fraser. 8.0
Wilmslow—Congregational Schoolroom—Debate—Miss C. Leadley
Brown. 8.0 Brown.

DECEMBER 1.

Manchester—Lower Moseley Street Schools—Lecture, "The Citizenship of Women"—Miss M. Robertson, B.A.

Hitchin—The Workman's Hall—"The Insurance Bill and Women"—Miss Florence Taylor, H. E. Seebohm, Esq. (chair).

Worthing—Mitchell's Restaurant—"Some Unusual Arguments for the Suffrage"—Mr. Milner Black, Miss Urlin (chair).

5.0 December 1.

Manchester—Lower Moseley Street Schools—Lecture, "The Citizenship of Women"—Miss M. Robertson, B.A.
Hitchin—The Workman's Hall—"The Insurance Bill and Women"—Miss Florence Taylor, H. E. Seebohm, Esq. (chair).

Worthing—Mitchell's Restaurant—"Some Unusual Arguments for the Suffrage"—Mr. Milner Black, Miss Urlin (chair).

Berkhamsted—Town Hall—Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Edith Palliser.
Cardiff—University Settlement—Debate—Miss Helen Fraser.
Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club.
Chorley—St. George Street Schoolroom—The Lady Frances Balfour,
Mrs. Cooper.

Leeds—Bramdean, Headingly—Mrs. Thornton's Drawing-room
Meeting—The Lady Betty Balfour.

Solomon.

December 5: London Society's Reception, Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, Councillor M. Ashton, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair).
Solomon.

Solomon.

1.

London Society's Reception, Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, Councillor M. Ashton, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair).
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Set Balfour (chair).
Set Condin Society's Reception, Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, Councillor M. Ashton, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair).
Solomon.

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Solomon.

December 6: New Solomon.

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N.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair).

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December 6: New Solomon.

Solomon.

London Society's Reception, Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, Councillor M. Ashton, M.A., Miss Emily Hill, P.L.G, the Lady Frances Balfour (chair).

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London Society's Reception

DECEMBER 4.

Heywood—Mrs. Lee's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss M. Robertson. 3.0

Uxbridge—Brookfield Restaurant, High Street—Social Evening 7.30—10

Colwyn Bay—Café Royal—Dr. Gooddy, Miss Crosfield (chair). 8.0

Portsmouth—Portsea Parish Institute—Members and friends only—

Mr. Brailsford. 7.45

Darlington—Mechanics' Hall—"How the Vote was Won." 8.0

Newcastle—27, Ridley Place—Speakers' Class—Miss C. M. Gordon on

"The Political Situation." 8.0

Bedford—Kindergarten Training College—Mrs. Rackham. 5.0

DECEMBER 5.

Hull—Committee Room—"At Home." 3—6 DECEMBER 5.
Hull—Committee Room—"At Home."
Eastleigh—Council Chamber, Council Offices—Miss N. O'Shea,
H. Rolleston Stables, Esq., the Countess of Selborne H. Rolleston Stables, Esq., the Countess of Selborne (chair).

Bristol—Church House, Clifton—Mrs. Oatley's Drawing-room Meeting
—Mrs. Stopes, Miss Mary Clifford (chair).

Cambridge—Mrs. Rackham's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Catherine
Marshall.

Newcastle—27, Ridley Place—Choir Practice.

Middlesbrough—LinthorpeMethodist Hall—"The Insurance Bill"

DECEMBER 6.

Nottingham—Offices 54 Long Pow "AA The Marshall".

8.0 DECEMBER 6.
Nottingham—Offices, 54, Long Row—"At Home"—Mrs. G. S.
7.30 Nottingnam—Onices, or, tong
Dowson.

Winscombe—Assembly Rooms—Miss Helen Fraser, Mrs. GreenArmytage, W. H. C. Cross, Esq. 7.30
Shrewsbury—Music Hall—Lord Lytton, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Despard 8.0 Shrewsbury—Music Hall—Lord Lytton, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. 29, DECEMBER 7.

Sheffield—Nether Lecture Hall—American Social.

Leamington—Birch's Music Rooms, Parade—Franchise Club.

Worcester—Public Hall—Lord Lytton, Mrs. Knott-Bower, the Dean of Worcester (chair).

Oxted and Limpsfield—Mrs. Stewart's Drawing-room Meeting—

Miss C. Corbett.

3.0 DECEMBER 8.
Wallasey and Wirral—Concert Hall, Liscard—Sale and Entertain— Redditch—Temperance Hall—Rev. C. Hinscliff, Mrs. Donaldson,
Hon. Mrs. Basil Hanbury (chair).
Torpoint, Cornwall—The Institute—Miss M. P. Willcocks, Miss
Gorrill, Dr. Samuel (chair).
Fleetwood—Co-operative Hall—Councillor M. Ashton. DECEMBER 9.

Hexham—Abbey Hotel—The Viscountess of Howick's "At Home"

—Miss C. M. Gordon. —Miss U. M. Gordon.

DECEMBER 11.
Sutton Coldfield—"Allerton," Lichfield Road—Mrs. Langley Browne.
Sheffield—Grand Hotel—Reception—Councillor M. Ashton.

Barras Bridge—Assembly Rooms—Amateur Dramatic Performance—
"Niobe."

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"Niobe."

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"Niobe."

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"Niobe."

Barras Bridge—Assembly Rooms—Amateur Dramatic Performance—

"Niobe." Lincoln—Central Hall—R. H. Pott, Esq., F. H. Livens, Esq., (chair). "How the Vote was Won." 7.30

DECEMBER 12.
Birmingham—Friends' Institute—Moseley Road—Lord Lytton, Lady Willoughby de Broke, L. C. Tipper, Esq. (chair). 8.0

Newcastle—27, Ridley Place—Suffrage Choir Practice. 8.0

Newcastle—Westerhope Co-operative Hall—Miss C. M. Gordon, A. Wilkinson, Esq. 7.30

DECEMBER 13.

Hull—Church Institute, Albion Street—Mrs. Corbett. 8.0

Wilmslow—Chancel Lane Schools—Address to N.U.T., Miss M. Robertson, B.A. 8.0 Wilmsiow—Chancel Lane Schools—Address to N.U.T., Miss M.
Robertson, B.A.
Worcester—Mrs. Carleton Rea's Meeting—To meet Mrs. Harley
(C.C. correspondent), and Miss N. Wright (Hon.
Sec. Federation).
Bath—Assembly Rooms—Lord Lytton.
Nottingham—Office, 54, Long Row—"At Home"—Mr. Beilby on
"Tennyson's Princess." 8.0

November 30: South London Demonstration, Camberwell Baths,
Mrs, Philip Snowden, Mrs. Cooper (Nelson), Malcolm
Mitchell, Esq., and others, Mrs. Fawcett (chair).
Central Hackney, 219, Mare Street, W.L.A. Women's
Suffrage Meeting, Miss Helen Ward.
Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Rev. E. J. Barson, Miss
Emily Green.
Kennington, Moffat Institute, Esher Street, Mrs.
J. Roskill.
Willesden, 75, Craven Fark Road, Whist Drive,
Speaker, Mrs. G. Dykes Spicer.
December 1: Eton, Parish Hall, Mrs. Robie Uniacke.
Seember 2: Ewell, Mary Wallis Hall, West Street, Immble Sale.
Afternoon. Afternoon. Afternoon.

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Afternoon.

Meeting, Miss Cockle.

Poplar, B.W.T.A., Trinity Hall, Augusta Street,
East India Dock Road, Miss A. Leith.

S. Paddington, 46, Queen's Road, Lecture, Miss I. O.
Ford, on "Strikes and Lock-Outs."

Walthamstow, Queen's Road Council Schools, W.L.A.,
Debate, Miss Helen Ward v. Mrs. Gladstone
Solomon.

NOVEMBER 30, 1911.

THE LAST WORD N SOAP

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

G. Sparagnapane & Co.'s CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

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CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

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The Cldest Makers of Christmas Crackers in the United Kingdom

December 7: Eltham, W. L. and Prog. Ass., Public Hall, Elm
Terrace, Miss Ruth Young.
Enfield Parish Hall, Co-operative Guild.
Toynbee Hall, 28, Commercial Street, E., Debate,
Miss I. O. Ford v. Mrs. Gladstone Solomon.
December 8: Southwark, St. Jude's Ward, M.L.A., Miss Helen
Ward.
50, Porchester Terrace, W., the Hon. Mrs. Franklin's
Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. F. T. Swanwick,
M.A., on "The Common Cause." Cards of invitation to be had on application to Mrs. Franklin.
December 11: Poplar, Wesleyan Chapel Lecture Hall, Woodstock
Road, Mrs. Gimingham, M.A.
Wealdstone, Church Parlour, Baptist Church, Miss
Cockle.
8.0 Wealdstone, Church Pariour, Bapass Canal (1988)
Cockle.
Chiswick, Town Hall, Debate, Miss K. D. Courtney
v. Mrs. A. Colquboun, Mr. Holford Knight (chair).
Camberwell, 38, The Gardens, E. Dulwich, Miss I. O.
Ford.
December 12: London Society's Reception, Empress Rooms, Royal
Palace Hotel, Kensington, the Lady Frances
Balfour, Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Clementina Black,
Miss Edith Dimock (chair). Sale of Christmas
3,30—6 presents.

Ealing 16, Freeland Road, Cake and Candy Sale,
Hostess, Mrs. Kennedy.

December 13: Hampstead Garden Suburb, Ladies' Room of Club,
Willifield Green, Women's Adult School, Miss
Dorothy Brown. November 30: Oban, Memorial Hall, Annual Meeting, Miss Hilda
Cotterill.

December 1: Glasgow, 202, Hope Street, Mrs. Cockburn's "At
Home." Home."

Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, "Citizenship,"
Miss Williamson.

Currie, Memorial Hall, Dr. Inglis, Miss Alice Low.

Kirkwall, Albert Hall, Social Meeting, Mrs. Baillie Chair).

December 4: Edinburgh, Central Hall, Miss S. E. S. Marr.
Greenock, Temperance Institute, Committee and Members "At Home," Miss A. F. Beauchamp. 3.30—5.30

December 6: Edinburgh, The Oak Hall, Caté, Musical and Dramatic Entertainment.

December 8: Glasgow, 202, Hope Street, "Woman and Labour,"
(Olive Schreiner), Mrs. Crosthwaite.

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

November 30: Wellington, Crown Hotel, Crown Debating Society,
Debate, Miss Morrison, M.A. v. Mr. W. Holmes.

8.15

December 1: Bristol, Redland Grove Schoolroom, Redland Ward
Liberal Association. Debate, Mrs. H. Hicks v.
Mrs. Trafnell.
Cardiff, University Settlement.
Fraser v. Lincoln Reid, Esq., LL.B.
Leeds, Farsley Liberal Club, Mrs. Farrish.

December 2: Leeds, Calverley Women's Liberal Association,
Mrs. Parrish.

December 3: Middleton, LL.P., Miss Robertson.
Birmingham, Hope Street Men's Adult School, Mrs.
A. D. Mathews.

December 4: Birmingham, King Edward's High School, Old Girls'
Club, Mrs. Ring,
Sheffield, Gleadless Co-operative Guild, Mrs. Sinclair,
Mrs. Pryce-Jones (chair).
Edinburgh, Central Hall, Women's Meeting, Miss
Mair.

Mair. Liberal Association, Miss Robertson, Evening,
Estening Street Men's Adult School, Streening,
Sheffield, Gleadless Co-operative Guild, Mrs. Sinclair,
Mrs. Pryce-Jones (chair).

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8.0. MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

Mrs. Pryce-Jones (chair).

Edinburgh, Central Hall, Women's Meeting, Miss Mair.

December 5: Hale, Men's Liberal Association, Miss Robertson. Evening Edinburgh, Congregational Church Hall, Dalry B.W.T.A., Miss K. M. London.

December 6: Oswaldtwistle, Young Liberals, Miss Robertsor. Evening' Redditch, Temperance Hall, Co-operative Guild, Mrs. Ring.

December 7: Bishopston, Adult School, Mrs. Senington. Eccles, Girls' Club, Miss Robertson.

Eccles, Girls' Club, Miss Robertson.

Evening.

December 10: Birmingham, Bristol St. Labour Church, Mrs. Ring. 6.30

December 11: Edinburgh, Old St. Paul's Church, Guild of St. Mary, Miss Alice Low.

Macclesfield, I.L.P., Miss Robertson.

Dewsbury, Women's Liberal Association, Mrs. Rackham.

Huddersfield, Horley W.L.A., "Contagious Diseases Act and W.S.," Mrs. Studdard.



MAUD BARHAM, 186. REGENT STREET, W.

Artistic Dress for all occasions.

WALKING COSTUME in Heavy Serge Cloth or Wool Back Satin.

Patterns and Estimates on application

GOWNS from £4 4s

December 13: Wilmslow, N.U.T., Miss Robertson.

East Dorset, The Church House, Parkstone, C. and
U.W.F.A., Miss Abadam, Rev. Canon Selwyn
Blackett (chair).
Huddersfield, Longwood
Congress at Stockholm," Mrs. Studdard.

Evening
PRESTON.

A BAGWELL, Dyer and French Cleaner, 31, Guildhall Street, Preston
Corsetiere for the "Spirella" Health Corset, guaranteed unbreakable.

[Holic Cut Flowers, Table Plants, etc.—Spelman, opposite church,



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SUFFRAGE NOTICES.

A SUFFRAGIST'S ALPHABET. By E. Bateson. Printed in the Colours for Christmas. Proceeds to the Cause.—Apply, Miss Bateson, Robin Hood's Bay.

M ISS MARGARET ASHTON, M.A., appeals for Goods or Funds for the Manchester and District Federation Women's Suffrage Bazaar, to be held at the Midland Hall, on February 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1912. China, Pictures, White Elephants, New Books, Sweets, and Flowers are acceptable. Contributions may be sent to Miss Darlington, 85, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, who will acknowledge them.

M. RS. LUCAN-DAVIES, M.A., is open for speaking engagements from now onwards.—Particulars, 9, Bradford Road, Wakefield.

UFFRAGE CHRISTMAS CARD. — Jeanne d'Arc. Quotations— Whitman-Meredith-Tennyson. 2d. Calendar, 3d. and 6d. All profits to Cause.—Dowsor, Park, Nottingham.

WILL SUFFRAGISTS kindly send names of any possible sympathisers in Doneaster to Miss I. O. Ford, Adel Grange, Leeds, at once. A society is to be formed there.

SHREWSBURY.

A. LATTER, 3, High Street, Shrewsbury. Large variety of Ladies' Gents.' and Children's Boots and Shoes. Sole agent for the celebrated Cinderella and Flexella Boots and Shoes.

Belle Vue Livery Stables, Shrewsbury. Elias Lea, proprietor. Conveyances of jevery description for Hire. Orders promptly attended to. Terms moderate.

Best is Best! The best Household Coals are sold by C. H. Prosser, Coal Merchant, Coleham Wharfe, Shrewsbury.

CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES. Specialities, Ladies' Blouses, Shirts, Lace Collars, Skirts, Aprons, Children's Coats, Frocks, Pinafores, etc. M. E. Morgan, 68, Wyle Cop.

FARMER (qualified) Ophthalmic Optician. 1, Castle Street opposite G.P.O., Shrewsbury. 20 years' practical experience' in sight-testing.

TOR UNIQUE MILLINERY and Blouses at moderate price. Mrs. J. B. Andrews, 4, Dogpale, Shrewsbury.

JOHN H. PERKS, House and Decorative Painter. Sign Writer and Gilder, Glazier and Paperhanger. Estimates given. Residence and Workshop, Belle Vue Road, Shrewsbury.

and Workshop, Belle Vue Road, Shrewsbury.

No LADY should be without Williams' Vanishing Toilet Cream.

It keeps the skin like velvet during winter weather; 4½d., 7½d.,

1s., from Williams and Son, Ltd., Chemists, Shrewsbury.

PHILIP DEAKIN, 3, Bellstone, Shrewsbury. Maker of Bride, Christmas and Manchester Simnel Cakes, Christmas Puddings and Mincemeat. Home-made Pork Pies and Sausages. Manufacturer of the Celebrated Shrewsbury Cakes, sent post free 1s. 3d. and 2s. 4d. per box. PURSLOW'S, PRIDE HILL, for Ladies' Blouses, Costumes, Hosiery, Xmas Novelties.

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