

The Common Cause.

The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

VOL. II. No. 57. Registered as
a Newspaper.

MAY 12, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

The News of the Week.

The Death of the King.

The news of the King's death, which occurred just before midnight on Friday, the 6th, has eclipsed all other. One feels as if the whole country were for a time living in a state of half-suspended animation. It seems the King had been seriously ill for much longer than was generally known. With his accustomed fortitude and courtesy he kept his sufferings to himself. His sudden death cannot fail to affect the political situation very seriously, since for the first time in the memory of most of us, the royal prerogative had become a matter of actual politics.

Bjornstjerne Bjørnsen.

Mrs. Johanna Münter writes from Copenhagen describing how the body of Bjørnsen was brought from Paris to Copenhagen by railway, and there placed on board a Norwegian man-of-war to be taken home to its final resting-place. The procession that followed the bier, wrapped in the Norwegian flag, was composed of many thousands of mourners, and all the windows and streets in Copenhagen were crowded. All the women's associations sent delegates, for no man in all Scandinavia had done more to raise women than had the dead poet, both as an author and a politician. Not only Norway and Sweden feel this gratitude, but Denmark also. He was one of those who always testified to the truth, and if the women of Scandinavia have a leading position in the great fight for enfranchisement, it is due to him. They mourn him deeply, and his memory will live in their constant gratitude.

The Death Roll.

Among others who have died recently there are several true friends of women. The well-beloved Mark Twain not only "made mirth for us all"; his big, warm heart was kindled in anger at the wrongs of women, and he was always generous in his desire that they should be liberated and trusted.

A totally different type of man was the great preacher, Alexander McLaren, who, by sheer rectitude of thought and principle, was driven to admit the women's claim a right one. The Rev. S. A. Steinthal, on the other hand, who also died last week, at a ripe old age, needed no conversion. He was by nature and nurture a convinced egalitarian, and as a colleague of Miss Becker, Dr. Pankhurst, Mr. Jacob Bright, and other pioneers, was from its inception a supporter of the suffrage movement in Manchester.

Before his time, and much lamented, went another good friend, who died last week—the Rev. John Manning, of Sale. It is rare to find so fearless and uncompromising a friend as Mr. Manning, and though we could not see altogether as he did, we should like to take this occasion of paying tribute to the self-denying and ardent work done for the suffrage not only by him but by his wife and daughter, to whom we offer our sympathy.

The Hartlepool Election Petition.

This case is of considerable interest to Suffragists, and they will be wise to study it. One is in the main rather surprised at the lenience of the law and its interpretation, and very much reassured as to the possibility of any Suffragists laying themselves open to an action for corrupt practices. For we have no desire to evade the law or even to sail near the wind in the matter of corruption. Corrupt practices were found on two counts in this case: the one was the importation of a number of miners (between 500 and 700) from Stockton; they had their fares paid, and were variously treated, and since these were "expenses incurred in the conduct and management of an election, payment could only be made by the election agent, and any other payment was an illegal practice." On this count and on another, for not charging £5 expended in postage to the election account (which would have brought it over the lawful amount), the election was declared void.

In connection with this case a suggestion has been made that the law should be altered so as to prohibit demonstrations of non-electors on behalf of one party or another. We quite agree that it would be well if men who have votes in one constituency were prohibited from making demonstrations to affect the voters in another constituency, but to prohibit the disfranchised from demonstrating lawfully, could only lead to their demonstrating unlawfully, since demonstrate they must, or remain for ever disfranchised.

A Suffragist Procession.

Our readers will be aware that the Women's Social and Political Union has been organizing a great procession to take place in London on the 28th May. The Women's Freedom League was joining, and we commend to the attention of our readers the following passage which occurs in "The Vote": "Militancy must be proved to have succeeded . . . it is hoped that all our Doctors and University graduates will march loyally under the Freedom League's banners, thus showing the world that they are convinced upon the matter of militant methods. It must not be thought that the Arts and Sciences are non-militant."

We understand that this procession is now postponed, and we heartily wish that a great demonstration could be arranged, in which there should be no question of "militancy" but only of the vote.

The Men's League.

The annual meeting was held on April 26th, and the following were elected on the Executive Committee:—Goldfinch Bate, H. N. Brailsford, T. M. Budgett, Sir Edward Busk, H. G. Chancellor, M.P., Cecil Chapman, J.P., R. F. Cholmeley, Joseph Clayton, Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., Dr. Drysdale, E. Duval, Captain Gonne, Laurence Housman, Herbert Jacobs, A. M. Langdon, K.C., W. S. B. McLaren, M.P., John Manson, J. Malcolm Mitchell, H. W. Nevinson, and W. R. Snow.

Mr. Mitchell expressed himself as willing to act as Hon. Secretary provided the League would raise money to engage a salaried permanent secretary. Mr. Jacobs appealed for funds to enable the League to support such

of its members as were standing for the National Union as Suffrage Candidates.

A sub-committee has been appointed to draw up a written statement, which will be laid before Mr. Asquith; its members are H. C. Chancellor M.P., R. F. Cholmeley, Joseph Clayton, Herbert Jacobs, J. Malcolm Mitchell, and H. N. Brailsford.

Women as J.P.'S.

In his evidence before the Royal Commission on the selection of Justices of the Peace, Dr. David Walsh on April 27th stated that "another point to be considered in the selection of Justices of the Peace is the sex disqualification, whereby women have hitherto been excluded from holding the office; and whether their admission might not lead to a more equitable administration of minor Criminal law as regards property on the one hand and personal safety on the other."

We understand that Dr. Walsh would be happy to read a paper or address a meeting on this subject.

Women in Local Government.

A women's congress is to be held during June at the Japan - British Exhibition, Shepherd's Bush, and the Committee of the Women's Local Government Society is going to open the proceedings. On Monday, June 6th, Lady Strachey will take the chair, and the speakers will be Miss Susan Lawrence, L.C.C., on the duties of Councillors, with special reference to education work; Miss Sutton, Town Councillor (Reading), on Town Councils; Miss Balkwill, on Borough Councils; and Mrs. Elliott, on Urban District Councils; Mrs. Rackham, P.L.C., on Poor Law Guardians; and Mrs. Fordham, on Parish Councillors.

Next day Lady O'Hagan will take the chair, and Mrs. Greenwood (Sanitary Inspector) and Miss Burnside (Senior Inspector of Midwives) will speak on their respective work; Miss Lanetti, on "Infant Life Protection"; Mrs. Shaw, on "Women Inspectors in Workhouses"; Miss Baker, on "Women as Relieving Officers"; and Mrs. Tennant, on "Women as Factory Inspectors."

Feminine Perversity.

The "Daily News" of May 4th contained a paragraph which gave a very funny example of the prevailing notion that women want the vote because of some quite unexplained perversity on their part, and for no such reasons as have been good enough for men. The paragraph in question states that two women have been nominated for the Ramsey Board of Guardians, and adds: "Their nomination, although brought about by Suffragette influence" (most of these things are!) "has nothing to do with the assertion of women's rights. Their names have been brought forward because of their fitness to deal with questions affecting Poor Law Guardians!" Suffragists, of course, want the vote because they are unfit to deal with questions affecting women!

Women in Church Matters.

The following is from the Worcester Diocesan Magazine:—"At the Ruri-Diaconal Conference, held in February, the following resolution was moved and carried unanimously: 'That in the opinion of this conference

ladies should be eligible for election to the Ruri-Diaconal Conferences, and that the Bishop be asked to take the necessary steps to give effect to this resolution.' Last year two lady representatives were elected, and served, but the validity of the election was questioned; hence this resolution."

The First Women L.R.C.P.

Miss Dossibai Rustomji Cowasji Patell, having passed the required examinations, has been admitted the first woman licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. Miss Patell was educated in medicine at Grant Medical College, Bombay, and obtained the qualifications of licentiate in medicine and surgery of Bombay. For the past four years she has studied at the Royal Free Hospital and at the School of Medicine for Women, London.

The "Times" Supplement.

It certainly was a rather unfortunate statement in Saturday's "Times" to which one of our correspondents takes exception. It is precisely the obstinate treatment

of women as if they were only concerned with the "lighter sides of life," while every woman knows how hardly life presses on most women, that is the root of all evil. We would ask our readers, however, to have some patience with the writer of the offending paragraph. He was doubtless tired out and at his wits' end, and the consecrated phrases came uppermost. We have good reason to hope the Woman's Supplement will be better than this paragraph would lead us to suppose.

Lectures to Fathers.

At the Nursing Conference which concluded on the 30th April a discussion took place on the subject of maternity clubs, the object of which is to encourage thrift among the poor and to make provision for the necessary care and food for the mother at the time of childbirth. The chief difficulties seemed to lie with the fathers, and the general feeling of the meeting was that lectures should be

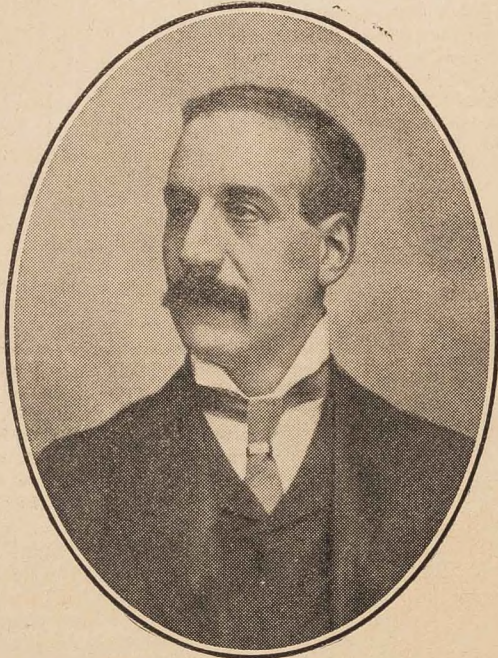
established in order to impress upon them the necessity of providing in time for their offspring, and of maintaining the mother's health.

A Welsh Benefactor.

During a debate in the House of Lords on the 26th concerning certain arrangements for converting a Welsh school into a public secondary school, it appeared that the original endowment was made in 1540 by one Thomas Howell, "to provide marriage portions for maidens, being orphans, with priority to his own kindred." The fund had increased enormously, and had been diverted from its original purpose to educational uses. This seems a pity, and now that the State has taken over the duty of educating the young, it seems that this excellent provision for dowry should revert to the orphan maidens. Why should the rates be lowered out of Thomas Howell's benefaction?

Our Portrait.

We publish this week a portrait of Mr. Herbert Jacobs, who has been chairman of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage since its inception, and who has just been re-elected.



MR. HERBERT JACOBS,
Chairman of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.
ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.
THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in England or abroad for the following prepaid payments:—
3 MONTHS ... 1 9
6 MONTHS ... 3 3
12 MONTHS ... 6 6

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

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

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

Contents.

	Page.
The News of the Week	65
A Man of Peace	67
The Widow	67
The Domestic Queen, by Mrs. Osler	68
The Parliament Bill	68
National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—	
Treasurer's Notes	69
Selling the Paper	69
Federation Work	70
Suggestions for a Suffrage Library	70
Foreign News	71
Verse: Mr. and Mrs. Bull's Gardening	72
A Hindu Woman Doctor	72
Reviews	74
Correspondence	75
Reports of Societies	76
Forthcoming Meetings	79

A Man of Peace.

To English women the death of King Edward means the loss of one who by common consent had for his chief characteristics kindness, sympathy, and toleration—spiritual gifts and tender emotions which make for the gradual abandonment of dispute, repression, and war. A growing consciousness of the tremendously demoralizing effect of war, of its incalculable results in our increasingly complex social and economic systems, is making the sovereigns of the Western world more and more unwilling to take upon their souls the awful responsibility of sounding the charge. Martial ardour, though it is still admired in soldiers of all degrees, is no longer even condoned in a king, and the sovereign whom we now mourn showed and had ample opportunity for showing that fortitude is not the prerogative of the soldier alone. He wore the uniform of many a fighting force, but, if we are to believe the unanimous witness of contemporary chronicles, his voice was always the voice of peace.

If we examine the tone of popular references to peace, in spite of a certain perfunctory lip-service done to it, we find a very prevailing contempt and a still more remarkable assumption that the peace-makers and peace-lovers are negative. Those who persistently work for peace and compromise are dubbed "peace-at-any-price," and it is implied that they are prepared to abandon something very precious because they are too idle, interested or cowardly to fight for it. Now the truth is that to maintain peace on earth is the most difficult thing on earth and calls for the utmost work, sacrifice and courage.

Whether in domestic or in political life, whether in great things or small, national or international, the maintenance of peace depends on three great and difficult qualities; it is the lowest depth of shallowness to suppose that a lasting peace can be founded on inertia or indifference. To keep the peace we must first cultivate our understanding. A sense of the value of evidence; a cool judgment and willingness at all times to listen, to readjust ourselves to new conditions and fresh pleas, to realize how infinitely various are the forms in which human motive manifests itself; above all a patient and vigilant recognition of the fact that truth is relative, and that it is not enough to say a thing as it appears to us, but, if we would be understood, we must say it so that

it will appear true to others—all these are necessary. In the end, after all the careful scruple of which we are capable, we may be certain that, to many people, our truth will be their lie, our simple faith will seem to them elaborate plotting. Surely, the strangest of all delusions was the one that the best diplomatist was he who was most adept at evasions and subterfuges.

But, when we have actually reached that ideal, when the spoken or written word projects with absolute perfection the image of our thought, we are still left cold and unmoved unless we have sympathy, unless we can, not only understand, but feel with others, unless we can be moved to action by pains and pleasures not primarily affecting us. Mr. Frederick Harrison has of late years written strangely, as if the law of love were for women only and the law of force for men. Happily we see no signs of a theory so diseased taking root in healthy English minds; we can imagine no more abominable cause for sex-war than this, that men should hold themselves absolved from the great Christian law and should make a pseudo-scientific dictum the excuse for licentious and destructive egotism.

The power of the individual to project himself, first into the minds of others and so to think their thoughts, and secondly into the hearts of others and so to feel what they feel, this power is the great social power, the force that welds together people and nations and which leads to that great modern virtue of toleration, of respect for the liberty and individuality of others which, through many vicissitudes and many interferences, necessary and unnecessary, is emerging gradually into the great established aim of all interference. The notions of Power, Rule, Empire, Domination are, in spite of many appearances to the contrary, slowly becoming modified so as to be held respectable only when they serve to foster and protect the weak. With the growth of social consciousness, the immense difficulty and complexity of life appears more and more, and wise men understand and value the experiences of natures not their own; intelligently modest men realize that it is simply stupid to attempt a benevolent despotism; men with a saving sense of humour see that the attempt is ridiculous.

So then, these three great goods—truth, love and liberty—are all needed, all essential to the attainment of perfect peace, which is life, not death. It is high praise to say that a man, and that man a great King, had in him the qualities that made for peace.

The Widow.

The unmarried daughter is, on the whole, fully capable of solving her own problem, and is in process of doing so as quickly as may be. Perhaps the greatest economic problem we shall have to tackle is that of the widow. A spinster is free to take her courage in both hands and try and make her own way, but the widow with a young family is at the greatest disadvantage possible for a human creature—her greatest need being her greatest hindrance. Even if she has, previous to her marriage, earned her own living, she cannot hope to regain her former position.

It is always pretended—this being one of those beautiful illusions so precious to the Englishman—that women have "everything to gain" by marriage. It seems impossible for us to look squarely at our own customs with eyes divested of the squint of a life-time—acquired in childhood and fostered by perennial conventions. We read of the marriage customs of other countries and shudder, but our own marriage customs might furnish us with much food for thought, and not least upon their economic side. I pass by those women who exchange the "shelter" of their father's for that of their husband's home, and who, like the Chinese women, "never feel their feet." It is the woman who works for her living who is most hardly hit. She does not marry for a livelihood, as so many women have to do still, unfortunately, but gives up her means of livelihood in order to marry. I am not advocating that she should do otherwise; far from it; but it is high time that our country realized the immense importance of motherhood,

so that each woman on entering marriage might still feel herself an economic entity. Someone in your columns recently wrote expressing her view that women "earned" their livings in marriage. That is all very well; but what becomes of the half the woman earns when the man dies? She does not earn it; that she deserves to is another matter.

Evidently for the woman, with regard to the livelihood for herself and children, "marriage is a lottery," and fortunate indeed is the woman whose husband lives to "keep" her till, at any rate, the children are educated, even if he should not be a very good husband!

It is impossible for the majority of men, however thoughtful and well disposed, to leave their families as well provided for as they should be. So it follows that our English widow often becomes a "poor thing," her social position—which depends largely on the amount her husband earned—changed, and obliged now to work for her living. But we are so accustomed to seeing women left in this helpless and hopeless condition that it occasions no surprise and no inquiry as to the absurdity of a custom which breeds such tragedies. On the other hand, when a man's wife dies he has to endure loneliness, sorrow, and inconvenience, but he does not lose his means of subsistence.

We must look to the future to evolve some means of dealing with this most difficult of problems. Perhaps Mr. H. G. Wells' suggestion of endowing each child may help to do so. It is a practical suggestion and well worth consideration; for, as Ruskin says about another aspect of the oft-repeated tragedy, "the quantity of pain, and anxiety of daily effort, through the best part of life, ending at last in utter grief, which the lower middle classes in England are now suffering, is so great that I feel constantly as if I were living in one great church-yard." Here are women who have given children to the nation, doomed to our English "Suttee" because the men who "kept" them are dead. And, alas! the children suffer too. Now the point is, that the widows and orphans must be kept (or half kept!), and usually the first thing to be done is to take as many of the children away as possible into institutions, as though the loss of a husband were not sufficient without separation from children also. How much wiser and better if the help could be claimed by the mother from the State, and the same hold good with regard to a wife mated with an evil-living husband.

But this, I suppose, is preaching "romantic impossibilities!" Never mind! Far better talk of and think of a Utopia than be content with things as they are. Utopia need not be so far away as we are apt to think.

BESSIE BARRETT.

Why Women Need the Vote.

VIII.—The Domestic Queen.

Woman as wife and mother! We come at last to the one sole sphere, her right to which is universally acknowledged—in which we are always assured she reigns supreme. Surely here, if anywhere, we shall find nothing to criticise, nothing to condemn! Thankfully bearing in mind the number of happy homes in which love and harmony rule, to the exclusion of any question of law or individual rights ("for if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law"), we recognize also that the ordinances of law and government are primarily required for the abnormal and exceptional, both in character and circumstances. If, then, we pierce through the haze of sentiment which, rightly enough, surrounds the marriage relationship, we find that even here, in her unchallenged kingdom, woman remains entirely in subordination to man, dependent on his pleasure, in the vast majority of cases, for the necessities as well as the luxuries of existence, not because she might not have become economically independent, but because she has renounced independence in order to become for him housekeeper, life-partner, and frequently general servant. A woman recently told a Marylebone magistrate that for the past nine years she had only received threepence a day from her husband (a

soldier) for the support of herself and two children. The magistrate said he could not send the man to gaol for not supporting his wife. He need only keep her from actual starvation. The same principle prevails, under different conditions, in the well-to-do classes. Few men consider themselves under any obligation to inform their wives of their financial position, or to allocate to them an income commensurate with that position. For the support of their joint household and family a man deals out to his wife what he pleases; rarely, indeed, has she at her disposal, to give or spend, one-hundredth part of the means which he dispenses without reference to her. Ask a married woman to support by a five-shilling subscription a cause or charity in which she is interested; in ninety out of a hundred cases she finds it necessary to ask her husband. If a man be of a lavish or improvident nature he constantly lives up to or beyond his income, and when he dies, leaves his wife and family penniless, unprepared and wholly unfitted to provide for themselves. This crying wrong to women is not one easily dealt with by law; it rests rather on the accepted status of womanhood, and can be reformed only as a result of a juster view of the relationship of the sexes.

In the guardianship of her children a married woman has still only secondary rights, and the father can by will dictate their upbringing in the religious faith he chooses; while in the decision of such important questions as that of vaccination the mother's authority and wish are entirely ignored. Only in the case of illegitimate children, where parental responsibility may be considered as undesirable and undesired, are the full rights of maternity recognized and imposed.

The inequalities of the intestacy and divorce laws are well known. An instance has been cited in which a wife possessed of £17,000 died without a will. The whole passed by law to the husband, who left it to a second wife, away from the children of the first. Had the husband died intestate, leaving a fortune, one-third only would have passed to the wife, the rest to the children. By English law also "a man may make a will by which he leaves his wife penniless, even when she has borne him children and is left to support them." ("Common Cause," May 5th.) Fortunately, men are nearly always superior to their laws and creeds; and it is encouraging to note the signs of progress to-day in their attitude regarding these questions. In the evidence given before the Commission on the Divorce Law (of which two women are members), while we still hear men publicly declaring that they "would not give the right of divorce to the wife for continuous adultery only on the part of her husband," yet a much larger number of lay and clerical experts are bravely maintaining the equal moral standard. By thus translating into law and custom the honour and reverence which at present are somewhat hypocritically professed for wifehood and motherhood, we shall approximate to the loftier ideal of marriage which is inspiring our reformers. We hear much hortatory eloquence from distinguished men on the perils of a declining birth-rate and the modern evasion of the burdens of parenthood. More effective than threats or reproaches would be a practical recognition of the dues of motherhood, and an ungrudging admission of women not alone to the duties but also to the honours and dignities of equal citizenship. This, more than any other influence, would awaken and maintain in them, as in men, the sentiment of public and national responsibility.

C. C. OSLER.

The Parliament Bill.

The text of this Bill, which was issued on April 30th, makes provisions in accordance with the veto resolutions which have passed the House of Commons. A remarkable feature of the Bill, however, as distinct from the resolutions, is its preamble, suggesting a contemplated reform of the House of Lords. The preamble runs as follows:—

"Whereas it is expedient that provision should be made for regulating the relations between the two Houses of Parliament:

"And whereas it is intended to substitute for the

House of Lords as it at present exists a Second Chamber constituted on a popular instead of a hereditary basis, but such substitution cannot be immediately brought into operation:

"And whereas provision will require hereafter to be

made by Parliament in a measure effecting such substitution for limiting and defining the powers of the new Second Chamber, but it is expedient to make such provision as in this Act appears for restricting the existing powers of the House of Lords."

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 the country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS EDITH DIMOCK. President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Treasurer: MISS BERTHA MASON (Pro Tem.)
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." Telephone: 1960 Victoria.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

The Executive Committee.

In reply to members who have made inquiries about the W.S.P.U. demonstration, the Executive Committee last Thursday passed the following resolution:—

"That while this Committee fully recognizes that the demonstration of May 28th is on constitutional lines, it believes that if the National Union were officially to join in it much misunderstanding would arise. It therefore adheres to its decision (not to take part in it), but does not wish to interfere with the liberty of action of any of its members."

Members who have worked with our organizer, Miss Samuel, will be sorry to hear that she has been obliged to resign her post and return to Russia, owing to the serious illness of her father. They will also be sorry to hear that Miss Fraser is obliged to take a two months' rest.

The organization of Federations is going on apace, and the arrangements for some of them will shortly be completed.

The Finance Committee has held a special meeting, at which schemes for raising money for running Women's Suffrage candidates was the subject under discussion.

The Press Committee has also held its first meeting, and we hope its deliberations may result in more notice being taken of our movement by the daily papers.

We have to thank Mrs. Hartland for the beautiful clock she has presented to the office, and we value it all the more because she brought it in person.

Next week I hope we may have to thank somebody for gifts of a cupboard and a writing-table. These two articles are very badly wanted.

EDITH DIMOCK.

In response to the request of several Societies, a "General Election Fund" card has been brought out, and will be supplied to the Societies on application to the Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, Parliament Chambers, Gt. Smith Street, Westminster.
T. G. WHITEHEAD.

Treasurer's Notes.

I have to acknowledge this week a subscription of £25. I hope by the end of the month to have received at least fifty others.

Mrs. Dowson, of Nottingham, has sent another instalment towards our by-election fund. Friends in the county of Nottingham have shown, and continue to show, a lively interest in by-election work which might well be copied.

BERTHA MASON.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

April 30th to May 7th, 1910.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	1,141	0	1
Subscriptions:—			
Mrs. A. S. Dixon	5	0	0
Mrs. Manning Prentice	0	1	0
Mrs. E. C. Peacock	0	1	0
Mrs. R. B. Pollitt	0	1	0
Mrs. James Reynolds	2	0	0
S. B. C.	25	0	0

Donations:—			
Mrs. Raw	2	2	0
Mr. Thomas Ritchie, J.P.	1	0	0
Affiliation Fees:—			
Croydon W.S.S.	2	10	0
Portsmouth W.S.S.	2	10	0
Perth W.S.S.	1	1	0
Birmingham W.S.S.	8	6	0
Election Fund:—			
Members of the Notts. W.S.S. per Mrs. Dowson (for Crewe By-election)	7	10	0
Anon., per Miss F. de G. Merrifield (for South Salford Election)	3	3	0
Anon., per Miss F. de G. Merrifield (for South Salford Election)	1	1	0
Miss J. H. Drew (for South Salford Election)	1	10	0
Mrs. and Miss Gadsden	0	5	0
	£1,204	1	1

Million Shillings Fund

	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	710	6
Lady Gibb	20	0
Miss Alice Lindsell	2	0
Miss E. C. Bevan	20	0
Mrs. Bartram	5	0
Miss Auerbach	2	0
Mrs. Auerbach (collection)	3	0
Miss Emily H. Smith	1	0
	763	6

Selling the Paper.

The election policy of the National Union will be attacked, abused, criticised, and misrepresented, and it behoves Suffragists to have accurate knowledge of the situation and be able to defend and explain our position. "The Common Cause" is the only paper which can be relied upon for a fair and plain account of the policy, and should be read and circulated all over the kingdom. We shall have to contend with a great deal of prejudice even from Suffragists who are still in the thralldom of party, and our best weapon is "The Common Cause."

Volunteers are wanted to take from one dozen to one hundred copies weekly, also to help the Selling Corps and Guilds in connection with most of the Societies within the National Union.

More sellers are needed in the London Selling Corps. Those willing to help are asked to communicate with Miss Mildred Ransom, 195, Edgware Road, W.

The members of the "Selling Corps" of "The Common Cause" were entertained at tea by Miss Jeannette Franklin at Hyde Park Gardens on Thursday, May 5th. For the benefit of those guests who were in sympathy with the Suffrage movement, though not members of the corps, Miss Mildred Ransom briefly explained the purpose and achievement of this latest branch of activity.

It is just upon two months since it was started, and numbers close upon twenty members, upon whom falls no further obligation than an undertaking to make one of a number of sellers of "The Common Cause," whenever possible. The maximum number of such calls will be fixed to suit the members, but will be most likely two or three times a month.

Miss Ransom, who originated the scheme, considers that the formation of some such systematic plan for the sale of the paper, by several members together at organised points,—theatres, non-suffrage meetings, and so forth—will materially add to the circulation of the "C. C."

Already the efforts of the corps have more than justified its existence, though any further volunteers for this latest branch of propaganda will be heartily welcomed by Miss Ransom.

Federation Work.

A meeting was held at Bath on April 27 to consider the best plan of federation for the West of England. Although Bristol is the oldest and largest Society in the West, Bath is the most central place for the proposed area, and Miss Wheelwright therefore kindly undertook to arrange for the first meeting, at which representatives were present from Bristol, Bath, Clevedon, Gloucester, and Swindon. A general feeling was expressed that the Federation should be as compact as possible, and that, in forming it, the work already done should be taken into consideration as a guide in defining the area, so that federation may really promote easy and natural communication between the branches. It was felt that otherwise it would mean difficult and unworkable machinery.

With these objects in view it was suggested that the West of England Federation should consist of Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire. It would include the branches of Bristol, Bath, Clevedon, Gloucester, Wincoburn, Swindon, and Street, and it is hoped that other branches will shortly be formed at Weston-super-Mare, Thornbury, Taunton, Bridgewater, Glastonbury, Frome, Chippenham, Devizes, and Melksham.

The question of federating was also considered last week by the North of England Society and its various branches. The Altrincham Society sent representatives to a joint meeting, and it was decided to recommend that 40 constituencies in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire should constitute the "defined area." It was also suggested that the Federation should be called the "Manchester District Federation." The great difficulty was, as anticipated, the money difficulty; many of the smallest societies will find it very difficult to raise the money for local work and for a double set of capitation fees as well. They are, however, for the most part setting themselves to the problem with a will, and it is hoped that there will not be a society existing within the area that will not join the Federation. In Lancashire the boroughs would be—Manchester (6 divisions), Salford (3 divisions), Ashton, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Oldham, Rochdale, and Wigan; the county constituencies—Darwen, Clitheroe, Accrington, Rossendale, Middleton, Heywood, West Houghton, Ince, Leigh, Eccles, Radcliffe, Stretford, Prestwich, and Gorton. In Cheshire the boroughs would be Stockport and Stalybridge; the county constituencies—Hyde, Altrincham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Northwich, and Crewe. In addition, it is proposed to take in the High Peak Division of Derbyshire, where the North of England Society has two branches. Only four of these forty divisions have been untouched by the North of England Society.

In Bath and Neighbourhood.

The meetings arranged for me in Bath and neighbourhood are finished. The last series has included meetings at Frome, Corsham, Radstock, and Bath. Frome's two meetings, already noted, were excellent, and three people in the crowd insisted on moving votes of thanks to us at the end.

At Corsham Miss Hart had, with some other friends, taken the entire work of making the meeting known and inducing people to come, and on Wednesday when we got to the hall we found a very good audience awaiting us. Dr. Hart presided, and after the speech we had several questions, and then a vote of thanks, moved by a well-known Conservative, seconded by a lady on behalf of the feminine portion of the audience, and supported by a well-known Liberal, who said he desired to support it to show that men of his party, as of the mover's, were with us. The audience were intensely interested, and by the end very sympathetic, and said we must come back again and have more meetings. Radstock gave us a quiet meeting, the vicar in the chair, but an interested one, and, as the first held there, a good one.

Bath's meetings were mixed. Bath needs a by-election and a wave of Suffrage. I realised how well Bath could be won at my three huge meetings—two at the Sawclose and one at Lorne Road,—at the last of which a man in the crowd insisted on my "putting it to the vote," as he termed it, and I put a resolution, seconded at the same moment by three men in the crowd, and carried without a single dissentient. I realised how much many people in Bath need converting at my dinner-hour meetings, where there was a good deal of that intensely stupid attitude, so largely dead now over the country, of regarding it all as something indescribably funny or an occasion to be vulgar.

The tradespeople of Bath seem afraid of coming out on Suffrage—the residential portion are, on the whole, conventional to a very great degree, and apparently ignorant of how women live and work over the country. Bath needs harder work than most towns, but there is plenty of hope for it.

The West has been well started—Chippenham, Melksham, Box, Coleme, are all waking up, and the company arranged by Bath to play "How the Vote was Won" hopes to do propaganda through its means in all the places I have visited. Everyone regrets the loss of Miss Samuel from the work and the cause of her going. She did excellent work in the West, and everyone liked her.

Bath's annual meeting was presided over by Mrs. Ashworth Hallett, and among the faithful attendants and workers at all my meetings, in rain and sunshine, among noisy children, at factory gates and street corners, were Miss Young, Miss Grace Tollemache, Miss Johnstone, and Miss Wheelwright, who several times presided over the meetings, and who always works indefatigably for the cause.

HELEN FRASER.

A New Society at Crewe.

Wednesday, May 4, saw the inauguration of the Crewe Division Branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—and a fine, strong, healthy infant it is. The work has been done by the North of England Society, following up work done by them at the general election. At a meeting held in the Lesser Co-operative Hall, addressed by Miss Bright and Miss Robertson, 55 intending members gave in their names, and an influential and representative committee was formed. Mrs. Chapman, a Poor Law guardian, who kindly took the chair, has consented to act on the committee, and amongst her colleagues Miss Dunn has accepted the office of secretary, and Miss Ward that of treasurer. At present there is only one gentleman on the committee, Mr. Cooper, to whom our gratitude is due for the stirring speech he made in our support on Wednesday night. Invaluable help was also given by some of the Training College students, a gathering of whom Miss Robertson is to address on the 11th. The spirit and energy of the committee and members of the newly formed branch promise well for an active and successful—though, we hope, not too long!—career.

South Salford.

The arrangements which had been made for introducing Mr. Clayton to the members of the North of England Society on Monday evening at the Memorial Hall were all cancelled as a mark of respect to the memory of King Edward. Mr. Clayton hopes to address a Manchester audience in three weeks' time, when, also, Miss Margaret Ashton will have returned from abroad. Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton have been making and renewing friendships in the North.

Suggestions for a Suffrage Library.

A correspondent has written to say that her society is starting a Suffrage Library, and asks for suggestions as to suitable books "on all social questions in which women are specially concerned."

We suggest that a beginning might be made with the following:—

- History.*
1. A Record of Women's Suffrage, by Helen Blackburn. (Williams and Norgate.)
 2. Women's Suffrage in Many Lands, by Alice Zimmerman. (13, Bream's Buildings.)
 3. British Freewomen, by Mrs. Stopes. (Swan, Sonnenschein.)
 4. The English Woman, by David Staars. (Smith, Elder and Co.)
 5. Memoir of Josephine Butler. (Arrowsmith.)

- Philosophy.*
1. The Subjection of Women, by John Stuart Mill.
 2. Representative Government, by John Stuart Mill.
 3. Essay on Liberty, by John Stuart Mill.
 4. The Case for Women's Suffrage, by Brougham Villiers. (T. Fisher Unwin.)
 5. Rights of Women, by Mary Wollstonecroft.

- Economics.*
1. Women and Economics, by C. P. Gilman. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)
 2. Women's Work and Wages, by Cadbury, Matheson and Shann. (T. Fisher Unwin.)

- Sec.*
1. Love's Coming of Age, by Edward Carpenter. (Swan, Sonnenschein.)
 2. Under the Surface, by Dr. Louise Martindale. (Southern Publishing Co., 180, North Street, Brighton.)

- Law.*
1. Husband and Wife Under the Law, by G. E. Jenks. (J. M. Dent.)

2. The Rights and Wrongs of Women, by Ralph Thicknesse.
3. The Women's Charter, by Lady McLaren.

Blue Books.

On Education, Poor Law, Labour, Divorce Commission, etc., as they appear.

Magazines and Papers.

"The Englishwoman," "Jus Suffragii"—monthly; "The Common Cause," "The Christian Commonwealth," "The Co-operative News," "The Queen"—weekly.

Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

Belgravia and Chelsea Branch.

A most successful meeting was held on Wednesday, 4th, at 15, Cadogan Square, by kind invitation of Mrs. Martin Smith. The Master of the Temple from the chair delivered a most interesting speech, in which he maintained that Anti-Suffragists were really walking in the footsteps of Mahomedans when they claimed that women's intellect cannot aspire to recording a vote.

Mrs. Robie Uniacke and Miss Margery Corbett also made inspiring speeches, which resulted in a good collection and the accession of several new members.

Younger Suffragists.

Tea Shop and Cake Sale.

The most strenuous efforts failed to secure a real shop for this enterprise, but Mr. Cholmeley's rooms in Gray's Inn Square were requisitioned, and in spite of three pairs of stairs and some of the worst weather of which even May is capable, the week's work was quite a success. Flowers, cakes, sweets, cream, butter, eggs, and marmalade poured in daily from members all over the country, and what was even more important, members and their friends braved the storms of last week in sufficient numbers to make a clean sweep of most of the stock-in-trade and leave a clear profit of about £10.

Miss D. E. Cholmeley, who worked like ten all the time, arranged the room very prettily, and made everybody most comfortable. The waitresses, decked with broad bows of the N.U. colours on their heads, were both decorative and efficient, and the only people who did not enjoy themselves were the parcels postman and the milkman. The organizer wishes to thank very heartily all those who helped either by waiting or by sending materials, especially those who sent again and again during the week, and also the artist who, although not herself a member, designed and presented a most effective poster for the entrance to the "shop." One gratifying result was the enrolment of several new members.

Actresses' Franchise League.

This Society held a successful meeting at 3, Bedford Street Studio, on the 22nd April. Mrs. Chapin told how well women had voted in America, and spoke on the much-needed reforms we are fighting for. Mr. Casson took for his speech Anti-Suffrage arguments, and showed how extremely illogical they were, and Miss Eva Moore (chairman) made a very witty speech. A good deal of literature was sold.

The At Home given by the Actresses' Franchise League at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, May 6th, was particularly well attended, and the speeches marked by great enthusiasm.

Mrs. Cecil Raleigh fulfilled the duties of hostess, Madame Alice Esty was in the chair, and the speakers included Mrs. Philip Snowden, Mrs. Arnelife Sennett, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Dr. Stanton Coit, and Mr. Roy Horniman. Dr. Stanton Coit, in a forcible argument, showed that the contempt of man for the opposite sex is the basic reason for the present position of woman, and cited an astounding passage from a recent publication by a learned writer in support of his assertions.

Mrs. Snowden dwelt on the difficulty of compressing into succinct reply the immensely broad issue embodied in the question, Why do women want the vote? The specific aim and object of the movement, she said, was the desire to improve the conditions of the State, conditions such as were obviously a survival of the period when woman was regarded by man as "property" wholly and solely.

Mr. Roy Horniman exposed the fallacy of "the man in the street's" objections to the granting of the Suffrage to women; and Mrs. Arnelife Sennett provoked continuous ripples of laughter by her plain speaking and witty remarks.

Miss Maud Hoffman, as treasurer, appealed for funds, with the effect of substantially increasing the treasury of the League.

The League produced Mr. Arnelife Sennett's clever play, "An Englishwoman's Home" and "How the Vote was Won," at a most successful entertainment of the Croydon W.S.P.U. on Tuesday, May 3rd, at West Norwood. The company included Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Paxton, Miss Judith

Kyrle, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, Miss Elsie Chapin, Miss Lucie Milner, Miss Katherine Herbert, Miss Ada Potter, Miss Inez Bensusan, Mr. Rupert Harvey, and Mr. Talbot Homewood.

On May 4th "How the Vote was Won" was repeated at Battersea Town Hall with a caste that included Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Margaret Bussé, Miss Marienne Caldwell, and Miss Netta Powys.

Owing to the national mourning, the matinee arranged by the Actresses' Franchise League for May 10th has been postponed until Tuesday, May 24th, at 2-30.

Foreign News.

ITALY.

The Italian law recognizes women as entitled to administrative rights, and has in past years made them eligible for charity boards and for trades councils. By conferring on women the commercial vote, the Chamber of Deputies has recently added a further proof of their belief in the competency of women to be represented in public matters. Details of this new right are not, for the moment, very explicit, but it is probably in connection with the electing of judges of trade disputes. Thus the sphere of women's business responsibility should be gradually widened. It may also be mentioned that this newly acquired right has already been extended to women in France and Belgium.

UNITED STATES.

Supporters of the Suffrage in America have been working busily recently. A new U.S. party has been formed in Pennsylvania under the title of "The Equal Franchise Federation of Western Pennsylvania," and promises to take its place as a strong political force throughout the State. The headquarters are at Pittsburg, where every election district will be organised for systematic, persistent work. Members of the league consider it probable that they will gain their end within the next five years.

The Washington State Federation of Labour recently held its annual Convention, and passed the following resolution: "That the Federation of Labour of Washington do pledge themselves with renewed effort for the enfranchisement of women, and recommend to the local unions of this State that they put forth their most strenuous endeavours to carry the Suffrage amendment at the election next November."

SWEDEN.

It is interesting to note that in the recent municipal elections in Sweden two women have been returned as members. Congratulations to Dr. Calmyren and Mlle Maussion to whom has fallen the honour of being the first women Town Councillors of their country.

HOLLAND.

A Commission has been appointed to inquire into the revision of the Clerical Government, and the president of the Dutch W.S.A. approached the Premier with the demand that women should have a seat on this Commission. The Minister answered that he could not comply with such a request, as he considered no women possessed the particular knowledge required.

SWITZERLAND.

In contrast with the situation in Holland we may note that in Switzerland women have exercised for the first time their right of franchise in connection with the election of their pastor at Villarsel. Every effort is being strained in Canton Neuenburg to obtain the same rights.

In Neuchatel it has been granted to women to exercise the vote in all matters connected with the Church. It is hoped that before long the same right may be extended to women throughout Switzerland.

The "Journal de Genève" has published an article in support of the extension of the ecclesiastical vote to women of Switzerland, and refutes the many so-called arguments advanced by the opposers of the movement.

"It is the thin end of the wedge; if women are allowed a voice in Church matters they will immediately demand not merely political Suffrage, but also the right of standing for election." And also, "Many women do not desire to have the vote."

With regard to the first objection, the "Journal" points out that the two points are not comparable, although conceding that in their opinion women should enjoy the right of political franchise. But at present it is not a question of women's civic rights; rather to agree as to what rights she possesses as member of a particular body.

In discussing the second objection, the "Journal" notes that according to the terms of the Constitution of the Church only the names of those wishing to exercise their vote will be enrolled on the register. Because some women do not wish to participate in the election of their pastor, why should

that right be refused to those who take a more active interest in public matters?

At present it is only the Church of the Cantons of Vaud and Neuchâtel which have taken this step, and it is to be hoped that the example will soon be universally followed. The great strength of Protestantism is to keep pace with modern ideas and thoughts through the length of centuries. The National Church has passed through troublesome times, and stands strong and active after the separation from the State. All honour to those States which have been the first to recognise the wisdom of giving active interest to as many members as possible, and which, therefore, have taken this opportunity of enrolling women as electors.

Under the new civil law it has been decided that a married woman is entitled to have one-third of her husband's income as her independent property.

FINLAND.

In the recent elections in Finland only seventeen women members have been returned, as compared with twenty-one in the previous year. Numbers must necessarily always vary, and if any reason must be found for the slight decrease in women members it is possibly in connection with the political situation with Russia. Electors may have felt that the position is one which demanded more male members.

Resolutions of sympathy for the position of the Finnish nation have been passed by W.S.A. in Hamburg and Munich. "May the political independence of Finland pass through the present crisis in safety and remain unscathed by the Russian despotism, so that the country may have every opportunity of devoting herself to the furtherance of culture and art, which has always reached so high a standard."

GERMANY.

The W.S.A. of West Germany has forwarded a petition to the Prussian Minister for Home Affairs demanding that women should be given the vote in municipal affairs, and that they should be allowed to exercise the same personally. The petition has been presented in view of the prospective revision of municipal matters in the Rhine district.

A Plea for Divorce.

Poor soul! Married when quite a girl to a man already diseased, who ill-used her, drank, and was unfaithful. Hers is a sad story, and only one of many such whose lives might be made more bearable if only we women had power to alter the existing laws.

Mrs. H— bore seven children to this man, who, knowing what he was suffering from, ought never to have married a decent girl, leaving her in ignorance of the result. "I was a well-living girl, going to church regular; but I've gone from bad to worse since I fell in with him," she told me. When she could stand it no longer she took all seven children and left him. Divorce was out of the question; she could never afford it—a separation order would be all that was within her means. In Scotland she cannot now get parish relief, as Scottish law prohibits an able-bodied man obtaining relief, and therefore his wife or children, however destitute or ill.

Mrs. H— worked for some years supporting herself and the children, and then she fell in with a fine, stalwart man who was willing to help her bear her burden, but—it meant their practically living in sin; it meant the children to come being illegitimate; it meant, as she said, their having the finger of scorn pointed at them, and only because, being poor, she had not the money to set herself free.

Is not this one of the laws women would fain see put right? A SOCIAL WORKER.

Central Bureau for the Employment of Women.

The twelfth annual report is a fascinating subject of study, and we commend it most heartily to our readers. It is not only that the various tables and schedules are absorbingly interesting to anyone who cares to form conclusions as to the market value of women's work and the conditions determining it; the short and remarkably pithy notes are so humane and mellow and show a knowledge of women's needs and natures in refreshing contrast to the hortatory, not to say scolding, tone of much that is written about women's work.

A New Opening for Women.

All Suffragists will be interested to learn that Mrs. Shelley Gulick, who so ably helped to organise the international Suffrage meetings in London last spring, has been appointed an Inspector of Agents by the Commercial Union Assurance Company. She is the first woman who has been appointed to such a position by any insurance company in the United Kingdom, and if the experiment proves successful a large and new field of work will thus be open to women workers. Mrs. Gulick's special work is to find and inspect agents for

insurance proposals, and she has also developed an excellent pension scheme for professional women. At the best, professional women do not earn very large salaries, and it is most important that any small savings they can make should be well and securely invested in order to yield an adequate pension in old age. By Mrs. Gulick's scheme a woman who at twenty years old invests £10 in one of the Commercial Union Special Deferred Annuity Policies, and for the following thirty-nine years repeats the proceeding, finds herself at sixty entitled to a pension until death of £59 19s. 2d. per annum, or to a cash payment of £775 18s. 4d. If she had invested the same money for herself with judgment and good luck, she would have the same cash in hand, but she would have had all the trouble and uncertainty involved in investing her savings for herself. Other advantages are offered, such as the privilege which a policy-holder has of changing her mind, and of taking out her policy at any age. In the event of death before the pension age is reached all premiums are paid plus three per cent. compound interest. In fact, the owner of one of these policies is spared all risk and worry, and is protected against loss in all conceivable circumstances, and the scheme is worth the serious consideration of any professional woman. Mrs. Gulick (1, Royal Exchange Buildings, London, E.C.) will be glad to explain the scheme further, or to receive the names of any ladies willing to become agents for the Commercial Union Assurance Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Bull's Gardening.

John Bull and Mrs. Bull have got
A cultivated garden plot,
Where both work hard, in rain or sun,
Though he has tools, while she has none.
He digs, and plants, and chops down trees,
And plans the garden at his ease,
While she, alas! can scarce succeed
In pulling up a single weed.
She asked for tools, you ought to know,
As long as forty years ago,
But John just laughed, and shook his head;
"It isn't woman's work," he said.
He orders what he likes, but still
She has to help to pay the bill;
Also, when things go wrong, you see
She suffers just as much as he,
And so do all the children, too;
So what is Mrs. Bull to do?
Lately she clamoured for a spade—
You should have heard the noise she made!
Her husband cried, "Do stop that din!
Look what a state the garden's in!
You want a spade? But don't you see
I'm just as busy as can be?"
"If all the work were neatly done,"
She said, "I shouldn't ask for one."
Come! fetch one now—and do make haste!
I'll soon reduce the time you waste!"
"I'm far too chivalrous a man,"
He said, "to dream of such a plan."
So she keeps toiling as before,
Until she makes her fingers sore.
She does the little that she can
To help that aggravating man.
"It really is too bad of John,"
She thinks, as she goes plodding on,
"But I'll convince him, never fear,
When he is used to the idea;
He could not reason, if he tried;
His feelings are his only guide!"

G. M. GEORGE.

A Hindu Woman Doctor.

It has struck me that the almost unconscious tribute of an educated native gentleman towards women's work cannot fail to interest many readers of "The Common Cause." So without further preface or apology I will tell you how I came to meet Dr. Karmarkar and visit her dispensary in Bombay.

Some Parsee friends invited me to attend a most interesting lecture given by a highly educated Mahomedan gentleman of this city upon "Recent Events in Turkey." The lecturer, a most agreeable speaker, with a thorough knowledge of his subject, displayed by a few apt quotations a considerable acquaintance with our literature. After the lecture, which was given in a private house, we were most lavishly entertained with every sort of light refreshment to suit the tastes of East and West, spread out on long tables down the middle of a magnificent dining hall. In the crowd I became separated from my friends, and found myself at one of the tables next to a lady in Hindoo dress. I was just noticing her dress, which was elegant, if somewhat less gorgeous than others around, and that the little jewellery she wore was simple and refined, when she turned and, smiling, began to talk to me, offering some of the native dishes and explaining their virtues. I felt her personality so strongly that in a moment the crowd of gaily dressed women of many races had melted away, I had forgotten my lost friends, and was just held by

the spell of sympathy. Dr. Karmarkar was telling me of her work.

When I was aroused to be taken away we parted with a most warm invitation for myself and a friend to visit the little native hospital in the city where Dr. Karmarkar tries to alleviate the sufferings of the poorest of the people—the poor women and little children.

When we reached her home on Wednesday morning we found that the doctor had already gone to hospital, but her husband was waiting to take us to join her. I was most anxious to meet this woman's husband to see if he could in any way be said to fulfil the conditions of the poor old thread-bare idea that a clever woman's husband must necessarily be a nonentity—"Mrs. Smith's husband," in fact. After a courteous greeting Mr. Karmarkar showed us his wife's private dispensary and consulting room, and then drove us to the hospital. Here he would have effaced himself, but our short conversation with him made us anxious to hear more of anything that he cared to tell us.

The little hospital was scarcely more than a corrugated iron shed, but the outer room was full of women and children all sitting quietly waiting their turn. When the doctor had most kindly welcomed us, she returned to her seat, and in a quiet, business-like manner examined patient after patient as they passed before her, diagnosing and writing her prescriptions. We could feel the kind words of sympathy and encouragement which were given, as well as the written orders for medicine, by the smiles which for a moment lit up faces that looked so terribly dull and unintelligent and unaccustomed to smile, though we could not understand the Maharathi in which the conversation passed. Then, having finished an examination, Dr. Karmarkar would turn to us and give in a few words a glimpse of the patient's life and surroundings in easy, accentless English. In one such interruption of her work she "Can't you make her understand that that dirty saree is was explaining to me the difficulty of teaching cleanliness, aggravating the wound?" I exclaimed, impetuously. "Yes," she replied, so gently and kindly, "but she has only been coming to me a few days now, and though I tell her every time, you see she has always worn her saree just like that, and seen all her relations and friends do the same, so it is not easy for her to believe what I suggest." Truly one must be of the people to understand them and to realise how far persuasion outweighs coercion.

There were no serious cases that morning. Special examinations take place in an inner room.

While we were in the hospital and in the cab driving to it, Mr. Karmarkar had been, with pardonable pride, telling us a great deal about his wife's work. Three mornings a week she attends this hospital, and every afternoon from two o'clock till five o'clock she sees patients in her own consulting room; besides this, she has a considerable practice amongst the better-off classes, whom she attends in their own homes. Mr. Karmarkar is as busy as his wife. He is a clergyman of the American Mission. In speaking of his wife, he said to me: "The great happiness of our lives is the perfect sympathy of thought which exists for us." Dr. Karmarkar is a Christian. She is working to earn her living and for the love of her own people—to make them a little cleaner, a little more comfortable, and so to open their minds and make them a little happier, if it may be. Mr. Karmarkar is one of the most interesting men of any nationality that it has been my good fortune to meet. He was born of Christian parents, and received his education up to a certain point in this country, and then in America. He has travelled in England and Japan and visited Paris.

Dr. and Mr. Karmarkar, having no children of their own, have adopted a family of six. Their great joy is in watching the development of their "daughters," hoping that they may have the ability and inclination to follow their mother in the medical profession.

Mr. Karmarkar tells me that his wife plays the harmonium at his tent services every evening, as well as taking a class in his Sunday school. This busy Eastern woman seems to somewhat disprove the theory that professional work for a woman is incompatible with the highest duties and privileges of married life—I mean, of course, companionship and sympathy.

Mr. Karmarkar is an educationist, and has promised to show me his blind school as well as some of his other work. In speaking of his compatriots, he said to me:—

"What we want is to educate the women; it is the degradation of our women which has caused the decay of our ancient civilisation."

C. L. WYLLIE.

An Old Charade.

By Canning.

"The following charade appeared," writes a correspondent, "in the 'Woman's Suffrage Journal' of September 2nd, 1889. The solution was to have been published in the following August, but Miss Becker died on July 19th, 1890, and the journal came to an end." The solution never appeared. Would our readers like to try their hands at guessing?

On many a learned page,
In mystic characters and sage,
Long time my first has stood;
But though its golden age be past,
In wooden walls it yet may last
Till clothed in flesh and blood.

My second is a glorious prize
To all who love their wondering eyes
With curious sights to pamper;
But should they chance this prize to meet
Al' improv'is in the street,
Oh! how 'twould make them scamper.

My third's a sort of wandering throne,
To woman limited alone,
The Salic law reversing;
But when th' imaginary queen
Prepares to act this novel scene,
Her royal part rehearsing,
O'erturning her presumptuous plan,
Up jumps the old usurper man.

Woman's Progress.

In an interesting book on "Civilisation and Progress," an American author, J. B. Crozier, after many chapters of close reasoning, arrives at the conclusion that the elevation and expansion of the individual is the goal of civilisation—the true aim of government. He tells us that "on taking a wide survey of the world, nothing is more striking than the efforts made by all creatures to fulfil the law of their existence—to secure the free and unimpeded play of every power and native impulse, and to make for themselves room to expand to the full compass of their being."

The present agitation for women's suffrage is a manifestation of this struggle for existence in the highest sense of the words. The progress of civilisation has reached a point at which the woman, like the man, must insist upon freedom "to expand to the full compass of her being." She can no longer accept any arbitrary restriction of her activity or acquiesce in a conventional limitation of her sphere; she demands not women's rights, but the rights of a human being, i.e., equal justice, equal privileges, and equal opportunities with other human beings, without distinction of sex. Herbert Spencer, in his "Data of Ethics," puts the woman's case in a nutshell:—"The subjection of woman to man, complete while war is habitual but qualified as fast as peaceful occupations replaces it, comes eventually to be thought wrong, and equality before the law is asserted."

Englishwomen have not yet reached the goal of "equality before the law," but we have only to study the biographies of the women who attained to eminence in the nineteenth century to realise the progress that has been made of late years in the direction of fuller individual rights. In the life of Dorothea Beale of Cheltenham, by Elizabeth Raikes, we are told that "the story of her childhood and youth (she was born in 1831) furnishes a good illustration of the best education that girls of the early Victorian time could obtain. It gives also a glimpse of the fears and hopes, the silent struggles, the disappointments of many a girl who strove to wrest, as from a grudging Fate, the opportunity to inform and use her mind." In Mrs. Gaskell's "Life of Charlotte Brontë" we read that when in 1837, at the age of 19, "Currer Bell" wrote to Robert Southey, then Poet Laureate, to ask him his opinion of her writings, he gave her, in reply, this advice:—"Literature cannot be the business of a woman's life, and it ought not to be. The more she is engaged in her proper duties the less leisure will she have for it, even as an accomplishment and a recreation." (How exactly this is paralleled by Mrs. Humphry Ward's assertion that "women on whom the child-bearing and child-rearing of the world and specialised knowledge which is an indispensable qualification for the right to vote.")

In Mrs. Fenwick Miller's "Life of Harriet Martineau" we are told that her education was considered finished at the age of fifteen, and "thenceforth it was a struggle to obtain permission to spend any time in reading or writing; and such opportunities as she got, or could make, had to be taken advantage of in secrecy." It is melancholy to read of her "spending a frightful amount of time in sewing" and being "expected always to sit down in the parlour to sew" instead of studying; of her being "at the work-table regularly after breakfast, making my own clothes or the shirts of the household or about some fancy work; or if ever I shut myself in my own room for an hour of solitude I knew it was at the risk of being sent for to join the sewing circle"; and of the necessity that she lay under to find time for study by stealing secret hours from sleep. But it is needful to lay stress on these hindrances through which the growing girl fought her way to mental development. Wide though her knowledge was, great though her mental powers became, who can tell how much was taken from her possibilities (as from those of all other great women of the past) by such waste of her powers in childhood and youth? "Even after Harriet Martineau had given unmistakable proofs of literary ability she was advised to abandon authorship as waste of time, and to devote herself to making little bags and baskets with pieces of coloured silk, by which she was certain to earn money!" I am ashamed to add that it was a relative of her own sex who pronounced this sentence upon one who was destined to become famous both as a writer and as an authority upon questions of political economy, consulted by the greatest statesmen of the age! But there have been anti-suffragists in every generation—women who not only "hug

their chains," but oppose every effort on the part of their more enlightened sisters to make for themselves "room to breathe and grow unstunted." Readers of "Daniel Deronda" will remember how, in the pathetic interview which takes place between the hero and his unknown mother, the latter gives expression to her soul's tragedy in these words:—"You may try, but you can never imagine what it is to have a man's force of genius in you and yet to suffer the slavery of being a girl. To have a pattern cut out—this is what you must be; this is what you are wanted for; a woman's heart must be of such a size and no larger, else it must be pressed small, like Chinese feet." Who shall say how many mute, inglorious individualities resulted from the slavery of being a girl in those happily by-gone days of a one-sided civilisation, when the single woman—the now obsolete old maid—must have felt herself to be, in very truth, "the millionth woman in superfluous herds."

The fear is still constantly expressed that if women were allowed the same freedom as men to develop their powers and to choose the work for which they are best fitted, they would with one accord evade the special duties which women alone can perform, and sacrifice husband, children, and home on the altars of their ambition. I believe I express the feelings of all earnest-minded suffragists when I say that if there were any evidence that this would be the case they would oppose the woman's movement as fervently as they now support it. In a letter written by George Eliot in 1841, she quotes what she describes as a truth "beautifully expressed in an article entitled 'Woman's Mission'" (which had appeared in the "Westminster Review"):—"Learning is only so far valuable as it serves to enlarge and enlighten the bounds of conscience. This," she adds, "I believe it eminently does when pursued humbly and piously, and from a belief that it is a solemn duty to cultivate every faculty of our nature so far as primary obligations allow." If we substitute the ideas of freedom and justice for that of "learning," these words aptly express the convictions underlying the Woman Movement of to-day. We suffragists are claiming our rights as human beings, not that we may evade the peculiar obligations of our womanhood, but in order that we may discharge them with a higher sense of vocation and a fuller recognition of woman's essential share in the solidarity of the State.

JUSTITIA.

A Problem.

The child is usually called "Little Winnie," just by way of distinguishing her from her mother whose name is Winnifred, otherwise Winnie, and often Win.

Little Winnie is a dark-eyed, dainty-featured, winsome fairy of five years, with delicately-moulded limbs, rich, glossy brown hair, and a complexion of milk and roses. She attends an L.C.C. school every day, and plays in the streets between whiles.

Of training, of love, even of ordinary care, little Winnie knows no more than a heathen. During her five short years she has been literally dragged up, and no one can be blamed, Winnie's mother is a servant in a large business house, and she was reared in a charitable institution, where she remained until she was seventeen.

Within a few months of leaving the institution, Winnie the elder had the misfortune to make the acquaintance of a married man, who got her into trouble, and then—after the manner of his kind—quitted the country, the girl of course being left to face her trouble and disgrace alone. The baby was born in a Maternity Home, and, when about a month old, was put out to nurse to allow the young mother to go to service.

It only needed one glance at the mother to see where little Winnie got her beauty. There were the same delicately-formed limbs and features, the same bright brown hair, the same large dark eyes, and the same pink-and-white complexion. The expressions of the two faces were, however, entirely different, and it required no great amount of intuition to realise that the natures of mother and child were quite dissimilar.

Winnie the elder's face showed innate modesty, refinement, patience, while little Winnie had a bold defiant look and bearing which, child as she was, declared itself in every gesture. The mother was very fond of her daughter, and proud of her beauty, but she was not a match for the imperious will of the child.

Just now little Winnie is living with her grandmother, a widow, who earns her living charring in flats. Needless to say little Winnie is the ruling spirit in her grandmother's home, and simply does as she likes. Of course, in justification it must be explained that the grandmother has no time to look after the child. She goes to her work every morning about 9 a.m., after seeing Winnie off to school, and she returns in time to give the child her dinner.

When Winnie comes out of school in the afternoon she runs wild in the streets until tea-time, and again during the evening, often until bedtime. The mother visits her daughter once a week as a rule, but sometimes it is only once in a fortnight, so that, while nominally possessing two mothers, in reality little Winnie does not know a mother's care.

What will be the future of the child? Ah, who can prophesy? Will she, too, encounter the same cruel fate as her mother, or will she escape? Who can say? Now, she is

a most winsome little maiden. Wilful, impetuous, wild as a young colt, badly trained, but lovable through all. Very true it is that hundreds, nay, thousands of children have passed, and are still passing, through a similar ordeal. They are not wanted, not welcomed when they come into the world, their presence is just merely tolerated, and only too often actively resented. Is it any wonder that so many go astray? In civilised and Christianised England to-day, little Winnie is simply typical of those children who are sometimes the innocent victims of lust and vice, and sometimes the victims of pure ignorance, at least on the part of the mothers.

When last I saw little Winnie she was returning from school, swinging her red cap in one hand and her jacket in the other, laughing gaily while at the antics of her boy companions. Poor, unfortunate, little Winnie! I cannot think of your future without a sigh, for of you, as of others, can it be truly said,—

"All that she needed to guide her,
Was the love of a human soul."

Can the readers of "The Common Cause" suggest any solution of the problem? It is a problem that affects men equally as much as women. How may young girls, reared in institutions, best be shielded from such men, and, should the offspring of these unions be brought up at home or by the State?

Reviews.

The Magazines.

In the *Contemporary Review* Elizabeth Robins has an interesting and suggestive article entitled "Shall Women Work?" in which she illustrates the close dependence of industrial betterment upon the possession of the vote.

The *English Review* contains an article, "The Women of Shakespeare," by Frank Harris, attempting to prove by internal evidence that Shakespeare had an extremely low opinion of women. The same Review contains "Ecclesiastical Survivals in Divorce," by E. S. P. Haynes, pleading for a cheap and reasonable divorce law.

In the *Nineteenth Century* Edith Sellers writes on "Compulsory Insurance Against Unemployment," describing a Swiss scheme invented by a Russian—Dr. Wassilief—which, although it has not been put into practice, is extremely interesting and suggestive, and which has been planned to work in close connection with a Labour Exchange system. Further on is an article, "The Submerged Half in India," by Saint Nihal Singh, in which the author shows how the reactionary attitude of Indian women has retarded national progress; the serf resists emancipation. "The only way Hindostan can become a great lies through the emancipation of its womanhood."

The *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Review* for May (quarterly, 2d.) points out in a leader how necessary it is that women should have the vote before any of the reforms suggested in Lady McLaren's charter are attempted. It gives an interesting record of work, and is a very bright and readable number, with articles by Sir John Cockburn, Lady Betty Balfour, and others.

A PAMPHLET ON WAR.

Colonel Lonsdale Hale has written a pamphlet entitled *The Horrors of War in Great Britain* (Love and Malcomson, 2d.), which depicts graphically what war means to non-combatants. It should prove useful ammunition to Suffragists who have to meet the preposterous contention that war is not a woman's concern.

"THE ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

In the April number of this quarterly, which has been in existence for fifty-two years, the Editor (Miss Antonette Mackenzie) tells us that its continuance is in question. The answer depends upon the amount of support received. This, the oldest women's paper in England, has an honourable record, and has long filled a need. We should be very sorry to miss it.

WOMAN'S WORK IN ENGLISH FICTION. Clara H. Whitmore, A.M. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, London. Pp. vii., 309. 5s. net.)

Miss Whitmore has some very suggestive remarks to make concerning the part played by women in the development of the English novel. She points out that nearly all books written on literature are written from a masculine point of view, and she justifies in herself the demand for something different. But it is not necessary, surely, to do this by disparaging the work of great men? Speaking, e.g., of the Duchess of Newcastle—"Here is the charm of brevity. Richardson would have blurred these clearly cut sentences by

eight volumes." Richardson and the Duchess of Newcastle! Really, in spite of Charles Lamb, they are not comparable! And is this a woman's gratitude to the creator of one of the most glorious women in literature? It is true, however, that Miss Whitmore finds Clarissa Harlowe "less womanly" than one of Mrs. Lennox's shadowy heroines.

On the other hand, much that is said here is excellently well said. The appreciation of Emily Brontë, for example; and this quiet comment on the hero of "Jane Eyre":—"It is well to remember . . . that the author of 'Jane Eyre' was believed at first to have been a man, as it was thought impossible for a man like Rochester to have been conceived in a woman's brain." Delightful comment on modern masculine scorn for that darkly romantic personality! Best of all is Miss Whitmore's own scorn for the puppets "conceived in a man's brain":—"Imagine Juliet played by a boy! Yet Essex, Leicester . . . groundlings . . . and Ben Jonson . . . were well satisfied with it, for they were used to it; just as men have accepted the heroines of their own novels, though every woman they meet is a refutation of their truth." A. M. R.

THE GIRLHOOD OF QUEEN ELIZABETH. By Frank Mumby, with an introduction by R. S. Rait, M.A. (Constable and Company; 10s. 6d. net. Pp. xxii., 354).

The Age of Elizabeth has an eternal fascination, and the character of the woman who gave her name to the greatest period of English history is an absorbing problem. Mr. Mumby has sought in "The Girlhood of Queen Elizabeth" to do for her earlier years "what Labanoff did for Mary Stuart"—not to write her biography, but to reproduce a number of personal letters, written by, to, or about, her. And such letters, as Prof. Rait claims in his preface, are "the very marrow of history." They are connected by a few lucid words of introduction, explaining the circumstances in which they were written, and form a mass of material of the first importance to all students of the period. The history of the reign of Elizabeth is the record of an amazing achievement; of a statesman who converted the apparently crushing disability of her sex into a supreme advantage; who had not only the courage to remain, but the astounding originality to conceive the possibility of remaining, unmarried; and thereby to make all the princes of Europe dance attendance on her wishes. It was not beautiful—it was sometimes repulsive—this exploiting of herself as a matrimonial prize; but it required a courage and an originality, which these letters show to have been even greater than we had realised. Nor was it one whit more revolting than the debasing commercialism of most Royal marriages. It is not very reasonable to expect, or very merciful to wish for, delicacy of feeling about the sanctity of marriage from a girl who had been hawked about Europe as Elizabeth had, and incidentally offered (at twenty-two) to the diseased and idiotic son of Philip II., aged ten. One is more inclined to respect her that after these experiences Elizabeth refused to marry at all, than to condemn her because, like every other Sovereign, but with more conspicuous success, she tried to get the most out of matrimonial possibilities. These letters shed a fierce light on the difficult and lonely girlhood of our greatest Sovereign, who was fighting for her own hand, and defending even her life, at an age when most girls and boys are in the schoolroom. The unpleasant scandal about Thomas Seymour makes us realise indeed the coarseness of fibre which characterised "Good Queen Bess" all her life; but, as much, the dangers which surrounded her as a child, and the brutal unscrupulousness of those who should have been her protectors. She became early an object of suspicion to her sister Mary, and was subjected to perpetual and galling espionage. It is on this point that Mr. Mumby seems to fail a little in impartiality. According to him, the princess's complaints against Bedingfield were wholly unreasonable, and Bedingfield himself a much-injured and much-enduring man. The letters leave a different impression. It may truly have been wearisome to forward the perpetual protests of Elizabeth against the denial to her of books, writing materials, exercise, or even decent housing. It was probably even more wearisome to Elizabeth to endure them! And so with Bedingfield's system of espionage. "Since your most noble marriage," he writes to the queen, "her Chaplain . . . did pray for the King and your Majesty together; her Grace has never answered a word to that article, which could be heard or perceived by any means; being marked of very purpose by your Highness's woman, mistress Morton, and me." It is a sufficiently repulsive picture of the officious spies with eager ears trying to catch the princess at her prayers; and almost a miracle that she was not ensnared. No doubt the politic protection of Philip—who had already considered her as a possible successor to his present wife—counted for much. And this makes all the more comic the tale of her rejection of him when the hour arrived. Relying on her popularity with her people to support her against the scared protests of her advisers; relying also on their rising spirit, and her ability "to maintain herself in her own kingdom as her father had done," Elizabeth refused the hand of the great king of Spain. He consoled himself very shortly, and the letter in which de Feria describes her reception of the news is one of the most delightful in the book. He himself was so angry that he could not speak to her; but she sent for him, and "on my return began to say she had heard

your Majesty was married, smiling, saying your name was a fortunate one, and now and then giving little sighs which bordered on laughter.

Mr. Mumby has done a real service to history in collecting and printing these letters, and we shall look with interest for the next instalment. A. M. R.

Proclamation of King George V.

For the first time in the history of this country a new King has been proclaimed by a woman Mayor. Dr. Garrett Anderson, the Mayor of Aldburgh, read the proclamation there on Monday last in the presence of a great crowd. This is Dr. Garrett Anderson's second year of office.

Correspondence.

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

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only.

A PLEA FOR WORKING-WOMEN. BY ONE.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I had begun this letter last week, but could not get to finish it in time to be printed, so hope that, as this is a belated answer, you will waive your decree, *re* any further correspondence touching the views held by the lady who signed Agda Adelgren, and allow me to plead for myself and my humble, hard-working, uneducated sisters. This lady seems to think only Educated, Clever women, etc. (see capitals), should have the rights of citizenship. I ask her why should we who work and earn the wealth of the nation—we who bear and bring up stock for the nation,—be refused that nation's citizenship? We don't want to "force our benevolence on the State," but we do want to force our needs on the State, in spite of the fact that the State hasn't "expressed any wish for our help and advice." Only the enlightened and strong-minded women will be leaders of women, but they will want the women-labourers' vote; and they will know how to enlighten them to make the best use of it, when they do get it. Not only that; when we of the lower orders find that responsibility laid on us (then, and not till then, will many of us feel we are part of the Empire) we shall, you will find, rise to the occasion.

I was ridiculed the other day by a gentleman, who said "What do women like you want with a vote? You don't really want a vote." I replied, "Well, no; perhaps not. One doesn't want the dose of castor oil, but one must swallow the remedy to cure the disease; so I must swallow 'the vote' to get the power that is behind it." "Now," said he, "if you were Miss — over the way I could understand her wanting a vote, as she has property—the place is her own." I remarked I had property. In answer to a question, I said it was quite true I and my young daughter at home had no more than the ten shillings we earned between us. "But," I said, "still I have property—flesh and blood property; I have my two children, whom I have brought up, have worked for, have earned for—they are my contribution to the upkeep of the nation. Will you say my property is of less value, of less account, than the bricks and mortar of the lady opposite, who has no family to leave behind her?" "Still," said he, "wherefore the vote? Is not your 'property,' as you call it, as well protected in this country as any?" "On the contrary," I answered; "will you tell me of any other country where an employer can withhold your daughter of sixteen against your wishes and notices (provided by cajolery or intimidation he can get her consent to stay with him or her), and can tell you to your face that there is no law by which a mother can control a girl, and only a father until sixteen? In England you cannot remove your own, even by Habeas Corpus, unless you can prove misconduct—by which time it would be 'too late.' Of what use is the empty 'marriage control' till twenty-one, after this?" Added to this, I have been told by men voters that *it suited men not to have those laws drawn too tightly*. Do not we working-mothers, who have to send our child-girls out and away into the working, seething world, know what it means to have them robbed of any protection by parent or by law at the very age when they most need both? It is our children—the children of the poor—who are always the prey; while their more fortunate sisters are still at schools or escorted by governesses. Yet you ask me why *such as I* would have any say in things pertaining to the nation! When I paid rates and taxes, no one ever took one half-penny less because I was a woman; and your Government paid me at about half the rate of a man. No, they exacted the same from me, regardless of sex, and I want no less than a man from them. I want protection for my property. In other words, though I may not be clever, not own bricks and mortar, not be anything but a woman-labourer, still I have a use for the vote. And so say all of us.—Yours,

F. J. A.

[We have made an exception in order to publish this interesting letter.—Ed. "C.C."]

THE COST OF A NATION'S MOURNING.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."
Madam,—It is worth noting in your columns that a time of national mourning, while voicing the grief of a great nation for what men and women feel to be an irreparable loss, makes a heavy demand on the women of the nation only.

To-day from Land's End to John o' Groats women have been considering how to obtain and how to afford the black clothes demanded by custom and sentiment.

This national necessity comes as a heavy tax indeed on the struggling professional woman and the girl with an allowance already too slender for her needs.

If national mourning meant that all men receiving salaries (however restricted) had to buy new coats and new trousers immediately, we wonder how far the outward expression of grief at the loss of our greatly honoured king would be likely to go.

As it is, however, the young men clerks and schoolmasters will have the same amount to spend on their daily meals and little luxuries, while their wage-earning sisters—ill-paid at best—will be spending what they ought not to afford in symbolising the national grief.

Perhaps when the "Times" brings out next week its deferred Woman's Supplement—dealing as it proposes to do with matters that belong to the feminine sphere—it may have occasion to remark that such a paper cannot after all be "necessarily occupied with the lighter sides of life"—unless it would merely travesty the interests it purports to represent.—Yours, etc.,
MARY LOWNDES.

MEDICAL RELIEF FOR THE POOR.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."
Madam,—Making women paupers, and men, too, I hope "M. D." is not too busy to study the complete scheme, of which Mrs. Sidney Webb is an exponent, in the minority proposals for the break-up of the Poor Law (office of the committee, 5, Clement's Inn).

He will there learn the improved outlook for the doctor attending poor patients under the suggested health authorities. He will be paid a fair price for his work, and it will be someone else's job to recover as much of the money as shall be thought fit and proved possible. That the present form of Poor Law relief is not "the best form of intervention" is, after the evidence before the Royal Commission, generally accepted. The fact is also undeniable that not only "cadgers who can well afford to pay" are deterred by this smirching of medical relief with the name of pauperism, but also thousands of honest poor who should for the nation's good be sought out and encouraged to come for help.—Yours,
REGINALD H. POTT.

11, Scarsdale Villas, May 7, 1910.

"THE UNMARRIED DAUGHTER."

To the Editor "The Common Cause."
Madam,—In your paper of April 28 Miss Hamilton makes a most unjust attack on men as to their treatment of the unmarried daughter. Miss Hamilton says: "Men had only one use for woman; if she fulfilled it not, she went on the scrap-heap. And on the scrap-heap, from one generation to another, the spinster has lain."

I contend that this statement of Miss Hamilton is absolutely baseless. Men have always honoured the "unmarried daughter"—they well know her splendid unselfishness, her devoted self-sacrifice. No women have done true woman's work better than the spinsters. In every rank of life, in almost all kinds of womanly work, they have ever done most nobly. Thus education, nursing, the care of homes and penitentiaries, literature, art—to mention only five spheres out of many,—owe, and have ever owed, an incalculable debt to spinsters. But Miss Hamilton and other members of your Society apparently think that politics is the only worthy sphere for feminine activity. The quiet, hard, hum-drum, beneficent life of the head of a home for waifs and strays, or of a convalescent home, or of a guardian of the poor, is apparently beneath the contempt of the modern Suffragette, who loves to be notorious, to have her platform speeches reported, her latest extravagance and silly monkey-tricks noticed by the crowd somehow or another.

Have men ever failed to honour Jane Austen, Charlotte Yonge, Florence Nightingale, Christina Rossetti, Miss Octavia Hill, Miss Herschel, and other famous spinsters, and also countless thousands of unknown or little known spinsters who have ever been true "Angels in the House," and spent their whole lives in doing good to all around them. Just reflect what a loss the disappearance of the "home daughter," the "sister," the maiden aunt, the faithful servant, would mean to numberless homes amongst us, and you will treat the question of the "spinster" in a worthier manner than the manner of Miss Hamilton.—Yours,
A. POWYS.

Meanwood Vicarage, Leeds, May 7, 1910.
[Our correspondent mistakes. It was not Miss Hamilton, nor we, nor any Suffragist, who called in question the beneficence of the spinster. What we with one voice protest against is the notion that a woman, any more than a man, can live by adulation alone. The pedestal of "true womanliness" with a crust for dinner is a hungry place. Soft words butter no parsnips, and we are a little sick of

seeing women denied a living wage or fair scope for their powers because they are "so unselfish."—Ed. "C.C."]

THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—When I have visited different Suffrage Societies I have often been struck by the excellent ideas that some of them have had for getting new members, for advertising meetings, or for one thing or another in connection with our movement. Unfortunately, excessive modesty or laziness or something seems to lead societies to keep these ideas to themselves, and I would put in a plea to secretaries to add to their weekly reports to "The Common Cause" anything they are doing that may be new. Or I would urge them to write articles on "How We Run Our Society" for publication, leaving you, madam, to select those which you think likely to be of service to other societies. We all know how difficult it is to think of new methods or work, and many a plan that is old and stale to one society may come as something fresh and original to another. An interchange of annual reports, membership cards, workers' cards, etc., would also be helpful, and could be done at no expense to the society which issued them. They would only need to add to their weekly report in "The Common Cause" that they had issued something, and were prepared to send it to any secretary on receipt of a halfpenny stamp. My experience shows me that there are very few secretaries who are enterprising enough to take advantage of such notices, but those who do would be grateful, and they deserve to be encouraged. It would besides make the reports very much more interesting to workers who know that every Suffrage meeting is exactly like every other, and who want to help their society by the experience of others.—Yours, etc.,
EMILIE M. GARDNER.

10, Easy Row, Birmingham, May 9th, 1910.

Reports of Societies within the National Union.

Secretaries would simplify the work by sending in notices of FORTHCOMING MEETINGS, endorsed with those words, with time, place, and speakers legibly written, on one side of the paper only, and on a sheet of paper separate from other matter.

BIRMINGHAM.

Miss Fraser's campaign has been an unqualified success. There has been a meeting every night (except Tuesday, when our one outdoor fixture was spoiled by the rain), and almost every afternoon, too. Everywhere there has been paid the same tribute to Miss Fraser's eloquence and moderation, new members have come in in dozens, collections have been good, and "Common Causes" have sold like hot cakes. The reports of particular meetings will be found under their localities. After our report last week a London member kindly offered to send her "Common Cause" each week to one of our members who was not able to take it in. If anyone else will do the same we shall be glad to supply the names of people who would very much like to see the paper each week but who cannot afford to take it regularly.

BIRMINGHAM—SUTTON COLDFIELD.

On May 2nd a successful drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Rathbone's, Four Oaks. The room was full of ladies, most of whom were Anti-Suffragists. They listened with interest to Miss Fraser, and then were sufficiently courageous to ask questions. The matter of women on juries was very agitating to one lady, who was unable to get satisfaction because she felt that women ought to serve there if they had a vote, and yet was perfectly certain that they ought not to serve. It is a wonderful mind that can hold two contradictory opinions at the same time. On May 6th a meeting was held in the Town Hall, Miss Earl in the chair, Miss Fraser and Miss Gardner as speakers. We were told that some of the audience had come prepared to move an amendment to the resolution, but evidently Miss Fraser removed all doubts, for it was carried without a dissentient.

BIRMINGHAM—EDGBASTON AND HARBOURNE.

It is not often that a drawing-room meeting in a large house is so full that both the chairman and the speaker are unable to sit down at the same time. This was what happened at the meeting at Lady Smith's on May 3rd. Over a hundred people came to hear Miss Fraser, and there was literally no room for another chair. The large audience were much impressed by her speech, and an excellent collection was taken, and several new members obtained.

On May 4th a combination of Suffrage and entertainment were sufficient to fill the large hall at the Harborne Institute without difficulty. It was an alarming meeting. At 7.55 there were about twenty people in a hall that holds nearly four hundred, and the secretary had a bad attack of meeting fever; at 8.10 the room was full! Professor Hughes took the chair, and Miss Fraser spoke. After tea and coffee Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes gave their duologue, "Logic," and Miss Nightingale recited. Many new members were obtained and the gospel carried to many for the first time. Our special thanks should be given to the Harborne ladies for the success of the meeting; it was their hard work that brought it together and that has done more to wake up Harborne to Suffrage than anything that has been done for the last ten years. We want also to thank the ladies who supplied the refreshments.

BIRMINGHAM—ERDINGTON.

On May 5th Mrs. C. H. Pugh gave a meeting for us in her drawing-room, and took the chair herself to give us additional support. She was told that she was a brave woman to do so much for us in a place that is rather a hotbed of Anti-ism. Most of the ladies present were indifferent or even opposed when they came, and four remained obdurate to the end, but the rest voted for the resolution, and about ten joined the Society.

BIRMINGHAM—SELLY OAK.

There ought soon to be a Society for Selly Oak and King's Norton, if the success of the meetings on May 6th and the presence of such splendid friends as Miss Jessie Wood is any sign. To her is due entirely all the work we have ever done in this district. In the afternoon a drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Henry Lloyd Wilson's, at which over fifty were present. Mrs. Wilson's help was enough in itself to secure for us a favourable hearing, and after the meeting several ladies who had come as active opponents went away converted. Nineteen new members were obtained, and two dozen "Common Causes" sold. In the evening a meeting was held at the Selly Oak Institute, Mr. J. St. George Heath, M.A., in the chair. Miss Fraser spoke and was supported on the platform by many of the most influential people in the district. Selly Oak is noted for the intelligence of its working-men, and Miss Fraser had many questions to answer at the close of her speech. The resolution was carried with only one dissentient, in spite of the presence of the inevitable Adult Suffragist. After the speech Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes gave their duologue again with great success.
BLACKPOOL.

A meeting was held in the Imperial Café on the evening of May 5th. Dr. Dora Bunting, lady assistant medical officer of health, presided. Mr. W. Lyon Blouse, of Liverpool, the speaker, gave a historical sketch of the movement, and said the chief reason for asking for the vote was to remove the stigma of inferiority which had rested upon women, and which would continue to do so as long as the most important social rights were denied to them. A vote of thanks was passed for the interesting address.
BOURNEMOUTH.

This Society held its weekly At Home on Tuesday afternoon at the Avenue Assembly Rooms. After tea a practical paper was given by Mrs. Richards on the care of the feeble-minded, showing how much this and kindred Societies would benefit by the extension of the franchise to women. The collection well covered the expenses of the meeting. On May 24th a Suffrage play will be given.

A public meeting has been arranged at Weston-super-Mare on the 16th of June, and Lady Frances Balfour has most kindly consented to be the speaker, which gives us an assurance of success. The Weston Committee will co-operate with the Bristol Branch in making the arrangements, and we hope that the formation of a strong branch at Weston will be the result. We received the news a few days ago that the National Union has accepted the invitation to hold the July Council meeting in Bristol. We shall give a hearty welcome to the delegates, and hope for a good meeting.

Our weekly cottage meetings are continued, and we find them most useful and interesting. They are arranged from week to week, each hostess inviting her own friends, so that every meeting makes a fresh nucleus and brings fresh members. These women know only too well the ways in which the law touches their home life and their industrial position. They only need the link of explanation to show

them the connection between political power and their own everyday lives.

We are planning for a West of England Federation, to include Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

A debate was held at Friars' Walk Schools on Monday evening, May 2nd. Mrs. Michael Sadler, President of the Burton Women's Suffrage Society, addressed the meeting on behalf of Women's Suffrage, while Mr. Vale Rawlings, of the I.L.P., advocated in preference Adult Suffrage. There was a good attendance of the general public, and much interest was evinced in the arguments brought forward. This was particularly evident at "question time." That the feeling of the hearers preponderated on behalf of the Women's Suffrage speaker was shown at the call of the Chairman (T. N. Lyman, Esq.), by the passing of the resolution for Women's—against Adult—Suffrage by a satisfactory majority. The proceedings were well reported in the local Press.

CAMBRIDGE—NEWNHAM COLLEGE.

The May term meetings are not usually so numerous nor so well attended as those of other terms, as many of the members have examination at the end of the term; but at the one meeting, on May 6th, there was a large and interested audience to hear Mrs. Swanwick's address, entitled "Homo Sum." Mrs. Swanwick dealt with some of the fundamental problems which underlie the demand for Women's Suffrage in an illuminating address, and it was both interesting and refreshing to hear a speech which did not contain the old stock arguments in some form. Miss Freund was in the chair, and at the end of the meeting Miss Jane Harrison proposed a vote of thanks for an address which had been highly appreciated by the whole audience.
COVENTRY.

There was a crowded and representative audience on May 3rd at a public meeting in St. Mary's Hall, when Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Clementina Black were the principal speakers. A large quantity of "Common Causes" and other literature was sold. Canon Masterman, as chairman, said he had never championed any cause in Coventry with a more whole-hearted belief in the justice of it than the cause which brought them together that evening. Anything that prevented the women of England from taking a real share in the shaping of the national destiny could be nothing less than disastrous to the men.

Lady Frances Balfour, who was received with loud applause, said that the usual interrogation one heard on the question from men in private life was, "Why do you want the vote?" The ordinary short answer was, "We want it for the same reason that men want it. (Applause.) That was the answer that contained everything. Women, like men, wanted it because it was the badge of a free citizenship in this country, the highest mark that the country could give its citizens. The speaker caused some amusement by saying that there were two ways by which the franchise for women could be speedily gained. One was if every woman were to go to her nearest male relative and say, "Support me, or give us the franchise," and the other if every female cook were to go on strike. "We should get it in six weeks then," said Lady Frances, amid laughter.

Miss Black next delivered an address which was characterized by quiet and telling reasoning. She said it was the duty of women who had the advantages of education and leisure to take a share peacefully and in an orderly manner in the creation of laws that could help—and would help if England did her duty—to cure the hardships of the working women.

Mrs. Mayer also spoke on the benefits of the vote in Australia and New Zealand. The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

The meeting marked the end of a campaign carried on for the past fortnight. The effect has been very good, an excellent impression having been made on all those present, and, indeed, in the town generally.
EDINBURGH.

We have been mainly engaged in office work during this week, all bearing on Mrs. Snowden's meeting. The members of Assembly are being circularized, as are also the members of the United Free Church Assembly. We hope very much that they may find it possible to attend the meeting in large numbers, and that their wives and daughters will also be able to spare time to hear Mrs. Philip Snowden. They come from all parts of Scotland, and are in touch with enormous numbers of people, so that their conversion to the cause is of the utmost importance.

On Thursday, Mrs. Cumming Craig gave a very well attended drawing-room meeting at 9, Learmonth Terrace. Dr. Elsie Inglis and Miss Low were the speakers, and covered the ground very thoroughly between them. Miss Low, in tracing the beginnings of the movement, showed how the men had had to struggle for their enfranchisement, and how wrong it was to judge of any movement until it was completed. We got several new members, and felt that we had touched a fresh section of the community.

Our At Home on Friday was very interesting. Miss Margaret Drummond read her extremely informing paper on "Woman and Education," which showed deep research and knowledge of history. Miss Drummond traced the history of the education of women from the days of early Greece down to the present day.

HASLEMERE.

Next week we begin work, with the help of the Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire Organizer, in some of the neighbouring villages, where very little has yet been done. On Tuesday, May 10th, we go to Witley, where we intend to canvass seriously, to hold open-air meetings on two nights, and on the third night we shall have a meeting in the schools. On May 18th we begin work in Cranleigh, a little town where no Women's Suffrage meeting has ever been held. We shall spend two or three days there, and have arranged a meeting in the Village Hall for May 19th, at which Miss Abadam has promised to speak. Then, on the 21st or the 23rd, we shall move on to Dunsfold and Chiddingfold, which will fill up the time until Miss Gordon leaves us on the 25th.

We are also busy arranging a Suffrage garden party for the first week in June, to take place at Tweenways, Hindhead. We are hoping to have the waxworks, recitations, dances, stalls for odds and ends, sweets and cakes, and a jumble stall. If the weather is only kind to us we hope to raise some money, a portion of which we must keep for our own expenses, but as much as we can spare will be sent to Miss Bertha Mason.

By Appointment.

LADIES,
HAVE YOU TRIED
John Knight's
NATURAL BOUQUET
TOILET SOAPS?

*Made in twenty varieties to suit all complexions.
They soften the skin and soothe all irritations.*

SEND 6 PENNY STAMPS to Dept. "C.C."
for SAMPLE BOX CONTAINING
SELECTION OF 6 SPECIAL TABLETS.
POST FREE.

AWARDED "GRAND PRIX"
FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

JOHN KNIGHT, Ltd.,
Soapmakers to H.M. The King,
The Royal Primrose Soap Works **LONDON.**

HERTS. AND HITCHIN—LETCHEWORTH.

On April 29th a well-attended meeting was held in the Pixmore Institute. Letters of apology for absence were read from our President, the Earl of Lytton, and from Mr. Greg, the Liberal candidate for the division, who expressed himself as "in complete sympathy with the movement." Miss Hope Bea, who was in the chair, impressed upon her hearers that the women's movement was not merely local, or even national, but world-wide.

Mr. Baillie-Weaver then gave an address of remarkable force and effectiveness, cogent in its reasoning, witty and incisive in illustration, which was thoroughly appreciated by a responsive and intelligent audience. Any attempt at a summary would be impracticable in so limited space, but one striking suggestion may be noted, as coming from a man: that while he believed a large number of men accepted the exclusion of women through mere want of thought, it must be admitted that a certain number dreaded the entrance of women into politics because of the social changes it would involve. The tendency would be to substitute one legal and moral code for two as at present—one code of parental rights, one code as to property and inheritance, one code of morals for the two sexes.

Mr. Nowers followed, and exhorted all believers in the cause to act as missionaries for the Suffrage on every possible occasion. He moved a resolution urging Dr. Hillier, M.P. for North Herts, to do all in his power to further the enfranchisement of women. (Dr. Hillier is an opponent.)

Mr. Bond Holding, of the Herts. County Council, seconded, and votes of thanks to Mr. Baillie-Weaver and the Chairman were moved and seconded by Miss Millicent Brown, Mrs. Hunter, and others. A good collection was taken, six new members joined, and fifty copies of "The Common Cause" were sold.

WEST HERTS.

The third of our fortnightly meetings took place on May 5th, when Mrs. Workman gave an address on "Woman Suffrage and Education." Mrs. Workman spoke from wide practical knowledge of both primary and secondary education, as she has been connected with the work of Cheltenham College, the National Froebel Union, and with the training of elementary school teachers. She showed how some of the mismanagement in national education was due to man-made legislation, and how such mistakes might be avoided if men and women co-operated on equal terms in the making of laws.

Our jumble sale is fixed for May 26th, and we hope for even better results than we realized at our last one.

KESWICK.

A new and second-hand sale was held by this branch on April 27th. Miss Bardsley, who opened the sale, said it gave her great pleasure to do so, as she remembered how the Keswick Society had helped the Carlisle branch in its early days and really put it on its feet. She also spoke of the objects of the Association, and urged members not to relax in their efforts to carry the movement to a successful issue. The sale—a small one—was very successful, and quite repaid the efforts of the Sale Committee.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

A very successful meeting was held at Gateshead on Thursday, May 5th, at the kind invitation of Mrs. Hutchinson. Miss Margaret Temperley presided, and Miss Margaret Mein gave an address. "The Common Cause" sold well, and several new members were enrolled.

SHREWSBURY.

An afternoon meeting was held under the auspices of the Ladies' National Association for the Abolition of the State Regulation of Vice on Tuesday, May 3rd, in St. Alkmund's Schoolroom. Dr. Katharine Bushnell was an efficient speaker, and treated her difficult subject with fact and delicacy.

A very successful At Home was held in St. Alkmund's Schoolroom on Wednesday evening, May 4th, when members and their friends came to meet Mrs. Mayer, the National Union Organizer, who will be working in Shrewsbury and district for a fortnight. Mrs. Mayer's admirable speech was listened to with great interest, and at the close many members offered their services at the outdoor meetings it is proposed to hold. Mrs. Harley, the President of the Society, was in the chair.

SHROPSHIRE—WHITCHURCH.

Two successful outdoor meetings were held here on Thursday, May 5th, when Mrs. Mayer and Mrs. Timpany were the speakers. Much interest in the cause of Women's Suffrage was evinced, many workers avowing their belief in women being straightway enfranchised. One man in the audience asked Mrs. Mayer in what way he could further so necessary a reform, whilst even the children clamoured for literature and "Common Cause." Mrs. Harley took the chair at the afternoon meeting, and Mrs. Shields and Mrs. Street did splendid work in advertising the meetings.

In consequence of the death of the King the outdoor meetings arranged for this and the following week will not take place.

WOBURN SANDS.

A meeting was held at the Parish Hall on Monday evening. Miss Margaret Hodge was able to tell of the results of the giving of votes to women in Australia. The other speaker was the Rev. Hugh Chapman, B.A., Chaplain to the Royal Chapel of the Savoy, who is a well-known and eloquent advocate of the Women's Suffrage cause. There was a good attendance, the chair being taken by Mr. J. H. Renton.

Miss Hodge, in her eloquent speech, pointed out how an experience of ten years had shown that women were quite capable of weighing the respective merits of rival candidates. Miss Hodge then illustrated the good which women had done since they had the vote, in Sunday closing of public-houses, in raising women's wages, in passing Factory Acts, and appointing women inspectors.

The Rev. Hugh Chapman also addressed the meeting, and said his principal reason for joining the movement was a religious one. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, proposed by Mr. E. F. Bathurst and seconded by Rev. D. W. Henry, brought the meeting to a close.

Gaiety Theatre - Manchester.

To-night, at 7.30.

WIDOWERS' HOUSES

By Bernard Shaw.

Preceded by "Marriages Are Made in Heaven," by Basil Dean. Whit-Monday, May 16. Every Evening, 7.30. Matinée, Saturday at 2. "CUPID AND COMMONSENSE," a play in 4 acts, by Arnold Bennett.

Telephone: 8048 Central.

Not Bread Alone

but all kinds of most delicious and nutritious Cakes, Pies, Puddings, Pastry, Scones, etc., can be made with

PURE "ARTOX" WHOLEMEAL

It is a popular fallacy that wholemeal (commonly called brown flour or grist) can only be used for bread, and sometimes very poor bread too. To a certain extent this is true, because the ordinary stuff sold as wholemeal is very coarse, and makes up into dry, chaffy, and "stodgy" bread, neither pleasing to the eye nor appetising to the palate.

The "ARTOX" Process changes all this

All the sharp, coarse, gritty particles are entirely taken away without removing any of the natural constituents of the grain. The result is a perfectly fine wholemeal, as fine as the best white flour—and much better. The regular use of "ARTOX" keeps the body in good working order and thoroughly nourishes it, making good bone, nerve, and muscle.

Prove it! At once! A cookery book is free for the asking. Strongly recommended by "The Lancet" and Mrs. C. Leigh Hunt Wallace ("Herald of Health").

Sold by Grocers and Health Food Stores in 3lb., 7lb., and 14lb. sealed linen bags; or 28lb. will be sent direct, carriage paid, for 5/-. "ARTOX" is not sold loose.

Send for this book now (post free).

APPLEYARDS, LTD.,
Ickles Mills,
ROTHERHAM.



For Home and Gifts.

Use the Chalet Lavender Preparations

Distilled from the finest English blooms. All the fragrance and purity of the flower retained.
PERFUME. A perfect scent, fragrant and lasting. 1s. 9d. and 2s. 6d.
SOAP. Finest quality, delicately scented. In dainty boxes, each containing 3 tablets, 2s. 3d.
BATH SALTS. Delightful and exhilarating. In gilt lever air-tight tins. 1s. 3d.
SHAMPOO POWDERS. These impart a delicate perfume to the hair. 1s. 3d. per box of 7.
SILK SACHETS. For linen cupboard, wardrobe, dresses. From 6d. to 1s. All goods daintily packed, and post free.
Miss Lightman, The Chalet, Bullingstone Lane, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells.

Now Ready. Price 1/1 Post Free.

"The White Slaves of England."

By G. K. Knight, B.A.

"An excellent work, and should do a great deal of good." (Vide Press.)

To be obtained only of Mr. G. K. KNIGHT, Redhill, Denham (via Uxbridge), Bucks.

MAUD BARHAM,
186, Regent Street, W.

Artistic Dress—Original Designs,
Hand Embroideries, Evening,
Afternoon, and Day Gowns.
Djibbahs, Coats, Hats.

Patterns, Estimates and Sketches
on Application.

Dresses made from pattern measurement.

Other Societies.

THE NEW UNION FOR MEN AND WOMEN,
52, Maddox Street.

On Sunday last, the New Union for Men and Women, which has been holding large meetings in Hyde Park every Sunday since Easter, had its flag on the van in the park at half-mast, draped with black, and the announcement: "In consequence of the death of our most popular King, and as a mark of respect, no meeting will be held to-day."

IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.

The Committee met at 35, Molesworth Street, on Thursday, 5th inst., Mrs. E. Hill Tickell in the chair. After the routine business was concluded, it was decided to send a telegram of warm congratulation to Walter S. B. McLaren, Esq., M.P., on his triumphant election for Crewe. The Hon. Secretary reported that the fourth of the evening educational meetings was held on the 29th ult., Mrs. Haslam presiding. Miss M. N. McNaull read a most interesting paper on "Women's Work in the Civil Service," which was followed by a lively discussion; and the right of women to equal pay for equal work, when equally well performed, with the men employed in all Government and municipal offices, was strongly insisted on. But they cannot expect economic justice, even in such offices, until they have obtained the Parliamentary vote.

THE TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Mrs. Kington Parkes spoke on "Resistance to Taxation" at the weekly At Home of the Hastings and St. Leonards Propaganda League on May 2nd, and met with a hearty reception. Two ladies sent up their names as members of the Tax Resistance League, while others promised to "think it over" offering meanwhile to support the movement with their sympathy in the practical form of a collection. The local Press has shown great interest in this latest of a sensational form on the posters.

Mrs. Parkes, who was supported by Mrs. MacMunn, Mrs. Darent Harrison, Miss Stewart, Lieut.-Col. Savile, and others, was highly satisfied with the results of the first public meeting which had been held on behalf of the new League, of which she is secretary.

A drawing-room meeting has been arranged for Wednesday evening, May 11th, at 14, Endsleigh Street, W.C. Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson and Mrs. Kington Parkes will speak on "Resistance to Taxation in Connection with Women's Suffrage." Any readers interested in the subject are requested to write for invitation cards to Mrs. Parkes, 90, Agamemnon Road, Hampstead.

Forthcoming Meetings.

The undermentioned meetings have been postponed until after the funeral of His late Majesty:

- All meetings of the London Society,
 - All meetings of the North of England Society,
 - All meetings of the Birmingham Society,
 - All meetings of the Shrewsbury Society,
 - Meeting at Carnforth on the 13th May.
- | | | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| MAY 12. | Tunbridge Wells—Christ Church Parish Room—Dr. Louise Martindale. | 3.0 |
| | Nottingham—39, Bridlesmith Gate—Tea and Cocoa. | 7-9 |
| | London—Church League—Essex Hall, Strand—Miss Royden. | 8.30 |
| MAY 13. | Uxbridge—Church League for W.S.—Inaugural Public Meeting—The Rev. C. Hinscliff, Miss Canning. | 7.30 |
| | Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Mrs. Johnstone. | 4.0 and 8.0 |
| | Bournemouth—Prince's Hall—Lady Stout. | 4.0 |
| MAY 14. | Folkestone—Public Meeting—Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| MAY 17. | Farnham—Tilford Schools—Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| MAY 18. | Rugby—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Mayer. | 8.0 |
| | Hull—Paragon Square—Open-air Meeting—Mr. Herbert Jacobs. | 7.0 |
| | Hull—Public Meeting—Mr. Herbert Jacobs. | 8.0 |
| | Farnham—South Street Institute—Miss Abadam. | 3.0 |
| MAY 19. | Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Sale to be opened by the Lady Frances Balfour. | 11.0 |
| | Dublin—35, Molesworth Street—Committee Meeting. | 11.30 |
| | Cranleigh—Village Hall—Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| | Leamington—44, Avenue Road—Miss Harrison's Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Julian Osler. | 8.0 |
| | Watford—Masonic Hall—Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell. | 8.0 |
| MAY 21. | Oxford—Miss Abadam. | 3.0 |
| | Woodstock—Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| | Tunbridge Wells—Great Hall—Miss Mason's Lantern Lecture. | 8.0 |
| MAY 24. | Leatherhead—Public Hall—Mrs. Fawcett. | 8.0 |
| MAY 25. | Darlington—Temperance Institute—Annual Meeting. | 7.30 |
| | London (Essex)—Village Hall—Mrs. Fawcett. | 8.0 |
| | London (Enfield)—Public Meeting. | 8.0 |
| MAY 26. | Birmingham—Grand Hotel—Annual Meeting. | 5.30 |
| | London (Ealing)—Suffrage Play. | |
| | London (Richmond)—Miss Bailey's Drawing-room Meeting—Lady Isabel Margesson. | 3.15 |
| | London (South Paddington)—Miss Partridge's Drawing-room Meeting. | 4.0 |
| | Dorking—Public Hall—Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| MAY 27. | Edinburgh—Synod Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden. | 8.0 |
| | Peaslake—Drawing-room Meeting. | 3.0 |
| | Shere—Village Hall—Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Abadam. | 8.0 |
| MAY 30. | Newdigate—Schools—Mrs. Fawcett. | 7.30 |

MAPLETON'S
COOKING
NUTTER

Superior to Lard for all cooking purposes.

Cheaper, goes further,
and gives better results.

Write for particulars, with Dainty Booklet, with Recipes, to Dept. J.

MAPLETON'S NUT FOOD CO., LTD.,
GARSTON, Lancs.

PREPAID MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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

MISS WILKINSON, 8, York Street, Manchester. Legal, Literary, and Commercial Typewriting.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thoralby, Aysgarth, S.O., Yorkshire. Sunny Situation. Paying Guests received.—Particulars on application, enclosing stamp, to Miss Smith.

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

HOLIDAYS IN IRELAND.—Paying Guests taken in large comfortable country house in Killarney district.—Terms on application to Box 101, this office.

SUFFRAGE WORKING PARTY.—Children's Plain or Fancy Frocks, Overalls, Pinafores. Approval. Orders solicited.—Mrs. Catt, Hon. Sec., Pavilion Terrace, Scarborough.

S LIGACHAN INN, SKYE.—Centre for excellent rock-climbing. Beautiful scenery. Loch, sea, river fishing. Hotel highly recommended. Charges moderate.

FRAULEIN MARSHALL, Mountfield, Prestwich, has vacancies for pupils for German.

VIOLETS.—Cuttings, specially cheap, now for Sale.—Miss C. Woolner, Sindon, Arundel. Profits to N.U.W.S.S. Choice blooms in season.

WANTED, Paid Suffrage Work for July.—Apply X.X.X., Office of "The Common Cause."

COUNTRY NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOMES, Penn's Lane, Erdington, near Birmingham. For Paying Patients. (Under the distinguished patronage of the Countess of Bradford.) Medical, Surgical, Massage. Permanent Patients received in Homes. (Care of one delicate child.) Fully certificated, Hospital-trained Nurses sent out on application.—Miss C. Fallows, Matron. Telephone: 537 Erdington. Telegrams: "Nursing, Erdington."

LONDON.

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

ALAN'S TEA-ROOMS, 263 Oxford St., 4 doors from Jay's. Luncheon, 1s., 1s. 6d. Tea, 9d., 1s. Large Studio for Meetings, "At Homes."

HEADACHE, NEURALGIA CURED in a few minutes; outward application. Money returnable if not satisfactory. 1s. 3d. post free.—Madame Marie, 77, Westminster Bridge Road, London.

VICTORIA CLUB FOR LADIES. Established 1894.—145, Victoria Street, S.W.

THE LOUNGE TEA ROOM, FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND DANTY TEAS. Small Dinners arranged for. Room may be engaged for Meetings, Parties, etc.—Proprietress, 222, Earl's Court Road (Earl's Court Station).

COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE for students and other ladies, near Albert Hall. From 14 guineas weekly.—Miss Ransom, 21, Lexham Gardens, Kensington.

BED-SITTING-ROOM to Let. Also small Dressing-room if required.—Write, E. M., 7, Alma Square, N.W.

If you want to be able to refute the one and only argument of the Anti-Suffragists, read

National Service and the Enfranchisement of Women.

By A. Maude Royden and Frank Leigh.

From the Office of "The Common Cause."

Price 2d. each. Postage $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

CARL HENTSCHEL LTD.,

Process Engravers.

HEAD OFFICES:—

182, 183, and 184, Fleet St., London, E.C.



Carl Henschel Ltd. are the leading Specialists in the reproduction of photo graphs, drawings, &c., either in line half tone, or colour, for pamphlets, books, periodicals, &c.

All the leading publications are illustrated with Carl Henschel's Blocks

WOMEN ARE ADVISED

on all MATTERS OF BUSINESS by the auditor to the Women's Freedom League and other Women's Organisations.

MRS. E. AYRES PURDIE,
Ch. of Commerce Senior Honours,
CRAVEN HOUSE,

Telephone 6049. KINGSWAY, W.C.

FOR HIGH CLASS—

PRINTING and STATIONERY

at the LOWEST PRICES, go to

ARTHUR ELLISON, 41, Lower Moseley St.,
MANCHESTER.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Grand Matinee Musicale,

Grand Hall, Criterion Restaurant,

POSTPONED

From May 10th, to TUESDAY, May 24th, at 2.30.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

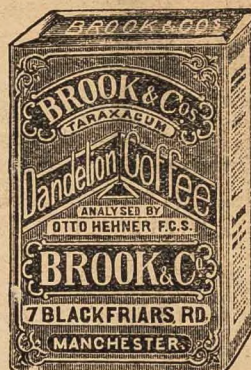
All Meetings **POSTPONED** until
after the 20th May.

SUFFRAGE ATELIER.

Special Matinee in aid of funds to be held at the

ROYAL COURT THEATRE,
SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.

POSTPONED until Friday, May 27th.



Ask your grocer for Brook's Dandelion Coffee, also
Grains of Health Salt.

New and Revised Edition.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN MANY LANDS..

BY ALICE ZIMMERN.

With a Foreword by Mrs. CHAPMAN CATT, President of the
International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

1s. net.

The object of this little book, dealing as it does with the Feminist Movement—more especially Suffrage—in 22 Countries, is to show the wide extent of the demand made by women all over the world for a voice and influence in the government of their country.

PUBLISHED AT 13, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, LONDON, E.C.
Obtainable at all Women's Suffrage Societies, or through Booksellers.

F. LUDICKE,

LADIES' HAIRDRESSER AND SPECIALIST IN ARTISTIC HAIR
WORK, COLOURING AND TREATMENT OF THE HAIR.

FACE MASSAGE AND MANICURE

Lessons in Hairdressing given to Ladies' Maids, etc.

39, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite entrance to Kingsway Tram Tunnel).

The R.M.S. "Dunottar Castle,"

Of the Union Castle Line (the only large steamer 100 Al at Lloyd's
entirely devoted to Pleasure Cruises) is chartered for

£18 18s. St. Petersburg (for Moscow), Stockholm, Copenhagen,
Lubeck, Danzig, etc. June 2.

£18 18s. To the Norwegian Fjords and the North Cape.
June 25.

SECRETARY, 5, ENDSLEIGH GARDENS, LONDON, N.W.

New Meadow Cottage, Entwistle, nr. Bolton.

A limited number of Men Patients, recovering from illness
(which has not been infectious), or in need of rest and change of
air, are received at the above during the summer.

Terms: 14/- per Week.

A Matron, who is a fully trained Nurse and experienced in
Hospital Management, is in charge, and any inquiries may be
addressed to her.

THE TEA CUP INN.

Corner of PORTUGAL STREET, KINGSWAY, W.C.

Dainty, inexpensive Lunches, Afternoon Tea. Soups,
Home-made Cakes and Vegetarian Dishes a speciality.

Entirely staffed and managed by women.



The William Morris
Press: 42 Albert St.
MANCHESTER.

Printers for the advanced movement every
where. Excellence, promptitude and fair prices

Printed by PERCY BROTHERS, LTD., for the Proprietors, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.
London Agents: Geo. Vickers, Angel Court, Strand; W. H. Smith and Son, 186, Strand; Wynun, Ltd., Peter Lane.
Manchester: John Heywood, Deansgate; Abel Heywood and Son, Oldham Street; W. H. Smith and Son, Blackfriars Street.
Newcastle-on-Tyne: W. H. Smith and Son. Edinburgh and Glasgow: J. Menzies and Co. Dublin and Belfast: Eason and Son.

Chaplin