

The Autumn Campaign.

The Common Cause.

The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

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ONE PENNY.

The News of the Week.

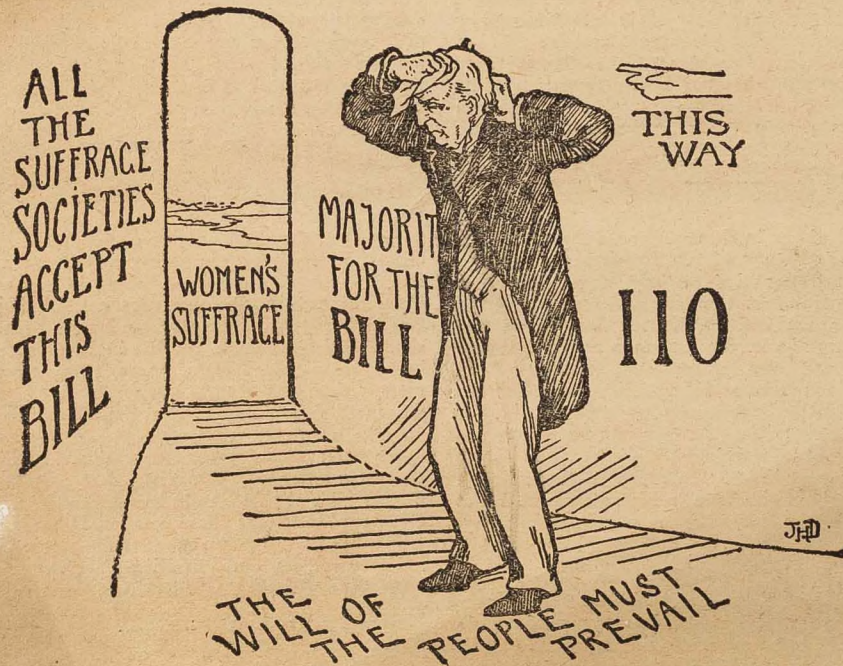
The Osborne Judgment.

In the careful reading of the reports of the Trade Unions Congress and in the study of the admissions, aspirations, mistakes, and accomplishments of the Labour representatives, there is infinite profit to Suffragists. One lesson cannot fail to come home to them all, and to give pause even to the crudest Anti-Suffragist, and that is the absolutely unanimous realization of the far-reaching importance of the Osborne judgment. Whether you think that it is fair or unfair, desirable or not, that associations for trade purposes should be permitted to spend a portion of their funds on running candidates and

special Labour Members; it is only *women* workers who, for some mysterious reason (a part, we suppose, of the general inscrutability of woman) can do very well without representation.

The Shoe Pinches Only Its Wearer.

Everyone concerned is at once busy casting about for a remedy. Some ask for a simple reversal of the decision; some ask for a change of the law of association; some jump to a much more far-reaching and complex solution, the payment of election expenses by the State and even of Members of Parliament. Nobody thinks of sitting quietly under it, and we may expect to find the autumn speeches of Members of Parliament and candidates full of the question and its possible answers. The Taff Vale



THE ROMAN ROAD.

The Prime Minister: "What possessed me to start on this road? I don't want to go forward, but I can't go back!"

paying salaries to Labour Members, it is not possible to regard as unimportant the judgment which declared these proceedings to be illegal. The Labour men regard the Osborne judgment as a disaster which must be retrieved at all hazards; the more extreme of them even talk of defying the law and continuing to make the illegal levy. And even those who are glad of the judgment do not say it was of small moment. There is no nonsense about combination being all that *men* need to improve their industrial position; it is admitted on all hands that men workers need representation, even to the extent of having

decision resulted in no long time in the Trade Disputes Act, which even the Lords dared not throw out, because they knew it would make them unpopular at an election. Many men did not like that Bill, but they liked losing votes less. It will be the same with the Osborne decision. Liberals and Conservatives will vie with one another in proposing remedies; the "Morning Post" has actually plunged for payment of Members. Need we point the moral?

When the House of Lords decided that a woman was not a person, men were not much concerned. The best

of them were inclined to think it was queer. But then—it seems it was “the law,” and the “law is a hass,”—and therewith an end! Men rage when they are denied the right to run a Member, even though they are left the vote, but the very same men are found to say women “exaggerate,” and women are “in too great a hurry,” because they are sick of existing only when they are to be exploited.

The Law and Its Interpretation.

Our attention has been called by Mrs. P. H. Mellor, hon. secretary of the Burton Society, to the following paragraph in the “Derby Daily Telegraph”—“Mr. R. Ringwood, Revising Barrister of the Sheffield district, on Thursday declined to accept the view that in consequence of disabilities being removed by the Act of 1907, married women householders may be appointed magistrates or become members of town councils. While admitting that the law had removed certain disqualifications, it had not, he held, removed that which prevented married women being placed on the municipal list of electors. The important point of the decision is that unless a married woman can be placed upon the municipal list of electors she cannot be elected on any municipal body, the Act of 1907 being therefore inoperative.”

It is a pity that revising barristers do not more frequently act upon the general common-sense assumption that something was *intended* when the Act of 1907 stated that marriage should not be a disqualification. In 1909 the Revising Barristers of Birmingham and Staverton did so act, and we are sorry so few men have the sense to follow their example. Since, however, our legislators did not succeed in making clear their intentions, they ought in fairness to make good their mistake without delay, so that no revising barrister with reactionary views of his own can interpret the law in contravention of its intent. Any of our readers who are canvassing women municipal voters should endeavour to get test cases brought, and ventilate the subject.

Petition Work.

We hope some of our workers will note the suggestion in Mr. Brailsford's letter to-day. It was never intended that petition work should form any large part of a national campaign; in fact, the Council definitely rejected suggestions for a national petition. But where any Society sees advantage in conducting a methodical and exhaustive canvass, the information obtained and imparted cannot fail to be useful, and Mr. Brailsford has indicated how this usefulness may be increased. But we hope most sincerely that nothing will be allowed to interfere with our chief work, which is in preparation for running Suffrage candidates. In order to proceed with this, all possible should be done to increase the branches and membership of the Men's League and to make money.

The “Manchester Guardian.”

We feel sure that all Suffragists of every possible shade of politics will echo our heartiest congratulations to this great paper on having published (Wednesday, September 14th) its 20,000th number. We are proud to think that a paper with so high a record as an organ of educated and informed opinion, impregnable by the most subtle and specious bribery, should also be the one which women Suffragists can acclaim as their best and most loyal friend in the daily press.

The General Election.

It has been generally supposed that, since no party wanted a General Election yet, all parties would agree to postpone it till after the coronation. Last week, however, speaking in Manchester, Mr. Howell stated that Sir Alexander Acland-Hood (Chief Conservative Whip) had sent a message “that the Unionist party in the House of Commons will spare no effort to turn out the Government during the autumn session. If we can get a General

Election in January, we shall have a Unionist majority.” Of course it is always the policy of Whips to bluff, and doubtless the Liberals will tell us they, too, are spoiling for the fight. Anyhow, we Suffragists must keep our powder dry and be prepared.

Mr. Shackleton, speaking in Sheffield, also seemed to think this Parliament was very near its end. He held that there was only one obstacle to the passing of the Conciliation Bill. They were told by the Prime Minister that he had not a majority of the Cabinet, or at any rate he had not a united Cabinet, on the matter; but apart from the women's question this was a serious issue. Such a position of affairs might affect any subject. The votes of the people could be thwarted on any question. Cabinets would have to be governed, like other organizations, by majorities of the people. Otherwise the Cabinet must end, and representative government must take its place. He was not prepared to wait indefinitely for the solidarity of the Government on this or on any other question.

Woman's Place is the Home.

One hopes that the report on Infant Mortality, with its hideous revelations of the conditions under which women have to rear their babies,—the lack of drainage, water supply, milk supply, breathable air, and the rest,—will give a stimulus to the reform of housing for poor people. At a conference held in Sheffield on the 10th September, Mr. Marsland, general secretary of the Operative Cotton Spinners, said that it seemed to him that “some workmen had very much better conditions to work under during the day than they had to live under during the night.” That is so; and under these conditions women are expected to live both day and night, and are scolded because they do not produce better results in their great work of maternity. Skilled workmen must be first taught, and then provided with adequate tools.

Money in It.

On September 12th, at the Old Bailey, Aldo Antonius Callis, aged 29, a clerk, and Alexander Berard, aged 25, a fitter, pleaded guilty to one count of an indictment charging them with conspiring to procure four girls for immoral purposes. It was stated in the course of the prosecution that the prisoners enticed a girl over to England on false pretences from New Zealand, and when she wished to abandon the life in London she could not, being penniless. The prisoners, who had an infamous record, were sentenced to *six months' imprisonment*. We should like to draw the attention of our readers to this penalty compared with what is commonly inflicted for petty theft under great temptation. Also to the fact that *drafts for £1,137 are stated to have been found on Callis*. We should like to know whether any attempt is being made to trace those who issued the drafts. Also we should like to point out that financiers in this line of business will no doubt find it profitable to subsidize any movement directed against the enfranchisement of women.

A Sublime Sacrifice.

We publish in another column a manifesto from Polish women students, protesting against the action of Russian women (only eleven of the total 509 appear to be Poles) in flocking into the Warsaw University to get the education hitherto denied them. It would be a magnificent piece of sacrifice, not only self-sacrifice, but sex-sacrifice, this refusal to acquire even knowledge, which is power and light and life, if thereby men's struggle for freedom be made harder. When did men ever forego power that women might have it?

A Flattering Error.

A kind friend writes:—“Straws show which way the wind blows. When my bill for newspapers was sent in the other day, your paper was entered as ‘Common Sense.’”

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday. LONDON AGENT.—Communications referring to advertisements may now be addressed to our London agent, Mrs. H. A. Evans, 10, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C. Friends in London desirous of helping to get advertisements will kindly communicate with her.

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.

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The Unanswered Question.

*Why didst thou promise such a beauteous day,
And make me travel forth without my cloak?*

Our columns were beginning to show last week that Suffragists were returning to their activities, and by the end of the month the autumn campaign will be in full swing. A great deal of work has, of course, been done even during August: open-air meetings have been held and interest has been aroused in country districts which had been indifferent. But the great mass of work was preparation, and those secretaries who have been beforehand in booking halls and speakers must be feeling glad now when they realize the tremendous pressure of claims on all who can and will speak for the cause. Many, many more speakers are wanted before our cause will be articulate enough to penetrate the sluggish, the selfish, or the purely pre-occupied, and it is not the time for any woman to hang back because another woman “would do it so much better.” Some do it better than others, but all are wanted, and the best speakers did not begin by being best.

What is it we must work for so hard this autumn? When Parliament rose we said the Conciliation Bill was not dead. It is not dead yet. It is still before the country, and it is still perfectly easy for the Government to give time for the remaining stages. It is admitted on all hands that the postponement of the party struggle

between Lords and Commons created an atmosphere peculiarly suited to the peaceful settlement of a question which the Prime Minister himself said must remain non-party. The circumstances and the time were so propitious that only the most perverse and fantastic arguments against a settlement could be brought by any who professed to approve the principle. It was left to the demagogue Lloyd George to discover that a Bill brought in by a Labour member, and supported with the full strength of the Labour vote, was not “democratic” enough, and that in granting the franchise to women he must throw overboard all the lessons of experience not only of his own party in past extensions of the franchise, but of himself in getting in the thin end of the old-age pension wedge. It is only where women are concerned that Mr. Lloyd George abandons the wise policy of taking what he can get.

On August 11th, at Bodnant, Lady McLaren asked Mr. Lloyd George to suggest “how the Suffrage might be passed into law,” and although the Chancellor made a long speech, in which he attacked virulently many people who have really worked for the Suffrage, and although his reiterations of his belief in the necessity, the justice, and the greatness of our cause seem to have met with applause from his hearers, we were left at the end with no more helpful suggestion than that, if we dropped a Bill which had passed its second reading by a majority of 110, and brought forward a Bill which would not command a majority in the House, we should have the inestimable privilege of securing Mr. Lloyd George's vote,—probably also, therefore, Mr. Churchill's. But we have had Mr. George's vote before (did he not say he had never voted against a Suffrage Bill until 1910?), and it did not bring us very far. An occasional vote in the House is nothing from a Minister in Mr. George's position, and he must make us a much better bid than that before we can believe that his rhetoric has any intention other than that of keeping the women Liberals from becoming restive.

One is struck by the fact that Mr. George used the conditional all through that speech,—“I have voted for a Bill enfranchising working women. I *would* do so again, and not only that, but I *would* use the whole of my influence, whether publicly or privately, to get a Bill of that sort through.” Now what does he mean by that conditional? Until we know why it is not a frank future, with a date attached, we have no use for it.

And further, a man who can so insult the intelligence of his hearers as to suppose they will take his caricature of the Bill he is attacking as a fair description, is not going the way to inspire much confidence. To mention only three of his most misleading statements: he said the Conciliation Bill would give the vote to every lady of property, if she chose to take the trouble, throughout the country; whereas only one-tenth, or one-fifteenth, of the working women could get it. But the Bill is expressly drafted so as to give the vote *not to ownership, but to occupation*, and the percentage of working women among occupiers is from 80 to 90. He said he did not want to “double the plural-property voters,” and he must have known that the Bill as it stands allows only very remote chances of adding a few plural votes, and even these could be stopped by amendment. Lastly he implied that it would be possible to import 500, or even 1,000, voters who did not live in the constituencies to outvote the inhabitants! Has Mr. George, after all, not read the Bill, or does he not know what an “occupier” is? Has he heard of the municipal register? Does he find this manufacture of “plural-property votes” on this register?

These things are bad enough, but there is a further statement of Mr. George's which we hope will be thoroughly well studied and understood by the electors, for it leads far, and should make them ponder what can be the meaning attached by Cabinet Ministers to their election cry of the “Will of the People.” We know that the whole agitation against the House of Lords

professes to be a determination that the will of the people (by which is meant the male electors), "as expressed by their representatives in the House of Commons," shall prevail. Now the "people's representatives" in the House have expressed themselves in favour of this Bill by a majority of 110; but sundry members of the Cabinet voted against it, and Mr. George says that, if the House of Lords threw it out, the Government would have to say it did right, because certain individual members of the Cabinet don't like this Bill. But Mr. Asquith and Mr. Harcourt will never like any Suffrage Bill, and Mr. George and Mr. Churchill seem inclined to like only Suffrage Bills which have no chance of passing the House. A pretty dilemma! A fine commentary on the will of the people as expressed by the majority in the House! The tyranny of the Cabinet has steadily been growing heavier and heavier. Is the elector now to be told that, no matter what majority there is in the House and the country for a reform, it can be blocked by one man in the Cabinet?

And the women themselves, after all! Our "friends" wax very eloquent on the subject of how willing they would be to give women the vote if they thought they wanted it. But when women express themselves, the politicians reply that they know better than the women what the women want. True, this Bill would not enfranchise women who are too poor to be occupiers; yet the working women wish it to pass! True, very few married women living with their husbands would be enfranchised by it; yet the married women wish it to pass! It is left to Mr. Churchill (who thinks women are privileged by law), to Mr. George (whose support is all in the "dim and speculative future"), to Mr. Asquith (who is frankly opposed to the enfranchisement of any women at all) to champion the cause of the wife and the worker! Well, the wife and the worker don't thank these gentlemen.

When Mr. George's criticism is other than destructive, it may help us. When he answers Lady McLaren's question, "how the Suffrage may be passed into law," we shall begin to believe he really cares about the will of the people. The best way to make him care is to rouse the will of the people to unmistakable expression, and that is our work.

The Position of Women in the Free Churches.

It is commonly understood that in England and Wales the "free" churches include all Nonconformist bodies except the Roman Catholics. Although possessing many common characteristics and frequently co-operating for certain aims, still the Free Churches exhibit considerable degrees of difference both in principle and practice. As "J. A. P." has already shown in his article on "Women in Church Matters," the question of the status of women is bound up with other issues of radical significance, and in discussing it one is within sight of controversies bitter and age-long.

The Free Churches may be divided into two great groups—first, those of Puritan origin; second, those which sprang from the Methodist movement of the eighteenth century. It may be said of the Wesleyan Methodists that they are dissenters rather by force of circumstances than of conviction, and they retain a theory of ecclesiastical orders and a distinction of "clerical" and "lay" more closely resembling those of the Church of England than any Nonconformist body. No woman could be ordained a Wesleyan minister. There is, moreover, an old law which prevents a woman becoming even a "local preacher," though this office is, of course, open to laymen; and it follows that no woman may administer the sacraments. On the other hand, women may, and do, preach, and are eligible as delegates to conference. In many village churches, I am told, they hold office as Society, Poor, and Chapel Stewards.

The Presbyterian Churches also hold a high doctrine of "orders," and unordained persons may not administer the sacraments. I understand that women would not be ordained as "elders," much less as ministers.

The English Churches, which are of Puritan origin, held that "the decision in spiritual matters belongs to the group of spiritual persons who compose the church, and who have the leading of the spirit." This took, as is well known, its extreme form in the Society of Friends, among whom the distinction of clerical and lay entirely disappears, and "liberty of prophesying" is observed in public worship. Though there is no paid ministry, persons of recognised ability, both men and women, may be "recorded" ministers; and all members—men and women—may take part in the proceedings of the synods known as Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly Meeting. Among Baptists, Congregationalists, and Unitarians the distinction between clerical and lay is one of function rather than of authority. A layman may preach, and may hold office as chairman or president of the Denominational Union. In the individual church, also, the layman may administer the sacraments of Baptism and Communion, and conduct the Marriage Service. It follows, in theory, that the lay woman may do any of these things. There is no law, only tradition, to prevent her. By the Marriage Act, 1898, marriages may take place in Nonconformist chapels without the presence of the Registrar, an "authorised person" being appointed by the governing body of each church to officiate. The Act does not forbid the appointment of a woman, so that it appears that she may be responsible for the legal as well as for the religious portion of the ceremony. Women may, and do, act on the diaconate, or whatever the governing body of the church may be called. Union Congregational Chapel, Brighton, where the Rev. R. J. Campbell formerly ministered, is a notable instance; but probably cases are more numerous among Unitarians than Congregationalists. The writer has known several rural churches where cultured gentlewomen have ably fulfilled the rather exacting duties of church secretary; and women are appointed delegates to the representative assemblies of all these denominations. In the ministry, Congregationalists have one or two "ordained assistants" in this country. Among Unitarians, several women have been set apart to the full ministry, and women are admitted as students at Manchester College, Oxford.

As teachers and officers in Sunday schools women, of course, have an honoured place in all the churches; and it would require a separate article to describe their work as teachers, preachers, and healers in the sphere of missions abroad. In this connection, as in some others, it is proving impossible to re-erect in the foreign field the barriers of tradition which it is so hard to overthrow at home.

To sum up, while there is a very marked difference of principle among the Free Churches, in practice they resemble one another pretty closely on the whole, always reserving a place of unique honour for the Quakers. Those of us who are quite liberal in theory are often in reality controlled by the narrowest prejudices and the most rigid precedents. These, however, are yielding in every direction, and the original spiritual impulse is even yet the mightiest liberating force. Twice in the course of his article "J. A. P." speaks of the stress laid upon Old Testament and Pauline teaching as having injured the status of women at the time of the Reformation. On the contrary, the freedom enjoyed by women in the early communities of Baptists, Independents, and Friends was justified in those dark days of misunderstanding and persecution by two great utterances. The first of their favourite texts was from Joel, and was quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost: "And it shall be in the last days, saith God, I will pour of My spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; yea, and on My servants and My handmaidens in those days will I pour forth of My spirit, and they shall prophesy." And the second is one of the noblest utterances of the Apostle to the Gentiles: "There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female: for ye all are one in Christ Jesus."

W. E. IRELAND.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries: Miss EDITH DIMOCK. **President:** Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. **Hon. Treasurer:** Miss BERTHA MASON (Pro Tem.).
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." **Secretary:** Miss T. G. WHITEHEAD, M.A. **Telephone:** 1900 Victoria.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Treasurer's Notes.

CONTRIBUTIONS.	
September 10th to September 17th, 1910.	
	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged	2,055 12 5½
Miss Margaret Ashton (promised at Queen's Hall Demonstration)	100 0 0
Miss Sylvia Drew (don.)	1 0 0
Collection Newtonmore Meeting	7 0 0
Miss G. G. Mudd (sub.)	0 2 6
Glasgow W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0 6 0
Hull W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0 6 0
G. F. G. Patterson, Esq. (don.)	0 10 0
Miss A. G. Irvine (sub.)	0 2 0
Rochdale W.S.S. (Affiliation Fee)	1 16 6
Proceeds of Meeting at Denbigh	1 13 0
Mrs. Falconer (sub.)	0 1 0
	£2,168 9 5½
MILLION SHILLING FUND.	
	s. d.
Already acknowledged	1,573 9
"Pennis Prize"	1 6
Miss Lindsell (halves of two subscriptions of £1 each)	20 0
	1,595 3

We also acknowledge gratefully a parcel of books sent by Miss Jane Patterson, for sale in aid of the funds of the Union. A list of the books, which we hope will find a ready sale, will appear in due course in "Common Cause."

Will Societies do their utmost to send another 2,000 shillings to the Million Shilling Fund before October 31, on which date the financial year ends?

BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

Bristol Demonstration in Support of the Conciliation Bill.

"To demonstrate—to show the thing itself, to prove the truth to the eye, to reveal it in open day, so that in future no scoffer shall deride, and no sceptic question—that is the true instinct of all who have a cause to fight, especially of all who are fighting for freedom."—*The Nation*, July 30, 1910.

The Bristol demonstration on Saturday went off well, thanks to the devoted efforts of the workers, to the visitors who came from far and near, to the Men's League, who furnished one platform and gave splendid help besides, and last, not least, to the speakers, Miss Abadam, Mrs. Cooper, and Miss Royden, who, in their eloquent addresses, represented such different aspects of the Suffrage movement. The shop was a lively scene between 2 and 3 o'clock, as the stewards, collectors, and banner-holders assembled, and the procession was gradually formed. It started at 3, headed by a band which played good marching tunes, and led by the two hon. secretaries, carrying a banner bearing the words, "Non-party and Constitutional," followed by a Conservative Franchise and a Women's Liberal banner. These, with some others, were grouped round Platform I, where Mrs. Randall Vickers presided, and Miss Abadam was the chief speaker, followed by Rev. P. Montague Watken, from Hertfordshire, and Mrs. Martin, Bristol.

To Platform II, a large white-and-gold banner was carried, which was made twenty-five years ago by the Bristol Suffrage Society, under the late Miss Helen Blackburn's superintendence; also one from Cheltenham, richly worked in silk; and another from Street, with the words "Hearth and Home." Miss Tanner presided, and Miss Royden was the principal speaker. Miss G. H. Smith, Miss Blackstone, of Bath, and Mr. Arthur Daniell also spoke.

Mrs. W. C. H. Cross presided at Platform III, which was draped with a large decorative banner from Street, and another of beautiful brocade, designed by the Artists' League, with the inscription, "Women's Reform Union." Mrs. Cooper gave the principal address, supported by Miss Vickers and Mr. W. C. H. Cross.

The fourth platform, which was organized by the Men's League, was decorated with the Bristol and Bath

petition banners, a large green one representing the Bristol Suffrage Society, and the Bath banner, which bears a beautiful translation of Garibaldi's interpretation of our colours. Canon Talbot was chairman, and the speakers were Mr. W. C. H. Cross, Mr. Arthur Daniell, and the Rev. B. J. Morday.

In all 19 banners were carried, besides innumerable bannerettes and decorated wands, the latter most kindly sent from Bath.

The procession was made up of a large number of members and friends, including visitors from Bath, Cheltenham, Clevedon, Street, Winscombe, and other places. A small group of women graduates marched in caps and gowns, and one man had the courage to join them, the lecturer on logic and economics at the University of Bristol, in his London M.A. gown and hood; to him warm gratitude is due. A decorated tricycle also took part, and a handcart prettily draped in the colours was used as a literature stall on the Down, under the charge of Miss J. M. Baretti and Miss Agnes Tanner. A brisk trade was done in "Common Causes," and a good collection was taken by Mrs. Duckham and the other indefatigable collectors. Altogether the demonstration was a very pretty pageant, but the large audiences which collected evidently realised the serious purpose which lay behind the gay scene and the festive decorations.

At the bugle-call the resolution urging the Government to give facilities for passing Mr. Shackleton's Bill into law was carried simultaneously at every platform, with very few dissentients. There was no disturbance, no opposition, only courteous attention and much sympathy. Among the many new recruits it was delightful to have the presence and support of some of the earliest Suffragists—the Misses Priestman, Mrs. Ashworth Hallett, Mrs. Spencer, and others. It drew the bonds of comradeship, if possible, closer than before in the common cause, and undoubtedly quickened the interest of the citizens.

Among the preliminary labours for the demonstration not the least were those of the Banner Committee, organized by Miss Duncan and Mrs. Barrell.

Work in East Cornwall.

We began work here on September 1. It is entirely new ground, and there is a great deal of pioneer work to be done. This large country district is so far away from the centre of things that the people do not realise what life in our large cities means. The women know very little of the social and economic problems that other women are trying to solve. We are endeavouring to take our message into every village in the district, and so far the Cornish people have responded with an encouraging sympathy when the real meaning of the women's movement has been explained to them.

On Monday last (by kind permission of the Mayor of Liskeard) I was able to hold a meeting in Fair Park. It was the annual horse sale and cattle market, which brought in a large number of farmers from all the district round. Our meeting was quite a novelty to them, and I soon had a crowd of between 200 and 300 men round my wagonette. They listened with great interest for nearly an hour. Then several questions were asked. A spontaneous vote of thanks was proposed and seconded, and one man said that with meetings like that we should convert all Cornwall. We sold out all our "Common Causes," and could have sold more.

In the evening three members of the committee and myself went out to Dubwalls and held a village meeting, which for the size of the place was well attended.

Miss Williams (the hon. secretary) and I went over to Looe last week and held a meeting on the sands. Although there were evidently a number of Anti-Suffragists in the audience, they stayed to listen until the end. Several to whom the subject was quite new seemed interested, and we hope some good seed has been sown that possibly may bear fruit later.

On Wednesday Mrs. Blight—an indefatigable worker—and I drove out to Tremar Coombe early in the afternoon. We decorated our wagonette with flags of the N.U. colours and canvassed the village from one end to the other advertising our evening meeting. Although the evening was damp and chilly, an audience of nearly a hundred assembled on the village green, and stood cheerily for an hour.

Owing to the interest of one or two Conservative men in our cause I was invited to address the members of the Constitutional Club in Liskeard on Thursday evening. The chair

was taken by Mr. Dewdney, who spoke with great enthusiasm on behalf of the Woman's Cause. The meeting was well attended, and the resolution was passed without one dissentient. A short but interesting discussion followed.

The two local newspapers have both kindly printed a letter I wrote in reply to Sir Quiller Couch's speech, given at the opening of a new Liberal Club in the constituency, in which he said he did not agree with the present Conciliation Bill.

We finished the week with a large open-air meeting on Liskeard Parade on Saturday evening. A number of country people helped to swell the town audience. The meeting lasted over an hour and a half, as many questions were asked, and quite a lively discussion followed. The people were genuinely interested and enthusiastic. The very great help given by the Misses Williams has been invaluable.

M. NORMA-SMITH.

Federation Notes.

North-Eastern.

During the last fortnight there has been active work in various parts of the Hexham Division, whose member, Mr. Holt, is one of our opponents. We have found a number of supporters, and hope very shortly to form a branch of the National Union in Hexham. At the moment our energies are concentrated upon making Mrs. Fawcett's visit a great success. Meetings, of which particulars will be found elsewhere, have been arranged in the more important towns in the constituency, and we hope that these meetings will result in a great increase in membership. There are twenty-two constituencies within the Federation, and as yet we have a Society in six only. Mrs. Fawcett returns to us in October, when she will speak in Darlington, Durham, Gateshead (where a Society was formed last July), and Morpeth, the next constituency which we hope to attack. The Federation Committee meets next Saturday at Darlington to discuss, among other matters, a scheme for the winter's work. The Federation organiser is working at present with the Newcastle Society. Later on she will go in turn to other parts of the Federation area and aid in the formation of further Societies, so that when a general election is again upon us we shall have an organisation in as many as possible of our twenty-two constituencies.

C. M. GORDON, Organiser.

Scottish.

Mrs. Fawcett in Dundee.

Mrs. Fawcett has addressed four meetings in Dundee during the past week, and every class in the community has been successfully reached. The campaign began on Tuesday with a large afternoon drawing-room meeting, given by Dr. Emily Thomson. Most of those present were either indifferent or Anti-Suffragists, and Mrs. Fawcett's address made a very deep impression on them.

On the following evening a public meeting for working men and women was held in Victoria Hall, Lochee. The attendance was excellent and the men present listened intently and followed every argument.

On Thursday evening Mrs. Halley, of Rolihhead, gave a very successful evening drawing-room meeting for Mrs. Fawcett. There were a good many men present—some reported Anti-Suffragists. If they weren't converted they should have been. At any rate, none had the courage to come out in the open and heckle!

The Giffen Hall was well filled on Friday evening, and Mrs. Fawcett had an enthusiastic reception. The platform was crowded. The Lord Provost of Dundee presided, and votes of thanks were moved by Mr. Percy Sturrock and Mr. Robert Stirton.

All Suffragists must be grateful to Mrs. Fawcett for this special week in Mr. Churchill's constituency. By her brilliant speaking and masterly criticism of the political situation, and more particularly of the attitude of the senior member for Dundee, an enormous impetus has been given to the Suffrage movement in that city.

St. Andrews.

The Scottish Universities Suffrage Union, with the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies, is busily engaged in organising a public meeting, to be addressed by Mrs. Fawcett. The outer trenches of this Anti-Suffrage stronghold have been captured by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Abadam, Mrs. Pankhurst, and other speakers. We look to Mrs. Fawcett to storm the fortress.

Mrs. Fawcett is also speaking this week at West Calder, Haddington, and Coldstream, where Sir Francis Blake will take the chair.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.

We have had three most useful meetings this week in the New Forest. The first, on Monday, was in Mrs. Penton's beautiful garden at Lyndhurst. We had a large audience, to which Mrs. Stanbury and I spoke. Miss Cumberland was in the chair. Lyndhurst has produced a keen secretary (Miss Baines, of Cadman), and a small committee is being formed. On Wednesday Mrs. Stanbury and I spoke at Brockenhurst, where the vicar, Mr. Chambers, kindly took the chair for us. Mrs. Cosens kindly turned her house upside down for us, as the weather would not allow us to have the meeting in the garden, as we had planned. The weather

made our audience small, but it was a case of "little and good," and after the meeting we formed a splendid committee of men and women, with Mrs. Sacre as its energetic secretary. Mrs. Stanbury went on Thursday to Romsey, and I came to Ringwood to work up a meeting for Friday evening. We took the Lecture Hall, and with the aid of Miss Bateson, Mrs. Welch, and some energetic local helpers, we got a good and thoughtful audience. Miss Clough came and took the chair for us, and Mrs. Stanbury and I spoke, and I hope that here, too, we may get a strong local committee to carry on the work.

At each meeting the resolution has been passed almost unanimously.

BARBARA DUNCAN.

We welcome the formation and affiliation to the N.U. of a Society at Cranleigh, of which Miss Phyllis Brockman, Oaklands, Cranleigh, is the hon. secretary. Brighton is arranging a meeting, which Lord Lytton will address, of all Sussex Societies at the end of October. At Portsmouth there will be a similar meeting on November 2nd for Hampshire Societies, when Mr. Housman has consented to speak. On these meetings, and the demonstration at Guildford, the Federation is concentrating a large portion of its work. The organisers are devoting their energies to a campaign in the New Forest constituency, arranged by N. Forest and Southampton Societies. Mrs. Stanbury is addressing meetings here and for many Societies in our area.

M. O. SHEA.

Yorkshire.

Mrs. Cooper (Nelson) kindly helped by Mrs. Bauer (Bradford) has been doing much needed work among the miners in the Cleveland Division represented by Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P. Prejudice against the Suffrage for women had been growing in that division since the general election, and the position was getting very bad among the mining section owing to false statements having been circulated. Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Bauer have been convincing the miners, the most important of Mr. Samuel's constituents, of the justice of our claim, and have had resolutions passed in as many places as possible in his division.

E. BATESON.

Miss Bertha Mason's Engagements.

September 26—Highgate.
October 8—11—Kewick.
October 17—Aberdeen.
October 18—Elgin.
October 19-20—Inverness and District.
October 25—Wandsworth.

AUTUMN BLOUSES.



Blouse (as sketch) in Crepe de Chine, box-pleated and strapped, finished with hand-feather stitching and pleated Crepe frill: in Black, White, and 40 Colours.

21/9.

SENT ON APPROVAL.

Debenham & Freebody.

WICMORE STREET (Cavenish Square), LONDON, W.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Hon. Secretary: The Rev. C. HINSLIFF, 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

The Bishop of Lincoln, so well known as "Canon Hicks of Manchester," has consented to become president of the League. The first monthly conference of London clergy belonging to the C.L.W.S. is fixed for October 4, at 4 p.m., at 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, the subject for discussion being "The Relation of the Clergy to the Woman Question" to be introduced by Rev. F. M. Green, Vicar of St. Mark's, Tollington Park. A committee-room has been engaged at 10, Emmanuel Street, Cambridge, for the Church Congress campaign, and will be open daily from September 26 to 30, under the charge of Miss Susan Burnett. The chairman for the Cambridge meeting on September 29 is Rev. A. S. Duncan Jones, Fellow and Lecturer of Caius College. The Hendon Branch are giving an "At Home" on September 26 at 8-15, speaker Dr. Letitia Fairfield; and on Thursday, October 20, at 8 p.m., Lady Constance Lytton will address a meeting at Anerley Town Hall, S.E.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS OF THE C.L.W.S.

September 28: Hendon, 8.15. Conference of Clergy.
Speaker, Dr. Letitia Fairfield. 11, St. Mark's Terrace.
September 26: Royston. N.W. 4.0.
September 27: Ely. October 20: Anerley Town Hall.
September 28: Newmarket. Lady Constance Lytton. 8.0.
September 29: Cambridge.

Free Church Women's Suffrage League.

The preliminary meeting of the Free Church Women's Suffrage League will be held, by kind permission of Mr. Albert Dawson, at the office of the "Christian Commonwealth," 133, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, on Wednesday afternoon, 5th October, at 3 p.m.

We shall be glad to welcome at that meeting any Free Church friends who are in sympathy with this movement, which we believe will give to Free Churchmen the opportunity of advocating the cause from the highest plane. The Church League for Women's Suffrage has set us a noble example. Let Free Churchmen not be slow to follow—Yours faithfully,

JANE E. STRICKLAND, Halsteads, Hastings.
HATTY BAKER, Trebarwith, Hove.
L. E. TURQUAND, 38, Wheathill Road, Anerley, S.E.

Testimonial to Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy.

Subscriptions to this fund have reached £126 2s. 9d. The treasurer is Mrs. Martindale, Cheeleys, Horsted Keynes, Sussex.

A Holiday Meeting.

Many of your readers must have had interesting holiday experiences arising out of their efforts to further the cause. I know of one delightful August Suffrage meeting which was none the worse for the original character of the "hall" and the busyness of its audience.

A friend, an ardent Suffragist of the type who "never forgets," was visiting a farm with me in one of those sturdy, friendly, grey-stone villages which are to be found in the Yorkshire dales. Beyond, for miles upon miles, stretched the moor, and the people of the village had all the grit and all the independence of mind of true moorland folk. We had been inspecting cheeses, and a few minutes afterwards, on passing the cowshed, we saw our farmer and his wife, each on a stool, at work inside. They called to us hospitably to come in, and a few questions from the wife, delightfully naive and to the point, led to the inquiry as to what we did in life. Through this opening the Suffrage leapt into the conversation. One speaker to an audience of two seemed sufficient; I left them at the laws of inheritance, the woman with her serene simplicity of expression enlivened by interest, the man more interested still in the actual question of Votes for Women, but with many questions to ask, and his judgment in reserve. When I got back into the farmyard again, some time later, the milking and the meeting were both over, and the three were smiling in mutual agreement outside. The farmer's last word was worthy of the occasion. He said: "When you go to prison over this question, write and tell me, and I will send you a cheese." M. G.

Britain Overseas.

Australian Women.

Miss Grace Watson, organizing secretary of the Australian Women's National League, has just returned from a visit to the Waltham electorate. She has been there to do work during the by-election.

The following quotations are from the *Argus* of July 29, 1910, which gives an account of Miss Watson's visit:—
"This is the League's first essay among the country electors for the State Assembly, and it is rather disheartening to find

that, as far as the women are concerned, the registration is exceedingly imperfect. In the Waltham district there are 470 women on the Federal electoral roll and only 96 on that for the State. There are in all the electorate less than a thousand women on the latter roll, and as it is scattered over mountainous country, including Warburton, Wood's Point, and Waltham itself, it is not easy for them to attend meetings, nor even to reach them in their homes.

"But they are all kindly and interested, and, although upon inquiry I found that very few had attended any political meetings during the Federal campaign, they are likely to grow more active in the future. Hitherto the men have discouraged them from attempting to take any share in the work of politics, but now the women themselves are asking for women teachers, so that they may get information concerning the questions at issue, and learn all about voting.

"Waltham, which is really a beautiful gorge between two ranges of hills, is not an easy place in which to go visiting, though it looks like bits of Switzerland cut straight from a picture. Nothing is more novel than to find that the foot-path you are on is just level with the roofs of the houses you left a few minutes before, and that the roofs of those you are calling at just reach to the bases of those you have presently to seek. Still, the women are friendly and thoughtful, and sometimes, when they see you seeking a track to reach their houses, will call, "Don't trouble to come up; tell us all about it from where you are," which is not so discouraging as to toil up an endless flight of steps, only to find that the elector you wanted is out.

"Many of the smaller places a little way out of town cannot be reached, excepting on foot; no vehicle can get near them; but the baker's boy, the butcher's boy, and the school-boy, on his way home, can all be pressed into the service when appealed to, in order to distribute bills and invitations, and, my stay being limited, I was glad to avail myself of their good offices.

"Now that the Waltham district is opened up by the new railway it will grow continually in interest and importance. New gold mines are being prospected, and copper is expected to give good returns, while the marbles are admired by all beholders."

Miss Watson sends us an interesting account of work done by the League in various places. At the present time the Women's National League is working for the Liberal candidate, who is contesting the Kooyong vacancy in the House of Representatives of the Federal Parliament. The division is a metropolitan one, with 38,103 voters, 22,329 being women. Miss Watson says it may almost be said that this League has the controlling voice in the election, as it has eight branches with two thousand members in the division, while there is no men's organization (in the Liberal interests) in the constituency.

Foreign News.

The Address of Polish Women Students.

The Polish United Societies of Women Students of His Majesty's University of Lemberg respectfully ask the Editor of "The Common Cause" to publish the following address in the paper:—

The year 1910 is the fifth anniversary of the struggle for a free and independent Polish school in the Polish provinces annexed by Russia. Five years ago our youths left the walls of the State University of Warsaw with the unanimous resolution never to return to them till they should obtain a free Polish University.

And the struggle persists to the present time; the watchwords, which were pronounced and accepted, have not perished, but are confirmed by constant meetings of Polish students who persist in the strike against the Russian University of Warsaw, and in rigorously excluding from comradeship those who break the bond.

But 1910 has seen the opening of a University for female students in Warsaw. The Russian University, hitherto closed to women, is now filled with 509, of whom 11 are of Polish nationality. The women students in their eagerness for higher education have filled the lecture halls abandoned by the Poles on strike. The skilful manoeuvre of the Russian Government has not, however, deceived the Pole.

Therefore, we, the Polish female students of all Universities, resolved to support with all our force the struggle for liberty of the men students in their own native University, and we want to express hereby to the women hearers of foreign nations our condemnation of those women who are enrolled at the University of Warsaw. We state further that we recognise that for Russian women, fighting for the rights of study, the opening of the courses for women was an acquisition of the greatest value; but they cannot be allowed to profit by the gift of the Government at the cost of Polish nationality. They must not allow themselves to be used as an army of women strike-breakers.

We resolved, therefore, further to renounce all communion with them. The Russian women students ought to reflect that by filling the University Halls at Warsaw they support the tyrannous despotism of the Government—of the same Government that suppresses the aspirations of Russian women towards freedom and liberty of science, and that erects gibbets

as numerous as trees in woods. The Warsaw women students ought to remember that by contributing indirectly to the oppression of the Polish nation they break faith with the basic laws of the woman movement, which is indissolubly bound up with justice and liberty. To the international forum of the woman-emanicipation movement we submit hereby this our heavy accusation that for a momentary advantage the Russian female students do not hesitate to cooperate with the State and to precipitate us into servitude and perpetual compulsion; they inflict a most heavy injury and dishonour on the cause of woman's emancipation. They make of their device—"Liberty, Enfranchisement"—a lie.—We beg to remain, yours faithfully,

E. Parnowski (President).
F. LOBEL (Secretary).
(For the Polish women students of Cracow and Lemberg.)

TWO NEW SOCIETIES JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Two more national societies have fulfilled all the conditions required for joining the International W.S.A.—the Landsforbund of Denmark, and W.S.A. of Iceland. The former has 8,000 paying members—a large number for so small a population. In Iceland the Suffragists have presented a petition to Parliament signed by a majority of the adult population; this is a unique achievement. The Alliance now numbers 24 national societies, representing 22 different countries.

It is now definitely settled that the next meeting of the Alliance is to take place at Stockholm, June 12 to 17, 1911. Swedish Suffragists are already busy with preparations in order to ensure its success.

GERMANY.

As was to be expected, the Emperor's speech at Königsberg has aroused general indignation among German women, and protest meetings have been organised. We quote from an article by Frau Schreiber in the *Morgenpost* (an independent Liberal paper): "It is with great bitterness that one reads the words pronounced by the Emperor on the rôle of woman, because they prove that the highest dignitaries of the State live in absolute ignorance of the real condition of affairs. There are in Germany nine millions of women who work in factories and workshops, and this number represents half the number of adult women. Those who are confined to the home, so lauded by the Emperor, are often so burdened with work, in addition to domestic duties, that one can say that it is work which destroys the prosperity of the home. What ignorance to suppose that nine millions of women go to factory or workshop for their own pleasure, or urged thereto by feminist orators. The Königsberg speech will not hinder women from continuing the struggle and from living according to their own lights."

The Prussian W.S.A. held a protest meeting in Berlin against the Emperor's speech at Königsberg. The room was crammed full, mostly with women. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "This meeting protests against the Emperor's speech made at Königsberg, slighting public opinion and the will of the people, and against the dictates which the Emperor thought fit to give to women. This meeting claims the right of self-assertion for the whole nation, and is determined to guard it if necessary. The meeting expresses the strongest blame of the Government for not having prevented similar utterances, and intends to take care in the next elections that the will of the nation be fully shown."

The ninth general meeting of the Bund deutscher Frauenvereine (Union of Women's Societies) will take place in Heidelberg from October 6 to 9. A full programme was issued in their organ, the *Centrablatt*, of August 1. A great point will be made of the demand for municipal Suffrage for women.

The latest statistics show a great increase in the number of women students at German universities. Last summer there were 2,170 registered students, against 1,850 in winter and 1,432 the previous summer. Of these 2,170 students, 1,199 are studying arts, 486 medicine, 324 mathematics or science, 65 law, 56 dentistry, 29 jurisprudence, 6 pharmacy, and 5 evangelical theology.

UNITED STATES.

It is good to hear that our speakers are being appreciated in the States, as the following extract from the *Woman's Journal* shows:—

The three new speakers from England who have recently joined forces with American Suffragists in their out-of-door campaign are a great help to the cause.

It is safe to say that very few towns in the whole United States have had an opportunity of hearing such speakers as Miss Bondfield, Miss Ward, and Miss Gardner, and it is also perfectly safe to say that if every town and city in this country could hear these three speakers before they return to England, the Suffrage cause in this country would assume a totally different aspect.

Here is another extract from the same paper:—

Two sentences were imposed on the same day by the Superior Criminal Court in Boston last week. Henry Smith, for stealing thirty cents, was sent to the House of Correction for three years. Louis de Franzio, who pleaded guilty to a white slave charge, was sent to the House of Correction for nine months. Are women "virtually represented" in our laws and their administration?

SWITZERLAND.

The Cantonal Council of Zurich has decided to add the following clause to Art. 16 of the Constitution: "The law is to decide in how far, under the qualifications of Art. 18, suffrage and eligibility for public functions may be accorded to women." Before this measure can become law the sanction of a referendum is required.

A new law has just been made which gives a Swiss wife the right to a third part of her husband's income; she can claim a third of his fortune, and dispose of it exactly as she wishes.

NORWAY.

The municipal elections in Norway will continue from October to December, and for the first time all women will be able to vote. Many women candidates will doubtless be nominated, and it is hoped that some, at least, will be elected.

ARGENTINA.

A Feminist National League has been formed in the Argentine Republic with the object of uniting the women and adopting the following principles: "Considering that women do not enjoy all the liberty and welfare due to human beings, and that this slavery of half the human race is detrimental to social progress, we form a union for the emancipation of women upon this programme:—

1. That marriage shall in no way disqualify the wife from the exercise of her civil rights.
2. Political rights for women.
3. Introduction of divorce.
4. Protection of children."

Edinburgh Printing Trade Dispute.

The Edinburgh printing trade dispute is settled, and the future total elimination of women from the trade has been averted. The terms of agreement between the masters and the men are as follows:—

1. No new female learners to be taken on till June 30, 1916.
2. All new keyboards during that period to be operated by male labour.
3. The Executive of the Scottish Typographical Association will recommend the Edinburgh branches to maintain peace on all questions of hours and wages for three years.

By this decision the threatened strike has been averted, which strike, had it taken place, would in all probability have entailed the withdrawal of the printing trade from Edinburgh.

A principle, however, has been sacrificed—the principle that a woman has as much right as a man to choose her employment. It is possible that the position of the girls at present engaged in the trade may be benefited, as their labour will be more in demand than formerly, but those others who are waiting to enter the trade must perforce seek some other occupation.

It has been estimated that the female compositors leave the trade at the rate of 8 per cent. annually in order to marry and for various reasons. If this is so it means that by June, 1916, between 300 and 400, nearly half of those at present employed, will have gone. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the "Edinburgh Women Compositors, Readers, and Monotype Operators' Union" should thrive, and that those girls who are now apprentices should have a training which will fit them to do their work as well as possible, so that their wages and general status may be improved in the future.

Miss Maclean and the other members of the Women's Union have made a brave fight, and are to be congratulated that they have secured some rights for future women, in so far as the trade is only to be closed for a certain period. By siding with the men, as others of the women have done, they might have hoped to secure for themselves a higher rate of pay, while sacrificing the girls who might wish to enter the trade in time to come.

One of the saddest features of the dispute is the want of foresight of those few women compositors who have allowed themselves to be persuaded into joining a Union composed of warehousemen, cutters, and stationery workers, etc., instead of insisting that if the men really wanted to help them they should invite them to join the Typographical Association, the Union of the men compositors.

We may well ask ourselves by what right have these men thrust women from a trade for which they have proved themselves to be particularly well fitted?
A. M. L.

The Cradley Heath Women.

Public opinion seems thoroughly roused on the minimum wage question at Cradley Heath, and the secretary of the Chain Manufacturers' Association is able to record fresh signatures to the "white list." The South Wales Miners' Federation has forwarded £25 to the Strike Fund, and the Dean of Worcester £26 16s., bringing the total amount received to £1,902. We thank several of our correspondents for subscriptions which have been forwarded to Miss Macarthur.

There are now 500 women locked out, of whom 200 are unionists and 300 non-unionists. The former are receiving strike pay of 6s. a week, and the latter 4s. from the special fund. Mr. J. J. Mallon, secretary of the Anti-Sweating League, is visiting Cradley Heath next week. Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., will speak on October 2nd.

Subscriptions in aid of the strikers should be sent to Miss Mary R. Macarthur, 34, Mecklenburgh Square, London, W.C. (Cheques to be made payable to Mr. D. J. Shackleton.)

Au Serieux.

It has been brought against us as an accusation that we Suffragists take ourselves too seriously. Until recently the idea in John Bull's dear old stupid head seems to have been that our right to the vote as householders and taxpayers may safely be conceded as a principle, but our demand for it now, this very session, is, really, you know, a bit unreasonable.

Did not John's mother always put his interests before her own? Were not his sisters taught and expected to give way to him? Does not his wife good-humouredly humour him and efface herself when not required? One admits the uncompromising attitude we have lately assumed is rather hard on John, though most certainly for his good. For years he has blocked our right of way. For years he has been politely requested to stand aside, to settle our little Bill. For years he has smiled, paying no heed. We raised our voices, created a disturbance, and made things generally uncomfortable. Some of our actions convinced him we were in earnest, and at long last he has framed a Bill, containing the merest modicum of justice; a Bill acceptable to a good percentage of all parties, blessed by the Suffrage Societies, backed by a large parliamentary majority—therefore a Bill whose passage into law we demand and insist upon this year. At first John's notion was that without rhyme or reason his womenfolk suddenly jumped up and decided on votes much in the same way they decide on new curtains and carpets. It was not so. Even the leaders of the Suffrage movement do not direct the current; they are borne along by it themselves. Much less is it in the power of Cabinet Ministers or newspaper proprietors to again divert the current. Astute politicians did succeed in diverting it for a time by instituting Primrose Leagues and Women's Liberal Associations.

Years ago, when women were clamouring for the vote, a genius arose and said to those whom it concerned: "Aha! Women want to enter the field, to play the game of politics. So they shall; but it must be our game they play, not their own."

Now we are sweeping back into the right channel, playing our own game, and playing it well. What headway has been made since 1906! The game being won, we shall be happy once more to join forces.

In the meantime—"Women as women owe a primal duty to themselves to secure a proper measure of enfranchisement, a duty that ought to be attended to before the claims of any political party whatever."

As to stemming the tide, the Anti-Suffragists' "£13,000 mop" will have as much effect as had Mrs. Partington's on the Atlantic. We know that the Atlantic, without any show of anger, beat Mrs. Partington. As the waters answer to the tug of the moon, so we answer to the tug of a force mightier than ourselves—the force of evolution. It is our movement we take seriously, not ourselves. But the Prime Minister, with an open mind, keeps his eyes shut. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, after gyrating in the House, declared to some Welsh Liberals that though he was still anxious to remove the sex disability, he did not think, after all, that a sufficient number of women were. Astounding!

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Telegraphic Address:—"THACKERAY, LONDON."

The Home Secretary (the country has been singularly unfortunate of late in its Home Secretaries), seeing "everything in turn and nothing long," contradicts himself as often as he speaks on the subject.

"The gods make blind those whom they doom to destruction." We will not have these men to reign over us; and if the Commons tamely submit to their veto, women will be doing the whole nation a service by pressing to the front at all costs their claim for freedom.

Who are we to take seriously? Surely not Anti-Suffragists; they are anachronisms—survivals of the unfit. They will never live to suffer persecution; they will vanish as the ephemera of a day, or time will gradually absorb them, as the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries absorbed the Jacobites, as time must absorb all who will not leave the things that are behind.

The people we take seriously are electors. Quite as seriously as Mr. Asquith and Mr. Balfour take them. Quite as seriously as parliamentary candidates take them. We appeal to the electors to draw aside their representatives, to instruct them, to inform them that to-day John Bull is more than academically in favour of votes for women. Did he not last January say plainly, in answer to our petition, that he was particularly in favour of extending the parliamentary franchise to women on the municipal register?

Since then Mr. Shackleton's Bill has been accepted by a large majority. For this Bill we claim right of way.

KATE KILBURN.

Corrections.

Words to Working Women on Women's Suffrage.—We are sorry that error crept into our brief notice of Lady Chance's pamphlet last week. It can be obtained (price 1d., or 6s. per 100) from Lady Chance, Orchards, Godalming, Surrey.

Last Week's Cartoon.—Our cartoon last week was a portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Haslam, of Dublin.

"And I, thy Caliban, for aye thy Footlicker."

It was almost too irritating, and I very much wanted to knock her down. For not only did she say that woman's place was the home (and there she was, at least five thousand miles from her own home in Alabama), but she said that women had to have masters, and loved to have masters, and were not happy till they'd got them. They loved their masters, she explained, and their masters were the only people they did love. Furthermore, a master was a person who could force you to do things and knock you down if he wanted to. I snorted with rage, and she went on to explain, in her nasal Alabama voice, that of course he would never do it, because you would always love to do what he wanted; but you would know that he could, any time. And you would be entirely in subjection, and that was the way women ought to be. In fact that was the only thing they liked. I could hardly believe she was a real person. She went on to tell me that if her husband ever let her take the upper hand she would lose all her respect for him. I don't know why she confided in me, for she could not have had a more unsympathetic listener!

The next day her husband arrived. He looked rather nice, and I thought that if she had to have a master he would be a fairly good one; but by that time I had come to the conclusion that it was a keeper she needed.

He seemed rather bewildered, and told me he guessed he'd never known what an up-to-date place Europe was, and that maybe they misjudged it back home in Alabama. And when my cousin chirped up about the horse cars in London, and how even Prater City had had electric cars two years ago, he showed he was the master by leaving the conversation to her.

That evening I took them to a Suffrage meeting. I had to go because I had to speak, and she was delighted because she felt she was "doing England." I fancied he didn't much want to come, for he seemed almost shy about it. However, he cheered up after we had started, and asked me about the

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Suffragists and Suffragettes, and I explained the political situation as best I could. Then I put them in the front row and left them.

The meeting was just like any other—the audience very attentive, the collection pretty good, and the speaking very dull; the same old questions were asked and the same old answers given, and my own speech nearly put us all to sleep; it was about Home and Mother and the Baby.

I felt sure that my guests were being horribly disappointed, for in spite of all my explanations they must have been hoping for rotten eggs and poison and a row. And so when I went to find them after it was all over I intended to apologise for the dullness of it all. I found them still sitting in the front row, and he was deep in a "Common Cause." Before I could get in many words he said with great solemnity, "Miss Enorem, I enjoyed your talk so much! It has given me a great political uplift, and I shall go back to Alabama a different man." I was utterly taken aback, and while I was trying to think of what I could say, my cousin broke out in shrill exclamations. "It was a fine talk," she ejaculated; "fine! I don't see how you did it. I should be scared to death. I know I should. I think it is perfectly wonderful of you. I do really. And then you know all those facts and figures, too. I don't see how you do it. Of course, we don't agree with what you say—do we, Adolphus? And it would certainly never do in the States. Women aren't meant to vote, anyhow, and you see what they want is a —"

How long she would have been able to run on in that silly way I could only guess, for her master interfered at that point. "I believe every word you uttered, Miss Enorem," he said, "and I'm for votes for women from now on." My poor cousin screamed "Adolphus!" and then subsided. She was horrified beyond any more words. The next morning she was an ardent Suffragist. She said of course if women wanted votes they should have them. Men ought to give women what they wanted. And she seemed to look upon a vote as a sort of diamond tiara, or carriage and pair, that every husband ought to try and give his wife. She was just as silly as before, and far more pernicious. Adolphus looked very much pained, and I thought perhaps he wanted to knock her down, and didn't know that she would like it. As they went away he told me, almost furtively, that back home in Alabama no one had much of a chance, though they thought they had, and that he was almost sorry he'd been to Europe, it was so unsettling. And then, as if afraid of having been rude, he murmured hastily that he was very glad he had met me, and that this visit had been a great pleasure to them both.

RAY COSTELLOE.

Reviews.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER MAGAZINES.

In *The Nineteenth Century* for August, Mrs. Frederic Harrison in "Pageantry and Politics" gives an account of the Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage voters in Shottermill, the Guildford Division of Surrey. Lord Amphil in the same number replies to a previously noticed article on "State Registration of Nurses." In the September number, C. S. Tomes, F.R.S., writing on "Middle-class Life Two Hundred Years Ago," deals with the household accounts of one Francis Taylor, of South Littleton, and brings out many interesting details concerning the former cost of clothes and food and general household living. Janet E. Lane-Clayton, M.D., D.Sc., has an article on "Poor Law Babies—in London and Berlin." She asserts that there is a very high mortality among English workhouse infants compared with that of Berlin, where external boarding-out, carefully supervised, successfully takes the place of the workhouse nursery. Lewis Melville writes on "The Centenary of Mrs. Gaskell"—a critically reminiscent account of considerable interest. In "Supermanity and the Superwoman," Margaret L. Woods prophesies an impending reaction towards romance and idealism.

In *The Contemporary Review* for August, Mrs. G. H. Putnam writes on "The Lady of the Renaissance"—the decorative centre of the open medieval house shown in Gozzoli's fourteenth century frescoes, a beautiful and discerning woman of cultivated judgment and taste. "The Lady of the Salon," by the same author, appears in the September number, and traces the growth and development of the *salon* from its inception in the Hôtel Rambouillet. Mrs. Putnam deals incidentally with *politesse*—that art of life which effectively simulated the Christian virtues. In "Aids to the Labour Exchanges" (September), A. E. Cook pleads for the establishment of Aid Societies for boys and girls leaving school, which may bring them into touch with the Labour Exchanges.

In *The Church Quarterly Review*, C. W. Emmet has an article on "Divorce," pointing out that Biblical teaching on divorce admits the remarriage of innocent parties.

In *The North American Review* for August, H. Lush in "Women's Suffrage in New Zealand" declares that all who

are familiar with its working are firmly convinced of its success.

In *The National Review* for August, Mrs. Huth Jackson advocates "Menial Work" as excellent training in childhood for both boys and girls.

In *The English Review* for August, E. S. P. Haynes, speaking of "Ecclesiastical Survivals in Divorce," pleads for a cheap and reasonable divorce law. The September number contains a "Memorandum on Prison Reform," especially as to the treatment of political prisoners, by Wilfred Scawen Blunt, who himself suffered political imprisonment at Kilmainham and Galway in 1888. He attacks the "silent and separate" system, and pleads for first-class treatment for political offenders. This memorandum was forwarded to Mr. Winston Churchill on February 25, 1910.

The Dublin Review for August has an article on "Unemployment and Education: A Lesson from Switzerland," by Mrs. Crawford, dealing with Friburg and its excellent compulsory continuation schools for children of both sexes.

The Fortnightly Review for September contains a critical and biographical article, "Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell," by K. L. Montgomery, and an article entitled "Divorce for the Poor," by Stephen Reynolds, predicating special conditions applicable to working-class divorcees.

HELENE VON RACOWITZA: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Translated from the German by Cecil Mar. (Constable. Pp. 421. 12s. 6d. net.)

Fiction may not be as strange as fact, but it is often more convincing. When we have known characters first through an artistic medium, we are apt to look with some suspicion on history or biography in which we find them again. Clothilde of the "Tragic Comedians" is not quite so near our hearts as Diana of the Crossways, and it is consequently easier to bear the fact that she, calling herself Helene von Racowitza, has written an autobiography, and that it has been translated into English. It is the more easily endured because what she tells us accords very well with what we already know, and if she does not explain herself quite so well as she has already been explained, nor surround her tragic-comic tale with quite such a glamour as has been thrown round it by the novelist, it is not because she diverges from him in any important particular, but only because she does not exercise the magic of selection, and has not the gift of golden words—or if she has it does not survive the process of translation.

At the end of the book we still feel that the chief point of interest about her was that one of her love affairs furnished the theme of a great novel. The extraordinary thing is that to her it was only "one of her love affairs." Lassalle may have been her "thunderbolt" and her "eagle," but he was neither the first nor the last. He required from the woman whom he loved that she should absolutely merge herself in him, and his tragic fate brought him to a woman with a "temperament" as turbulent and ineffaceable as his own.

A beautiful, golden-haired child of mixed blood, brought up in the artistic, not very sane atmosphere of the Court of Bavaria in the 'fifties, surrounded by people of genius and people of fashion, but not, we are forced to gather, by people of morals, taken when still a little girl to the capitals of Prussia and Savoy, and to the gay cosmopolitan Riviera towns, introduced to the men and women who were making history—to Victor Emmanuel, Cavour, Bismarck, Eugénie,—flattered and played with by others, who sought nothing in life but enjoyment and "the madness of love,"—Helene, as was natural, reflected her environment. This "golden wonder child," or "little nixie," as her adorners called her, was indeed of a more than usually "reflecting" temperament; or perhaps, in Meredith's words, "she was a zealot of the faith that ascribes the direction of events to the outer world." At twelve she began to go to balls and to be adored; before she was fourteen her mother had forced her into an engagement with one of that lady's own admirers, a Sardinian colonel of 42. A year or two later she had escaped from him, and was in love with a young Russian, with whom she disported herself at Nice "amid the scent of blossoms and the song of nightingales," in "the gentle murmur of the moonlit silver sea." At this time she had already met the Polish boy, Count Yanko Racowitza, her "dark fairy prince," her "Moorish page," Meredith's "Indian Bacchus." He had devoted his life to her, and was, she tells us, "her spiritual possession." When "Lassalle entered her life, and all else faded into shadow," the unfortunate Yanko was made her confidant, forced to study his rival's work with her, and told that "he owed it to himself to recognise the unequivocal superiority of the man who had supplanted him." Yanko it was, as Meredithians already know, who shot Lassalle in a duel which had almost the character of a tragic accident. It does not appear that he had the least intention of killing his supplanter. Helene, helpless in the hands of Destiny, let him go to the duel in the belief that Destiny had chosen this way of removing him from the path of her happiness. "It is true," she says, "that during these hours I was indifferent to the fate of my unfortunate Yanko. Later on I was able to make up to him for this." When the unbelievable happened and Lassalle was killed, she married the poor Indian Bacchus, and seems to have nursed him tenderly in the mortal illness into which he

shortly fell. Her heart was not buried with him nor with Lassalle; she had many later adventures, and continued to enjoy herself and to be loved. She loved, too, according to her nature, and has no complaint to make of life. Her book ends with a recommendation to her readers to do as she has done.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

IN *THE BUILDING OF THELEMA*, one of the most interesting books of the day, by C. R. Ashbee, there is a character sketch of a woman, "Marianne," which is worth studying. She is the sane and simple mother of the boy Raffe, who is finding his way to Thelema, the city where dreams come true. The chapter which describes her is written with insight and skill, and I quote the concluding paragraphs of it, for in it we have a foresight of how the working women of the near future will use their vote. Marianne had "won her economic independence through domestic service, and then taking control of her husband had applied herself to motherhood." The thinking men of her own class met at her house to discuss with her husband, a "comp," the social questions of the day.

"Now, what would you do if you had a vote, mother?" said the comp one evening.

"I don't want none."

"Yes, but supposing you had one now, what would you do with it?"

"She thought a minute, and then, as with a look and a leap into the future, she said simply, 'I should clean the streets of a night-time.'"

"Call that practical!" chuckled the comp, who guilelessly figured to himself County Council scavengers, with badges, in blue and corduroy, turning the hose on Mile End Road at two o'clock in the morning; but the moral scavenging which Marianne had at the back of her mind, and wished to do, was of a very different nature. She was thinking not of the streets, but of the race; not of the badges, but of the babies that were never born.

"Tut! call that practical!" the comp repeated. "But she would not pursue the subject. She stroked the soft of his cheek with the back of her hand, then she kissed Raffe on the brow as she left the room to fetch the supper. Both father and son felt the presence and its power, but neither understood the inwardness of her action."

A. G. E.

The Chairman and the Chief.

(With apologies to Lewis Carroll.)

"Will you move a little faster?" said a chairman to a chief; "There's an army close behind me, and it's growing past belief."

See how eagerly the unions and the leagues await your will! They are standing on the threshold—will you let us pass the Bill?

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you pass the Bill?

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you pass the Bill?

"You can really have no notion how much better it will be when the women occupiers have the vote as well as we!" But the chief replied, "Too far, too far!" and, glancing at Churchill,—

Said he thanked the chairman kindly, but he would not pass the Bill!

Would not, could not, would not, could not, would not pass the Bill!

Would not, could not, would not, could not, could not pass the Bill!

"What matters it how far we go?" his noble foe replied; "There's Nature who will balance it upon the other side. Although they vote for Parliament they will be women still. Your time is brief, O Liberal chief! be quick and pass the Bill. Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you pass the Bill?"

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you pass the Bill?"

ANNIE W. COOKE.

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.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I notice in your issue of September 15th a paragraph referring to a letter written to the *Manchester Guardian* with regard to Lancashire County Council scholarships. The writer suggested that in the awards boys were preferred to girls.

I imagine that your readers will be glad to know that no such injustice has been done. Sir Henry Hibbert, chairman

of the Lancashire County Council, wrote in reply to point out, firstly, that many more boys than girls enter for these examinations; secondly, that the examination is conducted by the Joint Matriculation Board of the Northern Universities, and that in no case do the examiners pay any regard to sex in awarding the scholarships. The first fact, he points out, could easily have been found out by reference to the County Education Office. The second fact I can endorse from personal knowledge.

I write in the country, far from means of reference, but I think I am right in saying that the writer of the letter himself withdrew the charge.

I think it worth while to draw your readers' attention to these facts, because in a world where, unhappily, women do suffer many real disabilities, it would be a pity to add even one unreal grievance.—Yours,

HILDA JOHNSTONE.

19, Wellington Road, Withington, Manchester,
17th September, 1910.

[We are very glad indeed to publish Miss Johnstone's letter and to recognise that the facts are as stated, and the paragraph referred to was written under a misapprehension. We hear from an experienced examiner that, as a matter of fact, a larger proportion of boys attain scholarship standard than is the case with girls, and, on the other hand, a larger proportion of boys are also found at the bottom of the lists. The girls are in the middle.—Ed. "C.C."]

ELECTION POLICY.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Everyone will have read with great interest the views of Mr. Brailsford on the electoral policy to be pursued by the N.U. in the event of the defeat of the Conciliation Bill. His opinion is undoubtedly worthy of grave consideration, inasmuch as he has exceptional opportunities of estimating the reliability of our supporters in the House of Commons. The vast majority of Suffragists are unfortunately ill-acquainted with events which take place behind the scenes. Although frequent betrayals have caused us to be somewhat sceptical of the allegiance of M.P.s, and on the alert to detect deception, who would have believed it possible that even those who signed the memorial would play us false? Still we certainly have many loyal friends in the House, and their inability to secure the passing of the Bill into law should surely be conclusive proof that the power of private members is limited, and that a change in our policy is necessary. Personally I have never been able to agree with the rigid anti-Government policy of the militants. To oppose a Liberal candidate, albeit a tried friend, and so secure the return of a Unionist who is an avowed opponent, is, I believe a serious defect. But the N.U. could adopt a policy which is free from this objection. Let us decide at the next Council meeting to run our Suffrage candidates in opposition to Liberal opponents only, and to leave Unionist Anti-Suffragists alone for the present.

In the editorial footnote to Mr. Brailsford's letter you state that you are "unconvinced of the advantages of putting in a Conservative Government."

It is true that a large proportion of a Conservative Cabinet would be opposed to us, but even under a Conservative Government we could, I take it, secure a majority of votes for a Women's Suffrage Bill framed on the lines of the Conciliation Bill, and left an open question in the House. Facilities are all that would be needed, and these Mr. Balfour might grant. Admittedly it is problematic whether we should be better off under a Conservative Government, but at least we could not be worse off than we are under the present regime, supposing Mr. Asquith refuses to grant facilities. The improbable is always to be preferred to the impossible.

However, I am convinced that the opposition of Suffragists to the Liberal Government would not lead to the return of the Conservatives to power. We have only to put that fear into the hearts of the Liberal Cabinet to ensure a complete change of front. They are too astute to run unnecessary risk of defeat at the poll.—Yours,
MARGARET MEIN.
Hunstanworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sep. 17th, 1910.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I can but comply with pleasure with your suggestion that I should express my views upon the better way in election policy. From considerations of space I will attempt little but a brief statement, reserving argument.

First, then, I maintain that election work—i.e., to affect returns at the polls—is of the first importance, and should be so considered. All educational work should be preparatory to this, and subordinated to it. "Propaganda only" should not be a policy for elections.

This premised, I would advocate:—

1. AT GENERAL ELECTIONS.—(a) That should either Liberal or Conservative party consent to make our measure a party measure, we should unanimously support that party. (b) Failing this desirable but improbable contingency, we should run Suffrage candidates so far as our funds permit, after using as a test question to candidates, "Will you vote for a Women's Suffrage Bill independently of the direction of the party Whip?" I would remark that the threat of sending down a third candidate will probably be found sufficient in

some instances, and that having a candidate in reserve will enable us to threaten more than one constituency. We should attack, I think—*pace* Mr. Brailsford,—both Conservative and Liberal candidatures, because (1) it will be desirable for us to return friends on either side, since the successful party can not be foreseen; and (2) if one party—*e.g.*, the Conservative—recognises that in any case Suffragists will do their work for them by, *e.g.*, opposing the Liberals, it is not likely to render to us any *quid pro quo*.

2. **At By-elections.**—Here I recognise I approach suggesting not the best means, but "the best that the Athenians will bear." Nothing has surprised me, as a dispassionate observer, more than the animus displayed by our Society against an anti-Government by-election policy. That method was no new invention of the militant societies; it is the accepted political means of conveying to the Government of the day the expression of the discontent and disapproval of the people with its procedure. It is further reinforced by the fact that—except by a miracle—no Suffrage Bill will be allowed to pass except as a Government measure. Enfranchisement is far too important to be permitted to come about by a private member's Bill. Failing, however, the adoption of an anti-Government by-election policy, we should still oppose the candidates, so far as our numbers permit, who will not reply in the affirmative to our test question.

3. By conference and consultation our Society might well arrive at some *modus vivendi* with the militant societies, by which the ground to be covered, during general elections particularly, should be allotted between us. I should like to avoid the occasion for the enemy's jibe in one of the daily papers—"At election times they disappear from view, because there are not enough of them to go round." Moreover, our diversity of view does not impress the audience quite in the right way.

I may be permitted to offer an *apologia* for my attitude by reference to the remark of one of our leaders, Miss Frances Sterling, at a stormy meeting of the London Society. "It must be remembered," she said, "that it is always open to the Council to revise the election policy of the National Union, and that there is no finality in any existing policy."—Yours, (Miss) EDITH S. HOOPER, M.A. Edin.; formerly Fellow of Bryn Mawr College, U.S.A.

[Miss Hooper writes entirely as an outsider, and does not seem to be aware that many of her opinions and aspirations have been threshed out in Council, and are never out of the minds of the Executive Committee. The beauties and advantages of unity are apparent to us all, but the fact remains that, without any "animus" at all, a majority of the representatives at National Union Councils have always hitherto been opposed to the adoption of an anti-Government policy, not because it was considered wrong, but because it was considered unwise. The Council decides the broad lines upon which the Executive must act, and when the Council adopts an anti-Government policy, the Executive will carry it out.—Ed. "C. C."]

THE MORNING LEADER COMPETITION.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—I wrote to you a short time ago with reference to the *Morning Leader's* Votes for Women coupon competition, but did not mention that I was going in for the competition myself, and intended, if I was lucky enough to get one of the prizes of furniture, to hand it over to the Sussex Men's League to furnish the offices it intends to take this winter. If, therefore, any of your readers would be so kind as to help me by taking some coupons to the next Suffrage meeting they attend, getting the coupons signed, and forwarding them to me, I would be extremely grateful.—Yours,

A. BRUNEL.

Frankville, Portslade, Sussex, September 15, 1910.

[We have no objection to publishing Mr. Brunel's letter, but we hold all such competitions to be mere games, and the result to be one of no practical use to anyone.—Ed. "C. C."]

SUFFRAGISTS IN THE MAKING.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—It is generally futile laying blame on the past unless we have our eyes on the future; then a history of mistakes may produce an outlook of hopeful anticipation.

One cannot sometimes help wishing that Suffragists would be rather more generous in the ways of dealing with their question. They are too apt to pour out all their invective on the heads of men and reserve only their pity and respect for those of women. But yet, if we look honestly at the past—if it is any good blaming anybody for present conditions,—we should at least measure out some of our scorn on the mothers of past generations, for they, if only they could have seen it, always had the coming generation at their feet and under their control. Men and women are to a great extent what they have been allowed to be.

Most of us can recall from our own experience or from the experience of others what a difference in treatment the girls in a family have had from the boys, even from their own mothers; how often the latter are allowed to take precedence in the whole of family life. From the nursery, through school-

The Bread Problem

Modern white bread has been robbed of all the vital and strength-creating qualities of the wheat. It is a cloggy, starchy, white substance, which proves a fertile soil for constipation, appendicitis, and kindred diseases.

The ordinary wholemeal (brown) bread represents the opposite extreme. Coarse, branny particles unduly hasten the half-assimilated food through the system and cause stomachic and intestinal irritation—a positively dangerous thing.

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room and holiday life, and all the way through youth the boys have been treated with far more leniency than their sisters, and have not been taught what justice means in relation to others; and then when they arrive at manhood their parents are surprised to find them turn out selfish and overbearing.

Let the present generation of mothers act differently, and some years hence there would be very little difficulty left in the path of Suffrage for women. Let them do all in their power by example and training to give a higher tone to social life by seeing to it that their boys and girls live in an atmosphere of justice to each.

It can be done in many ways, and new ways will always be declaring themselves when once our thoughts are directed on our ideals of human conduct. The methods will be mostly practical; in fact, one may say that unless they are woven in with the practical life of the children they will be ineffectual; and through this practice in daily living of sharing in a common life, where none may shirk his or her portion of its duties, our young men and women will enter a larger world already equipped for taking on higher responsibilities.

I do not believe boys and men are naturally any more selfish or unjust than girls or women, but if in their upbringing they are always treated as lords of creation, we must not be surprised if they expect to remain so in after life.

Though girls and boys, men and women, will be for ever different, it is for parents and educators to see that they all are to enter a common heritage of justice and liberty.—Yours, C.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN OCCUPIERS.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Some societies within the National Union have, I understand, undertaken to promote a petition in favour of Woman Suffrage by means of a personal canvass of the registered woman occupiers in their districts. It would not greatly add to the labours of the canvassers if they were at the same time to compile statistics which would add to our knowledge of the social and economic condition of the women who would be enfranchised by the Conciliation Bill. It would be useful if we could find out what proportion of them belong to the working-class, how many are widows, how many are householders, and how many owe their qualification to the occupancy of a "tenement" (shop, office, or land). Full figures regarding some typical industrial town, some small county or residential town, and (most necessary of all) some county division or rural area would be of service in all future arguments on the effect and character of our Bill. I should

be glad to hear from secretaries who would be willing to conduct a statistical inquiry in conjunction with the petition, but I do not wish to suggest that any society which has not already decided to carry out this rather exhausting form of work should undertake it merely for the sake of obtaining these figures. The districts selected must be in England or Wales, since the basis of the existing Local Government qualification in Scotland and Ireland is somewhat wider than that laid down in our Bill.—Yours,

H. N. BRAILSFORD.

32, Well Walk, Hampstead.

[We refer to this letter in "News of the Week."]

A STRIKE OF LIBERAL WOMEN.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—May I call attention to a point which it seems to me has been overlooked in this correspondence, both by those who urge the strike and those who oppose it. Several Liberal women have written bewailing the idea of sitting with folded hands at a general election, while you say it would do no good to put in the Conservatives. Has anyone suggested that it would do any good? I think the whole point of the discussion is, that were a strike organized with thoroughness and determination, the victory would be won at once, probably without dealing a blow; or, as Mr. Brailsford admirably puts it, "Liberal women could end the whole battle in a few weeks or months." That is to say, it would never actually come to "folded hands" or "putting the Conservatives in." The Liberal party would not dare to face the risk of a general election with its women idle, and would guard against such a calamity by granting facilities for our Bill this autumn. This would not be "an unworthy policy of bluff" because, of course, if the Government remained obdurate, this weapon would be unflinchingly used. Still less would such a course be due to "a desire . . . to break, hurt, or destroy" in excusable indignation. It would be a reasoned policy—perhaps the only one which will ever bring the Government to its knees.

Ordinary Liberal women have too little sex loyalty, and there are too many social interests involved among the leaders. Besides, many of them still believe that by withholding opposition from their beloved party they will in the end—the very end—get votes. The attitude of those who "never will desert Mr. Micawber" reminds me of nothing so much as the young lady in the "Nonsense Book":—

"who said, 'How shall I soften the heart of this cow?'"

I will sit on this stile,

And continue to smile,

Which may soften the heart of this cow."

As long as Liberal women "continue to smile" they will never "soften the heart of this cow." It is the frown that will cow the cow, and the frown is the strike.—Yours,

THEODORA MILLS.

(Hon. Sec., Cheltenham.)

Lowmandale, Cheltenham.

WOMEN AND THE PRIESTHOOD.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—In regard to this question I should like to point out a fact which is generally ignored. A laywoman is not a priest for exactly the same reason that a layman is not a priest, and that is that neither of them has had the inward call from God to the work. It is not true that any layman can be a priest; he cannot, unless he can prove to the Bishop that he has the inward call, which gives him the real fitness for the work. It is true that many are ordained without a vocation, but this is reckoned a grievous sin on the part of the man himself and the Bishop who ordained him. If there is any grievance in the laywoman's exclusion from the priesthood, the same grievance exists exactly in the case of the layman—why one man more than another? Why the present Archbishop and not St. Francis of Assisi, who never felt called to the priesthood? It is all a case of difference with equality that the human mind seems incapable of grasping—different vocation, different work, yet all based on a fundamental equality in the sight of God. All receive the sacrament equally, and this constitutes the greatest privilege of any member of the Church; there is no greater privilege than to receive the body and blood of the Lord in Holy Communion. But some must minister the sacrament to the others; does it imply any inferiority or indignity in those to whom they are appointed to minister? All cannot minister—it would be a waste of work; God Himself arranges who the ministers shall be, by the inward moving which constitutes vocation. But God is never negative or exclusive. He does not say to the other members, men or women, "You shall not be priests." He says, "You shall do other work just as necessary and valuable, and therefore cannot be priests." St. Mary, mother of God, could not do the work of St. Peter, head of the apostles. St. Peter could not do the work of St. Mary. St. Mary acted as an ordinary member of the Church of which St. Peter and the apostles were the official heads, and received communion from the hands of the apostles. Yet is she called Queen of Apostles, and ranks in Heaven next to God, and above St. Peter. So it is with us all. We have different work and different duties, but a fundamental

equality in the sight of God, and there is no exclusion of women from the priesthood, except that God has given them other work to do. If an Æumenical Council decided that women might be ordained, that would be useless unless God gave them the vocation. There are many reasons which made it wise that up till now only men should have been called. If, in view of modern developments, this is ever changed, the Holy Spirit will guide the Church to alter its rules. But this could only happen by an Æumenical Council of the whole Church, reunited, and this, I am afraid, is hundreds of years ahead. It seems to me, therefore, quite futile to discuss this question at present; Church people will not act against these vocations of God—they understand what vocation means,—and it really does not matter to others who do not feel bound by them what the Church's rules are for her members. On the other hand, there are grave injustices at present between laymen and laywomen, and these we Church people ought to fight, and fight now, with all our strength.

L. R. TAYLOR.

Mrs. Hylton Dale writes to say that the National Conference on Women's Lodging Houses, promoted by the National Association for Women's Lodging Homes, will be a much larger affair than was first contemplated, and will be deferred to the spring. A much smaller meeting will be held in London in October to settle the details of the Conference.

Miss Marion Mackenzie writes a long letter criticising the article in last week's issue entitled "The Underlying Principle," in the course of which she points out that the militant Suffragists have not inflicted, but have suffered, bodily injury. She also demurs to the statement that "militant tactics" distract attention from the main question, and asserts that, on the contrary, they attract attention to it. She adduces in proof of this that "in time of war" the militant paper sells "like wildfire," and that it now takes "some gentle persuasion" on her part to sell 250 copies a week. [We congratulate her and her Union on selling so many, but we are inclined to think that this instance of hers proves our point. We know what sells "like wildfire," and we think such methods may make money but not converts.]

Miss Beatrice Kent writes recommending that the proposed memorial to Florence Nightingale should take the form of a College of Nurses, to commemorate her as "altruist, humanitarian, pioneer, and reformer."

Mrs. Harold Behrens writes to draw attention to the scheme for building near Victoria Park, Manchester, a house for professional women on the lines of Hopkinson and Brabazon House in London. An Employment Bureau and Benevolent Fund will be worked in connection with it.

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.

A series of drawing-room meetings is to be arranged in and around Birmingham as soon as possible, and open-air meetings and distribution of literature amongst working-men will form part of the programme for the next few weeks. Generous offers of help are coming.

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ALEXANDER WILKIE

61, Shandwick Place,
: EDINBURGH. :

In every day. Those who can only do a little perhaps do not always realize how very much the little they can do is appreciated by the Committee, and how greatly it helps to encourage the other workers.

EDINBURGH.
We have done much this week to arrange meetings for the autumn, and we are fortunate in having Mrs. Fawcett for our meeting in the People's Hall, West Calder, next Wednesday, the 21st. The hall holds 1,500, and we depend mainly on the shale miners and oil workers to form an audience, as the meeting is an evening one, and many of the women are busy at home. Miss Low called on some of the leading people in the neighbourhood and found many interested in the movement, but no one in the locality was willing to take the chair.

Mr. Brailsford is coming on the 24th October, and tickets will be on sale at the office as soon as the Committee has met to finally decide the details. This will probably be on Tuesday next, the 20th. Mr. Brailsford speaks for Suffragists on condition that all the Suffrage Societies combine, and we have been glad to make this arrangement with the W.S.P.U. and W.F.L. We hope that members will do all they can to sell tickets (1s. and 6d.), as Mr. Brailsford is one of the best friends of the cause, and his address is sure to be of interest.

We are trying to arrange with other speakers for meetings at Dalkeith and Portobello.

The first of the weekly meetings of the Society will take place on Friday, October 7th.

Canvassing in Leith goes on steadily, but we are badly in need of more workers. Will anyone willing to give help communicate with Miss Lisa Gordon, 40, Shandwick Place?

GODALMING.

On Saturday evening a fairly well attended open-air meeting was held at Godalming in support of the Conciliation Bill. Mr. Pilcher took the chair, and Miss Milton very kindly came from Farnham in order to speak, and gave a most lucid explanation of the Bill. Towards the close of the meeting, which was at first rather lukewarm, the interest obviously grew, as was clearly shown by the way the audience closed up round the speaker in order to ask questions and hear better. Miss Milton's statement that the father is the only parent recognized by the law (as evidenced by the fact that if parents have anti-vaccination scruples, the father himself must apply for the exemption order) was challenged by a member of the audience, who said the magistrate could not refuse the mother. He was evidently referring to the case of the illegitimate child, when of course the mother is the only parent. Three new members joined the Society at the meeting. A resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was passed with two dissentients.

LONDON—CAMBERWELL.
We are greatly encouraged as we begin to see the effect of our open-air campaign. At our rendezvous last Thursday there were some members of the previous week's crowd already waiting for us as the speaker and local workers arrived. Great interest is felt, and many of the listeners, more especially men, declare that "every sensible man" must agree to the justice of our demand. The mental attitude of the crowd shows a marked change, and many purchase a "Common Cause," though some are still too shy or too contemptuous to do so. We gained some active recruits for the Men's League, one making a short speech and another selling the paper. Our "Common Causes" were again sold out.

LONDON—EALING AND ACTON.
The first Committee meeting of this branch took place on September 13th, when plans for winter activities were made. Miss Cicely Corbett has very kindly promised to come and speak at three open-air meetings on September 28th (weather permitting). We are hiring a wagonette, which will act as a platform for the evening, and intend to give one meeting near Balfour Road Schools, S. Ealing; the second at Shellshear's Corner, Uxbridge Road, W. Ealing; and the third on Baling Green. We hope that local speakers will carry on the meetings at the various spots.

Our annual general meeting has been fixed for Tuesday evening, November 1st. It will take place at the Prince's Room, Municipal Buildings, and we hope to make it a record one, for a great treat is in store for members and the public, as Miss Bertha Mason has very kindly promised to give her well-known lantern lecture on the history of the Women's Suffrage movement.

The first of the monthly At Homes will take place on October 18th, when Miss Mary Lowndes has promised us a talk on the Conciliation Bill. Miss Debac, now Treasurer of the branch, will be hostess at these At Homes, as before, and the branch is greatly indebted to her for her kind hospitality.

THREE TOWNS AND DISTRICT.
At a meeting held at the Guildhall, Saltash, Cornwall, T. Lean, Esq., the Mayor, in the chair, the following resolution was moved by Miss Alison Garland and seconded by Dr. Mabel L. Ramsay: "That this meeting calls upon the Government to give the necessary facilities for the passage of the Representation of the People Bill, 1910, believing it to be a solution of the question of the enfranchisement of women which meets the views of all parties."

In a very able speech, Miss Alison Garland moved the resolution and explained how really democratic this measure is, and showed that 87 per cent. of the women who would be enfranchised would be working women. She also showed how those members of Parliament and the Cabinet who had called this measure a "propriety vote" had not read the Bill, and those in authority who should have known better thus misled the House as to the true facts. The Mayor, our chairman, expressed himself as glad to have had this opportunity of hearing about this Bill, as he too was under the impression that it was not a democratic measure. Dr. Mabel L. Ramsay, in seconding, showed clearly from the results of present-day legislation and its tendency to invade the home life why women want a vote; she also pointed out that the great evil of the White Slave Traffic will never be dealt with until women are themselves no longer outside the constitution.

A collection was taken, and "Common Causes" were sold. A very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Miss Laura Jenkin and seconded by Miss Slater, to the chairman and the speakers concluded the proceedings. For the first time in our local history a meeting of ours was honoured by the Mayor, wearing his chain of office. We think it augurs well for the future of the local Society.

DENBIGH'S FIRST WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MEETING.

On the evening of Monday, September 12th, the Memorial Hall, Denbigh, was packed to overflowing with an audience of four hundred. The meeting was arranged by Mrs. Gimmingham, who is spending her holidays in the neighbourhood. The possibility of having a meeting was not mooted till ten o'clock on Saturday, and by three o'clock of the same day the hall was taken, the town chalked, the shops were billed, and all Denbigh was talking of Votes for Women. The audience was of the best type—the intelligent people of the place, who were all apparently anxious to hear about the subject. Mrs. Gimmingham took the chair, and in a maiden speech gave an account of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies. She is an acquisition to the ranks of speakers, for, in spite of the musical accompaniment from the gallery, she succeeded in making all the points of her speech. Following her were Miss Macmillan, who outlined the general arguments for Women's Suffrage, and Miss Lamond, who gave an account of the Conciliation Bill. There was fairly continuous interruption from the gallery, but the speakers were able to make themselves heard in the body of the hall. Seven members joined, 78 "Common Causes" were sold, and 30s. was taken for seats and collection. As Mr. Lamond kindly defrayed the expenses of the meeting, we shall be able to hand over this sum to the Union. Valuable help was given by Miss Gimmingham, Miss Rebecca and Mr. Dickson. Mrs. Gimmingham is following up this public meeting by calling on those who are likely to be interested. She has also arranged a drawing-room meeting in her own house, and hopes to have a Denbigh Society established before she leaves. Sympathisers near Denbigh who are able to help in forming this Society, or anyone who has any information as to sympathisers in the district, should communicate with Mrs. Gimmingham, Parc Postyn, near Denbigh.

Other Societies.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL.

Two members of this Society being in Wendover last week, an impromptu meeting was arranged for Great Missenden. Large and alluring notices and announcements were chalked on the roadway in the morning, and bills were handed in to most of the shops. More than 100 people assembled on the "village green." A kind lady lent us a box and some chairs, and Miss Herford got for us two bright stable lanterns. Many working men were present, who asked, "Does the Bill benefit the working class?" and by that test it had to stand or fall. Curiously enough, only a few weeks ago it was put to "the question" in an inverse sense, "Does it benefit the educated class and leisured women?" Well, we can truthfully say it is framed to benefit every woman, not only those on whom it will bestow a vote, but the others, to whom it will give the possibility of qualifying for a vote. The speakers were Miss Gertrude Lees (W.S.P.U.), Miss Caroline Herford (N.U.), and Miss K. Raleigh, who took the chair. Representatives of the W.F.L., Church League, Conservative and Unionist League, and Artists' League lent the support of their presence.

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- SEPTEMBER 22.**
Meeting—Miss Robertson. 3.0
North of England—St. Philip's Mission Hall, Salford—Women's Club—Social. 8.0
North of England—South Salford Suffrage Club—Social. 8.0
North of England—East Manchester and District—Lecture Hall, United Methodist Church (opposite Tram Shed), Hyde Road, Ardwick—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Miss K. D. Courtney. 8.0
London—Camberwell—Collyer Place, Peckham—Open-air Meeting—Miss Thomson, Miss Dawson. 7.30
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting. 8.0
Wells—Town Hall—Miss Royden. 3.0
Reigate—The Green, S. Park—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury. 8.0
Bermundsey—Galleywall Road—Young Women's Society of S.—Bermundsey Mission—Miss Margery Corbett. 8.30
Corbridge—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30
- SEPTEMBER 23.**
North of England—85, Deansgate Arcade—Special Meeting of Members. 7.30
Goldstream—Berwickshire—Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., Dr. Inglis, Sir Francis Blake (Chairman). 7.0
Hexham—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30
- SEPTEMBER 24.**
London—Highgate—Tally Ho Corner, Finchley—Open-air Meeting. 8.0
Woking—Duke Street—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury, Mr. Reginald H. Pott. 7.0
- SEPTEMBER 25.**
North of England—Salford Suffrage Club—Men Only. 8.0
- SEPTEMBER 26.**
London—Highgate—Annual Meeting—Lantern Lecture—Miss Bertha Mason. 8.0
Leeds—Lady Lane Schoolroom—Women's Meeting—Miss Fielden. 2.45
Rothbury—The Cross—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30
- SEPTEMBER 27.**
Haltwhistle—Mechanics' Hall—Rev. A. S. Campbell (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett. 7.30
- SEPTEMBER 28.**
Nottingham—Monthly At Home and Opening of New Offices—Mrs. W. B. Thorpe (hostess), Miss Le Clerc Phillips. Tea. 4-5
London—Ealing—Open-air Meetings—Miss C. Corbett, Mrs. Buddings. 6.15
Rothbury—Jubilee Hall—Miss Mein (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett. 7.30
- SEPTEMBER 29.**
London—Camberwell—Collyer Place, Peckham—Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Bowden Smith (Chairman). 7.30
Hexham—Town Hall—J. T. Dunn, Esq., D.Sc. (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett.
- SEPTEMBER 30.**
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Miss M. B. Todd on "The Duties of Servants and Mistresses." 8.0
New Forest—St. Catherine's, Barton-on-Sea—Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Duncan. 3.0
Stocksfield—The Red House—Mrs. Adams (Hostess), Mrs. Fawcett. 3.0
- OCTOBER 1.**
London—Highgate—High Road, East Finchley—Open-air Meeting. 8.0
- OCTOBER 2.**
Leeds—Adult School, Mill Hill—Debate—Miss Fielden.
- OCTOBER 3.**
Carnforth—Co-operative Hall—Miss Royden, Rev. J. Whiteside (Chairman). 8.0
- OCTOBER 4.**
Cirencester—Debate—Miss Mildred Ransom, Miss Mabel Smith (A.S. League).
Farnworth—Moor Hall—Miss Robertson.
Leeds—Leeds Parliament—Debate—Miss Fielden.
Norwood—N.L. of Young Liberals—Debate, Women's Suffrage—Miss Emily Hill. 8.0
- OCTOBER 5.**
London—Enfield—Constitutional Club—Debate—Miss Rinder.
Chirside, Berwickshire—Grand Variety Sale—Lady Low, Lady Frances Balfour.
Radcliffe—Co-operative Hall—Miss Robertson. 8.0
Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Dr. Mary Phillips, Miss Fielden. 3.30
Knutsford—Ruskin Recreation Room—Women's Meeting—Rev. Kirk Mackenzie. 7.30
- OCTOBER 6.**
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting.
North Herts.—Letchworth—Drawing-room Meeting—Mr. Laurence Housman. 3.30

- North Herts.—Letchworth—Pixmore Institute—Suffrage Entertainment. 8.0
Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Hart, Miss Fielden. 3.30
London—Highgate—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Seekings, Mrs. Arthur Gillett. 3.30
Liphook—Vicarage Hall—Mrs. Stanbury. 8.0
- OCTOBER 7.**
Haslemere—Educational Hall—Meeting for Rate-paying Women—Mrs. Stanbury. 3.0
Edinburgh—First Weekly Meeting.
- OCTOBER 8.**
Haslemere—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury. Evening.
London—E. Finchley—Baptist Church Debating Society—Miss J. Hamilton Thomson, B.A. 8.0
- OCTOBER 13.**
London—Enfield—Co-operative Society—Miss Ward.
- OCTOBER 14.**
Gateshead—Bewick Hall—Mrs. H. Fawcett, LL.D., Mrs. Spence Watson.
Knutsford Society—Meeting in Disley—Miss Abadam.
- OCTOBER 15.**
Stockport—Meeting—[Offers of help to Mrs. Wild, 23, Warwick Road, Romiley.]
- OCTOBER 17.**
Stockport—Meeting.
- OCTOBER 18.**
London—Ealing—At Home—Miss Lowndes. 8.15
London—Enfield—St. Paul's Presbyterian Lit. Society—Miss E. A. Bompas. 8.0
- OCTOBER 19.**
York—Exhibition—Miss Margaret Ashton.
Grayshot—Meeting for Rate-paying Women—Mrs. Marshall. 3.0
Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting.
London—Islington—Salter's Hall Church Lit. Society, Canonbury—Debate—Miss C. Corbett, B.A., Miss Stuart (A.S.L.). 8.15

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