

WOMEN'S SHARE IN POLISH HISTORY.

The Common Cause OF HUMANITY.

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

LAW-ABIDING.] **Societies and Branches in the Union 602.** [NON-PARTY.]

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Notes and News.

Lord Kitchener—and Others.

It is a relief to find that Lord Kitchener, at least, has sufficient confidence in the nerve of the British people to tell them the truth as to the position in which they stand. We commend his example to—others. We are all aware that every sign of change in public opinion and public courage is watched by both our allies and our enemies, and there is surely nothing more calculated to encourage the latter than the idea that we are in such a state of nerves that the truth has to be kept from us. The Press Bureau is doing all in its power to create this impression; Lord Kitchener's speech is likely to destroy it. He speaks with perfect frankness of his anxiety about war munitions, and about the gravity of the position which would be created by any shortage.

"Unless the Whole Nation Works With Us."

Lord Kitchener, we think, struck the right note when he appealed to "the whole nation" to work with him, and urged that "those who work long hours in the shops by day and by night, week in and week out, are doing their duty for their King and country in a like manner with those who have joined the Army." This is true, and we could wish that every appeal made for work and sacrifice from non-combatants at this time were couched in the same terms. We believe there is no sacrifice which would not be made, and made gladly, if all were made "in the service of our country." At the same time, it must be remembered that human minds and bodies are—not unwilling but—incapable of bearing more than a certain amount of strain. Men who have worked overtime up to a certain point of endurance cannot go on. The thing is impossible. It has been suggested to us by more than one employer of labour, that the cause of much of the present labour trouble is due to this, and we urge the authorities to remember that "the whole nation" includes employers as well as employees, and that the former as well as the latter must put themselves into the sacrifice-line.

Death of Miss Neil Fraser and Miss Louisa Jordan.

Miss Neil Fraser and Miss Louisa Jordan, the two nurses whose deaths in Serbia were announced in the Press on March

13th, were both members of the Serbian Unit of the Scottish Women's Hospital, organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and staffed entirely by women.

On February 21st, Dr. Soltau and Dr. Campbell attended a meeting at Nish of British and American medical representatives, to discuss how best to deal on a large scale with the fever epidemics in Serbia. We hope that a result of this may be a considerable extension of the work carried on by our party in Kraguievatz. Plans for a special fever hospital are being very carefully considered.

"Special Service" and the Vote.

A short time ago Lord Charles Beresford asked the Prime Minister whether he would consider the desirability of arranging that every man who has volunteered for the war and so risked his life in the service and defence of the country, should be entitled at the age of twenty-one to a Parliamentary vote during his life-time, irrespective of other qualifications. The Prime Minister answered that the question would be duly considered. Now, if voluntary service for the country is to be a qualification for the franchise, what about the hundreds of women who are serving at the front, and risking their lives in nursing deadly fevers, and who have in many instances been exposed to shell fire as well as the soldiers? Moreover, for every woman who is accepted for service abroad, there are probably dozens who have volunteered, and beyond this are the multitudes of women who risk their lives as a matter of course, and die in thousands in order to give life to the men who serve the State. If special services are to be rewarded by the recognition of political rights and responsibilities, then women should be amongst the first to be remembered.

Pioneers.

It was, we believe, Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson's hospital that was the first women's unit to go abroad. If this is so, the family boasts two pioneers among medical women—mother and daughter. Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson gave an interesting account of her experiences in France at the annual meeting of the New Hospital for Women, of which we publish a report in another column.

Hindustani in the Hospitals.

We were all very glad to hear from Lord Kitchener that our Indian troops had been "mentioned in despatches" from Sir John French. Now comes a very practical way of being of service to them. A correspondent—Miss E. Vidal Fox—sends us a tiny card containing a "Vocabulary of Hindustani Words for Use in Hospital." This strikes us as a singularly practical meeting of what must truly be "a felt want." Most people—women at least—can, at a pinch, speak or understand a little French, and besides the French themselves, most of the Belgians speak French also. But Hindustani! Who would not be thankful to have even a very small vocabulary of such words as wound, bandage, medicine, soap, &c.? Miss Fox writes that she has had requests for nearly 1,000 copies, and she feels greatly encouraged, "though it is a small way in which to help." It is one of the small ways that will prove exceedingly valuable, and we will forward requests to Miss Fox's address for anyone who wants to benefit by it.

The Question of Women Police.

The Chief Constables of Scotland have passed a resolution recommending the appointment of women police, to perform such duties as the chief constable shall think fit. We earnestly desire to see women police appointed, and we are glad that public opinion is moving in this direction; but we are very doubtful of the wisdom of this particular decision. It is probable that men and women might have very different ideas of the fitness of women to perform certain duties, and the subject is one on which we are inclined to trust the women. It would certainly be most undesirable to leave their status and duties to the decision of any single individual. If appointed they should have the status of their brother officers, though their duties might and doubtless would be different.

The Question of Pensions Again.

In considering the question of the administration of allowances and pensions, it should be borne in mind that if the Old-Age Pensions Committees are selected, the central body must be the Local Government Board. On this Board there are, of course, no women, and this is an overwhelming disadvantage. Experience has shown the importance and value of women at the head of a department, in administrative as well as in executive posts. They are not to be found in this position except in the case of the Insurance Commission, and this points to the Commission as the best body for dealing with a matter which will, after all, be, in the large majority of cases, one chiefly concerning women.

The Employment of Women on Farms.

Another question which presses for solution is that of the shortage of agricultural labour. There appears to be no doubt that the shortage is real, and is not now confined to the counties in which the lowest rates of pay obtain. The question arises—whether it is better to employ women or small boys under school-age? We should have thought there could not be two opinions about the answer, but influential people (and newspapers) are strongly urging the employment of the children, on the ground, so far as we understand it, that it is much better for them than being at school. It is curious that this discovery is only made—after over forty years of trial—at the exact moment when their labour would be specially convenient. The coincidence is surely at least suspicious. For our part, we should greatly prefer to see grown women engaged in earning their living than small children, and we greatly hope that women will be found to do the work. They will, however, have to be exceedingly careful not to undercut the men, whose wages have in some parts of the country been deplorably low. At present we gather that the terms offered to women are “not good enough,” and the farmers will have to raise the standard if they are to get labour.

Dairy Work for Women.

The shortage exists in dairy-farming districts as well as others, and dairy-work is among the better-paid kinds of farm-labour. It is peculiarly suited to women, who, indeed, are generally more expert milkers than men. If they have left it, it is chiefly because the conditions offered to women on farms have always been exceedingly poor. The old idea that women must do anything and everything that they are asked to (or that the men will not) for a wage that a man would not look at, has been responsible for the disappearance of women from farm-work. If they are to return, it must be on much better terms. And we trust men will not be too ready to believe that there are many things that “women cannot do.” There will, of course, have to be some re-arrangement of work, but there are very few things that women cannot do if they try—far fewer than men are apt to assume! And certainly it would be odd if they could not do work which is apparently well within the capacity of boys of eleven and twelve!

The Women's International Congress.

The date of the International Congress of Women at The Hague is now fixed for April 28th, 29th, and 30th, and we hear that the Peace Palace has no hall large enough to accommodate the delegates from the many countries and organisations to be represented. The Congress is exciting the greatest and most wide-spread interest in this country, and amongst those who are giving their support and sympathy are Lady Courtney, Lady Gibb, Mrs. B. Cadbury, Mrs. Charles Trevelyan, Mrs. C. R. Buxton, Mrs. Felix Moschelles, Mrs. Rollo Russell, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. H. M. Swanwick, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss K. D. Courtney, Miss C. E. Marshall, Mrs. Percy Dearmer, and Miss A. Maude Royden.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S PATRIOTIC SERVICE FUND.

The objects of the Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund, started by the National Union, have been explained in an earlier issue of THE COMMON CAUSE. Already it has been the means of enabling a number of professional women, thrown out of employment by the war, to do useful work in connection with one or another of the many organisations which require the help of efficient trained workers, but cannot afford to pay for their services. The extent of the work will only be limited by the funds received, and the Committee of the Fund is therefore appealing to members of the National Union to make it known as widely as possible to the general public, being confident that if once its usefulness were understood it would obtain ample support.

So far, none of the organisations formed for the relief of distress have made any serious attempt to deal with the problem of the professional woman. The Central Committee on Women's Employment has given a certain amount of help in the case of the lower grade clerks and typists, but done nothing for women of better education who are really efficient; while the Government Professional Classes Sub-Committee appears to have no intention of starting schemes of its own.

The scheme of the National Union, therefore, meets a special need, and benefits not only the professional women themselves, but the patriotic or relief organisations to which they are supplied. As several societies already exist for helping special professions, applicants for work are always, in the first instance, referred to an organisation, if there is one, which deals with members of their own profession; so there is no fear of overlapping.

In a letter sent out to Secretaries of the National Union, the Committee emphasises the following points:—

(1) That the scheme is national, and operates all over the United Kingdom.

(2) In order to promote the utility of the scheme, it is desirable to draw the attention of as many organisations as possible to the advantage of gratuitous trained help thereby made available. Applications will be considered from any organisation which has either been started to provide for war needs, or whose work has been rendered more onerous by reason of the war.

(3) Organisations are given a choice of suitable workers, and while working for them, the employee is under their undivided authority. In case of a worker not proving suitable, the Committee are always ready to reconsider the appointment.

(4) Attention should specially be called to the fact that Local Relief Committees of the Prince of Wales's Fund have asked for the services of professional women, supported by the Patriotic Service Fund, in consequence of the Prince of Wales's Fund being debarred from paying its workers, and finding voluntary help quite inadequate.

(5) The Committee administering the Fund is in no way restricted to Suffragists, and consists of the following—Miss Clough, Miss K. D. Courtney, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Miss Graveson, Mr. E. F. Hitchcock, Mrs. Hoster, Miss Leaf, Mrs. MacLean, Miss Marshall, Miss Penrose, Miss Puller, Mrs. Arthur Schuster, Mrs. Spring Rice, Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Deane Streatfield, Dr. Jane Walker, Miss Helen Ward, Muriel, Countess de la Warr, Countess of Wemyss, Mr. H. Woolloombe.

(6) Donations may be sent either to Mrs. Arthur Schuster, at Yeldall, Twyford, Berks., or to the Secretary, Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund, 50, Parliament Street, Westminster, S.W.

The following are some cases which have been helped out of the Fund:—

(1) A very competent secretary, thrown out of work owing to the war, who, in addition to having to support herself, has to contribute largely to the support of her mother. She was placed with an organisation whose secretary had gone out to Chalons to organise a maternity hospital. She has been working there now some three weeks, and is very grateful for our help, saying that, owing to the better hours and more congenial employment, her health has very much improved, even in the short time that she has been doing this new work. We have also had the following letter from the Honorary Secretary of the organisation:—

“I want to thank your Committee most warmly for Miss ———'s assistance; she is so nice and so helpful and is tiding us over a difficult time.”

(2) A lady who usually has private pupils for French and music; since the war these have dwindled down to one, from whom she gets 30s. a month. She lives with her mother, who has a very small pension as the widow of a naval officer; but this is barely sufficient for the mother to live on, and at present she has been ill, requiring medical aid, extra food, and luxuries. When Miss ——— came to us she was on the point of selling some of her things to keep herself in food. After a course of training in girls' club work, she is now getting experience in various clubs in London, including one organised for Belgian girls. The following letter was received from her:—

“My very grateful thanks to you for sending the money in advance; I only hope I may be able to get the position you spoke of to me, and once more I shall be able to hold my head up.”

(3) A lady who had had a salary of £170 a year, in addition to private means of her own. Her private means have now dwindled to a very small sum, and she lost her billet owing to business almost entirely ceasing during the war. Although thoroughly competent and responsible, and capable of doing good work, she was rejected by one employer after another, owing to the fact that the posts for which she

applied were given to younger women than herself, and she felt that she could not take the salaries these younger women took. After living on her earnings, she was obliged to shut up her flat and go and live with a sister for the sake of economy. She is now employed doing accounts and general office work for an Emergency Committee dealing with aliens in distress.

(4) A lady from Hamburg, who has taught there for several years. She had also had some office training. Having been obliged to come to England, she had to live on her savings while she sought employment. She tried in vain to get work under three Education Committees for teaching, but was unable to obtain it, although she holds London Matriculation and Cambridge Higher Local certificates and has had experience in girls' high schools. Her savings were coming to an end, and she did not know what to do, when she applied to us. She has now had training in club work, and is starting work next week in a club for Belgian girls.

Having set out to supply “the services of competent trained workers” to organisations wanting such, it is not possible to help every applicant, but in many cases indirect help has been given. For example, an application was made on behalf of a lady who, though English, had lived the greater part of her life in a foreign country. When war broke out she was in France, and, being English, the only passport that was issued to her was one to England. England was practically a foreign country to her, and she did not know in the least how to set about getting work. The one thing she desired most in the world was to be sent back to the country in which she had spent her life, that is Switzerland. The organisation to which she first applied came to us for help on her behalf, and within two hours of the application from the representative of this organisation, the lady's fare to Switzerland had been promised.

In countless other ways we are able to help those who apply to us without actually bringing them under the Fund.

QUEEN'S WORK FOR WOMEN.

INTENSIVE POULTRY FARMING.

An experiment is being made by the Central Committee on Women's Employment in training women in Intensive Poultry Farming, in which there should be a good opening in this country, as much of the produce has hitherto come from abroad. At present, however, the cost of expert teaching prevents the starting of a large scheme. Free training for from three to six months has been offered by a successful woman poultry farmer at Boreham Wood, Herts, to a certain number of intelligent girls whom the manageress of the farm considers capable of taking responsibility, and the Committee has recommended a maintenance grant for them of 3d. an hour, in a sixty-hour week, in order that they may take advantage of the offer. The manageress is confident that, after training, the girls will easily find employment, as applications for fully-trained poultry managers of the intensive system are numerous, she herself having received a dozen applications within a fortnight. The Committee feels that in training women for this work they are not only giving present relief, but employment which will be of permanent value.

BOOT MAKING FOR WOMEN.

Owing to the great activity in the boot trade, due to the large orders for army boots, there is a strong demand for good leather machinists, in which branch of work there was a shortage even before the war. The Central Committee on Women's Employment has therefore started an enterprise, in co-operation with the London County Council, to train women in boot upper fitting and leather machining generally, and it is expected that at the end of this training they will be able to earn wages ranging, in normal times, from 16s. to 20s. a week, while at the present time they should be able to earn at a higher rate.

THE WOMEN'S EMERGENCY CORPS CANTEN.

Early in February the Women's Emergency Corps, under the auspices of the Croix Rouge Française, sent out a canteen to supply hot soup, coffee, and other comforts to the French troops on their way to the trenches. The work accomplished has been so greatly appreciated that the French military authorities have given permission for other canteens to be opened at different places, and the Women's Emergency Corps hopes to raise funds for this purpose. A cattle-truck, fitted up with cooking stoves, is being used as a canteen, and at a station a little further down the line we have a coffee stall in a railway waggon. This is open from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., for the men who pass through the station all night.

Every morning at the barracks, within sound of the guns, two of the workers with the canteen distribute packets containing cigarettes, matches, a handkerchief, piece of soap,

biscuits, chocolate, &c., to the men going into the trenches.

The gifts bring so much pleasure to the men; their faces light up as they say “Vive l'Angleterre,” and very often a man will come back and offer a halfpenny or penny—“towards your work, Mesdemoiselles.”

The need for woollen clothes, socks, gloves, linen of all kinds, chocolate, soup packets, cigarettes, and matches, is tremendous. All contributions of money or kind will be most gratefully acknowledged, and should be sent to 8-10, York Place, Baker Street, and marked “Canteen.”

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN.

Among the resolutions to be proposed at the International Congress of Women to be held on April 28th, 29th, and 30th, at The Hague, Holland, are the following:—

DEMOCRATIC CONTROL.

“War is brought about not by the peoples of the world, who do not desire it, but by groups of individuals representing particular interests. This International Congress of Women demands, therefore, that foreign politics shall be subject to democratic control; and at the same time declares that it can only recognise as democratic a system which includes the equal representation of men and women.”

TRANSFERENCE OF TERRITORY.

“This International Congress of Women affirms that there should be no transference of territory without the consent of the men and women in it.”

WOMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY.

“This International Women's Congress is convinced that one of the strongest forces for the prevention of war will be the combined influence of the women of all countries, and that therefore upon women as well as men rests the responsibility for the outbreak of future wars. But as women can only make their influence effective if they have equal political rights with men, this Congress declares that it is the duty of all women to work with all their force for their political enfranchisement.”

WOMEN DELEGATES IN THE CONFERENCE OF THE POWERS.

“Believing that it is essential for the future peace of the world that representatives of the people should take part in the Conference of the Powers after the war, this International Women's Congress urges that among the representatives women delegates should be included.”

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.

“Realising that for the prevention of the possibility of a future war each individual should be convinced of the inadmissibility of deciding disputes by force of arms, this International Congress of Women urges the necessity of so directing the education of children that their thoughts and desires may be turned towards the maintenance of peace, and that they may be given a moral education so as to enable them in any eventuality to act on this conviction.”

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

U.S.A.

The Woman's Journal reports a double victory won in the Eastern States. “On February 16th final action was taken in the Massachusetts and New Jersey Legislatures, and by overwhelming votes in both States, the Suffrage amendment was passed for submission to the voters.” In three States now—New York, Massachusetts, and New Jersey—a referendum on equal Suffrage is certain in the autumn, and Pennsylvania may, at any time, follow suit.

According to *The Woman's Journal*, forty-three Congressmen voted, three weeks ago, against the Palmer Child-labour Bill, and all but one of these forty-three voted against the nationwide Suffrage Amendment. They argued that it was opposed to States rights for Congress to prohibit inter-State commerce in articles made by children in factories, though it was pointed out that Congress had already passed a similar Bill against convict labour. “The significant thing,” says *The Woman's Journal*, “is that the men who opposed legislation for children opposed women's vote. And they used the same argument!”

SUFFRAGE VICTORY IN INDIANA.

The Woman's Journal reports: “The Indiana Senate passed the Limited Suffrage Bill on February 20th by a vote of thirty-seven to three. If the Bill goes through the House [of Representatives], Indiana women will have the same political rights that women already have in Illinois. Governor Ralston has announced that he will sign the Bill.”

NORWAY.

Jus Suffragii informs us that a Government Bill proposes changes in legislation to render women eligible for the King's Council, and also to enable such women Councillors who belong to the Church of Norway to be at the head of the ecclesiastical and educational departments.

The King of Norway has created Fröken Catiuca Guldberg, Directress of the Institute of deaconesses at Christiania, a Knight of the Order of St. Olav, first class, in recognition of her services.

SWEDEN.

Rösträtt för Kvinnor has an editorial summing up of the position and work of women on local governing bodies up to May, 1914, in the light of recent statistics. The number of women serving on these bodies was eighty-eight. Of these, no fewer than thirty-nine had been chosen to serve on Committees or to fill special offices, a testimony in itself to the value of their services. They have worked in connection with education, temperance, poor-law, women's and children's interests, buildings, and employment. Two women have been elected town "revisers," and one woman has served on a committee to determine the boundaries of a harbour. A whole series of proposals dealing with social questions stands to the credit of the women councillors. The new Communal Elections are now in progress (March 12th to 24th).

WORK OF WOMEN POLICE.

We have received the following account of the work of the Women Police Service:—

The members of the Women Police Service, when on duty, always patrol in couples. They work at the railway stations, especially the crowded termini of London. Here they can always find scope for their usefulness. At the departure of military trains there is always trouble among the women folk who are left behind. Sometimes they try to throw themselves into the train at the last moment. Sometimes the girls frantically endeavour to prevent the men from catching the train, hoping, no doubt, to shield them from the dangers they are going into. In these, and other such cases, the police-woman can give comfort, counsel, and practical assistance in cases of fainting or where first aid is needed.

In the parks and in lonely streets, under railway bridges and badly-lighted, narrow streets, through which the children must pass on their way home from school, danger lurks, and the police-woman and her companion by their very presence are able to avert danger from London's helpless little ones. Very often the children are escorted to their homes, or put in the charge of an older child, who sees that this is done.

In the provincial towns domiciliary visiting plays an important part in the daily work of the police-woman. Cases handed over by both military and civil authorities as giving trouble are visited by the police-woman in plain clothes. Parents are warned to keep their girls at home after dark, and girls are cautioned that they must not be found loitering in the streets or in the company of drunken soldiers. By means of these visits the police-woman is able to become the friend of many a recalcitrant girl, and so avert future dangers. In some cases they are able to act as a link between a different strata of society and philanthropic organisations, who otherwise could not possibly get to them to give help. It is the authority given to the police-woman to enable her to pay these visits, and to get at the truth of the history of her cases, which enables her to act as intermediary for very real help in a way which the clergyman or the district visitor or rescue worker is unable to effect. In some cases, parents who are not able to manage their daughters have sent for the police-women to talk to them.

It is hoped that the coming of the police-woman may do something to counteract the wave of carelessness and lack of control on the part of parents which is becoming so serious a feature of modern life.

WHY NOT WOMEN J.P.'s?

Last Monday, members of the Women's Local Government Society, meeting at Bedford College, passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Herbert Samuel, President of the Local Government Board, for his support of the County and Borough Councils (Qualification) Act, 1914. This Act, it will be remembered, enables women with a resident qualification to be elected to County and Borough Councils. The Countess of Selborne remarked that there are still a large, though a diminishing, number of Boards of Guardians without women members, throughout the country, and she hoped the permission now given would be widely taken advantage of. "It is very mysterious," she added, "why there ever should have been controversy over this subject, because all the questions associated with local government are things which have been accepted as women's special province ever since the dawn of civilisation."

Mr. W. A. Coote said their efforts should be directed towards the removal of the clause from the Act by which women were prevented from being J.P.'s if elected Chairman of the County Council or Mayor of the Borough. He suggested that women should form a party of their own, to be independent of the two existing parties now prominent in council elections.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., said it was incomprehensible why the measure had been so long in passing. In local government, indeed, he believed in all government, woman's assistance to man was the completion of the general power which humanity had over its own destiny.

Obituary.

MRS. JACOB BRIGHT.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Mrs. Jacob Bright, who, together with her husband, was one of the earliest champions of the enfranchisement of women, and was active in many branches of public service. She took a prominent part in the movement that led to the passing of the Married Women's Property Act, and was a strong opponent of the Contagious Diseases Act. She was also one of the promoters of the organisation of the National Women's Liberal Association. During her husband's long illness, Mrs. Bright gave up all other duties to devote herself entirely to his care, and after his death she took little active part in the work that had occupied her earlier years, though she continued to take keen interest in public questions.

Books and Pamphlets Received.

- A MEDICAL DICTIONARY FOR NURSES. By Amy E. Pope. (Putnam. 3s. 6d. net.)
- TOLD IN GALLANT DEEDS: A CHILD'S HISTORY OF THE WAR. By Mrs. Belloc Lowndes. (Nisbet. 5s. net.)
- WHOM YOU SHOULD MARRY. With an Introduction by Ada Levenson. (Grant Richards. 1s.)
- WHENCE HAVE I COME? By Richard H. Bush. (Letchworth Garden City Press. 2s. 8d. net.)
- THEOSOPHICAL IDEALS AND THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. Lectures by Mrs. Besant, Mr. Lawrence Housman, Mr. and Mrs. Baillie Weaver. (Theosophical Publishing Society. 1s. net.)
- THE SOLDIER'S FIRST AID TO COOKERY. (St. Catherine's Press. 1d.)
- WOMEN IN INDUSTRY. A Bibliography selected and arranged by Lucy Wyatt Papworth, M.A., and Dorothy M. Zimmern, M.A. (Women's Industrial Council. 1s. net.)
- KILLING FOR SPORT. Essays by various writers. Preface by Bernard Shaw. (Bell. 2s. 6d. net.)
- HOW SHALL WE ANSWER OUR LITTLE ONES? By T. Atlee. (National British Women's Temperance Association. 1d.)
- FOUNDATIONS OF NATIONAL GREATNESS. By W. C. Braithwaite. (National Adult School Union. 3d.)
- REEVES' CHART OF THE NAVIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY. (St. Catherine Press. 6d.)
- THE CHURCH AND THE WAR. By Charles Gore. (Mowbray. 1s. 6d. net.)
- PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL MERCIER. (Burns & Oates. 2d.)
- DELIA BLANCHFLOWER. By Mrs. Humphry Ward. (Ward, Lock. 6s.)
- A PLEA FOR THE THOROUGH AND UNBIASED INVESTIGATION OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. By Charles H. Lea. (Dent. 1s. net.)
- LIVELIHOOD AND POVERTY. By A. L. Bowley, Sc.D., and A. R. Burnett-Hurst, B.Sc. (Bell. 3s. 6d. net.)
- THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT COOK. By Freda du Faur. (Messrs. G. Allen and Unwin. 16s. net.)
- HOW FRANCE IS GOVERNED. By Raymond Poincaré. (Fisher Unwin. 3s. 6d. net.)
- AN ENGLISHWOMAN IN A TURKISH HAREM. By Grace Ellison. (Methuen. 3s. net.)
- INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM AND THE WAR. By A. W. Humphrey. (P. S. King. 3s. 6d. net.)
- THE IMMORALITY OF NON-RESISTANCE. By the Rev. J. M. Lloyd Thomas. (Cornish Bros., Birmingham. 1s. net.)
- ECCLE MATER. By M. A. R. Tucker. (Southern Publishing Co.)
- THE CHILD AND THE NATION. By Mrs. Paton. (Student Christian Movement.)

THE WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL PARTY.
NON-PARTY. President: THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.
7, EVELYN HOUSE, 62, OXFORD STREET, W.
For all particulars of Special Meetings apply Secretary. Tel.: Museum 162.

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War and Song.—II.

- PATRIOTIC POEMS. R. M. Leonard. (Oxford Garlands.) pp. 128. (Oxford University Press. 7d. net.)
- THE PATRIOT'S DIARY. R. M. Leonard. pp. 256. (Oxford University Press. 1s. net.)
- POEMS OF WAR AND BATTLE. V. H. Collins. pp. 192. (Clarendon Press. 1s. 6d.)
- REMEMBER LOUVAIN! E. V. Lucas. pp. 86. (Methuen. 1s. net.)
- THE FLAG OF ENGLAND. J. Fawcett. pp. 218. (Nash. 3s. 6d. net.)
- ENGLAND, MY ENGLAND! G. Goodchild. pp. 224. (Jarrold. 2s. 6d. net.)
- BATTLE SONGS. E. Nesbit. pp. 96. (M. Goschen. 1s. net.)
- THE BATTLE AND BREEZE RECITER. A. H. Miles. pp. 96. (M. Goschen. 6d. net.)

HISTORICAL BALLADS. Wm. Macdougall, M.A. pp. 136. (Bell. 1s.)

Travellers returning from Serbia tell us of the wonderful influence which the ancient songs of their country exert upon the Serbians to-day. Compilers of anthologies are seeking to provide the English nation with a like stimulus. The result of their efforts is a collection of books similar in aim, beginning in most cases with a nucleus of the same poems, and then striking out along different paths which lead, if we take the books all together, to the covering of a wide tract of ground.

The verdict as to which is the best anthology will vary with the taste of the reader, but perhaps the two which will meet with most general approval are "Patriotic Poems" and "Remember Louvain." Mr. Leonard has a discriminating taste which he exercises to the full in the anthologies which bear his name. He includes nothing which we should like to see omitted, and in giving us Drayton's "Virginian Voyage" and Swinburne's "England: An Ode" he fills a gap which is made by the omission of these poems from the other selections. Mr. Lucas has an irritating habit of taking liberties with some of his titles. It jars upon the lover of poetry to find Milton's "Captain, or Colonel, or Knight in arms," headed "To the Germans at Louvain," or to turn to a poem called "Cambrai and le Cateau" and find that it is a sonnet by Wordsworth! Surely the application to modern times might have been left to the reader. These are, however, minor defects in a finely chosen selection, whilst the inclusion of Newbolt's exquisite "Farewell," not found in the other anthologies, would alone make the book worth having.

The title "England, My England," is rather misleading, as the book contains a large number of poems which have no connection with this country. Mr. Goodchild has ransacked Homer and Walt Whitman, but, like the other anthologists, he has left unexplored some rich mines of English poetry. He might, for instance, have given us some of the splendid battle-songs which mark the dawn of our literature: "The Battle of Brunanburh," with its heathen spirit, and "the Battle of Maldon," which contains our earliest record of an invocation to Christ on the lips of a dying warrior. None of the anthologists have included even the first of these, though it is easily accessible in Tennyson's spirited rendering. Most war poems deal with fighting by land, which makes it doubly strange that none of the anthologists should contain Tennyson's "Revenge." We find several of Byron's poems, but nowhere his magnificent lyric, "The Isles of Greece"—true history as well as true poetry—or his fine translation of the Greek war-song, "Sons of the Greeks arise!" Some of the selections give us "God save the King," and it would have been interesting to see Shelley's "New National Anthem" set beside it.

We are glad that several noble poems, too often forgotten, have found a place in some of the books. Julia Howe's "Battle-Hymn of the Republic" ("Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord"), Blake's "War-Song," and Bret Harte's "Réveillé," which might have been written to-day, ought to be indispensable to war anthologies. Mr. Fawcett's admirable book contains the first two. Mrs. Nesbit gives us all three, along with others which make as good a collection of "soldier-songs" as one could wish to find.

As a nation we have not entered fully into our heritage of song, gathered from eleven centuries of literature, unrivalled in extent, comparable in splendour only to that of Greece. These anthologies will justify their existence if they induce us to listen with more eagerness to the strains of "music made of change and conquest," with the beauty of which they ring.

M. M. McA.

SOURCE-BOOK OF THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION FOR THE GREEK AND ROMAN PERIOD. Paul Monroe, Ph.D. (Macmillan. pp. 509. 10s. net.)

This is a useful book and fairly fulfils the purpose set out in its preface "to render accessible to the student with limited time and limited library facilities the ideas of the Greeks and Romans concerning education, and such descriptions of their educational systems as are given in their own literature." Without being exhaustive, the selection of the passages is ample and illuminating, and the translations, though not brilliant, are sound (often from standard works). Thus, for example, the student can readily find in a readable form the chief direct evidence for the narrow limits actually set to women's education in classical Greece. Of the mother's influence in education scarcely a word has been written by a Greek: the Romans, poverty-stricken as their culture was, did occasionally express a sense of the possibilities here. Altogether, a compilation well worth making.

M. S.

Correspondence.

CHILDREN AND FARM LABOUR.

MADAM,—In THE COMMON CAUSE, as in many other papers, it is being discussed whether it is for the good of little boys to leave the discipline and training of school to work on the land. May I draw attention to another point? Hundreds of children are now being allowed to leave school to do other sorts of work as well, which no one could suggest was good for them. This district is enjoying a trade boom, because of the large number of troops billeted and quartered here. The shops are doing more than they have ever done before, but instead of trying to replace their workers who have enlisted by raising the wages they offer, and getting older men in from other districts, whom I know are obtainable, they prefer to employ children. The higher pay is needed by the men, because rent and lodgings have gone up enormously, and could be afforded, as business is so brisk; but children are cheaper. And small boys are taken from school to trudge for very long hours with heavy baskets, or, worse still, are sent round with them on men's bicycles, which they can only work by standing on the pedals. The little girls are kept at home, to hang about the cottages crowded with soldiers.

SYLVIA CLARK.

MISS AURIOL DAVIDSON writes:—

"I should like to draw your attention to the action of the educational authorities of Nottinghamshire, announced last week, in sanctioning the withdrawal from school of girls as well as boys from 11 to 13 years for the same purposes. There were 'strong protests' in the Committee, but the fact remains. We may find a certain subtlety of humour in the statement that the girls shall only do 'light work, such as pea-pulling or strawberry picking' in the month of March, but the consciences of those who employ the children may not be so nice in the tasks they assign to them. Even dairy-work is too hard for these young bodies, but that the health of the rising generation seems of comparatively small weight is curiously illustrated by Mr. Asquith in his remarks on this very subject in the House, when the only objections he made to child-labour were: (1) "that it involves a gap in their educational course"; (2) "that it is doubtful whether this class of labour is efficient." But we should be grateful to the Prime Minister for another remark, directly following these: 'I think that the withdrawal of children from school, and their employment in work which the unemployed, who are at the disposition of the Labour Exchange, and women are capable of doing, is a thing to be regretted.' The italics are mine, but may we not hope the Government will take steps on the lines indicated?"

"WAR AND THE CHILDREN."

MADAM,—I should like to make a few comments on the article in last week's COMMON CAUSE. I think it is unfortunate that your correspondent should have taken her figures from a Woolwich household, for at the present time trade is booming in that town. The Arsenal is working at high pressure, the men are receiving pay for overtime, so that they are earning much more than usual. But I should like to protest at the increased prices for very good butter, against 1s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. respectively. I can get good meat at 6d., 7d., and 11d. per lb., whereas your correspondent quotes 1s. 1d. I only pay 1s. 1d. for the best cuts of bacon, and 1s. 3d. for very good butter, against 1s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. respectively. The number in the household is not stated, but 1 lb. of tea per week seems to me large in proportion to the other items. Then surely 1 doz. boxes of matches would not be used in a week, and unless the housewife has a large amount of washing and scrubbing, two bars of soap would not be needed weekly.

I admit that prices have gone up since the war, the most serious items being bread and coal; the latter, however, can be bought from the trolleys at 2s. per cwt., instead of 2s. 8d. But I do not think there is all the difference your correspondent makes out, and it must be remembered that in many cases, such as soldiers' and sailors' wives, the families are better off than they have ever been. The Government allowance is paid regularly, and is often more than the man gave his wife before he enlisted.

A. BARTRAM.

CAREERS FOR GIRLS.

MADAM,—I have just read the article in a recent COMMON CAUSE, entitled "How to Help," and I think that for any women desirous of obtaining a training the great difficulty may be ignorance of the careers which are open to women. I therefore wish to call attention to a publication which has been invaluable to me in making a choice of profession. It is "Careers: A Guide to the Professions and Occupations of Educated Women and Girls." Price 1s. 6d. (post paid, 1s. 9d.). Central Bureau for Employment of Women, 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W. It gives most thorough and practical information and advice.

BLANCHE ROMERO, N.U.W.S.S.

RESEARCH LABORATORIES.

MADAM,—We were sorry to see in your paper of March 5th the prominent notice given to the appeal of the London School of Medicine for Women for research laboratories. As such places are so often used for experiments inflicting great suffering on helpless animals, we as members of the N.U.W.S.S., should greatly regret that our much-prized journal should in any way seem to be associated with such atrocities.

E. M. AND C. G. LISTER.

THE CRIME OF BEING A MOTHER.

MADAM,—My crime consists in my having children," said a lady to me recently. This lady has recently been left a widow, and is anxious to provide for herself and her two young children. Every week she studies the pages in which Boards of Guardians and other local bodies advertise their wants. In nearly every instance of a suitable post her way is barred by the words "applicants to be . . . widows without dependent children." Surely regard to common decency should prevent a public body, whose *raison d'être* consists in the care of the poor, from discriminating in such an arbitrary manner against the unfortunate woman who has been (by some mistake of Nature, perhaps!) blessed with children and the maternal instinct.

EMILY D. SMITH.

TO DISCUSS...
**THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMEN'S
 MOVEMENT IN RELATION TO WAR & PEACE.**

THREE GREAT MEETINGS for MEN and WOMEN will be held at the CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, on MONDAY, MARCH 22nd, at 11.0 a.m., 2.30 p.m., and 6.0 p.m.
 Chairman: The Rev. W. TEMPLE.

Speakers:
 H. W. NEVINSON, Esq.
 The Rev. RICHARD ROBERTS
 Miss EGLANTYNE JEBB
 Miss CATHERINE E. MARSHALL
 The Rev. Dr. ORCHARD
 The Rev. A. H. GRAY
 Mrs. BARBARA MCKENZIE
 Dr. HENRY T. HODGKIN
 Miss ZOE FAIRFIELD
 The Rt. Rev. THE LORD BISHOP OF LINCOLN
 The Rev. E. S. WOODS
 Miss MAUDE ROYDEN
 The Rev. Dr. DEARMER
 Mrs. BRUCE GLASIER

Prices of Seats for one Meeting: 7/6, 5/-, 2/6, 1/-
 " " for the 3 Meetings: 13/0, 12/6, 6/-, 2/6
 Admission Free—Please apply for Tickets.

Programmes and Tickets may be had from Miss LUCY GARDNER, The Collegium, 92, St. George's Square, London, S.W. Stamped, addressed Envelopes should be sent when applying for Tickets.
 N.B.—Please send for Programmes for Distribution, and speak of this Conference to your friends.

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MEETINGS.—Monday, March 22nd, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. BENNET BURLEIGH, on "What German Invasion Means" (Latest Slides.) Tuesday, March 23rd, 8 p.m. Miss CHRISTOPHER ST. JOHN, "Hrosowitha, the first Woman Dramatist." Chair: Mrs. BELLOC LOWNDES. Wednesday, March 24th, 3.30 p.m. Women's Freedom League. Speaker: The Rev. C. BAUMGARTEN, "The Ideals of Social Service."

LES TROIS AGES DE L'HOMME

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

An Ancient Wrong of Women.

Among all the stories of atrocities occurring in the present war, none has aroused a greater sense of horror than that of the "thousands" of violated women, who are said to be now expecting motherhood. Of these cases, we desire to say at once that we have not been able to trace even one in this country, though we have tried our hardest to do so. Several readers of this paper have offered to help to support mothers and children, but we cannot find that there are any of these most pitiful victims of the war in this country. Since this is the result of careful inquiry into reports that "a thousand," "several hundreds," "fourteen hundred" outraged women were to be found in such and such hospitals, we are led to hope that even in France and Belgium the numbers are very much smaller than sensational newspapers report.*

The fact remains that in war terrible things happen; and among them the most terrible is the violation of women, with its far-reaching consequences in human lives. We are forced to ask why it is that all other pains inflicted by war are felt to be, not only less grave in degree but different in kind: why a man may speak with pride of the "honourable scars" of battle, while a woman is excused by many—or even justified—in killing her unborn child, to save both it and her from the "stigma" of its existence. It is not only the fact of a child conceived in hideous circumstances that creates this sense of shame, for civilisation has written down in its marriage laws its brutal indifference to the anguish and the shame of motherhood, reluctantly bringing life into the world in circumstances which foretell disaster at least as certainly as those we now consider. It is not, indeed, the coming of the child at all which creates the feeling of most people on this subject. Quite apart from this, we constantly hear references to "these poor dishonoured women"—the victims of force; as, before the war, we remember hearing of "poor fallen children"—the victims of slum houses and slum life.

The belief that a woman can be dishonoured by the act of any human being but herself, makes every woman a slave. It is a belief that dies hard. Put to any civilised person in this blunt form, and he would at once agree—in words—that honour and dishonour lie wholly in one's own power: yet there persists this corrupting, demoralising conviction that a woman can, by force, be "dishonoured," and the belief is put into words, and into action, every day. Men will seek to deter women from public action by a certain type of insult which they do not offer to their fellow-men, because it does not occur to them that it would be effective. But they feel (and so, often, do women) that, in some way, the insulted woman is put to shame—and not the insulter. We remember a curious passage in "Rhoda Fleming," in which the strong-minded and rebellious heroine is reduced to a state of rather abject submission (or evasion, rather) by a threat on the part of a man to kiss her! The idea that he alone is hurt by what he does, does not seem to have crossed the mind even of George Meredith. In graver matters, this immoral standard enslaves women every day. In case after case of wrong against women and girls, the wrong-doer receives a lighter sentence than he deserves, or escapes punishment altogether, because the "dishonoured" victim cannot bear the

* Since writing the above other reports have reached us and we are making further enquiries.—Ed., "C.C."

shame of her "dishonour" being known; or a kindly magistrate, or lawyer, veils the real nature of the offence under some other title, which leaves her shamed indeed, but not "dishonoured."

No other crime is treated so. In none is it supposed that the victim of cruelty and wrong is himself or herself the "dishonoured" person. None, therefore, can be practised with greater impunity than this, the worst of all.

The women of the future must reject a conception of honour so profoundly dishonouring to them as to make them all unfree. It is this which is "the ancient wrong of women"—this, far more than the crime itself, hideous as it is. Long ago, some men—prophets, perhaps—saw into the heart of this wrong, and rejected it. There is no more strange and beautiful conception in literature than that of the virgin-priestess Cassandra, not maiden only, but priestess and consecrated to her god, subject to violation, yet perceiving and holding inviolate that honour which is the purity of the soul; and, in a sense, not even resenting her fate, since in truth it could not touch her. On a plane of truth less divinely beautiful yet very great, is Richardson's Clarissa Harlowe, who, confronted by Lovelace in the confident expectation that she would be covered with shame by the knowledge of his wrong against her, bore him down instead by the proud scorn of the betrayed for the betrayer; or Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre, defying the strength of Rochester to hurt her at all.

Of all material things the human body is most sacred. Not only to Christians, but to every pure and reverent soul, it is in sober truth the temple of the Holy Spirit. To desecrate it is a sacrilege against the holiness of life. But even the human body may be broken and shattered without touching the spirit; and to say of this worst of all wrongs that it "defiles a woman in the inmost sanctuary of her being," is to give to the body what belongs to the spirit alone. No man can hurt another, except by his own will, for dishonour is in the end the only, real hurt, and our honour lies secure in our own hands. Until women realise the truth of this, not as a maxim to be learnt by rote, but as a truth by which they consciously live, they can in no sense be the captains of their souls.

Women's Share in the History of Poland.

One of the resting-places for thought during these bleak days of war is assuredly provided by the hope of the reconstitution of the Kingdom of Poland when peace is restored in Europe. A further hope arises that when this act of reparation is accomplished, political justice will be meted out to Polish women as to Polish men. For among all the European nations there is none where women have better proved their right to a place in the national life.

In Poland, the women attend to politics while the men get drunk," once remarked Frederick the Great; but centuries before this robber-king had, with his two neighbours, planned the downfall of Poland, the women of that nation had played a conspicuous part in history. Indeed, even the most cursory view of Polish records reveals the fact that her women have always been warriors, educators, and statesmen.

Even before the kingdom had entered the arena of European politics, out of the mists of those early days, legend unveils the character of a great queen, Wenda. The daughter of the chief Krakus (he who built the Wawel fortress near Cracow), Wenda was elected at his death "High Lady" over his domain. Now, Wenda was very beautiful, and amongst her suitors was one Rytygen, a German Prince. When his suit was denied, he threatened "frightfulness," in those days interpreted by invasion and marriage by force. Wenda, however, was "not of the submissive kind," and gathering an army, she marched at its head and defeated the enemy with great slaughter. Then fearing that her beauty might injure her beloved country, she drowned herself in the Vistula; at least, so runs the legend.

It was about four centuries later when history proper commenced in Poland, under King Mieczyslaw I. (963-992), and again the outstanding event of the period is connected with a woman. The King had conceived a passion for Dombrowska, the daughter of the Duke of Bohemia, but she refused any connection with the Polish King unless he embraced Christianity. Through his great love he became a convert, and founded the Archbishopric of Posen. Thus the civilizing influence of Christianity took root in the kingdom through the will of a woman. From the day of Mieczyslaw's baptism Poland's part in the mediæval history of Europe was decided, and for centuries this state was the bulwark of civilisation and religion on the

Eastern frontier, stemming the advancing tide of Turkish and Tartar hordes. The history of Poland, thereupon, becomes a tale of invasion and rapine; now one part of the kingdom was left a heap of smouldering ashes, and then another area, falling under the heel of the foe, would be reduced to a wilderness, where wild beasts prowled. At length, at the end of the fourteenth century, the situation was saved by another patriotic woman, Queen Jadwiga, or Hedwiga. The second daughter of Louis the Great, King of Hungary and Poland, Jadwiga had been acclaimed queen at the age of thirteen. From childhood she had been betrothed to Prince William of Austria; indeed, one palace in the Wawel, "the chicken's foot," is still shown as the trysting place of the young Princess. But when ambassadors came from the kingdom of Lithuania, on Poland's northern confines, and declared to her the love of their King Jagiello, and when her own nobles pointed out the supreme political advantage of such a union, Jadwiga did not hesitate between her own love and her country's good.

In sore distress, we are told, the maiden, veiled in black, entered Cracow Cathedral, and kneeling before a crucifix remained in tears and prayers for three hours. Then, having cast away her desires, she returned to marry a man old enough to be her father, a barbarian in manners, and of a jealous nature. One condition she, too, imposed, that Jagiello should embrace Christianity, a condition that was respected by the rough king from the North. Thus, the dynasty of the Jagiellos was initiated, and under this strong rule the nation was fused into a whole, foes were kept at bay, and Poland was guided along the paths of prosperity.

Two Queens of the Jagiellos stand out from the history of this period: the one, Queen Bona, the other, Barbara Radziwill. Queen Bona, an Italian, wife of Sigismund I. (1506-1548), an ambitious, unscrupulous woman, withal displayed military genius. It was she who fortified the island of Bar, on the Niester, to defend her personal estates from the Tartars. There her stewards seventy times repulsed the invaders, and established Bar as the bastion of the province of Podolia and the centre of an agricultural district.

"Had the Polish Diet," comments one historian, "from patriotism done what Queen Bona did by private enterprise, the Tartar difficulty would never have swollen into a peril."

It was Barbara Radziwill's lot to marry the Polish King, Sigismund II. (1548-1572), without the consent of his Court, or Diet. This union, chiefly unpopular on account of Barbara's Calvinistic education and tendencies, was upheld with firmness and dignity by the King. The result, happily, was that religious toleration ensued and that the kingdom of Poland, through the influence of this woman, was saved from religious war in an age of wars of religion.

A century later found Poland, indeed, the whole of Europe, trembling before a Turkish invasion. This was in the time when John Sobieski was crowned King of Poland, as John III., while the Turks were already on the frontiers of the kingdom. The town of Trembowla was threatened during those days of anxiety, and there was fear of a Turkish success. Then the wife of Samuel Chrzanoski, threatening to kill herself and her husband if he yielded, gallantly led the defence of the city and kept the Turks at bay until Sobieski came to its relief.

The beginning and middle of the following century were no less marked by distinguished women, and the history and memoirs of that period present a picture of "great ladies" managing the large estates and houses ("the Courts" of the Polish nobility), and exerting a civilising influence on society and politics. Such were the famous Princesse Hélène de Ligne (Hélène Massalska), the Princess Sophia Kazimierzowa Czartoryska, and Pani Sieniawska, the wife of Prince Augustus, Palatine of Red Russia.

At the end of the eighteenth century, the women of the Polish aristocracy shared, it is true, the general deterioration of the court of the last king, but it seems an unfair criticism of the historian to point to an unscrupulous "Aspasia" or "Sphink" among the royal favourites, as proofs of the mischievous effects of political power wielded by women. For, indeed, the political genius, heroic spirit, and intrepidity of the Polish women, soon shone forth again during the miserable years which saw the three Partitions of their kingdom, and when, in 1830, Poland burst into revolution against the foreign yoke, the women gave their all to the public need. It was then that the strange sight was witnessed of women enlisting in the army and serving, with the approbation of their countrymen, in the infantry and cavalry forces, often receiving promotion from the ranks for their courage and coolness in action. Among these women-warriors of the insurrection was the famous Countess Emily Plater, who after self-preparation in such subjects as horsemanship and musketry, roused a whole country-

Scottish Women's Hospital.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Scottish Women's Hospital, including further donations received, monthly contributions, and various individual donors.

Table listing employees of Lowden Bros. & Co. and other donors, with names and amounts.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS, NAMED, FOR HOSPITALS.

Table listing further named beds for hospitals, including names of donors and the names of the beds.

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NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

NEEDS OF THE FUTURE.

The DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH presided yesterday at the annual meeting of the New Hospital for Women, 114, Euston Road, N.W., of which her Grace has just been elected a Vice-President.

In pointing out the useful work done by the hospital, the DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH stated that during 1914 the number of in-patients admitted was 1,194, while 7,832 new out-patients had been treated, the total number of out-patient attendances being 33,650.

Miss ALDRICH-BLAKE spoke of the enormous help the Rosa Morison House of Recovery at Barnet had been to the work of the hospital.

DR. LOUISA GARRETT-ANDERSON, in thanking Mr. Pollock for the sympathy they had shown with the equipment of the Women's Hospital Corps, gave a short account of her experiences in Paris and Boulogne.

They were fortunate, also, in the youth of their party. All but the two organisers themselves—Dr. Flora Murray and herself—were young; and they brought with them the inherent qualities of youth—enthusiasm and gaiety and courage.

Before going, they had met with a good deal of kindly criticism, but her mother had said, "My dears, if you succeed you will put forward your cause one hundred years."

At the time of their arrival in Paris the Battle of the Aisne was in progress, and during the first few weeks they were kept very busy. Then, when the English lines moved forward, a second hospital was started at Boulogne, where they were under the British Army Medical Service.

Later on, it was decided that the French hospitals should be used as clearing hospitals only, and that our wounded should be put on hospital ships and brought to England.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Manchester and District.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS AND THE WAR.

A series of five weekly meetings to deal with "Women's Interests and the War" was arranged during February and March by the Manchester and District Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Mrs. Pember Reeves, speaking on the social conditions in the homes of the people during war time, explained the lowered and inadequate standard of living brought about by higher food prices.

Dr. Saleeby's lecture on "The Longest Price of War" indicated the evil effects of militarism on future generations.

DR. LOUISA GARRETT-ANDERSON, in thanking Mr. Pollock for the sympathy they had shown with the equipment of the Women's Hospital Corps, gave a short account of her experiences in Paris and Boulogne.

Miss Margaret Ashton, Mr. G. G. Ajmstrong and Mr. P. M. Oliver discussed the problems that have to be faced after the war.

Miss Ashton emphasised the necessity of upholding our faith in a truly democratic system of government with equal electoral rights for men and women.

Mrs. Rackham spoke on the opportunities offered to professional women during the war, and took an optimistic view of future developments.

Mrs. Annot Robinson, in discussing the position of the industrial woman, emphasised the double burden laid on the married working woman of acting as wage-earner, housewife, and mother.

Cambridge.

The annual meeting of the C.W.S.A. was held at Cambridge on February 22nd. Although little direct Suffrage work has been done since the war, all members of the Society are busy in one capacity or another in the various emergency enterprises.

There were many dissentients amongst the audience against this view, who appeared to regard Miss Ashton's suggestions as Utopian, and say the least, if not absolutely disloyal and dangerous.

brought out many noble qualities, and had united England as nothing else could have done. Although the opponents were loud in expressing themselves, many of the more silent members were in full sympathy with Miss Ashton.

A most successful drawing-room meeting was held at Ramsey House, Cambridge, on March 8th, when Miss Fanny Johnson invited a number of Belgian ladies to hear speeches in French on the feminist movement in England.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Table listing forthcoming meetings, including dates, locations, and speakers.

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SOCIAL.

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