

JUS SUFFRAGII

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

PRICE PER YEAR, 4 SHILLINGS; 4 MARKS; 5 FRANCS; 2½ FLORINS; 3 KRONER 60, SCANDINAVIA; 5 KRONEN, AUSTRIA; \$1; SINGLE COPIES, 4d.

Volume 8. No. 2.

OCTOBER 1, 1913.



DEMONSTRATION OF DUTCH WOMEN ON SEPTEMBER 17th BEFORE THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

The Event of the Month

The mention of Woman Suffrage in the speech from the Throne in Holland is the most notable news this month, and although great efforts will be needed to secure the inclusion of women in the forthcoming amendment of the Constitution, we know that the Dutch women will rise to the occasion.

The Conservative Cabinet in February of this year proposed the amendment of the Constitution, and to extend the vote to certain classes of men and to exclude all women. The women had prepared the way for the present advance by very active propaganda, they memorialised the State Commission on Revision of the Constitution, and also Her Majesty the Queen. They also approached all the Party committees, and sent speakers to their meetings. After their exclusion from the proposed Bill the women immediately organised gigantic protest meetings and were supported by members of Parliament belonging to various parties. The general election in June resulted in a great victory for the Liberals and Social Democrats, and it remains to be seen whether and on what lines they will work out the indication given by the Queen's speech.

THE NETHERLANDS.

I have really good news to tell from Holland. For the first time in Dutch history "women" are mentioned in a speech

from the Throne. At the opening of the Dutch States General, the Queen's speech stated that without delay a revision of the Constitution will be prepared in order to extend the franchise to all Dutch men, and to remove the constitutional obstacles to the granting of the Suffrage to women.

As it is expressed there, it does not say much for the extension of Suffrage to women, but as it is almost impossible to find a term for universal male Suffrage without excluding women, if at the same time in another article Woman Suffrage, in one form or other, is not also mentioned in the Constitution, it means very much.

The Dutch Suffragists have to try now to get more than the Queen's speech promised. We call it only a deed of justice if our Government now introduces a Bill with sex-equality in the new Constitution. The same evening as the opening of the States General, our Society held a crowded public meeting in the Hague to discuss the Queen's speech, and the next morning about 1,000 women walked quiet and dignified round the square of the Parliamentary Buildings to show the members of Parliament, who all had to pass them at the beginning of their new task, that the women are determined to get sex-equality in the new Constitution.

I also have to tell you that we have had, in the last month, very useful help from Monseigneur Giesswein, Papal Prelate, and member of the Hungarian Parliament, who spoke for us in a large public meeting in Amsterdam and the Hague. With

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.



Board of Officers.

Table listing the Board of Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, including President, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers from various countries like the U.S.A., Sweden, England, Finland, Germany, and France.

CONTENTS.

Table listing the contents of the journal, including Demonstration of Dutch Women, The Event of the Month, Editorial Notes, and other articles with their respective page numbers.

his words and his personality he convinced a lot of his co-religionists, and made it easier for us to work among the Roman Catholics of our country.

But I must not forget Mme. Jeanne Mélin, from France, a most eloquent speaker, and a warm Suffragist, who made herself so beloved that everyone who has been in her audience wants to listen to her again.

ALETTA H. JACOBS.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The New Danish Government and Votes for Women.

Holland and Denmark are having a neck and neck race as to which shall enfranchise its women first. The Danish Radical Government (formed in June) has brought in a Bill to amend the Constitution.

It has now passed its third reading by a majority of 101 to 6 in the Lower House, and will now be submitted again to the Second Chamber, which rejected the Bill in October, 1912, with the result that Parliament was dissolved.

Iceland.

Few events at the Buda Pesth Congress charmed the delegates more than the news brought by Fru Asmundsson and her daughter, that the Icelandic Government had paid the expenses of the delegates to the Woman Suffrage Congress, and that in order to defray these expenses Iceland voluntarily sacrificed one mail this year.

We hear now that the Althing has passed the amendment to the Constitution giving women the vote on equal terms with men. This amendment was passed in 1911, and is now voted therefore for the second time, which is necessary for any

alteration of the Constitution. The Bill must now be referred to the King of Denmark for his approval, which is unlikely to be withheld.

A New Hungarian Party.

We learn that Count Julius Andrássy has formed a new political party in opposition to Count Tisza.

Count Andrássy's programme includes a wide extension of the suffrage and the reform of the existing electoral system.

Count Andrássy, when Minister of the Interior, received the first woman's deputation to the Hungarian Parliament in 1909. He then answered the women's demand for the vote in a few frivolous words.

He now includes woman's municipal suffrage in his programme, and adds the assurance that his party sympathises with the women's movement.

At the meeting at which the new party was formed, Rosika Schwimmer, on behalf of the Feministak Egyesulet, expressed the dissatisfaction of suffragists with this restricted suffrage, and said they would not cease to struggle for equal suffrage.

At the same time, this marks an advance. This party is the first prominent party, except the small agricultural party, to include any form of women suffrage in its programme.

It is a proof that no political party in Hungary in future can disregard woman suffrage.

Count Andrássy's change of attitude is the reflection of the impression made on the public mind by the Congress.

Canadian Women and Labour Day.

In Toronto immense crowds gathered to view the annual Labour Parade on September 1.

The Suffragists seized the opportunity to impress the multitude. With the cordial assent of the labour leaders a suffrage car decorated and emblazoned with "Votes for Women" drove in the place of honour after the City Council. It received enthusiastic applause from the thousands on the route, and as one of the women remarked "these men, who are our friends, have votes behind them."

From Norway—A Woman Foreman of the Jury.

Mrs. Randi Blehr was last week appointed foreman of the Jury in Christiania. She is, probably, the first woman in Europe upon whom this honour has been bestowed. Seven women sat upon the jury. (The jury consists of 10 (sometimes 11) jurors.)

Women as Jurors.

In Chicago women act as jurors in the Insane Court, and recently saved three helpless but harmless women from being immured in asylums, while they sent twelve women to institutions for treatment. The President of the Court, Judge John Owens, made the following comment on their action:—

"The women jurors in the Insane Court are becoming more effective with each session. They are giving attention to women's cases such as was never thought of by men juries."

A Woman's Theatre.

A new experiment in propaganda is to be made by the Actresses' Franchise League of Great Britain, who are organising a series of performances of plays dealing with women's problems. Brieux's new play, "La femme seule," will be the first choice, and the author has added a new last act, which is said to be highly effective. After the French play comes one from the great Norwegian pioneer, Björnson, "A Gauntlet." New works are also promised. The woman's movement is reflected in all the most striking modern plays, and the theatre of all countries will be drawn upon for the new venture.

Suffragists visiting London, in December, will have an opportunity of seeing the Woman's Theatre.

In Munich, too, a society has been formed to give plays by women dramatists. The committee includes the novelist, Helene Böhlau, and the dramatist, Wedekind.

It is hoped in this way to overcome the prejudice of managers to women playwrights, which has forced women to write under a male nom de plume.

Inquiry Bureau.

One great object of establishing Headquarters was that it should contain an inquiry bureau, and be able to give full and accurate information on all questions pertaining to the women's movement.

For this it is necessary to collect all Suffrage publications as well as many books of reference. Our auxiliaries and readers are therefore requested to send us books and pamphlets bearing on our subject, official reports, statistics,

State papers, results of inquiries, etc.

In particular, we wish to have a complete list of women's societies in all countries, their constitution and membership.

Women Voters in the United States.

Oregon has had equal suffrage since November, and already some of the results have been:—

A Mothers' Pension Bill, a minimum wage for women, a Pure Milk Bill, a law for the protection of deserted wives, the introduction of a marriage health certificate, the shortening of the hours of shop assistants.

Ernest Lister, the Governor of Washington, has written to Miss Macmillan:—

"Answering your inquiry regarding the results of equal suffrage in the State of Washington, I beg to say that the women of the State have had the right of Suffrage now for about two and a half years. I know of no one who was in favour of granting this right who to-day opposes it, and large numbers of those who were opposed to the amendment are now in favour of it. The results in the State of Washington have certainly indicated that the women of the State assist rather than otherwise in public affairs, by having the right to vote."

Married Women Teachers.

Mrs. Edgell, the New York High School teacher, applied for and was refused a year's leave of absence, to enable her to bear and rear a child. A committee on the Civic Services of women has now been formed, with a view to getting the Board of Education by-law regulating leave of absence extended so as to include "the performance of important social service."

Policewomen.

Chicago has appointed ten policewomen, six of whom are married. They are directed by a committee of three women, one representing the Juvenile Protection League, one the Catholic League, and the third the Jewish Charities. Their chief work is the supervision of dance-halls, parks, excursion steamers, railway stations, and public bathing beaches. The women are acquitting themselves well, gaining valuable information, and protecting children, girls, and women in places of amusement.

Woman Suffrage and the Birth-Rate.

We hear that the women of Broken Hill, Australia, have taken up the accusation sometimes made by antis—that Woman Suffrage reduces the birth-rate. Statistics show that at Broken Hill, the birth-rate is 39 per 1,000, the highest of any city of equal size in the world. Their marriage-rate is 12 per 1,000, which is 23 per cent. above Canada, and 63 per cent. above the average for Europe. The death-rate is 14 per 1,000 (and would have been less but for a mine disaster). The margin between the birth and death rate is 25 per 1,000, by far the highest in the world.

Honours for Women.

In France, three more women have been made members of the Legion of Honour:—

Mme. Chaminade de Carbonnel, the famous song composer; Mlle. Stonde, directress of the girls' High School; Mme. Prevost, inspectress in the Labour Department.

In England, the great Polish woman, Mme. Curie, has received the degree of LL.D., and was congratulated by the President of the British Association, Sir Oliver Lodge, on being the greatest woman scientist of all time.

Miss Sargent, the distinguished botanist, is the first woman to be elected president of a section at the British Association, and on taking her seat expressed her appreciation of the honour done her as a botanist, but still more of the generosity shown to all women in her election: "the highest form of generosity is that which dares to do an act of justice in the face of custom and prejudice." At other meetings of this great scientific Society over thirty papers were read by women.

The British Labour Party and Women.

At the Trade Union Congress of Great Britain, Mr. Will Thorne, M.P., moved the following resolution, on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee:—"This Congress declares that no Electoral Reform Bill will be satisfactory which does not provide for . . . the extension of the franchise to all adults, male and female . . . and that the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to draft a Bill upon these lines to be introduced next year." The resolution was carried with only four dissentients.

Mr. Elvin then moved:—"That this Congress expresses its deep dissatisfaction with the Government's treatment of the franchise question, and further, this Congress protests against the Prime Minister's failure to redeem his repeated pledges to women, and calls upon the Parliamentary Committee to press for the immediate enactment of a Government Reform Bill which must include the enfranchisement of women." The resolution was carried by a very substantial majority.

Another important resolution concerning women's interests was carried, on the motion of Mr. Ben Turner, of the Weavers' Association. "That this Congress declares in favour of a minimum wage for all adult workers, and calls upon the Government to cease to let contracts to any firm where the wages for women are at a lower rate than paid to men doing the same class of work." There were, he said, three millions of adult women workers in various occupations whose average wage was less than 12s. per week. If that was so, these women were not enabled to maintain the standard of life to which they were entitled by their labour. They were themselves employers of labour, and he asserted that in that capacity they employed women who were making clothing for our sailors and soldiers under sweating conditions. He wanted it laid down that employers of labour ought not to employ women under £1 per week. Women needed the assistance of the State in this matter.

Wages and Morals.

A girl striker was recently imprisoned in the Tombs Prison in New York. There she came in contact with prostitutes, and told them of the struggle of the factory girls to obtain a living wage. One of the women made the significant comment:—

"Perhaps if there were more girls like them, there wouldn't be so many of us."

The girls employed in making blouses and other white goods in New York have made great advances in consequence of last year's strike. There are now 7,000 members of their Union, as compared with 400 last year, and the result of their action has been to secure a 45 hour week for 60,000 women.

Women Tax Resisters.

All those who attended the Congress at Buda Pesth will remember Mrs. Harvey, who accompanied Mrs. Despard. She has now been condemned to two months' imprisonment, and is in Holloway Gaol, because of her refusal to comply with the regulations of the Insurance Act, which was passed without consulting women, although it forces them, both as employers and employed, to contribute millions to the Exchequer.

The Women's Freedom League held a mass demonstration in Trafalgar Square, London, on September 13, to protest against the vindictive punishment of Mrs. Harvey, compared with the light sentences passed on men who have refused to obey the Insurance Act.

Can Women be Sailors?

A Norwegian commander recently approached the Department of National Defence with the inquiry whether women could be admitted to the examinations for the mate's and skipper's certificates.

The Department replied that there was no legal obstacle to women qualifying. The examination was open to them, but the question as to whether they could actually work as sailors must be referred to the Department for the Mercantile Marine. This Department was then approached, and replied that the law contains no prohibition to women to enter the Merchant Service.

Whether they will be actually admitted remains to be seen.

Supply of News to "Jus Suffragii."

All presidents and correspondents are urged to send all important news to International Headquarters at once. The cost of telegraphing, when necessary, will be refunded. This month there have been Suffrage events of first-class importance, which have been given prominent notice in the daily Press, but of which no news has been sent to the Editor of Jus Suffragii.

Inquiries are made at our Headquarters, and it is important that we should be able to answer them with accuracy and authority, and, above all, that we should have good up-to-date news in our monthly paper.

Reports should, when possible, be sent in by the 20th of each month, though they can be received up to the 25th. If news is unavoidably delayed beyond the 25th, correspondents are requested to let the Editor know that they will be sending a report; space will then be reserved for it.

OBITUARY.

Madame Mirovitch died at Moscow on August the 26th. With her death the women's movement in Russia has lost an energetic and enlightened worker, who devoted her great literary gifts to the cause. She distinguished herself as a historian by her writings on the French Revolution, and published monographs on St. Just, Mme. Roland, Camille Desmoulins, and Charlotte Corday. In all women's questions she was profoundly versed, and in a series of articles dealt with the movement in Europe, America, and Russia. Her whole activity was devoted to Woman Suffrage. In the free period 1905-6 she threw herself ardently into the fight for women's political rights. She represented the Russian Women's Rights Society on the Union of Unions, which at that time was the union of all progressive movements. But she did not limit her activities to Russia. She lived for long in England, spoke English perfectly, and took an active part in the women's campaign, and introduced English methods of electioneering into Moscow during the period of the 1st and 2nd Duma when propaganda was possible.

Her last labours were devoted to the Women's Suffrage cause. At the Women's Education Congress at St. Petersburg her paper on "The Necessity of Women's Enfranchisement for Their Rational Education" roused enormous interest. This lecture, treating the subject in the largest way, is of general interest, not merely to Russians. As a member of International Congresses she was well known outside Russia. She was too ill to take part in the last International Congress, and in August death put an end to her sufferings. May she rest in peace; her memory will long survive her.

A REPLY TO DR. JACOBS.

Dr. Jacobs, in her open letter to *Jus Suffragii*, is mistaken in her statement that the resolutions concerning commercialised vice were adopted at the last session of the Congress, "when all unfinished business was gone through in a hurry." Instead, it was adopted at the Thursday afternoon session, when the subject of the White Slave Traffic and what effect Woman suffrage in operation had had upon it, was discussed. It was read at the opening session, and adopted at the close. There was ample time for objection. It is, however, a just criticism to say that it should have been submitted to the countries prior to the Congress, in order that delegates might have been instructed how to vote upon it. In truth, the resolution was not suggested until the Congress had already assembled, and would never have been proposed had not the Norwegian report shown such splendid results of women's votes along these lines. I fear it will never be possible to submit the resolutions and proposals to the auxiliaries. In my judgment it would be a serious and hampering error to insist that all business should be so submitted. All spontaneity and enthusiasm would be killed if the delegates should attend Congresses for the mere purpose of voting upon questions prearranged by correspondence. It seems next to impossible for women, whose minds are absorbed and time crowded with their home campaigns, to turn attention to international affairs until the date approaches for the Congress. Then out of the discussion incident to the selection of delegates, suggestions for international action develop, but often this is too late for submission to the countries. This condition will always exist. The only practical thing is to have as extensive discussion as is desired upon all proposals, and to trust to the wisdom and experience of delegates to arrive at safe conclusions. At Budapest, the unfortunate acoustic properties of the beautiful and otherwise appropriate hall placed at our disposal, were the cause of much misunderstanding and much unnecessary fatigue, and perhaps account for the fact that Holland announced no opposition to the resolution in question.

What is now to be done? Certainly Holland's request to be excluded from the list of countries to receive memorials requesting "an international inquiry into the extent and causes of commercialised vice" shall be respected, as will that of any other country of similar opinion. The memorial can be postponed until sufficient time has elapsed to allow all auxiliaries to send their opinion to Headquarters. Further, the second resolution suggesting that the Woman Suffrage organisation in each country should ask their own Government to institute a national inquiry on the same lines, does not obligate any auxiliary to do so. Such a proposal could undoubtedly win no result in many of our countries, but in all those where women are either enfranchised or have formed a

very strong movement, it ought to secure the investigation desired.

The information developing out of such an investigation, I am sure, would give a tremendous impetus to our Woman Suffrage cause the world over. Certainly the numerous city investigations in the United States have contributed much to the earnestness of our workers, and have added thousands of new recruits to the Suffrage forces. Why? Because it has been clearly demonstrated that the majority of the women of the under-world are more "sinned against than sinning;" that they are victims of a condition which is created by a combination of causes. They come from families which have given these girls no training for self-support. They are ill paid for the unskilled work that they can do; the hours are long, and there is neither time nor opportunity for those innocent pleasures so needful to the normal life of young people. The majority have had little or no education. They have been born in such poverty that they never have been comfortably fed or clothed, and an enormous percentage are in consequence below the normal in physical or mental development. They are easy, almost inevitable, victims of those who are always hunting for "new goods." Once yielding, they are slaves to "the system." What has this to do with Woman Suffrage? Everything in a country like the United States, where every man may vote whether or not women shall be enfranchised. Every owner of property receiving high rent for immoral places; every dressmaker, milliner, purveyor of any kind for these women; every panderer, cadet, or pimp; every politician or policeman who gets silence money from men who are sponsors for houses of prostitution,—all these, and many others, are not only Anti-Suffragists, but organised, desperately opposed enemies. Throwing the searchlight upon these people, their motives and complicity in this wretched problem, has aroused the morally indifferent as no argument could have done.

Further, commercialised vice and the "subjection of women," out of which we are slowly struggling, were born of the same causes. They are still closely connected. The social evil continually replenishes its supply of unfortunates from the classes upon which the theory of "subjection" has been most severely imposed. On the other hand, although a conspiracy of silence keeps the subject out of conversation and the Press, its influence is a powerful factor to persuade prejudiced men that women as a whole are only "good" under restraint, and are too weak to be entrusted with the ballot. Unlike most other questions of public interest, this is distinctly a woman's problem. The merits or demerits of the subject itself, however, have little to do with the point brought up by Dr. Jacobs.

Those countries which think an appeal to their Government on behalf of a national inquiry into the causes of commercialised vice will injure their Suffrage movement, will naturally refrain from making it; those who think otherwise will make it. As usual, the Alliance will respect the "autonomy" of its auxiliaries.

It must be remembered that seven millions of women now have gained the vote, and our question has in consequence assumed an entirely different position. I have been told repeatedly by prominent well-informed people in the United States that no news from the International Congress ever made so general and so profound an impression as the news that this world-wide investigation was to be requested. What is good for the movement here may have an opposite effect in Holland. I shall be disappointed if the countries where women vote do not secure the investigation, and if the results do not prove enlightening to the whole world and helpful to all our auxiliaries.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

DR. SCHIRMACHER'S CORRECTIONS.

1. Mr. Vosberg's brochure has been published at Lissa (not Bissa).

2. Instead of: "We find in older States the enactment that political associations (such as associations for Women's Suffrage) are restricted to their own districts and may not extend to others," read:

"In all civilised countries we find the law that political associations (and Women's Suffrage Societies are political ones) are limited to their own country and may not extend to others."

3. Instead of: "Thus the French Canadians are denied the right," etc.—read:

"Thus the French Canadians cannot have the right," etc.

4. Instead of: "but it is emphatically not political persecution,"—read:

"but this is in no way a case of political persecution."

QUESTIONNAIRE.

It is proposed to publish each month a set of questions relating to women's employments and disabilities, together with information sent in from our contributors. It is hoped that this will form a useful collection of facts in a form convenient for reference. This month the subject dealt with is *women as lawyers*.

Law.

- (1) May qualified women legally practise law in your country?
- (2) If so; how many women have been admitted to such practice?
- (3) If not; may women study law in any of your educational institutions?
- (4) Have any women made an attempt to qualify themselves for the practise of law?

AUSTRIA.

1. Women are not allowed either to study or practise law in Austria.
- Women's organisation have sent up numerous petitions for permission to study law.

GERMANY.

1. No.
 2. —
 3. Yes; at all German Universities.
 4. I know of no steps taken by individual women in this direction, although women's organisations have sent in petitions without success.
- A number of German women lawyers have been appointed by local women's societies to direct legal advice bureaux, where women can obtain free advice, and help in legal difficulties. These bureaux are extraordinarily popular, and sought after with us.
- Other women lawyers have been appointed to take charge of Children's Care Committee centres, and as women trustees and guardians.
- But naturally their number is very small, and the prospects of a practical professional career for women lawyers in Germany are very unfavourable.

GREAT BRITAIN.

1. Women may not qualify to practise law in this country, *i.e.*, they are not admissible to the examinations of either the Inns of Court or of the Law Society (the two legal corporations who control the legal profession).
 2. It follows that no women have been admitted.
 3. Women may read for Law Degrees at all the Universities in England; they may sit for all the University examinations in law, and all Universities, except Oxford and Cambridge, confer legal degrees on duly qualified women.
 4. Applications have been made by women for admission to the bar examinations of the Incorporated Law Society; these have been always refused on the ground of sex.
- One woman, Miss Orme, practised successfully as a conveyancer for some years—of course, unrecognised, and without the protection from certain legal liability afforded to those actually within the profession.
- Miss Evelyn McLaren, LL.B., practises as a solicitor in Edinburgh, although she is not legally so recognised, and is under certain disabilities as above mentioned.
- One woman, Miss Cornelia Sorabji, served three years under articles (unregistered) with a firm of solicitors in London, and afterwards went out to India, where she is at present Legal Adviser to the Court of Wards. Although she is B.C.L. of Oxford, she is not allowed to practise in the English Law Courts in India.
- Miss Tomm worked under Sir Frederick Pollock, in his offices, for a year.
- Miss Ingram worked as a clerk for six months in a solicitor's office.
- A certain number of women, among them Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Lind-af-Hageby, have pleaded their own causes in courts.
- It is interesting to note that with certain Civil Service appointments goes the power to act as solicitor or counsel, though the holder of the appointment is not otherwise qualified so to act. Women have been appointed to these posts; there are two women appointed Inspectors under the Trade Boards Act, 1909, who are (subject to the authorisation of the Board of Trade) entitled to prosecute on behalf of the Department in cases coming under the Act.

Women Factory Inspectors plead their own cases in the courts.

An attempt is now being made to open the solicitors' branch of the legal profession to women, based on an interpretation clause of the Solicitors' Act of 1843, which runs:—"In the construction of this Act . . . every word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to a female as well as a male . . . unless . . . it be otherwise specially provided, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction."

Four women, Misses Bebb, Costelloe, Ingram, and Nettlefold, applied for admission to the Parliamentary Examination of the Law Society, held in February of this year, and, on being denied, brought an action against the Law Society, questioning the legality of this refusal. The first hearing of the case came on in July in the Chancery Division, when the decision went against the women. An appeal against this decision will come on for hearing in the autumn.

KARIN COSTELLOE.

BELGIUM.

1. Women cannot practise as barristers.
2. —
3. They can study law at the University.

When, in December, 1888, Mlle. Marie Popelin, who had taken the degree of doctor of law at Brussels University, claimed to take the oath as a barrister, the Court of Appeal of Brussels gave judgment against her. The preamble set forth all the objections that prejudice can raise against woman's free exercise of her faculties, and declared that women had neither leisure nor strength for the legal profession.

This check was the initial cause of the feminist movement in Belgium. All attempts to obtain the elementary justice of admission of duly qualified women to the bar have failed. In 1901, M. Vandervelde and his colleagues introduced a Bill for the admission of women to the legal profession. In 1907 the Bill was referred to the Sectional Committees. It was adopted by two sections, and rejected by four. It was considered by the Central Sectional Committee, in March, 1912. The voting was equal, 3 for, 3 against, and one abstention, that of the President of the Section, who explained his neutrality, on the ground that the programme of work for the session was overcrowded, and that the dissolution of Parliament was imminent.

One of the members who voted against, explained that he had done so on the instructions of the Sectional Committee, which he represented, but he reserved the right to vote differently in the Chamber. So that there were really four individual votes in favour and two against, and one neutral. Supporters of the Bill issued a minority report, which was drawn up by M. Feron (Liberal).

After refuting the usual objections to the admission of women to the bar, the report concluded by pointing out that the question of Woman Suffrage was pending, and must soon be solved in Belgium and other countries. Belgium would tie her hands in dealing with the subject if it previously denied access to the legal profession to the very élite of Belgian women. The two reports were presented to the House on April 21, 1912. Unfortunately the House refused the time necessary to discuss them.

At the beginning of this year, M. Vandervelde brought in the Bill again, and on February 7 it was referred to a special committee.

JANE BRIGODE.

FRANCE.

A law of December 1, 1900, allows French women who have taken their degree in law, to take the oath as barrister, and to be enrolled at the bar (corporation of barristers at a Law Court or Court of Appeal). In the exercise of the barrister's profession there is no difference between men and women; but the law of 1900 forbids women barristers to replace an absent magistrate.

As for the internal administration of the bar, men and women barristers enjoy the same rights, and take part on equal terms, in the election of members of the Council of the Order.

The women barristers never fail to exercise their rights as electors; they are even eligible for election, but are still too new in the profession to be able to ask the votes of their colleagues.

There are twenty women at the Paris bar, of whom seven are finally enrolled, and thirteen are not. Three other

women were at the bar, but two are deceased and one has resigned.

Five women practise in the provinces, and one was enrolled at the bar in Algiers, but was obliged to resign, as she married an official outside Algiers. A certain number of women, who have practised for some years, have a large enough clientèle to enable them to earn a livelihood. They plead in all the courts—civil, criminal, administrative, and commercial.

In France barristers cannot fill any public office except as members of a Town Council or of Parliament. But some are appointed officially counsel for the great public administrations. Women have been admitted to practise too recently to be able to receive such appointments. French women at the bar meet with respect and friendliness from their men colleagues and from magistrates. There are no women solicitors in France.

(Signed) MARIA VERONE,
Barrister-at-law.

THE NETHERLANDS.

1. Yes; qualified women may plead, and practise as lawyers (but they are excluded from every office in the Courts of Justice).
2. Of the 48 graduated women lawyers, 19 practise, and 7 have other employment.

The seven women lawyers mentioned above who do not practise are appointed as: Official at the Department of Justice; official at a municipal secretary's office; official at the Government's Patent Office; adjunct-directress of the Association of Municipalities; adjunct-directress of the Central Bureau for Social Advice; teacher at a High School; redactress of a women's paper.

NORWAY.

1. Yes.
2. Eleven women candidates have taken their law degrees at the University. This is the qualification for admission to practise law.
3. Women and men study law at our University (of Christiania) on fully equal terms.

SOUTH AFRICA.

1. No.
2. None.
3. Yes; they have same facilities as men.
4. Miss Madeline Una Weekey has qualified as an attorney. Her attempt to register as such was opposed by the Incorporated Law Society. The Provincial Court gave judgment in her favour, but the decision was reversed by the Court of Appeal. Miss Lyndall Schreiner is qualifying as a barrister, and has already passed the first examination. Several petitions were presented to the Union Parliament last session, praying for the introduction of legislation giving women the right to practise as lawyers, and debates on the subject took place in both Houses. The Senate was in favour of the principle, but a majority of the House of Assembly were opposed to it.

SWITZERLAND.

1. In some Cantons (for instance, Zurich, Geneva, etc.); not in all.
2. Five.
3. —
4. Some women who have studied law hold appointments. One, for instance, is "Amtsvormund" in Zurich.

DENMARK.

1. Women are allowed to practise law by all courts (Bill 1906).
2. To this date six women have been appointed solicitors.
3. Women are permitted to study law in the same educational institutions and on the same conditions as men. Women are not permitted to fill the office of a judge, they are debarred from applying for any office, though they have had permission to take every degree of examination since 1875 (with exception of the theological degree of examination, which was not permitted until 1904). Women achieve success in the practise of law if they are skilled—just the same as men.

The National or Municipal Government does not employ women very willingly.

Answers by Miss Meta Hansen, Secretary of "The Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret," also Head Clerk in the Statistical Department of the Danish State.

OFFICIAL REPORTS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

For a considerable time the National Union, feeling that the enfranchisement of women was a democratic measure, which should receive support from the more thoughtful and organised of the working people, has been devoting its energies to creating a better understanding of the needs of women among working-men. We have found a response which has surprised us. First the Independent Labour Party led the way; then the whole Labour Party adopted Women's Suffrage as one of its most urgent reforms, and last month the triumphant result was attained of a vote for the following resolution (with only six dissentients) by the Trade Union Congress in Manchester:—

"That this Congress expresses its deep dissatisfaction with the Government's treatment of the franchise question, considering that the Plural Voting Bill is no substitute for the promised Reform Bill; and further, this Congress protests against the Prime Minister's failure to redeem his repeated pledges to women, and calls upon the Parliamentary Committee to press for the immediate enactment of a Government Reform Bill which must include the enfranchisement of women."

The Trade Union Congress is a great national assembly not primarily dealing with politics; such a resolution, therefore, is all the more significant, as showing that working-men are realising the economic importance of the vote for women, and is a striking endorsement of Miss Robertson's speech to the Prime Minister, at the deputation recorded in last month's issue.

On September 13, our President, Mrs. Fawcett, in accordance with the resolution passed at the Budapest Congress, forwarded to the Prime Minister a request for a National Commission to inquire into the causes and extent of commercialised vice. Next month it is hoped that there may be further to report on this subject. The Executive of the National Union does not consider that there is any breach of its Constitution in asking for this Commission, since more light is needed on all questions affecting women, for the very purpose of demonstrating women's need for the vote.

Among the most interesting recent events has been the formation, in Mussoorie, India, of a Women's Suffrage Society, which has affiliated to the National Union. Of course, work will have to be adapted to the country, but of one thing we may be very glad: that we in England may learn more than we have in the past of the lives of our Indian women fellow-subjects.

A distinguished member of the National Union, Miss Ethel Sargant, this year held the post of President of the Botany Section of the British Association—the first time a woman has ever filled such a post.

We are much encouraged by an article in "The Newspaper World," a highly technical weekly publication, which asserts that the Press of this country has not, as a whole, "given fair consideration or treatment" to our question, and that, in this way, "it is itself partly responsible for the militant outbreaks on the part of women, which it has, during the past year or two, been condemning as a cause instead of deploring as an effect." It is a shameful thing for our English Press to have to admit that, when the history of the Women's Suffrage movement comes to be written, their own files will be almost worthless as faithful records of facts. Of all papers, "The Times," from its high price, might be expected to have the fullest information, yet this paper has been one of the most obstinate in the suppression of news if it was of the sort that might help the movement.

Besides all the steady organising work which is always being pressed forward, the National Union is, throughout the winter, having special educational campaigns showing the relation of politics and child welfare. Electoral campaigns are also being instituted in the constituencies of four prominent Anti-Suffrage Ministers.

H. M. SWANWICK.

SWEDEN.

During the last session of our Swedish Parliament the question of old age and infirmity pensions was one of the most important. For the last 24 years it had been debated, private Bills had been brought in, three consecutive Commissions had made the preliminary investigations, and two Government Bills, one in 1893, one in 1898, had been introduced and rejected by the First Chamber.

The last Commission, consisting of men only, reported in October, 1912, and the result showed that, in compromising, they had met all claims but those of the non-represented women, and their claims were disregarded.

The Bill includes every Swedish man and woman. The insurance is to be paid by everyone from 16 to 67 years of age. The yearly premium is 3 kr., and for persons with an income above 800 kr. or 1,200 kr. an extra premium of 5 or 10 kr.

From 67 years of age or permanent invalidity, an annuity of 30 per cent. on the total of the paid premiums is granted to men, but to women only 24 per cent.

The reason given for this is that according to official statistics women live longer than men, and according to investigations made by the Commission, Swedish women are, nevertheless, earlier infirm than men. But many of the women said to be infirm were not really so, but only poor, being widows unable to get new work at their husbands' death. In reality they were out of work and not infirm, but to enable them to get cut-door poor relief they had been declared infirm.

All insurance, especially a compulsory State insurance, should be based upon equal treatment of the insured.

Women of all parties held meetings, passed resolutions, and opposed, through the Press, this injustice to women that they should pay the same premium but get less benefit. They also opposed the motion that women should get less than men as State-addition to the pension in case of poverty. This State-addition is to be paid to men when their income is less than 300 kr. a year, but to women when their income is less than 250 kr. a year. The State-addition is to be paid according to sliding scale, with a maximum for men of 150 kr., for women 125 kr.

The result of our work was that the Government's Bill granted 30 per cent. on the sum total of paid premiums to both men and women, but in their zeal for economy dared not raise the State-addition for women. The expedient proposed by women to lower the State-addition for men and raise it for women to the same sum for both, without altering the proposed State outlay for the whole, was not accepted by the Social Democratic leader.

During progress through committee considerable alterations were introduced, and the difference of percentage, for men 30 per cent., for women 24 per cent., was re-established. This once more has shown women what it means not to be represented in Parliament.

The Bill was carried by a huge majority in both Chambers. The State-addition to the pensions for poor people was raised a little for women. A maximum of 140 kr. is to be paid to women with less than 280 kr., but full equality was not established on this point either. Another injustice was also retained: Even if the income of the household is above 800 to 1,200 kr., and the husband pays a higher premium, the wife always must belong to the lowest group, paying a premium of 3 kr. as long as she works at her home only and has no profession of her own. This is in contravention of the principle that the wife shall have the status and standard of the husband.

During the debate in Parliament, the Prime Minister of our Liberal Government, Mr. Karl Staaff, said:—

"I cannot but consider it a blot that this question, so important for the whole country, has been examined, debated, and decided by half of the nation only and their representatives. I am not going to give my opinion of how or in what degree this proposed law would have been altered before introduction if the adult women of Sweden had been enfranchised. But what I want to emphasise is that even if one alteration or another had been introduced, the decision would have been more satisfactory if it had been based upon the will of the whole people. Now it is, so to say, the self-appointed guardians that alone decide, and the women, who are treated as minors, that are obliged to accept the decision. In my opinion this is not right, nor for the good of the community. The more we can base society upon righteousness the better, and at the decision of such an important question as this, it is more obvious than ever. But we shall return to the Woman Suffrage question at the next Parliamentary session."

This month the W.S.S. have been busy at the elections of the Local Pension Committees. Women, married or single, can stand for election as well as men, and all over the country we try to get women candidates to stand for these elections. Already many women are chosen, and as member of the Central Board for Pensions the Government has appointed Miss Ebba Wedberg, the head of the Poor Law Guardians in one of the Poor Law districts of Stockholm.

ANNA ABERGSSON,

Stockholm, September, 1913.

GALICIA.

During the electoral campaign for the Galician Diet at the end of June, the Suffrage Society of Cracow transformed itself into an Election Committee. The greatest activity was displayed in the political education of women and to put strong moral pressure on duly qualified women to exercise their right to vote.

In Galicia the franchise is limited to women who pay taxes, to women landed proprietors, but they can only vote by a male proxy. Thus, access to the electoral win is forbidden even to the intelligent woman. The Cracow Suffrage Society organised very interesting meetings. Several deputies, especially M. J. Leo, President of Cracow, and leader of the Polish Club at Vienna; M. Daszynski, a well-known politician; Dr. Bandrowski, Prof. Bryak, of the University; Dr. Landon, and K. Srokowski, an eminent journalist; took part in these meetings, and publicly showed their support of Women's Suffrage. They declared themselves in favour of the principle of Women's Suffrage, but opinions were divided as to the practical application of the principle. Several speakers favoured the vote, but not eligibility for election; others favoured a limited franchise with an educational qualification. The feminists claimed equality of the sexes. After having received definite and favourable answers, the Cracow Committee threw itself enthusiastically into the campaign on the side of the left.

We are delighted to say that with its help three eminent democratic deputies were elected, Dr. Bandrowski, Dr. Leo, and K. Srokowski.

This is a good omen for us, and we have a right to hope that these deputies will not content themselves with supporting us in principle, but will make Woman Suffrage an actual political question.

MARIE GERZABEK.

Stanislawow.

UNITED STATES.

Suffrage work in the United States is moving forward in enormous strides. Although European papers have repeatedly reported that New York was at a sizzling temperature, the Suffrage work has not stood still. About five hundred street meetings have been conducted in the city per month all summer, and automobile, horseback, and foot pilgrimages have been made hither and yon over the State. At mountain and seaside resorts, and country vacation spots, Suffragists on a holiday have held meetings and preached their gospel. What is being done in this State is only a repetition of what is going on in all the campaign states. The victory in Illinois has given further impetus to the movement everywhere, and hearts are beating high with hope.

I had promised to direct a School for Suffrage Workers this autumn, with a view to helping New York to new or better-trained workers. This School begins September 15, and closes September 27. Training in organisation, Parliamentary practice, public speaking, Woman Suffrage history, political work, etc., will be given during the day, and a series of twenty lectures upon subjects bearing upon Woman Suffrage will be conducted during the evenings, each lecturer being an expert on the subject treated. I had hoped to have twenty or at most thirty regular pupils in this school. Instead, I have accepted 120 members, and these have come from all over the country. Many applicants had to be refused, owing to lack of accommodation. Apparently, the School will supply a real demand, and doubtless others will follow. On Saturday, September 20, the Woman Suffrage Party will hold fifty park meetings to celebrate the attainment of 100,000 membership in New York City alone. The pupils in the School will assist in these demonstrations as speakers, or members of selling squads.

While the work is humming busily in all the campaign States, and in many others which are getting ready for cam-

paigns, the work with Congress in Washington is quite as lively. Recently, "The Council of Women Voters," composed of women from the ten States now possessing a vote for President, met there, and were granted a hearing upon the pending National Suffrage amendment. The best-known speaker was Jane Addams, who was promoted to voting citizenship by the Legislature of Illinois during her absence in Budapest. The attention these women voters secure, and the polite consideration they received from members of Congress, have been subjects of editorial mention from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Preparations are in progress just now for the annual conventions in all the States where new boards of officers are elected, and the plans of campaign for the year's work are discussed and adopted. These are followed by the National Convention, composed of delegates from all the States, which will be held in Washington in early December.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

THE WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

The Women's Social and Political Union has, during the last month, carried on a "constitutional" campaign throughout the country, with the object of explaining the necessity for militant action until the Government gives a pledge that a Government measure, giving votes to women on the same terms as they are given to men, will be brought in. It is a matter for rejoicing that the attitude of the "Provisional Government" in Ulster (representative of the Unionist Party) is one of compliance with the demand of the Suffrage Party of votes for women. The announcement of Sir Edward Carson that under the Provisional Government Ulster women will have equal political rights with men, is regarded by the W.S.P.U. as satisfactory, as comparing favourably with the illiberal spirit displayed by the Coalition Government. The policy of the W.S.P.U. will, therefore, be more than ever opposed to the Nationalist-illiberal Coalition, for Mr. J. Redmond and the present Cabinet have stamped themselves as hopelessly opposed to the recognition of British women as British citizens. The W.S.P.U. has established a branch of the organisation in Belfast under Miss Dorothy Evans, and has already secured much cordial support in the campaign which will be waged against Mm. Redmond, Asquith, and Co. The franchise for women under the Ulster Provisional Government is approved of in the draft articles on the basis of the register for local Government. Meanwhile, should a Nationalist Parliament be "forced" upon Ulster, the women are invited to submit their names to the Council as willing to act upon the various committees which will be established (to overthrow Nationalist rule). Under the Irish Local Government Acts, the qualifications for men and women are exactly the same. Concurrently with the political pressure of militancy has been pushed throughout the country the increasing social necessity for Women Suffrage. The articles written by Miss Christabel Pankhurst on the evils of social disease, have aroused tremendous interest. The object of these articles being not only to remove the ignorance of women on a subject so vital to the race, but to prevent any attempt on the part of the Government to reinstate Acts which have been repealed as degrading to men and women alike, is being well served by the increasing sale of the official organ, the *Suffragette*, in which the series of articles is appearing, and they are also to be published in book form. Meanwhile, the Government is still maintaining its attempt to lame the Union by re-arresting the less well-known members released under the Cat and Mouse Bill. Any trivial charge of obstruction may be visited by a sentence of one or two months' imprisonment, and after a hunger and thirst strike, the prisoner released is watched and re-arrested.

As regards Mrs. Pankhurst, she is going to America on the 11th of October to lecture to men and women of the new world on the political disabilities and social degradation of the women of the old world. And the Suffragists of America are waiting to give the woman, spoken of by Mr. Goldwin Smith, in Canada, "as the most remarkable figure in modern politics," a fitting and representative welcome. The W.S.P.U. Organiser, Miss Joan Wickham, is already in New York making arrangements for Mrs. Pankhurst's tour. The suggestion that the great Englishwoman may be held up on Ellis Island, while a few distressed official gentlemen discuss the propriety of her being permitted to land, is comical indeed—it would ill-become America to refuse recognition to Mrs. Pankhurst, who stands as America itself stood for "representa-

tion with taxation," not for "taxation" only. Mrs. Pankhurst has been staying for some time with her daughter, Christabel, at Deauville; they have now gone to Paris, where Miss Pankhurst continues to work and direct the W.S.P.U.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst has been for some three weeks in Norway—she has been staying with friends, gaining some rest after her splendid resistance of the Cat and Mouse Act. Her health has been terribly weakened by her hunger and thirst strikes, but, if possible, she will carry out the lecturing tour arranged for her in Sweden and Finland.

PRESS DEPARTMENT.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Mrs. Chapman Catt's Presidential Address can now be obtained in German from Fraulein Adelheid von Welczek, Dresden, Blasewitz, Schubertstrasse 24. Price, single copies 30pf., 25 copies and over, 20pf. each.

Frauenstimmrecht in der Praxis, the German edition of the international handbook on Women's Suffrage in practice, is now ready, and can be obtained, price per copy 1m. 50pf.; to auxiliaries buying 50 copies or more 1m. per copy, from Verlag Heinrich Minden, Dresden.

All subscriptions and remittances to headquarters should be paid by postal money order, or by cheques on English banks. Foreign cheques and stamps are not acceptable.

International Badges postage paid Great Britain, Colonies, and U.S.A., 3s. 1d. Foreign, 3s. 3d.

For the United States. Woman Suffrage in Practice can be had at the National Suffrage Headquarters, 505, Fifth Avenue, New York; the Buda Pesth Report and President's Address (separate) at the Woman Suffrage Party Headquarters, 48, East 34th Street, New York.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Woman Suffrage in Practice, 1913.

In three Editions: English, French, and German.

Foreword by CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,
President of the Alliance.

Compilers:

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN, MARIE STRITT,
MARIA VERONE.

The book contains a description of the franchises, political, municipal, school, etc., at present possessed by women throughout the world; the qualifications of electors and conditions of eligibility; a table of Woman Suffrage dates; short historical accounts of the movement in the different countries; a table of international vital statistics; tables of election voting returns of men and women in Woman Suffrage States; laws passed, resolutions of Legislatures and statements by prominent men in countries enjoying Woman Suffrage.

Price 1/6 net, 35 Cents, 1.50 Mk.
or 1.80 Frs.

Post free to any country, 1/9, 40 Cents, 1.75 Mk., or 2.10 Frs.

The Report of the Budapest Congress

is now ready for Sale. It contains the Minutes of the Congress; list of delegates; resolutions; constitution as amended; rules of order; President's address; and reports from the affiliated countries.

Price 1s. 6d, post paid.

President's Address in separate pamphlet.

Single Copy, 2d., post paid. Fifty Copies, 4s.

Norwegian Report in separate pamphlet.

Single Copy, 1d. Fifty Copies, 1s. 4d.

Orders may be sent to Headquarters:

7, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON.