

JUS SUFFRAGII

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ORGAN OF
SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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AFFILIATED COUNTRIES—Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bohemia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Galicia, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United States.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS OF THE I.W.S.A. AND PRESIDENTS OF THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES, to be held from the 8th to 11th of July, 1914, at the Headquarters of the Alliance, 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

PROGRAMME.

- July 8.—Morning and Afternoon: Meeting of the Board of Officers. Evening: Informal Reception at Mrs. Coit's for the Board of Officers and the National Presidents, or their Proxies.
- July 9.—Morning and Afternoon: Joint Meeting of Officers and National Presidents (or Proxies) at the Headquarters. Evening: Reception arranged by the Actresses' Franchise League.
- July 10.—Morning: Visit to Offices of Chief Suffrage Societies in London. Afternoon: Meeting at the International Women's Franchise Club, where representatives of the different English Suffrage Organisations will give a brief explanation of their different policies and methods of work. Men's Organisations for Woman Suffrage will also be represented. Evening: Probably Reception by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
- July 11.—Saturday: Probably motor-drive to the country, and a garden party at Mrs. Auerbach's country house.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA for the Business Meetings.

1. Report of the Headquarters' Sub-Committee.
2. Berlin Congress Programme.
3. Fraternal Delegates.
4. Suggestions for Headquarters and *Jus Suffragii*.
5. Weekly News Letter.
6. International Suffrage Work; What the Alliance can do to Promote Woman Suffrage:
 - (a) by Headquarters.
 - (b) by *Jus Suffragii*.
 - (c) by Disseminating Literature.
 - (d) by Exchange of Visits and Speakers.
 - (e) by getting Woman Suffrage included in the programmes of other International Associations, by organising new countries, and other propaganda.

A DONATION.

A visitor to the International Suffrage Stall which was organised by our Headquarters at Olympia (see page 120), generously gave us £150 to enable the Alliance to start a poster propaganda. We wish to express our heartiest thanks to the generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous.

A NORTHERN SUFFRAGE CONGRESS.

A Northern Congress of Feminists will be held in Copenhagen on the 10th and 11th of June. The women of Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, and Denmark are meeting there to discuss the most urgent problems of Feminism. The Danish Government has granted 2,000 kroner towards the expense. The International Woman Suffrage Alliance will also be represented at this important meeting. The address for telegrams or letters of congratulation is: Dansk Kvindesamfund, Copenhagen, Studiestræde 49.

THE CONFERENCES IN ROME.

Some mysterious shortcoming of the post must have deprived us of the reports which were promised us about the Quinquennial of the I.C.W., the International Suffrage Day held on May 15th in Rome, and the International Women's Congress. Being, therefore, obliged to hold this matter over for our next issue, we merely give a few extracts from some private letters that have come to us. The "Suffrage Day" was a splendid success, the Teatro Nazionale being overcrowded, and hundreds of people having to be turned away because of lack of space. The efforts of our Italian fellow-Suffragists, especially of the indefatigable Mrs. Dobelli-Zampetti, with the co-operation of Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Miss Mary Sheepshanks, were crowned with great success. We even hear that an Italian committee of members of Parliament to promote Woman Suffrage was organised immediately after our Rome meeting. The official reports next month will give full details.

OUR SPEAKERS' LIST.

We shall publish next month a list of international speakers who have kindly consented to lecture in the countries affiliated to our Alliance. Among those who have recently joined this staff of lecturers are Mr. Hermann Bahr, the famous Austrian author and journalist; Mrs. Elna Munch, one of the leaders of the Danish Suffrage movement; Miss Cicely Hamilton, the famous actress, novelist, and writer of Suffrage plays, which have been translated into many languages and performed in many countries; Dr. Charles V. Drysdale, internationally known through his splendid service to our cause in the English Men's League for Woman Suffrage, also as organiser of the successful first Congress of the International Men's League; and Mr. Laurence Housman, the well-known English author and speaker, whose devotion to, and sacrifices for, votes for women deserve international recognition and gratitude. In addition to the new speakers whom we are asking to give us their help, those who have for many years been assisting us in this capacity, Annie Furuhjelm, Rosika Schimmer, Anna Lindemann, and others, will continue to speak as heretofore.

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FOR FOREIGN SUFFRAGISTS IN LONDON. VISITORS TO THE HEADQUARTERS.

The beginning of the travelling season has brought us lately the pleasure of visits from many fellow-Suffragists from different countries. Amongst these have been: Dr. Aletta Jacobs, Miss Rosa Manus, Dr. Mia Boissevain, from the Netherlands; Mrs. French, Mrs. Livermore, Mrs. Morrison, from the United States; Mrs. Magnussen, from Denmark; Miss Erikson, from Finland; and Mr. Sarkadi, from Hungary. We hope that no Suffragist will forget to visit us during a stay in London. The Headquarters is always supplied with the news and dates of all the Suffrage events, and is therefore able to be in many respects of great use to its visitors.

AN INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE DINNER IN LONDON.

The Actresses' Franchise League and the Women Writers' Suffrage League are arranging a Costume Dinner and Pageant in the Grand Hall, Hotel Cecil, on Monday, June 29th, 1914. Celebrities of to-day will impersonate famous men and women, from B.C. 7000 to A.D. 2914. Among those who have already consented to take part are: Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, as Gulbadem Begum; Miss Cicely Hamilton, as George Eliot; Miss Evelyn Sharp, as Elizabeth Barrett Browning; and Miss Nina Boucicault, as Lady Jane Grey. All the celebrities in London will be present in fancy or evening dress.

The committee is very anxious to have as many countries as possible represented. They hope that foreign Suffragists who happen to be in London at this time will take part, either representing some famous person of their country, or only as spectators. France has already three tables (each table for ten persons), and the Misses Janette Steer, Edyth Olive, and Olive Terry will be in charge of these. Rosika Schwimmer and Mr. Willy Pogány are in charge of the Hungarian table. There will be an Italian table, with Lady Muir MacKenzie in charge; a Dutch table, with Mrs. J. T. Grein; a North table (for the Scandinavian countries), with Miss A. A. Smith; and an Ancient Egyptian table, with Miss Murray. There will also be tables for Spanish, Russian, German, and American guests.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.

One of the greatest blessings for foreign Suffragists in London is the International Women's Franchise Club in Grafton Street, W., giving foreign members the possibility of joining and enjoying all the rights of home members, for the small fee of 10s. 6d. A reading-room, library, drawing-room, dining-room, and smoking-rooms are for the use of all members. We would like to remind our readers that what is probably the only International Feminist Library in England is now located in this Club. The library already contains over a thousand volumes dealing with the various aspects of feminism, and is receiving constant additions of standard works of historic, economic, and social interest, both English and foreign.

Club members may take out two books at a time without any payment; and other persons may use the library as associate library members for an annual subscription of 5s. 6d. (including catalogue), exchanging books by post, as non-members are not entitled to enter the Club premises. This arrangement is very convenient for Suffragists who are for any reason unable to join the Club, though, of course, the subscription which includes both Club and Library is the more profitable bargain.

The library is in charge of a librarian, who attends four times a week to give out books and render other assistance to readers. Miss Alice Zimmern is the Hon. Sec. of the Library Committee of the Club. (See advertisement on page 134.)

THE HEADQUARTERS' COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

We think that the Headquarters should have a splendid collection of photographs of Suffragists of all countries, for reference, Press work, and as a thing of interest to our visitors. We have now a considerable number arranged in an album and in boxes, according to countries; and we have also a separate collection of larger size which includes groups, processions, pageants, and other outdoor events. Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Finland, and Great Britain are the countries that have up to now helped us materially in this idea. From Denmark, for instance, we have so far on hand photographs of Mrs. Blauenfeldt, Miss Daugaard, Mrs. Hansen, Miss Laurberg, Mrs. Munch, etc., etc.; from Finland we have Miss Hagman, Miss Hjelt, Dr. Friberg, Miss Neovius, Miss Tabelle, and others; from Hungary, Miss Behr, Miss Dirnfeld, Dr. Dirner, Mrs. Engel, Dr. Giesswein, Miss Glücklich, and many more. We have only a very few from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, and the United States of America. We hope that Suffragists in these countries will kindly send us from time to time photographs or postals of their Suffragists or any other pictures they think would be of interest. This also applies to posters, placards, or anything used in any way on the advertising and publicity side.

We have on the walls of our Headquarters two groups of pictures—one of the Board of Officers of the Alliance, and one of the Presidents or Secretaries of each of our affiliated societies. In the latter we lack those of China, Iceland, Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Switzerland, Austria, Bohemia, Galicia, and Bulgaria. To complete this second group we should be glad to have these vacancies filled in. The more material of this kind we have, the more useful can we be in the international work.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM AT OLYMPIA. INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE STALL.

"LANDS WHERE WOMEN VOTE."

The second "Children's Welfare Exhibition" arranged by the "Daily News" was held in the huge hall of Olympia from the 11th to the 30th of April, and the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—seeing an opportunity to do a little educational work—rented, at the same time, the wide gallery which runs all round the building, and organised the separate enterprise of "Woman's Kingdom."

"Woman's Kingdom" was the first venture of its kind undertaken by Suffragists, and although, for so large a scheme, it had to be arranged somewhat hurriedly, it not only justified itself as a method of propaganda, but set an example and gave an impetus which it is hoped will inspire further enterprises on somewhat similar lines. The exhibits included specimens of work done by women in the arts and crafts, and in industrial, municipal, and philanthropic departments of public service. Labour-saving devices for simplifying housework were on view, and there was a variety of illustrative exhibits, including a holiday camping outfit, and a room furnished for £5. Other stalls, again, like the "Returned Income Tax Stall," aimed chiefly at disseminating information, and the "International Suffrage Stall," arranged by the I.W.S.A., was one of these. The Casket which was given to Mrs. Alderman Lees when she was presented with the freedom of the Borough of Oldham, was placed in a prominent position at the International Stall. It caught the eye of the passers-by; they stopped to look at it, and then generally remained to investigate further. Some photographs of prominent Finnish women, and the women members of the Diet of Finland, proved interesting, also a facsimile of the petition for Women's Suffrage sent up to Benjamin Disraeli in 1874, and bearing such notable signatures as those of Florence Nightingale, Josephine Butler, Lydia Becker, etc. These, together with a table full of Woman Suffrage newspapers in many languages, and some admirable posters, formed an excellent starting point from which the stallholder might give a little talk on the Suffrage movement and its ramifications. But what mines of information those stallholders were supposed to be! "Who was St. Theresa of Spain; her name is on a banner?" was a bolt from the blue. The stallholder of the moment did not know, but looked the lady up on returning home, and is now wiser. "Why do you Suffragettes interrupt Ramsay MacDonald's meetings, when he is on your side?" was the next query from an ardent member of the Independent Labour Party. The lady in charge did not know that either, and could only say that the society to which

she belonged had different tactics. Another visitor, however, maintained the balance by deploring that all the societies had not the wisdom to see that the historic method of militancy was the only way (he was Irish!), while a courteous Frenchman, after a long conversation, got sufficiently confidential to let out that his wife and daughter had remained downstairs, being afraid to venture into the dangerous neighbourhood of the ferocious supporters of Women's Suffrage! But he added, with the true politeness of his nation, now that he found there were such "kind and gentle" little ladies connected with the movement, he should certainly do his best to persuade them to join him in his tour of inspection.

As the days passed, the impression grew steadily that the International Societies—and not least among them, the one which binds together the Woman Suffragists—are certainly among the foremost means of promoting an understanding between nations, thus making war less and less possible, and establishing a world-wide peace, founded on mutual sympathy and respect.

As the stall was mainly a propagandist effort, there was hardly any literature for sale, but "Woman Suffrage in Practice" (which can be had in English, French, and German) was purchased by a good many people, particularly by foreigners—including one Japanese gentleman; and one or two leaflets were also popular. The feature, however, which produced the best results was the collection of posters, some pictorial and some of telling facts and statistics, which decorated the stall. There were many questions asked concerning them, and it was at last decided, in response to the suggestions and demands of the public, to reproduce some of them on a large scale for exhibition in prominent places. From an English lady visiting our stall a donation of £150 was received with which to start the scheme, and it is hoped that National Societies will take it up and enlarge it. It is felt that, in spite of all the efforts made by the different societies, there is a danger of the Woman Suffrage question being swamped and put in the background by other political matters which are considered by the male voters to be of more immediate importance, and if some telling posters were placarded over the country, in both towns and villages, it might help to keep the demand insistently before the public, besides impressing its necessity and importance. Any donations for the purpose of enlarging and carrying on this new branch of work will be gratefully acknowledged by Mrs. Stanton Coit, 30, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.

MABEL M. SHARPLES.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

(Some of these books will be reviewed later.)

- "First Aid to the Servantless." By Mrs. J. G. Fraser. (Cambridge: Heffer and Sons. Price 1s. net.)
 "Francis Willard." By Ray Strachey. (London: T. Fisher Unwin. Price 5s. net.)
 "The Feminist Movement." By Ethel Snowden. (London and Glasgow: Collins. Price 1s. net.)
 "Margaret Ethel Macdonald." By Ramsay Macdonald. (London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price 3s. 6d. net.)
 "The Woman Movement." By Ellen Key. (New York and London: Putnam. Price 6s. net.)
 "Zwanzig Jahre Soziale Hilfsarbeit." By Alice Salomon. (Karlsruhe: Braunsche. Price 1m. 40. net.)
 "Peach Bloom." By Northrop Morse. Play on the Social Evil. (New York: Medical Review of Reviews. Price 4s.)
 "Social Forces." (Wisconsin Suffrage Headquarters: Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A. Price 15 cents.)
 "Counsel to Parents." By Elizabeth Blackwell. (London: Bell. 8th edition. 1s. net.)
 "Emancipation of Women." By W. Lyon Bleasle. (London: Nutt. Price 2s. 6d. net.)
 "A Woman of To-day." By M. L. Nutt. (London: Nutt. Price 3s. 6d.)
 "Philip's Wife." A Play. By F. G. Layton. (London: Fifield. Price 1s. net.)
 "Damaged Goods." By Brioux. Translated by John Pollock. (London: Fifield. Price 1s. net.)
 "Pioneer Work for Women." By Elizabeth Blackwell. (London: Dent. Price 1s. net. Everyman's Library.)
 "La Vie Internationale." Revue Mensuelle, Tome V. 1914, No. 4. (Brussels: Central Office of International Associations.)

We beg those who would like to review any of these books for us to let us know, and we will send them the books required.

THE CAUSE.*

Women of England! you who felt the wave
 Of freedom at its birth, who dared to face
 Convention, that our lives might be our own;
 Who, long years labouring, have lit the flame
 Of freedom in our hearts, that we might rise
 To joy in life, and work, and wider thought,
 Out of dull minds the old miasma chasing:

You too, fine souls, so tender, yet so brave,
 In all the torture of your wide disgrace,
 Who have upheld our broken flag alone:
 Women of high and strong and single aim,
 Who have put womanhood above all ties,
 Her freedom and her happiness have sought,
 Pain of wrecked life, and severed love embracing!

All that is reverent in my love you have,
 And all the worship of the future race
 Of women shall be yours! It shall be known
 That you have borne for us the brand of shame,
 Prison and hunger, poignant miseries
 Deep in your delicate souls and bodies wrought,
 Fearing, yet bearing all, death bravely facing.

Be not cast down! Your suffering shall save
 Woman, and win for her a worthier place.
 Reason shall sit with might upon one throne,
 Justice refuse a nation's laws to frame,
 Seeing alone with men's, not women's eyes;
 Man's cup of joy shall be no longer bought
 At the great cost of womanhood's debasing!

Our cause stands high above all storms that rave,
 Deep-rooted, firm, and rising into space—
 Like some high range, snow-peaked—above the zone
 Of human failure, little human fame.
 The power of God is in this great emprise,
 With all the might of justice it is fraught,
 Pregnant with love, all lesser loves effacing.

But, let us guard its greatness, and engrave
 Its seal upon our hearts, that we may trace
 Its free track fearless! Let no deed be done
 To mar our Cause, or to bring thought of blame
 On woman! The ideal that we prize
 May we hold high, in deed, and word, and thought,
 That our defeat shall be our foes' disgracing!

1914.

LILIAN SAUTER.

PIONEER SUFFRAGE WORK IN DENMARK.*

The first society for women's rights in Denmark, and which is still flourishing, was founded in 1871, thanks above all to the activity of my wife, Matilde Bajer, née Schlüter. In helping her I was subjected to ridicule, because Woman Suffrage was almost universally opposed by public opinion. A comic paper held me up to ridicule in a song with the refrain, "He has a head of butter" (the weather at the time was hot!). None of the first Danish champions of women's rights dared put the Suffrage question on their programme before about 1885, when the more Radical members of the Dansk Kvindesamfund, which they thought too moderate, founded a progressive society, whose organ, edited by Mme. Meyer, was "What We Wish." This society organised the first Scandinavian Feminist Congress, which was held at Copenhagen in 1888. Although this Congress was a great success and discussed Woman Suffrage for the first time, the second Congress has not yet taken place, but will be held this year at Copenhagen from June 8th to 11th.

I flatter myself that I was the first to introduce a Woman Suffrage Bill into the Danish Parliament, on November 6th, 1886. It was very modest, and only asked for communal Suffrage. The Chamber of Deputies, of which I was a member 1872 to 1895, passed it, but the Senate rejected it, declaring that it would injure women and the State. The attempt was repeated and again rejected, but other M.P.'s took up the struggle in my absence, and gradually Parliament was won over. Propaganda had the greatest success. On October 23rd, 1912, Government introduced into Parliament a Bill for constitutional reform. It proposed to extend the Parliamentary

* Kindly written for the Jubilee Number, but unfortunately received too late.—EDITOR.

franchise to women, and though the constitutional question has been fought out, not a voice has been raised against votes for women. Here we have the result of assiduous propaganda, always carried on by peaceable means, for thirty years.

FREDERIC BAJER.

HINDRANCES TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN GERMANY.*

In spite of the untiring work of the Woman Suffrage organisations, with their ever-growing numbers, the idea of Woman Suffrage makes slow progress in Germany—so slow that it would be illusory to hope for its practical realisation within measurable time.

And why should Germany in particular be so behindhand? The chief reason is the general political situation and feeling in Germany. *Woman Suffrage is a consequence of democracy.* But democracy in Germany is still far from being the prevailing political faith. The great majority of the working class is indeed consciously democratic, and therefore unconditionally for Woman Suffrage. The 4½ million Social Democrats, who form a third of the German electorate, are solid for Woman Suffrage. All the more dreary is the prospect among the middle classes. Apart from the small Democratic Union, which in theory and practice supports Woman's Suffrage, there is no party outside the Socialists which has inscribed women's political rights on its banner. Not a single one professes democratic principles in their full extent. Women, even the Suffragists, are not free from the reproach that they have so far not found the right way to force the men's parties to take up women's demands. In English elections women play a part that is often of decisive effect. In German elections the working women alone take part in great numbers, and with serious organising do an important amount of the work of the Social Democratic party. Women of other classes and parties take up various attitudes toward the elections. Some take no active part at all in them, because they have no hope of attaining anything through the men's parties. Their motto is: "Women's emancipation can only come through women's work." A motto that contains as much falsehood as truth. At any rate, Woman's Suffrage can only be gained when a Parliamentary majority has been won for it.

Other women of the middle class are so keenly interested in their own party that they even support its candidates when they are not Suffragists. Indeed, this class feeling is so strong that if the choice lies between a Social Democrat who is pure gold and current coin for Suffrage, and an Anti-Suffrage middle-class candidate, they would support the latter! *Their prejudice against Social Democracy is even stronger than their desire for emancipation.*

Only a minority of the German Suffragists is so politically educated as to decide their policy according to Suffrage principles and Suffrage principles alone.

Middle-class women of this type will naturally support a member of their own party, but only when he supports Woman's Suffrage; otherwise they will prefer the other candidate, usually a Social Democrat. Only when the majority of German Suffragists have won this political hardness can there be quicker progress of the Suffrage principle among men. In Germany, too, women could play a decisive part in the elections, and thus in political parties. But only if the men know they can count on the women's help only by pledging themselves to women's cardinal demand.

The political development of the German woman is progressing rapidly. The important thing is to guide the policy of the middle-class women into the right channels.

HELLMUT VON GERLACH.

TO THE TRUE PROPAGANDIST FOR WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Lines dedicated to Alice Park, California:—
For assiduous persistence in manoeuvres kind and clever,
For continuous invention of some ever new device,
I have yet to find your equal—nor do I expect to, ever—
Why, you'd paste up

"VOTES FOR WOMEN!"

on the gates of Paradise!

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN.

* Mr. H. v. Gerlach, President of the German Men's League for Woman's Suffrage, kindly wrote this article for the May Number, which had unfortunately gone to press when the article reached the office.—EDITOR.

DIARY OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT.

As *Jus Suffragii* desires to give all data which may help our cause in the way of propaganda, I wish to propose the publication of a monthly diary giving the exact dates of historic Feminist events. These dates may prove interesting, and may stimulate journalists to write articles on the Woman's movement everywhere. To make the diary as complete as possible we want the help of our international co-workers. We expect them to give us dates of the important events and facts of their country. The diary below for the month of June is very incomplete, and I would not publish it if I did not think that it may show those who wish to help what sort of dates we would like to collect.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Day.	Year.	Country.	JUNE.
1—	1815—	France.	Birthday of Amélie Bosquet, novelist and militant feminist.
1—	1322—	France.	Death of Marie de Molina, regent, famous for her abilities.
1—	1910—	U.S.A.	Death of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, first woman to have name placed on Medical Register.
2—	1701—	France.	Death of Madeline de Scudéry, author, Laureate of the Académie.
3—	1904—	International.	Opening of the Second Woman Suffrage Conference in Berlin.
3—	1864—	Great Britain.	Birthday of Richard Cobden, economist, reformer, feminist.
3—	1881—	Scotland.	Women's Municipal Franchise granted to the Women of Scotland.
4—	1904—	International.	Foundation of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in Berlin.
4—	1902—	Sweden.	Foundation of First Woman Suffrage Association in Sweden.
6—	1908—	Great Britain.	15,000 women marched in London to Albert Hall.
6—	1904—	International.	Opening of Third Quinquennial of the I.C.W. in Berlin.
7—	1876—	France.	Death of Georges Sand (Aurore Dupin), novelist.
7—	1832—	Great Britain.	Reform Bill depriving women of vote received Royal Assent.
7—	1866—	Great Britain.	First W.S. petition, signed by 1,499 women, presented to John Stuart Mill.
8—	1817—	France.	Death of Théroigne de Méricourt, revolutionary feminist.
9—	1843—	Austria.	Birthday of Baroness Berta von Suttner, Nobel prize-winner, pacifist of international fame.
10—	1573—	France.	Death of Jeanne d'Albert, famous for her political abilities.
10—	1604—	France.	Death of the French poetess, Isabella Audréoise.
11—	1849—	U.S.A.	Death of Charlotte Robertson, one of the pioneers of the American woman's movement.
11—	1878—	Great Britain.	First woman graduated at St. Andrews University, Scotland.
11—	1913—	U.S.A.	W.S. (limited) granted in Illinois.
12—	1911—	International.	Opening of the Sixth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at Stockholm.
12—	1754—	Germany.	Dorothea Christina Exleben graduated at the University of Halle as medical doctor.
12—	1802—	Great Britain.	Birthday of Harriet Martineau, writer.
13—	1898—	France.	Death of Eugénie Pierre, militant feminist.
14—	1812—	U.S.A.	Birthday of Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Famous for her services in the cause of the abolition of slavery.
14—	1910—	Great Britain.	First Conciliation Bill presented by Mr. Shackleton. (Representation of the People Bill.)
15—	1908—	International.	Opening of Fourth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at Amsterdam.

Day. Year. Country. JUNE.

15—	1913—	International.	Opening of Seventh Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in Budapest.
15—	1887—	Great Britain.	Committee of Members of Parliament to promote Woman Suffrage founded.
16—	1870—	Russia.	Municipal vote granted to women.
16—	1910—	Great Britain.	Mr. Asquith received deputation from N.U.W.S.S. (first since he became Prime Minister).
18—	1886—	Norway.	The first Constitutional Bill proposing Woman Suffrage presented to the Storting.
22—	1897—	France.	Women admitted as witnesses in civil procedure.
22—	1806—	France.	Birthday of Emile de Girardin, journalist and feminist author.
23—	1800—	Germany.	Birthday of the famous novelist, Charlotte Birch-Pfeiffer (Stuttgart).
23—	1839—	France.	Death of Lady Esther Stanhope, famous traveller and explorer.
23—	1761—	France.	Birthday of Gabriel Legouvé, author of "Mérite des Femmes."
24—	1741—	Hungary.	Coronation of Maria Teresia in Pozsony (Pressburg).
25—	1875—	Denmark.	Women admitted to University in Copenhagen.
26—	1831—	France.	Death of Sophie Germain, famous mathematician and physician.
26—	1899—	International.	Opening of Second Quinquennial of I.C.W.
27—	1876—	Great Britain.	Death of Harriet Martineau, pioneer of Woman's Movement.
29—	1855—	France.	Death of Delphine Gay, author, Laureate of the French Académie.
30—	1861—	Great Britain.	Death of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, the greatest English poetess.
—	1913—	Norway.	Bill for Equal Suffrage Eligibility for Women passed (extension of former limited franchise).

NEWS FROM COUNTRIES WHERE WOMEN VOTE.

COLORADO, U.S.A.

WOMEN AND CLASS STRUGGLE.

A certain section of the Social Democratic Party likes to put forward the belief that as long as Socialism is not in force women will not alter anything in the conditions of the working classes. Besides many other examples, the facts of the Colorado strike battle plainly show the benefits of Woman Suffrage for all those who need courageous and disinterested help. We quote the report of the brave and warm-hearted Colorado women in full from our Suffrage contemporary, the excellent *Woman's Journal*, of Boston, U.S.A.

Under the heading: "Colorado Women Stop Coalfield Horrors; Army of One Thousand Women Voters March to Denver Capitol in Protest Against Slaughter, and Make Governor Ammons Ask for Federal Intervention," the *Woman's Journal* writes:

The women of Denver, by the sheer force of their womanhood, backed by their right to the ballot, have put an end to the bloody warfare that has been going on in Colorado's mining zone for more than seven months. They have stopped the awful slaughter of men, women, and children, and are bringing about a peaceful settlement of a civil warfare, beside which the trouble in Mexico pales into insignificance so far as the United States is concerned. The women voters of Colorado have more than made good; they have proved themselves genuine statesmen in a crisis that was disgracing the whole State.

So far as the *Woman's Journal* is aware, the news of the women's part in calling federal aid to the State has not been published in any paper east of Denver. The facts in this account are taken from the Denver papers and from Senator Helen Ring Robinson.

The story reads like a propaganda fiction, but the facts are

not to be disputed. When armed warfare had broken out in the strike zone and men were being mowed down by machine guns of the State militia, when women and children were being burned alive in the miserable tents and hovels they were occupying after eviction, when the trouble had reached a most desperate point, and neither the Governor nor anyone in authority was interfering, the women of Denver thought it time to act.

They issued a call in the name of the womanhood of their State for a meeting at the Capitol. One thousand of them, with the cries of the slaughtered in their ears, and aghast at the horror of ruthless State murder of their fellow-citizens, marched to the Capitol and demanded an audience with the Governor. He refused to see them. They stood firm and repeated their demand. The Governor hesitated; he did not want to see them; but they were voters; besides, there was something awe-inspiring in their spirit and numbers; they meant business. The Governor reluctantly admitted them.

In no uncertain terms they called his attention to the warfare in the State, and demanded that it cease; they demanded that he appeal to President Wilson for federal aid. He replied that such an appeal might not meet response. They asked him to send a telegram to find out. He refused. They stood firm. When it was clear that one thousand determined women had decided not to leave the Capitol until their reasonable demands had been met, the Governor promised to send the telegram to President Wilson. But the women did not disband. They waited to see the telegram sent, and they waited to get the reply. When word came that federal aid would be sent to Colorado if it was needed, those plucky Denver women asked Governor Ammons to send the telegram for federal aid at once. The Governor had learned the temper of the women, and the telegram was sent!

Already the men are disarming in the coal districts, and the prospects for a peaceful settlement of the troubles are improving.

For seven months Colorado has been facing armed warfare in the mining district 180 miles south of Denver. It saw its industrial fire on April 20th spread into a conflagration. Machine guns at Ludlow mowed down men, women, and children. The tents of the strikers were put to the torch, and, as one account says, "in the holes which had been dug for their protection against the rifles' fire, the women and children died like trapped rats when the flames swept over them." The Ludlow fight raged for fourteen hours, and precipitated others, not only in the surrounding districts, but also in the Louisville-Boulder zone north of Denver. The State militia were worse than useless; the strikers believed—and with good reason—that the greater part of them were in the employ of the mine-owners. Under such circumstances the very presence of the militia, with their trained guns, fanned the fury of the miners into white heat. The strikers had expected fair play from the State, and they believed that they had received hot shot. Whatever was the truth of the matter, it was clear that the State was helpless; its power to separate the combatants had been stripped away. Only one thing could prevent more bloodshed—the intervention of an impartial outside party, in other words, the Federal Government, in which both sides could trust.

THE GOVERNMENT COLLAPSES.

In the face of this crisis, when it only needed to be firm, the Colorado Government seems to have collapsed. At its head sat Governor Ammons, both supine and obstinate; behind him stood Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald, insolent and arrogant. They claimed that the situation was safe in the hands of the State guards; they merely flirted with the subject of federal intervention. From them the appeals for United States aid fell back as if from rock. And every day came reports of more deaths and new tragedies in the region around Trinidad (Col.). It was then that the women acted. High and low throughout Denver—which all along had been the political arena of the struggle—they sent their call.

WOMEN CALLED TO ACTION.

It was in the name of the Women's Peace Association, and read as follows:—

"Women of Colorado:

"For the sake of your slain sisters and their wounded children, for the sake of your sisters whose humble homes have been ruthlessly destroyed, for the sake of the earnest men who are being wounded and killed every hour because they tried to better their conditions of life, we summon you to a meeting at the capitol at ten o'clock, Saturday morning.

"In the name of the womanhood of Colorado we will demand that another hideous holocaust be prevented by the intervention of federal troops, we will demand the establishment of law, and we will take steps to initiate the repeal of the infamous decision by which Mother Jones was imprisoned shamelessly. Your help is needed."

On the morning of April 25th a silent army of one thousand women, some with babies in their arms, some white-haired, some worn with work, marched to the house chamber of the Capitol. Of the events that followed, Mildred Morris writes in the *Rocky Mountain News and Times* (Denver) of April 26th:—

Never was there anything like it. These women, who ordered the State's chief executive to do their bidding and were obeyed, accomplished a great thing, and accomplished it in perfect peace and dignity. There were no threats, no hisses, no jeers. It was an assemblage that gave equal Suffrage a new meaning.

The women who came believed they had a solemn duty to perform, and they did not go away until they had performed it. Never were there women more deadly in earnest, more grimly determined.

WAIT ALL DAY FOR REPLY.

They stayed, most of them, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. waiting for an answer to the Governor's first telegram to the President. They sent word down to the executive office that those who could would remain at their posts until the gathering's demands were granted—it mattered not whether they were made to wait all night or all week,—they would wait and keep sending their committee with their commands.

There was no impatience. While they kept their vigil they sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," "John Brown's Body," "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

At 6 p.m. there were still watching women left—150 of them. They were weary, but still grimly determined, women. "Women, we are making history," said Dora Phelps Buell, in ringing tones. "Stay on."

"We will," they cried back.

There was a call for volunteers to keep "the watch fires burning all night" if necessary. All 150 women rose to volunteer.

"We will all stay," they cried. "We will wait until the Governor does our bidding."

CHEERS FOLLOW VICTORY.

When their committee came with a message from the Governor that he was drafting an appeal for federal troops they sprang to their feet and made such a demonstration as their tired voices would permit, and then sang "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

"Our work is not yet done," said Mrs. Alma Lafferty. "Women, we must wait until we see the draft of the appeal and know that it is sent. Will you wait?"

"We will," came back in chorus.

And they did. Not a woman among them left the State House until that appeal was sent.

CONSTANT WATCH KEPT.

In the Governor's office waited the committee delegated by the women to carry its commands to the chief executive—its members, Mrs. Robert W. Steele, widow of the late chief justice of the Supreme Court; Mrs. Alma Lafferty, president of the Women's Peace Association; State Senator Helen Ring Robinson, Mrs. Stuart Walling, and Mrs. John Joseph Ryan. It did not relax its vigil for a moment—not even to eat. It lunched on sandwiches, and dined in the Governor's ante-office on oranges and bananas. When the Governor returned from his own dinner he found the committee still on the job, tired-eyed but cheerful. All day it had followed him like a Nemesis.

Some of the women who waited upstairs went all day without food, not a few of whom were grey-haired women. They would not leave their posts until the draft of the Governor's appeal for federal intervention had been read to them.

NEW DEMANDS ARE PLANNED.

And when they at last dispersed after a twelve hours' vigil, tired to death, but triumphant, the 150 watchers made it known that if the President refused federal aid to end the carnage in the Southern coalfields, the army of one thousand women would return and make new demands.

They wanted a cessation of bloodshed in the strike zone, and they would have it. As the mothers of the State, they had awakened to their power, and were serving notice on those elected to serve the commonwealth of Colorado to remember that there were determined women, who, like sentinels, henceforth would be on guard to protect human rights and to pre-

vent the murder of men, women, and children in industrial warfare.

Before 10 o'clock, the hour set for assembling, the women who responded to the Women's Peace Association's call thronged the corridor of the Capitol.

"Women, let us proceed in a dignified manner to the Governor's office," said Mrs. Alma Lafferty, president of the Women's Peace Association.

MRS. STEELE HEADS LINE.

A line was formed with Mrs. Robert W. Steele at its head. The vanguard was met at the door of the executive offices by Jackson, the Governor's negro messenger.

COMMITTEE IMPRESSES GOVERNOR.

The assembly of women apparently was not taken seriously by Governor Ammons until a committee waited on him to summon him before it.

"We have come, Mr. Governor, to escort you to the house chamber, where the women of Denver await you," said Senator Helen Ring Robinson.

"I am very busy, ladies," answered the Governor, nervously. "You can tell me what the meeting wants, and I will give my answer through you."

"But the women want to hear from you directly, Mr. Governor," said Mrs. Robinson, in a quiet tone.

"It is impossible for the Governor to leave this office at this time," put in Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald. "He can't see these women now."

"BUSY," SAYS GOVERNOR.

"I am kept busy talking over the long-distance 'phone,'" said Governor Ammons. "I am trying to keep peace at one of the mines where there is firing. I cannot come."

"Governor Ammons," said Mrs. Robinson, firmly, "the women of Denver summon you. The women of Denver, do you understand?"

"You ought to understand the Governor can't come now," put in the Lieutenant-Governor again.

Mrs. Evangeline Heartz, another member of the committee, rose to her feet, and pointed her finger at Fitzgarrald.

"Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald, the women of Denver are gathered upstairs," she said. "They want to see Governor Ammons, and they will see him. Do you hear?"

"WORKING FOR PEACE," HE SAID.

"I am trying to bring about peace, and I can only listen to those who want to help me," said the Governor.

"The women upstairs are also desirous of bringing about peace," said Mrs. Robinson, "and they have come to help you, Governor Ammons."

"But don't you see, ladies, I cannot leave just now?" pleaded the Governor. "I must keep peace at this mine."

"WILL WAIT," HE IS TOLD.

"We don't insist that you come just now, if you cannot," said Mrs. Robinson. "The women will wait for you. They are patient."

"Better come back this afternoon, or some other time," suggested the Lieutenant-Governor.

"Oh, no, Lieutenant-Governor," said Mrs. Robinson, with a quiet smile. "We will wait until the Governor is ready for us to escort him upstairs."

"Just a minute, then," said Governor Ammons.

AGREES TO MEET THEM.

He went into the inner room and came out directly. "I am ready to go now," he told the committee, and Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald and Detectives Peter Carr and T. W. Connor, in plain clothes, walking beside him, the Governor followed the committee upstairs.

Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Ryan, and Mrs. Walling composed a committee appointed to remain with Governor Ammons until he had dictated a telegram to President Wilson.

Mrs. P. T. Hurlinger, wife of a carpenter, was the first member of the committee named. She had her eight-months-old baby with her, and carried the little one to the Governor's office. Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Heartz, and Mrs. John Joseph Ryan completed the committee.

The second time the committee waited on the Governor Mrs. Steele bade him not to forget that the women demanded that he order Major Hamrock and Lieutenant Linderfelt arrested and brought to Denver to be tried on a charge of murder.

PROMISES INVESTIGATION.

"This shooting at Ludlow is to be investigated, and the guilty ones punished," answered the Governor. "But how can we try Hamrock and Linderfelt here, even if they were guilty? They'd have to be tried down there. We couldn't possibly try them here."

"Under the Moyer decision you can do anything, Mr. Governor," suggested Mrs. Robinson.

The Governor made no answer. That very day the *Denver Express*, in large headlines, said:

"Thank God the women of Colorado are alive to their wonderful privilege of restoring human rights and justice to their throne of glory in this greed-ridden State.

"Over 1,000 of them—bless their tender, motherly, wifely, maidenly hearts—sounded the battle cry of the new revolution in Colorado when they rose *en masse* in the house chamber and sang 'America.'

"Their revolution is to be a Christian one—a revolution of ballots to put down the necessity for the present revolution of bullets!

"Nothing is impossible to aroused womanhood—when she has the ballot! Not even the driving of Rockefellerism and all the inhuman warfare on women and children out of the State forever!

"And that is exactly what that glorious gathering of aroused mothers proposed to do."

WOMEN FORCE APPOINTMENT.

One of the other things which the women forced Governor Ammons to do was to appoint Mrs. Alma Lafferty to the Peace Commission, which, under the head of Chief Justice Musser, was striving to bring an adjustment. Yet, when this Commission met on April 26 and 27, no notice was sent to Mrs. Lafferty. She was counted out. Accordingly, for eight hours on April 27 the women again besieged the Governor's office.

"We will let the Governor know," said one, "that if the Commission does hold more meetings, and Mrs. Lafferty is not admitted to its conferences as the chosen representative of the mass meeting last Saturday, we will call another mass meeting and have five thousand instead of one thousand determined women besiege the Capitol."

The Governor was piqued because he had been forced to act on Saturday, and for a long time he would not see the women. At one moment Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald appeared.

"Why don't you stop this fighting?" demanded the women. Fitzgarrald said that no shot had been fired by a militia man.

"Yes, but there has been fighting down there, and you know it," said Mrs. Lafferty.

"Oh, that was over at Sopris, and was between mine guards and strikers," answered the Lieutenant-Governor, airily.

"It doesn't matter where it was or who was engaged," put in Dora Phelps Buell; "we want it stopped."

"Well," shouted Fitzgarrald, red in the face, "why don't you hold another mass meeting and endorse the fighting down there?"

When the Governor finally appeared he said he would request Justice Musser to take Mrs. Lafferty with the Commission to Trinidad. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, said that Justice Musser would have to appoint Mrs. Lafferty to the Commission before she could serve.

"Oh, no, he doesn't," said Dora Phelps Buell; "she's a member of that Commission. The Governor has appointed her. The women who met here on Saturday demanded she be appointed, and she was."

"If she hadn't been those women would be here yet, Mr. Fitzgarrald. They'd have stayed here all the year until she was."

Justice Musser then came down to confer with the women. He said he would be very glad to have Mrs. Lafferty on the Commission, but that it was not going to Trinidad, and was not going to do anything.

"What have you men been doing?" demanded Mrs. Lafferty. "Why don't you do something other than sit and confer? Why don't you go to the strike district? That's where you are needed. I wouldn't be afraid to go there."

She was better than her word. When the women realized that the Musser Commission was doing nothing, they chose their own commission, and voted to pay their own expenses to go to Trinidad and investigate the Ludlow massacre on their own account. Not only that, but they compelled Governor Ammons to recognise them and to give them the necessary authority—a distinct triumph. They will try to find out who turned machine guns on women and children, who set fire to the tents of the colony, and whether the bodies of victims were thrown into a hastily dug hole so that a true count might not be made.

This investigating committee is composed of Mrs. Alma Lafferty, Mrs. Lee Champion, and Mrs. Evangeline Heartz.

"You probably can't do a thing down there," said Chief Justice Musser, when the committee informed him of their plans.

"Oh, yes, we can," said Mrs. Lafferty. "If we can't, you know we can have another mass meeting of women at the Capitol. You know that, of course."

"We believe the militia will show us courtesy," said Mrs. Lafferty. "We will treat them very nicely. We will let them know, of course, that we will take back a report to the women of Denver."

NORWAY.



THE FIRST WOMAN NOMINATED SWORN ATTORNEY OF THE JUDGE OF A DISTRICT IN NORWAY.

This portrait presents Miss Anna Holmen, who has just passed her juridical degree examination at the University, and is now nominated sworn attorney of the judge in the district of Holt, in Nedenes, Norway.

The district judges have to travel the circuits, and they have more work than they themselves can do. They therefore have sworn attorneys, who may take charge for the judge himself, and may perform all the official duties of the judge, at the proceedings in the courts of law. L. QVAM.

WOMEN PRINTERS.

In Norway there are 849 women in the printer's trade. This work seems to fit the women well. It is well regulated and well paid (15 to 26 Norwegian crowns a week), and by far the greatest part of the women of the printer's trade are members of the strong trade union of the typographers.

As I see you have an article, "Women as Typesetters," I send these lines, translated from a circular of the L.K.S.F., just edited on account of the proposed law that would prevent women's night work, and therefore be injurious to women in the printing trade. L. Q.

CABLEGRAM RECEIVED FROM AUSTRALIA.

Following resolution was passed by big open-air demonstration last night: "This meeting expresses indignation at unconstitutional action of the King's advisers in refusing women their legal rights to lay petition before His Majesty. It deeply regrets this advice has led to the cruel ill-usage of loyal subjects. Believing the Liberal Government, for party purposes, has dragged the Crown into conflict with women seeking enfranchisement, it sympathises with those who demand their immediate resignation."

(Signed) VIDA GOLDSTEIN, Chairman
(President, Women's Political Association of Victoria).
Melbourne, May 26th, 1914.

FINLAND.

DIVORCE, SUICIDE, AND THE MORAL DEGRADATION OF CHILDREN.

An eccentric Anti-Suffragist in Finland tried to make the world believe that the sequel of Woman Suffrage in Finland was increase of divorce and suicide and the moral degradation of children. Though the statements of this Anti-Suffragist did not have the least effect either in his own country or anywhere else, we are very grateful for his violent accusations, because

they give us the opportunity to collect the following facts about divorce, suicide, and the moral status of Finnish children, which once more show distinctly the blessed influence of Woman Suffrage.

The only facts which Mr. Onni Granholm offers us in his article are that the women's right to vote in Finland has produced the following results:—

(1) An increased number of divorces; (2) an increased number of suicides; and (3) an increasing unruliness amongst young people.

How little foundation the first assertion has is clearly shown in the following table, wherein the number of divorces on 100,000 inhabitants is pointed out in the following countries:—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
France	—	55.0	58.2	64.8	65.6
Germany	19.9	20.1	21.2	23.1	—
Denmark	22.8	24.7	24.4	27.2	27.4
Sweden	10.0	9.1	9.3	9.7	11.0
Norway	9.0	12.9	11.9	14.7	16.3
Finland	4.8	4.2	5.7	6.6	5.9

From this can be gathered that Finland, in spite of its right to vote, stands last in the list. The increase in Finland during the five years was 1.1 on 100,000 inhabitants, or about the same as in Sweden; whereas in Norway it was 7.3, in Denmark 4.6, in Germany 3.2, and in France during four years 10.6.

With regard to suicides, Finland stands behind Sweden, and is only surpassed by Norway in this respect.

Number of suicides on 100,000 inhabitants:—

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Germany:					
Men	15.7	15.7	17.0	17.2	—
Women	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.2	—
Denmark:					
Men	14.6	14.3	15.5	15.9	15.6
Women	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.5	3.6
Sweden:					
Men	7.4	13.0	12.5	13.9	14.3
Women	1.9	2.5	3.1	2.9	3.5
Norway:					
Men	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.7	—
Women	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.3	—
Finland:					
Men	5.0	5.6	5.8	7.1	6.2
Women	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.7	2.0

The increase in suicides amongst men was, during the five years, in Finland 1.2 on 100,000, in Sweden 6.9, in Denmark 1.0, in Germany during four years 1.5, and in Norway during the same period 0.3.

Amongst women the increase in suicides was, in Finland 0.8, in Sweden 1.6, in Germany during the four years 0.4, and in Norway during the same period 0.5 on 100,000 inhabitants. In Denmark the figure decreases or increases alternately, however with a tendency to increase. In the year 1909 the figure was 0.6 higher than in the year 1906, sank down to 3.6 in the year 1910, only to rise again in 1911 to 4.6.

The figures stated above prove that the statements made by Mr. Onni Granholm are not based on investigations.

As to the running wild of the younger generation, I was not able to find any authentic figures. It is, however, not unknown to any expert on this matter that this coarsening appears to take place in all countries, and, unfortunately, seems to be a sign of our time. It has nothing whatever to do with the women's right to vote.

WHAT NEW ZEALAND WOMEN HAVE GAINED SINCE 1893.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Infant Life Protection Act.
Act to Regulate Adoption of Children.
Industrial Schools Act Amendment.
Juvenile Smoking Suppression Act.
Servants' Registry Offices Act.
Shop Assistants' Act (safeguarding the interests and health of shop-girls; have to sit down when not serving, sanitary arrangements, meal hours, etc.).
Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act (equal standard of morality; divorce for wilful desertion for five years, for habitual drunkenness, failure to support a wife, cruelty, or for seemingly incurable lunacy).
Criminal Code Amendment Act.
Act enabling women to receive compensation for slander without proving special damage.

Summary Legal Separation Act, to safeguard poor women against brutal or drunken husbands.

Factory Act (recognises in some cases equal pay for equal work; not generally, however).

Municipal Franchise Act, extended to women ratepayers or ratepayers' wives (women eligible for Town Boards, Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards, and to Mayoralty).

Old-Age Pensions Act, which acknowledges economic partnership of husband and wife).

Women admitted to practise law.

Technical Schools, giving girls equal opportunity.

Scientific temperance instruction in public schools.

Testators' Act (testator compelled to provide for wife and family).

Repeal of C.D. Acts, 1910.

Destitute Persons Act, 1910, providing for registration of child born out of wedlock in father's name when paternity is proved, and for power to claim against estate of either father or mother for maintenance of such child. A man not providing for family (wife and children) may be imprisoned and made to work in prison to maintain them.

Legitimation Act, 1908. Provides that when parents marry, any child born out of wedlock shall be deemed legitimate, and may inherit property.

Crimes Amendment Act, 1910. Provides for indeterminate sentences and reformatory treatment by modern methods.

First Offenders' Probation Act, 1908. Gives magistrates power not to inflict gaol on a first offender, but to discharge him on probation during good conduct.

Widows' Pension Act, 1911. Grants small pension to widows having child or children born in New Zealand dependent on her.

National Provident Fund. Enables workers, on paying small sum weekly, to secure an annuity at sixty years of age, varying from £2 to 10s. a week, according to payment. It also grants assistance to widows of contributors and parents on the birth of a child.

Licensing Act Amendment. Abolished barmaids, except those employed when the Act passed, who had to register immediately. It also made 10 p.m. closing universal, did away with bottle licences and the locker system in clubs, and gave electors the right to vote on Dominion prohibition.

Aged and Infirm Persons Protection Act. Provides that when any person is unable, by reason of age, disease, illness, physical or mental infirmity, or excessive use of alcoholic liquors or drugs, to manage his own affairs, a protection order may be made out over the whole or any part of his estate.

JESSIE MACKAY.

Christchurch, March, 1914.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

BOHEMIA.

As the Bohemian "Committee for Women's Suffrage" reports, in October last the Bohemian representative of the Liberal party, Dr. Boh. Franta, M.P., presented a preliminary report and a bill on Woman Suffrage to the Constitutional Committee of the Austrian Parliament.

The reasons given by Dr. Franta give evidence of a really enlightened view of the problem, and place him among the true adherents of the Suffrage movement. The following are his own words:

"The education which we have heretofore obtained cannot lead to the general acknowledgment of the rights that women lack. It is only the last generation which has become aware of women's intellectual capabilities, and has come to comprehend their efforts to obtain the same rights as men in public life. For a long time these gifts have not been appreciated enough. If every male citizen obtains a vote as soon as he attains a certain age, without regard to his education, I cannot see why the same right should be denied to women. Because it has always been that only men managed public affairs? We men are the 'blessed rulers' since the beginning of creation, and we think that no other conditions are possible. There were millions of Americans only one hundred years ago who thought that slavery will never be removed. A great war was necessary in order to remove it, and nowadays nobody can understand how it was possible. And this grand work of removing slavery was helped by a woman, the author of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. It cannot be denied that woman

has gained her position in the history of civilisation from modest beginnings, and for that reason she must be reckoned with.

"The woman to-day asks for new rights in order to be able to perform new public duties.

"Shall the whole legislation of new social reform, protection of children, and the working classes, and other similar human advance be accomplished by men only? By men who cannot understand these problems as women can who live in the midst of them, and are doing a good work, and could make use of their natural talents, experience, and energy in this direction.

"Women form their own judgment on political questions, as do men, with the same common sense and thoroughness. They may judge from another point of view than men, but that is quite comprehensible and desirable. They can say: We have rights and reason, but up to the present we have no power to contribute to the general welfare.

"Up to now the leadership in politics belongs to men. And what are the results? Has the life of individuals and nations been raised to the highest standard? Have the struggles between nations been diminished? Have the horrors of war been done away with? Shall we not try and let new elements step in, which will be able to take a new impartial standpoint? We have many important social and political questions before us, which will not be solved without the co-operation of women. To invite them to co-operate only, would, however tend to humiliate them, unless you give them the same rights to leadership, and therefore the same responsibility.

"It would be absurd for anyone not to acknowledge the work done by women nowadays; it is a short-sighted policy to deprive her of something that she will sooner or later attain. Great changes are taking place in political life; shall only the position of the woman in public life remain unchanged?"

"There are many women to-day who not only perform their household duties, but who have to support the family materially. Why should they be deprived of the same rights as men have who support the family? Even when the father alone supports the family, the woman deserves more credit than is given her, for the care of home and children is equal in value to supporting the family. Moreover, the education of women has progressed immensely; women think more independently, occupy many public positions, and work beneficially in public life. The education of children, which is of great importance and responsibility, is entrusted to the woman, first at home, then also in the public, secondary, and high school.

"Is not the fact that women themselves are asking for participation in public affairs sufficient evidence for democratic men to give it to them? Beaconsfield, a member of a Conservative Government, said that he could not understand why women should not have the suffrage in a country where women have been Queens. History confirms that they have been the brightest minds that have ever ruled the world.

"If women are given an opportunity to co-operate in political work, it can only be to the people's profit. Women will try hard not to be behind the men, and they will try to be more than men; and this will be the best competition for the good of humanity. Humanity needs just this kind of competition in a time of increase of armaments, a hazardous play with hundreds of thousands of lives and milliards of national wealth. In this respect we must not allow our feelings to lead us, but let cool reason decide. We must not be influenced by the pitiable events in England which brought about only the defeat of Woman Suffrage in the House of Commons. The struggle for high aims must not be carried on with low weapons; right should not be gained by wrong, for violent methods unworthy of so great a cause as the women's movement only do it harm.

"Many men who are busy working in political life do not consider Woman Suffrage an urgent question; but, then, the representatives of the people should not forget that it is a social problem of the utmost importance, and very pressing for the women, which ought to be solved without delay. All people ought to consider that to grant a vote to women would not be a sign of charity, but a proof that the present possessors of power defend a right thing if they devote their energies to the enfranchisement of women who are simply applying for work on a new field of civilisation. Are there so many political talents and geniuses among men that they can afford to refuse women's claim? Have they any right to hinder the women desiring to quicken the political life and development of democracy? Let us not be vain and unreasonable. Power should not be used to maintain injustice, but aim at greater freedom and justice. And shall we consider it a proof of justice if the most intelligent women have no right to vote for representation in Parliament,

whereas a man who may not be able to either read or write, and who may not understand anything about politics, may be elected as a member of the same Parliament, having no other merit than that he is of the male sex? Is not this humiliating to us men as well as it is for women?"

"In accordance with all just people I trust that better times are coming, when the subordinate will find their justice. Women are weaker not because we men are superior mentally or physically, but because we possess power which makes women weaker. We have to divide this power with them, i.e., we are to give them those rights which we have granted to ourselves. I hope that the new generation will give women the rights that belong to them.

"In asking you, the representatives of the people, to give women the right of suffrage, I only ask you to act in accordance with justice and policy. We are greatly indebted to the woman, who is the mother of our children and the comrade of her husband. We are obliged to do her justice, and thus put right the wrong which we have committed against her.

"It is something quite usual in our country that people do not like to mix with the political whirl, in which they see the cause of a general decay. Then they say: Now is not the right time to increase the difficulties by giving votes to women who have no experience in political life. To that I say: Public political affairs themselves are not detestable, but those who brought them to such a poor condition. A dishonest man leaves signs of his character everywhere, in public as well as in private life. But that is just why good and honest people who have the sense of responsibility for the people ought to step in, and raise the level of political life, and not let those who are incapable decide about the destination of all.

"And could this be done by allowing women in politics who would bring into public life courtesy, with reasonable consideration of opposing views? A satisfactory answer could be obtained from women living in countries where they enjoy equal rights in legislation as men, an answer which would certainly please us, as well as show us the right way out of the present almost hopeless conditions."

With this explanation of the principle, Dr. B. Franta proposed a change of the laws concerning election of members of the Austrian Parliament, to the effect that instead of allowing only men who attain twenty-four years of age to vote, all citizens, without respect to sex, should have the right to vote from their twenty-fourth year. Similarly all citizens, without regard to sex, should be eligible as M.P.'s.

Unfortunately, the present unsettled conditions of the Austrian Parliament prevent this proposal from even being seriously dealt with, not to mention its having some hope of being accepted. The political situation is extremely unfavourable at present, as the constitution in Austria is still in need of a great deal of improvement. General suffrage for men, passed in 1907, has been disappointing in its effects. The Parliament of the people is almost without influence on the government of State. Moreover, the struggles between the different nations of which Austria consists, and also the manner in which politics are conducted by the parties, do not encourage honest people to take part in such a muddled political life.

DENMARK

"LANDSFORBUNDET FOR KVINDERS VALGRET."

Our hope to get the new Constitution signed on the 5th of June is now broken.

The reason that the results are deferred is that the Parliament has to carry a new Election Bill before the Constitution can be changed, and the different parties have for a rather long time been discussing the Election Bill, which is now before the Parliament.

The Government has resolved not to close the Session before a result is obtained.

The Constitutional Reform Bill is supported by the Moderates, Radicals, and the Social Democrats. Only the Conservatives are against it, but the three supporting parties have only a majority of one vote in the Upper House.

So it is quite necessary that they agree about the Election Bill; without that there will be no majority for the Constitutional Reform Bill.

Yesterday, the 22nd of May, the three parties had at last come to an agreement about the Election Bill, and after this has been carried, the Constitutional Reform Bill is sure to be carried, too; but this cannot be until after Whitsuntide.

After that, the new elections have to take place, and the new Parliament has to vote upon the Constitutional Reform Bill.

This will not become law until the Bill has been voted in both Houses in the given wording.

At last, it has to be signed by the King. Of course, all this may take considerable time, and it is quite impossible that we can gain the vote before the beginning of July.

The "Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret" is holding its annual meeting in Aalborg (Jutland) on the 4th and 5th of July, and we hope to have gained our victory before this. Having done so, we are sure to have on these two days the greatest and most important meeting ever held by the Danish women.

Copenhagen, May 23rd, 1914.

THE MUNICIPAL VOTE.

The Bill of the 8th April, 1908, gave the municipal vote to all tax-paying independent women and wives of tax-paying men.

In Copenhagen there is a "tax-census," so that only those who pay the tax of an income of 800 kroner (equal to £45) or more are entitled to the vote; while in the provincial towns and the rural districts everybody who pays a tax, even if it does not amount to more than the sum of one krone (1s. 4d.), is a voter. This democratic principle is upheld to make it possible even for the very poor to have an influence in the municipal councils.

During the first elections in April, 1909, the women voted with 53 per cent. (total); 127 women were elected for the Town Councils—120 women in the provinces, and 7 in Copenhagen, where the Town Council numbers 42 members.

During the next elections, in March, 1913, the women voted with 64 per cent. (total). In Copenhagen the men voted with 80 per cent., the women with 74 per cent. In the provincial towns the men voted with 87 per cent., the women with 72 per cent.; in the rural districts the men 73 per cent., the women 44 per cent. Elected in March, 1913, were:—In Copenhagen, 12 women (the Town Council has 55 members); in the provincial towns, 56 women and 856 men; in the rural districts, 65 women and 9,050 men.

COPENHAGEN.

The lady members belong to all political parties (only one lady stands outside the parties, and has been elected as "neutral"), and they vote together with their group on all questions of vital interest.

Concerning their work as representatives for "the sex," they have had little opportunity to propose special reforms, owing to the fact that men and women have equal rights and duties in the municipal life. But every time the question of "equal work, equal pay" has turned up, they have done their best to speak for the principle, and always with good results.

The lady members are chosen as presidents and first speakers of different committees, just in the same way as men, and they take just as much part in the discussion.

Since April, 1913, one of the lady members—Mrs. Harbou-Hoff—has been elected *second vice-president of the Copenhagen Town Council*.

CLINNY DREYER.

FINLAND.

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS.

The amount of time allowed for the yearly meeting of our Diet having expired, the sessions were closed on the 2nd of May. The space of ninety days has again proved insufficient to allow the House to get through with all the business submitted to it, as each session much time is necessarily wasted upon such preparatory proceedings as the election of the Speaker and Vice-Speakers and of the Standing Committees, which in their turn have to organise themselves. Notwithstanding the most overwhelming work in the committees, a good deal of business always remains unfinished.

The most urgent and perhaps heaviest task of the Diet was once more to vindicate our constitutional rights and the legal social order of the country. An evident result, and a prominent one, of the work done to this end is a petition elaborated by the Fundamental Law Committee, to whom the projects moved on these matters within the House were remitted. This memorial, which treats the subject in a firm, comprehensive, and dignified manner, was passed unanimously by all parties except the Socialist Democrats, who put in a protest urging the use of more violent language. A special Tariff Committee was entrusted to examine the Government's project to levy taxes on corn and flour imported into Finland from abroad. On the basis of this examination, the Diet decided to urge the Government to drop the plan.

The Budget is another highly delicate and rather odious

task under the present political conditions—odious because of the perpetual encroachments from the side of the Government upon the rights of the Diet to vote the Budget. As a striking example of such encroachments, I mention only the military contribution, which goes on increasing by a million Finnish marks each year, and for the next two years amounts to between 16 and 17 millions—a contribution imposed on the Finnish Exchequer in manifest contradiction to the fundamental laws of the country, and in spite of the reiterated protest of the Diet. There was further a recent decree to build a strategic railway, calculated to cost 14 millions, which decree was issued without any co-operation with the Diet and almost immediately after its closing. We do not hesitate to affirm that the Diet has loyally tried to comply as far as possible with the Government's legitimate claims, as well as the social and economic needs of the country; but as certain Government Bills were incompatible with these interests they were rejected.

If the above circumstances are taken into account, it scarcely needs any explanation why all the Bills moved during the past session were not carried to a finality. It would be of no use and out of purpose to give an exhaustive account of the legislative work of the Diet. Of the Bills moved by women members, some were rejected as being of rather minor importance (such as the petitions concerning the protection of animals); most of them could not be taken up or brought to an end from want of time. Among these, some were, however, of such importance as Tekla Hultin's Bill concerning women's right to State offices. Several concerning subsidies for various purposes came, however, to a final solution, and also the motion concerning such amendment of the penal Statutes as to permit women prisoners, whose behaviour during the time of imprisonment has been blameless, to be transferred to penal colonies, and there be employed in suitable outdoor work. Up to now only men prisoners enjoyed this advantage. Still, the Bill waits upon the sanction of the Emperor, and we are, alas! accustomed to wait and to wait in vain.

I will not close this account without mentioning a Reform Bill of great social importance; I mean a motion containing the project of a general sick insurance law. This question deserves a particularly careful examination, and the Labour Committee, to which it was remitted, only succeeded in drafting a report. Still, it is worth noticing that in the project motherhood benefit is included in the general sick insurance, and that the Committee agrees with this view, which, without doubt, points out the right way for a happy solution of the complicated question.

Helsingfors, May 22nd, 1914.

GERMANY.

Quite an involuntary propaganda for the cause of Woman's Suffrage has been made recently by all the bourgeois parties of the German Empire. In order to fight the terrifying spectre of the decreasing birth-rate, they introduced into the Reichstag an initiative Bill by which, in future, the advertising and the sale of anti-conceptive devices should be restricted and prohibited. What could open the eyes of the German women more completely concerning their undignified disfranchisement and their helplessness in a State monopolised by men than this Bill, demanded only by men, whose consequences, however, would fall heavily almost upon women alone? What could be more convincing to show women the necessity of gaining their political rights than this brutal endeavour by men to interfere with the most intimate life of the individual by means of legislative enactments to enforce compulsory child-bearing? Women of the lower classes, whose lives already mean destitution and oppression, would suffer most under it. Those who most need protection are to be deprived of the means to protect themselves! Those the least in a position to rear children shall be compelled to bring as many as possible into the world! The upper and middle classes will always be able to find out how to help themselves; it is the lower classes only who will have to suffer the consequences of this new law. The consequences will hardly be an increase in births, but increase of women's diseases, an increasing number of abortions, and, as many doctors fear, an increase of venereal disease.

One does not know whether one ought to regret these actions of German politicians, who are naïve enough to believe that with a new penal law they may be able to stop a necessary development in civilisation; or whether one ought to rejoice that these men unwisely sow a seed the fruits of which will sooner or later be reaped by us in the movement for Woman's Suffrage.

MARIE ENGELMANN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

The difficulties in connection with the Irish Home Rule Bill have brought forward the whole question of the Devolution of certain Legislative Functions to subordinate Parliaments, and there are now Welsh and Scottish Home Rule Bills. These two Bills are not in the hands of the Government, but in the hands of private Members of Parliament, and they each of them include women as electors. The Irish Home Rule Bill, on the other hand, which is a Government Bill, does not yet include women, and this contest is an interesting illustration of how the official Government lags behind progressive feeling in the country. Considering that the anti-suffragists have always contended that the danger of the women's vote lies in their "tampering" with foreign affairs and Imperial defence, it is difficult to see any logical ground for not enfranchising women for Local Parliaments which would not deal with these questions; but the logical politician throws logic to the winds when it no longer serves his purpose. There is much talk about establishing a Federal system, and Women Suffragists are perfectly aware that, unless they press their claim persistently, the politicians (even the "ardent Suffragists!") will be very likely to forget women while they are busy attending to the needs of enfranchised men. But of course this does not mean that the Suffragists are abating one atom of their just and righteous claim to the vote for all Parliaments on the same terms as men.

The National Union has been busy at three by-elections. At Grimby neither of the candidates could be supported; both were favourable, and very good propaganda was done. At North-East Derbyshire, the Labour candidate was supported in a three-cornered contest, with the result that the Conservative got in by a majority of 314; the Labour man got 3,669 votes, thus showing how formidable an opponent he was to the Liberal. It is amusing to see the Liberal newspapers desperately repeating how wicked it is of Labour men to fight Liberals when there is "no important difference" between them! The result of the third election, in Ipswich, has been a very bad blow to the Government, and a great satisfaction to the National Union. Here again there was a three-cornered contest, but the National Union did not support the Independent Socialist, because he permitted "militancy" to be advocated from his platforms. The National Union, however, conducted a vigorous opposition to Mr. Masterman, a Liberal Cabinet Minister with a very shifty record on Women's Suffrage, and the result of the election was 6,406 votes for the Conservative and 5,874 for Mr. Masterman, the Independent candidate getting only 395 votes. It will be seen that the Conservative beat the Liberal and Independent candidates put together.

In the House of Lords an interesting and unprecedented event was the introduction on May 5th of a Bill for the enfranchisement of women on the municipal basis. Lord Selborne made a weighty introductory speech, and there were some excellent contributions to the debate by the veteran Lord Courtney of Penwith, the Lord Chancellor, the Bishops of London and Oxford, the debate being wound up by a noble and moving appeal from Lord Lytton. Lord Crewe, a member of the Cabinet, cynically avowed that he was going to give "a party vote" against the Bill. Lord Curzon was the most distinguished speaker against it. The division on May 6th gave 104 against and 60 for the Bill; those who have scrutinised the lists say that 30 peers might be added to each side. A significant circumstance was that the Archbishop of Canterbury and five Bishops voted for the Bill, while no Bishops voted against.

There has been a commission upon the conditions of the Civil Service, and the report has been published. It is one of the most chaotic and inconsistent reports we have ever seen, and is being riddled with criticism on countless platforms. Among other anomalies the finding of a *minority* of the commissioners that the work of women is inferior to the work of men is printed in the *majority* report, and is also distinctly against the weight of evidence of those witnesses most entitled to speak.

H. M. S.

HUNGARY.

When you have a dear guest, the mood of the whole house is altered, like on a great holiday. So we felt at the visit of Frau Lindemann in Hungary. It was a succession of bright days, a series of successes. Previously to her great lecture at a drawing-room meeting she spoke with true motherly feeling

of the greater responsibilities of the modern woman as compared with the conservative woman who is caring only for her own children. At her other lectures she gave a well-deserved lesson to the Alliance of Hungarian Housewives, the president of which professes the wish to delay until a later period the struggle for Woman Suffrage. Mrs. Lindemann explained how very urgent and necessary the enfranchisement of woman is for the prosperity of the home, for the child, and also for the community, and how much the housewife is hampered in her work by political obstruction.

The lectures of Mrs. Lindemann in the country towns of Hungary were equally successful and of excellent result. Our active and energetic local branches in Szeged and Nagyvárad received powerful stimulation and valuable directions for their future work. In Temesvár her splendid and inspiring lecture was followed by the foundation of a new branch of our Association at the summons of Mrs. Szirmai. The president of the new branch is Mrs. Niamessny, and its promoters in the past and organisers for the future are Miss Tenner, Miss Lukács, Mrs. Jakobi, and Mrs. Polgár. Dr. Schossberger and Dr. Tauffer, leaders of the State Children's Asylum in Temesvár, promised to assist at the organisation of the branch, of which two associations became members. Mrs. Lindemann continued her lecture tour in Brassó and Segesvár, where she spoke to organisations of women of German nationality. We hope that they have had a lesson on the necessity of woman's solidarity. Mrs. Lindemann was received with due honour everywhere, by official circles as well as by the societies.

THE OPENING TO WOMEN OF THE JURIDICAL FACULTY OF THE BUDAPEST UNIVERSITY.

For many years the Feminist Society has been continually petitioning for the abolition of sex-disabilities in the University. The last two years seem to have favourably influenced University circles, as Professor Gustáv Szász-Schwarz, a staunch supporter of the woman's cause in Hungary, and referee for the three last petitions of the Feminist Association, has now come forward with the question. The two petitions, which asked for the opening of the Juridical Faculty to women under the same conditions as the Medical and Philosophical Faculties, and eligibility to University professorships, were granted by a majority vote of the professors of the Juridical Faculty. This decision must pass the University Council, which, consisting of professors who are in a majority on the faculties where women have been admitted for many years, is sure to be favourable for the extension of this right; and, as the University has its own autonomy, it is certain that the question will safely pass its last stage, the sanctioning by the Minister of Education. The Feminist Association feels greatly obliged to Professor Gustáv Szász-Schwarz for his valuable services, and for this new victory in the woman's movement.

THE LEAGUE FOR GENUINE UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

The old League for Universal Suffrage, which was founded about eight years ago to promote men's suffrage, and which has been dormant since last year, when our last monstrous suffrage-law was passed, has revived again. The League, which could not endorse Woman Suffrage, being afraid thereby to risk general manhood suffrage, which thought it ridiculous to take Woman Suffrage on its platform, which thought it was too early for the struggle, which found all possible excuses to exclude woman, has learned a lesson, and when reconstructed last week unanimously accepted Woman Suffrage on its programme. Two of its prominent leaders will electioneer with this programme in the capital at the next elections. As this League, representing the progressive middle-class, will be non-partisan, we can accept their help without changing our neutrality.

Vilma Glücklich, our dear President, was invited to speak at the Suffrage meeting in Rome. As she is mastering the Italian language, she is sure to have well-served, with her great eloquence and high culture, the cause of Woman Suffrage in Italy.

Budapest, May 18th.

EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER.

SWEDEN.

During the past month the whole country has been swallowed up by electioneering, in a way that is quite new to us. In the beginning of March the King dissolved Parliament, and ordered new elections to the Second Chamber. Immediately after that began the electioneering campaign. In its very beginning one of the Liberal senators made this appeal to his audience: "Let us try not to brutalise the fight." On the whole his own party has followed this advice, but the Conservatives have conducted their campaign in a way and with means

that have hitherto been unknown in our political life. Every form of abuse has been heaped on the heads of the former Liberal Government, especially on its Prime Minister, and though all the attacks have been repelled, there are always people who like to believe the worst.

The elections are now over, and the complete result will not be known before the end of this month. But so much is already known: that the percentage of voters has never been so high, and that the gainers in this trial of strength between the Conservatives and the Liberals—called forth by the former—will be the Social Democrats, who have had everything to gain and nothing to lose in this campaign.

An interesting feature is the partaking of the Conservative women in this electioneering. Anti-Suffragists, who have hitherto held themselves aloof from public life and politics, have taken an active part in this campaign—spoken at meetings, and agitated in every possible way. But most of these women won't hear about Suffrage. They can work as well, and better, without the vote.

In this critical situation, with its sharpened party lines and high-strung feelings, and when the elections were conducted (?) on one single question—the national defence—the National Woman Suffrage Alliance could take no active part in the electioneering work. This would have meant in a way the falling asunder of our organisation. With only two dissenting votes, the Central Board decided that the N.W.S.A. as a body should take no active part, but leave its private members to act in accordance with their political convictions.

A new women's organisation—the Liberal Women's Society—with Woman Suffrage on its programme, has been started in Stockholm. By-and-by this Society is going to have direct members and local branches in all parts of the country. The new organisation made a very good start with a large political meeting on the Sunday before the elections, in Stockholm. The names of three of our best-known women speakers—Mrs. Anna Wicksell, Dr. Gulli Petrini, and Mrs. Karin Fjallback-Holmgren—were on the programme, and the whole was a great success. The speeches were immediately printed as leaflets, and distributed during the women's canvassing tours. Considering the shortness of the time, the Society has made a very good mark in electioneering, and everything promises well for its future.

The question of Woman Suffrage takes no prominent place on the party programmes just now. The Liberals refer to their programme of 1911, and to what they have done for Woman Suffrage since then. The Social Democrats have made no change in their programme, and the Conservatives do not mention Woman Suffrage at all.

The International Woman's Day of the Social Democratic Party was celebrated in Sweden with meetings in twenty different places. In Stockholm the party leader, Hjalmar Branting, M.P., spoke on the subject: "Woman Suffrage in Fighting Times," and a resolution was passed claiming Suffrage for women immediately. The same resolution was passed at all the other meetings.

Pile upon pile, our lists, with their thousands and thousands of names, lie packed and ready, waiting their opportunity to be presented. Our manifesto is—for a small country such as ours, and taking into consideration the resistance it has met with both in private and in public—of really imposing dimensions, and beats every other demonstration made by women. The result cannot be published before the time has come to present the manifesto. Till then we have only to wait and see. But the women have learned the lesson of biding their time.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Stockholm, April, 1914.

On the 18th of May Parliament met again after the new elections to the Second Chamber. These elections have made a great change in the proportion between the political parties in the Second Chamber. The Liberals, after 1911 the largest party—102,—have now become the smallest—71; the Social Democrats have increased from 63 to 73, and the Conservatives from 65 to 86.

From our Suffrage point of view this result is not so disastrous, because there will still be a majority for Woman Suffrage in that Chamber, even if it is not as large as before. But in his speech from the Throne His Majesty the King did not this time announce any Government Bill on Woman Suffrage as he did on the 16th of January, a fact that in itself was not at all surprising. The present Conservative Government is not interested in Woman Suffrage, and, besides, the Prime Minister had already declared that he did not intend to lay before this session of Parliament any questions of a party nature.

Still, we have reason to hope that our question will be laid before Parliament in the form of party Bills.

Stockholm, May, 1914.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

SWITZERLAND.

ANNUAL MEETING.

L'Association Nationale Suisse pour le Suffrage Feminin assembled for a general meeting on April 25th, in Winterthur. This small industrial town in the Canton Zurich recently started a Suffrage Society, which, as it was working under unfavourable conditions, asked the general meeting to come and support it in rousing some general enthusiasm. So a big public Conference was held on April 25th, at which addresses were given by Mme. Glaetli, President of the Union fuer Frauenbestrebungen in Zurich, and M. Zaack, Secretary of the Radical Party of St. Gall.

The committee was almost entirely changed, four of its members having retired owing to overwork and fatigue. The newly elected are: Mlle. Gourd (Geneva), President; Mlle. Mueller (Berns), Vice-President; Mme. Vulliomnet (La Chaux de Fonds), Secretary; Mlle. Honegger (Zurich), Treasurer; and Mme. Girardet (Lausanne), Mlle. Uebelhardt (Olten), and M. Huguenin (Souvillier).

At the meeting various reports and communications were read. *M. de Morsier* pointed out the necessity of creating a *Ligue d'Electeurs pour le Suffrage des Femmes*; and Mlle. Gourd reported on investigations made by a special committee for organising a *feministe Suisse Central Bureau*. The Association will exhibit its publications and all facts respecting its work at the National Suisse Exhibition to be held at Berne from May 15th until October, 1914.

VOTE ON THE TRIBUNAUX DE PRUD'HOMMES.

The spring of 1914 has been a memorable period for the Genevese Suffragists, as for the first time they have seen the principle of women's rights placed before the electors.

As I pointed out in my last report, a popular initiative was started to demand the abrogation of the law giving women the vote and eligibility to the Courts of Prud'hommes (professional courts), which law had never yet been applied. According to the Genevese Constitution this demand for abrogation ought to be accepted or refused by the electors, not by the Grand Councils (our legislative chamber), as was erroneously stated in several French and English feminist papers when referring to the result of this voting. We therefore have to deal with the electors in carrying on the campaign, which is assuredly much more difficult than dealing with the deputies. However, everybody felt that the principle of Suffrage was at stake, and that it was much more important to know whether women were to have some rights granted or not, than to give them the opportunity to air their views in discussions between employers and employees. For this reason feminist societies, supported by professional associations, worked very energetically. We published a small pamphlet and sent it to all the electors in the Canton, in which we expounded the functions of the tribunals of Prud'hommes, and showed the advantages which would be gained if women entered the tribunal. We also prepared a bulletin de vote, which, being regularly deposited at the Chancellery, could be found in all bureaux de vote (polling places) and used by the electors. We asked all the big political parties to take up a position in our favour, and three amongst them (the Socialists, Radicals, and Catholics) supported us officially. We posted up a huge proclamation which was signed even by national deputies, magistrates, a member of the Government, etc. Finally, we organised a big meeting at which four distinguished speakers, belonging to four different parties, defended our cause. All this had never been done before by women in Geneva. We have learned much by it as regards our political education, winning also on the other hand the consideration and esteem of those who saw the work and perseverance of which women are capable. But in spite of all these efforts we were defeated on April 5th by 466 votes out of 7,554. More than 3,000 voters were on our side—one-tenth of the total number of voters in our Canton.

This is the reason why we are not discouraged. First of all because the moral results we gained in this campaign are indisputable; secondly, because the battle will presently be reopened in May and the Grand Council will now be forced by the results of this last voting to make a law abrogating the prud'femmes. And we are going to work to prevent this.

EMILIE GOULD,

President de l'Association Nationale Suisse pour le Suffrage Feminin.

Geneva, May, 1914.

UNITED STATES.

So much is happening in the United States these days that we ourselves find it hard to keep up with the progress of Suffrage events. We therefore realise the difficulty Suffragists outside of this country must have in trying to understand meagre press reports as to events in Congress and in our State campaigns.

We are now working for two quite distinct amendments to the Constitution of the United States. The first, which provides that no citizen of the United States shall be deprived of the franchise because of sex, has been introduced at every session of Congress since 1869. It recently received a vote of thirty-five to thirty-four in the Senate, but was lost because a two-thirds vote was necessary. It was immediately reintroduced, and has again been reported favourably by the Woman Suffrage Committee of the Senate. This same amendment was last week reported without recommendation by the Judiciary Committee to the House of Representatives. This report caused a tremendous sensation. To begin with, there had been no report on Woman Suffrage in the House since 1894, when an unfavourable report was made. In the second place, it was reported simultaneously with a prohibition amendment. Many of the leading newspapers of this country told of the consternation in the House of Representatives when the members learned they would probably have to vote on two questions on which many of them object to going on record.

The other Suffrage amendment which is before Congress is an entirely new one, and is called the "Shafroth-Palmer Resolution," having been introduced in the Senate by Senator Shafroth, of Colorado, and in the House by Mr. Palmer, of Pennsylvania, who is a prominent Democrat, and is said to be very close to the President. This Shafroth-Palmer Resolution, received doubtfully at first even by ardent Suffragists, is gaining more and more interest and approval as its advantages become understood. The resolution provides in substance that every state shall have an initiative petition law as regards Woman Suffrage—that is, whenever 8 per centum of the citizens of any state demand it, the voters of that state shall at the next election vote on a Suffrage amendment. The immense advantage of this method may easily be seen when it is remembered that in many of our states amendments can be submitted only after they have been passed on by two sessions of a biennial legislature; or, as in the case of Vermont, at a constitutional convention which takes place only once in ten years; or, as in New Mexico, after receiving two-thirds of the votes passed at the election in every county of the state. Such provisions make state action in many cases almost impossible even when the people of the state are on the whole willing to have Woman Suffrage. On the other hand, the amendment to the United States' Constitution which grants universal Woman Suffrage is objected to in many quarters because it interferes with states' rights. This fact was clearly brought forth in the debate in the Senate this year, many Senators who were friends to Woman Suffrage being enemies to the amendment. The Shafroth-Palmer Bill answers the states' rights objection, as it provides that the question of Suffrage shall be settled by the people of each state. Senator Owen, in giving the report of the Woman Suffrage Committee, said:

"The spirit of the constitutions of the several states is that the question of Woman Suffrage shall be decided by the voters in such states, but in a very large majority of the states this spirit is made inoperative because of the restrictive machinery provided for giving it expression; and the voters of the state are prevented from exercising this, their constitutional right, by cumbersome and ineffectual legislative machinery. The barriers which must be overcome before the people may express their will, amount, in many instances, to a prohibition against them of such expression. In many states two successive legislatures must be passed, in some instances by a majority vote, in some by two-thirds, and in others by three-fourths before the voters may express themselves upon the proposition. In some instances after the legislative barrier has been passed a majority of all the people voting at the election must vote upon the proposition. In some instances two-thirds of all the votes cast are necessary to its adoption, in others three-fifths of all voting. And in one state after passage through the legislature by a three-fourths vote in each house such an amendment must be accepted by three-fourths of all the people voting in the whole state and two-thirds of all voting in each and every individual county. Indeed, if nine-tenths of all the people in all the counties

except one voted for such an amendment, and in one county one-half of one per cent. less than three-fourths of the voters in such county voted for such amendment, then it would fail to become law.

"Such a provision is repugnant, not, perhaps, to the spirit of this state constitution, but to the spirit of the Federal Constitution itself.

"This amendment would insure uniformity of law. It is in no way restrictive of the rights of the people in the various states; it is not adverse to the doctrine of states rights. There is no right inherent in the legislature. The members of the legislatures are the representatives of the people themselves, and by no stretch of the imagination could an added privilege to the people of the states be regarded as an invasion of their rights. This amendment does not direct the only way the people shall decide this question, it simply provides an additional means.

"In one state of the Union, and only one, the legislature may decide the question of Suffrage without submission to the voters of the state. There the right would not be taken from the legislature; it might decide, but in addition to that, if the legislature fails or refuses so to do the people may at their pleasure decide it for themselves. This amendment is in accordance with the broadest ideals of democracy.

"In effect, the passage of the Suffrage amendment by the nation's Congress would give the cause a tremendous boom from coast to coast. Without further delay the legislatures in every state in the Union would give dignified and simultaneous consideration to Suffrage, and at the same time create an overwhelming cumulative impetus to the movement, increasing Suffrage activity inestimably. Federal sanction would dignify this great movement so vital to one-half of the entire citizenship of the United States.

"The ratification of this amendment would mean that at least thirty-six states would have already experienced effective Suffrage activity, and the effect would be the same as if the legislature of every state in the Union had already passed a state Suffrage amendment. The hard, laborious, and oft-times impossible task of getting by the state legislatures would be accomplished, and the battle two-thirds won.

"The states rights doctrine is the great objection that is raised to federal issues that come before Congress. It is recognised as a valid objection by every member of Congress, and members from the North feel that they owe to members from the South the courtesy of refraining from interference in matters vital to the South. Moreover, the question of states rights when carefully analysed with relation to the Suffrage question is really the great race problem, and this problem is no longer confined to the South, but is one seriously in the minds of Senators and Representatives from western states having to deal intimately and immediately with the race question growing out of immigration or attempted immigration to our shores by the Asiatic. This resolution is in no way embarrassing to those statesmen and citizens who have to face this problem, but it leaves the states free to act as a state upon this question at such time as the people themselves decide they are ready. Under this resolution the voters of the states will be able to decide this question when and how they want to without asking their representatives for permission.

"This amendment will either directly or indirectly be the means of bringing a great number of new states into the Suffrage ranks, and will so increase Suffrage activity that its effect cannot be over-estimated."

The celebration of Woman's Independence Day on May 2nd throughout the United States has made a marked impression on the Press, and it is believed on Congress. In Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Hartford, Buffalo, Minnesota, and St. Paul parades were held, while in thousands of cities, towns, and villages throughout the country mass meetings and street meetings brought the public together for the passing of resolutions, which were presented to Congress on May 9th, after an impressive parade along Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol. It is expected that the first Saturday in May of every year will now be celebrated as Woman's Independence Day by all Suffragists. The Declaration of Independence (an adaptation of the 1776 document) which was read at many meetings on that day is as follows:—

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one-half the people to dissolve the political bondage which had held them subject to the other half of the people, and to

assume the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to Freedom.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments should be instituted among both men and women, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people—women people as well as men people—to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organising its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect the Safety and Happiness of all the people. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, and, accordingly, all experience has shown that womankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to keep them under absolute subjection, although they are spiritually and mentally ready for Freedom, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such subjection, and to provide new guards for their future security and the security of their children.

"Such has been the patient endurance of the women of this country; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand an alteration in the system of Government. The history of our Government is a history of repeated injustices to women (as wives, mothers, and wage-earners) and of repeated usurpations by men, many of them with the avowed object of protecting women. But the direct result has been the establishment of a Government which benefits by the knowledge and experience of only one-half of the people, and which cannot fully represent the interests and the needs of the other half of the people.

"In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms, beginning even before the Constitution of the United States was adopted. Our repeated petitions have frequently been answered by ridicule and by repeated injustice. We have appealed to the native fairness and magnanimity of men, that they disavow these usurpations which inevitably render less dignified, honest, and harmonious the relations between men and women. Men have too long been deaf to this voice of justice and honour, but many are now joining with us in our refusal to acquiesce longer in this unwarrantable sovereignty over us and over our children.

"We, therefore, the women citizens of the United States of America, assembled to-day throughout the nation, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the organised womanhood of America demanding enfranchisement, solemnly publish and declare that women ought to be politically free.

"Here and now, in this glorious springtime of the year, under the azure skies of hope, in the sunshine of life and enlightenment, we dedicate ourselves to the great work we have undertaken and go forward to victory, remembering that in unity there is strength, and that not even the prejudice of the ages, nor the powers of entrenched political privilege can keep in continual disfranchisement half of the citizens of our country when their rights are demanded by the intelligent, patriotic, and united womanhood of the land.

"Women of America, this is our country; we have the same devotion to its institutions as that half of the citizenship that is permitted to govern it. We love the flag, and it means as much to us as it does to the men of our nation. Women have made, and women will make, as many sacrifices for the honour and glory of these United States as those of her citizens who have all the rights and privileges of the Suffrage. Given our full citizenship and allowed to share in the government, we will be as jealous of the honour and integrity of our country as we have been in the past, when in countless ways we have shown our devotion to the life of the nation, to the liberty of its citizens, and to the happiness of all the people."

• ELINOR BYRNS,
Press Chairman, National American Woman
Suffrage Association,

RECENT HISTORY OF THE BRISTOW-MONDELL AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. (Also known as the Anthony Amendment in honour of Susan B. Anthony).

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 130, AND HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 1, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein)—That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—

"Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Section 2. The Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

HISTORY OF AMENDMENT.

Introduced:

In the Senate: April 7th, 1913, by Senator George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon.

In the House: April 7th, 1913, by Representative Frank W. Mondell, of Wyoming.

Referred:

In the Senate: April 7th, 1913, to the Woman Suffrage Committee.

In the House: April 7th, 1913, to the Judiciary Committee.

Reported:

In the Senate: June 13th, 1913, favourable report.

Discussed:

In the Senate: July 31st, 1913, twenty-two Senators in favour, three opposing.

September 18th, 1913, Senator Wesley L. Jones, of Washington, demands immediate action.

On January 21st, 1914, Senator Ashurst, of Arizona, delivered a speech urging the passage of the Amendment. Made unfinished business, March 2nd, 1914.

Debated almost continuously until March 19th.

Voted Upon:

In the Senate: March 19th, 1914, thirty-five Senators in favour, thirty-four opposed.

Reintroduced:

In the Senate: March 20th, 1914, by Senator Bristow, of Kansas.

Reported:

In the Senate: April 7th, 1914, favourable report.

In the House: May 5th, 1914, reported without recommendation.

Present Status:

In the Senate: On Calendar of Senate.

In the House: On Calendar of House.

—From *The Suffragist*, Washington, D.C.

WOMEN IN THE COLORADO STRIKE.

An Editorial from the "Rocky Mountain News and Times" (Denver, Colorado), April 28th, 1914.

That women as voters will apply the protective instincts of motherhood to public affairs when they cast their ballots is one of the strong arguments advanced in favour of Woman Suffrage urged by many persons who for no other reason favour universal Suffrage.

Could a more compelling demonstration be had that the argument is true than the action of the one thousand Denver women who on Saturday induced Governor Ammons to appeal for federal troops to end the deaths and fighting in the coal-strike district?

It was the protective spirit of motherhood which impelled that remarkable meeting to demand quick cessation of the horrors and sufferings in the troubled Southern zone, to require that the women and children there be guarded from harm, to protest that needless dangers to sons, husbands, and fathers be ended. That spirit, when aroused, always leads to action. It did so on Saturday.

Characteristically, it was effective. The women knew not only what they wanted done, but how they wanted it done. Upon the cry of bleeding Ludlow they rose to help as they would in their homes to-night at a child's injury. There was only this difference—they were helping the State as citizens.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES NOT AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

The I.W.S.A. disclaims all responsibility for statements and opinions of contributors from non-affiliated Societies. It is thought that readers wish to hear the views of other organisations, but they must not be taken as in any way endorsed by the I.W.S.A.

GERMANY.

The Frauenstimmrechtsverband for East Germany (president, Miss Elsa Hielscher, Panten) held its annual meeting in Gleiwitz, Higher Silesia, on April 25th and 26th. In (closed or private) session the question was brought up whether it be recommendable to members to join political parties of men, which resulted in the acceptance of a resolution with the following wording:—

"The meeting of members and delegates of the Frauenstimmrechtsverband for East Germany, held in Gleiwitz on April 26th, declares the entering of women in political parties of men recommendable, with the reserve that the union, as such, remains absolutely non-partial in political matters, and in the hope that this will further and propagate the idea of votes for women."

The motion by the president that the Union may include in its programme of work the abolition of the white slave traffic was unanimously carried. It was suggested, in order to enlighten the public in this matter, to hold meetings and lectures, especially in harbour towns and frontier places, pointing out the close connection between the decrease in this traffic and votes for women in countries where the vote has already been granted.

In the evening of the second day, Dr. Li Fischer Eckert, president of the Deutsche Vereinigung fuer Frauenstimmrecht, gave a public lecture, which was well attended, on the subject, "Women's Wants in Community and Town." She pointed out the necessity and utility of calling more on women in civil service (Gemeindeaemter) and in public life, and stood up for the appointment of expert women to co-operate in the drafting of a new penal law code for the German Empire.

The Union has grown and extended recently all over Silesia and the adjoining provinces, and also a new union, the Mitteldeutscher Verband fuer Frauenstimmrecht (with its seat in Jena) has been founded through the endeavours of the president, Miss Hielscher. Mr. Gassmann-Jauer, president of the Deutschen Maennerbund fuer Frauenstimmrecht, who attended the meeting, could therefore rightly congratulate the Union on its success in his address of welcome, and encouraged it in its worthy work of definite aim.

GREAT BRITAIN.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE AND PRACTICAL CHIVALRY.

The splendid help rendered the cause by the Actresses' Franchise League in England is to be made still more effective by organising a Men's Group within the League, which has issued lately the following call: To Actors, Singers, Dramatists, Critics, Scene Painters, Stage Hands, and all Men connected with the Theatre.

Many men are in favour of the extension of the franchise to women, but have stood calmly by and allowed them to wage this fearful fight alone. The country is now educated on the subject, and the time arrived for men to come forward in a chivalrous spirit and endeavour to lighten a little of the burden so long borne alone by the women.

A "Men's Group" is to be formed within the Actresses' Franchise League, which will enable all men connected directly or indirectly with the profession to help the actresses—their colleagues in the battle of life—in their fight for freedom, and every voter or potential voter, however humble, is welcome.

Meetings for the "Men's Group" will be organised by the A.F.L., and every information and assistance given to men wishing to get on the Parliamentary register and take up their duties as sovereign citizens.

In the Women's Suffrage agitation, symbolising as it does the unity of man and woman in the State, it is felt to be necessary as well as natural that men and women should fight side by side to reach that ideal.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The activities of the New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage during the last month have included a highly successful performance of Ibsen's "Ghosts," organised by Mr. J. T.

Grein. This play is still censored in England, in spite of (or perhaps because of) its insistence on an equal standard of morality for men and women.

The Society took part in the Ipswich by-election, and again opposed Mr. Masterman, the Cabinet Minister, whom they helped to defeat at Bethnal Green. The Society's speakers proved how much even constitutional Suffragists have to suffer from the rough Anti-Suffrage element, as they were repeatedly knocked down at open-air meetings, whilst stones, tomatoes, and refuse were hurled at them. The courage of the women in persisting won over the crowds in the end, the meetings closed amongst cheers, and Mr. Masterman's second crushing defeat shows the effect such tactics have on the minds of the electors.

May 25th, 1914.

THE NETHERLANDS.

NEDERLANDSCHE BOND VOOR VROUWENKIES-RECHT.

The seventh annual meeting was held on the 26th of April at Zwolle. The Bond numbers now 7,125 paying members, divided into 72 branches and 28 sub-branches.

A pleasant surprise at the beginning of the meeting was a note from the member of Parliament, De Youg, informing us that he had started a new branch of the Bond the evening before.

After somewhat lengthy discussions about the Bond's political neutrality, the following motion was carried:—

"The Dutch Bond for Woman's Suffrage, having heard with satisfaction the opinion of the Government expressed in the speech from the Throne, that at the approaching revision of the Constitution the constitutional impediments against Woman's Suffrage must be removed, expresses its opinion that at the present moment this is the quickest and the surest way; expresses confidence that the Government intends with this measure to put Woman's Suffrage prominently in the Constitution."

The members of the Bond expressed their satisfaction at having at last a Government which acknowledges the woman's claim. The present Prime Minister could have backed out of it, not being bound personally by any promises. Moreover, he is not supposed to be an ardent supporter of the cause. That under these circumstances he wants to do something towards Woman's Suffrage we think matter for rejoicing. The motion does not mean that the members of the Bond are satisfied in the long run with what is offered them—far from it—but, knowing that the members of Parliament won't go a hair's breadth further than they have pledged themselves, we think it wise to make sure of the little bit that is offered, leaving it to the future to obtain more. An amendment to the Constitution requires two-thirds of the votes to be passed. An ordinary change of law only a majority. The two-thirds majority has to be concocted out of the votes of all the Socialists, Radicals, Advanced-Liberals, Conservative-Liberals, plus a few Conservative and Roman Catholic votes. They may be got to agree about removing the impediments; they are utterly divided when it comes to granting Woman's Suffrage.

There blows a favourable wind at present. We must try to profit by it; but we must go warily. A few of the members of Parliament might be only too happy to find an excuse for backing out of their promise at the elections. They won't do it as long as they are kept to the letter of their promise.

On the 13th of May a little amendment in favour of women was moved by ten M.P.'s. The question under discussion was whether women might be nominated in the future as appraisers for the income-tax. The Minister of Finance agreed with the proposers, and common sense won the day. "If she fits the post, why not?" The amendment was carried.

M. BOISSEvain PYNAPPEL,

Pres., Ned. Bond v. Vrouwenkiesrecht.

Amsterdam, May 19th, 1914.

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 Women's Suffrage. Speaker, Lady Frances Balfour.
 Chair, Lady Rolleston. Subject: "Suffrage for
 Women."
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