

# AT HEADQUARTERS.

TOO

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE weekly meeting of the Executive Committee on March 18th was attended by Colonel Le Roy-Lewis (in the Chair), Mrs. Henry Wilson, Mrs. Massie, Mrs. Archibald Colquhoun, Mr. A. Mac-Callum Scott, M.P., Mr. Mitchell-Innes, K.C., Mr. J. Massie, Mr. A. Maconachie, Mr. Kenneth Chalmers, and the Hon. Secretary

Interesting reports of organisation work in various parts of the country were read. The successful work done in connection with the Teachers' Conference at Hull was mentioned, and the Committee expresses its special indebtedness to those who worked so hard to defeat the Suffrage resolution, especially to Mrs. Burgwin.

#### ANTI-SUFFRAGISM IN U.S.A.

IT was learned by the Executive Committee that the New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage was to hold its annual meeting on April 15th. Accordingly, on that date the following telegram was sent from the National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage to the allied Association in New York :--

"British League send greeting to American Society who are fighting for Sex and Nation. Omens here most encouraging. American example invaluable. Please persist.

(Signed)
CURZON Duridante
WEARDALE Presidents.
M. E. JERSEY Deputy
CATHERINE ROBSON Presidents.

## THE NEXT STEP.

#### By A. MACONACHIE.

THE advocates of Woman Suffrage have met with what Lord Robert Cecil candidly admits is a serious " rebuff." But the defeat of the " Conciliation '

Bill is not the end of the battle. If we can beat that Bill, we ought to be able to beat any Bill, for it undoubtedly forms the minimum that can be asked in the name of Woman Suffrage, and therefore it probably enlists a larger number of supporters than any other scheme which will be put forward. But it is well, none the less, to consider betimes what form the next attack is likely to take, and to arrange at once to meet it and beat it when it comes.

I dismiss as unimportant by-play the threatened Suffrage amendment to the Home Rule Bill. It is said that some Suffragist members of the House of Commons, in a fit of chagrin at the Nationalist Party, purpose moving an amendment to extend the Franchise under Home Rule to Irish women. They may spare themselves the trouble. The Irish Nationalists have not the faintest intention of doing anything to embarrass the present Government without serving some definite purpose of their own; and, as a party, they have no definite desire for Woman Suffrage in the least. But it amuses the newspaper lobbyists to dandle the idea, and it enables Suffragists generally to imagine that something is going on ; so, no doubt, the fantasy will be well fanned up till the last possible moment. But there is nothing in it.

No. The next real struggle promises to come with the Electoral Reform Bill, foreshadowed by the Government for this session. It should be said at once that, as time goes on, the prospects of the Bill seeing the light at all this session grow dimmer and dimmer, and, at any rate, nothing more than an introduction and first reading is expected this year by practical politicians of whatever party. The Parliamentary pint-pot is already full and overflowing. Still, when the Bill to give votes to all grown-up men, subject to a six months' residence, does come up, a Woman Suffrage amendment will be moved, and, if accepted by the House of Commons, will be adopted by the Government. But the importance of not letting this happen this year is that otherwise even the Parliament Act will not suffice to save the Bill from the clutches of the people who are itching to strangle the unnatural monstrosity.

Let us assume then that, somewhere late in the session, the Reform Bill gets through Second Reading, and starts out on its career in Committee. What can then happen in the way of Woman

Suffrage ? First, an amendment may be moved to extend the vote to women householders on the lines of the defunct and discredited Conciliation Bill-an amendment which is pretty safe to meet with the fate of its unhappy predecessor. Secondly, an amendment is almost certain to be moved proposing to give votes to women on the "Norwegian plan," i.e., to women householders, whether married or not. (This would enfranchise six or seven millions of women.) Or, finally, an attempt may be made to extend the vote to all men and all women, and to all on precisely the same terms. That is what is meant by "Adult Suffrage," and would add no fewer than thirteen millions of women voters to the electoral roll, which would then have a majority of well over a million women.

These, then, are the issues we shall have to fight-the Norwegian plan and the Adult Suffrage plan. Now, how are we to prepare ourselves and the public for the discussion of these schemes ?

The answer is, by emphasising that all the objections to Woman Suffrage are. intensified in the case of the larger extensions as compared with the Conciliation Bill. Look for a moment at one or two :

I. The Danger to the State.-It is obvious that this is vastly increased by the addition of seven millions or thirteen millions of women rather than of merely one million. In fact, there are many Anti-Suffragists who would have no particular objection to the one million, could the change be confined to that number, and if the one million generally desired the vote. It is just when you come to the "big battalions "-the doubling of the electorate, the pairing up of the men electors (with their many political imperfections) with their women counterparts (possessing quite as many political inadequacies)-it is then that the whole revolutionary proposal is seen in its hideousness.

2. The Jumbling Up of Male and Female Functions-To throw women into the turmoil of party politics must work a crescendo of mischief the further the process reaches down the social scale. Working women generally have even less time, less liking and less aptitude for political affairs than women who are socially above them-which (again generally speaking) is saying a good deal. This is why working men's wives are usually the fiercest in their

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denunciation of the Suffrage. They know they have other work to do in the world, and they are sensible enough to realise that the government of the country is a "men's job," and is best left to the sex most adapted for it.

Increased Emotionalism in Politics. -I warmly agree with those who say that men electors are often too emotional. But surely that is an odd reason for subjecting the State to an increase of the peril by adding millions of new electors who undoubtedly, on the average, would be more emotional still. Woman's quicker emotionalism in domestic life-especially in the care of children-is a distinct advantage to the community. But in politics-that is quite another matter. Demagogy has too few obstacles already.

4. The Right of the Electorate to be Heard .- Clearly, if the electors should be consulted as to the admission of one million women, even more are they entitled to a word-and the last wordon the proposal to enfranchise six times or thirteen times that number. To do anything so outrageous would be false to every principle of representative government. Members are sent to the House of Commons-and are now paid salaries-not at all to bring about revolutions going to the very foundations of the State for all time, merely to please their private fancies. The electorate should be master in its own house-the House of Commons. And that is the beginning and end of the whole business. What we have to insist on, with ever-increasing firmness, is that this colossal upheaval politically and socially shall not be compassed without the deliberate concurrence of the public. On that line we must fight. On that line we can-and shall -win.

### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### The Loss of the Titanic.

In the face of a national disaster all controversy is momentarily hushed. The true citizen, of whatever party or shade of opinion, pauses before the unmarked grave of those who perished in the wreck of the "Titanic," conscious that Death, the great Leveller, throws all things into their true perspective. Nobility of conduct and subordination of self to the interests of the community-these are the essentials of life which, true to the

THE dilemma into which the Suftheir heroic death. fragists of the Unionist party are thrown by the defeat of the Con-\* \* \* ciliation Bill we take as a sign of grace, Anti-Suffrage Classes. and can only hope that they will lose as little time as possible in facing FROM a notice appearing elsewhere squarely and honestly the facts of the in this issue it will be seen that a series situation. Those facts are primarily of classes will be held at Headquarters that (I) a restricted woman's franchise for the purpose of giving to any memhas now been shown to be impossible, bers of the N.L.O.W.S., who may care and (2) the ultimate goal of the moveto avail themselves of the opportunity, ment is adult suffrage for all men and practical instruction in canvassing, all women. As Unionists they cannot organising, debating, and other work face the latter issue with any regard of the League. We cannot impress for their principles. Their dilemma is too emphatically upon all those who well illustrated in the current number are opposed to Woman Suffrage the of the "Conservative and Unionist urgency of joining in the effort to give Women's Franchise Review," which this pernicious movement its quietus. studiously avoids the real issue. Thus To all it is not given to be orators or in an article entitled "The Political experts in organisation. But everyone Outlook " we note the following signican use his or her influence to gain ficant remarks :-adherents for the League and to cause "This (the Conciliation Bill) so far is the British public to realise the dangers the measure which is most in accordance that confront it from an apathetic with public opinion and most advantageous to the interests of women. Whether public opinion is equally ripe for the House-wives' attitude towards Woman Suffrage. In our leading article the parliamentary and Householders' proposal . . . time position of the Suffrage question is will show. dealt with; but there is another 'The Manhood Suffrage plus some unknown quantity of 'votes for women' proposal showed all the weakness and ambiguity of measures, born not of popular aspect that will appeal even more directly to the electorate as a whole Sooner or later the country will be lemand but in obedience to Cabinet exigconfronted with a general election, encies and there can be no doubt that our Or such pious platitudes as these :-opponents, the Suffragists, will do For ourselves we know what we want, and we shall continue to make for it in a straight line. . . We have the right women on our side and the right men. We know that our cause is based on justice." their utmost to further their movement on that occasion. They dread a referendum ; but by their recognised tactics they will try to win support The Council of the Conservative and in the House of Commons. If a Unionist Women's Franchise Associageneral election takes place before the ton was driven to skate on the somepromised Government Reform Bill what thin ice of the following resolubecomes law, Anti-Suffragists must tion, passed on February 27th :rest content with nothing less than a "The Council urges all Conservatives, sweeping victory at the polls. It is the simplest and most effective method in the event of the Government of disposing of the Suffrage agitation. Reform Bill being brought in, to see that it does not leave the House of Here, then, is the opportunity for every man and woman who has our cause at Commons without including women in heart. For those who do not take to its provisions.' platform work there is the widest Does this mean that Conservatives scope for gaining support among all are to vote blindly even for a proposal sections of the electorate. Canvassing, born not of popular demand but in therefore, becomes almost a duty for obedience to Cabinet exigencies," to all members of the League, and those say nothing of a sweeping amendment for placing all women on the electorate? who are likely to benefit from instructions and hints are invited to attend the classes at Headquarters. In cases 8 8 8 where attendance is not possible, the Honorary Secretary of the League will The Referendum. always be glad to communicate with members on the subject of the best WITH no little courage, "Conservative Suffragists " venture to discuss in methods to be adopted for promoting the interests of the League. their quarterly organ the Referendum

traditions of the seas, that gallant band of men and women showed forth in

## Unionists and Woman Suffrage.

action it is certain to take, if and when these methods are renewed, might be commended to the attention of the English public in its present uncertain attitude towards this public nuisance.

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## The Vote in America.

In another column we continue an article in which the influence of Woman Suffrage in the American States that have enjoyed the Parliamentary vote for 41, 16, 15 and 14 years respectively. is discussed. The subject is one that is being eagerly canvassed in the United States now that there is more organised opposition to the further extension of the franchise to women. From The Remonstrance, the organ of the Massachusetts Association Opposed to the Further Extension of Suffrage to Women, we take the following paragraph :--

challenged by Miss Ada James, President of the Political Equality League of Wisconsin, to name any State which has as many laws pertaining to the welfare of women and children as are to be found in Colorado and other Woman Suffrage States, promptly accepted the challenge, and, in its issue for February 15th printed a comparison in parallel columns

The Free Press accepted Miss James's epitome of legislation in Suffrage States as accurate. It contained 19 specifications. Over against these the Free Press placed a summary of Wisconsin laws of a similar character. The comparison shows that, with two or three unimportant exceptions, Wisconsin has laws closely corresponding to those cited from the Woman Suffrage States, in some instances stronger and more protective ; and that, besides, it has 19 other laws to promote the welfare of women and children or which there are no parallels in any of the

A single instance may be cited. A Wisconsin law forbids girls under 18 to engage in street trades, and boys under 21 to do night messenger work in large cities. But the Colorado legislature, at its last session-with four women in its membership —enacted a law which permits girls over 10 to engage in street trades and boys over 16 to do night messenger work in large cities. This law, the *Free Press* plainly says, "is one of the most damnable recently passed in this country"; and Mrs. Florence Kelley remarks upon it: "Even in sinful New York, girls below the age of 16 years have for many years been effectively banished from street trades."

rgument that it is necessary to give women the ballot in order to secure laws for the protection of women and children. The best examples of such laws are in non-Suffrage States

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The Milwaukee Free Press, having been

Suffrage States.

This comparison completely refutes the

## in its relation to the question of Woman Suffrage. "The Referendum," we

read, "if it is ever adopted, must be considered as an integral part of the Constitution, not as an emergency exit for a Government involved in a discreditable performance. . . It may be an excellent device for deciding other political questions; it would be an interesting experiment tested upon another controversy-but the enfranchisement of women is the one subject where its adoption would be indefensible." Now for the reasons given for this ingenuous sentiment :--

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(1) If the question were decided in a contrary sense by a male electorate, women could not be expected to abide by that decision.

Was there ever any need to attempt to distinguish between militants and so-called non-militants among Suffragists ?

(2) "To improvise an electorate of women would be to admit the point at issue, and make a Referendum a redundant expense; for if it be once conceded that women an entitled to the vote if they want it, the principle is established, and figures are irrelevant, for the fact that a very large proportion of women want the vote is beyond dispute."

It would be difficult to imagine a specious fallacy more fatuously put. It was Mr. Austen Chamberlain, we believe, who once pointed out that it is the province of women to advise, and of men to decide. The reference of the Woman Suffrage question to an electorate of women would not admit the point at issue, for it would not provide a decision on the subject, but merely a fact to consider in arriving at a decision. Most touching, too, is the anxiety about expense; but we would commend to "Conservative Suffragists" the points raised by a correspondent in this issue. The attainment of their goal will mean an additional expense of over £1,000,000 at each election, and will increase the cost of contests in some constituencies to £3,000, £6,000, and even £8,000. No. the real reason why Suffragists will not face a Referendum is because they know what the result would be. "A very large proportion of women," they assure us, want the vote. Democracy, however, is concerned with majorities in cases of this nature. That curious anomaly-unthinking, if not unthinkable-a Conservative Suffragist, does well to consider that "figures are of the fact that this was their only irrelevant."

#### Irish Suffragists.

SUFFRAGISM has reached its logical conclusion in Ireland, where propagandist work has been abandoned in favour of militancy. Prior, however, to the demonstration of April 23rd outside the Dublin Mansion House, all responsible and open-minded opinion in Ireland had been turning against the Irish Women's Franchise League, partly on account of its utter disregard for anything but their own selfish interests.

Its members are representative of both the Unionist and the Nationalist parties, but differ from both in that, while Nationalists and Unionists alike claim to be seeking the welfare of their country according to their honest convictions, the Irish Women's Franchise League recognises no higher claim than the exigencies of its campaign for the vote. Because, then, the Nationalist Party seemed to them the more favourable instrument for this purpose, they have concentrated their hopes and attentions upon Mr. Redmond, who, it must be remembered, has never given them a definite pledge of support, although individual members of the party have done so. The present hysteria in the ranks of Irish Suffragists may be traced to the date when, pursuing the logical course that nothing should stand in the way of Home Rule, Mr. Redmond led his party into the lobby in opposition to, and so defeated, the Conciliation Bill. At a meeting of the Irish Women's Franchise League a few days later, Mr. Redmond, who had refused to "explain himself' to a deputation, was execrated as a " traitor to the cause." To that cause party considerations were once again to be sacrificed. Nationalist Suffragists were advised to sever their connection with the party organisations. "A last chance" was to be given to the Nationalists. It was decided to send a deputation to demand the vote at the Convention, and if the Convention refused to receive them, it was to be "war on the Nationalist Party." Early in April Professor Kettle, who is a staunch advocate of Woman Suffrage, promised to secure support for an amendment in the Bill to that effect, but later he refused to help their cause if they persisted in their determination to disgrace themselves at the Convention. With extraordinary lack of foresight, in view chance of success, they refused his aid,

and compelled his resignation from their League.

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THE scene outside the Dublin Man-

sion House when the deputation tried

to force an entrance would have been

ludicrous if it had not worn an ugly

aspect. Two women, the leaders of the

deputation, attempted to rush the

door to demand admittance from the

Lord Mayor, and were promptly flung

down the steps by the burly stewards

of the United Irish League. They were

only saved from ill-treatment at the

hands of a large and hostile crowd by

the intervention of the police, who

formed a cordon round the whole

deputation. During the next hour or

two sporadic attempts were made to

rush the steps, but they were checked

by the police, who so far preserved

wonderful good humour. But about

one o'clock a determined attack took

place. Some score of police then

captured the women, and in the

struggle which ensued for several

minutes many of the latter, who had

completely lost control of themselves

and fought, literally, tooth and nail,

suffered some very rough handling, for some of which the pressure of the

exasperated crowd was responsible.

After this the Suffragists made the

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THIS affair would be comparatively

trifling, except for the insight which it

gives into the general Irish attitude towards the "militant" Suffragists.

The Irish character is essentially

chivalrous, and the fact that no hand

was raised in defence of these women is

a striking testimony to the force of the

opposition. The truth is that the Irish

character is also essentially conserva-

tive, and the spectacle of these women

unsexing themselves in this manner

arouses feelings of utter repugnance.

Unionists do not express pleasure at

this embarrassment of Mr. Redmond,

but all parties and classes join in con-

demning political methods which are

futile and unreasonable, and behaviour

which is unwomanly and degrading.

One thing the Irish Suffragists have

demonstrated, and that is their own

incapacity to wield the power of the

vote. The Irish public has plainly

shown that it will tolerate no " mili-

tant" nonsense, and the determined

best of their way home.

Ireland's Attitude.

At the National Convention.

## THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE REVIEW.

#### SUFFRAGISTS AND THE PUBLIC. THE AYLESBURY INCIDENT.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE has been making history during the last month. A Suffrage field day was planned for April 13th, at Aylesbury, and the various Leagues were there in full force. The demonstration began in Market Square, where a procession was formed, and from there the Leaguers marched to the prison where some 25 of their members were incarcerated for the usual Suffragette offence. After a serenade, the procession returned to the Market Square for the purpose of holding meetings. From this point, however, we regret to say, the town was given over to rowdvism, the crowd refused to listen to Suffragist eloquence. and physical force came into play. Members of the Suffrage Leagues had to be protected by the police, with whose assistance they were eventually able to make a retreat to the railway station.

Anti-Suffragists take no delight in rowdyism; it is a product of the Suffragist movement, which is slowly but surely contributing to the general demoralisation of our public life. The Avlesbury incident merely proves that Suffragists and their self-advertising excesses are anathema to the nation. and that portion of the public which is not over-scrupulous in the methods it adopts of showing its likes and dislikes sought to improve the occasion in the manner indicated.

#### THE WENDOVER SALE.

On April 16th, Suffragists again sought notoriety in Buckinghamshire. on the occasion of a public auction of goods taken under distraint for nonpayment of Imperial taxes. Wendover was the historic spot, the Women's Tax Resistance League supplied the setting, and Mrs. Hamilton occupied the centre of the stage. The sale had been widely advertised, and a large gathering had been attracted from Wendover and the surrounding country to witness the proceedings. The sum for which distraint was levied was five shillings; costs brought the total to nineteen shillings. But with all the spiritual devotion to their glorious cause that characterises the members of the Women's Tax Resistance League, Mrs. Hamilton nobly allowed "some of the family plate " to be sacrificed in order that she might appear before her fellow-countrymen and her fellow- men obtained for themselves which

countrywomen in the transcendental rôle of a martyr to her principles.

At the conclusion of the sale, Mr. W. Gurney proposed a vote of thanks to the local collector of taxes, who had acted as auctioneer. He said that the inhabitants of Wendover were to be congratulated upon having a lady in their midst who was plucky enough to allow some of her family plate to be offered for sale in order to support the principles she held. He understood that Mrs. Hamilton had given permission that any lady or gentleman might address the meeting at the conclusion of the sale, and he thought that the granting of such a privilege should be received by them in a spirit of fair play. Mr. W. F. Blood seconded the vote

of thanks, and after Mr. F. J. Mead had replied, Mrs. Hamilton explained that the house duty tax was the only one she could resist.

Mrs. Kineton-Parkes, of the Women's Tax Resistance League, then spoke, and had no difficulty in bracketing Mrs. Hamilton and John Hampden as facile principes in the esteem of Buckinghamshire, and added significantly that there was a statue of John Hampden to-day in the House of Commons. Taxation and representation were, of course, also bracketed by the speaker, who asked why women should contribute to pay members of the House of Commons £400 a year.

After Miss Raleigh and Mrs. Juson Kerr had spoken, Mr. Mead announced that he had felt it his duty to give the other side a chance. Miss Mabel Smith, of the National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage, then ascended the platform. She pointed out that there were two sides to every question. Men and women, as they knew, paid rates and taxes. Why? For the protection of the State, for the protection of their lives and property, and if that protection was by any means withdrawn, it would be the women of the country who would suffer the most. As yet, public opinion did not believe in giving the vote to women, which was a good thing for the Empire. In the words of Mr. Asquith, the granting of the franchise to women would be a disastrous thing for the nation, and if that was the general opinion of the country, it would not be justice, but injustice to give it. The interests of the men and women of the Empire were invariably allied. What privilege or advantage had the

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MAY. 1012. DESPERATE CASES AND Relative Importance of the Suffragist and the True Woman. The Real Case. The Suffragist Case DESPAR(D)ATE REMEDIES. Suffragist Remedy No. 1. Suffragist Remedy No. 2. Nol The Stocks -TREMENDOUS ATTRACTLO The Scolds Bridle. The Real Remedy. Suffragist Remedy No. 3.

was not shared by the women? Women were not a class by themselves, and it was almost impossible to inflict injustice on women which was not suffered by men too. What did they always hear from such ladies as the ones who had just spoken ? All about the social reforms which they were going to bring about. While she desired social reform, she admitted that from a practical and not merely an idealistic standpoint, it was even better for certain home reforms to be slightly deferred rather than we should have difficulties outside the country. In conclusion, she must thank Mrs. Hamilton for kindly allowing her to speak in that room. (Loud applause.)

As Miss Smith descended the platform, we learn from the Bucks Herald, from whose report we have taken the above summary, she was received with great enthusiasm, and then, in spite of a request from Mrs. Parkes to be allowed to reply, Mr. Mead formally declared the meeting closed.

The Bucks Herald, in commenting on the incident, states that "the Anti-Suffragists were victorious all along the line

#### MRS. HAMILTON'S LETTER.

In connection with this sale, Mrs. Hamilton writes :--

To the Editor of " The Anti-Suffrage Review. SIR,—I beg you will find space for this emphatic protest against the action of members of your League at Wendover who, on April 16th, used the room at the Red Lion Inn, taken for me by the auctioneer, and for which I paid, as if it had been a public hall hired by themselves

If you report Miss Mabel Smith's speech made from the rostrum, will you kindly give my protest in the same number?

s a stranger, she was probably unaware that I had received no notice that she had been invited to speak. The responsibility of this action rests with the local Branch.

A sale of goods is a legal proceeding, and the room used for the auction is public for the purpose of selling them. Custom and courtesy have allowed the right of protest to Passive Resisters, that they may vindicate the principle for which they are resisting payment. But even if my sale had been the public meeting which Anti-Suffragists assumed it to be, it is surely a Gilbertian idea to provide a speaker for an opponent's platform ?

I call attention to this action because it is the first time in the history of sales held all over the country by the Women's Tax Resistance League that Anti-Suffragists, without any trouble or expense to themselves, have appropriated these sacrifices and have used social influence to forward their propaganda at the cost of a Tax Resister.

Yours faithfully,

FLORENCE G. HAMILTON.

Wendover, Bucks, April 17th, 1912.

Mrs. Hamilton is entitled to the widest sympathy for the unexpected action of the Wendover piper in playing an Anti-Suffrage tune at a meeting to which he had been invited by the Women's Tax Resistance League. We do not, however, understand the burden of the protest, nor can we admit that Anti-Suffragists did anything at the sale which justifies any complaint.

What are the facts?

The sale was advertised as a public auction "On His Majesty's Service.' A second advertisement announced that "By kind permission of the Tax Collector, Mrs. Kineton-Parkes will explain the meaning of this action.' There was nothing to indicate that Mrs. Hamilton was holding a private meeting and reserved herself the right of nominating speakers. The same kind permission" to speak given by the Tax Collector to Mrs. Kineton-Parkes had also been given two or three days previously to Miss Mabel Smith. In opening the discussion, Mr. Gurney referred to this fact. When Miss Smith ascended the platform, Mrs. Hamilton herself said that she would be glad to hear Miss Smith speak, but requested her to limit her speech to ten minutes. Miss Smith did speak for only ten minutes, and refused to continue, even when requests to "Go on "were made.

What Mrs. Hamilton had not then realised was that, although she may have paid for the room, the public represented reserved its right to call its own tune at a public meeting. Hence those tears.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of "The Anti-Suffrage Review."

THE COST OF " VOTES FOR WOMEN.'

SIR,-There is one argument against SIR,—Inere is one argument against extending the Parliamentary vote to women that I have not as yet seen brought forward. Suffragists may say it is not worthy of consideration, but, as an old political agent, I venture to think it is of some importance. It is one of expense. Let me show how I mean. It is generally agreed that the late Conciliation Bill was only a stepping stone in the direction of the full enfranchisement of women on the same terms as men. any rate, we know that the partial enfranchisement would be bound to be followed by an extension in the same way that the male electorate has been enlarged. We have also the fact established that

there are a million more women than men in the country.

Now, many suffragists argue that the women electors could not outnumber the male electors to this extent because of the peculiarities of the formation of the house-

holds. That is a debatable question, but for the sake of courtesy to the ladies, I will grant for the moment that we would be creating the same number of female voters as there are male voters.

In 1911 there were 7,904,465 male electors, and the cost of the General Election in January, 1910, was £1,296,382—I have not got by me the cost of the December election. With a doubled electorate this would, of course, be doubled also, and the country, through its Members of Parliament, would

Would this mad folly of a few dissatisfied women be justifiable. Let us look at it from a Constituency point of view. Would Mrs. Pankhurst like to stand as a candidate for any of the following Divisions, where the maximum election expenditure alone would then be at the enormous figure mentioned : Wandsworth, over £3,500.

Waldsworth, over £3,500. Walthamstow, over £6,000. Romford, over £8,000. The latter would have an electorate of over 100,000, and most of the Divisions of the country would be unworkable

I am surprised at the Labour Party supporting "Votes for Women," as the new Register would make it impossible for them to find the money to run candidates in the greater part of the country.

I am, &c., B. B.

# To the Editor of "The Anti-Suffrage Review."

EVILS OF SUFFRAGISM.

SIR,-I hold that the most serious feature of the Woman's Suffrage movement is the ill effects it is having on the minds of the young people of the country. The craving for a vote may be a phase, but the means by which the leaders of the movement are seeking to carry their point is likely to result in permanent harm.

Not content with proclaiming the infallibility of woman, they never tire of pointing out the frailty and wickedness of man. These speakers are usually as ignorant as their hearers, many of whom are quite young girls. Surely it is better for both men and women to start out in life with a men and women to start out in he with a clean, bright outlook, than with minds sullied at their source. No good can come of this wholesale condemnation of men, and, as a man who has had the friendship of many splendid men, I resent it.

If this state of things continues, a great barrier will be set up against the good comradeship that so often exists between young men and women, and there will be fewer marriages in consequence. The man's point of view is entirely overlooked in this matter.

A good man usually starts out in life with a mind braced up and purified by the influence of a good mother, and his ideal woman is something infinitely better than himself, both in instinctive virtue, and in tenderness and purity of mind. The young woman with such a noble heritage has felt safe in the presence and keeping of such a man, and married life has been hallowed by mutual confidences and respect. Will this outdoor view of life continue, or will a course of eugenics and an analytical study of sex problems take its place?

My views have been called old-fashioned. and I maintain that they are not necessarily

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the worse for that. I am old-fashioned enough to believe that there are some aspects of life, and some courses of study, that should be left to men. For instance, women say that they are going to clear our cities of immorality. How it is to be done, they do not say, but as a member of the Watch Committee of the City of Westminster Council (a Committee of 12 earnest men, who are making a sincere effort to cope with this unsavoury matter in the West End) I can confidently say that it is not my idea of woman's work, and it is work that is better done by men.

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I am sure that there are thousands of women who share my hope that before long the masculine woman, the restless woman, and the unhappy married woman, will once more occupy their subordinate positions in the public eye, and the woman of sweetnes and charm will once more resume her sway

#### I am. &c., RALPH FROST.

Wandsworth Common, S.W.

To the Editor of "The Anti-Suffrage Review?

#### A SUFFRAGIST ENTHUSIAST.

SIR,-I attended a meeting held by Miss Vida Goldstein, in Melbourne, on February 26th, 1912, giving a description of her work in England with the Suffragettes.

Among other information, which is always given at Suffrage meetings, Miss Goldstein informed us that for the last few years many women had sold the newspaper, Votes for Women, in the London streets. These en had, she said, been subjected to much ridicule and unpleasantness, but they had lived all that down now, and that "these women standing at the corners selling their papers had made the streets of London safe or all sorts of women, which they had never been before

I feel sure that Miss Goldstein's friends in London must have been imposing on her credulity during her few months' visit to England before she could have made such an astounding accusation against poor London.

Miss Goldstein gave us some other of her remarkable impressions of London which, as an Australian who has lived over 20 years in London and other parts of England, causes me the same " continual joy " which Miss Goldstein said she found in the Anti-Suffragists. Among the most impressive of these statements was that in England it was considered indelicate for a woman to want to vote, but not indelicate to smoke, whereas in Australia it was considered indelicate to smoke but not indelicate to vote."

And again, Miss Goldstein found the Coronation Procession "tawdry," a mere "barbarous military display, medieval in spirit," and that it clearly showed that the Government of England was "incapable of organisation"; whereas she found the Suffragettes march to the Albert Hall all that it ought to have been.

The collection at this meeting amounted to about £19. I am. &c.,

MAUD WENTWORTH STANLEY.

Melbourne.

## THE SCIENCE OF CHARITY.

By LADY ROSE WEIGALL.

PEOPLE who can look back 40 or 50 years must be impressed with the wonderful change and revolution in all matters connected with charitable work and care of the poor. In those days, with few exceptions, charitable work in country districts was a matter of private concern-in town the separation of classes made all real intercourse between rich and poor impossible. Nowadays, with all our elaborate organisations, this is changed -very much for the better; but the new order of things has its own dangers. When people work as members of a society of any kind they are so terribly apt to fall into mechanical routine and to forget that, after all, no good work can ever be done except by living, human sympathy with individuals. The real aim of all charitable work is to raise the social conscience among our poorer brethren to a higher level, and this (as we are told by the Archbishop in his late charge) cannot be done "except through the bettering of the individual—would not all the lines of life be disastrously blurred if the individual sense of responsibility was lowered." Are we sure that we are doing anything to encourage that sense of responsibility in those among whom we work-responsibility for their own and their families' welfare, and the realisation of all that lies in their own power to improve their own conditions? And how are we to help them to realise this? The Archbishop again tells us "by living loving brotherhood in the society of the Lord Jesus and that "brotherhood" surely means calling on the poorest and lowest to realise their own dignity as members of that brotherhood-and that does not mean merely preaching; it means trying our very bes to help those we have to do with, materially as well as spiritually, not by trying to lift all their burdens off their shoulders, but by showing them how to bear them. And this must be done in normal times, not waiting till an emergency of illness or bad times arises, but when all things are comparatively prosperous. Here, again, the Archbishop has given us a caution that we sometimes think more of the furnishing of good ambulances than of ameliorating the conditions which cause the need of ambulances. Legislation has done very much of late years for social reform, but the best laws are often dead letters through the ignorance or apathy of those who ought most to profit by the and it is by bringing home to them the helps that are at their command and the power they have of shaping their own and their children's destinies, if they will but use these. that we can best assist our poorer brethren In order to do this, we must first make ourselves thoroughly acquainted with what the laws bearing on "social reform" really are, especially those relating to poor law, sanitation and education. In many towns the Association for Promoting Women's Work in Local Government is an excellent educa tional agency on such matters, and should prove an invaluable link between ordinary parish worker and the local authorities who administer the law. It is quite certain that the usefulness of all " works" will be much enhanced, if those who undertake them will first learn what can be done through existing laws to fight disease, ignorance, sin and poverty, and claim for the poorest the right to live Christian lives in a Christian country.

#### MAY. 1012.

## "TWO TYPES."

WE are glad to see that the Rev. John Hudson, M.A., F.R.S.L., has reprinted in pamphlet form his poem entitled "Two Types." which appeared in the "Oxford and Cambridge Review " for January, 1912. For the benefit of readers who are not familiar with the poem we append some of the stanzas.

- She clamoured long and loud for "woman's rights
- In ways unwomanly, with restless soul, Lured by the gleam of ignis fatuus lights To some illusive goal.
- By disappointment soured, by conscience vexed
- Yet glorying in discomfiture and shame, She spurs some dubious sister half-unsexed To seek a spurious fame.
- With us lies wisdom ! Every man-made
- Is Freedom's fetter! Scoff at things antique! See not as earlier generations saw !
- Superior methods seek
- What are the marriage tie, the filial band ? Relics of serfdom ! Misplaced faith and fear !
- Untrammelled be thy path ! With thine own Make thy millennium here ! "
- But never from the ranks of such have sprung The women who enhanced a Nation's fame, Or sacrosanct in many a time and tongue Made woman's very name!
- But not from such come helpmates meet for
- The gentle forms that memory glorifies; Nay, not from such! A glance! a smile! and then Swiftly-averted eyes!

II.

- She never gave one thought to "woman's But in life's duteous round of doing good
- She passed from maiden days of dear delights To ripened matronhood !
- To one she duly gave her hand and heart. Became his second self and complement, In all his struggles bore her strenuous part,
- Serene, secure, content !
- No Suffrage-agitation's strain and stress Disturbed the rapture of their steadfast troth .
- One mystic bond of mutual tenderness Firmly united both !
- Such women sway the World ! and wield a power Sublime, resistless! Wheresoe'er they
- roam. They bring like glimpses of an old-world
- A whiff of Heaven and home.
- For such as these whose gold is thrice refined. Heroes and kings have oft in homage vied The meanest and the mightiest of mankind ! For such as these have died !

MAY. 1012.

## WOMAN & LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

#### A LETTER FROM MISS MARKHAM.

IT will be remembered that the Committee of the Women's Local Government Society issued to the Press a manifesto denouncing Miss Violet Markham for her speech at the Albert Hall on February 28th. This manifesto was based on such a thorough misconstruction of all that Miss Markham had said, that it seemed impossible that it could have been drafted by anyone post the least degree of intelligence who had read the speech.

Miss Markham has now sent the following reply to Lady Strachev :-

DEAR MADAM.

Tapton House, Chesterfield, April 10th. 1912.

My attention has been drawn to a statement issued by your Society dealing with some remarks of mine at the Albert Hall about the work of women in Local Government. I regret the delay in replying to your criticisms, but living in a colliery district the many urgent necessities arising out of the strike have left me little time during the last fortnight for newspaper controversy. I am a subscriber to the Women's Local Government Society and have nothing but respect and admiration for its efforts. It will be within the recollection of your Secretary that I promised recently to organise a meeting in Derbyshire in sup-port of your work. Had your Committee thought fit to communicate with me before sending its manifesto to the Press, I might have saved them from the false position of publicly condemning one of their own embers without any inquiry, and of com pletely misconstruing a speech obviously read in a hasty and imperfect manner.

I must give the most emphatic denial to he fiction circulated by Suffragists and endorsed by your statement that I made any general charge about the indifference of women to social work and the affairs of their less fortunate neighbours. My remarks on the subject at the Albert Hall were directed to one special point and one special point only, namely, the question whether in the absence of the Parliamentary vote women, as ratepayers, were bereft of any channel public expression and service. I showed that the great field of Local Government lay open to them, and that it was practically neglected, only 21 women serving on Town Councils, 3 on County Councils, and that 232 Boards of Guardians had no woman member. I then asked why, as ratepayers, women tolerated slums, insanitary dwellings, infant mortality, &c., and "was it humbug to say they were denied all share in the national life, when a small minority excepted, they had shown so little practical interest in causes concerning the sick, aged, destitute, &c." The question of the activities of women in general social work never entered into the argument at all. I was not nearly or remotely referring to voluntary effort but to the work of women in Local Government. I can assure your Committee that I am perfectly familiar with the work carried on by the long list of admirable voluntary societies they enumerate. I am not aware that Suffragists at their public married or single, are qualified for such bodies on a residential qualification, and

terms about the bands of devoted workers who were giving of their best in public service without thought of profit or reward. I notice that your manifesto is silent about this remark. So much for the charge of seeking to hinder and belittle the efforts of "the army of devoted women." As regards the more special issue of the numbers of women engaged in Local Government: you are good enough to say that my figures are correct "so far as they go." It would be strange if they were challenged by your Society, seeing that they were taken from its own annual report. You complain that I did not give figures showing the total number of candidates who came forward. The complaint seems to me somewhat captious, but taking your own figures, 85 candidates for Borough and County Councils seems a modest total out of the million odd women ratepayers who are qualified to sit and vote for such bodies. You then enumerate certain difficulties which beset the path of women in Local Governmentexpense, apathy, &c., and vou speak of the work of your own Society in seeking to remedy this "state of ignorance." I have before me as I write an admirable leaflet issued by your Committee called "An Appeal to Women." This leaflet calls on all women to use their municipal votes wisely and well, and concludes with the warning that they will be responsible if the work of their Council is done badly and extravagantly. The leaflet then sets out a list of the powers and duties of Town Councils, which I am interested to find covers every point I raised at the Albert Hall. With all this I am in hearty agreement, but I am at a loss to understand the process of logic which makes it fit and proper for Suffragists to draw attention to a fit the Suffragists to draw attention to a of ignorance" and appeal to women to use their municipal powers wisely and well, yet denounces an Anti-Suffragist as an enemy of her sex when she ventures to say the same thing. Again, Suffragists attack me because I did not explain in minute detail to the

Albert Hall audience the complicated point that though married women are qualified to sit and vote for London Borough and County Councils, as well as Parish and Urban Councils and Boards of Guardians, outside London the question of coverture still exists for Town and County Councils some married women having established their right to vote and others having failed

#### THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE REVIEW.

suggest I should have ranged over the whole wide field of philanthropy in a brief speech dealing with the political status of women. I did, however, make a reference in general

to do so. I spoke of a field of equal rights and opportunities with men and I hold to the statement. All women who would have been enfranchised under the Conciliation Bill already possess full municipal rights. The electoral system is full of anomalies so far as men are concerned, and if on one point there is still an anomaly to be redressed as regards the position of married women municipal voters, that one anomaly seems a feeble excuse to put forward for the apathy of other women ratepayers who are qualified in every respect. Even so, this argument breaks down completely so far as the Boards of Guardians are concerned. Women.

time bythink +

the Boards in the country are without a woman member. Women have had the municipal franchise

for over forty years ; they have been qualified as candidates for five. During that time no great municipal reform movement has sprung from the women ratepayers of the country. Your own Society has been at work for nearly twenty years, and the fruits of its labours are not considerable. The fact that women have done splendid work in other fields does not affect my point that they have left undeveloped the municipal rights within their reach. As against this, thousands of women have flung themselves with ardour into the campaign for the Parliamentary vote. Is it for your Society to condemn me for holding the view that their energies would have been better employed in supporting and encouraging the candidature of women in Local Government in improving their position where it requires improvement, and generally in vitalisin and cleansing the life of our great towns?

You must allow me to say in conclusion that for many reasons I read your manifesto with real regret. The Women's Local Government Society is not—ostensibly— a Suffrage Society. We might have ex-pected it to refrain from a hasty and prejudiced judgment in a dispute with which Anti-Suffragists it is not directly concerned. are but too familiar with the bitterness and intolerance with which their opinions are treated by women from whom they have the temerity to differ on the question of the Parliamentary franchise.

It may be hard for Suffragists to realise that the claim they have always advanced to speak for the whole body of women can no longer be sustained, that in future they will have to advance their cause by argument and persuasion after the manner of every other political party. Even so, it seems to me unfortunate if they are unable to extend to their adversaries fair and courteous treatment as regards the discussion of a subject profoundly dividing women themselves.

Yours faithfully, (Signed) VIOLET R. MARKHAM. The Lady Strachey.

#### SAYINGS OF THE DAY.

"GRIT may cause oysters to yield pearls, but irritation will never compel the public to concede the vote."—Letter in "Westminster Gazette "

There is no answer, I quite admit, to the old question so often put, if it were relevant, 'Why should you deny to a woman of genius like George Eliot the vote which you would give to her gardener?' It is equally difficult to answer the question, if it also is relevant; 'Why do you give the same number of votes, and only the same number, to Shakespeare or Bacon as you do to his property man or his tradesman Mr. H. H. Asquith on the Conciliation Bill.

"Babies can get on without the Empire, but where would the Empire be without the babies?"—Miss Georgina Brackenbury (WSPII) at Leres

Both political parties agree on this one subject, just as you might see two dogs growling at one another; but if a cat came by, they would both go for the cat." "The pitiful waste of good material which

nowadays is so often thrown on the Suffrage bodies, and it is a little unreasonable to | in spite of this fact more than a third of all | scrap-heap."-Mrs. Murray Lockhart.

#### MAY. 1012.

### DAUGHTERS.

WHEREAS in the old days daughters were expected to be a comfort and were often only a nuisance, they have now become a problem. To the anxious, earnest-minded mother they offer far greater perplexities than sons. Sons will straighten out somehow in the world's hard school, but with daughters the point is to start them right; for 'kinks" in a woman seem to deepen with maturity. A petty nature tends to remain petty to the end, and a shallow one to grow more shallow. The worst of it is the "kinks" and the pettiness are so often caused by wrong treatment at home: by unnecessary friction over trifles and the suspicious watchfulness of many a dutiful mamma. It is the action of femininity upon femininity, so fatal in the past to a wise up-bringing of . daughters. All women are inclined to be suspicious of other women's motives. "I wonder why she said this," "I wonder why she did that," are phrases oft in a woman's mind, when it should have been enough that the thing was said, or the act was done, and left at that. Suspicion makes half the women in the world deceitful and the other half hard. Supervision makes them all casuists. What a pity it is that fathers cannot be allowed to bring their daughters up ! Only a man can form a really just estimate of a woman's character, because he never attempts to form any at all. Only a man can make a woman who was meant to be straight feel ashamed of her quibbles and subterfuge, by never stooping to notice them. The writer has known a little girl of five, under this sort of influence, forsake her devious ways and resort to frankness and simplicity of statement and dealing, with permanent gain to her whole nature.

Girls need really more room to grow than boys. It is the writer's firm belief that fathers, if left alone, would give them more room than mothers do.

The true tale of the oppression of woman by woman would be a sorrier one if told than any one could invent of the tyranny of man. But there is great hope in the future.

Men and women are free to educate one another as they have never been before, and no woman need dwell so remote from the "whole" view of life (which is the male and the female) that she cannot give to her daughters much that they would gain from their father's | to that of the Race, whose custodian training. If the "anti-man" school she is. She must realise that to the

does not re-erect in more formidable fashion the old barriers between the sexes, men and women may draw more and more into line, and on a mental plane, however widely distinct their activities must remain, they shall bring this freedom of intercourse to still greater perfection in the generations to come. All this will mean infinite gain to the daughters. It will also help to solve the problem which confronts the conscientious mother of to-day.

#### WOMANLINESS AND FEMININITY.

The question, "How can I train my daughters in womanliness the while I temper their femininity?" is a hard one for a woman to answer who has not learnt, by contact with man, to temper her own. To be womanly is a purpose in life ; to be feminine merely a state of existence. No woman should be content with that. Even as no man who counts is ever content with merely being male. Yet in training a girl in womanliness nearly every woman is bound now and again to find herself beset by the limitations of her own femininity. We shall lose this in time : lose even that confused and violent form of it which finds its expression in modern feminism. In the meantime, the problem of the daughters must not be burked. Our country has more need of rightly-trained women at this time than ever before.

Having to steer them on their course in adolescence between the Scylla of Suffragism and the Charybdis of Frivolity (each ready at all times to send to her doom the woman in the making), it is necessary to know clearly from the earliest years where we do want them to go. The safest way is to set before our daughters even in the nursery this great need that their country has of them; the tremendous responsibility of citizenship, and the honour of belonging to a great Imperial race. The fact can be early brought before them that they must be prepared-even as men are preparedto make any sacrifice for their country's sake: even to helping to carry on our race beyond the seas, cheerfully giving up, if necessary, all that seems to make life worth living at home. It should be further brought before every girl that she belongs less to herself than to the Race. That her own well-being is nothing compared

right sort of woman marriage is not an end, but only a beginning. Also, that whether married or single there is work at home and abroad which she alone can do, and if she fails in doing it, she fails in service to her country and the Race. Let a girl feel that her opportunities as a woman are illimitable, her scope for service immense. Let there be no limitations to her life, in thought or action, but those set by her own spirit. To a girl reared in such an atmosphere all other things may be added A woman once said to the writer,

I would like to have a daughter, for sons belong to their country, but daughters belong to their home." Tt was a fine sentiment, and one applauded at the time. It has since, however, become clear that not even daughters can belong exclusively to the homes of their parents-neither unmarried nor married. They belong to that home which their country shall require them to serve and where their country shall most require them to serve it. When once we have grasped the fact that our daughters are, no more than our sons, ours to do what we will with, they may prove in bigger ways more of a " comfort" to us than ever before, though never quite in the old way. They will, certainly, less often be a nuisance and will cease altogether to be a problem. More important still, the pitiful waste of good material, which nowadays is so often thrown on the Suffrage scrapheap, will be checked. LEONORA LOCKHART.

## "A MORAL SONG."

OBSERVE the little angry bee, And though we cannot sting, At least be sure of this, that we Can buzz like anything.

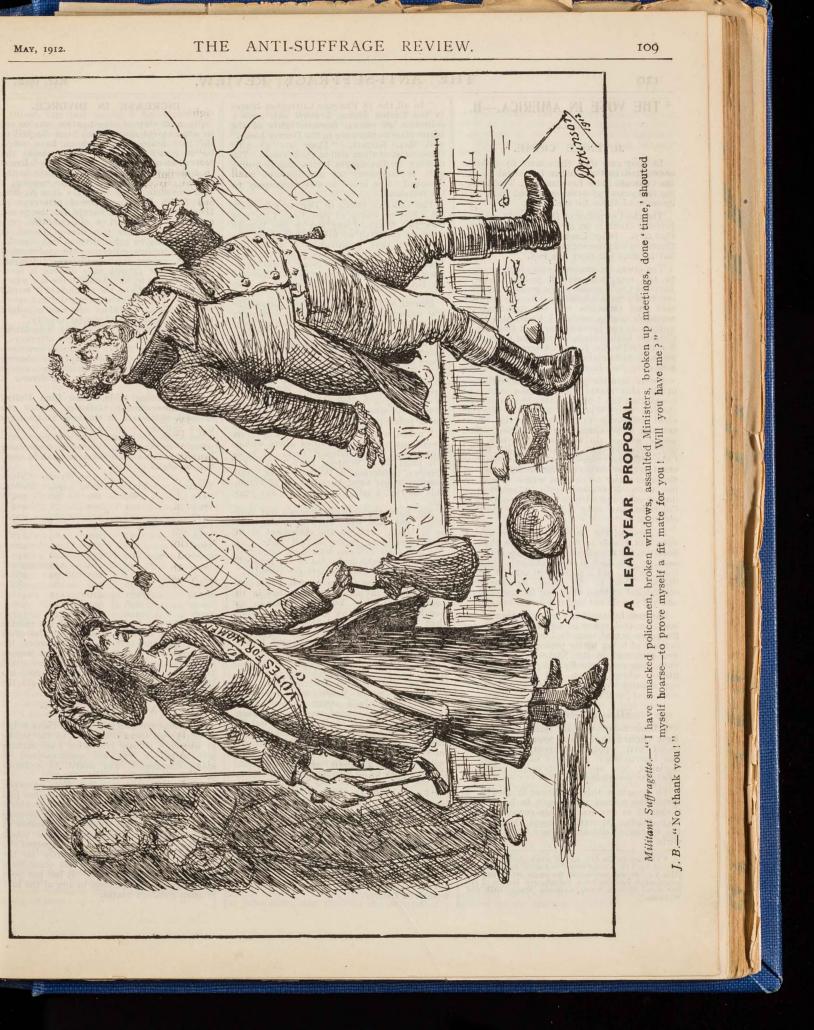
The humble creature's intellect Is very like our own; A cell of wax doth she affect, And we a cell of stone

Her males are never half so rude As human drones, of course, For when a bee rejects her food She's never fed by force.

I'm young as yet, and can't fulfil The higher tasks, it's true ; But there must be some mischief still For little Suffs to do.

So let me practise every day Till my first hours are past, And I shall get to Holloway,

It I am good, at last.



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#### \* THE VOTE IN AMERICA.---II.

TTO

#### JUVENILE CRIME.

In 1905 and 1906 there were 67 children committed to the Golden Industrial Home, the Colorado State Reformatory. The follow-ing two years 197 were committed there : an increase of three to one

The chief of police of Denver told me that juvenile crime is on an alarming increase in that city. Judge Lindsey says this is due to the increased pressure of economic conditions but he does not deny the fact.

The criers for women's votes have pointed to the establishment of Judge Lindsey's Juvenile Court as one of the greatest achievements of woman's ballot, and have repeatedly said that Colorado was the first State t establish such a court. I found this to b untrue, as the juvenile courts in Boston and Chicago both antedated the one in Denver. Nor is the Denver Juvenile Court an exclusive possession of Colorado. Fifteen States where men only vote have established such courts

I went into the question of child illiteracy in the four States where women vote, and found that the United States census of 1900 showed that Wyoming had one illiterate child to every 118 people in the State. Oregon, a Western, sparsely settled State, where women do not vote, had only one illiterate child in every 240 of the population. rado, where women vote, had on illiterate child to every 60 persons in the State, or four times as many as Oregon, where women do not vote. Nebraska, again, where women do not vote, and with twice the population o Colorado, had only half as many illiterate children.

In none of the four States where women vote was I able to find any Home Finding Societies for the placing of destitute children, such as you find in Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, and a number of other Eastern States. This is the most humane and economical method of caring for the orphan, and yet you do not find it where women vote.

The conclusion of my investigation of the laws for children was, as any one can see from the actual records I have given, that instead of being better protected, or even as well protected in the States where women vote, they were actually less protected in th States where women had for years the opportunity to pass laws for them, and the conditions parallel the laxity of the laws.

#### THE SOCIAL EVIL.

I have heard woman Suffragists in the East declare that when women voted the social evil would disappear. Mrs. Catt, the International President of the Suffrage Societies, told me that it would certainly eliminate prostitution

To ascertain this condition in Denver quote the woman who ought to be as well informed as any one in this country : Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett, National President of the Florence Crittenton Home for Wayward Girls.

\* This article, the first part of which appeared in our issue of April 16, is taken from *The Ladies' Home Journal* (U.S.A.) It was written as the result of "a personal investigation into the Laws, Records, and Results of the four equal Suffrage States, Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Weoming."

" In all the 78 Florence Crittenton homes in the United States, I never saw such collection of young, innocent girls of the better class as there are in the Denver home. said Mrs. Barrett. "There are 58 girls there, most of them still in their 'teens. The number of illegitimate births among young girls is increasing at an alarming rate. So-called 'free love' is also alarmingly on the increase

The Chief of Police of Denver joins with the Chief of Police of Salt Lake City (the only two towns of any size in the Woman Suffrage country) as my authority for the statement that prostitution is largely on the increase both in Colorado and in Utah. Idaho and Wyoming, being rural com-munities, can show a better record, but still no better than similar communities else

Denver and Salt Lake City are among the few remaining large cities in this country where an open, segregated district is given over to the public practice of the social vice. In one of the principal streets of Denver, painted women exhibit themselves in the loors and windows; while two blocks away s a schoolhouse, and children daily pass through this district on their way to school. Salt Lake City has the only "stockade" in America, a walled space in the centre of the city, where the social vice is practised under police protection.

I asked a prominent woman why these conditions were such in cities where women voted, and she condoned them as being "incident to a Western town." Yet Los Angeles, California, a Western town where women do not vote, banished its objectionable district, a relic of early days, five years

Nor have the women stamped out poly-gamy, not even when they have the ballot as in Utah. This on the statement of the as in Otal. This of the statement of the most prominent paper in Salt Lake City, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, which, on August 1st of this year, published a list of 150 men who had contracted plural marriages recently.

As for drinking among women, I was toldand saw for myself, that few cities in the country, not New York nor Chicago nor San Francisco, are any worse in this respect than the capital of Colorado. Even some of the drug stores in Denver, according to good authority, serve whisky and brandy o unescorted girls.

Last year the Police Board of Denver passed a regulation prohibiting all unscorted women from entering cafés and restaurants where liquor was sold after Instantly a storm of protest was raised, not by the refined, respectable women, not by the women of the streets, but by political women. These political women complained that their "rights" were being interfered with, that they might be com-pelled to be on the streets after 8 p.m., and that it would be an outrage to prohibit them the use of restaurants after that hour.

"Ladies," said the Chief of Police, addressing a committee of these women who visited him, "I can prove to you from the records here in my office that the women of Denver drink more whisky than the men. Shall I open my books and show you ?

They did not ask for proof. They withdrew their protest, and that regulation i in effect to-day. But this regulation stands not by reason of, but in spite of, the political women of Denver.

#### INCREASE IN DIVORCE.

MAY, 1912.

My next step of investigation was to see to what extent divorce had been checked in the four States where women have voted for so many years, and in examining the divorce records of these four States I found that the laws are as lax as anywhere in the Union. Except that each State requires a year's residence they are as lax as in Nevada and South Dakota. Several attorneys in Denver told me that, except for the year's residence as against a six months' dence in the other two States named, it is just as easy to get a divorce in Colorado. All the ordinary pleas are substantial grounds, except incompatibility of temper, and that bar against easy divorce is more than made up by the clause in the law which permits a divorce on the grounds of "mental cruelty." In one case a man did not speak to his wife at breakfast and was adjudged

to have committed "mental cruelty." The newspapers of Denver constantly carry advertisements of " divorce attorneys, and one of the Friday afternoon diversions is to go to the County Court and observe the "divorce mill." Ordinarily the average time required to "grind out" a divorce is 43 minute

The following table, taken from United States Government statistics, shows the increase of divorce in the four States since equal Suffrage became a law, down to 1906, ince when the figures have not been computed. In Wyoming, Woman Suffrage came n 1869, in Colorado in 1894, in Utah in 1895, and in Idaho in 1896.

				Wyom-	Colo-	
lear.		Idaho.	Utah.	ing.	rado.	
894	 	89	189	66	364	
895	 	134	202	71	414	
896	 	139	225	70	450	
897	 	129	228	63	398	
898	 	162	209	84	437	
899	 	136	234	99	426	
900	 	204	273	122	450	
100	 	243	264	144	509	
902	 	223	295	94	460	
903	 	296	350	160	538	
904	 	281	410	137	476	
905	 	296	355	145	508	
006		320	387	143	557	

I could not find from any of the records that women have made any successful effort in any of the four States to correct the divorce laws. Nor has the fact that wo vote done anything to correct the evil itself. Instead, as these figures prove, divorce has been on the constant increase in all the States where women vote.

#### "FAD LEGISLATION."

But, some one will say, do you think it fair to charge up these conditions to the voting of women? Please remember I am making no charges-I was not commis sioned to make charges-I was asked to examine conditions and give results.

I give further results. For example, Indiana, where women do not vote, has just passed the model marriage law of the country It provides for the examination by a physician before of both bride and bridegroom licence shall be issued. It is a law which women would naturally be expected to favour. It was passed primarily in the interests of women. It did not come from a State where women vote. It has not been even suggested for passage in any of the four Woman Suffrage States.

MAY. 1012.

Illinois has just passed a law regulating the practice of obstetrics with the aim of reventing the recent alarming growth in blindness among babies. In not one of the four States where women have a vote is

there such a law. Massachusetts and New Jersey have taken a deliberate stand against the instalment furniture evil. In Colorado and Utah the hat there is such a thing. Yet the wives that there is such a thing. Yet the wives with small incomes in Salt Lake City and Denver are as much oppressed by it as they are in the East where, without voting lirectly, women have influenced the Legis latures to abate the evil.

(To be continued.)

#### **OUR BRANCH NEWS-LETTER.**

NOTE .- The latest date for receiving reports of meetings, &c., to be included in Branch News is **the 22nd** of each month. MS. reaching the Sub-Editor after that date is liable to be held over until the following number. It is particularly requested, how-ever, that all Branch News be sent in as arly as possible, addressed to the Sub-Editor.

FROM all quarters during the past month reports of successful meetings, of the launching of new Branches, and of great and increasing public interest in the Anti-Suffrage cause have come in to us. The enthusiasm of all our workers and friends is increasing daily, and we should like to take this opportunit of heartily thanking our energetic Branch officials and members for the whole-hearted way in which so many of them are working. We hope that during the coming sum

ropaganda work will go steadily on and the new Branches grow still larger. Berkhamsted .- Miss Gladys Pott had an

excellent reception at the Progress Hall, Berkhamsted, on March 27th, when she addressed a very large audience. Miss Dorothy Ward was in the chair, and was upported by members and officials of the Branch

Miss Pott criticised the speeches which had een made in Berkhamsted recently by Miss largaret Ashton and Miss Helen Ward, bointing out that Miss Ashton had stated hat women could not obtain the attention members of Parliament to their grievances nless they had the vote, offering as proof of his contention that she herself had asked everal members of Parliament to put down estions in the House of Commons previous o the passing of the Trades Board Act, and hey had refused to listen to her. Miss Pott ave as her own experience proof of the ontrary, saying that at her personal request estions had been asked in the House of ommons during the past 18 months by a iberal and Conservative M.P. upon the estion of women's wages and Government

Bookham and Effingham (Epsom Division), -An interesting meeting of the Bookham and Effingham Branch (Epsom Division) was eld on March 29th, at the Barn Hall, Great Bookham.

The chair was taken by the President of the Branch (Mr. C. S. Gordon Clark), and Mrs. ladstone Solomon gave a clear and convincing address.

discussion which followed. The attitude of the audience was obviously n favour of Anti-Suffragism. resolution was defeated.

Dulwich .- A very interesting debate took olace at Dulwich Adys Road Schools, on March 25th, between Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Mr. A. MacCallum Scott, M.P. Mrs. Ashby's Suffrage

East Nottingham By-Election .- A con-

Cirencester .- This Branch is growing apidly, and some excellent work has been one lately here by the Hon. Organiser, Miss Marsh, who, in six months, has secured over 150 new members. Much regret is expressed at the resignation of the Hon. Secretary, Miss Boyer-Brown. Her duties for the future will be undertaken by Mrs

The Branch Secretaries and Workers' Com-Hornton Street Kensington W.

mittee.—The next meeting of this Committee will be held (by kind permission of Mrs. George Macmillan) on Wednesday, May 8th, at 27, Queen's Gate Gardens, S.W., at 11.30 a.m. It is hoped that all the Secretaries of the League who are able to do so wil attend these meetings. Chairman, Miss Gladys Pott; Hon. Secretary, Miss Manisty,

March

The Hon Secretary had arranged this meeting especially for those who had attended during the past year the many small meetings among the village people (who afterward oined as associates) in order that they might ear more exhaustive particulars concerning the Anti-Suffrage movement and the principles of the League.

The Anti-Suffrage resolution was carried unanimously, and the result of the meeting was in every way satisfactory, a number of and accoriator

**Bromley.** — A largely-attended meeting, tranged by the above Branch, took place at Tylney Road Schools, Bromley, on

Mr. H. Powell was in the chair, and was supported by several well-known residents the district

Mrs. Gladstone Solomon spoke very well on Anti-Suffrage principles, and Miss Ethel Thompson moved the Anti-Suffrage resoluwhich was carried with only two dissentients

Prior to the speeches, an excellent proramme of music was rendered by a very ood company of artistes.

Darlington. — The Darlington Unionist League held an interesting debate on the subject of Woman Suffrage on March 27th. Mrs. Ernest Pease presided over a crowded attendance, and made a most mpartial chairman.

Miss E. M. Wall (Leeds) presented the Anti-Suffrage point of view very clearly and simply, and Miss Gordon, B.A. (N.U.W.S.S.), took the Suffrage side. A number of questions were put to both speakers, and members of the audience took part in a

iderable amount of interesting and useful organisation work was done by our League this district during the recent by-election. Miss Helen Page spent some days in the neighbourhood, awakening interest in the Anti-Suffrage movement generally, and giving valuable assistance to the local Branch; while Mr. H. B. Samuels, who was in charge of the Anti-Suffrage van, displaying our colours, held a series of open-air meetings, which were very well attended. On April 16th a deputation from the

Branch waited on the Unionist candidate, Sir John Rees, who received the deputation very cordially. He said that he must repeat what he had just told the Suffrage deputa-tion—that he was "very strongly opposed to the enfranchisement of women in any

On April 17th the Liberal candidate Mr. T. W. Dobson, received some of our members in deputation. Mr. Dobson un-hesitatingly announced his firm Suffrage convictions, saying that he was in favour of any form of Woman Suffrage, whether onferred by the Conciliation Bill or by any uller measure.

Without doubt there is no little Anti-Suffrage feeling in East Nottingham and district, and this was evidenced by the public interest aroused by the open-air meetings in the Market Place, Trinity Square, and Sneinton Market, where large and attentive crowds gathered around the Anti-

Felixstowe Festival of Women's Work-The National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage will be represented at this interesting Festival, which is to be held at Felixstowe a Pavilion from May 8th to May 15th. Mrs. Haward, Hon. Secretary of our Felixstowe Branch, has arranged an Anti-Suffrage stall, where literature, badges, ribbons, &c., will be on sale; and on May 13th an Anti-Suffrage meeting will be addressed by Miss Gladys Pott. Influential local support has been promised to this Anti-Suffrage feature an attractive exhibition

Hackney (South).-At a public meeting under the auspices of the South Hackney Liberal and Radical Representation Associaon, in the Devonshire Hall, on March 18th. Mr. F. M. Carson (member of the Executive of London Liberal Federation) in the chair. Miss Mildred Ransom debated with Mr. A. MacCallum Scott, M.P., on Woman Suffrage. Miss Ransom's resolution, "That the Parlia-mentary Franchise should be extended to women as it is now, or may be, granted to as defeated by a large majority

Hitchin.-Mr. A. MacCallum Scott, M.P. was the Anti-Suffrage champion at a public meeting in the Old Town Hall, on March 14th, arranged by the Hitchin Debating

Lord Lytton moved : " That it is desirable that the Parliamentary Franchise should be extended to women in the present Session of Parliament.

The result of Mr. MacCallum Scott's arguments was that Earl Lytton's resolution was defeated.

The chair was occupied by Mr. W. O.

Lincoln.-The Lincoln Junior Conservative Club held an interesting "non-party" and Anti-Suffrage meeting on April 3rd, at which a large audience gave the closest attention to an address from Mrs. Archibald Colguh Mr. S. J. Brown presided, and Mr. F. E. Fry also made a brief speech.

Mrs. Colquhoun's pointed criticisms of Suffragist arguments were received with the audience, and members applause by asked a number of questions, which that lady most ably answered.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers was proposed by Mr. J. W. Day and seconded by Mr. A. G. Hooper.

Manchester.—We have received the follow-ing report from Manchester :— "Our work during the last month has

partly been confined to holding small inaugural meetings to form working committees for the different districts.

TT2

"On March 22nd an inaugural meeting was held for South-West Manchester, the chair being taken by Mr. G. C. Hamilton, and a large number of people being present. A working committee has been formed, with a chairman, secretary and treasurer, and has already met several times and done good work.

'On April 1st an excellently attended inaugural meeting was held at Urmston, when a working committee was formed, with a secretary and treasurer. This Branch promises to be  $\mathbf{v}$ ery successful, and has already a good list of members.

"An invitation meeting was held on April 2nd at Bolton, at Hamer's Commercial Hotel. Mr. F. N. Podmore presided, and gave a brief address on the proposed work of the Bolton Branch. Miss Moir made a most interesting speech, and appealed to those present to become members of the Anti-Suffrage League. "At the conclusion of the speeches an

enjoyable musical programme was given. "On March 19th Miss Moir addressed the Eccles Women's Unionist Association, and

received hearty support. "A large number of postcards were sent during March by Anti-Suffragists to the Manchester office to be despatched to members of Parliament in protest against the Conciliation Bill. We have every reason to believe that these have made the desired mpression, and have proved useful in effect. Market Dravton.-Dr. A. R. F. Exham

presided over a crowded meeting held in the Parish Room, Market Drayton, on March

Mr. Beville Stanier, M.P., sent a message to the effect that he "would certainly not vote for the Conciliation Bill," and messages of sympathy were received from Sir Lovela Stamer, Mr. A. M. Sutthery, Mr. R. C. Donald-son-Hudson and Mr. C. W. Clifford.

Mrs. Harold Norris gave a lengthy and very interesting address, and the Anti-Suffrage resolution was carried by a large

Lady Mary Herbert proposed and Mr. Nele Loring seconded votes of thanks to the speakers hairman at

Methley (Leeds.)-The Branch which has just been formed here in this mining village promises exceedingly well. Great interest is being shown in the Anti-Suffrage movement. Twenty-four members joined the League on the day of its inauguration. The Rector of Methley, the Rev. J. Armstrong Hall, presided over an enthusiastic meeting held on March 21st in the Methley Schools. Mis Armstrong Hall, in giving an address, heartily thanked those who had responded to her appeal for help in founding a Branch, and Miss Wall spoke briefly on Anti-Suffrage work and principles.

Newport.—A significant letter from Mr. L. Iaslam, M.P. for Monmouth Borough, appeared in the local Press a few days before the Conciliation Bill was introduced in the House. Mr. Haslam said: "Having received deputations from both the Pro- and Antiuffrage Societies of Newport, I have, after full consideration, decided to vote against the Bill, with the conviction that the great majority of men and women are opposed to the measure, and because future possibilities which its passage must open up are so far-reaching that Parliament would not be justified in passing the Bill."

**Oundle.**—Lady Margaret Proby presided ver a largely-attended public meeting held

in the Victoria Hall, Oundle, on March 27th, and was supported by an influential local platform. Mr. Arthur Pott delivered a vigorous

address in proposing the Anti-Suffrage resolu-tion, and Mr. Leonard Brassey, M.P., in seconding the resolution, much interested his hearers by his thoughtful address.

Miss Sinclair, who also was to have addressed the meeting, was unable to reach Oundle in consequence of the much dislocated train service. The Anti-Suffrage resolution was carried almost unanimously, and at the lose of the meeting over 60 new members joined the League.

Votes of thanks were proposed and seconded by Mr. G. Coombs, Mr. J. C. Siddons, Mr. J. H. Smith, and the Rev. Ives Cater.

Paddington .- Mr. E. A. Mitchell Innes, K.C., made a powerful speech on the Principles of the Anti-Suffrage League," at a crowded drawing-room meeting held on March 27th, at 53, Queen's Gardens, Hyde Park, by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Horton Smith.

Lady Dimsdale, President of the Branch. was in the chair, and Mrs. Harold Norris, in an interesting address, begged her audience to do all they could to further the Anti-Suffrage cause.

Mr. Carson, K.C., proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers, and Mrs. Wethered thanked Mr. and Mrs. Horton Smith for heir hospitality.

At the close of the meeting a good many eople gave in their names as subscribers to Paddington Branch.

the Paddington Branch. **Penge**.—A correction.—In a report given in our April issue of a debate at Penge, organised by the Conservative and Unionist Club (Miss Mabel Smith v. Miss Abadam), it was stated that the resolution put was Anti-Suffrage. This was not the case, the resolution placed before the audience by Miss Abadam being one in favour. It was defeated by a majority of 116 to 95 votes.

Salisbury and South Wilts .- This Branch has made a very useful experiment in holding two most interesting Anti-Suffrage lectures, he proceeds going to the Branch funds.

On March 26th, Miss Edith Olivier delivered a capital lecture on "The Movement in Modern Drama," and on March 29th Mrs. Herbert Richardson (Hon. Secretary for South Wilts) was equally instructive and entertaining on "Some Eighteenth Century Vanities." Mrs. de Mello and Mrs. Ord very kindly placed their drawing-rooms at the disposal of the Branch for these lectures and there were very good audiences on both

Salisbury and South Wilts (Chalke Valley Salisbury and South with control of the Sub-Branch).—A successful meeting of the Chalke Valley Sub-Branch was held at Odstock, on April 16th. The Countess of Radnor was unfortunately prevented from taking the chair, but her place was filled by Miss Stephenson, Vice-President for the Values when we avery a very Chalke Valley, who presided over a very representative audience. The speakers were Lady Pender and Mr. Chapman-Huston, who set forth the Anti-Suffragist case in a most able and convincing way. Lady Pender dealt with the Suffrage fallacy that voman's vote would raise woman's wage, while Mr. Chapman-Huston characterised the Suffragist movement as non-democratic and anti-Imperialist.

A vote of thanks to the speakers and chairman was proposed by Mr. Hulbert and

seconded by Mrs. Richardson (Hon. Secretary for South Wilts.). The Albert Hall resolution was unani-

mously carrie Scottish National Anti-Suffrage League. **Cupar.**—The Scottish League is forming a Branch at Cupar, and already a number of

nembers have been enrolled. The nucleus of the new Branch was formed at a meeting held on March 21st at

Southfield, Cupar, the residence of ex-Bailie and Mrs. Lamont, who afterwards hospitably entertained the company at tea. Lady Griselda Cheape, President of the St. Andrews Branch, was in the chair, and

Mrs. Pierson, of London, gave a very interesting address.

Brief speeches were also made by Mrs. Robertson, of Struan Park, Dr. C. E. Douglas, and ex-Bailie Lamont. At the close of the meeting a number of

adies joined the League, and promises of help in the work of the Branch were given.

**Dundee.**—Lord Provost Urquhart pre-ided over a well-attended meeting of members and friends at Dundee on March 19th, Mrs. Pierson giving a brief address on Anti-Suffrage principles, and new members being

St. Andrews.—Lady Griselda Cheape, President of the St. Andrews Branch, was the hostess at a drawing-room meeting held t Strathtyrum, St. Andrews, on March 19th, Mrs. Pierson again being the speaker. Lady Griselda Cheape also spoke briefly and earnestly on the work of Anti-Suffragists in Scotland.

Scotland. A very interesting "cottage meeting" was held at the Home Farm, Strathtyrum, on March 22nd, when Lady Griselda Cheape presided over a large gathering of farm workers and others whose sympathies were obviously Anti-Suffrage. Mrs. Pierson and Lady Griselda both spoke.

Canon Winter was the chairman at a meeting in the Council Chambers, St. Andrews, on March 23rd, when an excellent audience, admitted by ticket, listened to a short address by Mrs. Pierson.

Guardbridge.—A goodly number of mem-bers were enrolled by the Scottish League, at a new Branch which was founded at Guardbridge on March 25th. The inaugural meeting was held in the Club-room, Guardmeeting was held in the Chib-Holin, of Guardbridge, bridge, when Mrs. Foulcher, of Guardbridge, was unanimously elected President and Mr. Foulcher Hon. Secretary. **Edinburgh.**—By the kind invitation of

Lady Christison, a drawing-room meeting was held on March 20th, at her residence, 40, Moray Place, Edinburgh. An audience of over 200 listened most attentively to a convincing address from Mrs. Greatbatch. At the end of her speech a number of questions were put to her, which she answered in the most interesting way. As a result of this meeting, new members have been enrolled by the Edinburgh Branch.

Shildon (Durham) .- A flourishing Branch was formed here on March 14th. A report of its inaugural meeting has been "held over" from our April issue. Miss Moir addressed a very large meeting in the Dean Street Schools, Mr. Michael Watson being in the chair. Innumerable questions were asked by Suffragists present, and the Secretary of the Shildon Suffrage Society was allowed to put her case from the platform. The result of the prolonged discussion and Miss' Moir's speech was that some fifty members joined our League at the close of the meeting.

friends accepted invitations, and Miss Ursula Bridgeman, President of the Branch, acted s hostess, assisted by other members of the Committee The rooms were beautifully decorated with plants and flowers lent by the County President (Mrs. Fielden), and the tea tables were decked with sprays of apple blossom, which were made to represent, with their

Shrewsbury .--- The Committee of the

Shrewsbury Branch held a most successful and enjoyable "At Home" in the Shrews-bury Music Hall on the afternoon of April

A large number of members and their

MAY, TOT2.

dark branches, the colours of our League. An able and interesting address was give by Mrs. Harold Norris, and during the afternoon a basket of pink and white flowers was presented to Miss Bridgeman by the

At the close of the gathering a large number of new members was enrolled. A local paper, in reporting the "At Home," says: "Judging from the large and representative attendance, the recent doings of the militants have stimulated antagonism amongst Salopian ladies.

Stourbridge.-The Viscountess Cobham presided over a large public meeting, held on April 18th, in the Music Rooms, Theatre Stourbridge

Mrs. Gladstone Solomon gave an interesting address, and brief speeches were also made by Mrs. Maggs, Mr. Hastings (Hon. Secretary Birmingham Branch) and Mrs. Chance. Branch is in course of formation in Stour bridge, and promises to be very successful.

Streatham .- An interesting Anti-Suffrage speech was made by Mr. Samuel Samuel, Unionist candidate for Wandsworth, to the members of the Streatham Ladies' Conervative and Unionist Association, on March 19th. Lady Thrift presided, and who Mr. Samuel was asked if he were in favour of the Conciliation Bill, he replied that he certainly was not. He could not see that the interests of propertied women had been in any way neglected. They had all the rights of citizenship, and were treated with every consideration. He was opposed to the Suffrage if given to every property qualifica-tion, and they had to realise to-day that the time was not distant when they were to have Manhood Suffrage. They could not stop it. It was the deliberate intention of Socialist-Radical party, and they had made up their minds, because the Socialist portion of them realised that they could wamp the electorate with several million votes that would make a permanent Socialist

Government in this country. He would ask those ladies who considered that they had a grievance against the House of Commons or the electorate, in their own interests to consider the welfare of the country at large. Temporarily, they might be able to exercise the franchise, but ultimately those people would so swamp the country with the votes, which would be extended to every woman over the age of 21, that the vote would not be worth having He appealed to the ladies to sacrifice

interests, such as they were, for the benefit and welfare of the country at large.

Sutton Coldfield (Warwickshire) .- The new Branch which has just been formed for this district promises to be a very strong one, and has already an excellent membership.

# FAWCETT COLLECTION

## THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE REVIEW.

A private meeting was held in the Lodge room at the Masonic Hall, Sutton Coldfield, on March 27th, by some energetic supporters of our League, in order to form a small provincial Committee of the Branch.

Mrs. Grenshill has kindly consented to be one of the Hon. Secretaries, and Miss Muriel Addenbrook Hon. Treasurer, and it was decided that a larger Committee should be formed to embrace representatives of Boldmere and Four Oaks.

A very successful public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Sutton Coldfield, on March 28th.

The chair was taken by Councillor J. E Willmott, who has given valuable assistance in the formation of this new Branch.

The speakers were Mrs. Harold Norris and Mr. A. Maconachie. Mrs. Norris had a most attentive audience, and it was quite evident from the first that the large majority of the people in the hall had come with the intention of listening seriously to the points raised in the speeches. This was proved by the annoyance expressed at the various interruptions to which Mr. Maconachie was subjected by two or three people during the latter part of his speech.

A resolution against granting the Parliamentary franchise to women was carried by a very large majority. Written questions were then collected by the stewards and handed to the chairman, and these having been answered, the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers proposed by Alderman Viale.

Cards of membership had been given out in the hall before the meeting commenced, and those in sympathy with the National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage were asked to fill them in and give up at the door when leaving. A large number was handed in at the end of the meeting, and many others nave been sent in since.

Mr. Graham Squire and Mr. F. Allday kindly acted as senior stewards at the meeting.

Swanage.-A vote with a very large majority "against Woman Suffrage" was the result of a debate amongst members of the Swanage Conservative Club on April When the arguments for and against ard had been heard, the opinion of the members and audience was as follows : Twenty-seven against Woman Franchise and only six in favour

Taunton .- The Taunton Branch held an nteresting and successful meeting on April Mr. G. P. Chamberlain presided over

Mrs. Harold Norris, in proposing the

resolution which embodies the policy of our League, made an excellent speech, which was well received.

Mr. Strachey seconding, the resolution was carried by a good majority. Votes of thanks were proposed and seconded by Mr. Wakefield and Mrs. G.

Somerville

Tunbridge Wells .- We have received the third Annual Report of the Tunbridge Wells Branch, which is very satisfactory and encouraging. At the third annual m of this Branch, held in the Christ Church Parish Room, on March 22nd the President (Countess Amherst), Committe and officials were all re-elected and hearti thanked for their valuable work during past year.

The Branch regrets to record the death of one of the most energetic and enthusiastic members of its Committee, Mrs. Brymer, who did much for Anti-Suffragism in Tunbridge Wells

Walthamstow .- Mr. A. Maconachie very ccessfully upheld Anti-Suffrage tenets at debate with Miss Nina Boyle, of the Women's Freedom League, on April 4th, at the Walthamstow Liberal Club.

After listening attentively and impartially both speakers, those present negatived Miss Boyle's Suffrage proposition by 55 to 22 votes.

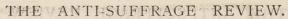
Wimbledon.-A crowded drawing-room meeting was held at "Ecclefechan," Lake Road, Wimbledon, on April 23rd. The host, Mr. Ernest Williams, took the chair. The speakers were Mrs. Gladstone Solomon and Mr. Herbert Williams. There were several Suffragists present, but as the most sensible argument they brought forward in favour of Woman Suffrage was that women would make as good soldiers as men, because since the days of Boadicea there had been four women who could fight, our side was only strengthened by their presence. Several new members joined, and offers of help were most gratefully received.

Worthing .- A drawing-room meeting, at which this new branch was successfully inaugurated, was held on April 23rd, by kind invitation of Mrs. Gascoigne-Hawkes, Drayton, Lansdowne Grove. Mrs. Harold Norris gave the address, which was heard with great interest. Between seventy and eighty nembers have already been enrolled, and names are still being handed in. Questions were asked by Suffragists present, and so ably were they answered that we hear that one member of a Franchise Society changed her opinions.

#### HOSPITAL NURSES AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

In the current number of League News, the official organ of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, we note that at the League's recent Winter Meeting, held in the Clinical Lecture Theatre, the juestion of Woman Suffrage was debated. One hundred and thirty St. Bartholomew's sisters and nurses were present. The follow-ng resolution was put : "That this meeting ng resolution was put : "That this meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses believes it is essential to the best nterests of the State that women should have the Parliamentary Franchise." A very full discussion followed, and we quote from eague News the following paragraph :--

'In admirable speeches, marked by quiet and restrained reasoning, the proposer and seconder of the resolution presented the case for the enfranchisement of women. One party was in favour of the matter not being iscussed, whilst another section held that so long as the words ' mutual help ' remained an integral part of the Constitution such a subject, if introduced by a member in proper order, could not be so disposed of. In answer to a question the President explained that there was no intention of dealing any further with the resolution in the event of its being passed. Finally, an amendment to proceed to other business' was withdrawn, and the resolution on being put to the meeting was lost by a small majority. Thirty of those present abstained from voting."



#### EXCEPTIONAL SUFFRAGISTS.

TTA

An American woman's journal makes the following touching appeal to its subscribers :---DEAR FRIEND,

Some of the best advertising agencies refuse to give us their advertisements, because they believe that women Suffragists do not marry and do not have children. They believe that it is the exceptional Suffragist who marries and brings up a family. "We know that this is absurd, but we need

to convince them. Will you, therefore, fill out the enclosed blank, cut it off, and send it to us by return mail? "Yours sincerely, "Agnes E. Ryan.

"AGNES E. RYAN. "Have you any children ?....... How many ?....... How many Suffragists of your acquaintance are mothers ?........ What is the average size of the 'Suffrage family' from your observation ?.....

"Name....."

#### BRANCHES.

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Wantage (Sub-Branch)— Hon. Secretary : Mrs. Woodhouse, Wantage.

- Hon, Secretary : Mrs. Woodhouse, Wantage. **BOUTH BERK3** President : Mrs. Benyon. Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer : H. W. K. Roscoe, Esq., Streatley-on-Thames.
- Roscoe, Esq., Streatley-on-Thames. **EAST BERKS** President : The Lady Haversham. Hon. Treasurer : Lady Ryan. Secretary : St. Clair Stapleton, Esq., Parkside, Easthampstead, Bracknell. **Ascot** (Sub-Branch)— Hon. Secretary : Mrs. Herbert Crouch Chalcots, Ascot.

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- Joint Hon. Treasurers: Miss J. Dunlop and Miss Ethel Pole.
- retary : READING-
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well, Esq. CHESHIRE.

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CHEADLE-Secretary : Miss Cordelia Moir, Brentwood ace, Cheadle,

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Hon. Treasurer : Mrs. Wyatt. Hon. Secretary : Miss Gladys Moore, Engayne, Spital,

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President : Miss Hudson. Chairman of Committee : Mr. Evans. Hon. Secretary : Mrs. Slade, Satis, Marple.

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STOCKPORT-Hon. Secretary : Joseph Cooney, Esq., Cringledale,

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Appleby-Vice-President: I,ady Wynne

Arnside-

Arnside-Mrs. Shepherd, Shawleigh, Arnside, Westmoreland. Carlisle (Sub-Branch)-President: Lady Allison. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Spencer Ferguson, 37, Lowther Street, Carlisle.

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KESWICK— President: Mrs. R. D. Marshall. Hon. Treasurer: James Forsyth, Esq. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. Hall, Greta Grove, Keswick. KIRKBY STEPHEN— President: Mrs. Thompson. Vice-President: Mrs. Breeks. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Gibson, Redenol House, Kirkby Stephen.

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#### DEVONSHIRE.

EXETER-

President: Lady Acland. Chairman: C. T. K. Roberts, Esq., Fairhill. Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Depree, Newlands, St. Thomas', Excite. 25 Hon. Secretar Miss Wood, The Close, Exeter.

#### EAST DEVON-

Right Hon. Sir John H. Kennaway, Bt. P.C. Bt. P.C. Vice-Presidents: Mary, Countess of lichester; The Hon, Lady Peek; The Hon, Mrs. Marker; Mrs.

MAY, 1912.

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# HELP FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

Once again we approach that disagreeable but inevitable task—"Spring Cleaning." The burden of household cares seems never so great as during this stressful period; yet much of the labour can be lightened, and the whole operation completed in less time, if the problem is dealt with in a systematic manner. Take, for instance, the important question of cleaning your Curtains, Hangings, Table Covers and similar articles. It is impossible to do this work perfectly at home, even with considerable trouble and expense. But it has got to be done. You do not want to buy a new table cover just because it has become soiled and faded, or because some one has had the misfortune to upset the ink over it. And, then, the mere washing of winter curtains will not restore the colour which the rare rays of winter sunshine have removed, to say nothing of the risk of ruin which such a process would involve. Altogether, the renovation of textile fabrics forms one of the principal difficulties with which the Spring Cleaning is beset. Very well, so much the better ; because, properly handled, this part of the problem is quite easily solved. And this is the way to solve it. Begin by making a practical list of all those fabrics which have suffered from winter fogs and smoky fires. All Chintzes, Cretonnes, Silks, Tapestries and Serges should be included in this list. Then send a postcard, or call at the nearest branch, asking Messrs. Achille Serre, the well-known Dry-Cleaners and Dyers, to come and collect them. Once this is off your mind you will find your task assume much lighter proportions. The articles mentioned will be out of your way while the remaining operations are in progress, and you can rely upon them being returned in a few days looking as good as new. Messrs. Serre specialise in this class of work and maintain an organisation which enables them to guarantee perfect results. Highly skilled labour and the most up-to-date machinery, combined with progressive methods and careful supervision, ensure absolute satisfaction in every case. This Firm's charges are most reasonable, and whatever they promise they will perform. For the benefit of housewives who wish to do their Spring Cleaning in the modern way they have published a little book full of interesting and useful information. It will be sent post free to any lady who writes, mentioning "The Anti-Suffrage Review," to Messrs. Achille Serre Limited, White Post Lane, Hackney Wick, London, E.

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MAY. 1012.

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