

THE CATHOLIC SUFFRAGIST

Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, 55, Berners Street, London.

VOL., II., No. 6.

June 15th, 1916.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which *you* shall give,
Daughter of the newer Eve?

—Francis Thompson.

MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY.

BY REV. FATHER T. J. WALSH.

“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” “By this shall my disciples be known if they love one another.” Here are Divine principles which to-day are heroically observed and tragically broken in the battle-fields of Europe. The defence of family, home and country nerves men to make the greatest of sacrifices and they go forth as instruments of destruction to other fellowmen who are actuated by the same domestic and patriotic affection! Surely we have not here the legitimate outcome of Christian principles, but the misdirection of these principles to such an extent as to become an appalling manifestation of crime and folly, making God's earth a hell and God's law a bye-word. “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” “Man arrayed for mutual slaughter” with “Carnage for his daughter.” Between these two aims there is a great chasm fixed over which no bridge of adjustment can be built!

It would be of the highest interest and importance could we discover the ultimate causes which have led to the present débâcle. Some would say that the “struggle for existence,” involving the continuous destruction of millions of the lower organisms is a natural law of general application and must be operative in the case of rational, as well as irra-

tional creatures. Hence war is and must be a physical necessity to secure the “survival of the fittest.” Perhaps one of the most hopeful signs of these dark times is the fact that materialistic hypotheses no longer impose upon the credulity of the masses and that the realities connoted by the words Mind and Soul and Spirit have now a wider and ever widening recognition. For if the hostile attitude of man against man is pre-determined by Natural Law, the Sermon on the Mount has no Divine significance nor human appeal.

Others again (more wisely, as it seems to me) find the source of the present tragic horror in the exaggerated spirit of nationality. They claim that the essence of the Gospel message lies in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men. We are all one human family—the children of Our Father who is in Heaven. And if we fail to break down the partition walls which separate nation from nation and perpetuate the distinctions—purely accidental—of race and environment, we necessarily sharpen racial animosities and prepare inflammable material for the conflagration of war. Without doubt the diplomacy of governments has been a conspicuous and disastrous failure. Only when Christian principles are substituted for the tortuous methods

of diplomacy, will the reign of the Prince of Peace be assured.

I wonder how many realize that whilst European states call themselves Christian, the genuine acceptance of the Christian ideal is the rare exception rather than the predominant rule. To form a judgment on this matter, let us leave the domain of theory and face that of fact. For centuries after the promulgation of the Christian religion—nay, long after its acceptance by Constantine, as head of the Roman Empire—the laws, institutions and customs of society were only very partially influenced by the Christian ideal. Necessarily so. And even in medieval times, instances are recorded which show a higher standard of natural virtue amongst the pagan nations than amongst those who called themselves Christian. The fundamental precepts of the Divine Teacher have lain for the most part upon the surface of the human mind and conscience. We cannot speak of the "failure of Christianity" until the lessons of Christ be accepted as principles of statecraft and be found wanting!

So also in social matters. The emancipation of woman from the serfdom of pagan conception has been the aim of the Church throughout the ages. Much has been done. It is now realized by many that the "helpmeet" of man as a rational creature has rights domestic, social and political. The sacred function of maternity, with consequent pain and risk of death, is recognized to be a perpetual strain in the battlefield of life comparable, and more than comparable, to the temporary stress upon the soldier in time of war. And the magnificent spirit of self-sacrifice shown by women in various departments of activity during the present crisis has removed the question of "votes for women" from the stormy region of controversy into the haven of settled conviction, guarded by the rampart of national admiration and gratitude.

But if we grant that war is ultimately due

to the non-realization of the Christian standpoint, have we not ground for hope that, when women have influence in the political sphere, there will be greater likelihood of the settlement of differences by the impartial and reasoned decision of an international tribunal, rather than by the barbarous methods of to-day. For the essence of war—the destruction of life—makes mockery of the sublime function of motherhood. Divine Providence educes good out of evil. One excellent lesson bids fair to be burnt into the consciences of men by the brand of war. Material Progress, High Civilization, Kultur, Evolution of the human species—all these high-sounding shibboleths are laid in the dust! What we sorely need is not materialistic advancement, but the simple lessons of the Gospel of Christ. Humility, Purity, Charity, Patience—here indeed are the true elements, not only of individual, but of national greatness, and as God has given to woman a deeper religious instinct, this God-given grace must be in the future an asset of incalculable value. As I write, the refrain of a beautiful song—a cry of despair—seems to discountenance hope:

"For man must work and women must weep."

Hitherto the fate of woman has been to mourn the havoc wrought by human frenzy and passion. Saul's sons were crucified at the request of the enemy, but it was Respha, their mother, who, heartbroken and desolate, watched upon the rock over against their dead bodies and suffered neither the birds to tear them by day nor the beasts by night. The hellish tragedy which darkens the world results from the dissociation of Heart from Mind. May we take to ourselves consolation in looking forward to the future, when union of Mind and Heart in the councils of nations shall be secured, when the crooked ways shall be made straight for the coming of the Prince of Peace, whose mission is to transform the mad passions of racial hatred into the Divine passion of Love and Service?

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Father Walshe, in his beautiful article (for which it is scarcely necessary to assure him of our gratitude) tells us "that the question of votes for women has been removed from the stormy region of controversy into the haven of settled conviction." That opinion appears to become every day more widespread, and the Coalition Government will have an opportunity seemingly to prove whether it is well founded. The critical situation of the suffrage question in view of a possible registration bill, has been admirably summed up in the current issue of "Votes for Women"; and our readers may see from the letter to the Prime Minister, published in another column, the action taken by the Suffrage Societies, and just where we stand for the moment.

* * * *

Not long ago we called attention in these columns to the statements made by teachers and others in authority that the alleged thriftlessness of the poor, with some exceptions, was a myth. That the working classes "had a leeway to make up before reaching a proper level of health and comfort," and mothers were spending the increased wages on food and clothing. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne, has recently added his testimony to that of others who are in a position to know. Many of the people who are earning better wages, his Eminence said, were for the first time in their lives able to give adequate food to their children, and were spending their wages in that way. His Eminence has paid a welcome tribute to the working classes, but what a terrible indictment of the social conditions of our land!

* * * *

All suffragists will rejoice that the British Academy has made its first award to Mrs. C. Stopes, the Shakespearean scholar and well-known suffragist. The Literary Prize of £100 was granted her for her last book, "Shakespeare's Industry," but in the announcement at the British Academy's meeting on May 3rd, this book was associated with her previous works, especially "Burbage and Shakespeare's Stage" and "Shakespeare's Environment." Mrs. Stopes has taken a very active part in the Shakespeare celebrations. At Stratford-on-Avon she delivered

two lectures, one on the Sonnets, to the "Shakespeare Club," when the Club to show their appreciation made her an Hon. Life Member, and the other in relation to the Memorial Theatre on "New Characters created by Shakespeare." She has also written various commemoration papers. We offer our hearty congratulations to Mrs. Stopes on her success.

* * * *

It is also announced that the Council of the Royal Society has selected Miss Dufton, of Girton, for the award of the first year's income of their Lawrence Fund, to investigate the effects of poisonous gas. The fund is devoted to research for the alleviation of human suffering.

* * * *

The Storting has agreed to amend the law and enable women to be appointed members of the Council of State, or Norwegian Cabinet.

* * * *

It has often been stated on suffrage platforms, that one of the ways of coping with the drink evil would be to transform the public houses into decent places where the workers might congregate without loss of self-respect, and obtain both food and drink. The Liquor Control Board has been experimenting on these lines with satisfactory results, and perhaps we shall yet live to see the day when it will no longer be possible to say of the poor man's club that "no decent woman should be seen entering," and by so saying think that no further argument is necessary.

* * * *

A nun writes that the varied interest and breadth of view of the "Catholic Suffragist" appeals to her immensely. She thinks the whole paper most interesting, and is confident it is doing a great deal of good.

* * * *

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt (quoted in the "Woman's Journal") says: "The enemies of Society who are determined that women shall not get the vote are no longer afraid women will be polluted by the mire of politics, but that they will clean that mire up."

* * * *

Members and friends are asked to note that our Office hours will be for the future from 3-30 to 5-30 p.m.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY,

Office: 55, BERNERS STREET, LONDON.

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FRAGMENTS OF THE FATHERS.

On the fly-leaf of her interesting book, "Women in Modern Industry," reviewed on another page, Miss Hutchins gives quotations from various writers, and amongst them one from St. John Chrysostom. Here it is: "What is woman but an enemy of friendship, an unavoidable punishment, a necessary evil, a natural temptation, a desirable affliction, a constantly flowing source of tears, a wicked work of nature, covered with a shining varnish?"

I could wish Miss Hutchins had treated St. John with the same courtesy she has accorded to her other authorities, this is, I think, the only important quotation throughout the book to which she has not appended chapter and verse. It is quite in the fashion to fling disjointed quotations from the Fathers at one's readers, unfortunately it is also quite fashionable to omit the reference.

My acquaintance with St. John Chrysostom's life and works is meagre, nevertheless I do know, possibly because it is too well known to be ignored, that he had a number of women friends, deaconesses for the most part, eminent in virtue and wisdom, women whose friendship he greatly valued, and whose virtue he has highly praised. Indeed, so highly that the general editor of the English version of his works, in speaking of the deaconess Olympias, the most eminent of his

women friends, says: "to her he revealed his inner life, upon her virtues he lavished extravagant praise, which offends modern taste as fulsome flattery." (Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers. Vol. IX., p. 15.)

He addresses her as "My Lady the most reverend and divinely favoured deaconess," and this is a sample of his praise—the saint is exulting in her spiritual victories: "I rejoice and leap for joy, I am in a flutter of delight, I am insensible to my present loneliness and the other troubles which surround me, being cheered and brightened, and not a little proud on account of your greatness of soul, and the repeated victories which you have won, and this not only for your own sake, but also for the sake of that large and populous city, where you are like a tower, a haven, a wall of defence, speaking in the eloquent voice of example, and through your sufferings instructing either sex to strip readily for these contests and descend into the lists with all courage, and cheerfully bear the toils which such contests involve." He explains that spiritual victories do not depend on bodily strength. "Thus women have been crowned victors, while men have been upset, so also boys have been proclaimed conquerors, while aged men have been put to shame. It is indeed always fitting to admire those who pursue virtue, but especially when some are

found to cling to it when many are deserting it. Therefore, my sweet lady, you deserve superlative admiration . . ." and he concludes by saying he has derived no small cheerfulness in his banishment from her courage (Ibid, 297-98). To other pious women he writes in much the same strain. His letters radiate divine charity and spiritual tenderness. A few years ago Mde. Henriette Dacier published a very useful book entitled, "Saint Jean Chrysostome, et la femme Chrétienne," in which she quotes copiously from the saint's letters to these devout friends of his, giving full references. He writes to another deaconess begging her reverence not to leave Constantinople as she is the support of the town, the impregnable rampart, the haven of all who weary in the fight, the bulwark of the persecuted. He assures her on another occasion that he knows the greatness of her soul, calm amid the tempest, unshaken in the midst of angry breakers, and says that the fame of her virtue has reached the limits of the world. (Dacier, 279-281). To another saintly woman he writes, that if she realised the gratitude her letters evoke, she would endeavour to write daily to him in his exile (Dacier, 308).

I know, of course, that St. John denounced vice wherever he found it, in men or women, clergy or laity, rich or poor. He thundered at the Empress on her throne, and was banished for his pains. He had enemies amongst women as well as friends.

I know he was not mealy-mouthed. For instance, in speaking of any man who strikes his wife, he says: ". . . such a man, if indeed one must call him a man, and not rather a wild beast, I should say, was like a parricide and a murderer of his mother." (Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, vol. XII., p. 156). In this we may note St. John was ahead of our English legislators, who, to their lasting shame, allowed men to beat their wives until a comparatively recent date.

I should much like to know why and where the great saint put forward the remarkable definition of woman, which Miss Hutchins gives us—but not at the cost of searching through all his works, no doubt a very profitable but a lengthy task, and though the spirit is willing, time is lacking.

L. DE ALBERTI.

POLAND AND HER CAUSE.

On June 3rd a meeting of the C.W.S.S. was held, by kind permission of Miss Aungier, at 2, Gordon Place, W., when Mr. Majdewicz kindly delivered a lecture on Poland, Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, B.A., who presided, said that Poland was of special interest to Catholics, and the cause of small nationalities made a direct appeal to suffragists, for their disabilities are much the same as our own—a lack of means of expression and development. Mr. Majdewicz gave a lucid and admirably compressed outline of the history of Poland, her glorious past, her present tragic position. Since they embraced Christianity in the 10th century the Poles have formed a bulwark of Catholicism, and no amount of persecution has turned them from their faith. The Polish people, said the lecturer, cherish all those qualities which Prussia detests. The partition of Poland was not only a grave political mistake, it was a moral crime—a crime which Austria, Germany and Russia acknowledged by their proclamations after the outbreak of war, promising the resurrection of Poland. It was indeed true that, though her body had been rent asunder, the soul of Poland was a living force, the Polish question a vital question. She was now, as truly as a century ago, "the keystone to the archway of Europe." The Poles are a generous race, they are not jealous of the sympathy and help shown to Belgium and Serbia in their pitiable plight, but the sufferings of Poland are a hundredfold greater than either of these lands. The crime of Cain had been forced upon an innocent people, and the sons of Poland are fighting one against the other on the blood-drenched fields of Europe. There could be no real peace till the Polish question was settled, "the running sore of Europe" was healed.

Mr. Majdewicz concluded his lecture by an impassioned appeal to all lovers of liberty to espouse the cause of Poland, to create a public opinion which would make a repetition of the crime of the Congress of Vienna an impossibility. A free Poland would be a valuable asset to Europe, her sons and daughters had contributed much to the art and literature, science and learning of our western civilization, and the Polish people are rich in those qualities which are instrumental in leading humanity to God.

HASTINGS AND EAST SUSSEX BRANCH.—This branch held its annual general meeting on June 5th, when a very pleasant social re-union took place, members being asked to invite their friends, non-Catholics as well as Catholics. When the formal business of the branch was over, tea and talk followed, and this was succeeded by the event of the afternoon—a most delightful and inspiring address from Miss Abadam, who came down most kindly for the occasion. Everyone felt the better for her address, which was entitled "From the Woman's Watch-tower," and showed forcibly the importance and responsibility of our position as women, to-day and in the future.

Mrs. De la Garde Cameron kindly took the chair, and at both the beginning and conclusion of the meeting some delightful music on piano and violin was contributed by Miss Weisser and Miss Frances Wenham.

WOMEN IN MODERN INDUSTRY.*

There could be no more timely moment than the present for a book on the industrial position of women. The subject is vast and complex, the war has added to its vastness, has increased its complexity. Miss Hutchins has done her work well, which does not mean that one agrees with all her conclusions and deductions. It was, perhaps, a mistake to attempt to give a historical sketch of women's work in mediæval times. We are told that the material available is scanty; does that mean that the field is practically unploughed? At any rate Miss Hutchins' attempt produces the impression that students of history may still give us a detailed description of the development of women's labour. Miss Hutchins comes to the conclusion from the material at her disposal that the bad conditions of women's labour are due to the "survival of social conditions of the past in an age when an enormous increase in productive power has transformed the conditions of production," . . . and that "The subordinate position of the girl and the woman in the family, the lack of a tradition of association with her fellows, has reacted unfavourably on her economic capacity in the world of competitive trade." In other words the subjection of women has proved her undoing in the industrial world, upon which we are all agreed—but then the suffrage movement in its endeavour to raise the status of women will have, has had, directly and indirectly, more influence on the industrial woman than Miss Hutchins appears to realise.

The writer gives us a full account of the growth of trade unionism among women, and describes the aims of the Women's Trade Union League, founded in 1874. She sets before us very clearly the many difficulties which militate against the success of women's trade unions, and shows that the opposition of men unionists is beginning to die down, as the men come to realise that the only safeguard to their own industrial prosperity lies in organizing the women. Miss Hutchins is of opinion that the industrial woman worker welcomes special legislation and the differentiation of her work with that of men, but at

*By B. L. Hutchins. (Bell, 4s. 6d.)

least women themselves should decide what that differentiation shall be; and where one door is closed another should be opened, paternal legislation does not always result in benefit to the worker; but to that Miss Hutchins would no doubt agree; she should not, however, take freedom to compete too narrowly, no suffragist ignores the importance of opportunity to develop. In the final chapter dealing with the effects of the war on the employment of women, the writer says, very justly, that the patriotic feelings of women have been shamefully exploited, both by overwork and inadequate pay. She speaks with approval of the prompt action of the Suffrage Societies in improving employment bureaux and relief work-rooms on the outbreak of war; and concludes by warning us against establishing in our own country the evil forces which have brought unparalleled disaster on Europe. "War," says Miss Hutchins, "inevitably means for the time the predominance of man over woman, the predominance of the soldier over the industrial, the predominance of reaction over democracy. It is significant that the stress of war was quickly seized as a pretext for suspending the protection of the industrial workers by the State, and for relaxing the Education Acts. . . . The problems offered by the great war, gigantic and staggering as they are, are not so different in kind from, though vaster in degree and more appalling than, the problem of the industrial revolution itself. Each is a problem of the development of material civilisation, which has (we know it now too poignantly) far out-distanced the growth of civilization on its social and spiritual side. Each includes the question whether man is to be the master or the slave of the mechanic powers his own genius has evoked. Neither can ever be solved without the conscious co-operation of Woman and Labour, failing which we must for ever fall short of the highest possibilities of our race."

In spite of some blemishes the book contains much valuable information and earns our gratitude.

L.A.

REVIEWS.

"The Shield," the organ of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, appeared in a new form in April, and is now a 6d. quarterly magazine. Founded forty-six years ago to combat the Contagious Diseases Act, to proclaim "their futility, injustice, and immorality,"—the gallant work it has accomplished is known, or should be known, to all who have reached the age of reason. The battle was won in England (though not as yet in her Colonies and Dominions), in the midst of what must have seemed insuperable obstacles. The paper is under the able editorship of Dr. Helen Wilson and Miss Alison Neilans. An editorial note states that: "Our work is still to seek to overthrow all forms of official regulation of vice, but our chief object is the eradication of prostitution." A formidable task indeed, but one in which suffragists are eager to take part. The new issue contains many valuable items, notably the Society's manifesto on the report of the Royal Commission on Venereal Disease. We are glad to see that the Society dissents from the suggestions relating to the compulsory detention of poor law patients and prisoners, and the examination of women prisoners. Proposals against which various suffrage writers have already protested.

"Some last Words on Women's Suffrage." This is an address delivered recently in Dublin by the veteran suffragist Mr. Thomas Haslam, who has completed his 90th year, and who has worked for over fifty years for the suffrage cause. Mr. Haslam believes that after the war some measure of enfranchisement will be conceded, but that the character and extent of the concession will largely depend on the attitude adopted by women in the meantime. He thinks the time has come to adopt the democratic principle of adult suffrage. The majority of suffragists, however, consider that the demand for the vote "as it is or may be granted to men," covers all the ground, and does not confuse the issue. That is, they think it safer to get the vote first, and if the basis is to be changed, let it be changed later. All would not be in favour of the change, though, no doubt, very many would. The pamphlet is of much interest; copies may be had (1s. per dozen),

from Mrs. Haslam, 163, Rathgar Road, Dublin.

"Our Warrior Women," by Beatrice Harraden (2d.) "The girl he left behind him" (The story of a war-worker). By Hugh Martin (2d.) Both these pamphlets, published by the Y.W.C.A. (26, George Street, Hanover Square), are intended to awaken public interest in the women munition workers and their needs, to dispel the fiction of the wonderful wages paid to them, and to appeal for help for the Y.W.C.A. in the gallant attempt to grapple with the problem of providing some comfort and cheap meals for these over-worked and, in many cases, inadequately paid, women and girls. There is more glamour attached to helping the soldiers and sailors, but the health of these munition workers is not only vital to the present needs of the country, it is still more vital to the future needs of the race. The Y.W.C.A. should not appeal in vain for help, either in money or service, in this all-important work.

OFFICE RENT FUND.

I hoped to be able to report this month that the £40 necessary to pay for the rent, lighting and heating, etc., of our Office for the current year had been received, but I regret that only £3 6s. 6d. has been subscribed during May, and therefore £10 14s. 10d. is still required.

It is always just before the final triumph that things seem getting hopeless, and therefore I feel assured that members and friends who read this appeal will realise that it is for them to ensure the speedy closing of this Fund by sending a subscription at once. It is so little that I want and it will do so much.

DONATIONS UP TO 31ST MAY, 1916.

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Miss F. Barry (2nd donation)	0	10	0
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Miss Christine O'Connor	0	4	0
Mrs. Walter Roch	1	0	0

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B. GADSBY, ...
55, Berners' Street, Oxford Street, W.

Copy of Letter sent to the Prime Minister.

27, Chancery Lane, W.C.

May 19th, 1916.

Sir,—On behalf of an influential body of men and women, representing a large number of Trade Unions and political organisations, whose names we enclose, we desire to express our appreciation of the undertaking given by you in your letter to Mrs. Fawcett, published in the "Times" on May 16th, that the claims of women "will be fully and impartially weighed" if and when it becomes necessary for legislation to be effected dealing with the Parliamentary franchise.

We are at the same time aware of the possibility that the franchise may be dealt with by such a reform of the Register as would bring in numbers of fresh voters without recourse to fresh legislation, in which case the claims of women would be once more evaded; on the other hand, if fresh legislation should be found necessary, there is every probability that this would be precipitated by some crisis in such a way that it would not be possible for you to consult those most concerned in women's interests when the Bill is before Parliament. We therefore most earnestly ask you to make it possible for our Deputation to meet you and the Leaders of the two other parties of the Coalition, Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Henderson, at some early date, in order that you may be in possession of our point of view, and we in possession of yours, before the time comes for the Government to deal with the matter.

We are fully aware, in making this request, of the many claims upon your valuable time. Only our deep sense of the value of unity in the nation at this hour of crisis, and of your power to seal that unity by a beneficent act of statesmanship, impels us to make this claim (which we undertake shall be a very brief one) upon your courtesy and consideration.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) BARBARA AYRTON GOULD,
(Hon. Sec., Deputation Committee.)

ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING DEPUTATION.

Belfast Suffrage Society, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, Friends' League for Women's Suffrage, Irishwomen's Reform League, Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage, Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, North London Men's Political Union, Scottish Churches League for Women's Suffrage, Sligo Suffrage Society, Suffragettes of the W.S.P.U., United Suffragists, Women's Freedom League, Women Sanitary Inspectors' Suffrage Society, Women Teachers' Franchise Union, Women's Tax Resistance League, Women Writers' Suffrage League.

DEPUTATION.

Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, Mrs. Despard, Mr. H. H. Elvin (Secretary of the National Union of Clerks), Mr. Vernon Hartshorn (of the Miners' Federation), Miss Winifred Holiday, Lady Muir Mackenzie, Mr. John Masefield, Mr. H. W. Massingham, Mrs. Fenwick Miller, Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Ex-Provost Perry, Miss E. Phipps (President of the Women Teachers' Federation), Mrs. Spring Rice, Lady Forbes Robertson, Mr. W. C. Robinson (Secretary of the Association of Machine Workers), Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, Miss Evelyn Sharp, Mr. Robert Smillie (President of the Miners' Federation), Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, Mr. Ben Tillett (Secretary of the Dockers' Union, Councillor Ben Turner, Mr. Frederick Whelen, Mr. Robert Williams (Secretary of the National Transport Workers' Federation), Muriel, Countess De La Warr.

LONDON NEWS.

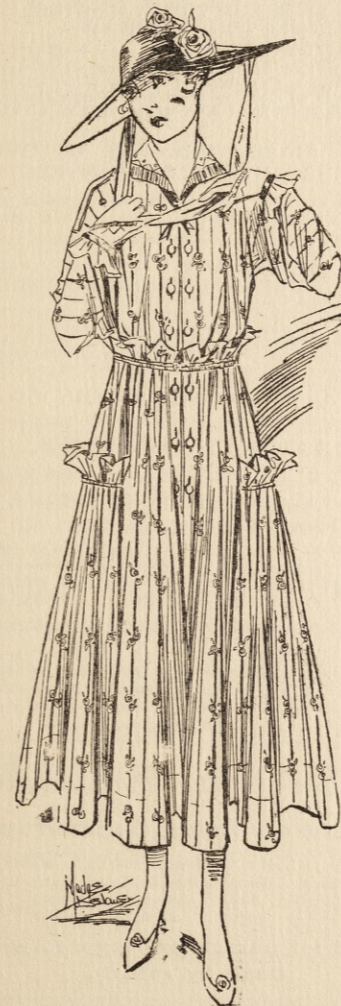
Office: 55, Berners' Street, London. Hours: 3-30-5-30. Library books 2d. per vol. Holy Mass will be offered for the intentions of the Society (for Peace and all killed in the war), at St. Patrick's, Soho, at 10-30, on Sunday, July 2nd.

Members and friends are reminded that the Imperial Conference organised by the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on the 5th, 6th and 7th of July. Programmes (free) may be had from the Office, 55, Berners' Street, and also tickets for the Public Suffrage Meeting (2/-, 1/-, 6d.), which will take place on Friday, July 7th, at 7-30. Many suffrage societies, including our own, are taking part in this meeting.

IRISH CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

At a committee meeting, held on Friday, May 26th, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—
"That the Committee of the I.C.W.S.A. desire to express their deep sympathy with Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington on the tragic death of her husband, who was all his life a consistent and courageous supporter of Women's Suffrage." Proposed by Prof. Mary Hayden, seconded by Miss Evelyn Gleeson. Mrs. Greene in the chair.

The Irishwomen's Reform League has passed a resolution expressing their sense of the loss sustained by the Suffrage movement by the death of Mr. Sheehy Skeffington, and tendering their sympathy to his widow.

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WEEKLY LECTURES. HOUSE DINNERS.

21 June, 8 p.m. ... "Hodge in Petticoats"

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK.

Chairman: MRS. GILBERT SAMUEL.

23 June, 8 p.m. "Ten Months in Serbia with the
Scottish Women's Hospital Unit."

THE HON. EVELINA HAVERFIELD.

Chairman: MR. CECIL CHAPMAN, J.P.

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