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## NOTICE.

In the present critical position of affairs, when any reference to political conditions may hurt national susceptibilities, it must be clearly stated that the International Woman Suffrage Alliance maintains a strictly neutral attitude, and is only responsible for its official announcements. Reports from affiliated societies are inserted on the responsibility of the society contributing them. Other articles are published as being of general interest to our readers, and responsibility for them rests solely with their signatories.

### Iceland Women Enfranchised.

Suffragists will be delighted to hear that the Althing (Parliament) of Iceland has adopted the reformed constitution proposed last year, which grants to women over 40 years old the same political rights enjoyed by men over 25 years old, with the stipulation that for the women electors the required age is to be gradually lowered on each registration until it comes to 25, too. The Bill was carried unanimously by the Upper House, and only one vote was cast against it in the Lower House. Only the sanction of the King of Denmark is now necessary for the law to become effective. The women of Iceland formerly had municipal suffrage, so the Parliamentary franchise is a proof of the success of partial equal suffrage.

### Votes for Filipino Women.

In the debate on the Philippine Bill in the United States House of Representatives, Representative Jas. Mann, of Illinois, Republican leader in the House, offered the following amendment: Before the word "citizen" strike out the word "male," and after the word "he" insert the words "or she." Mr. Mann supported his amendment in favour of Woman Suffrage in a telling speech, and was supported by Mr. Bryan, of Washington, and Mr. Mondell, of Wyoming, who said the Filipino women were "the best men in the islands." The amendment was unfortunately rejected by 84 to 58. Mr. Quezon, the resident Commissioner, opposed, as is usual, on the highest grounds of the interests of the women themselves.

### Austrian Suffragists.

The Austrian Women's Franchise Committee have organised good fourpenny meals for middle-class people who are suffering from the war depression. Various centres in the town have been chosen for dining-rooms, and a good midday meal of two courses is supplied, and can also be sent home. Many artists, musicians, writers, and business people avail themselves of the Suffragist help.

### Women as Rulers.

Some of the German Princes now at the front, notably the Duke of Brunswick, whose wife is a daughter of the Emperor, have left their wives as regents.

### Mme. Schwimmer's Peace Mission.

Mrs. Fawcett writes on behalf of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies asking us to make it quite clear

that the National Union did not join in the appeal to the President of the United States asking for his intervention on behalf of peace, and the National Union is the only Society in Great Britain affiliated to the Alliance. Mrs. Elna Munch also writes from Denmark saying that she has been erroneously described as having supported the petition. It was not possible for her society to do so.

### Norway.

The Norwegian artist, Kitty Kielland, died at Kristiania on October 1st. She was born at Stavanger in the year 1843, and thus lived to be 71 years of age. She was the sister of the famous author, Alexander Kielland. In the 'seventies she studied art in Karlsruhe under Professor Gude. Later on she went to München and Paris, where her pictures were accepted in the Salon. At the Exhibition of Paris, 1889, one of her pictures, called "Toromyr," was bought by the French State. In 1908 she received the King's Service Medal in gold.

### Suffrage Work in Hungary in War Time.

The Suffrage Association of Hungary, with headquarters at Budapest, decided that instead of opening a Red Cross branch, they would devote their efforts to an employment bureau to find work for women who were without means of support since their husbands had gone to the war. The first order they had was from the City Government for 500 women street sweepers to clean up the streets of Budapest.

### Mrs. Catt on Imperialism.

Speaking at a luncheon in Yonkers, with which the fall Suffrage campaign opened, Mrs. Catt said: "There is right here in New York State a kind of Imperialism, the same thing that has made Imperialism possible. A divine right in kings makes it a divine right for men only to share democracy here. If we are to have true democracy, the voice of woman must be heard. Let us see that in New York State the star of hope, for which the people on the other side are waiting, will take its place in civilisation. Let us place it there!"

### Germany.

The German Woman Suffrage Society (Frauenstimmrechtsbund) expresses its warmest thanks to all English women for the active help which they have offered, on behalf of the various Women Suffrage organisations, to German women in England on the outbreak of war, helping them in their sudden difficulties, and ensuring them a safe return home. The German Woman Suffrage Society warmly reciprocates the greetings of the English Free Church League for Woman Suffrage, and shares its wishes for the speedy end of the war and resumption of international relations.

LIDA GUSTAVA HEYMANN.

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## PATRIOTISM OR INTERNATIONALISM.

In the boundless misery into which all Europe is plunged a dispassionate observer must be struck by the irony of the wholesale self-immolation. Every country involved claims with pride and with truth that one great result of the common danger and suffering to which its citizens are a prey, has been to unite them all in a common devotion to their country. We see the awful spectacle of world-wide destruction and the downfall of civilisation; the agonised cries of the dying and the despair of the bereaved are soothed by the assurance of the heroic performance of duty. Each nation is convinced that it is fighting in self-defence, and each in self-defence hastens to self-destruction. The military authorities declare that the defender must be the aggressor, so armies rush to invade neighbouring countries in pure defence of their own hearth and home, and, as each Government assures the world, with no ambition to aggrandise itself. Thousands of men are slaughtered or crippled, the best blood of every nation is poured out, millions of homes are ruined; art, industry, social reform, are thrown back and destroyed; and what gain will anyone have in the end? As well might one ask a madman who in a fit of frenzy smashes his home to pieces, what he has gained.

In all this orgy of blood, what is left of the internationalism which met in congresses, socialist, feminist, pacifist, and boasted of the coming era of peace and amity? The men are fighting; what are the women doing? They are, as is the lot of women, binding up the wounds that men have made. Every country tells a stirring tale of the devotion and efficiency of its women. But that is not enough. Massacre and devastation continue, and the world is relapsing into a worse, because a more scientific, barbarism than that from which it sprang. Women must not only use their hands to bind up, they must use their brains to understand the causes of the European frenzy, and their lives must be devoted to putting a stop for ever to such wickedness. What is the boasted patriotism which started and supports the European war? First of all, pride: each Great Power has encouraged national pride at the expense of humanity; each big nation feeds its children on pride in its fancied superiority in intelligence, culture, freedom, or tradition. To assert and spread this superiority by force becomes a national ideal. Meanwhile the smaller countries, devoid of megalomania and national vanity, pursue ideals of social reform, scientific research, and artistic development in the purer ambition of national growth, and their advances are shared in by the world without the "support" of militarism or imperialism. The Scandinavian countries, Holland, Belgium, and Finland, have been in the forefront of progress. Norway and Sweden have the truest democracy, the greatest equality between the sexes; their writers, Ibsen, Bjørnsen, Selma Lagerlöf, have struck a new note in literature; their people show the most widespread refinement and education. They have successfully experimented in temperance reform; their marriage laws and protection of children are the most enlightened.

Denmark has a similar record—people's high schools, co-operative agriculture, widespread well-being and education have distinguished it. The smaller countries do not need to assert their culture or seek to force it on other countries; they conquer by their own force in their own sphere. Their patriotism consists in the highest development of all that is best in their own country and in assimilating all that is best in other countries; in fact, the highest patriotism is seen by them to be internationalism. The Great Powers, on the other hand, in their national pride and vanity have sought to dominate the world; and not content to let their intellectual achievements conquer by intellectual means, have sought to impose them by force. Pan-Slavism struggles with Pan-Teutonism for dominance in the Balkans, British Imperialism is involved, and in the struggle civilisa-

tion receives a mortal wound. The other element which has precipitated the catastrophe is panic. Each Power, armed to the teeth, its legions ready to swoop down on its neighbours, is terrorised into striking, lest it should itself be struck. Hence no time, or insufficient time, is allowed for negotiations which might have succeeded had passion been allowed to cool. False patriotism relies upon armaments to uphold the national pride; the nations which have been impoverished for half a century in the name of "defence" hurl their manhood against that of their neighbours, and all are involved in massacre and ruin.

Secret negotiations between diplomatists, undertakings not sanctioned by the people, but held to be nationally binding, have tied them hand and foot and handed them over to be butchered. By another irony of fate the heaviest brunt has fallen on two helpless races not involved in the quarrel, the Poles and the Belgians. Women are powerless politically, but are on their way to enfranchisement, and their share in forming public opinion is a great and responsible one. If we are to "seek peace and ensue it," if we are to earn the blessing of the peacemakers, we must earnestly study the causes of the present criminal madness. False patriotic pride and love of conquest, the oppression of nationalities, must go. No race must be conquered or dominated, but must have full and free right to self-government. True democracy in every country must give the whole nation, men and women, the right to control their own destiny; secret diplomacy and alliances must go. Armaments must be drastically reduced and abolished, and their place taken by an international police force. Instead of two great Alliances pitted against each other, we must have a true Concert of Europe. Peace must be on generous, unvindictive lines, satisfying legitimate national needs, and leaving no cause for resentment such as to lead to another war. Only so can it be permanent.

MARY SHEEPSHANKS.

## THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON AMERICAN WOMEN.

The bitter part of witnessing, without having any power to prevent, intense suffering, is the common lot of women the world over to-day. American women, many of them bound by blood and affection to Europe, extend no light and easy sympathy to distressed humanity in the Old World in the present calamity.

The American Red Cross Society, mainly the work of women under the able presidency of Miss Mabel Boardman, has already sent to Europe thirteen units of doctors and nurses, funds amounting to nearly \$400,000 having been raised. These nurses, all of them fully trained, have sacrificed nearly one-half of their customary salary in order to serve. Funds have been started for the relief of the non-combatants of the different nations. On September 27th the *New York Times* estimated that in New York alone half a million dollars had been subscribed to the different public funds for purposes of relief since August 1st.

Most interesting, perhaps, has been the spontaneous action and expression of opinion among women which has been brought out by the terrible conflict. Soon after the outbreak of war one group organised a parade of women down Fifth Avenue to protest against a condition of society in which the forces of destruction could be appealed to in place of reason in settling differences between the nations. The parade was held in August, a month in which usually only those compelled by their circumstances remain in New York. Nevertheless, some 3,000 women clad as mourners, marching to muffled drums down New York's main thoroughfare, was an impressive spectacle to many thousands of people thronged on the pavements. At the head of the procession was carried the standard of peace, followed by Mrs. Henry Villard, whose hair has whitened in the cause of peace and Woman Suffrage.

No appeal was made to the driving power of any organisation of women. They marched as individuals spontaneously gathered to express a common sentiment.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association issued a nobly worded appeal for peace, which was addressed to all the States and the twenty-six nations having organised Suffragists.

Throughout the country women are getting together in organisations to educate sentiment not only among the general public, but especially among the rising generation. As one old lady put it: "Look at them boys playing sojers. If we women don't look after them they'll do it when they're men."

The prettiest attempt which has been made to create right sentiment among children is that of Miss Kate Devereux Blake, daughter of the Suffrage pioneer, Lillie Devereux Blake, who is gathering a petition to the monarchs from the children of America.

The outbreak of war has caused unprecedented financial conditions and considerable dislocation of trade and industry owing to the virtual suspension of imports and exports. Prices jumped up, and the cry of the panic-monger was soon heard in the land.

The National Housewives' League, whose President is Mrs. Julian Heath, once a declared "Anti" and now a strong Pro-suffragist, became very active, and made itself felt by the Commission appointed to inquire into the retail prices of food. It was matter for remark that while the women voters of Chicago were invited to co-operate in person with the city authorities, the voteless women of New York were merely invited to write letters stating any complaints! The housewives kept up a constant fire of criticism until in New York three open and free markets were established to bring together producer and consumer.

By an ironical coincidence during this carnival of waste in Europe the crops of the Northern hemisphere are most abundant this year. In the South the cotton crops were especially good. The curtailment of the market for raw cotton seems to promise disaster for Southern farmers cut off in this way from their main source of income, and the South appealed to the American public to create a market for its staple product. The National American Woman Suffrage Association sent a cheque for \$50 to the State Treasurer in each of the Southern States, and instructed them to buy a bale of cotton and hold it until the market recovered.

In the cotton crisis Miss Genevieve Clark, an ardent Suffragist, saw opportunity for giving practical assistance. Her plan is to organise a national bargain day in cotton goods. Retail traders are asked to reduce their cotton goods on one and the same day, and every woman is asked to buy at least a dollar's worth of cotton goods. Miss Clark is the daughter of Speaker Champ Clark, leader of the Democratic majority, whose household stands united as Suffragists. From some quarters criticism is levelled at any plan to solve the cotton problems which would include in its scope the manufacturer as well as the grower. Recent investigations have shown that the conditions of labour in some of the Southern cotton mills are very bad. The mutilation this year of the Child Labour Law by the "Antis" of legislation of George, and the blocking of a measure to empower the Interstate Commerce Commission to enforce some national standard in the matter of child labour, have caused deep indignation.

While individual Suffragists are both active and prominent in raising funds for Red Cross and relief work, as organisations American Suffragists have not deviated one step from the path before them. The present campaigns are the most important in which they have as yet been engaged. In the present autumn the question is referred to the electors of seven States having a population of nearly eleven million, while in 1915 the question will be referred to five great States having a population of twenty-five million.

Cure rather than prevention has been the function of the women of the past. The far-sighted woman to-day recognises this, and she is quietly determined that the mothers of the race shall no longer be left powerless.

The shock given by the war to the public mind has borne with it the moral that if government is based on force, then events show that the time is over-ripe for a change in the basis of government. This moral has been borne home by the American press, which has risen finely to a great occasion.

Thousands of men and women are awakening to a new conception of the importance of Woman Suffrage. The war has caused the Suffragists to make greater sacrifices than ever, as the following story shows:—A leading Suffragist in New York State has special cause for anxiety. One side of her family is French, while the other is German, and nineteen of her close relatives are at the front on the opposing sides. The private income she devoted to the cause of women was derived from a factory near the French frontier, now a ruin. The calamities which had overtaken her family only strengthened her determination to strike at the radical causes of the war, and she sold a much-treasured family heirloom in order that her work should not suffer during the campaign.

Suffrage organisations have been built for one single purpose, and though a large part of the public funds may be diverted to the more obvious appeal of relief funds, the best world-

service American women can do is to win for their sex the permanent good of enfranchisement.

The women of America have been thrilled with pride at the heroic way in which their European sisters have shouldered the whole burden of society. Their eyes have been opened by the declared policy of belligerent nations to encourage immediate marriages of recruits so that the birth-rates may not fall. To them it seems that at a time when men make war, women, who have been so sedulously instructed as to their limited sphere of activities, whom politicians have tried to make believe should be well content to be supported and represented by the male head of the house, may be left to bear children into the world in loneliness, and to support alone the rising generation.

The press of America, giving the highest praise to the heroism of the women of the warring nations, has made this perfectly plain. The women of America know that after the war is over their European sisters are not going to sink back into apathy. The enfranchisement of American women will make easier the enfranchisement of European women. It will give the world true democracy, peoples who are free, the only cure for militarism, despotism, and its train of evils.

EVA WARD.

## REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

## BOHEMIA.

Being a part of Austria, her whole life is under military control, all political progress having been stopped. It will, however, be of interest to know that the women of Bohemia more than those of any other combatant country are cursing the present war and wishing for peace, as they have not even the motive of patriotism to console or inspire them. More than any other woman she is condemning the folly of the war in which her sons must risk their lives against their will. Much is spoken about the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland under the Russian protectorate, but Bohemia is never mentioned, as little is known of her people's peaceful, true democratic feelings and real culture. And so only sufferings are in store for her without any hope for future compensation or any consolation, except the pleasant consciousness of the sympathies of other women who like herself have only one wish in their mind—the desire for peace.

M. TUMOVA.

## DENMARK.

At the little town of Lyngby, which has about 5,000 inhabitants, about 3,000 soldiers have been quartered. Nearly every family had to find room for one or more men. In houses where only a few men were lodged, the housewives usually undertook to cook the men's food, and the soldiers give their rations (worth about 8d. a day) to the common table; but where a greater number is quartered, the soldiers have to do their cooking themselves as best they can. As complaints have been heard that the food in such places was very badly prepared, women of the local branch of the Women's Defence League formed a committee to help. Some of the ladies undertook to take it in turns to help with the cooking at the places where it was needed. This help has now been given for several weeks, and the result is very satisfactory.

The same committee has given a concert and made a house-to-house collection, and with the money they got they have bought shirts, stockings, blankets, etc., for soldiers who were in need of such articles; they have also had garments washed and repaired for them. The Red Cross has in several ways given the committee its assistance.

The committee is giving a series of lectures on the History of Europe after 1848, every Monday night. Soldiers are admitted free of charge; others pay 25 ore (about 3d.).—Translated from *Kvinden og Samfundet*.

## THE DANISH WOMEN'S EMERGENCY WORK DURING THE WAR.

When the European situation became so grave that our authorities had to mobilise part of our forces, Queen Alexandrine addressed a request to our largest charitable organisation to be allowed to take part in the work the situation would make necessary. Out of this event the Grand Committee arose, the Committee of the Queen, the aim of which is to alleviate the general distress.

Then we have the Women's Committee (Country and Town), which helps all women whom the war has thrown out of employment. During the days when the crisis was gravest and trade paralysed, thousands of women lost their work—shop assistants, dressmakers, and domestic servants.

Several committees have been formed to supply socks, underclothes, etc., for our soldiers. Special workrooms have been started, and in these and in thousands of private homes the women are busy making and mending garments which will be of comfort to the soldiers.

The Red Cross Committee is working hard to supply bandages, etc., to the military hospitals, arrange for classes in first aid, and enlist the help of voluntary nurses.

As far as we can judge, things seem gradually to get back to an ordinary condition, and some of the distress caused by the effect of the war upon trade will thus cease. But all the same, we shall have much more suffering this winter than is usual, and we must hope that the generous help of Danish women will be given in as practical a way as possible.—Extracts from an article by Maria Behrens, in *Kvinden og Samfundet*.

### GERMANY.

#### THE WAR.

The spectre that rose on the European horizon again and again in the last few decades and disappeared, and which all with faith in the future hoped to exorcise for ever by the good spirits of civilisation, has suddenly come to life and in a night become a horrible reality. Events followed each other like lightning, setting the world on fire, and Germany was at war with all the strongest countries in the world, such a war as is unparalleled in the history of the world. In face of the inconceivable, not only the organised friends of peace in civilised countries, but all who believe in a new and better order of society stand aghast, overwhelmed by the fearful facts and by the conviction that something inevitable, a necessity of nature, must be accomplished before we attain the higher civilisation of our dreams. The result of this conviction is that duty to the Fatherland is the immediate duty, and must take precedence of all others. Amongst those who stand for a newer and better order are the workers in the women's movement, and Suffragists in the front rank. Women's claim to full rights as citizens is based on the one principle that in all human relations right alone and not might must decide. Thus when the outbreak of war threatens much that the whole nation has achieved, women's stake is even greater, and they must fear to be deprived of much that they have laboriously accomplished. But even our anxiety for all that we prized so highly falls into the background compared with our love for our country. Our unique task now is to preserve the soil in which our work is rooted, and to protect those for whom we worked and for whom we hoped for a better future for our sex against the misery and suffering of war.

German women, and, above all, those of the women's movement, are as united in this work as the men are who go to the war. They have joined forces in a great army led by the German National Council of Women (Bund deutscher Frauenvereine) to work as voluntary auxiliaries with the municipal authorities, the Red Cross, etc. Old and young, rich and poor, high and low, organisations of all descriptions, all offer to serve their country. Women have shown no hesitation, no private interests, no cleavage of race or class, only enthusiastic service for the great cause.

Amidst all that is terrible in these days we sometimes have a happy premonition that from all the sadness something great and splendid will emerge, also for our women's movement. This wonderful unity of our people, men and women, seems to see the dawn of a better day, and cannot be wholly lost in future happier days. If political parties each go their own way later, and women of the middle classes and proletariat pursue their ends by different means, the bond once established of mutual understanding and good-will will still remain. And we can expect a further result from these dark times: that our work for our country may be judged from a different point of view from that which has prevailed till now about women's work in war-time.

For our motive is not merely the old pity for men's sufferings in the field, not merely sympathy of woman for woman in the fate of thousands of mothers, wives, sweethearts, and sisters who have lost their dearest. Although all the depth and warmth of womanly feeling are still there, the driving force is now woman's feeling of citizenship which feels itself responsible for weal and woe of the whole community.

It is not the moment to ask whether this new feeling of citizenship will influence the recognition of the German woman as citizen. We must for the moment be content with the consciousness of doing our duty as citizens, and the confidence that

in time our efforts will be rewarded, and that right will triumph over might. Meanwhile we must endure, work, and never despair!

MARIE STRITT.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

#### NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

There is a great monotony in our lives. The newspapers are all full of one thing, and it must be the same in every other country. The men are absorbed in the war: the women are absorbed in lessening the suffering caused by the war. There must be many women who can only endure life at all by working as hard as they can all their waking hours. It seems almost ridiculous to be writing as if this were news from Great Britain: we know it is not only that. We know that we share the work and the sorrow and the indignation of all the women of all the other countries and the heart of womanhood, under all seeming differences, is fundamentally one.

The kinds of activity in which our National Union workers are absorbed are too many and too various to be adequately described here. Roughly, we may classify them as follows:—

(1.) Work for the soldiers and sailors at the front, whether in the provision of comforts for them or in looking after their families at home. In some places clubs are being started to cheer the soldiers' wives and give them places to meet when their work is done, away from the temptation of public-houses.

(2.) Hospital work and the provision of field hospitals. Nearly all women doctors are Suffragists and a good number of these have gone to the front. The Scottish field hospital has been equipped by the Scottish Federation within the National Union and is to go to Serbia. It is hoped to equip another for service in Belgium.

(3.) Work for refugees. In many of our large towns large numbers of refugees are being received from Belgium, and the care of these heroic and suffering people is claiming our best attention. I hope another column in this paper will record the adventure of the women who "ran over" from London to Holland with a food ship of £500 worth of goods collected in one day. Miss Macmillan and Miss Ellen Walshe, who sent this ship, are well-known members of the National Union.

(4.) Relief of distress. Here many members are working with the town committees, and, of course, the work varies in different parts of the country. Distress is not acute yet except in a few places, and great efforts are being made to readjust employment. Workrooms for women are opened in all our large towns, and women are being taught new trades.

(5.) Care of mothers and infants. This work has received a great impetus. Mrs. Hills (Miss Margaret Robertson), who was the chief political organiser of the National Union, has been over the country, helping women to organise a complete scheme for the due care of mothers, both pre-natal and post-natal. This, the National Union feels, is an important part of women's work in time of war, and Mrs. Hills has been visiting several places with a terribly high rate of infant mortality, and much new work is getting started. In Manchester and other large factory towns the nursing mothers are being fed; the school children are fed at school.

(6.) The difficult moral question has been very gravely considered, and the National Union is co-operating with other organisations in the provision of women patrols for camps. Mrs. Harley, of the Active Service League (who is a sister of General French), is also encouraging a special movement among young girls, and not only getting them to take the pledge of the League of Honour, but also to combine for active work and fellowship and amusement. English Suffragists have all read and digested that wise book by Miss Jane Addams on "The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets," and they realise that youth will have youth.

In all our work we never forget we are Suffragists and why. We work in democratic ways and as the comrades of men.

H. M. S.

### ITALY.

First of all, we beg most earnestly every member of Women's Suffrage Associations of any country, belligerent or not, in need of corresponding, and in view of the impossibility of doing so directly on account of martial law, to send their letters and papers to us, and to let us enjoy the great privilege in this hour of universal distress to be of some use and to be able to help some of our suffering sisters.

Because never so intensely did we before feel that all the women—especially those who fight hard for reorganising the world on a better basis, with a real fair sense of justice to everybody, women not excluded—are our dear sisters. Just for the new baptism of overwhelming sorrows, our sisterhood shall be more intensely felt and proved. I sent this appeal, in the name of our National Federation for Woman's Suffrage, a month ago, but on account of war my correspondence did not reach *Jus Suffragii* in time.

Very little Suffrage work is now going on in our country; its being neutral does not keep us out of the general sufferings. All women's associations now do relief work to help the returned emigrants flocking in thousands, and the wives and children of soldiers, to prevent the crisis of unemployment growing any worse and becoming aggravated by disease, famine, and starvation. Our Suffrage Committee, together with the Associazione per la Donna, succeeded in obtaining from the municipality and the Government the application of some laws making the cultivation of the *agro-romano* compulsory. The *agra* (land around Rome) is almost entirely in the hands of *latifondists*, or proprietors of large extensions of ground, in which they grow only hay, to save expenses. Now many of the owners have been, by this step, persuaded to cultivate their property with wheat and corn in the coming season, and so help to prevent famine. Women emigrants are being provided with work or money. There are a great many, and they come back in flocks, without clothes, starving, and with their children nearly dead of fatigue, fear, and starvation. All our Woman's Suffrage branches are represented on local committees for finding employment for women or for helping them when no work can be provided.

At its first meeting, on October 9th, our Executive gave its approval to Rosika Schwimmer's appeal for a plan of intervention and mediation for peace. A wish to stop the massacre and to see the most sacred sentiments respected is the least women can do now.

An association of men in favour of Woman's Suffrage was formed in Rome last July. Its president is On. Lollini. It will do propaganda work for us out of Parliament.

Also in July, women in Italy won a legal point in the case of a diplomaed lady who had inscribed herself on the roll of Collegiate Bookkeepers, and had been denied this right on account only of her sex. After a long discussion on the legal point, it was recognised by the Tribunal that no law prevents a woman from exercising the special offices that can be given in charge of a Collegiate Bookkeeper (*ragionere*).

But, as I wrote before, all these matters have subsided in view of the great need of helping unemployed women of every class.

Before closing my meagre report, let me, in the name of all the afflicted countries of the I.W.S.A., thank the I.W.S.A. for going on publishing our dear *Jus Suffragii*. It is for us all, I am sure, the gleam of light that keeps our faith and hopes alive in the darkness and horror of the present events.

Prof. ANITA DOBELLI ZAMPETTI,  
Corresponding Secretary,  
Federazione Nazionale P.S.F., Commissione  
Esecutiva, Roma.

19, Via Ezio, Roma, Italy, October, 1914.

### NETHERLANDS.

Amsterdam, October, 1914.

Dear Editor,—You wish to know what the women of the Netherlands have done and are doing during this terrible war-time. That is not so easy to explain, because in our country all that is done in the different Relief Committees and in other ways in these irregular days is done by men and women together. Though the mobilisation withdrew a lot of men from their daily work, their places could soon be filled by a part of the large number of unemployed men and women, unemployed in consequence of the world-war, consequences which are felt by little Holland very severely.

Even the Women Relief Committees, formed in the different towns of our country, joined the General Committees of that nature later, and then all the work was divided among them. But it must be said that the Women's Committees were nearly everywhere sooner ready and could start their work before the men were so far. That made it possible, that in many towns at the beginning of the war the women could do work which was most needful at that moment, and later much appreciated. The sudden mobilisation had called many breadwinners away,

and had left many poor and helpless families in a state of embarrassment. When on the first of August many husbands, sons, and brothers had to leave their families to go to the front as soldiers, many of the women and wives were left behind without or with very little money. It took two, three, and four weeks before they could touch the allowance Government pays the families of the men who are in military service, but in all that time many of them were in great need, and we women know what it means for a mother of young children not to be able to buy milk for the babies and not to have bread to satisfy the hunger of the other children. In Amsterdam and some other big towns the women formed committees to help those people, and did not wait till their whole organisation was planned out on paper in the usual way, but they started their work at once, so that on Wednesday, the 5th of August, already hundreds of women could be given advice what to do to get the Government's weekly allowance soon, what others had to do to find perhaps work, and to give all the poor ones who were in direct need tickets for bottles of pure milk, bread, and warm meals. It turned out to be work of the greatest importance, because soon not only women but also men who were in need came to our office, and while now all the destitutes through the war were helped with food, shelter, and advice, the large General Relief Committee could find time to organise the work promptly before war started. When that large body at last began its work by helping the poor with work or money, the Women's Committee did not dissolve entirely, but (in Amsterdam at least) with the help of the police officers they divided into fourteen police bureaux, where they daily have their hours to give advice and to help the poor in the meantime with food who cannot wait till the paying-day of their allowance arrives.

Another kind of work the women of Holland did, and which I have not seen mentioned by women of other countries, I find a reason to explain here. When in the beginning of the war for a short time the export to foreign countries of our beautiful fruits and vegetables came to a standstill, that valuable food then could be bought for nearly nothing. Some of our women at once wrote articles in our daily papers to advise other women to buy great quantities of them, and to preserve them in different kinds of ways for the winter. They told at the same time how to do it. Other women formed committees and bought the vegetables and the fruit useful for that purpose in large quantities, with money they got from the Relief Committee, and used the kitchens of the schools of domestic economy, which were empty through the holidays, of the orphanages, etc., to have them dried, tinned, and conserved in salt, so that the Relief Committee in winter will have a quantity of good food to sell cheap or to give to the poor. A lot of women who had become unemployed found paid work in those kitchens for weeks.

It seems everywhere to be easier to find work for a quantity of unemployed men than for women. Even in the interesting article in the *New Statesman* by Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Webb about this question, I did not find a new point of view. In our country a lot of women are given useful paid work by the committee of clothes for the poor. At the beginning that committee asked all inhabitants to send all the cast-off clothes to a central place (a large empty house on one of our canals), and in a few days this was filled with all kinds of articles. They then employed a lot of women to sift everything, to wash, clean, and disinfect every piece, and then to mend them, so that they really are of use for the poor to whom they are given.

In the beginning of October our relief work suddenly became overloaded by work of quite another character. During a few days more than half a million of Belgian refugees came over our frontiers and had to be taken care of in every way. The richer ones, people who have been lucky to save something of their money, could go over to England, but all the poor ones and those who had to fly so suddenly that they had to leave behind them all their belongings, and therefore were just as poor as the others, had to be provided with everything. Those poor Belgians who, just as we, never wished to make war, but who have been dragged into it, came by thousands and thousands over to our country in a state of despair. Poor mothers crying because they had lost their children, or some of them, children crying because they could not find their parents, whole families divided, many sick and crippled, mothers who were delivered of a child on boats, in tramways, on the road, in barns, or where they could find a place at that moment. These crowds, who soon were spread over our country and brought by steamers and trains to the different towns and villages, had to be provided with shelter, food, and clothes.

Our men and women, both alike, helped in every way. Women who before never would have thought of doing any social work came now to the front and offered their help.

One need not go to the battlefields to see the horrors of war and feel horrified. To have seen these desperate crowds is enough for every human being to damn the one who has brought this ghastly war over Europe. Those poor Belgian refugees also demonstrated who it is who have to pay the bill of the war. It was mothers and children, children and women, without end. Therefore, mothers of all nations, it is not only that we must combine and try at least to make an end of this war, but we also must work together to make future wars impossible. We have now seen that we cannot leave this work in the hands of men. The ballot will give us the greatest power to work for this end. As soon as possible we must let our cry for enfranchisement be heard again.

ALETTA H. JACOBS,

President of the Vereeniging Voor Vrouwenkiesrecht.

### NORWAY.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM DR. LOUISE QVAM TO MRS. FAWCETT.

We are very glad that the I.W.S.A. has taken the initiative and expressed to the Governments and the world the desire for peace and peaceful methods in settling the controversies between the different Governments, and I am sure that all the women are with you in this desire. I had intended to send a report of our National Norwegian Woman Suffrage Association's Conference in Kristiania on July 6th and 7th, but now I will only tell you that it was decided unanimously that our Association shall continue to work, although it has completed its first task, and obtained full and equal Suffrage for women. It will continue to work for women's partaking in municipal and political elections; for arousing their interest in public matters; for new election laws that are necessary to enable women candidates to be elected as members of Parliament; for new laws concerning sexual crimes where the women now are punished, but the men are not punished, or their punishment is almost nothing compared to their crime; new legislation for crimes against children, which are now punished very leniently; to oppose special industrial limitations of women's work, e.g., prohibition of night work for women, as a Bill enacting such prohibition is now to be considered by a Committee of the House; to collect a fund for women's professional education; to work for compulsory training in domestic economy for all young women, as a counterpart to men's compulsory military service. This latter point is specially necessary, as the time is now past when all young women learn these duties at home, though so necessary for the health of the nation. They now pass direct from the common school to the mills, factories, shops, and offices, and when they know nothing of cooking or housekeeping the result is bad homes and bad health; but I think it will be our most difficult task to get this reform through. Further, women intend to work for reading-rooms and churches for Norwegian sailors in foreign harbours—a very necessary work, both from a moral and an economic point of view.

So our Association has a great field of labour before it, which will extend as time goes on.

Miss Anne Brunn, a prominent Danish teacher, took part in our meetings as a guest. She said:—"Twelve years ago I was in Kristiania as a member of the first Scandinavian conference for women's cause. The Norwegian women had obtained the municipal franchise the previous year. I thought, and said in a speech, that when women had got equal franchise, women's cause would be at an end, and the movement would die. I thought everything was won when the franchise was won. Now I see that enfranchisement is only the beginning, only the introduction, to the immense work which will be necessary if women in future are to take the place in society and in the nation's life that they ought to take, and must learn to fill, if the people are to be able to advance, and little by little draw nearer to the ideal world—the world of happiness for all, small and great, men, women, and children." Here in Norway we have always known that the greatest part of the work had to be done after we got the vote. We have read with great sympathy and admiration in the *Common Cause* of the work done by the N.U.W.S.S. for women, who are the greatest sufferers from the war. And every day we sincerely

hope to get the news that the offer of mediation is accepted, but as yet our hope has been in vain.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Number of children per 1,000 who died in Norway under the age of one year:—

1890—98.2	1897—97.0	1904—75.5
1891—97.2	1898—91.0	1905—81.3
1892—104.7	1899—105.0	1906—69.4
1893—88.9	1900—90.3	1907—66.6
1894—103.8	1901—92.9	1908—76.0
1895—96.0	1902—75.0	1909—71.5
1896—96.4	1903—79.0	1910—67.4
		1911—65.1

1901, Women municipal suffrage. 1907, Women political suffrage. 1910, Full municipal suffrage. 1913, Full political suffrage.

Queen Maud has formed an Emergency Corps, consisting of two women from each of Kristiania's parishes. The Queen is directing the work herself, and money for food, clothes, etc., is being collected. The Corps has started kitchens where food can be had cheaply or for nothing.

Norwegian Women's National Council has started classes of different kinds for women.

Betty Kjelsberg, Inspector of Factories, is a member of a committee formed by the State to consider what can be done to check unemployment. All over the country emergency committees have been formed, and in these women as well as men do good work.

### THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY PEACE UNION.

Christian Lange, who since 1909 has been at the head of the central offices of the Interparliamentary Peace Union in Brussels, has lately come to live in Kristiania. In answer to an inquiry, he informs us that the central offices, on account of the circumstances in Belgium, have had to move to Kristiania. Part of the papers of the Union have already been removed to here, and the rest left at a safe place in Brussels. Kristiania was chosen because the town, since the outbreak of war, has proved to be an excellent central point for communication between all countries. "NYLAENDE."

### THE CENTENARY EXHIBITION

Is finished. It has surpassed all expectations, and has given a proof of the strength and ability of the people of Norway. It has stimulated to fresh activity all workers, whether their spheres are wide and far-reaching or humble and confined. The feeling that if the work is efficient it will all be for the glory of Norway will be more and more manifest.

As was to be expected, the step-children of the country, the women, had reason to complain, as they were forgotten on several occasions at the start. Then we did complain, and our complaints were listened to; and the women also became more and more satisfied, and perhaps the Exhibition will help to give more understanding of the value to the country of the work of its women.

When we look at the large exhibition halls we have to acknowledge that men and women are working together. The Hall of Machinery represents men's work entirely, and the Domestic Works Departments for the greater part women's; but in the Agricultural Department, the House of Industry, and in the Halls of Art we find both men's and women's names.

Naturally, the activities of women could not be made evident by exhibits to the same extent as those of men, but in the future I think we will realise better the fundamental value of the work of women, or perhaps we are giving to our exhibition too much of the credit which by right belongs to the European War! "NYLAENDE."

### SWEDEN.

The women at the outbreak of war formed a Women's Service Corps. This Corps was started by women of Stockholm, and it has many practical items on its programme. The most important is to find work for those who, through the stopping of factories, etc., have become unemployed. The Corps also gives help to families who, as a consequence of the war, find themselves without livelihood and cannot manage with the support given by the State and the municipal authorities. All voluntary work is registered and grouped, so that when any case needs assistance, the right help can at once be found. The Corps tries to regulate the employment of women

in such a way as to avoid crowding into the towns and thus increase unemployment there. It appeals to the women to co-operate through their women's organisations, and above all to let all party feeling and all private jealousies be forgotten, and all gather round one aim—the work for the well-being of Sweden.

Besides this Service Corps, many voluntary workers are giving their help through the Red Cross, Stockholm Women's Landstorm Union, and others. To ensure co-operation between the different societies, the Queen has formed a central committee, which has its offices at the Royal Palace. We find the names of Agda Montelius, Eva Upmark, and Emilia Broomé among those of the leaders, all four well-known advocates and workers for the women's cause.—Translated from *Kvinden og Samfundet*.

A WOMAN MEMBER OF THE SWEDISH COMMISSION ON FAMILY LAW.

The Swedish Government has appointed Emilia Broomé a member of the Swedish part of the Commission on Common Scandinavian Family Law. The Commission is to consider the mutual legal position of husband and wife, and legal questions relative to this, and Fru Broomé will hold the same position in the Commission as the male members.—Translated from *Kvinden og Samfundet*.

### THE UNITED STATES.

We Suffragists of the United States are as actively engaged as usual in our political and propaganda work, although we all realise most keenly the horror of the European War and the sufferings of all our friends whose countries are involved in the war. The splendid emergency work which is being done by the women in all European countries and in England will, we hope, hasten the ultimate recognition of the right of women to political power.

We know that all the women of our International Woman Suffrage Alliance—whose Suffrage work must be at least partly discontinued during this sad time—will rejoice as keenly as we do in the victories which we expect in November. As you know, Suffrage amendments will be submitted to the electors in seven of our States, namely, North and South Dakota, Montana, Nevada, Missouri, Nebraska, and Ohio. If these States win, we shall have 67 more electoral votes cast from States in which women have the franchise on the same terms with men. Women now have a voice in the selection of eighty-four presidential electors. If the States which we call semi-campaign States—that is, those in which the amendment cannot be submitted until next November, namely, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Iowa, are successful, we shall have in 1916, the date of our next Presidential election, a majority of electoral votes cast by States where women vote. This means that every great political party will have to endorse our movement before 1916, and that we can speedily secure an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which will enfranchise all of the women of our country. You can see, therefore, how necessary we feel the winning of each State to be.

Many of our best-known Suffragists are campaigning in the West. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, President of the National Association, is making a two months' tour, speaking two or three times each day. A man from North Dakota, who was passing through New York recently, said that the day Dr. Shaw arrived in Fargo she spoke at an immense street meeting lasting from 11.30 until one o'clock; that the business men of the town not only went without their noonday meal, but cried openly when Dr. Shaw spoke of women and the war. A special feature of Dr. Shaw's trip has been the back platform speeches. Since she cannot stop to hold a meeting in every town, the meeting comes to her at the railroad station, and she speaks from the platform of the train as it waits in the station for five, ten, or fifteen minutes, as the case may be. Miss Jane Addams will soon go to several of the campaign States, where she will make many addresses.

In October, many of our State organisations will hold their conventions. New York Suffragists are planning automobile tours, starting from the most remote corners of the State, and, after a series of meetings, reaching Rochester in time for the convention. On the 12th of November, Suffragists from all over the United States will meet at Nashville, Tennessee, for the Annual Convention of the National American Woman's Suffrage Association. Wonderful enthusiasm and interest are being shown in this convention by the Southern Suffragists,

who seem unaware of the prediction which one used frequently to hear that the South would never endorse Woman Suffrage.

ELINOR BYRNS.

N.B.—The call to the convention was published in the October number of *Jus Suffragii*.

### RUSSIA.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "WOMEN'S MESSENGER" FOR SEPTEMBER

The *Women's Messenger* celebrates its tenth birthday to-day. The editor regrets to say that only a small proportion of Russian women have as yet shown any interest in the question of political rights for women. Generally speaking, the consciousness of the close connection between social and economic disabilities and the lack of direct political representation have not as yet awakened, except among the few. Indeed, the prejudice against everything which savours of "Women's Rights" is perhaps best illustrated by pointing to the fact that several subscribers confess to being obliged to have their copies of the paper addressed to independent women friends instead of to their own homes, as in the latter case they run the risk of the paper being confiscated and destroyed by their parents or husbands, as the case may be.

"The Self-destruction of Europe" is the title of an article by the editor, Dr. Pokrovskaia, out of which the following is quoted:—

A new era is dawning for Europe; Europe has begun to destroy its own civilisation, which, in other words, means that she has begun to destroy herself. Her most civilised nations have attacked each other with burning hatred and merciless slaughter, and each side is determined to utterly crush and wipe out its adversary. Women! It is now your turn to take a share in the running of the world's affairs. It is you who must lead humanity out of this vicious circle of brute force and destruction. To love peace and to hate oppression is in-born in you. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "Lay Down Your Arms" are two of the most perfect expressions of true womanly genius. Women alone will succeed in finally doing away with the evils of war and oppression. To achieve this they must first liberate themselves and obtain their rights. Let this terrible war at least achieve the result of opening women's eyes to the truth: that power in the hands of women means a better future for humanity, the final abolition of the reign of physical force and of the exalted mania of world possession and domination by one people. The terrors of war, the torrents of blood, the cries and tears of mothers, sisters, wives, and children call upon all women to join the struggle for the possession of the power to put an end to all these horrors once and for all.

### WOMEN'S SHARE IN THE WAR.

The Russian women have shouldered their full share of the war. The fathers having left for the front, the mothers are faced with the task of supporting their families. The children are dependent upon the mothers' sole efforts for food, shelter, clothes, and education. Women have to work day and night to obtain these necessities. They act as porters, floor polishers\*, tram conductors, and in any and every capacity.

Necessity has suddenly swept away all obstructions which are placed in the way of the employment of women in professions from which they have hitherto been debarred. It is in the country districts, however, that women have had to shoulder the heaviest tasks. Upon them has fallen the entire agricultural work in addition to their own. But for their efforts and competency Russia would be threatened with famine next year. It is they who gathered the harvest, ploughed the fields, and sowed next year's crops. And all this was done by the same peasant women who are considered too ignorant to have a voice in our collective affairs and interests.

There has been a splendid and instantaneous response on the part of women to undertake the care of reservists' families and of the wounded and sick soldiers. A large number have gone to the front as nurses, others collect funds, make clothes, and give freely of their money and services. Great as is the service rendered by men who risk and give their lives for their country, the service of the women who bear the brunt of the daily cares in providing for their families is no less great. Let men, when the war is over, remember the work and self-sacrifice of women, and accord them their full citizens' rights.

\* In Russia the work of polishing floors is done by contract, and exclusively by men, who come regularly on fixed days and polish the floors by means of brushes which are strapped to the soles of their boots.

A Bill was introduced in the Imperial Duma to give duly qualified women the right to occupy the position of lecturers and professors at universities and at all establishments for higher education, from which positions they have hitherto been excluded on account of sex. The Bill also provides that women should be admitted to appointments at boys' schools and colleges as teachers of modern languages and of drawing, their salaries to equal those of men in the same positions; also that women should be able to hold appointments as school inspectors. The Minister of Education has, however, taken the view that women would not be strong enough to bear the strain entailed by the travelling from school to school in country districts. This is something of an anomaly in view of the fact that the Government employs largely women doctors to carry out medical work and inspection in the identical districts which would have to be dealt with by school inspectors.

Mme. A. T. Konshina, who is the owner of a large proportion of the ships navigating the river Volga, has contributed one million roubles (£100,000) to the Russian War Fund. This is the largest contribution received from any single individual in Russia.

On the initiative of the Women's Medical Institute, the University and all the establishments for higher education in Petrograd have decided to establish and support a hospital for wounded soldiers.

A number of the female medical students of Petrograd and Moscow have volunteered as Red Cross nurses.

The wife of a Russian Army captain, who is a good linguist, has petitioned the Emperor to be allowed to go to the front as interpreter. The request was granted, and she has now joined the troops at the front, having donned a soldier's uniform and cut off her beautiful hair.

Before the introduction of the Government regulation of the price of articles of food, dealers tried to profit by the war by raising prices. But the women, indignant at this unpatriotic action, seized the food exhibited on the market stalls, threw it on the ground, trampled on it, and poured paraffin oil over it.

Women have been granted the same pensions as men in all Government Departments of the Imperial Control Office.

The right of a married woman to have a passport issued to her irrespective of her husband's consent has led to a great deal of litigation in cases where husbands questioned the right of their wives to have passports issued to them independently. The Ministry of the Interior has now decreed that no litigation is admissible in any such cases, as a married woman has an absolute right to her own passport.

The Holy Synod, with the approval of the Ministry of Justice, has decided that in future it shall be the task of the clergyman who issues the baptism certificate to determine the "father's name" of an illegitimate child—a right which the mother of the infant is obviously better qualified to exercise.\*

A recent strike among women coal sorters for better pay, improved conditions of work, and decent treatment on the part of foremen has brought out the fact that the majority of the workers were between 12-18 years of age.

In several regiments which have left for the front wives have followed their husbands. The women are employed in picking up the wounded, applying first aid, and in doing general ambulance work.

Alexandra Danilova, aged 24, the wife of a reservist of the province of Kazan, appeared at the office of the Mayor of her town dressed in soldier's attire and with her hair cut short, asking to be allowed to enlist as a volunteer. Her petition was forwarded to the proper authorities. Several women are serving in the Russian Army as privates.

\* In Russia the usual way of addressing people is not by their surname but by their Christian name, to which the father's Christian name is added—i.e., "Ivan Michailovich" (Ivan, son of Michael).

The excellent influence of the total prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks is shown in the striking decrease in the number of cases of cruelty to children, also of cases of hooliganism, street brawls, and disorderly behaviour. There is also a marked increase in the average earning capacity of the factory and workshop hands. In the furniture trade this increase amounts to 20-25 per cent., in the tailoring trade to 15 per cent. On all sides petitions are sent to make such prohibition permanent. The Russian "Commission on the Drink Evil" has decided to petition the Government for the permanent closing of the public-houses, and the Petrograd Club of the Women's Progressive party is sending a similar petition.

ED. NOTE.—A decree has now been issued that the Government sale of alcohol is abolished for ever.

### THE MESSAGE OF THE WORKING WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN.

To Our Sisters of Other Nations:—

This year the British Section of the Women's International Council of Socialist and Labour Organisations holds its annual meeting in a time of international calamity. Our sisters and fellow-workers in other lands mourn, as we do, the devastation of France and Belgium and Eastern Prussia and Galicia. The loss of homes, the flight of terror-stricken women and children, the news of killed and wounded men, is a grief to us all, no matter to what nation we belong. In the war which has come upon us with such sudden ferocity we see the outbreak of old barbarities, and we feel that in this climax we must make sure that this will be the last time that the militarists of Europe will send the workers to meet death.

Capitalism, class domination, the failure to realise the full power of democracy, have brought upon us a more terrible war than history can record.

Women, shut out as they are from full participation in political action, cannot bear the same responsibility as men, when we come to weigh up the causes for this struggle. But though an equal share of responsibility is not theirs, the burden of the war itself falls upon them with even greater weight. The Labour and Socialist women of this country will work unceasingly to bring about a peace which shall be lasting—a peace that shall bring with it the hope that this shall be the last war, that secret diplomacy shall end, and a United States of Europe, based on free and equal citizenship of rich and poor, and of men and women, shall emerge from the wreckage of to-day. They look forward to a time when once again working women of all nations shall send their messages of fraternal greeting freely across the frontiers, and when the unity of the International movement, which for the moment seems broken, shall be bound again in the indissoluble bond wrought by the willing co-operation of free nations.

The women of Great Britain, seeing the distress which war has already brought to the working people of this country, yet realise that their lot is better than that of the invaded countries of Europe, and that the women of conscript countries must suffer far more than they do. In these few words of greeting to women overseas, they send their message of sympathy and friendship, and their hope for a future unstained by the barbarities of war.

(Signed) MARION PHILLIPS, Chairman,  
MARY LONGMAN, Secretary,

On behalf of the Women's International Council of  
Socialist and Labour Organisations (British Section).

### BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.

As, in the Plymouth Town Council, the question has been raised of the advisability, in the present emergency, of some measure on the lines of the C.D. Acts, the hon. secretary of the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union has written to the Premier (Mr. Asquith), the Secretary of State for War, and the Town Clerk of Plymouth, protesting against the possible granting by Parliament of special powers in the way of police regulations. The B.D.W.S.U. is acting in this matter in concert with the Women's Freedom League and the other Suffrage Societies. The women forming the Suffrage Societies and the women's political associations overseas, many of them the actual mothers of the young soldiers now arriving for the defence of the Empire, are unanimous in condemning any attempt to legalise vice.

### FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Dear Madam,—Would you be so good as to allow us to appear through your columns for gifts of books suitable for refugees and prisoners of war resident in this country?

Among the thousands now in Great Britain, the majority have "nothing to read."

The Free Church League for Woman Suffrage would be glad to supply this want by collecting books and forwarding them to different centres. In addition to French and German, Flemish books and magazines are especially needed, many of the refugee peasants speaking only Flemish.

Nothing abstruse, of course, should be sent, but literature to help pass the hours, which for many must drag so wearily.

Books should be addressed, carriage paid, to "The Secretary, Free Church League for Woman Suffrage, 13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane."—Yours faithfully,

JANE E. STRICKLAND, Chairman.  
C. FLEMING WILLIAMS, Hon. Secretary.

### American Notes.

WOMAN APPOINTED UNITED STATES ATTORNEY.

The appointment of Mrs. Annette Abbott Adams, of San Francisco, to the office of Assistant United States Attorney there, is arousing much interest, because Mrs. Adams is the first woman in the United States to occupy such a position. It is said that when Mrs. Adams' name was submitted last spring, her appointment was endorsed by President Wilson, although opposed by Attorney-General McReynolds.

Mrs. Adams is one of the most prominent women attorneys of her State. She is a graduate of the University of California.

JANE ADDAMS TO TOUR FOR SUFFRAGE.

Miss Jane Addams, First Vice-President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, will spend the greater part of October in a campaign tour in Nebraska, Missouri, Nevada, North and South Dakota, where Suffrage amendments will be submitted to the voters this fall.

Miss Addams' speeches are looked forward to with great interest as campaign arguments, because she will tell what has been accomplished by the women of Illinois during the years since they were granted partial Suffrage.

LESLIE LEGACY FOR SUFFRAGE.

Much interest has been aroused over the announcement that the Baroness de Bazus, who was Mrs. Frank Leslie, has given her fortune, estimated at \$2,000,000, to Woman Suffrage. It is true that the Baroness has left a will granting the residue of her considerable estate to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt to use for promoting the cause of Woman Suffrage, and that the bequests named in the will are comparatively small.

Suffragists, while appreciating their good fortune, regret keenly that there is no possibility that the estate will be settled in time for any of the money to be used for the 1914 and 1915 campaigns. New York women are especially grieved over this, as they felt, when they first heard of the legacy, that it would assure victory in New York, where it is expected that a Suffrage amendment will be submitted to the voters in November, 1915.

TEACHER MOTHER LOSES CASE.

The New York Court of Appeals has decided that the Board of Education of New York City discharged its duty fairly when it dismissed Mrs. Bridget C. Peixotto from its service last year because she absented herself from school in order to bear a child.

The report made by City Superintendent Maxwell to the Board of Education showed that a higher efficiency was being maintained by the married teachers. And Justice Seaberry, when granting a writ of mandamus ordering Mrs. Peixotto's reinstatement, said that child-bearing was a married woman's highest function, and to deny it would cause immorality.

The *New York World* says: "So the rule stands. Teachers who become mothers will continue to be discharged, and a million mothers not teachers will be affronted by thus making motherhood an offence. Married teachers will continue to avoid the duty and privilege of motherhood. Single teachers will continue to marry in secret, if they do not wish their hold upon their work to be shaken. This condition of things is

presumably satisfactory to the majority members of the Board of Education, since in law they are supposed to intend the inevitable consequences of their acts."

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

COLONEL ROOSEVELT IN OHIO.

In a speech made by Colonel Roosevelt in Toledo, Ohio, last week, he said, referring to the Suffrage amendment of that State:—

"I wish to speak of the issues before you in this State. The brewers and distillers have taken the field against Woman Suffrage, because they regard the entry of women into the rights of citizenship as a danger to the dominance of liquor in politics, which they have been trying more and more to establish. I saw this in Michigan, where every saloon was headquarters for the fight against Woman Suffrage.

"I ask you to give the women the right to vote not only as a matter of right to them, but as a matter of justice to the men who are striving to do what is right in public interest.

"When you see crooked politics and whisky interests, which have a natural affinity, fighting a thing, it is a pretty safe thing for decent men to support."

AN IMPROVED COURT IN LOS ANGELES.

In Los Angeles, where the women vote, they have a special police court for women offenders. This court is not open to visitors who out of idle, morbid curiosity, or possibly with worse motives, are admitted to stare at unfortunates. This court is one of the improvements since the women came into the right to use the ballot.

### THE CHILDREN'S PEACE MOVEMENT.

The school children of the United States are to be organised into a movement for the establishment of a world's peace. The idea belongs to Katherine Devereux Blake, President of the Women Principals' Association of New York City, chairman of a committee composed of six well-known New York women.

"My idea of a Children's Peace Movement," said Miss Blake, "is that it shall be educational, that children shall learn that peace is nobler and greater than war, and that the way they think and talk about peace is one of the important arguments in its favour.

"Through the school principals and the teachers we expect to reach every child in the United States, and form an organisation. As soon as the idea is well understood, a child shall be elected to represent each nation, and carrying a gigantic petition to which is signed the name of every child in America, the messengers shall make a trip to Washington, and present to the Ambassador from each foreign country the petition to every reigning monarch of Europe.

"The children of all foreign lands are to learn that the children of America are thinking of them, and would love to help them, and on that account are sending petitions to the Kings, pleading for an immediate armistice."

Miss Blake believes in the power of children, and her idea has already been approved by the superintendent of the public schools of New York, and President Churchill of the Board of Education, and, best of all, has been submitted to the Department of State in Washington, and there met with tacit approval, which is as far as the Department of State is ever represented in diplomatic affairs.

The official letter which the children of America are sending to the rulers of foreign lands reads as follows:—

To His Majesty the Emperor and King of Austria-Hungary,  
To His Majesty the King of Belgium,  
To His Excellency the President of the French Republic,  
To His Majesty the King of Great Britain and Emperor of India,  
To His Majesty the Emperor of Germany and King of Prussia,  
To His Majesty the Mikado of Japan,  
To His Majesty the King of Montenegro,  
To His Majesty the Czar of All the Russias,  
To His Majesty the King of Servia.

We, the undersigned, children of America, plead with you, the rulers of these great nations, to call for an immediate armistice, and to let the differences of the warring nations be submitted to the Hague Tribunal for amicable and just settlement, and to promise to adjust all future difficulties peacefully in the same way. We are the children and grandchildren of your former subjects, we are many of us tied by blood and affection to the soldiers now contending in their death struggle on different sides of this terrific

combat—we implore you to stop the frightful slaughter, for to us it seems like savagery fighting against civilisation. We beg this on behalf of the helpless children of Europe and Asia, who are being deprived of their fathers and their education, and are being irreparably degraded by the hideous conditions created by war.

The members of Miss Blake's Committee are: Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the International Suffrage Alliance; Miss Mary Garrett Hay, President of the Woman Suffrage Party of Greater New York; Mrs. Churchill, wife of the President of the Board of Education of New York; Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett; Miss Emilie van Beil; and Mrs. Haryot Holt Dey, Treasurer. The headquarters are at 101, West 85th Street.

PRESS BUREAU, EMPIRE STATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

#### MISS BLAKE'S LETTER.

Dear Children,—The committee are asking you to sign this petition in the hope that where people of high estate have failed, the tender voices of the children, raised to plead for the lives of their brothers across the water, may move the rulers to cease their strife. This war is raging, pretending to settle differences between races or nations that nothing but education will really settle. In America, where Germans, Hungarians, Austrians, Bohemians, Serbs, French, Russians, and British live as neighbours and their children meet in school and play, we know them all as brothers. It is for us Americans to try to show this loving brotherhood to the world, so that the swords may be beaten into ploughshares and all human beings work for the common good of all.

And what is this war doing to the nations engaged in it? The healthiest and best men of each country are being sacrificed—either dead or, if they return, they come back crippled or with health broken, and with the stain of murder upon their souls,—while at home the women and children with their feeble hands must reap the harvests that should be cut by the men that lie wounded and dead on the battlefield. The schools are shut, the children are starving, the factories are closed, and trade is at a standstill.

The neutral countries of Europe are suffering in the same way. Their men are massed on their borders, fearing that war may strike at them also. Their harvests, too, are ungarnered, or the women and children are forced to do the work of the absent men.

And America? We too must pay the price, though so far away, though our hearts are wrung by the slaughter of friends or brothers. Our mines, our factories, our lumber camps are also closed in many places, our trade is impaired; only the pockets of the farmers are made heavier because wheat is worth more now than that all Europe is hungry. But what American farmer rejoices at the high price of wheat when it means the deaths of thousands of good men and the changing of happy families into weeping widows and orphans?

Children, we want you to remember that *war is always a stupidity*. The territory gained by any war could be bought many times over by the money spent on war. In our own Civil War the purchase by the Government of all the slaves owned by the South at the highest market price would not have cost one-tenth of what the war cost, to say nothing of the thousands of brave men whose lives would have been saved. Our great Benjamin Franklin said: "There never was a good war nor a bad peace." War is the enemy of mankind. We hope that as you sign the petition you will make a silent pledge to yourselves always to work for schools instead of battleships and for libraries rather than batteries.

KATE DEVELEUX BLAKE,  
Chairman Children's Peace Petition Committee.

#### "Well-fed Suffrage Husbands."

When Cleveland had a Suffrage parade on Saturday afternoon, October 6th, one branch contained the order of the A.W.F.S.H., which means the Association of Well-fed Suffrage Husbands. This novel organisation was founded on the occasion of an informal gathering of men sympathisers, when it was discovered that the average weight of the men was 200 pounds. This was at once discerned to mean that husbands of Suffragists were unusually robust and well fed, and this was a tribute to the good cooking in the homes of the Suffrage women. There are to be 1,000 men in the parade from all parts of the State.

#### THE FALLACY OF "NO FIGHT, NO VOTE."

By MARION T. BURRITT,  
Field Secretary of the New York Peace Society.

"Women must not vote because they cannot fight." This has long been the last and final argument of the Anti-suffragist, the one that beyond question clinched his position that women should not share in the functions of government. We shall no longer have to point out, as heretofore, the most obvious answers to this objection: That women have fought and could fight, if it were thought to be socially desirable; that even among men there is no real connection between voting and fighting; or that women perform for the State service which is more than an offset to the service of the soldier. The need of these contentions will be swept aside in the general recognition of the fact that the same basic forces which are making it more and more essential that women should share in the councils of nations are driving war off the face of the earth for ever.

In Europe we have the spectacle of physical force raised to the nth degree, and we see what it is doing. It is creating a devastation so vast, an annihilation of civilisation so stupendous that it will take years—nay, even generations—to undo its work. Kindly Time, however, will eventually bind and heal. But one thing it will have annihilated past all habilitation, and that will be itself and men's belief in it as the fundamental basis of society.

Far from the ability to carry on war being regarded as a peculiar title to and qualification for taking part in government, there will soon be no man so firmly entrenched in the last ditch of the old order who will not see that war is the sign of the failure of government. It means that diplomacy has failed, that law has failed, that religion has failed, that reason has failed, that civilisation itself has failed. War is the supremist proof of the unfitness of man to carry on governments alone.

When hundreds of thousands of the sons of women lie dead and rotting on blood-soaked fields where the fruits of the bounteous earth should be ripening, and when many of the priceless works of men lie in ashes, then will the masses see what for a long time the most enlightened have been trying to make them understand: that physical force is useless in a modern state; that systems based upon force and conquest must be brought to an end; that conquests by force are not only morally intolerable, but economically and commercially futile; that, as Norman Angell puts it, a means of livelihood for a nation as well as for an individual, based upon having more force than somebody else and using it ruthlessly against him, is an impossible form of human relationship and one bound to break down.

With the spread of democracy war will disappear, for more and more will government become a matter of the consent of the governed, and it will be seen that governments must rest not upon force, but upon social co-operation, and those governments will be strongest which are established by the willing consent of the most people. Beside the strength of such a nation, Krupp guns and battleships are cheap affairs indeed.

The conception of governments as something apart from the governed will disappear. Governments will no longer be regarded as "powers" either to oppress the weak within their own borders or the weak nations beyond them. "The proper function of government is jurisdiction," the getting done the public business, and this public business is becoming so vast that manifestly men cannot manage it alone.

War, as well as the keeping of women in a state of partial subjection, is based upon false political theories and upon false social and economic conceptions. Both conditions are based upon a great delusion, and both will pass away together.

PRESS BUREAU, EMPIRE STATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

#### Women Stand for Peace.

It is a fact of some significance that the women who have done the most for the cause of peace have almost all been Suffragists—from the late Baroness Bertha von Suttner, who won the \$40,000 Nobel prize by her great peace novel, "Lay Down Your Arms," to Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead, the indefatigable American worker for peace. Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale, the two women who have done most to mitigate the horrors of war, were also Suffragists.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RELIEF COMMITTEE.—I.

The emergency committee formed at the headquarters of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance has now been at work for nearly three months, and workers and subscribers may be interested in a short report of its labours.

First of all, heartiest thanks are due to the able body of volunteers whose devotion has alone made the work possible. Gradually various departments have been formed, each with its staff. The work of supervising applications for relief, filing and indexing them, was begun by Mrs. Parsons, and on her departure for America was taken over by Mrs. Garrett Smith, on whom the heaviest burden has fallen. Assistants in this work have been Miss Oldham, Miss Ingram, Miss Hydeman, Miss Wetzlar Coit, Miss Gill, Miss Scott-Scott, and others. A large number of ladies undertook the interviewing of applicants and investigation of their difficulties, including Miss Stoehr, Mrs. O'Connor, Mrs. Ashington, Miss Ryke, Dr. Hilda Clark, Mrs. Leathes, Miss Roper, Miss Gore-Booth, Miss Schäfer, Mrs. Leggatt, Mrs. Thornley Gibson, Miss Playne, Miss Bryant, Miss Upcott, Miss Bell, Mrs. Sauter, Miss Thompson, and others.

The important work of arranging for the return to Germany of weekly parties of girls, in charge of an escort, has been organised by Miss Elsie Rae, who undertook all the work involved with the Home Office, American Embassy, and steamer and railway companies. In this work she was helped by Mrs. Gull, Miss Ellen Walshe, Miss Carson, and others.

Meeting of trains, packing of clothes for refugees, providing of outfits, making of badges, has been done by Miss Janet Carson, helped by Mr. Parr, Miss Melchers, Mr. Ahrens, Miss French, and others.

The heavy treasurer's work has been done by Mrs. Stanton Coit, assisted by Miss Garland and Miss Gürtler.

The general correspondence, which has also been very heavy, and the general direction of many affairs, have been done by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, who has also done the Press work, with Miss Walshe and Miss Bryant.

It is sometimes said that no one is indispensable, but in this case everyone has been indispensable.

The larger number of those applying for help have been Germans. During August and September many offers of hospitality were received for them—200 in all. Offers of work were more difficult to get—160 in all,—and gradually many of them have decided to return to Germany. One elderly lady, keeping a boarding-house, now deserted, in a prohibited area, and whose pension from Germany has ceased with the war, has been visited by the local Suffrage secretary, and 10s. a week has been sent her. Her brother was put in communication with a committee, which is helping him. A German lady, once a governess, but whose husband had lately deserted her and been proved a bigamist, was left stranded with three children. £1 a week was allowed her until she could be provided for. Another German woman, expecting a child, was in great trouble. She was about to be married to the father of the child, when he was recalled to serve in the army. She was regularly visited and given a weekly allowance, treated by a lady doctor on the committee, and her confinement in a maternity home arranged and paid for. She is now, with her baby, receiving every care in the country house of a lady, who has even engaged a nurse to look after her, and who is instructing the very ignorant young mother in the care of her infant.

A middle-aged German governess who had been in English families for many years, could find no employment, and had no friends left in Germany. She was attached to England, which had become her home. For a month her expenses were paid in a boarding-house while she looked for work; then, as none was to be found, she was offered hospitality by an eminent professor and his wife. Finally, she found a friend in Germany able to receive her, and returned with many expressions of gratitude, and hoping to come back to England in better times.

A young German girl of good family, with no parents, lost her situation as companion, and feared to return to Germany, as her brothers were at the war, and she had no home. For two months she was hospitably entertained, and spent a happy time. Then, seeing no prospect of work, she returned with one of our parties to Germany.

A Hungarian lady, whose relations were in Java and Budapest, fell ill, and was nursed in Guy's Hospital. She was, however, in a critical mental condition, and needed further rest

and treatment. She was therefore cared for in another hospital until able to travel home.

Bohemians are in a particularly difficult position. The condition of Bohemia has prevented their return to their country, while here they are classed as alien enemies. One lady, a Suffragist, had come over to study the women's movement before the war. Suddenly her supplies from home ceased; she was penniless. Hospitality was found for her, first in Hampstead, then in Cumberland, whence she wrote: "It is a miracle, all that happens to me in England." Finally she had the good luck to share in a charming offer of hospitality which has come to foreign women from women students in our universities.

University College, Bangor, offered free board, tuition, and all the advantages of the College to five foreign women stranded through the war, and this Bohemian Suffragist will be there till May. She writes enthusiastically of the beauty of sea and mountain, of the pleasant company, the interesting lectures, and the kindness she experiences. With her is a young Pole, who had received money from home until war broke out, and supplemented it with lessons. Now allowance and lessons have stopped. Warm outfits were provided for these students.

Others are enjoying similar hospitality at Oxford—one of them a Bohemian teacher. Our first effort to help her was to provide hospitality with the wife of a member of Parliament, Mrs. Corbett, who fitted up a wing for foreign guests, where many mixed nationalities spent many happy weeks. Another protégé of ours, a young Danish journalist, was one of those to benefit.

At last, however, as war conditions make employment scarce, we urged the Dane to return to her own peaceful country, and the Bohemian went to Oxford, from where she writes blissful letters.

Another girl whom we sent there is a young Russian journalist, whose work is much diminished by the war, and who was anxious to have an opportunity of learning English.

Another lady befriended by Oxford is a young Frenchwoman whose husband is fighting. St. Hilda's Hall entertained her during the vacation, and she is now giving lessons in Oxford, which she says is the most beautiful place she ever saw.

The French wife of a German teacher was a difficulty. We confine our help usually to women who are either single or widows, or temporarily separated from their husbands; but in this case there were special claims for help and sympathy. Work was found for the wife as chaperon-companion to a young girl in the afternoons. She is able to remain with her husband. Hospitality has now been found for husband and wife.

A Hungarian girl was provided with a situation in Ireland. The distance seemed an obstacle, but references were satisfactory, and the arrangement is turning out happily.

Two Russian girls, refugees from Paris, applied for help. One was found to be consumptive, and is being treated in a sanatorium; the other sister has been provided with hospitality.

A Russian laundress, with one son in the Russian Army and one in the British, was left without support. Eight shillings a week has now been obtained for her through the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association.

The French applications that came before the Committee were less numerous than others, possibly because it is not so usual for French girls to leave home to earn an independent living. Situations were found—governesses and mothers' helps,—and Mme. Rudler, working in concert with the French Consulate Relief Society, undertook other cases recommended to her.

English people have not as a rule been helped, as other funds and societies are open to them. Exception has occasionally been made for fugitives from France and Germany, who have been driven from their homes and deprived of their livelihood by the war. Englishwomen from the stables at Chantilly have been helped to return, and temporary help and hospitality have been given to English teachers obliged to leave Berlin and other German towns. The wives of aliens constitute a very large and serious problem. Hundreds of waiters and hairdressers have lost their work, and their families are in dire straits. In many cases a temporary weekly allowance has been given until the case could be taken up by the society whose special work is to deal with such cases.

The Press campaign of the baser papers against innocent aliens has been fed by the fear of spies, and in this case, as so often, cowardice and cruelty go together, and have inflicted great suffering on harmless families.

These few examples, taken at random from the many hundreds that have been helped either by work, hospitality, temporary allowances, or repatriation, may give a slight idea of the kind of work that has been done.

There can be no doubt that much suffering has been alleviated and many anxious minds cheered by the kindness and sympathy shown, as well as by the material help given.

Altogether about 1,200 cases have been dealt with. About 450 have been helped back to Germany.

In addition, a large number of letters have been received from foreigners in provincial towns, Scotland, and Ireland. Many of them have been visited at our request by the local representative of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and advice and help given.

## II.—BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND.

A new chapter in the international relief work was opened by the bombardment and fall of Antwerp. Miss Ellen Walshe was in Holland escorting a party of German girls from London to Goch during those terrible days, and not only saw and heard the bombardment from a distance, but was a witness of the wholesale influx of fugitives into Holland. Thousands upon thousands of helpless families thronged the roads, sleeping in the open, and vainly attempting to get food. Flushing, with a normal population of 20,000, had 80,000 refugees; for days and nights the station and all surrounding sheds and roads were packed by a dense throng. As all towns and villages within reach of the frontier were similarly overcrowded, neither food nor shelter could be provided. The trains were so crowded that babies were taken out dead, and on the station platforms babies were born. Children, terrified by their fearful experiences, shrieked in terror, and men and women were driven mad. The need for help was urgent, and Miss Walshe brought an appeal to the International Women's Relief Committee for food. This appeal reached the office at midday on October 13th, and that very evening four great railway trucks of food were shipped to Flushing, including 20,000lb. of bread and large quantities of chocolate, condensed milk, and biscuits. The direction of operations was taken by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, to whom the success of the whole transaction was due. In the course of the afternoon she obtained the consent of the Government Departments concerned to the export of food (otherwise forbidden), facilities and remission of dues from the Port Authority and Customs, special wagons on the train, and special handling by the steamship company. It was at first proposed to send a number of workers, and many volunteers came forward from the N.U.W.S.S. They did much to collect gifts of food and clothing, but it was found that Holland could only use its own helpers, so their services were not required abroad. Then came the question of money. There were no funds in hand for such an enterprise, but it was certain that the money could be raised later, and it seemed a good risk to take. A visit, however, was paid to the Belgian Minister, and he gladly granted £500 from the Belgian Relief Fund. The next day Miss Walshe's narrative was published in the Press, and the response was immediate; money poured in, and each day further large consignments of food were shipped. Within a fortnight £2,000 worth of food was sent, and £1,200 in cash, and, as will be seen by the financial report, further sums have been forwarded since. In order to see exactly what help was needed, and to assist in distributing the food, Miss Walshe, Miss Boileau, and myself went to Flushing on October 15th. We found that all the food was exactly of the kind wanted, being ready for immediate consumption.

### RELIEF WORK OF THE DUTCH.

The work of organising relief was being carried on by the Dutch with zeal and skill, and what appeared to be an unmanageable problem was being successfully controlled. The ladies' committee had established themselves in the railway station, and worked day and night in registering names, finding lost relatives, and sending the wanderers to some shelter. Large blackboards had little notices to relatives from those seeking them; every blank wall or hoarding was covered with names and messages inscribed by thousands of homeless men and women seeking each other. Mrs. Van Raalte and Mr. Niftrik, members of the local committee, took us to visit the shelters. No words of mine can describe the pitiful tragedy of those harbours of refuge. The great coal sheds near the station were one vast dormitory; the ground was spread with straw, and packed together, side by side, were hundreds of men, women, and children, sleeping in their clothes, with

ashen faces and uneasy moans. Great naphtha flares lit up the sheds, which had no windows, and kindly Dutch soldiers stood on guard. A woman begged milk for the children, and warmed it over a little stove at the far end; her old mother, aged 82, was with her, and her daughter, who had just given birth to a child. Four generations of women driven from home and deprived of everything.

We next visited school buildings, now, like all other available space, packed with refugees, all lying on straw, silent and motionless.

Next morning we visited Middelburg, and found streets and market-place black with fugitives. Early in the morning they leave their night shelter, and having nowhere to go, wander about the roads, each carrying a little bundle of all they have rescued. Mrs. Anne Bolle, a young woman lawyer, president of the local Suffrage society (Bond), and treasurer of the Provincial Relief Committee, kindly met us, and with Mr. Deirse, Mr. Hiller, and another, showed us the provision made in Middelburg for the food of fugitives. Large mills, factories, schools, sheds, workshops, barns, were all filled with innumerable families, neat white-haired old ladies, frail mothers, young girls, and tiny children, all trying to preserve some decency in the promiscuity of a mixed public sleeping-place. At various centres food was served—coffee and bread and margarine morning and evening, and soup at midday. Here again the Dutch ladies were working without pause, and surely earning the blessing of those who feed the hungry. In the evening we attended an informal meeting of the Provincial Relief Committee for Zeeland, when telegrams were read from the mayors of twenty of the surrounding towns and districts asking for necessities and giving the numbers of refugees.

The following are a few approximate figures, taken at random from the burgomasters' reports:—

	Inhabitants.	Refugees.
Province of Zeeland .....	300,000	500,000
Flushing .....	20,000	30,000
		varying to 50,000
Middelburg .....	18,000	7,000
Sluis .....	1,500	8,000
Aardenburg .....	1,500	5,000
Breskens .....	800	2,000
Hansweert .....	1,200	17,000

Everything was needed for these destitute people—food, clothing, blankets, and money. After hearing particulars, we telegraphed and wrote to Miss Macmillan for further supplies, including baby clothes for the many new-born infants. The Mayor of Bergen op Zoom wired for "all baby articles."

It was decided to charter a small ship, and take the supplies sent by the I.W.R.C. to neighbouring villages; and on October 17th we had the pleasure of embarking on a boat laden with bread, condensed milk, chocolate, biscuits, and other food. We crossed the Scheldt to Breskens, where a large consignment was unloaded for consumption in Breskens and Sluis. The same throngs of refugees filled the roads and quays, forlorn and silent, the same devoted kindness was doing everything possible to alleviate their misery. Terneuzen was the next stop, and from there we sent the boat on to Hansweert, while we went by motor to Sas van Gent and Axel. Hansweert had 15,000 fugitives living on barges, as well as 2,000 in the village. At Sas van Gent we visited one of the hundreds of barges, now the only homes of thousands. It was bitterly cold, and hundreds of people stood about on the barge or on the bank, blue with cold. Peering down into the hull, we saw the straw-strewn floor, the sleeping-place of 300. A well-dressed family told us how their house and all their property had been destroyed. The man was a diamond cutter. They dared not return. So there they stood or sat, hour after hour, all day long, on the bleak barge, with nothing to do, nowhere to go, no hope, with only foreign charity between them and starvation. Another family spoke to us; well-to-do farmers they had been, now penniless, their house burnt down, everything destroyed. Their clothes were good, and the mother had managed a clean collar for the little boy; well-educated people, now herded together, with hundreds of others, on straw, with no privacy, nothing but bare life. In an empty circus tent the same scene: a mother with five children had been walking day and night for three days; the skin was off the children's feet, for three weeks they had been homeless, and had not had their clothes off. They had saved nothing, and the poor mother was wretched at the children's dirty clothing. A man who had been back to

Antwerp found his shop looted, and returned to Holland. Sas van Gent had another variant of the same sad scenes. A huge factory of four storeys height, but without floors, had lately been built, and was still unfinished. Within it 2,000 people got what shelter they could. The builders' planks had been collected, and little rabbit hutches built, into which a family could crawl on hands and knees. One such shanty had chalked over its entrance, "Villa Maria Theresia."

At Axel the streets were thronged, and the crowd was greater than any we had seen. One farmer had 1,100 sleeping in his barns. In a little shed, with no window and half full of potatoes, we saw a young mother with a new-born infant. In the church we found the pews cleared to the sides, and the nave covered with straw and sleeping children. It was early evening, and the men were still outside. In the pews sat sad mothers, like patient dumb animals, stunned with grief. These people had the previous day been back to their ruined homes, but found them wiped out, and the devastation and terror worse than exile, so had fled back to Holland.

Returning to Terneuzen for the night, we asked the Dutch gentleman who was directing the relief whether it was impossible for the fugitives to go back. He replied that he had first-hand evidence from people he had known all his life in Belgian villages that no one was safe.

Although the vast number of refugees were too great a burden to be borne by a small country like Holland, all the Dutch relief workers told us the same—they would rather bear the burden and risk than drive their helpless guests back to the horrors from which they had fled.

Each place we visited revealed some fresh depth of suffering. Hulst, which we visited on Sunday, the 18th, was unbearably crowded. As we approached the little town we had to make our way through masses of Belgians grouped along the road, and we found that after every house and building had been taxed to its utmost extent, the rest of the people had to camp in the market-place, where tarpaulins from the barges were stretched from tree to tree. The usual family parties were sheltered close to a number of runaway horses, and beyond them were derelict army motors, and close by were the arms and accoutrements of the interned Belgian and British troops from Antwerp.

At midday we watched eight huge cauldrons in a field kitchen turning out soup for the refugees, who were, as usual, being looked after by kindly Dutch soldiers, who were like big brothers to all the children. The ladies who took us round were devoting themselves as whole-heartedly to their noble task of life-saving as in the other towns, and one did not know which to admire most—their utter selflessness or their wonderful efficiency!

In a school near by we found a little impromptu maternity ward, with 30 mothers under the care of Belgian refugee nuns. A supply of baby linen had been sent by the Queen of Holland, and everything was neat and clean, and a blessed relief from the great mixed shelters. In a neighbouring hospital we saw many wounded, and in the square a number of disarmed soldiers. The organisation that could cope with such a cataclysm is above all praise; but when all that human hearts and brains could do was accomplished, it was evident that the situation was impossible, and that unless it was speedily relieved by the departure of these hapless fugitives, their generous hosts would pay a heavy penalty. It was impossible to provide accommodation or food, and the danger of famine and epidemic was acute, as well as other dangers from a large unemployed and homeless population. It was impossible to sound the depth of suffering of these unfortunates, who had been overtaken by the cruellest fate—invasion, conquest, and exile. Modern history has no parallel to so vast a disaster. Three months ago a prosperous, peaceful, and industrious nation, intent on its own domestic life, and contributing to the great stock of science, art, literature, social reform, agricultural development, and industrial progress out of all proportion to its size, and as only small nations can—and now, its homes destroyed, its country devastated, its towns wiped out, and its population stripped of everything and scattered to the winds. The only consolation amidst such boundless misery was the equally boundless goodness of the Dutch people, who were making sacrifices on an unprecedented scale to meet an unprecedented disaster. The story of Dutch succour will be as immortal as the story of Belgian suffering.

All that we saw was only a fraction of the whole, but enough to move us to do all that was possible to put the facts before the British authorities and public in the hope of getting further help. Miss Macmillan, Miss Walshe, and Miss Bryant poured

out a stream of information to the Press, which took up the question warmly, and generous donations flowed in, and were without pause shipped off to Flushing. Besides money and food, 100 cases of clothes were sent in a fortnight. No final solution of the question has yet been reached, but the Relief Committee in Zeeland have expressed the warmest satisfaction at the timely help received, and the urgent need that it should be continued. To all those whose liberality made this work possible, hearty thanks are due. The treasurer's detailed statement is appended.

MARY SHEEPSHANKS.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer wishes to supplement above recital of the work undertaken by the International Women's Relief Committee by a few figures showing what sums passed through the office since the Relief Committee constituted itself. She wishes to explain that none of the money belonging to the Alliance has been used for the relief work. The Alliance, however, continues to pay the rent of the office, with fire, light, etc., and the salaries of the editor of *Jus Suffragii* and a lady clerk. All additional expenses are borne by the new fund, for which a separate banking account has been opened. The editor of *Jus Suffragii* at the beginning of the war offered to have her salary reduced by one-fifth to lessen office expenses, and this generous offer was gratefully accepted by the committee.

The committee wish to thank all the kind friends who by prompt and sustained contributions made their work possible. Especially do they want to thank those who quite at the beginning of the war came forward and offered not only money but their homes to the stranded women whom the war had overtaken in our midst, and who not being able to communicate with their relatives soon found themselves in desperate straits.

Till travelling became safe these ladies—mostly Germans and Austrians—were cared for in the homes of hundreds of English families. Most touching letters accompanied these offers of hospitality telling how the writer remembered happy times spent in Germany, and how therefore he or she wished to render service to a German in distress.

The list of names of all those that offered such assistance would fill many pages, and therefore we must refrain from individual mention, but we wish it to be known by friends in foreign lands how generous was the response of English families to the needs of the innocent victims of the war.

### GENERAL RELIEF FUND.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Up to October 31st received .....	473 9 4
(which includes a grant of £100 from the Central Council of the United Alien Relief Societies' War Fund)	
Repatriation Cases .....	141 6 10
Maternity Cases .....	13 5 6
Help for Getting Nurses' Training and Uniform .....	8 0 6
Maintenance Grants .....	49 17 3
Temporary Cash Relief .....	57 0 7
Additional Office Expenses, Clerks' Salaries, Postages, etc. ....	41 6 5
	£310 17 1

### "BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND" FUND.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Received up to October 31st .....	3,423 2 3
(which includes a grant from His Excellency Comte de Lalaing, Belgian Minister, of £500—see below)	
Cash transmitted to the Dutch Ladies' Committee, through Mr. De Bruyne, British Vice-Consul at Flushing .....	1,280 0 0
Food sent to Flushing .....	1,358 7 8
Blankets sent to Flushing .....	137 0 0
Cost of Transport, Telegrams, Postages, etc. ....	98 8 2
	£2,873 15 10

ADELA COIT, Hon. Treas.

### LIST OF DONORS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING FOR BELGIAN REFUGEES IN HOLLAND.

Mrs. Huth Jackson, London (for £50); Miss Sutherland, London (for £5 15s.); Messrs. James Epps and Co., cocoa and chocolate (for £78 16s. 5d.); Andrew Melrose and Co. (36 dozen bottles Sun Coffee Essence); Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. (condensed milk value £125); the Misses Ruxton; Miss S. Marjery Fry, Birmingham; Miss J. C. Patbury, Richmond; Miss Plainline; Dr. Christian Simpson (for £1); Miss Salt; Miss Gladys O'Connell; Miss Ibbotson; Miss Boileau, London; Miss Avery, Bromley; Dr. Simpson, Cambridge; Miss Salt, Aberystwyth; Miss Ibbotson, Chichester; Mrs. Skene Keith, London; Miss Tidwell; Mrs. Mews, London; Mrs. Moore Brabazon, Reading; Miss Rae, London; Miss McConnell, London; Mrs. Draper Elliott, Sandhurst; Mrs. Grant, London; Mrs. Clifford, London; Mrs. Max Snapper, London; Mrs. Turner, Hampton Wick; Mrs. Paset, London; Miss Wood, London; Mrs. F. Watson, Oxford; Mrs. Peile, Shotley Bridge; Mrs. A. G. Easton, Halesworth; Mrs. Scott, London; Miss Lousley, South Woodford; Misses Marshall, Harrow; Mr. Payne, London; Miss Sunderland, London; Miss M. M. Baker, Folkestone; Miss Curteis, London; Mrs. Francis Heath, London; Mrs. Burt, London; Mrs. Hugh Eyres, London; Mrs. L. Mallalieu, Llandudno; Miss Christie, London; Mrs. E. H. Santez, Blackwater; Miss E. Weltch, Aldeburgh; Mrs. Holman, London; Miss Holiday, London; Mrs. Stuart, Littlehampton; Mrs. Robinson, Pinner; Miss Eva Lomax, South Woodford; Mrs. Francis Heath, London; Mrs. Burt, London; Mrs. Hugh Eyres, Richmond, Yorks.; Misses Collier, Betchworth; Miss H. C. Wynne, London; Miss Jacob-Hood, Emsworth; Miss Beatrice Carter, London; Misses Moberley, Haywards Heath; Lady Fryer, London; Mrs. E. Taylor, Oldham; Miss D. Molesworth, Worthing; Mrs. Knight, Malvern, Lincs.; Mrs. Godfree, London; Miss Whitworth, Hove; Miss Hoare, Winchester; Mrs. Hodges,





## HUNGARY.

At the first news of the war our members and co-workers rushed home from their respective summer residences where they had meant to spend their holidays. Our feeling was utter despair at the sight of the breaking down of the whole world of ideals: hope and firm conviction in the development of mankind, advance, culture, humanism, peace, love, and esteem of nations one to another. Everything seemed to crumble, and we saw destroyed in an hour all the result of our life-labour built up by hard work and patient toil of many years. Only the necessity of fresh work, new duties, which life and tragic events forced upon us, gave us the courage to live, to help thousands of destitute and desperate women and children who suddenly had to face misery and despair. The first action was that of procuring work for the wives and relatives of those men whom the mobilisation snatched away from their work and their home, and to those who lost their income at the standstill of industry and commerce caused by the war. Our second duty was to care for the children whose mothers or relatives were taken away from their home by their new work.

An appeal was sent to the members of the Feminists' Association to ask them to seek for offers of work and to aid in our new action. The answers to our appeal were so numerous, the rush of men and women asking for work, help, and advice so great, that the police had trouble to bring order in this crowd. We succeeded in substituting social work in place of charity, and encouraged women to accept work rather than to fall with their family upon charitable help. We persuaded well-to-do women to take part in our social work, and leave nursing, knitting, and sewing to those who earned their own and their families' living by it. We saw with pleasure that the popularity of our Association grew by these actions, and we gained many members who suddenly recognised the necessity of feministic principles. Generous gifts were freely sent to promote our work.

Our agencies gave employment in August to 5,008 women; our work-distributing shop gave occupation to housewives and mothers who could not leave their home. Their children were guarded and fed in our daily kindergarten and homes.

On the 26th of September we held a national meeting preceded by a National Committee meeting. At the latter we have discussed the means of co-operation of the central headquarters of the Feminists' Association and the provincial branches. We greatly rejoiced to see the delegates of our branch societies who, notwithstanding difficulties of communication, were present.

The great public meeting was attended by a large audience and the delegates of many societies for humane and charitable work. The president's address was the first loud appeal for peace which was uttered in Hungary since the outbreak of war. Her brave and heartfelt words were fully appreciated and applauded by the audience, her wise proposals for centralisation and co-operation of societies in these very trying days being readily accepted by the delegates of the most prominent and large societies. These propositions will be the basis of future deliberations.

The reports of the work of our headquarters, as well as of the branch societies, proved that the Feminists' Association was true to its programme and principles, kept up and carried them through under the most trying and difficult circumstances. Applied feminism we could call this very sad chapter of the history of feminism in Hungary.

We feel great satisfaction at the action for peace of Rosika Schwimmer, and hope for a day to come in which the tragical infatuation of nations for war will give way to peace and sobriety.

EUGENIE MISKOLEZY MELLER.

Budapest, October, 1914.

## OHIO SUFFRAGE LOGIC.

"We have a woman in our State," said the Cleveland woman, "who pays 30,000 good dollars in taxes. She has brains, and conducts a large business. She employs hundreds of people, but she hasn't brains enough to take one-hundred-thousandth part in deciding the questions of the city government.

"This woman is a widow.

"Every married man may leave a widow before another sun has risen. He may not leave her a great fortune, but what he does leave will be subject to tax, and he will die, knowing that she will not have one iota of control over the amount she contributes.

"We invite Ohio men to think of this."

## THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we nailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose bright stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight  
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare,  
The bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
O say does that star-spangled banner still wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?  
FRANCIS SCOTT KEY.

O say can you see, you who glory in war,  
All the wounded and dead of the red battle's reaping?  
Can you listen unmoved to their agonised groans,  
Hear the children who starve and the pale widows weeping?  
Henceforth let us swear  
Bombs shall not burst in air,  
Nor war's desolation wreck all that is fair.  
But the star-spangled banner by workers unfurled  
Shall give hope to the nations and peace to the world.  
KATE DEVEREUX BLAKE, 1914.

## WOMEN IN THE LAST CENSUS.

By the 1910 census there are over 8,000,000 women in the United States engaged in gainful occupations as against about 5,000,000 ten years ago. There are about 23,000,000 adult women in the country, so approximately one-third of the women are direct earners. Of the two-thirds a large proportion (estimated at from nine-tenths to fifteen-sixteenths) pursue the ungainful occupation of performing household service for their families. The idle women, who are not directly productive, are therefore relatively few.

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MEETING—Wednesday, Nov. 25th, at 8-30 p.m. "If Our Women had had the Vote, should we be at War?" Mr. R. F. Cholmeley.

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