

JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

EDITOR: MARTINA G. KRAMERS, 92 KRUISKADE, ROTTERDAM.

FOURTH YEAR No. 5.

JANUARY 15, 1910.

You dress yourselves in uniforms to
[guard your native shores,
But those who make the uniforms do
[work as good as yours;
For the soldier bears the rifle, but the
[woman bears the race —
And that you'd find no trifle if you
[had to take her place!
L. H. in „Votes for Women“.



Go forth, ye women, to the people go,
The nation's mighty heart beats true
[and strong;
Remember if your brothers do you
[wrong,
They do you wrong because they do
[not know.
Go forth! The mountain tops are all
[aglow,
The Dawn of Justice shall not tarry long.
HERBERT JACOBS,
in „The Common Cause“

PRICE PER YEAR 2 DUTCH FLORINS (= 3 Sh. 6 d. = 0.82 \$ = 3 Kr. = 4.25 Frs. = 3½ Mk.)

Announcements.

The Report of the London Congress may be ordered from Mrs. Adela Stanton Coit, 30 Hyde Park Gate, London S.W. for 1 Shilling and 3 pence post paid.

Auxiliaries are requested to make applications for any number not exceeding 50; those that come first will be helped first.

The international badge, a brooch with the above figure and of half its size, may be ordered from Mrs. J. Pedersen Dan, 39 Griffenfeldtsgade, Copenhagen.

Lecturers, Dr. Käthe Schirmacher (see J. S. III, p. 86) is expected in the Netherlands in February, coming from Northern Germany. Address: Marlow in Mecklenburg.

Frau Marie Stritt, President of the National Council of Women of Germany and lately vice-president of the International Council, will pass through Germany and Luxemburg and lecture in the Netherlands during the latter half of January. Address: 92 Kruiskade, Rotterdam.

Frk. F. Mörck, from Kristiania, is now lecturing in Denmark on „Norwegian Women as Citizens“. After this month she is going south. Address: Frk. Thomsen, 25 Bredgade, Copenhagen.

Dr. Maikki Friberg, from Helsingfors is expected in Copenhagen during January. Address: Miss Neergaard, 33 Strandboulevard.

List of Woman Suffrage Papers in different countries, with address and price per annum.

Austria, *Der Bund*, 2 Kronen, 7 Rochusgasse, Wien III.

—, *Neues Frauenleben*, 4 Kronen, 5 Riglergasse, Wien XVIII.

—, *Oesterreichische Frauenrundschau*, 6 Kr., 11 Am Hof, Wien II.

Bulgaria, *Jensky Glas*, 6 francs, Mrs. Pateff Bojilowa, Bourgas.

Canada, *Freyja*, \$ 1.—, Miss M. I. Benedictsson, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Denmark, *Kristeligt Kvindeblad*, 2 Kr., Körup pr. Horsens.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3,10 Kroner, Studiestraede 49n, Kopenhagen.

—, *Kvindevalgret*, 1 Krone, Skindergade 27i, Kopenhagen.

Finland, *Nutid*, 6 Mk., 12 Georgsgatan, Helsingfors.

France, *Le Journal des Femmes*, 5 francs, 31 rue Francoeur, Paris.

—, *La Suffragiste*, 4 francs, 62 rue Damrémont, Paris.

—, *La Française*, 6 francs, 49 rue Lafitte, Paris.

Germany, *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, 2 Mark, Post Ebenhausen Ober Bayern.

—, *Centralblatt des Bundes deutscher Frauenvereine*, 4.80 Mark, Dürerstrasse 110, Dresden.

—, *Die Frauenbewegung*, 5 Mark, Wormserstrasse, Berlin W 62.

Great Britain, *The Vote*, 6 sh. 6 d., 148 Holborn Bars, London E. C.

—, *Votes for Women*, weekly, 1 d., 4 Clement's Inn, London W. C.

—, *The Common Cause*, weekly, 6 Sh 6 d, a year, 64 Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

Hungary, *A Nő és a Társadalom*, 6 Kr. 36 Elemer utca, Budapest VII.

Iceland, *Kvennabladid*, 2 Kroner, Fru Briet Asmundsson, Reykjavik.

Italy, *L'Alleanza*, 6 Lire, 2 Corso Garibaldi, Pavia.

Netherlands, *Maandblad voor Vrouwenkiesrecht*, f 1.—, 43 Linnaeusstraat, Amsterdams.

—, *De Ploeger*, quarterly f 0.60, 53 Avenue Concordia, Rotterdam.

Norway, *Nylaende*, 4,70 Kroner, Victoria Terrasse 5n, Kristiania.

Poland, *Ster*, 10 francs, Boduena 2, Warsaw.

Russia, *The Women's Union*, 4d per number, 84 Nicolaewskaya, St. Petersburg.

Sweden, *Dagny*, 4.50 Kroner, 51 Mästersamuelsgatan, Stockholm.

—, *Morgonbris*, 60 Öre, Folkets Hus, Stockholm.

Switzerland, *Frauenbestrebungen*, 3,10 frs., Zürich, bergstr. 10, Zürich V.

U.S. America, *The Woman's Journal*, \$ 1,50, 3 Park Street, Boston.

—, *Progress*, \$ 0,25, N.A.W.S.A. Headquarters, Warren, Ohio.

Dear Correspondents and Readers.

In wishing you all a happy new year, I take the opportunity for telling you how „Jus Suffragii” stands now financially and how many readers it has in each country. The suffragists in those countries where it is not sufficiently spread should make an effort to serve our common cause by enlarging the circulation. Now that there is a French edition, the language of the paper can no longer be an obstacle. Publication of the whole or part of my October-letter, when „Jus” first appeared in two languages, may help to gain sympathy for the paper. The number of subscriptions, including the Honorary Associates, who get the paper free, is the following:

For the Netherlands 128, Great Britain 127, U.S. America (after the unexpected falling-off of 40 for the N.A.W.S.A. Headquarters) 87, France 93, Germany 53, Sweden 53, Denmark 44, Norway 26, Italy 21, Austria 18, Hungary 16, Russia 16, Belgium 13, Australia 10, Servia 10, Switzerland 9, Canada 8, Finland 9, Bulgaria 4, South Africa 3, British India 3, Dutch Colonies 3, Iceland 1, Spain 1, China 1.

We print 700 English and 200 French copies, so you see we have enough left for sample-copies to gain new subscribers, when you have conventions or meetings.

Each correspondent will oblige me by sending her monthly correspondence as early as possible, as I have to translate everything for the other edition, and I think we ought to keep a fixed date for the paper's appearance. This request can easily be complied with whenever your correspondence does not contain recent news but information of a general character as for instance your Association's constitution, your National constitution, your electoral laws and the number of adult inhabitants compared with the number of electors on the register, or the parliamentary procedure in your country. These are all welcome subjects of information for authors or speakers on woman suffrage all over the world; and for these this paper should be a reliable magazine of facts. Allow me to end by urging you to help get more subscribers for „Jus Suffragii” and not to let me wait in vain for news before the sixth of each month.

Believe me yours sincerely,

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Rotterdam, Jan. 10, 1910.

Australia.

At a special meeting of the Women's Political Association of Victoria held on November 12, the President, Miss Vida Goldstein, was nominated as a candidate for the Senate at the election for the commonwealth Parliament, which will be held during March or April of next year. Miss Goldstein will stand as a non-party candidate and will seek to enlist the support of the electors for a Federal Equal Marriage and Divorce Law, and against the development of the military spirit in the boys of Australia, as the new Defence Bill provides for military training, by means of the cadet movement, from 12 years of age.

This provision came as a thunderclap to women. They were not in the least prepared for it. As proof of what can be done when the people are prepared, it is good to report that an amendment to abolish the canteen was promptly carried.

* * *

Equal pay for equal work has been partially recognized for the first time in Australia under private enterprise by a recent „determination” of the Drapery Trade Wages Board. It is in force in the Federal Public Service, in the Junior Grade of the State Education Department, and now a beginning has been made in private enterprise. Yet there are still people who argue that woman suffrage would not affect women's economic status!

The Women's Parliament conducted by the Women's Political Association is doing educational work. It is training speakers, and accustoming them to all the intricacies of parliamentary law and procedure. Bills providing for a tax on Unimproved Land Values and the Utilisation of Daylight are in the committee stage, and members are eagerly awaiting the presentation of the Budget.

In the State Parliament of New South Wales a Girls' Protection Bill raising the age of consent to 16 has recently passed through both Houses. As the age was formerly only 14 the bill marks a small step towards progress, but the women of New South Wales are not going to let the age remain as low as 16, when it is already 17 in South Australia, and when the women of Victoria are asking that it shall be raised to 21, thus compelling the law to accord the same measure of protection to a girl's person as it does to her property. A bill is now before the State Parliament of Victoria to amend the Crimes Act by raising the age from 16 to 20, another telling result of woman suffrage. Gratified as the W.P.A. is at the introduction of this bill, it has notified the House that it adheres to its determination to have the age raised to 21. More and more men are admitting the justice of our claim.

Barely a month passes by in which „woman suffrage” is not made visible and audible in Parliament, on the platform, in the press. The latest triumph is the endorsement by both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament of a resolution testifying to the beneficial operation of woman suffrage in Australia. The resolution was brought forward by Dr. Wm. Maloney, M.P., the first man to introduce a woman suffrage bill into an Australian legislature (Victoria, 1889), and runs as follows:—

1. That this House testifies to the facts that after sixteen years' experience of woman suffrage in various parts of Australasia, and nine years' experience in the Commonwealth, the reform has justified the hopes of its supporters, and falsified all the fears and prophecies of disaster voiced by its opponents.
2. That, as foreseen by its advocates, its effects have been (a) to gradually educate women to a sense of their responsibility in public affairs; (b) to give more prominence to social and domestic legislation.
3. That Australasian experience convinces this house that to adopt woman suffrage is simply to apply to the political sphere that principle of government that secures the best results in the domestic sphere—the mutual co-operation of men and women for the individual and general welfare.

The resolution was received with approving cheers in both Houses. There is not one anti-suffrage member in either Chamber now-a-days; most of those who were formerly our opponents are now quite hurt if we remind them of the fact, and the rest believe they took the platform as advocates of women's enfranchisement.

Melbourne, Dec. 8th. VIDA GOLDSTEIN.

Great Britain.

For the whole of the last month the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in common with all other Suffrage bodies has been busily organising its election campaign. The chief feature of this work will be a great Voters' Petition, and every effort is being made to have a Petition signed by electors sent up from every Constituency in the Kingdom. This scheme for getting from the country a mandate for Women's Suffrage is, however, only one part of the Union's policy. It is at the same time taking advantage, as far as it can, of Mr. Asquith's declaration that this great question should be left for the House of Commons to decide and that the Liberal Government, if returned to power, would leave all its followers free to act. It is true that the use of this declaration rests upon the Liberals' return to power and the introduction by them of an Electoral Reform Bill to which a Suffrage Amendment might be moved. But it has given an increased value to the policy the Union has always pursued of getting friends to the Cause returned to the House of Commons. Following out this principle, we are questioning every Candidate as to his views and bringing all local pressure to bear upon him that we may get a friendly reference to Women's Suffrage into his Election Address.

We are supporting those who support us; we are opposing those who are against us; but everywhere we are making sure that every pledge that is given by a Candidate should be a public pledge, given not to us only, but to electors. — This short account of our election work cannot be better brought to a close than by the words of our Manifesto calling upon women to help:

„The Executive Committee urge most emphatically upon all the Societies in the Union and upon all sympathisers not yet included in the Union to work solely for the return of men, to whatever party they may belong, who are publicly pledged to remove the electoral disabilities of women, and also to resist the election, by all constitutional means in their power, of the enemies of Women's enfranchisement.

A Women's Suffragist who in the coming election promotes the success of an Anti-Suffrage Candidate is betraying our cause, and we earnestly hope that none such will be found within the ranks of the National Union.”

London, January 1910. MARION PHILLIPS.

When I wrote the Women's Social and Political Union notes for December, we were still in anxiety as to the issue of the legal case which was heard in the High Court at the beginning of the month. It will be remembered that, by the decision of the Lord Chief Justice, the authorities were empowered to arrest and imprison 94 women including Mrs. Pankhurst. An unknown person however, paid Mrs. Pankhurst's fine, and the authorities decided to drop the case against 92 of the 94 women, whilst the remaining woman the honourable Mrs. Haverfield was summoned to pay the fine. On her declining to do so, the authorities announced their intention of following up the proceedings, and her arrest was expected. But although a month has passed since this announcement, Mrs. Haverfield is still carrying out her work as a free woman.

On December 9th a mass meeting was held in the Royal Albert Hall to give a welcome to Mrs. Pankhurst on her return from America. At this

meeting the policy which is to be pursued by the Women's Social and Political Union at the forthcoming General Election was announced. In view of the fact that the Liberal Government is still in power, the Union has decided to carry out a campaign in every constituency contested by the Government and has issued a manifesto to the Electors of Great Britain calling on them to vote against all Liberal Candidates, and so deny to Mr. Asquith and his colleagues the vote of confidence they are asking for. They have issued a series of leaflets dealing with this policy and pointing out the reasons for it; and a cartoon which appeared a few weeks ago in „Votes for Women” has been made into a special Election Poster, and is being placarded on hoardings throughout the country. This poster which is called „The right Dishonourable Double-faced Asquith” shows Mr. Asquith saying to a peer standing on his right „Down with the privilege of birth, up with Democratic Rule”, and saying to a woman in prison dress on the left „The rights of Government belong to the aristocrats by birth—men. No liberty or equality for women”. The General Election fund of 100,000 marks (£ 5000) is being raised and nearly half was subscribed at the Albert Hall meeting.

Notwithstanding the great strain upon the resources of the Union, a series of militant protests have been carried out throughout the country. One of the most successful of these took place at Southport. Mr. Winston Churchill was announced to speak and, as usual every precaution was taken. Not only were women strictly denied entrance to the hall, not only was the hall minutely searched a few hours before the meeting, but all the streets in the vicinity were barricaded. Notwithstanding this, two women succeeded in gaining a post of vantage on the roof, and were enabled to interrupt the meeting. The Liberal Stewards used great violence in taking them down and they were brought before a magistrate the following day. They were, however, defended by a counsel, and in consequence of a brilliant defence, the charge was dismissed. In many other towns, though, women were convicted and sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment.

London, Jan. 1910.

E. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

The Albert Hall Meeting of the Women's Freedom League on December 11th was a great success, every ticket being sold and the net proceeds amounting to nearly £ 1500 with a cheque for £ 1000 most generously given by Tennessee Lady Cook. Among the speakers were Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Billington Greig, Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett and Mr. Zangwill. Numerous messages of sympathy and support were received from Australia, Finland, New Zealand and from New York, from the National Progressive Woman Suffrage Union. Miss Vida Goldstein, President of the Women's Political Association of Victoria, sent presents and contributions to the funds of the League, which were forwarded from Melbourne and New Zealand.

The Election policy of the Women's Freedom League is of particular interest in the points in which it differs from that of the sister societies. It does not allow its energies to be diffused and obscured by a general support of those of the 1200 individuals seeking election who declare their adherence to the Cause, nor do we by slavishly following the letter of the „Anti-Government” policy violate its spirit and thereby appear to

run the danger of infringing the rule of political independence. Our protest at this juncture is against the Election of any Government at all without the consent of the women, and we strike at the head. Our campaign is therefore principally directed against the so called "front benchmen" who direct the policy of the Cabinet, and both Liberal and Tory prospective ministers are feeling the brunt of our attack.

The greatly increased funds and increased membership are enabling the League to become every day more and more effective in the fight for woman's enfranchisement. Consequently our opponents are finding our attack at the present time distinctly embarrassing.

London, Jan. 1910.

B. BORRMANN-WELLS.

France.

The woman suffrage movement grows stronger and stronger in France since the formation of the French Woman Suffrage Association, which gave the impulse to this new activity. The French W. S. A. itself is rapidly increasing in membership and influence.

The meeting which we announced last month has been very successful. It drew a larger audience than any previous similar meeting or assembly ever did, and all classes were represented in the gathering. Yet the middleclass element, which is so important for our propaganda, dominated. A new champion of woman suffrage, the lawyer Mr. Charles Hébert, gave a very clear and exhaustive review of the arguments for the principle of votes for women and a refutation of the familiar objections which one hears generally made. Mrs. Jane Misme, Hon. Secretary of the French W. S. A. and editor of "La Française" expounded the question of the municipal vote for women, for the attainment of which all our efforts are actually concentrated in France. Mr. Beauquier M.P., one of the oldest advocates of woman suffrage in the Parliament and President of the Parliamentary Group for Votes for Women, answered in the name of his colleagues by a sort of vague promise . . . to be redeemed in the distant future, and so we cannot hope that the Chamber will discuss the Report on Mr. Dussaussoy's bill before the end of the present session, viz. before the next elections, which are to take place in May. But afterwards we have every ground for hope.

Of course Mme Jeanne E. Schmahl, the President of the N. W. S. A., presided over the meeting and had a great personal success as a speaker. She made real converts to the cause by her warm and gracious appeal, which was irresistible. The great French press made much favourable mention of this meeting.

The young French Woman Suffrage Association is so flourishing that we may expect that, at its first annual meeting in March, it will assume the character of a national federation, which it has not yet had up to the present date, containing only personal members. Now however most of the feminist societies which work for suffrage, have requested of their own accord to be allowed affiliation.

The society *La Solidarité* organized a meeting in which several prominent politicians took part. Dr. Madeleine Pelletier, the President of the *Solidarité*, gave a brilliant address, remarkable at the same time for substantiality and spirited

conviction. An English suffragist, Mrs. Stanbury, also spoke at this meeting.

The *Congrès permanent du Féminisme International*, always an important gathering, under the presidency of Mme Marya Chéliga, devoted its first session after the summer-holidays to studying the present status of women with regard to municipal rights. Detailed reports were presented by Dr. Maday, who had come from Hungary on purpose; Mrs. Irving (England), Barrère (Italy), Miss Holst (Norway), Mrs. Isaachsen (Holland), Gylstorf (Denmark), Johanson (Sweden), Mme Girardet Vielle and Mr. de Morsier (Switzerland), Mmes Walewska, Bujwid and Rzepecka (Poland). Mme Misme gave an address on the tactics of the "Suffragists" and the "Suffragettes", Mr. Marin M.P. gave an exact review of the state of the women's question in the French parliament. Mme Orka gave a general outline of the results of the international inquiry, requesting those countries that have not yet contributed their share to send communications to the general secretary Mme Orka, 38 rue de Penthièvre, Paris. The next meeting of the congress will be on January 30th.

Finally the *Société du Suffrage*, of which Mme. Hubertine Anclert is the President, made itself prominent by a step outside of its scope but prompted by excellent intentions, of which however the practical result is rather doubtful. It addressed to the Commission instituted by the Senate to advise on labor pensions a request asking that domestic work, done by women, might be treated on the same footing as factory-work.

Among the features of future action, there is much talk of a big meeting to be held by all the feminist societies together. Next month we will report more details on this plan.

The club "La Française" is going to begin on the 18th a series of lectures for the political education of women, organised by a lawyer, Mr. Henry Fabry. The paper "La Française", the organ of this club, is publishing articles for the same end by Mr. Léon Philippe, member of the Committee for Proportional Representation. His articles on votes for women appear weekly and also the propaganda, which he has undertaken for the French W. S. A. to augment the circulation of the French edition of "Jus Suffragii", which has succeeded in securing its existence until the month of March.

Communicated by the French Woman Suffrage Association.
Paris, January 1910.

United States.

There seems to be no abatement of the interest in woman suffrage. A delegation of the leading women in New York State recently went to Albany the capital, to ask the Governor to recommend in his message to the Legislature that it should submit the question to the voters of the State. They were accompanied by George Foster Peabody, a noted philanthropist and banker, president of the Men's Suffrage League; and by Oswald Garrison Villard, son of the great anti-slavery leader, William Lloyd Garrison, and owner and editor of the "Evening Post", one of the Large

New York dailies. They were granted a hearing of nearly an hour and made very strong addresses. The Governor seemed deeply impressed but did not express an opinion. The Legislature will meet early in January and the officers of the State Suffrage Association will be there to watch their bill. They have held meetings lately in twenty towns and cities. Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, a wealthy and public-spirited woman who is contributing large sums of money for suffrage, has had agents working for months in all parts of the State in the interest of the bill.

A suffrage meeting of some kind is held in New York City every day, in large and small halls, churches, school houses, drawing rooms, women's clubs, etc., and suffrage is constantly discussed at all kinds of gatherings. The change in public sentiment is marvellous. For the last month about 30,000 women and girls in the shirt-waist factories have been "on strike", and some of the most prominent ladies in the city have been helping them in every way, have held large public meetings to rouse public sentiment in favor of the strikers and contributed thousands of dollars. Mrs. Belmont rented the Hippodrome one Sunday afternoon and gave it to them for a meeting, requiring only that Dr. Anna Howard Shaw should have a place on the program to speak on suffrage. She made one of the grandest speeches of her life to an audience of 7000, showing the necessity for working women to have the suffrage, and every sentence was applauded. A number of college girls have gone down into the factory districts and done "picket duty" with the strikers. Mrs. Belmont and others have attended the courts and made public protest against the way the striking girls and women who were arrested were treated by the police and the officers. Nearly all who have given any kind of assistance have been strong suffragists and it is the general opinion that nothing ever was done which gave so great an impetus to the cause of woman suffrage. It has shown that this is not a class movement but that the women are sincere and earnest in their demand for universal suffrage. Never before have the people been so much impressed and never before did the politicians take the question seriously.

The suffragists have won the confidence of the wage earning women and it is probable that henceforth they will work together. In view of all this it seems incredible that the socialist women of New York should do what they have done. They held a mass meeting on December 19, and after a full discussion voted by a large majority not to affiliate or work with any of the suffrage associations. Previously the leaders had called several times at the Headquarters and had received from Dr. Shaw and other officers the most positive assurance, both spoken and written, that the National Association never assisted with money, speakers or work any movement for limited suffrage.

They were told that, if they accepted the invitation which the National Association had sent asking for their co-operation in the effort for the suffrage, they would have the full privileges of the conventions, etc. Nevertheless they repudiated the idea and resolved to work by themselves.

Large new suffrage societies are being formed in all the eastern cities, where there has been very little interest heretofore. The Illinois Assos-

iation has moved into new headquarters in Chicago and reports that clubs are springing up in all parts of the State. It has made a departure from the rule of all the other State Associations and will admit all kinds of societies, whether they have suffrage as a part of their program or not. It believes that by this means it will soon convert them and obtain their help. The experiment will be watched with a great deal of interest.

The women in the far Western States of South Dakota and Washington are very busy preparing for the spring and summer campaign. Their Legislatures have submitted the question of woman suffrage to be voted upon next autumn and the women have now before them the large task of persuading the majority to vote in favor of giving them the suffrage. There is a prospect that there will also be a campaign in the western State of Oklahoma.

IDA HUSTED HARPER,
Chairman National Woman
Suffrage Press Committee.

New York, December 1909.

South Africa.

Mrs. Oona Ancketill sends an extract from the "Natal Advertiser" giving an account of the fate of a Bill to amend the Franchise in the Legislative Assembly. "The movement in Natal while steadily making quiet progress," she says, "seldom affords items of sufficient character to justify sending anything for insertion in 'Jus Suffragii'".

Mr. C. H. Haggard, M.L.A., introduced a Bill into the Natal Legislative Assembly on Nov. 1, which was, however, defeated on the second reading by 19 votes to 12, from which it would be seen that the attitude of the House was much more friendly than it was in 1904, when the question was first introduced into the House by Mr. Henry Ancketill.

The "Natal Advertiser" says: Mr. C. H. Haggard is entitled to hearty congratulations on the result of his Bill, introduced on the 1st November, to amend the franchise in favour of the inclusion of the women of the Colony by the deletion of the word "male".

Sir W. Robson, the British Attorney-General, had said, in the discussion of the South Africa Act, that female suffrage might be granted by the local Parliaments forthwith.

Mr. Haggard contended there had not been put forward any serious objection to female suffrage. No argument had ever yet been advanced as far as he knew. There were statements, nothing more.

They had no right to assume their present position unless they proclaimed the political subjection of women.

Citizens should be given equal opportunity of serving the State in proportion to their abilities, and the State should be given equal opportunity of securing the services.

Such a measure meant reform, and they would never get reform as long as they left it for men. If men understood it, yet they lacked instinct, devotion, and self-sacrifice.

Mr. Haggard was strongly supported by Messrs. Palmer, Kirkman, Saunders, Geo. Hulett, and McLarty, and the debate was adjourned till the 3rd inst., when the House rejected the Bill on the second reading by 19 votes to 12.

There were, however, 14 absentees, including

Messrs. Robinson and Silburn, who would certainly have voted in favour of the Bill.

It may be fairly claimed that at least half the members of the Assembly are to-day in favour of the principle, which is a remarkable growth in the space of five years. There is every reason to believe that the Union Parliament will pass the measure much sooner than is generally expected.

The annual meeting of the Women's Enfranchisement League of Natal was held on Dec. 10 at Durban. Mrs. Ancketill presided.

The annual report, which was read by the hon. secretary, Miss E. M. Birchall, stated inter alia: In this, the seventh annual report of the Women's Enfranchisement League of Natal, progress may be recorded as highly satisfactory, and an increased activity of the League reported. There have been a greater number of meetings than in any previous year, at which a marked feature has been the attraction of visitors and outsiders. The Society is now established in permanent central offices at 7, Mutual Buildings, Durban, and has enlarged thereby its scope and influence, the library has been even better patronised, the cause has been more discussed in and out of Parliament, the facility of providing intellectual events has been remarkable, the financial help accorded has increased, and the balance-sheet shows a much larger turn-over.

Organisation.—The League in South Africa have, this year, become united under a National Committee by mutual consent, on which are six members elected by each Colonial Society according to a constitution mutually agreed upon. This Committee acts as a clearing house for all general South African business, decides upon any common or united action, and sends delegates to represent South Africa to the conference of the International W. S. Alliance, to which it forms the machinery of affiliation to that great body.

Meetings.—During the year no fewer than 21 public meetings, lectures, and "at homes" have been held locally under the auspices of the Durban League, and one public meeting well supported in the city. With the exception of two small events, the syllabus compiled for the winter season has been faithfully carried out. The winter session was opened on May 5 by the President, when the guest of the evening was Mrs. Helene Auerbach, the president of the Ryegate (England) branch of the Women's Suffrage Association. The mass meeting in the Town Hall held on Aug. 22, was a remarkable success. Resolutions moved by Mrs. Wyberg (vice-president Transvaal League), and by the secretary of the Durban League were carried practically unanimously, qualifying amendments were lost, and direct opposition futile. The audience was large and attentive, but still a section of the Press reported the meeting as "farical", and the inter-Colonial Press telegrams gave it out curtly as a "fiasco". Comment is superfluous, and the moral is clear.

Branches.—A branch is in process of formation in Maritzburg, as a result of a public meeting addressed by Mrs. Wyberg and Messrs. Henry Ancketill, Nelson Palmer, M.L.A., and others, followed by a visit by the hon. secretary, who took steps to promote the branch. Mrs. Theo Woods undertook to act as president, and Mrs. Lister as hon. secretary, for the time being.

Parliamentary.—Resolutions calling upon the Natal Parliament to take immediate action in the matter of granting the suffrage to women were

passed at the mass meeting in the Town Hall, but no approaches were made to any of the members of the Assembly, as the proposition to introduce an amendment to that effect in Mr. Silburn's Bill, suggested and agreed upon by the hon. legal adviser, Mr. C. P. Robinson, M.L.A., and accepted by Mr. Silburn, was finally quashed, as it was considered, upon advice, useless to move and pass an enactment which would be automatically annulled by the Act of Union.

South African Petition.—The Leagues have taken counsel together by means of the National Committee, and decided upon presenting a monster South African petition to the first Union Parliament. Arrangements are being made, and the petition forms will be shortly distributed, and every branch and individual member of this organisation is being urged to do the best possible to forward this supremely important event in the coming history of woman's suffrage in South Africa, now alive with possibilities.

The Library.—Early in the year a catalogue of the books in the library was published and circulated among members. The number of volumes exceed 120, and comprise nearly all the standard works on the subject issued up to date. The League also receives regularly "Jus Suffragii", "Votes for Women", and the "Woman's Journal" (Boston U.S.A.). It is gratifying to note the continued interest taken in the literature of the movement, which is shown by the records in the books of the hon. librarian.

The President (Mrs. H. Ancketill), in moving the adoption of the annual report, said: I think we may congratulate ourselves on having successfully carried out the programme for the session, and also in the steady and solid progress in the education of the public mind on the main principles of our movement. That the work of the League has made a marked impression on the people of Natal was shown this year by two events referred to specially in the report, viz., the unanimous vote give at the mass meeting in the Town Hall on Aug. 26, in favour of the resolutions extending the franchise to women, and later on in the increased support shown in the Natal Legislative Assembly on the occasion of the introduction of the Bill to amend the franchise. These two events are most significant, and afford, I think, the best evidence that our cause is steadily winning converts. In view of this situation, it is, I think, more astonishing to note the gross injustice of the exclusion of women in the draft Constitution by the establishing of the principle of basing the representation of constituencies on the number of adult males, and thus totally ignoring the interests of the householder's family. It will be remembered that our League in April last endorsed the resolution of the Cape Women's Enfranchisement League, requesting Parliament to move an amendment to the draft Act, securing to women eligible for local franchises already possessed by them (i.e., the Municipal, School Board, and Village Management Board vote), the right to vote in the new Provincial Council about to be created under the Act of Union. Later on the Executive of our League prepared a memorial praying for the vote to be granted to women for the Provincial Council, and addressed to the Convention sitting in Bloemfontein. This, however, was not presented owing to the unexpectedly rapid dissolution of the Convention. It should also be stated on record that the draft Act prepared by the Natal delegates, and presented to the Convention when sitting in Durban, advocated

the extension of the franchise to women. The moral of the situation seems to be, therefore, that no organised effort on the part of the women of South Africa would have been sufficiently potent at this period to have secured their political recognition. One of the special new features of the year has been the establishment of a National Committee for South Africa, under a Constitution approved by the Cape, the Transvaal, the Orange River Colony, and finally submitted to the Natal League and adopted, the three members elected to represent Natal being myself (as president, ex-officio member), Miss Birchall, and another. After the President's remarks, there was some discussion and election of new officers.

(„Natal Mercury", Dec. 11, 1909.)

Galicia.

The Polish women are waging war unceasingly to obtain enfranchisement.

Lately, on September 30th, a deputation of women headed by Marie Duleba addressed itself to the Diet at Lemberg in Galicia to call attention to the fact that women do not cease to claim their rights. They complained that till now their petitions have received no answer, and that lately during the discussion of electoral reform the women's claims have been entirely disregarded. The Landmarshall answered that he did not think that they could obtain more extensive rights than the women in the other domains that compose the Austrian Empire. They replied that it would be an honour to the country to grant rights to those that had hitherto been deprived of them. The deputation also addressed deputies of different political parties. The President of the Polish Farmers' Party, Mr. Stapinski, wholly agreed with the petitioners on the desirability of Adult Suffrage for both sexes.

The President of the Democrats, Dr. Leo, and the president of the Polish Parliamentary Group in Vienna, Dr. Globinski, declared that it would be just to enfranchise the women and grant them suffrage and eligibility, but at the same time they advocated some electoral qualifications regarding education, taxes and public service. The Conservative deputies were, as always, hostile to the enfranchisement of women.

The deputation then presented to the Diet a new petition containing the women's claims as they are now formulated, and they were supported by several women's associations of Cracow and even by the Galician Women Labourers.

Cracow, December 1909. VANDA ZALESKA.

The Netherlands.

On Dec. 11 and 12 the National Women Suffrage Association held its annual meeting. The secretary could report an increase which brings the membership up to nearly 8000 and the number of local sections to 83. Everywhere the agitation is carried on successfully, by conferences and courses of lectures from competent speakers as well as by social gatherings with theatricals, music and other entertainments. Some local sections hold special meetings for men and women of the labouring classes.

Meanwhile we are not going to allow Government and Parliament to forget our claims. In compliance with the Alliance's recommendation (J. S. III p. 77), a commission had been appointed

by the N. W. S. A. to prepare a comprehensive statement of the laws which place women at a disadvantage. Mrs. M. W. H. Rutgers-Hoitsema, author of our best propaganda-leaflet containing the legal disabilities of women, was the secretary of this commission. Her most able report was adopted with thanks by the Annual Meeting, and it was resolved to address a memoir to the Queen as the source of legislation, stating that in all the cases enumerated in the Report women's legal position differs from men's and the women themselves ought to be consulted and to give their judgment by means of the ballot in what respects these laws should be abolished, maintained or amended. We do not propose to give a charter or better set of legal enactments, but only show that those with whom the law deals must have a share in the making of laws, leaving our members with their widely differing religious and political views each and all free to frame for themselves laws which they would approve. We leave it to the I.W.S. Alliance to fix a time for the presentation of our memoir, the London convention having only decided that it should be in 1910.

In the field of international activity, we resolved to urge the French government to adopt the suffrage measure proposed by the late deputy Mr. Dussaussoy. We may as well add that, if other nations should follow this example, the signatures have to be legalized.

January 1910.

DR. ALLETTA H. JACOBS.

The Dutch Bond for Women Suffrage has a favorable report to give. The number of our members is steadily increasing and many lectures have been held all over the country. We have been fortunate in getting the ex-secretaries of state Mr. de Savornin Lohman and Mr. de Beaufort to speak for the Dutch Bond in the Hague and Amsterdam. We have also held pro- and contra-evenings with great success.

M. VAN EEGHEN-BOISSEVAIN.
January 1910, Naarden, Holland.

Denmark.

Before giving any news about Denmark, I must begin by correcting the end of last month's report sent by Miss Daugaard. I had to shorten it and I misunderstood the meaning, saying that Mr. Wulf had been interrupted by the proposers of the suffrage amendment, whereas there was only a little intermezzo between Mr. Rode and the chair, and Mr. Wulf made a speech of two hours in perfect peace.

And then there is a sad piece of news: „Kvindestemmeretsbladet", which so often during the three years, of its existence, gave suffrage-news about all the world to Denmark, has been stopped and has taken leave of its readers in Dec. There is a compensation from another quarter, for Fru Blauenfeldt has started „Kristeligt Kvindeblad" with the motto: „Gods will be done on earth", which will be devoted to woman suffrage. This paper proposes to take care that the religious women may not be missing where so many other women are on duty.

M. G. K.

The Ladies' Reading Club laid on Jan. 5th the foundation-stone to a new building, destined to be finished this autumn and to afford accommodation not only for reading purposes but for all sorts

of needs and social ends, so that it will become a centre of attraction to foreign ladies visiting Copenhagen.

Denmark has a central situation which, we felt in the Woman Suffrage Congress in 1906. From North and South, East and West — even from our antipodes people gathered here. We may consider ourselves as a resting place on the thoroughfare to the congress of Stockholm in 1911, and we hope our new building will become the temporary headquarter, the international meeting place before and after the Stockholm-congress, and we look forward with great pleasure to this international inauguration of our new „Ladies Reading Society's Clubhouse“.

JOHANNA MÜNTER.

Copenhagen, Jan. 1910.

Canada.

The Toronto Suffrage Association, with its very able president, Dr. Margaret Gordon, is enjoying quite a revival. Members are being enrolled rapidly, and, instead of the usual wonderment „who will accept office?“ there promises to be so many candidates that a lively election will take place at the annual meeting.

There are already three Toronto local organizations and several more, I hear, are being formed. Much educational work is undoubtedly needed, but much has already been done by the press of the country and by the few ardent suffragists who never lose an opportunity to do what they can to enlighten those willing to learn.

On Sunday, November 28th, a meeting of Jewish women was held in Zion Hall, Simcoe street, to consider the advisability of organizing a woman's suffrage association. Mrs. Cohen presided, and, in introducing Dr. Stowe-Gullen, showed herself to be well-informed as to the splendid work done by our national president.

Not long since I addressed Court Alexandra of the Independent Order of Foresters and found in them an interested audience in suffrage.

I hear that 15 of the teachers of Havergal College are ardent suffragists. The young idea will be trained in the way it should go, then.

A strong suffrage sentiment is felt among the university women, and we hope soon to report a college organization.

* * *

„Sigurvon“, the Gimle Suffrage Association, makes the second Icelandic association to affiliate from Manitoba.

FLORA MC. DONALD DENISON.
(in „The Toronto World“, Dec. 19, 1909).

Germany.

The N. German W. S. A. (Deutscher Verband für Frauenstimmrecht) sent a memoir to Mr. Asquith, Prime Minister of Great Britain, with the following resolution:

„Der Deutsche Verband für Frauenstimmrecht, seine Landesvereine und Ortsgruppen sprechen ihre tiefste Entrüstung aus über die an den Suffragettes in den englischen Gefängnissen verübten Grausamkeiten.

Sie protestieren insbesondere dagegen, dass in einem konstitutionellen Staate Frauen, welche wegen politischer Vergehen verurteilt sind, wie gemeine

Verbrecher behandelt werden. Sie protestieren dagegen, dass unter Verletzung der Landesgesetze solche Frauen zum Teil wochen- und monatelang der qualvollen Zwangsernährung ausgesetzt werden, dass sie demnach nur ihrer politischen Ueberzeugung willen lebenslänglicher und kaum wieder gut zu machender Schädigung ihrer Gesundheit und ihrer Kraft unterworfen werden.“

In the explanatory remarks accompanying this resolution, occurs the following passage:

„It is not only the intense feeling of solidarity with our English sisters, but it is a deep sense of justice and humanity, that urges us, to address a foreign government in this manner.

Till now we have been accustomed to find the English Government and the English people among the first, to protest against cruelty and injustice wherever they occurred in other countries, as for instance in Armenia, in Russia, in Spain. Only a few years ago, we should never have thought it possible, that an English Government and the first ministers of this free country would ever rouse by their action a just protest like ours.“

Mr. Asquith acknowledged „with thanks“ the receipt of the resolution and letter.

The German Union earnestly requests all our affiliated countries to protest in a similar way against the injustice and the tortures inflicted on our comrades of the Freedom League and the National Social and Political Union in England for their political conviction.

Dr. ANITA AUGSPURG.

Siglhof, Jan. 5, 1910.

Italy.

In the end of November the call was issued for the congress of the Radical Party which was attended by several of our members: there were the Vice-President Prof. Labriola, the Secretary Romelia Troise, the members M^{rs}s. Sacchi Salvatori etc., and Prof. Mrs. Zampetti-Dobelli and Mrs. De Vicentis, members of the Radical Party.

Mrs. Prof. Zampetti-Dobelli gave a splendid address on the subject Electoral Reform, in which she summed up the reasons why women have a right to the political and municipal vote, and ended by proposing the following resolution:—

„The Fourth Congress of the Radical Party urges the new Executive of the Party to investigate the problem of votes for women and put it on the agenda for the next congress.“

One of the speakers of the congress, the Hon. Vicini M. P. distinctly expressed his opinion saying that he was in favour of votes for women. In the Radical Party there are decidedly favorable influences at work.

We also attended the congress of the General Federation of Employees. There the Secretary, Romelia Troise, spoke and made the following declaration: In the interest of the Employees I should reject the proposal in this congress, but I will vote for it instead, and I advocate the adoption by the congress, on the understanding that this vote for electoral reform means the extension of the suffrage to women as well. The congress applauded. This was done in order not to lose an opportunity of bringing the question before the public.

Rome, December 1910.

ROMELIA TROISE.