

July 11th, 1912.



Vol. IV. No. 170.

Womens Suffrage

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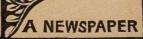
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Societies



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Britain's Best Beverage.

NOST people love a cup of tea. Medical opinion has declared unmistakably in favour of a well-made tea as a standard beverage. We have only to read the "Lancet" for January 7th, 1911, to see how strong is this expert opinion in favour of tea. The leading medical paper says that there is more tannin in a dose of red wine than in a corresponding dose of tea, and that therefore the fuss about tannin in tea is ill-founded. All infusions of tea are alkaline, and they are incapable in that state of acting as tanning agents.

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THE COMMON CAUSE.

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11th JULY 1912.

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Literary Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor however, accepts returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are Requested to Note that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last day possible, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

Notes and Comments.

No Interest.

During the first day's debate on the second reading of the Government Franchise Bill-"the greatest Reform Bill since 1884"—we have it on the authority of "P. W. W.," of the Daily News, that "the average attendance in the House was eight to twelve members." This bears out what we Suffragists have always maintained, and faithfully reflects the feeling, or lack of feeling, in the country. Scarcely anyone cares tuppence for the Franchise Bill as it stands; the one interest it possesses is the fact that it is "open to amendment," and unless it emerges from Committee as a Women's Suffrage Bill, it will go to its unhonoured grave, unlamented, as it was uncalled for.

Antiquated Attitudes.

Parliamentarian," and several papers go into raptures at the "wit" of his retort on Mr. Mason, who threatened to oppose the Bill on third reading if it did not include women. Harcourt's sublime contribution to this controversy was: "Why should the hon, member betray the sex he adorns in the supposed interests of the sex he adores?" Exquisite, is it not? There is a decidedly Labouchereian flavour about this wit. It is eminently "House-of-Commons—Old-style." Mr. Harcourt is reported to be devoted to "Radical traditions." It seems this is true. Do his constituents really find that he is a satisfying representative for a twentieth century industrial community? His style strikes us as resembling the flowery language of the ancien régime rather too closely to suit the terrible realities of modern economics. Mr. Harcourt should go down to Wapping and Bermondsey and Rotherhithe, and ask the starving docker's wife who has no bread why she does not eat cake. He should go to a meeting of women in support of the White Slave Traffic Bill and explain how the men who "adore" women are whittling down or opposing the Bill. He should tell the women weavers of Rossendale what he told the Anti-Suffrage ladies at the Albert Hall and discover for himself whether working women are as ignorant as "adored" ladies. The Liberal Party has discovered the working man; is it not time it made a fresh adventure and discovered the working woman?

Work Within the House.

A small Parliamentary Council for amending the Franchise Bill has been formed consisting of representatives from various groups of suffragists. Among these are Lord Lytton, who has elected Chairman; Lord Robert Cecil, Sir Alfred Mond and Mr. Brailsford from the Conciliation Committee, and Messrs. Henderson, C. Roberts, F. D. Acland, and W. Rea from the Campaign Committee; the Liberal group is also to be represented and the object of the Council will be to make effective the suffrage forces in the House.

Amendments to the Franchise Bill.

In our issue of June 27th some statements were made with regard to amendments to the Franchise Bill, which need some modification. It is now held best on Clause I. subsection (1) merely to delete the word "male." It is held that this deletion would not actually do anything to enfranchise women (since women are under a "legal incapacity" as regards the Parliamentary franchise) but it makes it possible to do anything to enfranchise women in subsection (2).

We give on page 229 the text of parts of the Bill so that our readers may follow Lord Robert Cecil's article on procedure, but these amendments will only come on in Committee, and it is not yet known when the Franchise Bill will go into Committee. The division on the Second Reading this week will probably follow party lines, since an adverse vote would mean the defeat of the Government and also the loss of the promised opportunity to amend the Bill.

When is a Lodger not an Occupier?

It must be remembered that the term "Occupier" has now been extended by this Bill to cover "lodger" and to include occupation of any value. The "Norwegian" amendment to enfranchise "occupiers and wives of occupiers" would therefore be a much larger measure on the proposed new basis than on the present one and would introduce another complication in that women are expressly excluded in the Bill as it stands from having the local government vote as lodgers; that is to say the woman lodger would not vote, but the wife of the male lodger would vote if the "Norwegian" amendment passed and the bar on women lodgers were not removed.

The Rights of Citizens.

It is stated that the City of London Conservative and Unionist Association will hold a demonstration in the City in the early aut'umn to protest against the Franchise Bill recently brought in by the Government, and to take every possible step "to protect the rights and privileges of the citizens."

Principle and Interest.

Something very like panic occurred in the Liberal ranks when it was known on the 2nd that Labour was going to contest Hanley and Crewe and was fairly indifferent to what might happen in the House in the course of these battles in the country. Into the merits of the guarrel between the two parties as to which of them has a prescriptive right to certain seats we do not propose to go; for us it is quite sufficient to back with all our force those men who are not only friends to women's suffrage but who belong to the only party that supports women's suffrage. We note that one paper speaks of Mr. Harcourt as a "great" Men no longer oppose us as a matter of principle, but as a matter of tactics. What we have to do is to show them it is good tactics not to oppose us. From Miss Housman's letter in our issue of last week it would appear that there are keen party Liberals who are simply yearning for evidence that if they "go agin'" the women, the women will "go agin'" them, and we are giving them this evidence. They will surely not go against their interests as well as their principles! would be to qualify for one of the few remaining "legal incapacities" left to the male sex! We do not admire the man who breaks his word to save his party, but we regard the man who breaks his word in order to wreck his party as little short of a lunatic.

The Party Spirit.

One of the strangest of the many strange things said in the name of Liberalism occurred in an article last week by Mr. Harold Spender in the "Daily News and Leader." He wrote with reference to the threatened withdrawal of Labour Members during the contests at Hanley and Crewe that "such a withdrawal would, of course, relieve the Government of any obligation to pass Labour measures such as the Trade Union Bill.' Never, surely, has the party as opposed to the patriotic view been more cynically taken. We have in our time said some strong things about the demoralising effect of the party spirit but we never said anything so cruel as this of the party to which Mr. Harold Spender belongs.

The Home Rule Bill and Women.

We are much interested in the amendment to the Home Rule Bill which is down in the name of Mr. Philip Snowden. Of course, if women were included in the Government Franchise Bill they could afford to look with comparative tranquillity to the near certainty of being included in any measure for Ireland. But since the Government has chosen not to put women into its Franchise Bill, the women are very naturally making a fight to get into the Home Rule Bill, and we are given to understand that many forces may combine to give them a very good chance.

JULY 11, 1912.

THE NEW POLICY AND THE FIGHTING FUND.

THE LIBERAL-LABOUR CRISIS,

undergoing the crucial test at Hanley and Crewe. These two same conditions are repeated, to reinforce that lesson until the contests are for the Labour Party a matter of life or death. Liberal machine has realised that it has nothing to gain and They must be for us a triumphant demonstration that the everything to lose by its refusal to assist the enfranchisement organised power of the women's movement can turn the scales of women. in the electoral balance. The position as it affects labour is obviously critical. The Liberals, on the death of Mr. Enoch Edwards, have chosen to claim the seat which he had held for many years as a Labour member. They have in Mr. in electoral work. But as at Holmfirth, so at Hanley and Crewe, Outhwaite a capable candidate, and they count on using the campaign to popularise the new programme of land taxation which Mr. Lloyd George favours. But the chief asset in their favour his party alone is the suffragist party. But it happens here, as was the fact that the local party organisation was in their hands. The Liberal Party has chosen to challenge Labour, and evidently it reckoned on taking it at a disadvantage. It is here that the suffrage movement can make its influence felt. It can supply what Labour particularly lacks in Hanley-expert organisers and workers who will do all that zeal and intelligence can effect to enable it to poll every possible vote. The Fighting Fund will supply the sinews of war for this auxiliary army, and as many organisers, speakers and voluntary workers as can effectively be used, will be massed in the field both at Hanley and Crewe. Our colours must be in evidence at every corner of the two towns, our activity so conspicuous and unremitting that friend and foe will alike admit that we have powerfully affected the issue of the fight.

WHAT IS AT STAKE.

in the women's battle. We have to prove that we can make ourselves invaluable to our best friends and formidable to our opponents and to those who can offer only half-hearted support. Through all these years of struggle women have sought for a weapon. Militancy was one attempt to solve the problem; the anti-Government policy was another. Neither has yielded the results expected by those who used it. Our plan is to show by our power of organised work that we can reward the loyalty of the one party which has officially espoused our cause. Labour is faced by a real danger. It is fighting for its independence, and if at Hanley and Crewe it were to fail in its resistance to the Master of Elibank's attack, all its seats would be in jeopardy and its very existence as a separate party imperilled. No effort which we can make in such a crisis can be too great. Labour, by the vote of its two party conferences, has made itself the suffragist party. In fighting for it we are battling for ourselves. Our intervention implies no hostility to Liberal principles or even to the Liberal candidates as individuals. We are supporting Labour against the Liberal, because the Liberal Party has hesitated as a party to make our cause its own. Half its leaders are our opponents, and the will to serve us of those who are our friends is thwarted by a reactionary minority within its ranks. We must prove that when the party whose attitude is unflinching and unanimous is at issue with the party whose attitude is divided and equivocal, we can throw our weight decisively into the scale of our better friends. The eyes of the country are fixed on these two contests as on events which possess an historical importance. Chance has brought us a great opportunity, and no effort will be spared to turn it to account. If in both towns the Labour candidate heads the poll, we may be sure that the moral which we desire to enforce will be drawn by those who control the Liberal machine. It has resolved to enter on a reckless competition with Labour It must learn that the influence of women can intervene to upset

The New Policy made its first essay at Holmfirth. It is its calculations. At every by-election we shall be ready, if the

THE PARTY TEST,

The new policy means a new vigour and a new concentration it involves no break with the traditions of the National Union. We are working for the Labour candidate primarily because it will almost always happen, that he is personally the "best friend" of women's suffrage. Mr. Finney and Mr. Holmes will vote for every women's suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill, and they will also vote against the third reading if no women are included. Neither of the Unionists is in any real sense of the word a suffragist. The two Liberals will vote for a democratic amendment, but also they will vote for the Bill, even if it should emerge from Committee a measure which perpetuates the disabilities of women and ratifies the privileges of "every male person." In a word they are party men, but theirs is not a suffrage party. Neither Mr. Outhwaite nor Mr. Murphy can claim to be "tried supporters." We welcome their declarations, but they have no record which would enable us to decide whether they belong to that class which Mr. Sydney Buxton and Mr. Crawshay Williams adorn. The Labour candidates, if they are elected, will join a party which is exposed to What is at stake? Precisely what has always been at stake no temptation. The pressure of its "machine" and the mandate of its representative conference will do for us as much as the pressure of the Liberal machine has done against us.

THE FIGHTING FUND.

Our Fighting Fund has now reached a total of £3,000. But as the possibilities of the policy develop we find ourselves confronted by continual calls. It has met, or will meet, the heavy cost of the work at Holmfirth, Hanley and Crewe. It is also preparing to send its organisers to prepare the ground in the constituencies of leading Liberal opponents who will have to face a triangular contest at the next General Election. We must build up a formidable organisation in all these places, and enlist in our ranks every woman who respects herself, so that the whole available force of suffragist opinion may be mobilised at the critical moment against the Liberal anti-suffragist. But we have still to fill a war-chest which will be available when the General Election comes. Let no one say that this is three years head. An accident might bring it upon us at any moment. Our larger plan of campaign cannot be carried out unless we are assured of the funds to fight the twenty or thirty suitable seats which ought to be contested. We appeal with confidence for the subscriptions which will enable us not merely to meet current claims on a generous scale, but also to announce by autumn that our reserve stands at the round figure of £10,000.

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HANLEY BY-ELECTION. National Union Committee Room.

Photo by W. H. Nagington, Hanley.



HANLEY BY-ELECTION.

Fhoto by W. H. Nagington, Hanley

Mrs, Annot Robinson addressing a meeting in support of Mr. Finney.

The National Union and the Franchise

We propose briefly to restate the position of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies towards the Government Franchise Bill. The National Union has been demanding the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as men ever since 1867, when the first Women's Suffrage Society was founded in England. Since then one great Reform Bill has been passed (in 1884), when the women were thrown overboard to "lighten the ship." Now the agitation has grown to such dimensions, and the demand has become so insistent that we have been told on all hands that no Reform Bill could be passed without women in it. That is our opinion, and it is also our opinion that the statesmanlike thing for the Liberal Government to do is to provide in its own Bill for the enfranchisement of women. So far the Government has not named women in its Bill except to take away from them something which they have, and to perpetuate all the absurdities of the Local Government But we have been assured by Mr. Asquith that the Bill would be so drafted as to permit of amendments giving women the vote on terms different from men, and that the House should be left free to vote on these amendments without party pressure, and, further, that any amendment enfranchising omen which was passed would be treated as an "integral part of the Bill and be defended by the Government in all its stages. The subject of the various amendments which may be proposed, and of the places in the Bill where they will be discussed, with in an article in this issue by Lord Robert Cecil. But the National Union is constantly being asked what amendment it prefers of those which give the vote on terms different from those on which men have the vote, and the answer of the National Union is: We prefer the widest amendment that will pass. It is for the Suffragists in the House of Commons to compound their differences and agree on some greatest common measure.

It is a common experience to find men, who are themselves at sixes and sevens as to the kind of franchise desired, most insistent that "You women must all be agreed." Well, we are all agreed. We want "the same terms as men." It seems the men are not "all agreed." So now it is their turn to come to an agreement.

We have never refused to support any Bill which had the merit of commanding a practicable majority. We accepted the Conciliation Bill. Not that we specially liked it. Not because -as a Liberal M.P. most unjustly declared-we "wished to prevent married women from having the vote"; but because it was offered to us with evidence that there was a working majority behind it, and this grew from 110 in 1010 to 167 in 1911, and was only smashed into fragments in 1912 by action of the Government in introducing the Franchise Bill this year. We women are united; we ask for the vote on the same terms as men. But you shall not evade the issue by saying you cannot give us that particular form of franchise, for we reply: 'What then will you give us?" It is not for us women to whittle down the franchise for women. We are not afraid of a "majority of women"! We think that whatever qualifies a man should qualify a woman. If the men think otherwise, it is for them to formulate their solution. We can't do their thinking, still less their "feeling," for them, and we decline to be credited with the absurdities and anomalies which they may perpetrate in their anxiety to discriminate between men and

There is a certain kind of Suffragist who always wants to give women just the kind of franchise for which there is not a During the debates on the Conciliation Bill there were kind friends who would give us all, and therefore would not vote for some. There are now gentlemen who, the Conciliation Bill having been defeated, are awakening to its supreme merits. The Liberal candidate at the recent Holmfirth election was that sort of friend, and there is a plentiful crop of them among Liberal journalists. But the Labour Party remains as always, staunch. The Labour Party stands for Adult Suffrage, yet it has taken the rational position that any extension of the franchise to women is better than none, and it is treally working to get something accomplished. The men of the Labour Party never vote against any proposal to enfranchise women, although probably the Conciliation Bill appealed to them as a party less than any other form of franchise. It is amusing to think of Mr. Asquith lecturing Labour men on what is truly democratic!

Now a special committee has been formed within the House to consider all the varieties of amendments and the chances of desirable. Moreover, if it were defeated, and the narrower success for each. The National Union wishes this committee amendment accepted, it would still be open to the Committee to

all possible success. Agreement is essential, and that individual persons or groups should not vote against each other's amendments, so that the extension of the suffrage which cannot be defeated in principle would be defeated in detail. A very hearty desire to find a solution was shown by our friends, and they may rest assured of the hearty desire of the National Union to support their efforts.

Amending the Franchise Bill.

BY LORD ROBERT CECIL, K.C., M.P.

The Franchise Bill is to be read a second time in a few days; it is therefore of the utmost importance that the advocates of the enfranchisement of women should consider by what amendment they can best forward the object which they have in view.

The Bill is drafted upon the lines which are now usual in legislation. Its first clause contains the pith of the whole matter; it sets up the new Parliamentary franchise. The second clause deals with the Local Government franchise. The res of the Bill and the schedules are of subsidiary importance. The first clause is divided into two subsections, the first of which provides for the enfranchisement of qualified persons and the second defines the qualification of such persons. But there is one qualification which is inserted in the first subsection: no one is to be enfranchised who is not a "male person." The first line of the Bill runs: "Subject to the provisions of this Act, every male person" who is qualified is to be enfranchised. It is clear, therefore, that if any woman is to be enfranchised the word "male" must be struck out. It is then possible to settle by amendments to subsection (2) what women are to be en-

It is sugested that if "male" be omitted from the first subsection and no further amendment be made, this would involve adult suffrage. It is very doubtful if this is true. By Clause 6 (2) all present incapacities, not expressly removed, Among those incapacities is that of women and in view of the decisions of the courts on words somewhat similar to those found here, it could scarcely be said that by striking out "male," the present incapacity of women to vote would be expressly removed. The effect of the omission of the word "male would seem to be only to enable the Committee to consider subsequent amendments designed to give the franchise to women If it is desired to extend to women the franchise proposed to be conferred on men in the Bill, it will be necessary to insert either in the first or second subsection, words making clear that 'person" is to mean "person of either sex." proposal likely to command much support in the present use of Commons and the more practical question admitting that the suffrage is to be limited, what should be its limits. Among suffragists there are three main streams of opinion on this point. There are those who wish to give the franchise straight off to all women who are possessed of the residential or occupation qualification proposed for men by the Bill. Their course is simple; all they have to do, as has been said, is to extend Clause I to women as well as men. Putting that proposal aside as impracticable, the next group is that which proposes to give the suffrage to those women who are house-holders or married to householders and the third group desires to confine the suffrage to those women who at present vote in Local Government elections. The third suggestion is from the point of view of amendments the easiest to deal with. All that will be necessary after removing the word "male" from the first subsection, will be to insert in the second subsection a paragraph enfranchising for Parliamentary purposes those women who have already the right to vote for Local Government

The group who desire what may be called Household Suffrage for women could accomplish their object in one of two ways they could either propose an amendment to the amendment of the Local Government group adding wives of householders to women Local Government electors and making that the basi of the Parliamentary franchise for women, or they could accept as a first step the extension of the Parliamentary vote to wome Local Government electors, reserving to themselves the power to move on the second clause of the Bill an amendment extending the Local Government franchise to women who are marrie to householders. Probably the first plan would be the mor convenient, since it would take the form of an amendment to the proposal to extend the Parliamentary vote to the women Local Government electors and would be put from the Chair before that amendment was put. The result would be that the division would take place on the wider proposal and then, if that were defeated, on the narrower, which is from every point of view y extension that might be proposed of that franchise. There ald thus be as it were two opportunities for those who desire wider suffrage than that of the present Local Government

In addition to these three main streams of opinion several proals have been made for other modifications in the enfranchiset of women. There is-e.g., the proposal that they shall half a vote each. There is also the proposal to raise the of women voters to 25. It is feared that some of these posals may be designed merely to sow dissension in the age forces; as far as they are honest attempts to solve the ion, they will no doubt be considered as and when they brought forward. It must lie with the convinced advocates the suffrage to prevent any more sinister objects of their oposers being accomplished. It may be asked what security is that these amendments or any of them will come clearly and fairly before the Committee; suffragists have had, too often, perience of the use by their opponents of the forms of the House to defeat a clear issue on the suffrage question. The nswer is that it all depends on the Chairman of Committees. has complete authority to secure that every substantial issue all be submitted clearly to the Committee and there is every reason to suppose that the present holder of the office will discharge his duties with ability and impartiality.

An Irishwoman in England.

It was with a sense of pleasurable excitement that I accepted he invitation of the National Union to spend a month in England nd learn something of the details of its organising work on alf of Women's Suffrage.

In Ireland our principal efforts so far have been directed to educating public opinion by the holding of meetings and the ormation of societies in the larger centres. But since the contitution of the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation six months the movement has been spreading in the country districts, nd I felt sure that I should learn much from the English anisation that would be valuable in furthering this work. first experience was with the West Lancashire Federation. e I had the very great pleasure and privilege of working irectly with Miss Eskrigge, the organiser for that district, and realised how complete, down to the minutest detail, this anising work could be. In the quaint little town of Poulton-Fylde, where we made a house-to house canvass, many postcards to the local M.P. were signed at our request by both nen and women; and in Lytham, where an influential meeting was held, similar work was done.

cannot say enough in support of this personal method of work. It is slow; it is often exhausting; but it is always interesting and never really discouraging, while its educational effect can hardly be over-estimated.

At the beginning of the following week we started a camaign at St. Helen's, and I had my first experience of an nglish "Black country" town. Black enough, externally, it s, in all conscience: one felt a thrill of indignation at the ulness, the ugliness, the horrible choking smoke, the whirling clouds of sharp dust which has inflamed the eyes of so many

One felt that here indeed the very stones cried out for the elp of humane and practical women to devise a more excellent ay of life for the dwellers in these great industrial centres.

But the people: how shall I describe them? Day after day we talked to them in their homes; night after night they bronged by hundreds to our open-air meetings, standing patiently in the poluring rain—an interested eager crowd; and never once did they show us the smallest discourtesy. Out of these dull and ugly little houses had come tired men, and women still more tired; but the fire of enthusism flamed in their faces and as one looked at them one saw a vision of the riumph of the human soul when touched to finer issues.

But if the Lancashire people impressed me so favourably what shall I say of Yorkshire, where the love of freedom seems to be in the very blood of the people? In the West Riding villages which form the Holmfirth division we did not need to call the people to listen to our gospel: they called lus. Out of all the excitement, the gaiety, the strenuous work of that elecion week, the picture that remains most vividly in my mind s that of a scattered little hamlet perched on a hill-side, one of the most remote in the whole constituency. Hither I went one afternoon to hold a meeting. No preparation had been made; every thing was à l'improviste; there was only an hour in which to collect the audience. But as soon as the idea of the meeting got wind there was a general scamper to get cleared

consider when they came to the Local Government franchise, up in time for it. The children were as keen as their parents, and rushed round spreading the news. At the appointed time, the space at the cross-roads was densely packed with as picturesque and handsome a crowd as I have ever seen. The wor in their white aprons with gay coloured shawls over their heads, under which their eyes sparkled with excitement; the men more sober and sedate, but, like the women, quick to question and 'prove all things.'

It was an exhilarating experience, that week at Penistone; and it made one feel that the triumph of the cause of women's

suffrage cannot be long delayed.

It is a far cry from Yorkshire to Surrey, and the difference between the external aspect of the deep Surrey valleys and the wind-swept hills of the north country is not greater than the difference in racial type between the two peoples. The southerner is slower of thought and of speech; he is not so instinctively a political being: but here, too, the people are waking up to the importance of a question which touches them so nearly, and the house-to-holuse canvass gained us many friends among the home-loving women. And here I should like to add that the idea of forming a band of "Friends of Women's Suffrage" seems to me a most admirable one. Soon, I hope, we shall see the whole of England, and Ireland too, linked together by this means in a bond of sympathy.

"One port, methought, alike they sought,

One purpose hold wher'er they fare, O bounding breeze! O rushing seas!

At last, at last, unite them there!

ELLEN DUNCAN.

An Enlightened Frenchman.

"Prejugé et Problème des Sexes." Par Jean Finot. Paris: Felix Alcan, 108, Boulevard St. Germain.

For centuries France and England have led Europe in almost every great movement towards political and social reform, and it is most fitting that the movement for the liberation of women should go forward without delay in France. M. Finot's volume breathes a noble spirit of hopefulness, instinct with the confidence that the present century is to mark the political emancipation of women, as the last one marked the political emancipation of men. He sees that the two causes are bound together; must, ultimately, succeed or fail together; and, though he admits that the future is uncertain, he puts in the front of his preface these words :- "Nous ne demanderons du reste jamais assez à la vie, dont les possibilités vont plus loin que nos rêves audacieux. Et si elle se montre souvent sourde à nos appels, c'est que nous ne savons point lui parler. Nous lui demandons surtout des choses impossibles et par cela même irréalisables. Nous avons ainsi proclamé la charte de l'homme, en oubliant celle de la femme." It is the cry of Shelley once more: "Can man be free if woman is a slave?" And for M. Finot full political freedom involves, as it ought to do, eligibility to the highest political functions. He quotes the splendid words of Condorcet in 1790, words that are absolutely appropriate to-day :- "Au nom de quel principe, au nom de quel droit, écarte-t'on, dans un état républicain, les femmes des fonctions publiques? Je ne le vois pas. Le mot representation nationale signifie representation de la nation. Est ce que les femmes ne font point partie de la nation? Cette assemblée a pour but de constituer et de maintenir les droits du peuple français. Est ce que les femmes ne font point partie du peuple français? Le droit d'élire et d'ètre élu est fondé pour les hommes sur leur titre de créatures intelligentes et libres. Est ce que les femmes ne sont point libres et intelligentes?" The claim to the vote could scarcely be better put: no figments about "physical force," no makeshifts about property; the true ground is recognised in the possession of human intelligence, will and conscience. This man, at least, among the founders of political democracy realised what the democratic ideal meant. inspiring to recall, as M. Finot does, that at the same date in England Mary Wollstonecraft raised the banner of the women's cause. The book before us contains a wide review, almost world-wide, of the changes in the status of woman, so far back as history can go with approximate certainty.

The institution of the matriarchate, M. Finot considers, in any sense involving the real dominance of the woman, to be exceedingly doubtful, and in general the result of his survey is that the position of woman has markedly improved, though very slowly and with many relapses, as mankind has advanced gradually from the brutish towards the human. He realises that Christianity lifted up women in so far as, following its Founder, it pitied the oppressed and appealed to the human soul in all human beings. But he points out that the initial grand impulse was checked and thwarted by narrow concep-

TULY 11, 1912.

tions, Semitic and ascetic, much as the liberating influence of the Revolution in France was made to stop short with the rights of man in the smallest sense of the word. To us of this generation it belongs to take on and carry to fulfilment the inspiration derived from both.

The opening of political and intellectual life to all women must be the next step in the work, unless, and only unless, it could be proved that women were essentially so inferior to men in mental and moral calibre, or so handicapped by physical disabilities, that they could not undertake either without collapse. A review of the dominant characteristics of men and women, so far as displayed in history as yet, leads M. Finot to the conclusion that the differences between the sexes have been enormously exaggerated, and are, in much greater measure than is usually supposed, the result of rigid differences in training and environment. He is alive, as most historians and publicists are not, to the wonderful malleability and versatility of the human race, and he believes that any fair-minded observer, looking broadly at the changes of the last hundred years or so, could discern already a marked difference in the type of women. Their beauty, he holds, is as great as it was, but it is different, and is destined to become more different still: less yielding, less subservient and shrinking, more steady, more independent, franker, and more strong.

And the outward differences in stature, feature and bearing are, he holds, a reflection of what is taking place in the character and mind. Not that he considers there are no essential and permanent differences between men and women, but, as becomes the scientific observer who must be at once cautious and daring, he is very reluctant to formulate his own impressions too rigidly, or to accept without demur the cheap formulas of the average narrow experience.

On the whole, he is inclined to think that "the eternal woman" has more of "the eternal state" than the man possesses, but this in no way suggests inferiority; perhaps even the reverse. Elsewhere he lays stress on the indications that woman is less under the tyranny of self-passion than man, more affectionate, more religious, more easily moved to tearsthese characteristics recall those of the child. On the other side, the range of ideas for women has been narrow, even as the range for the child; but this, he has no doubt, is due to defective training and absence of scope. Assuredly, one is the more inclined to agree as one watches the difference produced under one's eyes by an education that is genuinely deep and thorough, and that could really compare with the best furnished to a man.

Very interesting are some of the facts M. Finot furnishes about the present position of women in France. There, as in England, the increase in women's work has been enormous. While the population has remained almost stationary, the number of women engaged in commerce has risen from 241,000 in 1866 to 779,000 in 1906; the number engaged in agriculture from 1,878,000 in 1866 to 3,330,000 in 1906. far greater than the increase for men during the same period. The proportion of women in industry has almost doubled, while that of men has only increased by about one-half (pp. 25, 26).

I would like to close this account of a refreshing book as I began it, by a quotation aglow with confidence:faudra combattre certains superstitions, et ensevelir joyeusement des autres. En dégageant le terrain envahi et dévoré par l'ivraie, nous aiderons à réconstituer la cité future, où l'harmonie divine se trouvera établie entre les deux moitiés humaines. C'est la récompense divine qui attend également l'homme

et la femme, lorsqu' ils opposeront aux adversités de la vie l'amour, la justice et la solidarité de leur sexes." F. MELIAN STAWELL.

Women at the Committee on the White Slave Traffic Bill.

We have been told that in view of the serious injury that is being done to the Criminal Law Amendment Bill in Grand Committee, it is of the utmost importance that women should, in as large numbers as can be, attend the meetings of Committee in the space allotted to strangers. I am told such attendance is not only cheering to the members friendly to the Bill, but it is also said to have influence on the

Anyone entering by Westminster Hall and asking for the "Committee Room of the White Slave Traffic Bill," will be freely admitted without ticket or member's name, or any sort of let or hindrance. The without ticket or member's hame, of any sort of let or hindrance. Inext Committee meets at 11.30 on Thursday next, July 11th. It sits till about two, and the date of the next one is given out at the end of the meeting, or can be obtained at the "Ladies' National Association," 19, Tothill Street. At the two meetings I have attended there were not more than seven women present. May I most earnestly urge attendance on those of your readers who can give it?

The Late Mr. W. S. B. McLaren.

Mr. Walter McLaren was the fourth son (by his third wife, Priscilla, sister of John Bright) of the late Mr. Duncan McLaren, of Edinburgh. His father was Lord Provost and for many years member for the City of Edinburgh. His mother, born in 1815, of Quaker parents, was deeply interested in all social matters, and was one of the pioneers of the Women's Suffrage movement, and it is undoubtedly due to her influence that Mr. McLaren took such a keen and practical interest in the question.

In 1885 he first attempted to enter Parliament when he unsuccessfully contested Inverness Burghs. The next he was elected for Crewe, which he represented until 1895. In April, 1010, he was again elected for the same constituency by large majority. that time Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy wrote to us:-"I am delighted that vou have so admirable a candidate as Mr. Walter McLaren, who in deed and truth a friend of the women's cause, to which he has been staunch from boyhood up. When was living at Keighley . . . still quite a youth, he founded a mimic Parliament amongst his youthful associates, of which he was virtually the head. This was the occasion of very



THE LATE MR. W. S. B. McLAREN, M.P. (Photo kindly lent by the "Manchester Guardian.")

active work on his part, preparing and introducing various measures in the best interests of women, of which he always kindly sent me copies. . . With all my heart I wish success to his candidature.

Mr. McLaren was a strong believer in conciliation in industrial disputes, took part in the Miners' Conciliation Board and also in the recent negotiations between the Government and the miners which resulted in the Minimum Wage Act. He was himself a director of a great many industrial companies.

Mr. McLaren married in 1883 Eva, daughter of Mr. William Müller, of Hillside, Herts, and Valparaiso, Chile. Mrs. McLaren is well known for her work for the Liberal Party and the interest she takes in all social duestions.

As one who knew Mr. Walter McLaren from the time of his early manhood, I should like to write briefly of his untiring and devoted services throughout his life in every cause connected with the improvement in the position of women. He was one of the few men who apprehended the full significance of the women's movement and recognised that, in his own words,"it was the greatest in the world at the present time." Whether it was a matter of education, industrial liberty, economic independence, or personal and political freedom, no practical crisis ever arose without Walter McLaren putting himself zealously and enthusiastically on the side of enlarged liberty for women. If Sir Henry Maine was right in attributing the progressive civilisation of the West, and the long centuries of stagnation in the civilisation of the East to the fact that on the whole the West accepted and developed, while the East repressed and retarded the claim of women to personal independence, Walter McLaren was one of the powers working for the further realisation of Western ideals.

His mind was turned in this direction in childhodd by the influence of his mother, Mrs. Duncan McLaren, the sister of John and Jacob Bright. His early home and education were in Edinburgh; and in the impressionable years of youth he was an eye-witness to the disgraceful scenes of masculine rowdyism which women had to submit to when they were pursuing their claim to a medical education in the University of Edinburgh. As a mere child he had helped to collect signatures to the first

women's suffrage petition, presented in the House of Commons by John Stuart Mill, in 1866. As a very young man, he worked for the Married Women's Property Bill. When under thirty he, together with the daughters, respectively, of John Bright and Richard Cobden, brought up the question of Women's Suffrage at a great meeting of the National Liberal Federation meeting in Leeds, in 1884, and got a rider adopted to the main resolution declaring that no measure dealing with the Parliamentary franchise would be satisfactory which did not include the enfranchisement of women. The incidents just quoted are characteristic of the whole of his public career. He was always on the watch for an opportunity to do a service to the cause women's freedom. During the last decades of his life he was ably seconded in all these efforts by his wife. Between these two there were a deeper sympathy and a greater wealth of interests, hopes and ideals in common than fall to the lot of the majority of husbands and wives. Their lot was exceptionally happy in this: and the pain of parting is now exceptionally bitter for her. But she is a brave woman and will take up her task again, and be helped through the years that remain to her by the remembrance of his constant sympathy and co-MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

The Text of the Franchise Bill. MAIN PROVISIONS.

The main provisions of the Franchise Bill in so far as they affect qualifications for the vote are as follows:-

J.—PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary elector for a constituency, if that person is quailfied in accordance with this Act to be registered in that constituency, and while so registered shall be entitled to vote at an election of a member to serve in Parliament for that constituency; but a person shall not be registered or vote for more than one constituency.

(2) For the purposes of this Act a person shall be qualified to be (2) For the purposes of this Act a person shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a Parliamentary elector if that person resides, or is an occupier of land or premises in that constituency, and has so resided, or been an occupier, for a continuous period of at least six months last past, or during such a period has so resided for part of the period, and so been an occupier for the remainder of the period. 11.-LOCAL GOVERNMENT FRANCHISE.

Subject to the provisions of this Act, and especially to the provisions

itations set out in the first schedule :-(i) Every person who is an occupier of land or premises in a local overnment electoral area otherwise than as a lodger and has so been an occupier for a continuous period of at least six months last past shall be entitled to be registered and, if registered, to vote as a local government elector for the purpose of all local government elections for that

Every person who is an owner of any land or premises in a local government area, or is an occupier of any premises in a local government electoral area as a lodger, and has so been an owner or occupier ment electoral area as a lodger, and has so been an owner of occupier, for a continuous period of at least six months last past, shall be entitled to be registered and, if registered, to vote as a local government elector for the purpose of all local government elections for that area except a county council (other than a London County Council) election in England, and a municipal borough council (not including a metropolitan borough council) election in England.

-PROVISION AS TO EXISTING INCAPACITIES TO VOTE.

(1) Any disability of a peer to be registered as a Parliamentary elector to vote at an election of a member to serve in Parliament shall cease.
(2) Except as expressly provided in this Act, nothing therein contained shall confer on any person who is subject to any legal incapacity

tained shall confer on any person who is subject to any legal incapacity to be registered or to vote any right to be registered or to vote.

VII.—UNIVERSITY CONSTITUENCIES TO CEASE.

Any university or group of universities being at the time of the passing of the Act a constituency returning a member to serve in Parliament shall cease to be such a constituency, but any person who is a university member at the time of the passing of this Act shall have a right to sit and vote while he is a member as if this section was not in

VIII.—DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act-The expression "constituency" means any county, borough, or combination of places returning a member to serve in Parliament, and where a county or borough is divided for the purpose of Parliamentary elections, means a division of the county or borough so divided; but a county constituency shall not include a Parliamentary borough or any

The expression "local government electoral area" means the area for which any county council, municipal borough council, metropolitan borough council, district council, board of guardians, parish council, or any other body elected by local government electors (including county electors, burgesses and parochial electors) is elected; and the expression "local government election" means an election for any such council, board or body.

board, or body;

The expression "owner" means the person beneficially entitled in possession to the rents and profits of the land or premises in virtue of any estate of freehold or copyhold, and includes, where the land or premises are let on lease (not being an under-lease) for a term originally created for a period of not less than twenty years (whether determinable on a life or lives or not) the person beneficially enittled to the whole unexpired residue of the terms.

pired residue of the term;
The expression "occupier" includes an occupier as a lodger, and the oppression "premises" includes any house or part of a house occupied

X.—EXISTING FRANCHISES SUPERSEDED; REPEAL, SHORT TITLE, AND COMMENCEMENT.

(1) The Parliamentary and the local government franchises enacted by this Act shall take the place of all Parliamentary and local government franchises existing at the time of the passing of this Act.

(2) The enactments mentioned in the Fourth Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that schedule.

(3) This Act may be cited as the Franchise and Registration Act, 1912, (3) This Act may be cried as the Franchisch of June, nineteen hundred and shall come into force on the first day of June, nineteen hundred and fourteen, or on such earlier day as may be fixed by Order of His

Majesty in Council:

Provided that the first register to be made under this Act shall not come into force until such later date as may be fixed by His Majesty in Council, and the register made under the Acts in force at the time of the passing of this Act shall remain in force until the date so fixed.

THE SCHEDULES.

The following are the important schedules attached to the Bill:—FIRST SCHEDULE.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS:—PROVISIONS AND LIMITATIONS.

1. A person shall not be entitled to be registered or vote as a local government elector for the purposes of the election of a borough councillor or a county councillor in more than one ward of the same borough or more than one electoral division of the same county.

2. In England a woman shall not be entitled to be registered as a local government election by virtue of

government elector or to vote at a local government election by virtue of the ownership of land or premises or by virtue of the occupation of pre-

the ownership of land or premises of by virtue of the coespinates as a lodger.

3. A woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered or voting as a local government elector: Provided that—

(a) In England a married woman shall not be registered as a local government elector or vote as a local government elector for the purpose of a county council election (other than a London County Council election) or for the purpose of a municipal borough council election (not including a metropolitan borough council election); and

(b) A husband and wife shall not both be entitled to be registered

or vote in respect of the same property.

In Parliament,

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

On July 4th and 5th the Master of Elibank stated that the Second Reading of the Franchise Bill would be taken on Monday, Thursday and Friday (Division on Friday); Tuesday the Mental Deficiency and Inebriates Bills; Wednesday the Foreign Office vote

THE FRANCHISE BILL: DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING.

The rejection of the Franchise Bill was moved on Monday in the following terms by Mr. Pretyman on behalf of the

That this House declines to proceed with a measure on the most important aspect of which the Government responsible for its introduction is admittedly not agreed, and leaves unremedied the most glaring inequalities of our representative system, and which is framed solely in the

electoral interests of one political party.

Mr. Lewis Harcourt moved the Second Reading. He declared that it would be absurd to set up a property qualification for women when they were about to abolish property qualification for men and yet "he could not believe that the House was prepared to add ten and a-half million women to the voting rolls." Mr. Healy interrupted with the question whether this represented the views of "his colleague, Mr. Lloyd George?" Harcourt replied, "No; I am speaking for myself and some other colleagues." The Government certainly has taken good care that so far the Franchise Bill shall be in the hands of Anti-

Mr. Harcourt gave a definite assurance that a Redistribution Bill would be introduced before the next General Election.

SIR H. LAWSON complained that it was a "tricky" SIR C. HENRY said he should vote against the third reading if women were included. Mr. W. H. Dickinson thought the Government had treated the question of women's suffrage very fairly. LORD ROBERT CECIL said no one could claim it was really a Reform Bill.

really a Kelorm Bill.

"If," he said, "you are to say every man is entitled to a vote because he is a man, are you really able to say that you will exclude every woman? It seems to me almost impossible. (Cheers.) You are going to give the vote to the casual labourer. Are you really at the same time going to refuse the vote to the woman doctor, the woman acher, and the thousands of women who are unquestionably about average intellectual capacity of the casual labourer? It is in face of that to hear the plea that this is a Bill to rem for what anomaly could be greater? I cannot understand how anybody who really looks at this question apart from prejudice can seriously say that the voters who will be enfranchised will all of them be more capable of exercising the rote than the processing the same of exercising the rote than the process of the processing the rote than the processing the rote of exercising the rote than the process of the pr of exercising the vote than the women of this country. Mr. Harcourt, I know, said that the only alternative is to give the vote to 10½ millions of women. If he had given any attention to the controversy he could not seriously think that the only alternative is between no woman and 10½ millions of women. I should myself be opposed to the admission of ro million people to the register at one blow, but to say that I must therefore reject the admission of a single person is an argument scarcely fore reject the admission of a single person is an argument scarcely worthy of a Minister of the Crown. I confess I do not altogether share Mr. Dickinson's optimism, for I cannot feel that the attitude of the Government is very clear or very easy to understand. Their pledges are

clear. They have pledged themselves to give a free and fair chance for Women's Suffrage, but I am not sure that pledge is very fully carried out in this Bill. The word "man" appears at the outset, thus emphasising that this is not a Bill for Women's Suffrage. The local government suffrage in this respect is untouched. Again, it is rather disquieting that we have Mr. Pease moving the first reading—a man who is a strong opponent of the suffrage, while Mr. Harcourt—the strongest opponent in the Howes—moves the second reading. I hope and trut that before the opponent of the suffrage, while Mr. Harcourt—the strongest opponent in the House—moves the second reading. I hope and trust that before the debate closes we shall hear the views of other occupants of the front bench. (Cheers.) I earnestly hope the Government won't adopt a provocative attitude in this matter. Here is a question exciting the deepest and strongest feelings, and I ask the Government not to attempt by any Parliamentary astuteness to take unfair advantage of those who are in favour of the suffrage. If we are united and the Government treats us fairly I believe the cause of right and justice will prevail and that women will by this Bill receive the vote in some form or other. (Cheers.)

SIR A. MARKHAM held that the Bill brought in its train a great injustice to women. They were calculated the afternables these

injustice to women. They were asked to enfranchise three millions of men who had not asked for the vote while, according to some, they were to leave out a large body of highly-educated women who did want the vote. He threatened to vote against the Bill on these grounds. Mr. C. ROBERTS believed that a compromise could be arrived at. The local government franchise was full of anomalies. Mr. A. H. GILL welcomed the Bill but regretted the exclusion of women. Any amendment with the object of including women would secure the support of the Labour Members. Mr. J. M. Hogge believed in adult suffrage and would vote against the third reading unless women were included. SIR F. BANBURY asserted that he would "be inclined to support" an amendment to en-franchise women on a property qualification.

PORT OF LONDON STRIKE.

On July 1st, Mr. O'Grady moved:-

"That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that the representa-tives of the employers' and the workmen's organisations involved in the present dispute in the Port of London should meet with a view to arriving

Mr. Asquith declared that he adhered to the view he had expressed before, "that the Government ought to be very chary of interfering in matters of this kind," and that the Government 'had come to the conclusion they would not be justified in doing more than they have done" (namely instituting the Industrial Council). Nevertheless, Mr. Asquith declared his intention of voting neither for nor against Mr. O' Grady's motion.

Mr. Bonar Law moved as an amendment:-

"That this House regrets the continuance of the strike, and the consequent suffering, and approves of the declaration of the Prime Minister that the constitutional and normal attitude of the Government should be one of complete detachment and neutrality; and is of opinion that the intervention of the House in this instance can serve no useful purpose." Mr. Asquith did not vote; the amendment was lost and Mr. O'Grady's motion was passed by 254 to 188.

In the course of his speech in support of the resolution, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald said: "We want this House simply to say that in this dispute neither side should stop the machinery of conciliation; that if one side or another, employers or employed, should say 'Something has happened that has put our backs up and we decline to meet the other side,' it is the duty of this House to use every particle of influence which it can command to keep both sides meeting, discussing and trying to find a way

which will ultimately lead to peace."

THE CASE OF MISS CONNOR SMITH.

mystery with which Mr. McKenna had replied on June 28th were passed on July 3rd.

to his question concerning the liberation of Miss Aileen Connor Smith. On that occasion Mr. McKenna had darkly hinted that Lord Robert had better consult her brother as to the reasons. The brother subsequently wrote to the papers to say there was. no mystery about the reason and that he had begged the Home Secretary to liberate his sister as he feared he would otherwise be unable any longer to conceal the fact of her imprisonment from her aged mother, and he promised to use his influence to restrain his sister in future; it appears from Miss Connor Smith's statement that she is an adult of independent means. In reply to Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. McKenna declared on July 20th that he threw out the dark hints on June 28th, "in order that there should be no misapprehension as to my reasons."

DISTURBANCES IN IRELAND.

From replies given by Mr. Birrell on July 4th, it appears that County Clare remains very disturbed. He stated "There is good reason to believe that in the disturbed parts of Clare and Galway some evil-disposed men have banded themselves

together by secret agreement for the purpose of intimidation."

The disturbance at Castledawson, where Hibernians and Orangemen came into violent conflict was also the subject of discussion on the 2nd and 5th.

DISTURBANCES IN LONDON.

On July 4th Mr. McKenna stated that up to the 2nd 402 persons had been arrested in the Metropolitan Police District for offences in connection with the strike, and there were in all

STREET ACCIDENTS.

A return given on July 5th showed that from 1904 (before accidents from motor vehicles were recorded) to 1911 the number of persons killed in street accidents yearly in London had risen from 150 to 416 and injured had risen from 8,526 to

WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC BILL.

At the end of June this Bill began to be considered by a Standing Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Stuart Wortley, M.P. Clause I. was amended to provide that only a constable who is "not below the rank of a sergeant and is detailed for special duty under the Act by the Commissioners of Metropolitan and City Police or the chief officer of a borough or county police force" shall have power to arrest without a warrant. An amendment moved by Mr. Handel Booth providing that the work should be done by special officers was decided by the casting vote of the chairman against it, there being 16 for and 16 against.

Mr. Arthur Lynch, Mr. J. Wedgwood and Sir W. Byles wanted to delete the words "being about to commit" the offence of procuration; Sir W. Byles opined that the miscreant "might change his mind." Mr. Lynch was afraid of blackmail. phrase mentioned above was changed to "attempting to com-Mr. Handel Booth strenuously opposed the clause and maintained that the Act would break down. The Clause passed

An amendment of Sir F. Banbury's was passed to omit subsection (2) which provides for evidence of previous convictions being given and another amendment was also passed to strike Lord Robert Cecil, on July 2nd, referred to the extraordinary out the liability to flogging. So amended, clauses 1 and 2

THE NATIONAL UNION WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Non-Party.

MISS K. D. COURTNEY.

MISS EDITH PALLISER

MISS CATHERINE MARSHALI

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

PRESIDENT: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

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Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUBRBACH.

Secretary:
MISS GERALDINE COOKB. Telephone: 1960 Victoria.

"Voi celess, London."

Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

From Headquarters.

(Parliamentary).

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

During the next week or two, the National Union will concentrate its energies on the two by-elections at Hanley and

Crewe. All possible help is needed, and those who can give time and are willing to do whatever may turn up, are asked to write to the address given on the page giving local news of the

SUMMER WORK.

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be in the field at Crewe and Hanley, the ordinary work of the Union will not be seriously affected-indeed, we are running several special campaigns including a caravan tour in the Eastern Counties. Now, as always, the National Union falls back on its splendid body of voluntary workers on whom the efficiency of the Union is bound ultimately to depend. The demand for volunteers for all kinds of work is growing, and those who feel that some training and experience would make them more valuable workers will welcome the scheme for a summer school organised by the West Midland Federation. The idea is an admirable one, and we commend it to the notice of other Federations. Applicants, who need not be members of the West Midland Federation, should write to Miss Morrison.

NEW SOCIETIES.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants.-Newhaven. West Riding.-Normanton. West Midlands .- Bromsgrove. Kentish.—Rochester. Eastern Counties.—Great Yarmouth.
AUTUMN DEMONSTRATION.

The National Union has resolved to hold a great demonstration in the Albert Hall on October 29th to demand the inclusion of women in the Franchise Bill. Names of speakers and other details will be published later. In the meantime members are asked to remember the date and to make a point of being present.

THE LATE MR. W. S. B. McLAREN. At the last Executive Committee deep regret was expressed at the loss the National Union had sustained by the death of Mr. Walter McLaren, who had for so long been a member of its Executive Committee and Mrs. Fawcett was asked to be so good as to write to Mrs. Eva McLaren expressing the warm sympathy of the Committee with her sorrow.

K. D. COURTNEY.

Press Department.

The Anti-Suffrage press is strangely inarticulate in relation to the clauses in the Reform Bill dealing with the Municipal Vote. An excellent article in the "Queen" on June 29th points out that "all women who are interested in their powers of public usefulness should make a point of getting a copy of the Bill and of studying its provisions with the utmost care." Under the new Bill, even "the existing slender possibilities of civic service are to be withdrawn from a woman because she is married, if she lives anywhere in England, excepting London. There is no longer to be any power even to get the question of married women's eligibility decided by a revising barrister in sympathy with modern ideas."

A special Press representative is undertaking the by-election work at Crewe and Hanley, and the news should be carefully noted by the Press secretaries during the coming weeks. Liberal papers, with the exception of the "Manchester Guardian," whose fairness is unimpeachable, continue to suppress news of our policy. On the other hand, the Labour papers

show increasing support.

The "Labour Leader," on July 4th, says in answer to the remarks of the "Observer," that with Manhood Suffrage attainable at the age of 21, Labour will gain far more in proportion than either of the other parties, and will sweep Radicalism out

of many of the industrial seats it at present holds.
"The Observer" may be surprised to learn that even with this alluring prospect in view, the Labour and Socialist movement is opposed to a Manhood Suffrage Bill. It is perfectly true that our movement would gain electorally under such a measure, for the young people with wider educational opportunities than their fathers, are with us and not with our enemies; but our movement will accept no gift that perpetuates the political disability of women."

In a report of the Hanley by-election, the "Manchester Guardian" already fears the effect of the support which the National Union is giving to the Labour candidate on the Liberal cause. For it says, "having been authorised to support the candidature of Mr. Finney, they (the representatives of the National Union) allied themselves to his cause so zealously that Mr. Outhwaite's chances may be damaged to an appreciable extent by their campaign."

The "Daily Herald" mentions with appreciation "the splendid work" which is being done by the National Union.

The "Daily News" and "Daily Chronicle," it would appear, have not yet heard of our advent into the constituency

Literature Department.

JULY CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS.

The July issue of the Catalogue is now ready and will be sent week's issue. free to anyone who writes for it.

WOMEN'S WORK IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

By the kind permission of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association the National Union has reprinted their excellent leaflet on "Women's Work in Local Government," by Miss Marion Chadwick. This leaflet can therefore now be had with the National Union heading, B.77, 1s. 6d.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

B. 73. "The Vital Claim: An Appeal from Liberal Women to Women Liberals." By C. C. Osler. 1s. 6d. per 100.

B. 75. "The Reform Bill and Women's Suffrage." (Reprinted from the "Nation.") 1s. 6d. per 100.

B. 77. "Women's Work in Local Government." By Marion Chadwick.

Is. 6d. per 100

B. 74. "Suffrage or Party?" 4d. per 100.

POSTERS, WITH BORDERS IN THE COLOURS. "Is a Woman a Person?" 3d. each.
Announcement of Meetings. 3d. each.

LITERATURE RECENTLY STOCKED.

LITERATURE RECENTLY STOCKED.

The National Union has stocked a very stirring Suffrage song, "Forward, Ever Forward." The words are by Miss Margaret O'Shea, and the music is by Miss Emily Jones. Price 2d.

It has also stocked two recently-published pamphlets:—
"An Old Doctor's View of the Women's Movement." By William Boulting, L.R.C.P.Lond. (Published by the Men's Society for Women's Rights.) id.
"The Working Life of Women." By Miss B. L. Hutchins. (Published by the Fabian Women's Group.) id.

by the Fabian Women's Group.) rd. I. B. O'MALLEY.

Friends of Women's Suffrage.

Solihull should have been mentioned among the societies which were the first to take up the "Friends of Women's Suffrage Scheme.' It is carrying out the work with enthusiasm. Other societies which have signified their intention of adopting the scheme since my report was sent in last week are:-

Alloa. Hockwold. Ambleside. Ardrossan, Saltcoates, and Marple. Stevenston. Northampton. Rhvl. Croyden Stafford. Exmouth. Wadebridge. Gloucester. Grantham.

Any society which is now working the Friends of Women's Suffrage Scheme and which wishes to send copies of the leaflet describing the work to its members can be supplied free with as many copies as it can undertake to send out at once to its members.

Will societies who wish to have the leaflets on these terms kindly mention when they write for them that they are working the scheme and want to have the leaflets free?

I. B. O' MALLEY (Hon. Sec. to F.W.S. Committee).

Treasurer's Notes.

Among the gifts received this week is a donation from the Somerville Suffrage Society, who have had a Special Effort Week which included a Tennis Tournament, two Cafés, and an Insurance Society, for the National Union funds.

What we value most, in sums that come to us in this way, is the devotion and personal service to our Cause which the money represents. In the present instance the majority of those who have contributed to the success of the Special Effort Week are doubtless of an age when life offers a bewildering variety of interests and amusements. It is therefore all the more praiseworthy that the Suffragists of Somerville should show so earnest a desire to promote the serious progress and welfare of woman hood. Their unselfish and spontaneous effort to help the older women who are working for the attainment of a great ideal will be the strongest encouragement we can possibly have.

I believe that even the active members of the National Union can hardly realise the enormous calls that suffrage work in the country is making upon our funds at the present time. Mrs. Stanbury has therefore kindly consented to write a brief account of the varied appeals for assistance, besides the ordinary organising details, that came before the Finance Committee month by month. Mrs. Stanbury is the indefatigable chairman of that Committee and no one is better qualified than she is to write on this subject. We hope to publish the first instalment of her article under the heading of "Treasurer's Notes" in next

HELENA AUERBACH.

By-Elections.

CREWE.

J. H. Holmes (Labour). H. Murphy (Liberal). Candidates : E. Craig (Unionist).

National Union Organiser: Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A.

National Union Committee Rooms:-CREWE: - Miss Reeves, 46, High Street. NANTWICH:—Miss Cooper, 2, C. High Street. SANDBACH:—Mrs. Darlington, care of Mr. Allen, Bootmaker,

TULY 11, 1912.



[Photo by H. Bullock, Crewe.

MR. J. HOLMES. Labour Candidate for Crewe.

Thanks to the promptness and efficiency of Miss Reeves and Miss Lillian, members of the Committee of the Crewe Society, the Suffragists were first in the field in the race for committee rooms and have secured excellent ones in High Street. Committee rooms have also been opened at Nantwich and Sandbach. Halls were promptly booked, and a brake hired for the whole election. Little else could be done until the candidates were adopted, but by Saturday evening the views of all had been ascertained. Mr. Craig, at the last election, found himself "unable to give his support" to women's suffrage; therefore, although his replies to our last questions have not been received, he is out of court as a "tried friend."

Mr. Murphy is sympathetic and will probably mention his support of Women's Suffrage in his election address, though he has made no absolute promise. He will support the official amendment and failing that, the Conciliation Bill one, but he will not make his support of the Bill conditional on the in-

Mr. Holmes is a "whole-hogger." He answered all our questions without hesitation in the affirmative, and was particularly strong on the necessity of fighting the Government on the third reading if women were not included. We have therefore offered our strongest and warmest support to Mr. Holmes, and we go into the fight with the most sanguine expectations. Everything points to the probable success of the Labour candidate. previous elections, both in the case of Mr. Tomkinson and Mr. McLaren, the personal factor has been strong. Men have voted for a man whom they knew personally and could trust, and the greatest emphasis has been laid by the Liberals on the age and

experience of the man whom they were backing—" tried" and " trusted" have been their favourite words. Now they have brought in a very young man, totally unknown to the constituency and of purely academic experience, who can hardly be expected to carry weight against a man of Mr. Holmes' age, experience and knowledge of life and the working conditions of the men he desires to represent. Even the "Manchester Guardian" admits that he can scarcely " claim the same practical experience of those states of life in which the shoe is apt to pinch as Mr. Holmes who is already a veteran in the Labour cause." "Tried" and "trusted" Mr. Holmes has been indeed in the Labour world, and many an argument used by the Liberals in previous elections can now be turned against their candidate, and used in support of his Labour opponent.

To sum up, Mr. Holmes is a far stronger candidate, in every way, than the Labour Party has put forward before in Crewe. He is opposed by a Liberal with none of the peculiar advantages which have made the seat "safe" to the party in previous elections. Moreover there is a strong and growing feeling amongst many of the railwaymen in favour of labour representation for a solution of industrial troubles.

We shall do all we know. A vigorous campaign is being planned in co-operation with the Labour Party and we earnestly beg for help, in money or personal service, from men and women all over the country. We have a magnificent chance—an ideal candidate and every condition favourable. With plenty of money and plenty of workers this election should be a memorable one in the history of Women's Suffrage. May we remind suffragists that Crewe was the first place Josephine Butler chose to speak in when she had nerved herself to begin her great crusade? To Crewe she went at once because, as she says, she knew that amongst the working-men there, at least, she would find sympathy. She was not disappointednor shall we be if we put forth all our strength. Polling is probably July 27th. Helpers please offer at once.

MARGARET ROBERTSON.

HANLEY

Candidates: - S. Finney (Lab.). R. L. Outhwaite (Lib.). G. H. Rittner (U.).

National Union Committee Rooms: --- 14, Percy Street, Hanley.



Photo by W. H. Nagington, Hanley.

MR. S. FINNEY. Labour Candidate for Hanley.

Contributions to the General Fund.

A. Ö. M.
Miss C. M. Eve
W. Ridings Federation (Common Cause)
Ten members of the Godalming W.S.S. Committee (for summer van)
Miss Auerbach
AFFILILATION FEES.
Roohester and District W.S.S.
Northampton W.S.S.
Northampton W.S.S. St. Albans W.S.S. ... beek W.S.S. ...

Van Tour.

Instead of the somewhat clumsy caravan which was used last year for the summer tour, the National Union has purchased a light, one horse van, large enough to carry tents and camp equipment for five or six people, with room in front for two passengers besides the driver. The top of the van has been newly painted white, with the name of the society in red and green, conspicuous enough to attract attention as we go along the country roads.

The top of the van has been newly painted white, with the name of the society in red and green, conspicuous enough to attract attention as we go along the country roads.

The van started from Chelsea early on Monday morning with Miss Collum, the cook-coachman and me, and a man to drive us through the traffic. The first day's journey found us at Spellbrook, a few miles beyond Harlow, where with some difficulty we found a meadow in which we were allowed to camp. On Tuesday we made an early start and in spite of pouring rain managed to get to Six Mile Bottom, where Miss Usher met us. We spent the night in an empty cottage, as it had rained all day and continued through the night. Fortunately it cleared up for us to start, and we had a good day's journey to Croxton, where we met with a very hospitable reception at a delightful farm, and for the first time had a fine night. All along the route people seemed interested in the van, and often asked if we were going to hold a meeting. Thursday was the last day of travelling and the longest, but just before 8 we managed to get to Cawston where Mrs. Kellett met us with the news that no organiser was available, and that she and Miss Willish had canvassed the village and arranged a meeting for eight o'clock. After unpacking the van and putting up the tents, Miss Usher and I hurried up to the market place, where we found Mrs. Kellett already mounted on a chair surrounded by most of the male inhabitants of the village, and the meeting in full swing. We distributed literature and talked to the people, who seemed eager to hear more and very well disposed towards us. They were far out-number joined the Federation, some promised to take in the Common Cause. Albogether the meeting was a great success, there were over 300 there, including the doctor, solicitor, and some other residents in the neighbourhood, and the people seemed delighted. We have already had agifts of flowers and fruit and eggs, and hope to get more members when we go round again to-day. I interviewed the correspo

Federation Notes.

East Midland.

East Midland.

An Influential Memorial has been organised by the Grantham Society and presented to Sir Arthur Priestley, M.P. for Grantham:

"We the undersigned being your constituents, or esidents in your constituency, respectfully request on to vote for an amendment securing some measure Women's Suffrage in the Government Reform Bill."

Appended is an analysis of the memorial.

It was signed by 77 men, including:—
The Mayor of Grantham.

10 Town Councillors.
9 County Councillors and J.Ps.
14 Clergymen.
6 Doctors.
3 Dentists and Veterinary Surgeons.
2 Solicitors.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

benneh of British Women's Temperance Society.

Executive Committee Women's Cooperative of the Committee Women's Cooperative of the Committee Women's Cooperative of the Cooperative of t Wives of Doctors, Clergy, Liberal Executive, etc.

North Eastern.

Deputration to Mr. Shortt, M.P.

Mr. Edward Shortt received a deputation representing the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies at the Liberal Association Rooms at five p.m. on July 2nd. The deputation, which consisted of Dr. Ethel Williams, Miss C.

M. Gordon, Mr. John Hill, Dr. Dunn, Mr. Robert

town of this size where, so far as I can discern, no women's suffrage speech has ever been made. The constituency is represented by an anti-suffrage Liberal, and there is practically no labour organisation, so the political local situation is not propitious. But I think it is only a matter of time and patience to bring out and organise the pro-suffrage opinion.

EDITH ESKRIGGE.

JULY 11, 1012.

3 Dentists and Veterinary Surgeons.
2 Solicitors.
3 Managers of Works.
5 Members of Trades Council.
6 17 0 2 1 Members of Trades Council.
8 Leading Liberals.
41 Women, including—
Officials of the Grantham branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
Seventeen Heads of Schools and Staff of Grantham and Kesteven Girls' School.
President and Honorary Secretaries Grantham branch of British Women's Temperance Society.
Executive Committee Women's Co-operative Guild Wives of Doctors, Clergy, Liberal Executive, etc.
North Eastern.
Deputation to Mr. Short, M.P.
Mr. Edward Shortt received a deputation Mr. Edward Shortt received a deputation delay.

Wearmanapros—The Society and its among a second control of the report in the absence of the severacy, that it is absence of the severacy, that it is absence of the severacy, that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy, that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy, that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy that it is a second of the report in the absence of the severacy when a second of the report in the absence of the severacy when a second of the report in the absence of the severacy when a second of the severacy when a second of the report in the second of the severacy when a second of the severacy which as the second of the severacy which the

Women Clerks' and Secretaries' Friendly Society.

The above Society formed to meet the needs of the many women engaged in elericat and administrative work who will be affected by the National Haltin Insurance Act has now been approved. There will be a State section and an Optional section. Membership is open to all women clerks, secretaries, organises, indozers or to others following cognate. The Society, whose beadquarters are at 8.8 Ruckingham and the secretaries of the Street, Strand, was started by the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries. The following are anongst those who have agreed to serve on the Provisional Committee of Management:—Risk, Herbert Lewis (Chairman), Lady Downess (Gomeny Inspector Local Government Board), Lady Horsley, Miss. Botter the Act, ascale of weekly premiums payable at various ages to searce in the action of women of the secretaries of

Thompson.

It maddition to the ordinary benefits under the Act, a scale of weekly premiums payable at various ages to escure pensions commencing at 50, 55, and 60, is published. For example, a girl aged 20 can secure an annuity of 10s. a week, commencing at 50, 55, and 60, is publis often it a position to pay more, can work contentedly with the knowledge that her premium of 2s, 6d. A woman of 2s, who is often it a position to pay more, can work contentedly with the knowledge that her premium of 5s, a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week will enable her to retire at 60 on a pension of £1 a week solicitude.

Women's Local Government Society.

PROSECTIVE FETE IN REGENT'S PARK, N.W.

Tuesday, July 23rd, is the date fixed by the Women's Local Government Society, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W.

PROSECTIVE FETE IN REGENT'S PARK, N.W.

Tuesday, July 23rd, is the date fixed by the Women's Local Government Society for holding an American Fair (by kind permission of the Council of Bedford College) in the house and grounds of South Villa, Regent's Park, N.W. An American Fair is in fact a market for councily produce and dainty cakes and sweets, which are unable in full in the event of marriage or death before the salls of country produce are defined age.

International Woman Suffrage

International Woman Suffrage

It will be remembered that the congress is to be held next year in Budapest. From Miss Rosika

"Thinking Women

Read

The Standard"

IN a few weeks this phrase became a truism. Why? Order The Standard for a week, or a day, and you will see. It is because, since October 3, The Standard's daily news pages have included one headed:

"WOMAN'S PLATFORM

which every Thinking Woman in the land, and very many thinking men, want to see and to study every day. "WOMAN'S PLATFORM" has ended what was called the " Press Boycott " of the serious interests of thinking women-not their ribbons and ornaments, but their thoughts, aims, claims, views, hopes, deeds, and-WORK.

"WOMAN'S PLAT-FORM" in The Standard has already become the Thinking Woman's own medium in the Daily Press of Great Britain. All thinking women, modern women, are keenly interested in "WOMAN'S PLATFORM." They know that it is their own; they themselves determine how much it can serve their own interests by :-

- 1. Following "WOMAN'S" PLATFORM" closely and day by day in The Stan= dard, and using it freely in women's interests, as opportunity offers.
- 2. Inducing the largest possible number of the general public -men and women-to do the same thing, thus extending the scope of its services to women.

The Standard. 104, SHOE LANE, LONDON, E.C.

ardent supporter of our cause and who said that he would be most happy to welcome the Congress in Budapest, because this movement must be promoted by all judicious men and that the righteousness of the cause is approved by the intellectual élite of the civilised world. After this the sum was unanimously granted.

Our Finance Committee under the presidency of Countess Haller applied to all the Hungarian city and county councils for contributions for our Congress Fund and we are pleased to note that some of the counties and cities have already granted a contribution, while others promised to consider our request. We have received amongst others 1,500 kronen from the Minister of Commerce, and expect also a contribution towards the Propaganda Fund from the Minister of Agriculture. Our Committee of Artists has offered an artistic poster, which we shall have affixed in all travel bureaus and hotels of the world. We shall send a great many of them to the headquarters of the Societies and Associations for Woman Suffrage all over the world with the request that they should be distributed to make known the Congress.

Countess Iska Teleki, President of the Executive Committee is about to write a report of Hungary, which we shall send to every affiliated country, together with a set of lantern slides, and request all the branch associations to make this report the theme of lectures in the interest of

our agitation.

We are communicating with the railway companies of foreign countries in order to obtain a reduction of the regular fare for the benefit of delegates to our Congress.

Mrs. Chapman Catt informs us that there is a convey receivability, that delegates from India.

Mrs. Chapman Catt informs us that there is every possibility that delegates from India, Egypt and Burmah will attend the Congress. The Hungarian Men's League for Woman Suffrage has decided to invite the Men's International League for Woman Suffrage to have its first General Meeting at the same time as our Congress is sitting in Budapest. Our Sub-Committees are eager to make the Hungarian members of the Congress acquainted with the official languages to be used at the Conference. Care will be also taken that guides and interpretors of all languages of the countries represented shall be available. We have already received invitations to a number of festivals and pleasure trips.

The Austrian Committee for Woman's Suffrage has decided to arrange the contemplated great International Meeting before the Congress in Budapest starts.

International Meeting before the Congress in Budapest starts.

Mrs. Chapman Catt has sent circulars from Java via New York, stating the working programme of the Congress; meanwhile our Executive Committee is working with all its power to make the Budapest Congress a great success for our international cause. The list of our Executive Committee is the following:—President: Countess Iska Teleki; Co-Presidents: Dr. Gustav Dirner, Vilma Glücklich, Countess Ilona Haller, Dr. Desider Márkus, Rosika Schwimmer; Gen. Secretary: Paula Pogány; Treasurer: Jane Dirnfeld; Auditor: Mrs. Ida de Molnár; Rec. Secretaries: Dr. Maximilan Rácz, Adele Spády, Mrs. Sidonie Szegvári; Members: Dr. Aranka Bálint, Hilda Behr, Mrs. Gisella de Békássy, Gyöngyi de Békássy, Mrs. Berta Engel, Jane Gergely, Mrs. Jane de Lánczy, Mrs. Eugenie Mellere Miskolczy, Countess Mikes, Countess Katinka Pejacsevich, Franciska Schwimmer, Mrs. Ita Seenger, Dr. Charlotte Steinberger, Mrs. Irma de Szirmay, Mrs. Olga Ungár, Sidonie de Szirmay, Mrs. Olga Ungár, Sidonie

GENERAL ADDRESS:—Congressbureau, VII. István ut 67, Budapest.
CABLE ADDRESS:—Suffragium, Budapest.

The Interdenominational' Conference of Social Service Unions (Swanwick, Derbyshire.) ---

Last week saw gathered together for the first time members of all Christian churches to discuss the social problems which all'alike are at work in trying to solve. The speakers of this united summer school included Professor Muirhead, Ll.D., Revs. A. J. Carlyle, D.Litt., P. H. Wicksteed, Will Reason, M.A., Mgr. Parkinson, Mrs. Alden, M.D., Miss Constance Smith, Mr. Seebung Rowntree, Mr. Chas. E. B. Russell, M.A., and the addresses on Sunday were given by the Bishop of Oxford, Mgr. Parkinson and Rev. J. Scott Lidgett. The week's audience of over 250 men and women, was worthy of the speakers. Some members of the N.U.W.S.S. who were present were inspired with the wish to make the Conference speak on the suffrage question. It was suggested that probably all present were supporters, and that a suffrage meeting was not needed. However, the promoters persevered, and on the fourth day saw their wish accomplished with great success. The lecture hall could only be had for one hour, 2 p.m. to 3.0,

the secretary of the conference felt unable to announce or let the meeting be announced publicly. But in spite of these small obstacles the lecture hall was as full as at any of the regular sessions, and the platform consisted of Rev. Dr. A. J. Carlyle, Oxford, in the chair, Rev. P. H. Wicksteed, Rev. Mgr. Parkinson, and Rev. Percy Dearmer. All gave forcible and characteristic speeches, which drew great support and some discussion from the audience. The Rev. Will Reason, Congregationalist, London, very severely and coldly condemned militancy, and was at once followed by Rev. Lloyd Thomas, Unitarian, Nottingham, who; pleaded nobly for charity in the judgment of the militant women, as well as for appreciation of their motives and their courage. He described a visit to a member of his own congregation, at Holloway.

One or two in the audience spoke, from recent conversion, in support of the justice of the demand for version, in support of the justice of the demand for confranchisement, and one old lady, a prison visitor, horrified at the coarse behaviour of magistrates an others in police court trials of women testified to be impatience for the vote as the only means of giving women the power to protect women.

No resolution was taken, but the feeling of the meeting was strongly in favour of the granting the vote to women without delay.

MARY S. RENOLD (N.U.W.S.S., Manchester.

MARY S. RENOLD (N.U.W.S.S., Manchester.

Reviews.

WOMEN'S POSITION IN THE LAWS OF THE

WOMEN'S POSITION IN THE LAWS OF THE NATIONS: a Compilation of the Laws of Different Countries, prepared by the International Council of Women's Standing Committee on Laws concerning the Legal Position of Women, with an Introduction by Mme. d'Abbadie d'Arrast. (G. Braunsche Hofbuchdruckerei und Verlag, Karlsruhe. Preis M2.40.) (To be obtained from the offices of the N.U.W.W., Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, Westminster. Price Is. 3d. post free.)

This book of 195 pages contains reports written on behalf of the Affiliated Councils of Women in twenty-one countries, including the United States of America, the Australian colonies, New Zealand, the Argentine Republic, and most of the countries of Europe. Each report is written in one or other of the official languages of the Council, English, French or German. Its object is to set forth the facts on which the International Council of Women bases its support of woman suffrage. That body, the most representative organisation of women in the world, has stood for this reform since at its quinquennial meeting in Berlin, in 1904, it passed a unanimous resolution advocating that "strenuous efforts be made to enable women to obtain the power of voting in all countries where a representative Government exists." Government exists.'

The laws dealt with are those in which women

The laws dealt with are those in which women are placed in an inferior position to men:—(1) In the family, with regard either to marriage, or parentage, or inheritance; and (2) in the Community and the State, with regard either to penalties relative to morals, or to rights of election and eligibility to local councils and to Parliament, or to the conditions on which the professions are open.

A point which emerges is that the common false principle underlying the unjust laws of each country is the assumption that a woman is not a fully developed personality, more especially if she be married, when there is the additional implication that she is the property of her husband. Whatever the present stage of the development of the woman's movement in the country, the ultimate demands are the same:—The abolition of marital authority; that wives shall have the right to own and dispose of their own property; that there shall be an equal moral standard; equal rights of parentage; equal pay for equal work; event works or the country in the municipality work. that there shall be an equal moral standard; equal rights of parentage; equal pay for equal work; equal voting rights in the municipality and the State. Mme. d'Abbadie d'Arrast sums up the case by saying that it is only by the possession of the Parliamentary vote and eligibility that woman will be able "to protect her own interests... and to obliterate from the laws of the nations the causes of the disorders of public morality, the inequalities, the denials of justice from which she is the first to suffer in her home, her family, in the municipality and in the State, to the detriment of the public welfare."

TULY 11, 1912.

s the husband only who may administer the ds in community or exercise the parental rol; and, should the father and mother not se about the marriage of their child, the ear's will is to prevail over that of the mother. The learn that, on the whole, the position of the is more advanced in the Scandinavian in the English speaking countries, as might expected from the fact that it is only in ain of these countries that women are yet gnised as full citizens. Certain disabilities have never known still obtain in some parts barope, as, for example, the denial of the tof women to attend political meetings or orm political societies, and the denial of any right to an unmarried mother or to an itimate child to take proceedings to have identity of the child's father established.

The form of inequality we are beginning to be to but, elsewhere, there are women who no right even to their own earnings, and live under laws for the regulation of vice the discriminate most unfairly against them. Universal that a wife is legally bound to here shusband, whether this is definitely ted in statute as in the countries where the slegonic code is in force, or, where it is, as is the husband only who may administer the universal that a write is legally bound to her husband, whether this is definitely din statute as in the countries where the conic code is in force, or, where it is, as is country, implicit in the common law. Sirek law enjoins on her the further duty ring him. That of Russia expects her to deference to obedience, the corresponding tion on the husband being a duty of excushe imperfections of his helpmeet. The soft the law on possible imperfections in asband no doubt implies that in this respect tess is her primary duty. To the beginn of a logical faculty is to be attributed the on of the judge in the Argentine who high the inflict the least punishment possible the law on a woman on the ground of rant of responsibility and her moral introduced in the same of the punishment for each of the punishment, if more only applied practice, is based the law of e, which enacts that the punishment for any is imprisonment, in the case of a not from three months to two years; in use of a man, of from three days to six

But the book should be read by all who are But the book should be interested in our world movement.

CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

The Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Review, besides reports and branch news, has an interesting article by Lady Selborne, drawing attention to the work among Unionists in support of the Women's Suffrage amendment to the Home Rule Bill. Mrs. Schafflee writes on domestic legislation, and there is much interesting news from overseas. There is also a capital article on the physical force fallacy.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED. orts of the Industrial Law Committee and of the rial Law Indemnity Fund, 1911, 34, Mecklen-

trial Law Indemnity Fund, 1911, 34, Meckien-18 Square, W.C.
hop Gore on the Women's Movement.— Bishop saddress on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's ment," delivered at the Queen's Hall on June has been published as a penny pamphlet by the tian Commonwealth, Salisbury Square, London

C.

The Soul of Women's Suffrage, an address given det the auspices of the Irishwomen's Reform League, Dublin, or April 16, by the Rev. Hugh B. Chapman d. from 29, South Anne Street, Dublin).

Woman and Evolution, by Lady Sybil Smith (Women's readom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., ice meetings)

A Health Centre and Dental Clinic in a Rural District,

A Health Centre and Dental Clinic in a Rural District, an extract from the annual report (1911) of the School Medical Officer for Essex, with a preface by Lady Meyer. The Needs of Little Children, report of a conference on the care of babies and young children. Papers by Miss Margaret McMillan, Mrs. Pember Reeves, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Mrs. Despard (Women's Labour League 3, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., price 2d).

names and addresses, not necessarily for publi-cation, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made

in the correspondence column.

Correspondents are requested to write ON ONE

SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

the law is physical faithfulness, let them feel the consequences.

They have made a law. Let them see to it. The married women sit free of care and the licking of stamps.

F. A. STEEL.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND UTAH.

I must leave it to your own sense of justice and that of your readers as to whether it is fair to publish as a "statement" by me words written by one of your correspondents, who is so uncertain of them that she has already given two versions. I do not know whether you seriously consider that the polygamy of Utah, sanctioned by public opinion to such an extent that it is notoriously practised by leading citzens, is to be placed on the same footing as the illicit and carefully concealed unions of some married men in other countries. The latter do not, as a rule, extend to a simultaneous plurality of wives such as was enjoyed by the late President of Utah; and in other respects the conditions are not at all parallel. But since you regard the quibble as to the legality or non-legality of polygamy in Utah as the main point in Miss Royden's attack upon me, you must allow me to state that, had your correspondent reported my speech accurately and fully, the point could never have arisen. What, therefore, is "nailed to the counter?" Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this letter.

ETHEL COLQUHOUN. WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND UTAH.

to the counter?" Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this letter.

ETHEL COLQUHOUN.

[We make Mrs. Colquhoun a present of the two "versions," and are quite content that our readers should judge what substantial difference there is between (1) "a State where women had had the suffrage for years and was the only Christian State where polygamy was practised." (COMMON CAUSE, June 27th) and (2) "the only civilised and Christian State where polygamy is still practised, and where women have had the vote for some years." (COMMON CAUSE, July 4th). The first was quoted by a correspondent from memory, the second from notes. The word "practised" is the same in both. We are unable to see any substantial difference. The fact that "carefully concealed" illicit unions in England require the upkeep of a caste of pariah women should make us, in our opinion, chary of criticising the way in which other nations deal with what is frequently called a "necessary evil."—ED. "C.C.?"]

If the matter of Mrs. Colquhoun's words at the Haslemere meeting is still under discussion I should like to say that they have been quite correctly reported to you by your correspondent, Mrs. Watkins. The point raised was one which I wished to clear up on my own account, so I took down Mrs. Colquhoun's remark verbatim, and find Mrs. Watkins' report is word for word correct.

INEZ E. SKRINE. July 5th, 1912.

July 5th, 1912.

Haslemere.

I cannot discover for what offence Mrs. Colquhoun asks an apology. She does not deny the substantial accuracy of the report given of her speech. Apparently she did assert that Women's Suffrage had done nothing to promote good morals; and in return I gave proof that, on the contrary, this is exactly what it has done. Who then is to apologise? The facts?

With regard to my own statements, Mrs. Colquhoun contends that the age of consent has been raised in England. Yes—twenty-five years ago, and to sixteen only! When I stated that the House of Commons "refuses even to discuss" this reform, I am not to be answered by the assurance that it was discussed a quarter of a century ago. The age then was fixed at 16, and it is the question of raising it at least to 18 that the House "refuses to discuss." That this was my meaning is perfectly clear from the context and from my referring to the year 1885 at all.

As to the "universal approval" of this reform and another specified by me, it is expressed in the attitude of all the great societies working for purity, including the National Vigilance Association, the London Council for promoting morality, the Ladies' Society for the Abolition of Vice, and others. If Mrs. Colquhoun wishes to assure me that there are isolated individual "experts" who do not share their view, I am perfectly willing to accept her assurances. It hardly affects the universality of opinion among anti-suffragists that women should not sit in the House of Commons, that I happen to know of one who would give them seats though not votes! However, let him have the credit of his opinion, by all means.

Again it is not denied that Utah was used as an instance

in the care of babies and young children. Papers by liss Margaret McMillan, Mrs. Pember Reeves, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Mrs. Despard (Women's Labour League B., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., price 2d).

Letters to the Editor.

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Covernoments are requested to write on one the daily Press; perhaps you will be more kind.

Briefly, why this dammed iteration of the word ustress by the National Health department? It is to get the following point aired as the daily Press; perhaps you will be more kind.

Briefly, why this dammed iteration of the word ustress by the National Health department? It is to get the following point aired to be ar senince we think it an honour; but we must not at the same time be charged with reprehensible carelessing the word is the word with the majority of us have husbands of receive our maternity benefits and otherwise stand between us and a naughty world. Under the Act we idle women; let us keep up our reputation. Men amont eat their cake and have it. If they will continue to class their wives as nonentities whose only duty under

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for 36.

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[Please write distinctly.]

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NOTE ADDRESS-

53, SOUTH MOLTON STREET, W.

Hours from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ment of the fifth state. That is, they are already two years old. Evidently they have at least one claim to be considered venerable. I must be pardoned if I think it the only one, and suggest that a more just sense of editorial responsibility would have placed an explanatory footnote to statements so misleading as that of "the four equal suffrage States."

MAUDE ROYDEN.

WOMEN UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT. sit correct to state "that societies with branches are allowed to separate the men's fund from the women's

My reading of the Act was that while they might keep one fund, they must keep separate accounts. Does this not eliminate the complication spoken of in your article under the above heading?

D. B. McLAREN.

Inder the above heading?

THE WORLD'S TEA CADDY.

THE WORLD'S TEA CADDY.

Under this title the "Tea and Coffee Trade Journal" of New York describes the Kidderpore Tea Warehouse, at Daloutta, and the operations conducted there. In conducting the article, the writer says: "We hear a good lead about Java tea in these days, and its improving quality, but those who tell us about it seem never unious to inform the world that the improvement in ava tea is really due to the fact that Java has, in event years, and is now, being planted throughout with eas seed taken from the gardens throughout India. It is used to the fact hat Java has, in event years, and is now, being planted throughout with eas seed taken from the gardens throughout the fact on the years. India fears or rival, for mowhere in the world is finer tea produced han throughout the various districts in India. It is use to this fact that the largost Russian buyers have ome to Calcutta and opened establishments of their way, knowing full well that the demand for Indian tea, thich has in the past few years become so great in ususia, is with them to stay. It is due also to the fact hat Indian tea is so rapidly increasing in demand in Il markets that during the year just ended the quotation for ordinary clean leaf Indian tea attained in ctober a figure approximately twice what similar tea build be bought at only four years ago, and this in pite of the season of 1911-1912 being the most prolific in ield ever known in the history of Indian production. In dia to day well over half a million acres are planted it this industry and the amount of money that has een invested in the production of the leaf so popular e world over." The writer advise travellers who may e visiting Calcutta, and who are interested in this conderful industry, not to miss receing what, he thinks, say be aptly termed "The World's Tea Caddy." Mr. ethen, the superimendent, will be always pleased to elcome them and make the visit an enjoyable one.

Other Societies.

THE ACTRESSES FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Miss Lena Ashwell presided at the Criterion last Friday over a large audience, which met to consider the connection between the White Slave Trafflo Bill and the Enfranchisement of Women. She ead that this was a subject which women should know and should face with courage and determination. So long as one woman remained a victim of the White Slave Trafflo the women of the country must feel responsible.

Dr. Christine Murrell proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, while welcoming any effort on the part of Parliament to minimise the terrible evil of the White Slave Trafflo, calls upon the Government to deal it a more fatal blow by granting the vote to women." Dr. Murrell spoke of the evils of the White Slave Trafflo, the terrible sufferings of young girls who were its victims, and the dangers to which children were exposed. Miss Ada Moore seconded the resolution:—

That this meeting strongly protests against the proposed amendments to the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Trafflo) Bill, designed to effect the weakening of the existing Act. The Bill passed its second reading on the understanding that the Act of 1885 would be strengthened and not weakened, and this meeting urges upon the Standing Committee the necessity for rejecting all further amendments which will have the opposite effect. This meeting also protests against the proposed elimination of the words, 'White Slave Trafflo four the tile of the Bill." Dr. Sayer dealt with some of the clauses of the White Slave Trafflo Bill now before Parliament, and the amendments which were being brought forward at Committee stage. Miss Adeline Bourne seconded the resolution.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and Mr. Joseph Clayton also spoke.

latter unanimously.

SOOTTISH CHURCHES LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

11, Howe Street, Edinburgh.

This League held a public meeting, at which the office bearers were elected and the constitution drawn up. A religious service was held on Sunday, May 26th, at which a fine address on "Suffrage" was given by Rev. L. MacLean Watt, B.D., one of the best known preachers in Edinburgh.

At the last meeting of the executive committee the following resolution was passed, and has since been sent to members of the Cabinet and to all Scottish M.P.'s:—

forwarded M.P."
Scottish M.P."
FRANCES BALFOUR (President), ANNIE G. FERRIER
(Hon. Secretary).

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The "At Home" given by Mrs. E. J. Nichols, at Warrawee," Blackheath Rise, Lewisham, on Tuesday, 'uly 2nd, was held indoors on account of the rain. It was, however, a great success, and the speeches of Mrs. Strickland, Rev. Ernest J. Barson and Rev. W. W. hynoweth Pope, were listened to with much appreciation and understanding.

tion and understanding.

An appeal was made for "Vanity Fair," to be held in November by this league; promises of help were given and new members of the Lewisham branch were involted.

Forthcoming Meetings. ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION. (The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

JULY 11.

Brockenharst—Morant Hall—New Forest Annual meeting—Mrs. Bonwick, Miss Clough (chair)

Tudhoe—open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss C. M. Gordon

Horsley—The School House—Mrs. Dempster, Mrs. Swinburne
Cambridge — Melbourn—open-air meeting—Mrs.

Rackham

JULY 12.

Tanner
Tanner
Tenner

Hall, Jesmond

Sweated

Industries — Opener, Mrs. Spenne

Watson; lecturer,

Watson; lecturer,

Tenner

Tenner Weston-super-Mare—Mrs. Youngman's meeting—
Weston-super-Mare—Mrs. Youngman's meeting—
Miss Johnson (Bath)
Ewhurst—The Tea Room, Bull's Head Inn—Mrs.
Dempster, Mrs. Swinburne
Sheffield—Mrs. Hall's garden meeting—Mrs.
Hall's garden inching—Mrs.

Parrish, Mr. W. Sinclair (chair)

JULY 13.

Newcastle-on-Tyne — Banqueting Hall, Jesmond
Dene — Exhibition of Sweated
Industries—Opener, G. B. Hunter,
Esq.; lecturer, Mr. Cameron Grant



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Burgess Hill—Lea Copse—Garden meeting—Mrs.
Francis, Mrs. Carey (chair)
Burgess Hill—Station Road—open-air meeting—
Mrs. Francis, Mr. Francis (chair)
Boohdalo—Chamber House—Garden party—Miss
Robertson
Manckester—Fairhill, Kersal—Miss Woolley's garden party—Miss Ashton, Miss Deakin, Mr.
Forrest Hewit (chair)

Manchester—Fairhill, Kersal—Miss Woolley's garden party—Miss Ashton, Miss Deakin, Mr.
Forrest Hewit (chair)

West Southwark—Corner of Friar Street and Great Suffolk Street—Miss A. E. Gloyn, Dr.
Drysdale
St. Pancras—Corner of Rochester Road and Kentish
Cockle, Miss Gladys Rinder
JULY 25.

West Southwark—Corner of Friar Street and Great
St. Pancras—Corner of Rochester Road and Kentish
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St. Pancras—Corner of Rochester Road and Kentish
Cockle, Miss Gladys Rinder
JULY 25.

TULY II, 1912.

JULY 15.

Hett-Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver,
Miss G. M. Gordon

Banbury—Mrs. Gillett's garden party—Miss Lewis
(Oxford)
Lindfield—Winkfield Cottage—Garden meeting—
Mrs. Duncan Harris

JULY 18.

JULY 18.

Cornforth—Open-air meeting—Miss Lewis
(Oxford)
Lindfield—Winkfield Cottage—Garden meeting—
Mrs. Duncan Harris

JULY 18.

JULY 19.

Cornforth—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa M. Gordon,
Miss Ruth Young, Mr. Walter Hogg 7.30

SCOTLAND.

JULY 12.

Bo'ness—Open-air meetings—Miss Lisa M. Gordon,
Miss Alice Low Morning and afternoon,
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"Women
Teachers in Elementary Schools"—
Miss C. M. Gordon

Teachers in Elementary Schools"—
JULY 18.

JULY 18.

JULY 19.

JULY 19

Oxhoe-Open-air meeting-Miss I. S. A. Beaver,
Miss C. M. Gordon
Birmingham-Ruberyl Hill-Mrs, Suffern's meeting-Mrs. Ring, Mrs. Osler
(chair)

(charr)

JULY 18.
Sherburn—Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver,
Miss C. M. Gordon

Farnworth—Centenary Hall—Mrs, H. Barnes' "At
Home "—Miss M. Robertson Afternoon,
Cookham—Lodene Greys (by kind permission of
Mrs. Jay)—garden meeting—Mr. J.
Cameron Grant, Mrs. Robie Uniacke
(chair)

3.15

JULX 20.
Tunbridge
Wells—Christ Church Parish Room—
Madame Sarah Grand's "At Home"
—Mrs. Nott Bower, P.L.G.

JULN 21.

Bishop Auckland—Town Hall—Joint meeting of Auckland Trades and Labour Council—Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., Dr. Ethel Williams (chair)

JULY 22.
Ferryhill—Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver,
Miss C. M. Gordon JULY 23.
Ripley—The Village Green—Open-air meeting—Mrs.
Urwick

JULY 24.
Oxford—The Warden's Garden, Wadham College—
The Committee "At Home" 4-5.30
Bowburn—Open-air meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver,
Miss C. M. Gordon 7.0

JULY 11.
Y.M.O.A. Rooms, 17, Camden Road, N.—North London "At Home"—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Miss Rosamond Smith (chair)
Camberwell—Collyer Place, Peckham—Open-air meeting—Mrs. Rogers
Deptford—Corner of Brockley Road and Lewisham High Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Thomson, M.A., Miss Agnes Dawson S. Kensington—1a, Holland Park—Miss Holland's dramatic entertainment: "An Allegory" (Vera Wentworth) by A. F. L. Tickets 5s. and 2s. 6d.

JULY 12.

JULY 12.

Ponder's End—Derby Road—Open-air meeting—
Miss Elkin, Miss Fielden
West Southwark—Oorner of Union Street and
Southwark Bridge Road—Open-air meeting—Mising—Mis- Helen Ward, Miss Rossmond Smith, Malcolm Mitchell, Esq.,
Miss Wade Robinson
East and West St. Pancras—Cobden Statue—Openair meeting—Miss Hodge, Miss Walshe

JULY 13

JULY 13

Muswell Hill—The Exchange—Open-air meeting—
Miss W. G. Jameson, Miss Dawson

JULY 15.
Rotherhithe—Adult School, Bermondsey Settlement
—Mrs. Stanbury
West Southwark—Corner of Lancaster Street and
Newington Causeway — Open-air
meeting—Mr. Rogers, Miss C. Corbett,
M.A., Miss Janet Thomson, M.A., Miss
Wade Robinson

JULY 16.

St. Pancras—corner of Arlington Road and Park
Street—open-air meeting—Miss C.
Corbett, M.A., Miss Rosamond Smith

Street—open-air meeting—Miss C.
Corbett, M.A., Miss Rosamond Smith
JULY 17.
Blackheath—Corner of Stockwefl Street and
London Street—Open-air meeting—Miss
Bisset Smith, Dr. C. V. Drysdale
Sutton—Miss Close's drawing-room meeting—Miss
Mande Royden
Jslington—Copen-air meeting—Miss
West Newington—Corner of Trinity Street and
Borough High Street—Open-air meeting
—Miss H. D. Cockle, Miss Rosamond
Smith, Miss Gladys Rinder
Hampstead—Upper Heath, Heath Street—Mr. and
Mrs. Lister's garden party—entertain—
Miss Lister's garden party—entertain—
ments—tickets 2s. 6d. or five for 10s.

JULY 18.
Deptford—The Broadway—Open-air meeting—Miss
Guldard, Miss Goddard
Miss Goddard, Miss R. Young

Places mention

The Common Cause

Places mention

1. Street—Bo
OUNTRY RESI
OUNTRY NURS
CHAPPER AND
Surgical, 1
Textington. Telescoped in Homes.
Surgical, 1
Textington, Telescoped in Homes.
Surgical Sur

JULY 22.
West Southwark—Corner of Stamford Street and
Blackfriars Road—Open-air meeting—
Miss W. A. Elkin, Miss Emily Ford,
Miss Ruth Young, Mr. Walter Hogg

JULY 16.
East Calder — Open-air meeting — Miss Lisa M.
Gordon 7.30

JULY 18.
Oakbank—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa M. Gordon 7.30
JULY 23.
Livingston—Station—Open-air meeting—Miss Alice
7.30 MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

JULY 11. Water Orton—Railway Women's Guild, Minworth— Mrs. Ring 3.30

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