

22nd NOVEMBER, 1912.

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE Societies.

Registered as a Newspaper.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY, price 1d

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great advantage to that movement of general advance in which the Parliamentary enfranchisement of women is one factor.

Women in Babylon.

"J. F. R.," a correspondent whose letter appears in the *Standard* of the 20th instant, says:—

Suffragists may be interested to know that in the ancient civilisation of Babylonia women were on a footing of equality with men. Women could hold civil offices, plead in a court of justice, and were allowed to manage their own business affairs.

Further and more detailed information would be welcome. To many English minds nothing is so good an argument as the fact that any proposed reform has at some other time been practised.

A Memorial to John Stuart Mill.

We are indebted to Mrs. How Martyn for the news that a committee has now definitely been formed with the object of erecting a monument at Avignon to John Stuart Mill. Mme. Jane Misme, editor of *La Française*, has published an appeal for contributions, to be sent to her, 64, Rue Richelieu, Paris. A statement, translated from *La Française*, of the committee's intentions is a little obscure. Apparently it is proposed to erect a statue, if the funds received permit, and, if not, to replace it by a "symbol" representing the main tendencies of Mill's life. It would be well if a committee could be formed in England to co-operate with that at Avignon, and perhaps be allowed a voice in the form of the memorial. Meanwhile Mrs. How Martyn will be glad to receive any English contributions and forward them to *La Française*. Her address is 38, Hogarth Hill, Hendon, N.W.

Tackling Social Work.

A clergyman has written to us about Miss Beeton's triumph at Paddington, and has used her success as a trick to beat her sisters. He complains that only about 70 women stood as candidates at recent municipal elections. Has he any idea of the expenses of such candidatures, and of the average income single women or widows—who, alone, are in many places allowed to stand. He deplores the tendency of women to devote themselves to politics, where, in his opinion, they are not wanted, "not being in any way competent to do political work." And then he proceeds to superfluous exhortations to women to "tackle the social work, upon which hundreds of women are already busy." He is probably unaware how large a proportion of the suffragists have arrived at their present opinions by way of social and philanthropic activity. It is just such activity that shows them how necessary to the interests of women political action is.

Our "Superficial Knowledge."

A correspondent, whose letter will be found in another column, infers that the attitude of this paper in regard to the Mental Deficiency Bill is "founded on superficial knowledge, probably mostly gleaned from the articles in the *Nation*." We assure our correspondent that her suspicions are baseless. The documents upon which the opinions expressed were mainly founded were the Bill itself, and the amendments proposed to it, the text of both Bill and amendments having been constantly before us and having been constantly and carefully considered.

Notes and Comments.

About Balance Sheets.

Mrs. Auerbach, replying in the public press to the statement of Mrs. Pankhurst, in her address at Bow Baths, that the Women's Social and Political Union was the only political organisation that published a weekly list of subscriptions and an annual detailed balance-sheet, pointed out that THE COMMON CAUSE prints a weekly account of all subscriptions and donations received at the headquarters of the National Union of Suffrage Societies, which also issues an Annual Report with a Balance Sheet and has done so ever since the Union was constituted. Mrs. Pankhurst, we are sure, had no intention of misrepresenting the facts; her remark was probably aimed at other than suffrage societies.

Birmingham and Local Government.

It is interesting to learn that on November 11th the following resolution was passed by the Birmingham City Council:—

"That this Council (whilst expressing no opinion on the general merits of the Franchise and Registration Bill, 1912), instructs the Town Clerk to prepare a petition to Parliament under the Corporate Seal praying that the Bill be so amended as not to disqualify married women in England and Wales, outside London, for being elected members of Borough Councils, and to cause the same to be presented."

The resolution was moved by Councillor Harrison Barrow, a member of the General Committee of the Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society, and seconded by Alderman Bowater, the late Lord Mayor.

The Local Government Advancement Committee.

The Local Government Advancement Committee (Mrs. Humphry Ward's Anti-Suffragist Local Government Society) will hold a meeting next Monday (November 25th), at 8 o'clock, at the Caxton Hall. We earnestly wish the meeting and the Committee the utmost possible success, convinced as we are that nothing is more likely to change women from anti-suffragists into suffragists than practical experience in local affairs. There is room for so much more activity in this direction that the serious entry of anti-suffragists into the municipal field will be of

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The Pay of Chorus Girls.

We are glad to learn that the agitation of the Chorus Girls' Branch of the Musicians' Union for a minimum rate of pay has been generally successful. For chorus girls £2 a week is asked and for members of the auxiliary chorus 30s., together with half-pay for rehearsals. Hitherto, it is said, many auxiliary girls have received not more than 10s. a week. In London, we understand, almost all the pantomime managers have now agreed to the terms of the Union. The non-payment for rehearsals has long been a crying grievance, not only among chorus singers and "supers," but also among principals. To rehearse without pay for six weeks—often in remote parts of London—for a play that runs after all but three weeks means for an actress who has been nominally paid £2 a week a real wage of 13s. 4d., less fares.

The National Union of Women Workers and Suffrage

A special meeting of the National Union of Women Workers was held on last Wednesday (November 20th), to consider whether the resolution "that without the firm foundation of the Parliamentary Franchise for Women there is no permanence for any advance gained by them" should be re-affirmed, and to add to it the following words, "and, while not expressing any opinion on the Bill (i.e., the Franchise and Registration Bill) urges all Members of Parliament to vote so as to ensure that no Bill shall be passed which does not include some measure of Parliamentary Suffrage for Women."

This resolution which had been twice passed was by an informal mutual agreement being left in abeyance; and many of the members felt strongly that the work of the Union was being robbed of reality and value by this disregard of so vital and fundamental a principle. There were present on Wednesday 271 people, of whom 109 voted in favour of re-affirming the resolution, 59 against, and 13 abstained. Thus the requisite two-thirds majority was exceeded by 19. Of those who voted against or abstained, several declared that they were ardent suffragists, but feared that determined suffrage action on the part of the Union might tend to drive out some of the component societies and individual members.

THE COMMON CAUSE.Telephone: 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
1910 Gerrard.

Price 1d. weekly.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

British Isles: 6s. 6d. Abroad: 8s. 8d. per annum.

Copies of back numbers 1½d. (post free) or 2½d. when more than three months old. A few numbers of Vol. 1 to be had at 3½d. per copy, post free.

All Business Communications to be addressed to The Manager The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Advertisements (Societies, Miscellaneous, etc.) must reach the Office (2 Robert Street) not later than first post on Tuesday.

Advertisements (Trade), S. R. Le Mare, Advertisement Agent, 21, Paternoster Square, London, E.C.

Literary Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor, however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter, and no manuscripts will be returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are Requested to Note that this paper goes to press on Wednesday. The latest news, notices and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Tuesday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Tuesday 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 Friday. 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.

The Mental Deficiency Bill.

The following article was already in print when the announcement was made that the Government was about to drop the measure. Our first inclination was to cancel it; but remembering that a considerable number of correspondents had asked for an explanation of the position taken up by the COMMON CAUSE, and observing Mr. McKenna's declaration that the Bill would be re-introduced next Session, we have decided to let the article appear.

A great deal of good indignation has been wasted upon persons who declare that they regard the Mental Deficiency Bill as a dangerous and deleterious measure. It has almost invariably

ably been assumed by advocates of the Bill that its opponents are either (a) unacquainted with the Bill itself or (b) unacquainted with and indifferent to the dangers incurred by the feeble-minded and unprotected. These assumptions—the basis of which is the naive belief that people who do not share one's own opinions must be either silly or knavish—are not in all cases well-founded. They are, moreover, regrettable, because they tend to blind the eyes of those who make them to the possibility that their favourite measure may have faults which have escaped their observation.

The Bill errs both by excess and by defect. Its clauses of definition are at the same time far too wide and far too vague. It contains no real definition of mental deficiency, but ranks the deficient in five classes, two of which, idiots (defined as persons so defective in mind as to be unable to guard themselves against common physical dangers) and imbeciles (persons capable of guarding themselves against common physical dangers, but who are incapable through defect of mind of earning their own living) are already largely absorbed by institutions, and do not, surely, require the creation of a new Board of Commissioners and a whole scheme of fresh legislation to deal with the remainder. The fourth class, moral imbeciles, are not so much deficient as disordered, and are, in effect, nearer to lunacy than to feebleness of mind; while the fifth, senile decadents, need no segregation on eugenic grounds.

It is the third class, the feeble-minded, whom it was so essential to define, and the framers of the Bill have made their boundaries so wide as to risk including many people who ought not to be segregated or controlled at all. The feeble-minded are defined as "persons who may be capable of earning their living under favourable circumstances, but are incapable, through mental defect existing from birth or from an early age, (i) of competing on equal terms with their normal fellows, or (ii) of managing themselves and their affairs with ordinary prudence."

It can hardly be denied that Blake, Goldsmith, and Coleridge might under such a definition have been, quite plausibly, relegated to institutions or to the control of guardians; and, surely, that fact alone is enough to condemn this part of the Bill. It is of such cases as theirs, and of the many harmless, original, and slightly eccentric persons whom such definitions will endanger, that opponents are thinking when they denounce such clauses. Nor is even this laxity of definition all. Any persons are liable to incarceration under this Bill who are regarded as deficient, and "in whose case such other circumstances exist as may be specified in any order made by the Secretary of State, as being circumstances which make it desirable that they should be dealt with under this Act." Such a power as is given by this clause ought not to rest in the hands of any Secretary of State. To be concrete: would any readers of the COMMON CAUSE, who might conceivably be regarded by an enemy as "deficient," be willing that Mr. McKenna should decide whether "circumstances made it desirable" that they should be consigned to an institution or the guardianship of some second person? No real need of the truly feeble-minded requires that the liberty of people who are in no true sense feeble-minded, who are not dangerous to themselves nor to others, and not more liable than all the rest of us to be injured by unprincipled fellow-creatures should be restricted. Yet if this Bill is allowed to pass in anything approaching its present shape, it seems almost inevitable that such people will be drawn into its net.

This is one most serious reason why the Bill is opposed by honest and intelligent persons.

Another grave fault is that there is no effective provision for the release of a person once handed over to an institution or a guardian. There are arrangements in plenty to help people who want to petition that somebody else should be dealt with by the Bill, but careful perusal fails to reveal any provision at all for an appeal by the captive to any open and public tribunal. His chance of recovering his liberty will be as poor as that of the alleged lunatic who finds himself shut up, sane, by benevolent people whose strong prepossessions interpret his every protest as a proof of insanity. The omission to provide an effectual channel of appeal arises, no doubt, not from malice, but from the conviction of "experts" that feeble-minded people do not get better. The case of the person who has no real deficiency, but who has got caught (as he unquestionably will if the Bill becomes law) in machinery that was not intended for him, does not seem to have occurred to the gentlemen who drew up this measure. Yet it is far better that many feeble-minded should be left out than that any of sound mind should be drawn in. That the State would be paying unnecessarily for the keep of all the sound-minded persons who would get put into institutions is a minor matter.

Demonstration of Men and Women against the White Slave Traffic.

The great demonstration, organised by the "Pass the Bill Committee" in support of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, on Tuesday, November 12th, crowded out the great Opera House and overflowed to the extent of 1,600. It was equally remarkable for the fervour of its speeches and the ardent concurrence of the audience, which, more than is usual, gave one the impression of being out for a demonstration in force of the emotion which has so swept the country in this matter. It is, therefore, with all the more regret that one has to record only one protest against the enactment of the penalty of flogging for male procurers and bullies. Lady Barlow entered her solemn conviction and it was all the more difficult for her to do so, since speaker after speaker, men and women, had raised cheers by the expression of belief that "nothing was too bad for"—that you "could not further degrade"—such men. It was the Archbishop of Canterbury who was responsible for this last statement, and the Society of Friends may be proud of the contrast presented by its child.

Mrs. General Booth, who spoke before the resolution, described the "social evil" as one which "embodies the essential spirit of all crime." The Bishop of Birmingham declared that although we prided ourselves on freedom, there was no liberty in a country where an innocent girl could only go abroad under special protection. He evidently felt that, coming from him, the advocacy of flogging required some justification, and he found it in the fact that these particular criminals were "cold and cowardly." Mrs. F. D. Acland declared "no provision in the Bill too forcible." She laid stress on the work of the Women's Liberal Federation for this and for women's emancipation, and declared there might be further need for a "Use the Act Committee." Mrs. Nott Bower, in a particularly interesting speech, described the origin and work of the Committee which had, she said, been the bugle which had called to arms this great army. The steady trickle of sympathy had now become a flood "of which we are almost afraid." She appealed for funds, saying "If you are anxious we should go on with our work, signify the same in the usual manner."

Mr. Edward Smallwood, who made, perhaps, the most effective speech of the evening, named three points which women had specially asked him to emphasise: (1) That flats should be included as well as brothels under the Bill. (2) That the social evil was not a "necessary" evil. (3) That the double standard of morality must go. The speaker roused his hearers to a great pitch of enthusiasm. Dr. Mary Murdoch spoke movingly of the terrible evils with which a medical woman had to come into contact, and declared the necessity for attacking the demand for victims as well as the supply of them. Sweating of women workers, employment of children on the stage, misleading advertisements were all objects of her warnings. How could we be proud of England when it could be said that it was "the paradise of procurers"? When the heads of the traffic lived in London, and when shares and dividends were a regular part of it?

The resolution, which was then passed with enthusiasm, ran as follows:—

"This meeting of men and women, while profoundly regretting the limitation in Clause III. of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, of the liability of "the person in charge" to persons in charge of brothels, as likely to diminish the utility of the law and to facilitate the White Slave Traffic,

records its thankfulness for the restitution of Clause I. to its original form, urges that Clause VI. shall be passed without weakening amendments, and trusts that the Bill will, without fail, be placed upon the Statute Book this session.

"And this meeting emphatically assures Parliament that public opinion will require further and more effective legislation in the near future."

Lady Barlow then spoke, and her appeal was in no sense weakened by the protest to which we have already alluded, and when she declared that we should look to an "enlightened and

enfranchised motherhood," the loudest cheers of the evening were evoked. There was no possible doubt of the suffragist sympathies of the great majority of that fine assembly.

A Hidden Danger.

Mr. Laurence Housman calls attention to a hidden danger which, when the Reform Bill comes up for debate, may threaten the women's claim, and which stands quite apart from the differences of policy towards that Bill by which Suffrage Societies are for the moment divided?

"It is a danger dependent upon a possible ruling by the Speaker on the admissibility of a Women's Suffrage amendment in any form, whether supported by the Government or not. It has been plainly adumbrated, in another connection, by the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition during the past week, when—in relation to the proposed reversal of the Banbury Amendment to the financial resolution of the Home Rule Bill—Mr. Asquith spoke as follows: 'It is the rule—as cited by Sir Erskine May—that no question or bill shall be offered that is substantially the same as one upon which judgment has been expressed in the current session.' And this point was endorsed by Mr. Bonar Law in the words:—'One of the precedents which is most firmly rooted is that a decision once come to cannot be reversed in the same session.'

"It is no use shutting our eyes to the possibility that the Speaker may rule all Women's Suffrage Amendments out of order as being "substantially the same" as the defeated Conciliation Bill.

"After the rejection of that Bill, the Speaker ruled out of discussion a proposal of Mr. Lansbury's, which bore at all events a different face value; and the gist of the Speaker's ruling went to show how that any proposal capable of amendment into conformity with another proposal was 'substantially the same.'

"The Conciliation Bill, having been expressly made 'open to amendment,' was capable of being brought into conformity with Adult Suffrage or with the so-called 'Norwegian Amendment,' which Liberal Members of Parliament are supposed to favour. It is, therefore, quite possible that the Speaker may rule both of these amendments out of order as not differing 'substantially' from the defeated Conciliation Bill. If so, all hope of including women in the present Reform Bill may depend not upon the will of the House of Commons but upon a ruling of the Speaker.

"On one occasion, for which I cannot now give chapter and verse, Mr. Asquith stated that the position of a Women's Suffrage Amendment to the Government Bill would be unaffected by the Conciliation Bill having come first, provided it had then secured its first reading. And the inference I am now strongly inclined to draw is that he anticipated, by this proviso, that a Speaker's ruling might adversely affect all amendments if, instead of passing its second reading, it met with defeat.

"The Speaker is not required to give a decision on such points of order until they actually arise; but it seems to me worse than useless for Suffragists to go on thinking that this is not the very position toward which Mr. Asquith may have been carefully manoeuvring his party. He will then be able to turn round and say:—'The Government drew up the Bill so as to be open to a Women's Suffrage Amendment, but the previous action of the House, taken independently of Government Whips, has, by the Speaker's ruling, made this impossible.'

"In its own interests the Government brings special machinery to bear to enable a hostile resolution to be rescinded, but it will not do so for the sake of women's suffrage. It expressly refused to do so when a flogging amendment to the White Slave Traffic Bill was carried by four votes, although three members testified that by inadvertence they had voted in the wrong lobby.

"Personally, I fully anticipate that an adverse ruling by the Speaker will, after the formal elimination of the word 'male,' prevent any other amendment in favour of Women's Suffrage from being discussed. It seems to me, therefore, that the only course left for Suffragists—unless this point can be authoritatively cleared—is to press for the withdrawal of the Reform Bill."

THE NATIONAL UNION of WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Non-Party.	PRESIDENT: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.		Non-Militant.
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Telegrams: "Voiceless, London."	Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.		(Telephone: 1960 Victoria.)

Bow and Bromley By-Election.

Candidates.—Mr. George Lansbury (Independent); Mr. Reginald Blair (Conservative).
L. S. and N. U. W. S. S. Committee Rooms, 147 Bow Road, E.
Organiser.—Miss Helen Ward, assisted by Mrs. Ffoulkes (London Society Organiser in East London), Mrs. Streeter, Miss Dring, Miss Griffith Jones, Miss Knight and others of the N. U. organising staff.

The following election address has been issued on behalf of the London Society of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies:—

TO THE ELECTORS OF BOW AND BROMLEY.
GENTLEMEN,—We of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies have for nearly fifty years demanded equal citizen rights for men and women. For nearly fifty years we have called upon our fellow countrymen to do the women justice, and now our hearts are sick with the hope, long deferred, that our fellow-countrymen are indeed true and honest and just as we want to believe them to be.

We of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies have always worked by law-abiding methods only, and women of all parties and of all classes have united together to demand that the poorest woman equally with the richest shall have some means of making their needs known to those who govern this country. Women as well as men are severely punished if they break the law, and food for the children costs quite as much when a woman buys it as when a man does.

Gentlemen, George Lansbury has resigned his seat in the House of Commons to come back to you because he trusts you. He believes you do love justice for the weakest woman as well as for the strongest man. Send him back with a thumping majority, and let the House of Commons see that the men of Bow and Bromley know a good man when they have got one. There are none too many in political life.

Many a lying rumour is spread abroad about a man who has the courage to stand alone. Nail these lies down.

Gentlemen, the problem of Labour will never be solved till you face the problem of the working woman alongside of that of the working man. Working men and working women together can make a better and purer and happier country, but if working men allow working women to be exploited and ground down and sweated, then misery will come upon them both; wretched homes, overworked and unhealthy mothers, starved and neglected children, men turned off from their rightful work and women taken on at starvation wages, homes broken up and the slavery of hopeless poverty, are all you have to look for.

Gentlemen, send back George Lansbury with a mandate:—Equal justice for working men and working women.

United you stand, divided you fall, for it's standing together does it. Nature has meant men and women to stand together and help each other.

Let us all unite to labour for a purer, happier land, wherein vice and grinding poverty shall cease to be, and wherein virtue shall prevail.

George Lansbury for Bow and Bromley, and let there be no mistake about it.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully A. HELEN WARD,
Organiser of the London Society of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The conditions under which this election is being fought are unique. The tactical advantages or disadvantages involved cannot be discussed here. Mr. Lansbury has resigned his seat, and is out to fight as his conscience dictates for principle and for the women. The N.U.W.S.S. has decided to support this loyal friend of the woman's cause. Mr. Lansbury deals with the whole situation in some detail in his election address, summing up in the following inspiring words:

"In resigning my seat and handing back to you the trust which you gave me two years ago, I desire that you may pass judgment first of all on my conduct in the past, and secondly on my proposed attitude and policy for the future. If you do me the honour, as I have no doubt you will, to re-elect me, you may accept my word quite without reservation that in all questions affecting the lives of the poor, and the social conditions of the people, I shall be found fighting as strenuously as one man is able to fight on their behalf. On every question that really affects the well-being of Labour so far as women and men are concerned I shall be in the front rank fighting for the side that needs assistance. But I want specially that you will join me in a supreme effort to raise the question of Womanhood to the very highest position. The women of our country live hard laborious lives. Down here, where I have lived almost all my years, I have grown to understand in some small way what poverty and destitution mean to the women. We men have wanted to use our votes to improve our social condition. I want that our mothers, our wives and our sisters shall be allowed to join us in the fight. At this moment Parliament is discussing the White Slave Traffic Bill. What a hideous mockery it is to Christian England that in this year of grace we should be discussing a Bill which recognises that some women are slaves, slaves to the most hideous and vile traffic in humanity possible to conceive. This condition of affairs has come about because we have been careless as to the value of our girls and our women. This fight for the Vote is only a part, but an important part, in the great struggle now going on for the emancipation of humanity all over the world. A nation that is to be great and free must of necessity insist that its mothers shall at least have the chance of free and just conditions of life.

"If you agree with me, come or help me in what will be one of the historic fights of our time, and which when we have won it, as win it we

shall, will give each of us the satisfaction of knowing that we at least have done our part towards raising and ennobling womanhood and motherhood in our land."

On Thursday afternoon, the N.U. and L.S. Committee met and on Friday morning early, Miss Cockle's "War horse," the 40 h.p. Fiat, that has done yeoman service on many a field where our suffrage war has been fought, was at the door of "58," and we loaded up with prime necessities and with a complete staff of human beings, Miss Cockle piloted us through the dense traffic of the city at mid-day, and we soon reached the house agents. Here our work was simple, for Miss Strachey and Mrs. Ffoulkes had already secured the plum of the constituency in the way of committee rooms for which all interests had been contesting, but which became ours because the owner happened to be a member of the London Society. This prize is an imposing looking house, with large garden back and front, situated next door but one to the Central Conservative Committee Rooms.

Mr. Blair's attitude is at present a little obscure. He seems to be partly an Anti-Suffragist, and partly one who believes there is really something in the claims of what may be termed "the lady without a vote who keeps a voting coachman and gardener." Our election staff is indefatigable, and by Saturday evening the whole house and garden was transformed, even to the crowning glories of lantern illuminations and a row of joyful little red, white and green pennons on the highest part of the roof.

On Friday we toured the constituency, and did a great deal of necessary business in Miss Cockle's car, gaily beflagged, and on Saturday we were the proud owners of one of the best turn-outs I have seen in any election.

We are arranging a meeting at the committee room every afternoon for women; other fixtures are: Mrs. Henry Fawcett with Mr. Lansbury at the Bow Baths on the 26th; Mrs. Heitland on the 23rd; Miss I. O. Lord comes for two of Mr. Lansbury's meetings on 23rd, and this fact is giving great delight at Mr. Lansbury's Head Committee Room, 6, Campbell Road. We also held a meeting on the 18th at the Bromley Public Hall with Mr. Lansbury and Mrs. Despard, and at the Bow Baths on the 19th.

Although Women's Suffrage is the prominent question at this election, it is ignored in his speeches by the Conservative candidate, who utterly declined to give his reasons for being an Anti-Suffragist when pressed to do so at a meeting by Miss Rusk-brooke, whose questions were received with much applause by the audience.

Meetings alone, of course, win no election; still, the meetings are magnificent. Every kind of encouraging and amusing occurrence keeps happening, and those who come down to join in this unique election will not regret it.

Help of every kind is needed, and all who will give of their services freely, and will do whatever comes to hand, are heartily welcome. Private carriages and motor cars for polling day are most urgently needed of all. Everybody should report to the Central Committee their arrival, and they will then be drafted off to one of the thousand and one jobs awaiting the doing.
A. HELEN WARD.

The Bolton By-Election.

A campaign has been opened by the National Union at Bolton, where a by-election is in progress. Three large and sympathetic meetings were held last Friday, and on the following day a members' meeting was held in the Committee Room. Among the speakers were Mrs. S. Lomax, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Carruthers, Mrs. Winstanley and Miss Bridson. A special feature of the campaign will be a meeting held in the Skinners' Hall on November 22nd, the eve of the poll, at which Councillor Margaret Ashton, Mrs. Robinson, and others will speak.

As soon as the candidates were adopted, they were asked by the Bolton Society to receive deputations. Mr. Arthur Brooks, the Conservative candidate, complied, and stated he was in favour of a limited extension of the franchise to women on the basis of the present municipal register. He would not, however, promise to mention women's suffrage in his election address, as it was already in the hands of the printer. Mr. Taylor, the Liberal candidate, declined to receive any deputation on the grounds he was refusing all such requests during the election. Mr. Taylor has, however, briefly mentioned women's suffrage in his election address. It is possible that a candidate will also be run by the Industrial Socialist Party. The local newspapers are quite friendly, and several members of the local societies, as well as their indefatigable secretary, Miss Bridson, are giving voluntary help.

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Speakers: Mrs. OSLER (Ex. Com. N.U.W.S.S.); The Rev. LLEWELLYN SMITH; Mr. H. N. BRAILSFORD.

Discussion invited.
Tea

The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage

FOR PROSPEROUS WOMEN.

THINGS AS THEY WERE.

In the earlier half of the nineteenth century, the activities of well-to-do women were extremely limited; if they were unmarried it was considered improper that they should walk out alone; they played no outdoor games; their reading was chosen for them; and not infrequently their letters were opened by their relatives. To work for money was unladylike; and Harriet Martineau, at the age of 32, wrote to her mother indignantly, that of course she did not propose to take lodgings by herself; it would not be respectable.

THE CHANGE.

Presently, however, owing mainly but not entirely, to what is known as the industrial revolution, one of the results of which was to draw many women into the labour market, women ceased to be so emphatically stay-at-home creatures, and a certain degree of emancipation crept upward from the women who went out to work to the women who did not need to do so.

The establishment of large day schools for girls in various towns fostered the going to and fro of girls by themselves, or in twos and threes, and the habit once acquired was retained and spread. Young women began to show a desire for personal careers. Florence Nightingale, though not the first, was one of the most conspicuous instances that women of good position could work with credit to themselves and profit to their country. Slowly a time came in which girls enjoyed almost as much liberty as their brothers, and in which any woman could travel alone by train, lunch alone in a restaurant, belong to a club, or carry on a profession without so much as exciting a remark.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE.

But that very entry of women into the labour market which has set free the prosperous women, has brought upon the poorer women a degree of hardship which exceeds perhaps any that has ever been endured by so large a class in any country before. The burdens of housekeeping, though lightened to some extent by the changed system of production, still rest upon women workers, who thus

carry on two trades, one of which is unpaid, while the other is apt to be very ill-paid. There are thousands of women wage-earners in our own country who never receive ten shillings for a week's work, are never properly fed, clothed or housed, and never free from the apprehension of actual starvation. These women are not electors, are only to a very slight degree organised, and are absolutely without "influence."

OUR SISTERS' KEEPERS.

The hardships of these women, our fellow countrywomen, have been largely brought about by that very industrial revolution which has given to us, who are better off, so many advantages of freedom and education. Surely honour demands that we should use these advantages for the help of those upon whom the corresponding disadvantages have fallen. Many well-to-do women have long been working in all sorts of societies for promoting various kinds of help. Sooner or later all such women find themselves wanting some alteration or other in the law. If they are doing rescue work they want power to arrest the white slave trafficker; if they are doing trade union work they learn the need of an effective Truck Act and of a Minimum Wage Act; if they are working among mothers they learn how evil are some of the consequences of judicial separations and how necessary a Pure Milk Bill. In short, all their efforts bring them face to face with the need of legislation.

THE NEXT STEP.

Women busy in constructive philanthropy next proceed to try and influence politicians on behalf of the schemes which they feel to be needful; and very soon find that Members of Parliament hold themselves—very properly—bound to their constituents, and that the favourite schemes of non-constituents take at best a second place. By-and-by it becomes clear that days and months are being wasted because women have not their hands upon the legislative lever of the vote. If, therefore, women want to hasten the reforms that will help women they must

ORGANISE TO OBTAIN VOTES.

Some Men's Views about Women.

Here are three books written by men about women—or rather, as the authors prefer to say, about Woman—and to a female reader the most conspicuous feature of them all is the unlikeness of the objective woman conjured up by the imagination of a man to the subjective self recognisable by a woman herself. All these gentlemen are quite sure that the great thing is to train women up to be wives and mothers. They are wrong. The great thing is to train them up to be healthy, honest, intelligent, kindly, rational persons. Moreover, one advantage of the latter plan is that they will turn out better wives and mothers than if treated according to the former. It is, after all, not true that women are primarily wives and mothers, any more than it is true that men are primarily husbands and fathers—or soldiers, sailors, apothecaries, ploughmen, or thieves. They are primarily persons—individuals, and may be, as men also may, very useful, honourable, serviceable citizens without ever marrying or mothering; witness within our own day and country, to go no further, Florence Nightingale, Octavia Hill, and Emma Cons. Two, at least, of these ladies were also patently among the happiest and most cheerful of their race. The "tragedy of the unmarried woman" is a vision created by the vanity of men.

Some unmarried women, of course, are unhappy; they may be painfully poor, or imprisoned in an uncongenial family circle, or lonely, or ill, or selfish, and interested only in the narrow range of their personal affairs. But so may, and are, widows. That fretting of the single woman after the joys of motherhood which appears so frequently in fiction and drama is quite uncommon in real life; it is the childless wife who longs for children.

But the average man beholds only one career for women, and as it is one which he would detest for himself he is bound, in order to be comfortable in assigning it to them, to believe that they must be extremely different from himself. He creates a being who not only likes to live for other people, but who likes to live in "the home," and there carry on in a retail, rudimentary, hand-to-mouth manner, and without definite remuneration, some portion of the various trades required in feeding, clothing, washing, repairing, and cleaning for a small group of people closely related to her. When women show themselves discontented with such a lot, he calls them unnatural, unwomanly, unsexed, and looks back with a sigh to some age of gold wherein women were obedient and cheerful and knew how to cook.

What shall we say to the presumption of a man who dares to entitle his volume "The Nature of Woman"? Dr. Tayler has no doubts of his own knowledge, no suspicion that when there arises among a whole class of generally intelligent and well-conducted people a revolt against the hitherto ordinarily accepted arrangements of their lives, the chances are that these people are following out instinctively the natural lines of evolution. The acute and unanswerable analysis of Mrs. Gilman's "Women and Economics" (which, however, he appears to have read) seems never to have reached his comprehension. A little gibe at the "unscientific" character of the word "oversexed" is the sole recognition he makes of a book that marks an era in the history of thought. She traced the causes that led to the economic dependence of women upon men, showed how that economic dependence introduced a commercial element into marriage, and by teaching women to excite the passions of men, cultivated those passions to a degree not only useless, but actually harmful to the race. The reaction against that dependence on the part of women has a deep moral significance of which Dr. Tayler, with his talk of the "unspoiled woman" and of woman's "quiescent" nature never shows a momentary glimpse. Intelligent women, as they read his singularly ill-arranged volume, will find themselves alternately irritated and amused by his—probably unconscious—assumption that family life must always involve precisely the same wasteful and backward domestic arrangements as exist to-day. It is impossible not to suspect that if he had lived among the cave-men Dr. Tayler would have protested passionately against the unwomanliness of any wife who urged her prehistoric spouse to make a hut for her.

Professor Earl Barnes is no such conservative, and appears to be a much clearer sighted observer of the life around him. He is all for the removal of restrictions upon women's freedom, and for perfect equality of treatment under the law. But his view of man and woman together as "the human unit" has the drawback of not being true. A happy marriage affords unquestionably the most satisfying and complete form of existence; in it union and understanding may be far closer than in any other

human relation. But man and wife are not, even in the happiest of marriages, one person, but two, and to call them a "human unit" does not alter that basic fact. His book, however, is so sincere, so sympathetic, and so full of interesting facts about men and women in America as to form a real contribution to knowledge.

Either Mr. George or his publisher has done his volume the wrong of describing it on the wrapper, in underlined capitals, as "The Book that Women have been Waiting for," and of assuring women readers that they "will recognise in Mr. W. L. George that rare phenomenon, a man who understands them down to the very depths." These puffs will probably put off some readers, who will suppose the whole book to be in the same strain. It is not; it contains many true and sensible things—as well as some that are extremely debatable. It suffers severely, however, from a style that seems to have been modelled upon that of Mr. G. B. Shaw—an author who is, in the literal sense, inimitable—and the effect produced is one of pertness and underbreeding. Mr. George, like his fellow-writers, is too much inclined to regard women solely from the angle of their agreeableness to men; and it seems to be largely his conviction that most forms of labour spoil the looks, which leads him to hope that in an ultimate, satisfactory, social state women will not work at all. His view is that "woman is not as an animal destined for aught save instinctive labour, such as child-rearing and artistry." Happily, however, he is also of opinion that women ought not to be shut out of any occupation whatever, so that any who feel that craving for work which marks so many modern women will still, even in Mr. George's ideal state, be able to know the happiness and the development that work brings.

We venture to think that a century hence these books will furnish highly interesting matter for some enterprising journalist's review, and that the one of the three found to wear best will be that of Professor Earl Barnes.

Books Received.

- "John and Irene." W. H. Beveridge. (Longmans, 4s. 6d. net.)
 "Adnam's Orchard." Sarah Grand. (Heinemann, 6s.)
 "Woman in Modern Society." Prof. Earl Barnes. (Cassell, 3s. 6d. net.)
 "Marriage, its Ethics and Religion." Principal Forsyth, D.D. (Hodges, 2s. 6d. net.)
 "Frances Willard: Her Life and Work." Ray Strachey. (Fisher Unwin, 5s. net.)
 "Sex and Sanctity." Lucy Re-Bartlett. (Longmans, 2s. 6d. net.)
 "The Baby." By a University Woman. (Jack. The People's Books, 6d. net.)
 "Marriage and Motherhood." H. S. Davidson, M.B. (Jack. The People's Books, 6d. net.)
 "Physics and Politics." Walter Bagshot. (Kegan Paul, new edition, 1s. net.)
 "Die sozialdemokratische Frauenbewegung." Joseph Joos. (Gladbach, 1 mark.)
 "An Organiser's Trials." Lady Butterby and Mrs. McBean. "A Caravan Comedy." By "S." (Dialogues and short plays.) Application to be made to S. Fordel, Glenfarg.

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George Meredith's Letters.

Had one never read a line of the poetry nor a page of the prose of George Meredith, nor heard so much as a rumour of his fame, and his published "Letters" had fallen into one's hands from the blue, one could hardly fail to recognise in him a very great man indeed.

It will be observed that the title of the volume is "The Letters of George Meredith," not the "Life and Letters." His son, Mr. William Meredith, respecting his father's fancies, makes no attempt to interpret him to the public, nor to unveil concerning him more than is incidentally revealed by his writings. Meredith himself wrote to a would-be interviewer:—

Our books contain the best of us. I hold that the public has little to do with what is outside the printed matter beyond hearing that the writer is reputed a good citizen.

Therefore, but a thin thread of biography runs through these volumes, just sufficient to enable the Letters to reveal the man.

Like O. W. Holmes, George Meredith belongs to the "religion of all good men." He rarely speaks of religion, and even in times of stress, his own bereavements or those of his friends, he indicates, rather than reveals, the anchorage of his soul. He advises religious instruction for children, with a minimum of dogmatic teaching, saying that a young sceptic is too likely to be a young cynic.

If in religion he held the creed of all good men, so in politics, it may be said, Meredith held the faith of all sane men. As he said to a would-be interviewer, the essential question concerning a man is whether he be a good citizen, so truly was it his endeavour to be a purifying influence on his generation. When he read in an article on his books by G. P. Batter that the writer counted him among the factors in a change for good in public taste, he wrote:

You hand me the flowering wreaths I covet. For I think that all right use of life, and the one secret of life, is to pave the ways for the firmer footing of those who succeed us; as to my works, I know them faulty, think them worth only when they point and aid to that end. Close knowledge of our fellows, discernment of the laws of existence, these lead to great civilisation. I have supposed that the novel, exposing and illustrating the national history of man, may help us to such sustaining roadside gifts.

Meredith's views on the question of Woman's Suffrage are necessarily of special interest to us. His "Ballad of Fair Ladies in Revolt" has gladdened the hearts of two generations of suffragists. He was indeed our champion and our critic.

The case with women (he writes in 1880) resembles that of the Irish. We have played fast and loose with them, until now they are encouraged to demand what they know not how to use, but have a just right to claim. If the avenues of our professions had been thrown open to them, they might have learnt the business of the world, to be competent to help in governing. But these were closed, women were commanded to continue their reliance upon their poor attractions. Consequently, as with the Irish, they push to grasp the baguette which gives authority. And they will get it, and it will be a horrible time.

Then, after a little bantering of the submissive woman, "the Britannic wife," as he calls her, he adds, "But this world is a moving one, and will pass her." Since these words were written the world has indeed shown that it is a moving one; women have learnt much of government, the "Britannic wife" is undoubtedly passing away or being passed by. Meredith saw the beginning of the Militant Movement. In 1906 he wrote to *The Times* a charming protest alike against the excesses of the behaviour of this party and the excesses of their punishment. He reminded his male readers that they, too, were excitable upon occasion, witness Mafeking night; and he reminded the women that John Bull is rendered obstinate by bad manners. He predicts, with confidence, the political enfranchisement of women, as being "on its way to be realised." He, again, advocates the throwing open of "the avenues to occupations demanding practical mental activity," to show "women the way to govern emotions and learn to state a case." In the present instance, he adds, "it is the very excellence of their case that inflames them."

Meredith's belief in women, his respect and admiration, his ascription to them of all the essential qualities of good citizenship, do not blind him to their faults. Because he loves—he chides, because he desires their well-being—he admonishes. It has been said of Shakespeare that he has heroines but no heroes; so may it, with more modification, be said of the one English writer who at all approaches to Shakespeare in clarity of vision and profundity of judgment.

And to have as our loyal worshippers and faithful champions Shakespeare and Meredith is no small glory to our sex.

ISOBEL FITZROY HECHT.
*The Letters of George Meredith, edited by William Meredith (Constable, 21s. nett).

Religion and the Women's Movement.

The larger hall of the Christian Institute is seated for 900, and on November 9th it was crowded with an audience almost entirely composed of women gathered to hear speakers on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement."

The platform was packed with clergymen of every denomination, Dr. McAdam Muir, of the Cathedral, presiding. Miss Frances Sterling, who made the one speech from the woman's standpoint, Miss M. Watson, organiser, and Miss Lindsay, the local secretary, were among the women speakers. Dr. John Hunter opened the proceedings by prayer, after which Dr. McAdam Muir read a letter from the Executive Committee of the Scottish Churches League for Women's Suffrage, expressing hearty sympathy with the object of the meeting.

Dr. McAdam Muir expressed his desire for a measure for the enfranchisement of women being speedily granted. They were "non-militants," and he would be untrue to himself and his position if he did not very strongly say that this attitude of militancy had to a considerable extent hindered the cause from being rightly understood. "It was for great moral purposes and issues that the views of the women of this country should be recorded in a way which would be of the highest importance to the welfare of Society. At a recent anti-Suffrage meeting in Glasgow, it was admitted that women had a right to influence public opinion and to appear on platforms. Ladies who would persuade them that women were not qualified to form opinions on questions of Government and legislation should not make the most brilliant and cogent speeches, he remarked in reference to Lady Tullibardine's recent speech.

Provost Deane said that twenty years ago he stood on a Women's Suffrage platform with Mrs. Fawcett, and he was a whole-hearted supporter of the Cause. His reference to that "exceedingly superior person" Lord Curzon, was much applauded.

Dr. R. J. Drummond, of Edinburgh, in speaking of the creation of man and woman, referred to the word "helpmeet" applied to women, explaining that it was one of a group of words in the Hebrew applied to God. The New Testament said "neither male nor female, they are one in Christ Jesus." There was the same Commandments for them both, the same moral responsibility, the same one way of Salvation. He felt that the narrowing of the view of the relationship of men and women was largely due to its being considered nearly always in the light of marriage. It tempted men to mental dishonesty to find women, without a vote, in the inferior position.

Miss Frances Sterling, speaking on Christianity and the State, said that her point of view was that of the commonplace woman, necessarily slightly different from that of the previous speakers. "The ordinary person," she stated, "will always agree—being Christian—that the Holy Spirit has to work among men and women alike." What bearing had all this on our relation to the State? The chairman said some were willing to give votes to "ladies of property" or highly-educated women. These would not represent the view of the average woman. The influence of women's vote would not be all for good any more than men's vote. She did not know what—or whether any—virtues were peculiarly theirs.

In the days when men were fighting, the gentler virtues were preserved only by the women. Now that social life was ordered this did not follow so naturally. She felt that women still were not wholly human. There was no mention in the Beatitudes of different virtues for men and women. The "meek" were not all women, nor the martyrs all men. There was no reason why a man should not be weak, why a woman should not be courageous! She was glad to see so many clergy there. They were in favour because they did not want "half-alive flocks." Prejudice in the past had prevented the cultivation of woman's mind. It had been asserted "they had no mind to cultivate." Since a woman had been senior wrangler that position of prejudice had been abandoned. The long struggle for Suffrage had been in itself a good training for women, inducing fellowship and co-operation between women of different parts, different sects, different education, and different social position.

She referred also to Lord Curzon's speech and asked—had we sunk so low as to take our ideal of freedom from India. Women were at present finding it necessary to drop their other work and interests to work for the Suffrage. Each person in favour could help a little, and no one else could do her particular bit of work. If she were passive it remained undone.

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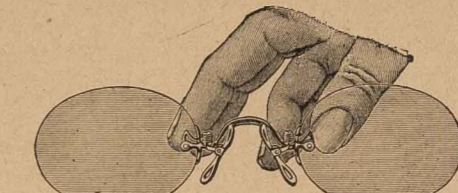
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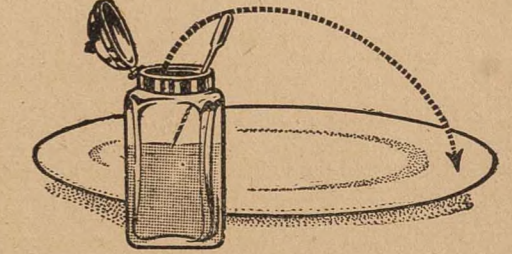
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S.H.B.

In Parliament.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—A question asked last week by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald threw some light upon the immense amount of waste that arises in the great public departments of the country. Mr. MacDonald enquired whether it had been proposed to destroy or sell as waste paper considerable numbers of memoirs published by the Geological Survey, for which there had been no demand for some years; and whether the Treasury would consider whether they might advantageously be distributed among public libraries or offered at reduced prices to local scientific associations, and whether some more popular method of publishing these valuable records could not be adopted. Mr. Masterman's answer was sympathetic, and it is to be hoped some better course may be arrived at. We have often thought that if the Government were to employ as publishing manager of its various records some experienced person whose business it would be to push the sale of them, his salary would probably be more than covered by the profit on his activity, while the general public might have an opportunity of making acquaintance with many extremely interesting volumes which are now practically unknown.

AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARMS.—Lord Claud Hamilton asked, in reference to the recent fire at Messrs. John Barker's, whether the Home Secretary would consider the expediency of ordering the installation of automatic fire alarms in large business houses where many people were employed. Mr. McKenna replied that he had learned from the London Council that about 200 automatic alarms had been set up in various London premises and that numerous calls had been received from these alarms, but that only in one case was an outbreak of fire found to have occurred. His own opinion was that the point of supreme importance in large business houses is to provide not notice of the fire but adequate means of escape from all parts—a very sound view.

"LIVING IN."—The same subject was touched upon later in the same evening (November 11th) by Mr. Arthur Henderson who asked whether, considering the many fires that had recently occurred in drapery establishments and the loss of life involved to assistants sleeping on the premises, the Home Secretary would consider "the desirability of taking early steps to put an end to the system of living in." Mr. McKenna replied in effect that he was not aware that many fires involving loss of life to assistants sleeping on the premises had occurred in drapers' shops. He thought the matter ought, as far as risk of fire was concerned, to be dealt with by regulations of much wider application. He added the welcome information that "the question of the living-in system will be considered when the time comes for legislation on the whole question of Truck."

MISS JESSIE BROWN.—Mr. Watt asked the Secretary for Scotland whether he had yet heard from the magistrates of Glasgow as to the payment of a solatium to Miss Jessie Brown, who, as readers of the COMMON CAUSE will probably remember, was wrongfully arrested for solicitation and found guilty on the sworn evidence of two constables, both of whom were afterwards found guilty of crimes. Mr. McKinnon Wood answered that the magistrates had, on his suggestion, consented to make further enquiry into the case. It is important that some compensation should be pressed for, not so much by way of solatium as because such a payment would be a public acknowledgment that her conviction was entirely undeserved.

THE WRONGS OF MR. HOGGE.—Mr. Hogge's name appeared by an error in the list of members published by Hansard as having voted against the Government on the memorable evening of Monday, the 11th, whereas he was not present and therefore did not vote at all. He made a moving appeal on the subject to the Speaker and asked whether, "as the Official Report will be handed down to future generations," it was possible for his name to be erased. The Speaker, however, was able to assure him that the real official note is not that in Hansard but that in "Votes and Proceedings." "Therefore the hon. member's name will not be handed down in the way described." It will probably be news to the great majority of readers of Hansard that its list is not infallible.

DELAYED PAYMENTS.—Mr. Holmes asked about a delay in the payment for overtime worked in connection with the National Insurance Act by Labour Exchange officials. It appears that an account was made up and rendered as long ago as July 31st. Mr. Buxton explained that the delay was due to the necessity for communications between the Board of Trade and the Treasury. It is intended, however, "to make the appropriate payments very shortly." We hope so.

TRADE BOARDS.—Mr. Clynes enquired about the possibility

of bringing the hollow-ware trade within the scope of the Trade Boards Act; and Mr. Buxton gave a reply which indicated a hope of "cautiously extending" that Act by means of Provisional Orders; as to the trades to be included he did not commit himself.

Mr. Frederick Whyte, next day, asked why the Trade Boards Act had not been applied to "the sweated industry of shirt-making," and received a similar answer. If the prevailing opinion that shirt-making was omitted owing to Irish opposition, the possible passage of a Home Rule Bill may facilitate the inclusion of that extremely ill-paid industry. Of course, it is precisely in Ireland that the very worst-paid instances of shirt-making occur, and those gentlemen, if there are any, who suppose that industry on such terms is of profit to their country need economic enlightenment.

SAFETY LAMPS.—Can it be possible that the official fee for the testing of every miner's safety lamp is £20? That figure is reported in a question asked by Sir John Randles on Wednesday last; and Mr. McKenna replied that he did not see his way to a modification of the fee which had been fixed so as to cover as nearly as possible the expenses of testing. Even 20s. would strike the lay mind as a high figure.

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL.—The Criminal Law Amendment Bill has now passed its third reading in the House of Commons.

The Black Peril.

A correspondent has sent us the following letter from Mrs. John Brown, Superintendent of the Department for Social Purity in the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Cape Province, S. Africa, the lady to whom it may be remembered "The Story of an African Farm" was dedicated:

There has recently been much panic talk, and strong feeling here with regard to "assaults on women," notably in the Transvaal and Natal, but especially in Johannesburg. The matter was brought up in Parliament, and a Parliamentary Commission appointed to inquire into causes of, and to suggest remedies for, what is called the Black Peril. Let me assure you that this is an absolutely mistaken term: but for the White Peril, there would be no Black. A few of us felt that as this matter greatly concerned women, women should be appointed to sit with men on the Commission. I cannot dwell on all the incidents, but I convened a public meeting, and subsequently led a small deputation of women to meet the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice. We had to face some opposition, but gained our point, and three women, one to represent the Cape, the Transvaal, and Natal, now sit on that Commission.

This is a great victory, for the placing of women on this important Commission with men must lead to the logical conclusion that all social reforms concern women equally with men, and must be faced together. The awful revelations incident on our "Civilisation" make one utterly ashamed and bewildered. The illicit liquor selling, the immorality, the system of prostitution, are all tending to demoralisation of our native races, and we are losing our prestige as a white people as fast as we can. I attended a Missionary Conference in Cape Town just before I came here. The evidence of the missionaries and of native Christians was very sad and humiliating. But I know rather than hear of these things.

News from Headquarters.

Parliamentary.

A rumour is being diligently circulated in certain quarters to the effect that the Government will drop the Franchise Bill as a way out of the difficulties in which they have been involved by their own mismanagement and by the militant tactics of the Opposition. These rumours need not unduly disturb us. They emanate principally from Anti-Suffragist quarters, where the wish is father to the thought.

There are, however, a few Liberals, and even Suffrage Liberals, who are giving their support to the idea of throwing over the Franchise Bill. We regret to find Mr. Massingham among their number, as evidenced by his article in the *Daily News* of November 18th. It is sufficient commentary on these suggestions to remind their authors of Mr. Lloyd George's words at our meeting in the Albert Hall on February 23rd last: "When I hear suggestions that the Government propose not to introduce a Reform Bill, or that if they do introduce it it will not be persevered with, or that it won't be drafted in such a way as to give opportunity for amendment, I say that is an imputation of deep dishonour which I decline to discuss. No Government could commit such an outrage on public faith without forfeiting the respect of every honest man and woman in the land."

C. E. MARSHALL.

Literature Department.

PASS-IT-ON LIBRARY.—The great kindness of a friend of Mrs. Fawcett has made it possible for the literature department to start a "Pass-it-on Library." The books in this Library will be the property of members of the National Union. They will in the first instance be lent by this department to those members of National Union Societies who apply first in writing, and enclose four penny stamps for postage. In the case of several applications coming by the same post, preference will be given to secretaries of societies or branches. The member of the National Union who borrows the book is requested when she has done with it either to return it to the National Union Office, or to pass it on to any other member of a National Union Society, asking her to pass it on in her turn.

If she does this, she has no further responsibility about returning the book. Before passing the book on, she can, if she wishes, lend it to any friend who is not a member of the National Union, but if she does this, she must be responsible for getting it back.

Members who borrow books are earnestly requested to read the rules on the slip pasted inside the cover, and especially to note that the National Union does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed in the books.

The following books are now ready to go out:—

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE: a short history of a great movement, by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

LIBERTY, by John Stuart Mill.

WOMAN AND LABOUR, by Olive Schreiner.

DREAMS, by Olive Schreiner.

SWEATED INDUSTRY, by Clementina Black.

WOMEN'S WORK AND WAGES, by Cadbury and Matheson.

WOMEN AND ECONOMICS, by Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES OF A GREAT CRUSADE, by Josephine Butler.

THE EMANCIPATION OF ENGLISHWOMEN, by Lyon Bleas.

It is very much hoped that members who borrow them will be sure to pass them on as soon as they have read them, in order that the books may not remain idle.

THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT.

The National Union is stocking copies of the Report of the meetings on the Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement which took place in Queen's Hall last summer. It contains the speeches of the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Hull, Dr. J. Scott-Lidgett, Mr. William Temple, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Walter Runciman, Mrs. F. E. Wiley, M.D., Miss Maude Royden, and Mr. Edmund Harvey, M.P. It is very attractively got up. The price is 6d.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

Press Department.

Good news comes in from various quarters this week of the result of press work in the Federations.

Miss O'Shea writes from the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation:—

"Encouraging reports reach us of the attitude of the papers of the South East Coast. The appointment of a Press Correspondent at Hastings has been followed by increased activity in the presentation of Suffrage matter in the local press. *The Hants and Sussex County Press* continues to render us valuable assistance; in addition to the usual grant of space, it has given to editorials lately to the Cause of Women."

The editors of twelve large and important provincial papers have lately done us good service, and the *Nottingham Guardian* must be specially mentioned for the excellent service it is doing us. Women's columns, many of which publish valuable Suffrage matter are increasing rapidly; one of the latest additions brought to our notice being the *Northampton Echo*, which gives a column every Saturday. The *Southport Guardian*, the *Pioneer* (Woolwich), the *Ilkerton Advertiser* must also be mentioned.

The North East Riding of Yorkshire, in the full report sent us this week, informs us

"that 29 papers are being overlooked, of which 14 are reported as favourable, while not a single one appears to be Anti-Suffrage."

The press report presented at the annual meeting of the Manchester and District Federation this month, stated that "the newspapers of that area had shown during the year a general and marked increase of interest in Women's Suffrage. All developments have been in the right direction. The 89 papers worth reckoning (including 12 dailies) were classified as follows:—Definitely favourable, 14; distinctly friendly, 39; fair local reports, 31; unfavourable, 5. The five Manchester papers reckoned unfavourable (four issued from a single office) are not without saving graces. Outside Manchester not a single paper seems to care to commit itself to open opposition. In regard to widely circulating dailies, the position is distinctly stronger than last

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THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

HOLDS
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.
at CAXTON HALL WESTMINSTER.

Speakers, November 27th;

The Rt. Hon. THE EARL OF LYTTON. MRS. DESPARD.

The Chair will be taken promptly at 3.30 by

MISS C. NINA BOYLE.

ADMISSION FREE.

year. Women's Suffrage is now actively and steadily supported, not only by the Manchester Guardian, but by the Northern edition of the Daily News and by the Daily Citizen."

It is to be hoped that Miss Eleanor Rathbone's excellent letter in the Standard, November 16th, will have reached a large number of the members of the National Union of Women Workers.

The Anglo-Russian has this month devoted a special Women's Suffrage number to the first Congress of the Men's International Alliance for Women's Suffrage.

Whilst the granting of the franchise to women in England would hasten the enfranchisement of women in other countries, in Russia, its effects would prove beneficial, first of all, to voteless men, and then also for voteless women. The moment women in England get the vote on the same terms as men, a new political atmosphere would be created everywhere, but especially so in Russia, where Ivan Ivanovitch is politically almost as voteless as Anna Ivanovna. We, therefore, more than the delegates from all other countries, hailed with particular delight the advent of the Congress."

Friends of Women's Suffrage.

The Friends of Women's Suffrage Sub-Committee reports that good progress is being made with its work throughout the country. About 109 Societies are now participating, as well as Suffrage groups in many parts where there are no societies. In the Eastern Counties Federation six Societies are working the scheme. Cambridge reports eleven visitors and a systematic canvass of three districts in the town. East Herts, Hockwold and Hitchin have also sent in reports. In the East Midland Federation six Societies are working the scheme, Nottingham reporting 150 Friends and 18 visitors. Lincoln reports 105 Friends and 5 visitors. Grantham has also a large number of Friends, but has not yet been able to organise visiting.

In the Manchester Federation 13 Societies are working the scheme. The Manchester Society itself has 200 Friends, and no less than 60 visitors—six sub-committees. Bolton has also started with 25 visitors.

In the North-Eastern Federation seven Societies are working the scheme, Miss Ida Beaver having recently addressed a series of special meetings on the subject. In the North-Western Federation three Societies are working the scheme, Workington having already 12 visitors. In the North-East Ridings Federation two Societies are working the scheme, with 220 Friends at York. In the Oxford, Berks, and Bucks Federation nine Societies are working, Maidenhead, Wokingham, and Pangbourne being specially active. Miss Lilian Jones has been appointed F.W.S. Secretary for the Federation. In the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation twenty Societies are working the scheme; Croydon reports 60 visits to Friends and Dorking 114 visits during the preceding quarter.

In the West Lancashire, West Cheshire and North Wales Federation there are about five Societies at work. Birkenhead, under the direction of the Hon. F.W.S. Secretary, Miss Dalby, has now 105 Friends. In the West of England Federation eight societies are helping forward the work. Bristol reports that 239 Friends were enrolled at the Suffrage stall at the Exhibition in about six weeks. The scheme is thoroughly organised in East Bristol, Bath, Cheltenham, Gloucester; Tewkesbury and Wincoscombe have also sent reports.

In the West Midland Federation nine Societies are helping; Birmingham, which was one of the first two Societies in the National Union to start the work has 336 Friends, organised by Miss Kirby, Hon. F.W. Secretary to the Society. Solihull, Kidderminster and Worcester are also active. In the West Ridings Federation three Societies are making headway, and there are a good many Friends of Women's Suffrage groups at places where National Union Societies have not yet been formed. The scheme is also being worked by Societies in the Scottish Federation, North Scottish Federation, South Wales, South-Western and Kentish Federations.

The London Society reports the largest number of Friends. It has 4,447 in the London and suburban constituencies. Altogether, the Sub-Committee is much encouraged by the reports sent in. In view of the increasingly heavy work which falls on secretaries of Societies, the Committee has decided only to ask for quarterly reports from those Societies which report direct to the National Union. In the case of Societies reporting through their Federation, the Federation Committee and the Societies will, of course, make whatever arrangements seem best to them: the Federation Secretary is asked to report quarterly to the National Union Office. The dates which the Sub-Committee suggests for the quarterly reports are January 30th, April 30th, July 30th, October 30th.

Forms can be obtained from the National Union Office.

I. B. O'MALLEY

HELP SWEATED WOMEN.

The National Anti-Sweating League was formed in 1906 to secure minimum wages for all underpaid women workers.

The results of its exertions appear in the following comparative table in which the rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act in certain trades are compared with the pre-existing rates:—

RATES OF WAGES FORMERLY CURRENT IN CERTAIN TRADES COMPARED WITH THE MINIMUM RATES NOW FIXED BY TRADE BOARDS FOR THE SAME TRADES.

CHAIN-MAKING—Women, former average earnings about 1d. an hour. Trade Board Minimum Rate, 2½d. an hour.

LACE FINISHING—Former average earnings less than 1d. an hour. Trade Board Minimum Rate, 2½d. an hour, rising in 12 months to 3d.

PAPER BOXMAKING—Former earnings, 10,000 women workers out of 15,000 received less than 10s. a week. Trade Board Minimum Rate, 3d. an hour (13s. a week of 52 hours).

TAILORING—Women, former earnings, 10 per cent. received less than 8s. a week; 20 per cent. received less than 10s. a week; 70 per cent. received less than 15s. a week. Trade Board Minimum Rate, 3½d. per hour (13s. 10d. a week of 51 hours).

The League is now preparing the way for an extension of the Act to other trades, notably the hollow-ware industry in Staffordshire in which women engaged in making buckets and other similar receptacles are on strike to obtain a weekly wage of 10s.

For the work of investigating the conditions in these trades, help is urgently needed, and readers of the COMMON CAUSE are earnestly asked to subscribe. Contributions of whatever amount will be most gladly acknowledged.

SPECIAL NOTE.

To raise money to assist the National Anti-Sweating League to extend the Trade Boards Act to the Hollow-ware workers, the "Theatre in Eyre" is giving performances of three new plays by the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, M. Georges Clemenceau, and Mr. Eden Phillpotts, on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, November 26th. Tickets 10s. 6d. and 5s., may be had from the Secretary, National Anti-Sweating League, 34, Mecklenburgh Square, London, W.C.

Albert Hall, November 5th

DONATIONS, SECOND LIST.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Albert Hall event. Includes names like Miss Grant, Miss Goodey, Mrs. H. B. Godwin, etc., and amounts in £ s. d. format.

Table listing various W.S.S. societies and their contributions, including Whaleybridge W.S.S., Wincoscombe W.S.S., Woking W.S.S., etc.

CORRECTION FIRST LIST. Miss Ogden 10s. 6d. should have been Southwell W.S.S. 10s. 6d.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Table listing contributions to the General Fund, including subscriptions from Miss P. G. Fawcett, Mrs. Chas. E. Cowper, Mrs. E. Harrington, etc.

The International Suffrage Shop £200 Fund.

Table listing donors to the International Suffrage Shop fund, including Mrs. Fels, Mrs. Bernard Shaw, Mrs. Deepard, etc.

The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

The secretary wishes to thank the large number of friends who took part in last Saturday's procession and made the contingent such an effective one. Members are asked to note that December 7th is the date of the society's jumble sale and also its public meeting in Hampstead Town Hall, particulars of which will be announced next week. Offers of help and parcels for the jumble sale should be sent to Miss Whately at St. Philip's Hall, 282, Fulham Road, S.W., any time after December 1st.

The Jewish League for Women's Suffrage.

The Jewish League has now formulated a constitution, which runs as follows:— 1. The J.L.W.S. is a non-political organisation, formed to demand the Parliamentary Franchise for women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men, and to unite Jewish suffragists of all shades of opinion for religious and educational activities. 2. The League will carry on propaganda on constitutional lines parallel with those of the existing Church, Catholic, Free Church and Friend's Leagues. 3. The League will emphasize the need for woman's emancipation to secure the effective co-operation of men and women in combating social evils. 4. The J.L.W.S. will strive to further the improvement of the status of women in the community and the State. All Jewish men and women who are in sympathy with the objects of the League are invited to become members on payment of a minimum subscription of 3d., and are requested to communicate with the hon. secretary, Miss Ruth Franklin, 32, Hyde Park Gardens, W., whilst those who wish to subscribe to the funds are asked to send donations to the hon. treasurer, Mrs. Herbert Cohen, 2, Orme Court, W. Among the vice-presidents are:—Rev. A. Cohen, B.A., Rabbi B. I. Cohen, B.A., Rabbi Dr. Daiches, Rev. S. A. Friedberg, B.A., Rev. Gerald Friedlander, Rev. A. A. Green, Rev. Morris Joseph, Rabbi Lazarus, B.A., Rev. Walter Levin, Rev. Harry Lewis, M.A., Rabbi Matnick, Rev. L. Mendelsohn, M.A., Rev. E. P. Phillips, Rev. Rosenweig, Rabbi Dr. B. Salomon, Rev. J. F. Stern, Rabbi Dr. Strauss, Mrs. Auerbach, Herbert Jacobs, Esq., Dr. Redcliffe Salaman, J.P., M.A., Mrs. Redcliffe Salaman. The Provisional Committee who are assisting with the formation of the League are:—Miss Winifred Beddington, Miss Ethel Behrens, Miss Inez Bensusan, Miss Hannah Hyam, Hon. Mrs. Ernest Franklin, Rev. Dr. G. Hochman, Rev. Morris Joseph, Miss A. Pizer, Mr. Gilbert Samuel, Mrs. Arthur Stiebel.

been conceded by some twenty-five different employers in the trade.

Then there are the women who are locked out because their employers have offered them or their fellow workers the alternative of doing the work of the men who are also on strike, for improved wages, or being dismissed. One girl, for instance, was offered the other day 12s. for work for which the men had formerly received 33s.

Both these classes are entitled to dispute pay from the National Federation of Women Workers, which is affiliated to the General Federation of Trade Unions, but there is a third class not entitled to dispute—the girls and women whose work has automatically come to an end owing to the strike of the other workers. According to the rules of the General Federation these girls are not eligible for dispute pay. Some of them have now been displaced for over a month and are in great distress.

A special fund has been opened, to which the girls on strike are generously contributing one-fifth of the scanty strike pay, and it is for a donation to this fund that I most earnestly appeal to your readers. It would, from our point of view, be a great misfortune if the fine spirit shown by these workers should be broken in the end by hunger.

Every shilling sent will undoubtedly help the women to fight the battle to a successful finish, and to take another step towards the abolition of sweating.

Thanking you in anticipation,
Yours very truly,
MARY R. MACARTHUR,
Secretary.

[The battle of the strikers has now been won. But the worst of the misery often comes for the workers when the strike is over. We would ask, therefore, that those of our readers who would have given to this fund before the strike was over will not withdraw their aid now. If any readers of THE COMMON CAUSE wish to contribute towards this fund, we will gladly forward their contributions.—Ed. C.C.]

Forthcoming Meetings.

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION

(The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

- NOVEMBER 20
Leeds-9, Park Lane-Mrs. Marvin, M.A.; "Professional Women in Marriage-A Suggestion" 7.30
Lytham-Anstoll Institute-Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Mrs. White (chair)
Birkenhead-Y.M.C.A. Hall-Public meeting-Mrs. Ring, Mr. J. Cameron Grant, Mr. Lyon Blease, L.L.B. (chair) 8.0
Walker-Co-operative Hall-Mrs. G. D. Bittell, Dr. Ethel Williams 7.30
Winscombe-Assembly Rooms-Miss Helen Fraser, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross (chair) 7.30
Chaddle-Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., C. V. Cox, Esq., B.A. Professor Weiss, D.Sc. (chair) 8.0
Plymouth-Hyde Park School-Dr. Mabel Ramsay, High Wycombe-Guildhall-Mr. D. H. Harbein, Miss Dove, M.A. (chair) 8.15
Horley-Victoria Hall-Mrs. Timpauy, Mrs. Auerbach (chair) 8.0
Lorton (Cockermouth)-Yew Tree Hall-Miss Norma Smith 8.0
Coniston-Taves Bank-Mrs. Renton, Miss Broatch, Mrs. Cunliffe and others 4.0
Bristol-Bethesda Schoolroom, Redfield-Miss M. Robertson, Councillor W. G. Pope (chair) 8.0
Scarborough-Office-Miss Florence Balgarnis 3.30
Turro-Concert Hall-Lady Frances Balfour 8.0
NOVEMBER 21
Leicester-Mrs. Robert Pochin's drawing-room meeting, Ashleigh Road-Miss K. Bathurst 7.30
Gloucester-Northgate Mansions, Northgate Street-The Lady Frances Balfour-Miss Helen Fraser, The Lady Maud Parry (chair) 8.0
Lound-Miss Willis 3.0
Blackpool-Tower Roof Gardens-"At Home"-Sale of Xmas Goods-Mrs. Councillor Lees (ex-Mayor of Oldham). Tickets (including tea) 2s. 3.0
NOVEMBER 22
Letchworth-Pixmore Institute-Dramatic entertainment 8.0
Clevedon-Public Hall-Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Gladys Pott, Dr. Visger (chair) 8.0
Bexhill-Victoria Hall-Miss Norah O'Shea, Henry D. Harben, Esq. 8.0
Cockermouth-Christ Church Schoolroom-Miss Norma Smith 8.0
Stevenage-Small Public Hall-Mrs. Cooper, Rev. P. M. Wathen (chair) 3.30

- Hitchen-Workman's Hall-Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. F. Taylor 8.0
Falmouth-Drill Hall-H. Baillie Weaver, Esq., L.L.B. Mrs. F. D. Aoland (chair) 7.30
Colchester-Oddfellows' Hall-Mrs. Rackham 8.0
Sevenoaks-N.U.W.S.S. Depot, 70, High Street-Suffrage "At Home"-Miss L. Portlock 3.30
Bishop Auckland-Edgar Hall-Drawing-room meeting-Miss C. M. Gordon
NOVEMBER 23
Buntingford-Technical Institute-Mrs. Cooper, Mr. J. M. Mirreles, Mr. Wolverley Fordham (chair) 7.30
Bristol-Annual Meeting of the West of England Federation-Queen's Hall, Clifton-Miss Courtney, Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Tanner (chair) 2.30
Pangbourne-New Hall-Mrs. O. Strachey-Miss Dora Mason-Miss E. N. Sutton (chair) 8.0
Darlington-Trombeek Collegiate School-Drawing-room meeting-Misses Reid and Taylor-Mrs. J. D. Bittell 3.0
Grimaby-Wellhome Congregational Schoolroom-At Home-Hostess, Lady Doughty 3.6
NOVEMBER 24
Scarborough-Unitarian Church-Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A. 6.30
Whittington Moor-Men's Adult School-Women's Place in National Life-Mrs. Cowmeadow 9.15 a.m.
Whittington Moor-Women's Adult School-Mrs. Cowmeadow 3.0
NOVEMBER 25
New Milton-Pagoda Tea Rooms-Meeting for members and friends-Mrs. Bonwick 3.0-5.0
Letchworth-Pixmore Institute-Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. W. Hogg, L.L.B., Dr. Marion Gilford (chair) 8.0
Croydon-34a, The Arcade-Mrs. Aokroyd: "Prison Reform" 3.30
Birmingham-Selly Wood-Mrs. Wilson's drawing-room meeting-Mrs. Stanbury, (chair) Miss Orange 3.30
Bristol-111a, White Ladies Road-Speakers, Class-leader Mrs. Randall Vickers 2.30
Hartlepool-Public meeting-Mrs. Rackham 7.30
Tunbridge Wells-19, Crescent Road-The Hon. Secretaries' "At Home" to members. To meet Mrs. Randall Vickers 8.0
Wadebridge, Cornwall-Town Hall-Miss Abadam, Mr. Baillie Weaver, Rev. J. Shuttleworth (chair) 7.30
Manchester-Fortnightly meeting of the Hulme Suffrage Club, York Street Temperance Hl, Hulme 8.0
Newcastle-Studio, 101, Percy Street-Miss Atkinson's "At Home"-Mrs. Rackham, Mr. Angus Watson (chair) 3.0
Guildford-Anchor Inn, Ripley-The Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Rolleston Stables 8.0
Hasland-Adult School Institute-Councillor Cropper (chair), Mrs. Cowmeadow 7.30
NOVEMBER 26
Bradford-Mechanics' Hall-Miss Robertson, Councillor J. H. Palin (chair) 7.30
Lynton-Literary Institute-Mrs. Bonwick 3.0
Ashwell-Club-room, Gardeners Lane-Mrs. Cooper, Miss M. Sugden (chair) 3.6
Hinckworth-Country School-Mrs. Cooper, Mr. J. M. Mirreles, Mrs. Wolverley Fordham (chair) 8.0
Wadebridge-Miss Abadam (women only) 8.0
Plymouth-Hyde Park-Wesley Guild-Dr. Mabel Ramsay 7.30
Birmingham-Overdale Lodge, Moseley-Mrs. Dunn's Drawing-room meeting-Hon. Mrs. Basil Hanbury and others (in connection with the Conservative and Unionist Franchise Association) 3.0
Bristol-St. Augustine's Vicarage-Mrs. Caldwell's drawing-room meeting-Miss Helen Fraser, Rev. W. Caldwell 3.30
Haydon Bridge-Drawing-room meeting-Mrs. Rackham 3.15
Stockton-Public meeting-Mrs. Rackham 7.30
Leatherhead-Victoria Hall-The Earl of Lytton-The Rev. A. E. N. Simms-Sir William Chance (chair) 8.30
Bristol-Church School, Two Mile Hill-Women only-Miss Helen Fraser 8.0
Ringwood-Lecture Hall-Mrs. Bonwick 8.0
Morecambe-Public Meeting-Miss Norma Smith 8.0
Tunbridge Wells-Friends of Women's Suffrage Meeting-18, Crescent Road-Mrs. Randall Vickers 8.0
NOVEMBER 27
Leeds-9, Park Lane-Mrs. Grovesnor Talbot, paper on "The Poor Law" 3.30
Sowerby Bridge-Public Hall-Miss I. O. Ford 7.30
Letchworth-Gerron Road Debating Society-Mrs. Cooper 8.0
St. Albans-Town Hall-Lady Frances Balfour, H. J. Gillespie, Esq. 8.15
Plymouth-Co-operative Lecture Hall-Miss Abadam 8.0
Norwich-"At Home" School of Music-Rev. O. Hinscliff (chair), Rev. Canon W. Hay Aitken 3.0
High Wycombe-Weekly "At Home" discussion Bristol-Temperance Hall, Totterdown-Miss Helen Fraser, J. Bodinax, Esq. (chair) 8.0
Brookenhurst-Morant Hall-Mrs. Bonwick, Mrs. Foley, Lady Selborne (chair) 8.0
Scarborough-Matthew's Boarding House-Annual Meeting-H. Rowntree, Esq. 8.0
East Bristol-1, Barrow Road-Meeting for men and women 8.0
Newcastle-27, Ridley Place-Debate-Mrs. Laws, Miss M. Weddell 7.30
Coundon-Wesleyan School-Mr. Markham, Mrs. Bittell, Miss Bury 7.30
Caton (Lancaster)-Mrs. Paiey's drawing-room-Miss Norma Smith 7.30
Stamley-Primitive Methodist Institute-Mrs. Cowmeadow 7.30
NOVEMBER 28
Dewsbury-Exchange Hall-Miss Robertson, Rev. C. H. Hayman (chair) 7.30
Edenbridge-Mrs. Corbett Ashley, Miss Helga Gill 7.30
Ringwood-Lecture Hall-Mrs. Bonwick 8.0

- Bristol-Mrs. De Wintons' drawing-room meeting, Acton Lodge, Sneyd Park - Miss Helen Fraser, Professor Skemp 3.0
Harleston-King George's Hall-Rev. C. Hinscliff, Dr. Ramsbottom (chair). - "The Spiritual and Ethical Asset of the Woman's Movement" 3.0
Hull-Church Institute, Albion Street-Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., Mrs. Kempthorne (chair) 8.0
Teignmouth-Drawing room-Miss Abadam 3.0
East Cams., Soham-Town Hall-Mrs. Rackham, Mr. Mirreles, Mrs. Bootham (chair) 3.0
Wakefield-Unity Hall-Women's Co-operative Guild-Miss I. O. Ford 7.30
Wellington, Salop-Town Hall-Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Harley, Dr. Hollies, J.P., C.C. (chair) 8.0
West Cams., Sheppeth - Mrs. Ramsey, Mrs. Hutchinson 7.30
Camberley-Doraine-Hostess, Mrs. Hilson, Mrs. Bassett on School Clinics 4.0
NOVEMBER 29
Leeds-9, Park Lane-Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A. 7.30
Nottingham-Mechanics Large Hall, "Forest of Christmas Trees"-opened by Her Highness Duleep Singh, Chair, Sir J. Rolleston, M.P., supported by Lord Henry Bessell, M.P. 3.0-10.30
Tiverton-Drawing-room meeting-Miss Abadam 2.45
Exeter-Barnfield Hall-Miss Abadam 8.0
Bristol-Victoria Rooms - Miss Helen Fraser, Professor Leonard, Sir John Gorst (chair) 8.0
NOVEMBER 30
Nottingham-Mechanics Large Hall, "Forest of Christmas Trees"-opened by Lady Markham, Chair, Alderman Manning 3.0-10.30
Exmouth-King's Hall-Miss Abadam 3.30
Bristol-Drawing-room meeting - Dr. Marion Linton, 7, Tyndalls Park - Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Mullock, M.Sc. (chair) 3.30
Oxford-Y.M.C.A. Hall, George St.-variety entertainment-"How the Vote was Won" -two performances 2.30 and 5.0
Chesterfield-Gas Workers Union-Mrs. Cowmeadow 9.0
DECEMBER 2
Tunbridge Wells-"At Home" at the Studio-The Misses Scott-To meet Miss Gardner 3.15
Manchester-Reception at Parker's Restaurant, 8, St. Ann's Square-Miss Margaret Ashton 4.0-5.30
Manchester-Mrs. Arthur Schuster-"At Home" to South Manchester members, at Kent House, Kent Road, Victoria Park 8.0
Duxford-Schoolroom-The Rector (chair), Miss Mein, Mrs. Rackham 7.30
Croydon-34a, The Arcade, High Street-Dr. C. M. Pagan-"Public Health" 3.30
Bishop Auckland-Temperance Hall - Councillor Spoor, Mr. Mirreles, Miss C. M. Gordon 7.30
DECEMBER 3
King's Sutton-Drawing-room meeting-Miss Huckwell 4.15-6.0
Canterbury-St. George's Hall-Miss S. O. Ford, Miss Helga Gill and others 8.0
Grimaby-Town Hall-Lord Lytton, Miss Abadam, Lady Doughty (chair) 8.0
East Bristol-1, Barrow Road-Meeting for men and women 8.0
Chesterfield-Shop Assistants' Union - Mrs. Cowmeadow 7.30
DECEMBER 4
Leeds-9, Park Lane-Social Evening 7.30
Dorking-Public Hall-Mrs. Gordon Clarke (Michele's Hall) Entertainment-Miss Aston, Miss Page Henderson 3.0
Darlington-Mechanics' Institute-Lady Frances Balfour, Mr. Mirreles 7.30
DECEMBER 5
Bradford-5, Eldon Place (Suffrage Rooms)-"Christmas Fair" in aid of the funds of the Society. 7.30
Manchester-Didsbury Co-operative Hall-F. Stanton Barnes, Esq.-Miss Darlington (chair) 8.0
Wakefield-Stratford Arms Hotel-"At Home"-Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Lucan Davies, M.A. 3.30
[LONDON]
NOVEMBER 21
S. Paddington-75, Hereford Road, W.-Sewing meeting for the London Society's Bazaar. Members and friends from all constituencies welcome 2.30
Einsbury-"Young Mothers" Clarendon Central Mission, Pentonville-Speaker, Mrs. Garrett Jones 2.45
Kensington-N. and S. working party-8, Queen's Gate Terrace 3.0
Hampstead-Working party-Hostess, Mrs. Fortesque Fox, 13, Belsize Park Gardens 3-6
Wimbledon-Sewing meeting-Stamford House, Wimbledon Common 3-6.30
Stepney-School for Mothers, 557, Commercial Road-Speaker, Miss M. Sheephanks 3.15
Y.M.C.A., 17, Camden Road-Social gathering-Chair, Miss I. O. Ford, Speakers, W. H. Dickinson, Esq., M.P., G. A. Tonche, Esq., M.P. 7.45
St. George's Hanover Square-Literary Association Lecture Hall, 26, Moreton Street-Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 8.15
Hackney C. and S. at All Saints, Bluxton Road, Lower Clapton-The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement-Chair, Rev. W. G. Cameron-Speakers, Miss A. Mande Rowden, Mrs. Link Paget 8.15
Islington-Memorial Hall (Lower Hall) Vicarage Gate-Speaker, Miss Ruth Young 8.30
Hendon-Council Chambers-Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. E. F. Abbott, W. B. Bonsfield, Esq., K.C. (chair) 8.0
NOVEMBER 22
Muswell Hill-Sewing meeting-Hostess Mrs. Beverley Farquharson, 26, The Avenue 3.0
Barnes-Drawing-room meeting-Hostess, Mrs. Walker, Willerby, Roehampton - speaker, Mrs. Corbett Ashley 3.0



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Harrow—Public meeting, Assembly Rooms—chair, Miss C. C. Marshall, Speakers, Miss A. Maude Royden, R. F. Cholmeley, Esq. 8.30

Islington—League of Young Liberals, 734, Holloway Road—Speaker, Miss M. E. Hewitt 8.45

NOVEMBER 23.

Islington—Islington Union Institute Literary and Debating Society, Union Chapel, Upper Street—Speaker, Mrs. Stanbury 8.0

NOVEMBER 25.

N. Paddington—47a, Clifton Gardens, Maida Vale, W.—Sewing meeting for the London Society's Bazaar. All members and friends from all constituencies welcome 2.30

Lambeth Committee—Jumble Sale, Wesleyan Church Schoolroom, Lambeth Road (next Lambeth Baths)—Miss Deverell will be pleased to receive any gifts, at 24, Newington Causeway, S.E.; 59, Kennington Road, S.E.; and 47, Ethelred Street, Lambeth 2.0-6.0

Highgate—Working party. Mrs. Rand, 3, Holly Terrace 3.0-5.0

C. and S. Hackney—Working party. Hostess, Mrs. Fisher, 24, Lower Clapton Road—All members and friends are invited to attend 3.0-6.0

Hampstead—Working party. Hostess, Mrs. Dryhurst, 6, Keats Grove, Downshire Hill 3.0-6.0

Wandsworth—Primitive Methodist Lecture Hall, High Street—Speaker, Miss O'Malley—Meeting for members Afternoon

Rotherhithe—Men's Club, The Empire Club, Jamaica Road—Speaker, Miss Goddard Evening 8.0

Muswell Hill—Public meeting, The Athenaeum—Speakers, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Rev. Llewellyn Smith, Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., Chair, Rev. Aidan Hancock, B.D. 8.0

NOVEMBER 26.

Stepney—Mission Hall, Ernest Street—Mothers' meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Sheepschanks 2.30

Richmond—Annual meeting—Hostess, Dr. Russell Grant, Basing House, Queen's Road—Chair, Mrs. Nott Bower, Speaker, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., on "The White Slave Traffic" 3.0

Stepney—Mission Hall, Ernest Street—Young Mothers' Circle—Speaker, Mrs. Garrett Jones 5.30

Epsom and Ewell—Women's Suffrage Debate—Hostess, Mrs. Torrance, Mount Hill, Epsom—Speakers, Rev. Llewellyn Smith and Mrs. Gladstone Solomon, Chair, Rev. W. Bainbridge Bell 8.15

Stepney—Mission Hall, Ernest Street—Girls' Club Speaker, Miss J. H. Thomson 8.30

West London Reception—Westminster Palace Hotel—Chair, The Lady Frances Balfour, Speakers, Mrs. Osler, the Rev. Llewellyn Smith, Mr. H. N. Brailsford 3.30-6.15

NOVEMBER 27.

Ealing—"At Home," Hostess, Miss Debae, 37, Uxbridge Road—Speaker, Miss Grace Dykes Spicer Afternoon

West Newington—Public meeting, Lorrimer Mission Hall, Lorrimer St.—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, H. G. Chancellor, Esq., M.P. 8.0

Lambeth, S.E.—Foresters' Court, Morley College, Waterloo Road—Speaker, Miss Elkin 9.30

Golders Green—Garden Suburb Institute—Dr. C. V. Drysdale, Mrs. E. F. Abbott, W. Trevor H. Walsh, Esq. (chair) 8.30

NOVEMBER 28.

S. Paddington—75, Hereford Road, W.—Sewing meeting for the London Society's Bazaar—Members and friends from all constituencies welcome 2.30

Rotherhithe—Babies' Institute, Mothers' meeting, 39, Prince's Street—Speaker, Mrs. Garrett Jones 3.0

Kensington N. and S.—Working Party—Hostess Mrs. Fortescue Fox, 13, Belsize Park Gardens 3.0-6.0

Wimbledon—Sewing meeting—Stamford House, Wimbledon Common—Exhibition of articles for Wimbledon stall at Bazaar* Tea. 4.0-5.0

* All members and friends who cannot attend the Bazaar are asked to take this opportunity to make their purchases.

NOVEMBER 29.

Hackney N. Women's Suffrage Meeting—Girls' Realm Guild, 14, Osbaldeston Road—Speaker, Mrs. Ford Smith 3.15

Westminster—Caxton Hall—London Society's Annual Meeting for members—Chair, The Lady Frances Balfour, Speakers, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D., and others 8.0

SCOTLAND.

NOVEMBER 20.

Glasgow—Mrs. Nelson, 26, Huntley Gardens—Miss Mildred Watson 3.30

NOVEMBER 21.

Edinburgh—Small Hall, Dalkeith—Miss Alice Low 7.30

Glasgow—Mrs. Watson, 11, London Terrace—Drawing-room meeting—Miss Mildred Watson 3.0

NOVEMBER 22.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" Glasgow—"At Home"—202, Hope Street—Mrs. Ballantyne—Mrs. J. T. Hunter: "The Work of the National Vigilance Association of Scotland" 4.0

NOVEMBER 23.

Edinburgh—Livingstone—Public School—Members meeting—Miss Alice Low, Miss Lisa M. Gordon 3.30

Glasgow—20, Montgomerie Street, Kelvinside—Miss Mildred Watson 3.30

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NOVEMBER 25.
Glasgow—Women's Co-operative Guild—Mansfield Street Hall—Miss Mildred Watson 7.30

NOVEMBER 26.
Glasgow—Mrs. Nelson, 26, Huntley Gardens—Miss Mildred Watson 8.0

Gourock—Town Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0

NOVEMBER 27.
Kilmarnock—Art Galleries—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0

Aberdeen—Round Room, Music Hall—Professor J. Arthur Thomson on "Man and Woman in Evolution"—Miss Lumsden, L.L.D. (chair) 8.0

NOVEMBER 3.
Troon—Unionist Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden, Wm. Robertson, Esq. (chair) 8.0

NOVEMBER 29.
Largs—Artillery Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden, Provost Boyd (chair) 8.0

Glasgow—Christmas Bargain Sale, 202, Hope Street 3.0

NOVEMBER 30.
Oban—Hotel—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0

DECEMBER 3.
Paisley—Y.M.C.A. Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Speakers' Class—Miss A. Maude Royden 11.45

DECEMBER 3.
Leamington—Public meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Speakers' Class—Miss A. Maude Royden 11.45

DECEMBER 5.
Edinburgh—St. Cuthberts Co-operative Association Women's Guild (Northern Branch) Miss Cotterill, "Parliament and the Home"

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

NOVEMBER 21.
Settle—Women's Liberal Association—Adult School—Women's Suffrage—Miss I. O. Ford 7.30

NOVEMBER 22.
Edinburgh—Central Hall—White Slave Traffic Meeting—Dr. Elsie M. Inglis 8.0

NOVEMBER 23.
Aberdeen—Miss Stuart Paterson.

DECEMBER 1.
Bristol—Kingsley Hall, Old Market Street—Sunday Society—Miss Helen Fraser 3.0

DECEMBER 2.
Birmingham—Saltley Women's Labour League—Mrs. Ring 8.0

DECEMBER 3.
Bristol—St. Luke's Mission Hall—Y.M.D.S.—Miss Clough 8.0

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THE COUNTESS BRASSEY and WINIFRED COUNTESS OF ARRAN
have kindly consented to open the Bazaar.

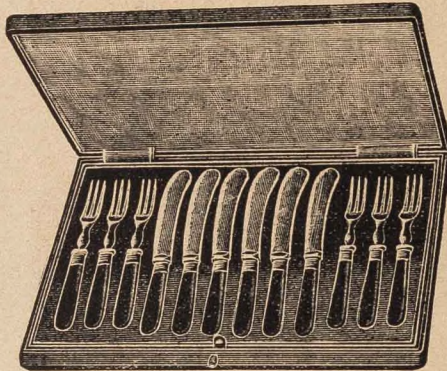
Concerts.

Entertainments.

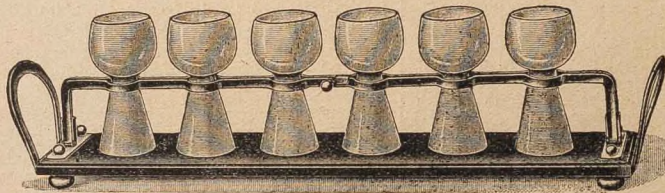
Dancing.

Thursday, Dec. 5. Opening Fete, One Guinea.
Friday, Dec. 6. Admission 12 to 6 p.m., 2/6.
Saturday, Dec. 7. Admission 12 to 10 p.m., 1/-.

Further information may be obtained from
the Bazaar Secretary,
58, Victoria Street, S.W.



Afternoon Tea Knives and Forks, green handles
118/6 per half dozen.
" " " " " " white handles
17/6 per half dozen.



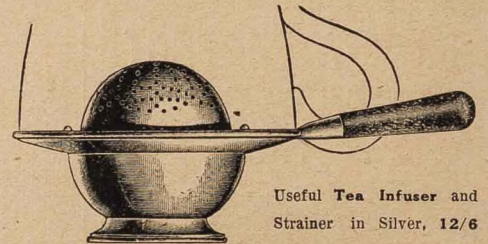
Liqueur Stand, coloured glasses on nickel and glass base, 9/11.

A VERY LARGE
ASSORTMENT OF
ANTIMONY ARTICLES,
SUITABLE FOR
XMAS IN STOCK.

Please
write for
Catalogue of
Toys and
Christmas
Gifts.



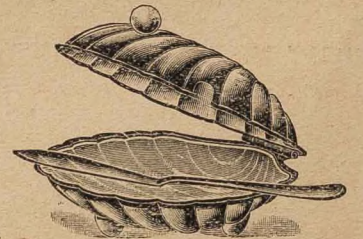
DAINTY GIFTS for XMAS.



Useful Tea Infuser and
Strainer in Silver, 12/6



Useful Work Bag in wicker,
lined Satin in various
colours, pink, pale blue, red
and green, 2/11



Electro-plated double shell Butter Dish,
with Knife, 3/11.

WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.

THE NATIONAL UNION

Is the great Non-Party, Non-Militant Women's Suffrage Society. If you approve of our methods and objects, please fill in the accompanying Form and send it to the Secretary.

I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district.

I herewith enclose cheque for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription.

Name _____

(Mrs. Miss Esq., or other title.)

Address _____

(in full.)

To the Secretary _____ Society for Women's Suffrage

Or the Secretary National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.