

JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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SIXTH YEAR No. 9.

MAY 15, 1912.

THE PLAINT OF AN ANTI-SUFFRAGIST IN ENGLAND.

While militants their hammers plied,
I felt convinced our Cause was winning;
But now with WRIGHT upon our side,
I feel less sinned against than sinning.

PUNCH, APRIL '12.



INSTITUTIONS ET INDIVIDUS.

Le mariage, cette union intime de
deux êtres, est sublime en lui-même.
Il n'y a que le mari ou la femme et
souvent tous les deux qui le rendent
odieux.

JEAN FINOT.

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Announcements.

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up to July 1st: Batavia, Java, Mrs. Charlotte Jacobs, apothecary,
up to July 15th: Honkong, c/o Hongkong en Shanghai Banking Corporation,
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up to Oct. 1st: Yokohama, Japan, c/o Chartered Bank of India, Australia en China.

Subscriptions for the French edition of „Jus Suffragii“ are to be addressed to Mme. Loppé, 14 Avenue du Trocadéro, Paris.

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

AUSTRALIA, *The Woman Voter*, 2 Sh., Whitehall, Melbourne, Victoria.

—, *The Liberal Woman*, 1 Sh., Mutual Life Building, 339 George Street, Sydney.

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

—, *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, 2 Kronen, monthly, 7 Reichsratsgasse, Wien.

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

—, *Osterreichische Frauenrundschaue*, 6 Kronen, 11 Am Hof, Wien I.

BULGARIA, *Grajdanka* [The woman Citizen], 6 francs, Mrs. Pateff Bojilowa, Bourgas.

—, *Ravno Pravie* [Equality], 4 rb., 61 Mirska Street Kazanlik.

—, *Jensky Glas*, 6 francs, Sofia.

CANADA, *Freya*, \$ 1.—, Miss M. I. Benedictsson, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

DENMARK, *Kristeligt Kvindelblad*, 2 Kr., Körup, pr. Horsens.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3.10 Kroner, Studiestraede 49^o, Kopenhagen.

—, *Kvindevalgret*, 1 Krone, Skindergade 27^o, Kopenhagen.

FINLAND, *Nutid*, 6 Mark, 12 Georgsgatan, Helsingfors.

FRANCE, *La Suffragiste*, 4 francs, 55 rue Damrémont, Paris.

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

—, *Ligue d'Electeurs pour le Suffrage des Femmes*, Bulletin trimestriel, 4 frs., 22 rue Lacépède, Paris.

—, *Le Droit des Femmes*, revue mensuelle, 3.50 frs., 127 Avenue de Clichy, Paris.

GERMANY, *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, 2 Mark, Post Huglfing, Ober-Bayern.

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

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

—, *Die Frau im Osten*, 2.50 Mk., Kaiser Wilhelmstrasse 109, Breslau.

GREAT BRITAIN, *The Common Cause*, weekly, 6 Sh. 6 d. a year, 2 Robert Street Adelphi, London.

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

—, *The Vote*, weekly, 6 Sh. 6 d., 1 Robert Street, Adelphi, London E. C.

—, Monthly paper of the *Men's League for W. S.*, 1 Sh., 159 St. Stephen's House, Westminster S.W.

HUNGARY, *A nő és a Társadalom*, 6 Kr., 67 Istvan utca, Budapest VII.

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

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

—, *La Difesa delle Lavoratrici*, Lire 3, 16 via S. Damiano, Milan.

—, *Unione Femminile Nazionale*, Lire 1.50, via Monte di Pietà 9, Milano.

NETHERLANDS, *Maandblad voor Vrouwenkiesrecht*, f 1.—, 43 Linnaeusstraat, Amsterdam.

—, *De Ploeger*, quarterly, f 0.60, 63 Frankenslag's-Gravenhage.

NORWAY, *Nylaende*, fortnightly, 4.70 Kroner, Victoria Terrasse 5^o, Kristiania.

POLAND, *Ster*, 10 francs, Nowy Swiat 4, Warsaw.
 PORTUGAL, *A Madrugada*, monthly, 240 reis., rua Andrade 39, 2° Lissabon.
 ROMANIA, *Viitorul Româncelor*, 10 lei, Strada Muzelor, Jassy.
 —, *Drepturile Femeii*, 10 lei, 204 Calla Serban Voda, Bukarest.
 RUSSIA, *Jenski Westnik*, Spalernaya 42, St. Petersburg.
 —, *The Anglo-Russian*, 1 Sh. 6 d., 21 Paternoster Square, London E. C.
 SWEDEN, *Dagny*, weekly, 4.50 Kroner, 51 Mästersamuelsgatan, Stockholm.
 —, *Morgonbris*, 60 Öre, Folkets Hus, Stockholm.
 —, *Rösträtt för Kvinnor*, fortnightly, 175 Kr., 6 Lästmakaregatan, Stockholm.
 SWITZERLAND, *Frauenbestrebungen*, 3.10 frs., Alpenstrasse 5, Zürich.
 U. S. AMERICA, *The Woman's Journal*, weekly, \$ 1.—, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
 —, *The Western Woman Voter*, \$ 1.—, 419 Boylston Ave., Seattle, Washington.
 —, *Life and Labour*, \$ 1.—, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.
 —, *The Progressive Woman*, \$ 0.50, 5445 Drexel Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Sweden.

In my last report I told you, that the Government Bill proposes suffrage and eligibility for women on the same conditions as for men. In order to give the readers of „Jus Suffragii” some idea of the argumentation, I can do no better than translate part of a leading article on the subject in our new suffrage paper „Rösträtt för Kvinnor” (Votes for Women):—

.....The exhaustive argumentation of the Minister of Justice, which accompanies the Government Bill, makes it clear why this reform supported by a decided public opinion, must no longer be put aside. The development of the social conditions gives a strong support to the women's claim for suffrage, which is in itself founded on justice. Modern society needs the help of woman in its public concerns. In principle her ripe judgment and fitness for public life have been admitted through the granting of municipal suffrage with influence, direct and indirect, on the elections to the First Chamber. And participation in the political power is the only real guarantee for the rights of woman, her right as an individual, as a wife and mother.

The Minister of Justice reduces to their real nature the mutually contradicting objections against woman suffrage. He further points out that the official investigation has proved that the proportion between the different political parties remains as good as undisturbed by the addition of women electors. Neither has this investigation confirmed the suspicions of those who feared woman suffrage and its supposed injurious social results, nor has it been able to reduce its just claims.

There are well-founded reasons to suppose that Swedish women also in their political work will try to promote the development of the people as a whole.

Strongly argued, our righteous claim has been presented by the Government. The women's own interest in their suffrage takes a prominent part in that argumentation. And just because of this it is now of the utmost consequence for us, who have rallied round the suffrage banner, to swell our ranks so that a still larger number of women may be brought to join us. It is absolutely necessary to

show that behind the Government Bill stands a strong and united opinion of women”.

 The Government Bill will probably be discussed in Parliament about the middle of May, and it is almost certain that a small conservative majority (12 to 15 votes) in the First Chamber will once more decide the fate of our question. Will the Conservatives in the Swedish Parliament really once more show, that they have learnt nothing from former occasions when they have opposed righteous reforms, which they have been obliged later on to accept under more humiliating conditions?

In order to support the Government Bill meetings have been arranged by 90 of our local suffrage societies, and the following resolution has been unanimously passed by about 20,000 men and women:

„Thursday April the 2nd has become a momentous day in the history of our suffrage movement.

On that day was for the first time presented to Parliament a Government Bill granting suffrage and eligibility to Swedish women on the same conditions as to Swedish men.

We, men and women, assembled in a meeting, express our sincere hope that both chambers of Parliament may this year accept this Bill and thereby give effect to the King's words in his speech from the throne, that justice as well as the interest of the State require a redress of that wrong, that women are still lacking the most important of a citizen's rights”.

The meeting arranged by the Stockholm W. S. A. was attended by the Prime Minister, several other members of the Cabinet, a great many members of Parliament and a public as numerous as the hall could hold. Several hundreds were obliged to return without being admitted. Speakers were Miss Anna Whitlock, President of the N.W.S.A., Mrs Agda Montelius, President of the Fredrika Bremer Association, Mrs. Agda Ostland, one of the leading women in the Social-Democratic party, and Dr. Gulli Petrini, our wellknown suffrage agitator. The meeting was very imposing and served to make a deep impression on the public. Because of the many hearers who had been unable to get admittance, the Stockholm W. S. A. arranged a second meeting, as crowded as the first and with a public not often seen at our suffrage meetings.

On the whole it may be said that the interest in our question is very great just now, and the Conservative suffragists have a hard time because of the way in which the Conservative press all over the country opposes the suffrage movement and does its very best to put it in the worst possible light, frequently quoting such opponents as Sir Almroth Wright, Mrs. Humphrey Ward and others.

One of these days we have had an anti-suffrage meeting—the first in our country. The meeting took place in Uppsala and was arranged by some ladies from the Conservative, academic society. Dr. Lydia Wahlström, Ex-president of the U.W.S.A., took up the defence of our cause in the most brilliant and effective manner and Mrs. Ernest Woods—Beckman spoke warmly on behalf of the wives and mothers who claim suffrage. To all appearance the meeting had an effect quite the reverse of what was intended. It may be regarded as a proof of how far the suffrage question really has penetrated into our country, when the opposition begins to agitate in public.

Stockholm in May 1912.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

United States.

Again we call upon „Jus Suffragii” to carry glad tidings from our western nation to those across the sea who are working with us in the common cause. Since our last letter another State has been added to the list of those which have submitted the question of woman suffrage to a referendum of the voters—the important State of Michigan, situated up among the Great Lakes. The women had worked very hard to get the bill through the Legislature but with little hope, as the liquor interests had a powerful lobby opposing them. The Governor of the State stood by them, however; the Federation of Labor sent its best representatives to help them; the Men's League gave its assistance, and finally the Master of the Grange, the great organisation of farmers, came in person with his strongest workers, and the legislators had to yield to the pressure. The bill carried by 23 to 5 in the upper house and 75 to 19 in the lower house. In four States now the question will be voted on in November—Oregon, Kansas, Wisconsin and Michigan—and in Ohio in July or August. We do not believe it will be carried in all, for there is not enough time or workers or money to make the necessary campaigns, but we feel very sure that in some of them the women will be enfranchised.

After the hardest fight ever made in the New York Legislature the suffrage bill was carried in one house and lost in the other. The leading newspapers in the State had strong editorials saying the bill was defeated by the treachery of the legislators and the women had every cause for encouragement.

I hope the readers of „Jus Suffragii” have all a good map of the United States, as I have to jump from one point to another in describing the situation here. They will also understand better how many different localities our suffrage movement has to cover. In the United States proper all the Territories have now become States. For many years the far-off land of Alaska has been part of our possessions but it never has had any official Legislature of its own. Now it has a white population of a good many thousand and Congress is about to organize it into a Territory. Some of the members of that body insisted that in its constitution women should be given the same suffrage as men. This proposal received a tie vote and the presiding officer declared it lost. The new Legislature, however, was authorized to enfranchise women if it wished to do so, and it is believed that it will do this at once. The Government will soon build railroads and open up the great coal deposits in Alaska. Its gold mines are among the richest in the world.

They have taken a vote on woman suffrage this month in Chicago, our second largest city. The primary elections were to be held, at which the electors choose the candidates for the various offices, and the women petitioned the court to allow a vote on woman suffrage at the same time. It was not to count for anything except as a mere test of the opinions of men on the question. The court gave permission if the women would bear the expenses, and so on election morning each voter received a ballot marked, Woman Suffrage; Yes. No. Over one-third of those who used the ballot voted Yes, more than 71,000. The women were very pleased to find so many men in favor. They knew, of course, that the majority would be against them but felt that the opportunity to make a campaign was worth all it cost. They received an immense amount of advertising, with an opportunity to speak on the political platforms and interview the voters. They sent out

17,000 letters signed by the most prominent women in the city asking for votes, and they distributed 500,000 cards giving the reasons why the franchise should be granted to women. They went into the cafés and made little speeches to the men while they were lunching, and Miss Jane Addams, the most influential woman in Chicago, spoke between the acts in the largest theatre. The richest and most aristocratic women worked side by side with business women and officers of the Women's Trade Union League. On election day these same women, divided into two relays, watched at the 1,400 polling places from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The suffragists felt perfectly satisfied with the experiment. Some idea of the problems which have to be met in the United States may be imagined when it is said that the suffrage paper in Chicago has to be printed in seven languages.

In Pennsylvania the women have interviewed 300 candidates of the different parties for the Legislature and all but six have agreed, if elected, to work for a suffrage amendment to the constitution. The effort that is being made in the various States where the question is to be voted on this year could not be described adequately in a whole number of „Jus Suffragii”. The women are leaving nothing undone, and they are receiving far more help from men than ever before in the history of our movement. A National Men's League has been formed and has at present about thirty branches, with others rapidly forming. Every day some influential man comes out in favor and the subject is everywhere discussed. The best we could wish for the suffragists of any country is as fair treatment from their newspapers as we receive in the United States.

There is never a day in New York City, not even excluding Sunday, that does not see a suffrage lecture, debate, concert, play or something to bring the subject before the people, and there is always an audience which seems never to lose interest. The most of this is now centered on the Parade which is to take place on May 4. If the weather is fine it is believed there will be 8,000 or 10,000 in line. This will have to be described in my next letter. One of its features will be a delegation of Chinese women! We have had a great deal of amusement out of the enfranchisement of the women of China. Our country will not naturalize Chinese men and allow them to vote, and we point out that these same men are just and liberal enough in their own nation to give women the full political rights they enjoy themselves. The suffragists of Oregon held a mass meeting and adopted a resolution calling upon China to send over missionaries to teach democracy to the United States!

IDA HUSTED HARPER.

New York, April, 1912.

Great Britain.

Since our last communication, there has been no Parliamentary event of importance to record in connection with the Suffrage. In answer to Mr. Snowden's question on May 6th as to the intentions of the government in regard to the Reform Bill, the Prime Minister answered that there was no change on the part of the government of the intention to make itself responsible for passing a Reform Bill through all its stages in the House of Commons during the present session. The utmost endeavour of the National Union will be turned therefore to ensuring that the Bill does not leave the House of Commons without women being included in it. Irish women are earnestly seeking to secure an amendment to the Irish Home Rule Bill, and efforts

are being made to regain the support of the Irish Party in the House of Commons, for an amendment to the Reform Bill and to counteract the influence which caused their defection on the second reading of the Conciliation Bill. It is generally recognised that their opposition on that occasion was due to tactical reasons, and not inspired by hostility to the Suffrage. The absence of several Labour representatives on March 28th was a purely accidental circumstance connected with the coal strike, and there is already a disposition to look to the Labour Party as likely to prove the best friends of Women's Suffrage. As Mrs. Fawcett has recently pointed out, the Independent Labour Party has from its formation promoted the enfranchisement of women; a circular issued by them state „that if, where they claimed that the franchise should be based on humanity, not property, they were willing to apply their own principle to women as well as men, they might fairly say that theirs was an unselfish demand for justice; but if they imitated the upper and middle classes, and retained for themselves alone, the powers already secured, it would be impossible for them to deny that they were after all, only seeking to share a privilege, to break down the monopoly of class, while retaining that of sex.” At the Labour Conference at Birmingham, the Labour Party moreover passed the following resolution:— „that this Conference, in harmony with its previous decisions, is of the opinion that the enfranchisement of all adult men and women should be included in the Reform Bill to be introduced by the Government in the coming session of Parliament. It further requests the Labour Party in Parliament to make it clear that no Bill can be acceptable to the Labour and Socialist movement which does not include women.” On March 14th 1912 the Labour Party in the House of Commons decided officially to support the Conciliation Bill, and their action has made it clear that while they stand for the principle of Adult Suffrage, they are prepared to support a much narrower measure; it may reasonably be maintained therefore that their position with regard to Women's Suffrage is better than that of any other party.

The question of the future policy of the National Union will be fully discussed at the Council Meeting which has been specially called in London for the purpose on May 14th. The announcement of the line of action to be pursued by the Union is awaited with the greatest interest.

EMILY M. LEAF,
Hon. Press Secretary.
London, May 1912.

The trial of the *Women's Social and Political Union* Leaders has been postponed owing to the indisposition of Mrs Pankhurst. It is, however, expected to take place on May 15th.

On the 20th of April a large Reception was held in the Connaught Rooms, London, in honour of the arrested leaders. All four were present, and each one made a short speech; Mrs Pankhurst urging the members of the Union to remain loyal to those who would take their places if they should be taken away for any length of time.

During the early part of the month, in all four prisons in which the Suffragists are confined the hunger-strike was adopted as a protest against not receiving the privileges of political offenders which had been accorded to the women imprisoned for the same offences in the previous autumn. This terrible protest continued for some days, and in several cases forcible feeding was resorted to. Questions, however, were asked in Parliament, and the Home Secretary received a deputation of Suffr-

age Members on the question; this finally resulted in Mr McKenna allowing the prisoners to receive food and books from their friends outside, and to have more frequent visits. This for the time being, therefore, has ended the hunger-strike.

The political situation remains practically unchanged, but Suffragists both in and outside the House are very active in every way. A very large number of meetings are held daily by the W.S.P.U. all over the country, and the Union took part in the by-election at Nottingham, where the Government candidate suffered a defeat. In fact, the arrest of the leaders and so many of the rank and file of the workers seems only to have increased the energy of the Society and the general willingness of others to come forward and fill the place of those for the time absent.
The Secretary W.S.P.U.
London, May 1912.

The *Women's Freedom League*, in common with other British suffrage societies, has greatly regretted the defeat of the Conciliation Bill; and has now decided, unless the proposed Reform Bill be speedily introduced and passed with a women's suffrage amendment, to prosecute an anti-government policy. Pressure will be brought to bear at elections, so as to prove to the Government that nothing short of a Government measure will allay the opposition of the suffragists; and votes for women will be asked for on the same terms as men. The support of private members of Parliament, and the pressing forward of private member's bills, have alike proved useless in securing the passage of a women's suffrage bill.

At a special conference recently held, the resignations of several prominent members were published. Among these were Mrs How Martyn, whose prolonged ill-health was made the subject of a unanimous vote of sympathy; and Miss Alison Neilans, the heroine of so many fine „militant” protests. These and other ladies acted on a difference of opinion in regard to internal administration; but as the W.F.L. has always been a rallying ground for strong and original personalities, it is not in any way surprising or discouraging to find that some of its members from time to time prefer to blaze new trails rather than keep to the beaten tracks. Nothing could better display the real vitality within the movement.

„The Vote”, the organ of the W.F.L. has signalled a new era by coming out in illustrated form. „Cartoons” and pictorial matter depicting the various changes and incidents in the political situation, are supplied by the Suffrage Atelier, to the advantage of both institutions. Under this arrangement, „The Vote” is becoming of infinitely greater value as a propaganda paper, besides containing matter of wider interest and attraction for the general public.

The W.F.L. enters upon the present new phase of the suffrage agitation without discouragement and with all the old enthusiasm and determination.
C. NINA BOYLE.
London, May 1912.

Hungary.

Our political work is in a rather monotonous way the same all the time. It is propaganda at the meetings of the Manhood Suffrage Block throughout the country, our speakers trying to protest against the use of the word Universal Suffrage when they mean Manhood Suffrage. As this propaganda gives us the best chance of addressing crowds without incurring more expenses than to send speakers and organisers to every meeting and to stick posters in the towns and distribute

leaflets, we continue this propaganda until political changes oblige us to change our methods.

We are glad to mark the strong change in public opinion towards our cause. Even after the window smashing by the suffragettes the press did not turn against us. On the contrary. Though disapproving of the violent methods—the date of the window smashing in London was the same on which in our Parliament too there were some scenes of violence—the papers were most frank in acknowledging that the way to avoid militancy is to give women their rights.

A lecture by Dr. von Ursin, the Ex-president of the Finnish Diet, arranged by our Men's League was also a great success, bringing splendid reports into the press.

Every sign shows, that our propaganda is most successful in bringing the mind of people round. So for instance our Society arranged lately a lecture on Care of Children, and not only the lecturer, our great friend Dr. Menghért Edelmann, director of the State Asylum for Care of Children from Nagyvárad, but all the gentlemen speaking on the subject expressed their strong conviction that only Woman Suffrage will solve these questions.

A great public meeting held in Budapest on March 24th, at which speakers of all the opposition parties spoke in favour of „Universal Suffrage”, again excluded our speaker, who was so roughly treated, that all our members, who took part distributing leaflets, gathered immediately for a meeting to express their indignation. We immediately ordered a poster to be spread over the whole of Budapest condemning the leader of a movement, which pretends to serve „the people's” rights, „the people's freedom” and excludes women from its platform and treats them like beings outside of society. The poster was commented on in the political part of the whole press of Hungary except the socialdemocratic papers, and they unanimously took our side.

It is a great joy for us to have now Frau Marie Stritt with us. She is so kind as to lecture for us in the part of Hungary which is inhabited to a great extent by Germans. As she is a native of this part of the country, and knows society there very well, her help is of the highest value to us. We owe Mrs. Stritt the greatest thanks for her lectures in Besztercze, Segesvár, Brassó, Nagyszében and Medgyes.

It is the custom of our daily press to give at Easter and Christmas time an extra supplement. This time „Világ”, the radical paper often alluded to in these pages, brought a Series of Messages from Suffragettes and Suffragists. „As Ujság”, a liberal paper, brought an interview with many Hungarian Suffragists under the headline: „If we had our say in our country's politics.”

The annual meeting of the Socialdemocratic Party held on the 5th—7th of April acknowledged the good results of the Party's co-operation with the bourgeois parties. This is a good lesson for us, in seeking to co-operate with Socialdemocratic women, who are withheld by their party from doing so, though the men of party are practising co-operation with bourgeois parties.

Concerning our Congress work, which is going on nicely, we wish to address next time a circular to the members of our Alliance in which we will tell them the progress of the work now occupying all our forces. I will mention here only the gift of 1500 Crowns by the Ministry of Commerce towards the propaganda expenses of our Congress (the same Ministry agreed long ago to give reduction of railway fares to all members of the Congress). On March 14th we had a splendid meeting in the Hall of the Academy of Sciences in which the president of the

Executive Committee, Countess Teleky, gave a brilliant speech, a report of which (printed in the „Pester Lloyd”) we are sending to all our affiliated Associations directly. The meeting brought a fine collection.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.
Budapest, April 1912.

The visit of Mrs. Stritt, president of the German W. S. A. to Hungary was a series of successful meetings, a general rousing of interest, an awakening of the women of Transylvania, the south-eastern part of Hungary. Mrs. Stritt, a native from Transylvania, where her father was an M. P., used all the sympathies which her charming personality elicited in the service of the cause of which she is one of the most successful representatives. We are in hopes that this tour of Mrs. Stritt will be the inauguration of a new era and the women of this part of our country will join us in welcoming our valued guest at our Convention next year.

The General Meeting of the Men's League began by an interesting speech from its untiring and zealous president, Prof. Gustave Dirner, who presented a splendid and elaborate report by the judge Dr. Desider Markus, which was to be delivered to the Prime Minister in answer to his inquiry about universal suffrage. The day and hour of the audience was fixed, but in the very same hour the Prime Minister was at audience himself with the King, to present his abdication. Now the Men's League and the elaborate report have to wait, till the waves of politics go less high and are less dirty. The general meeting passed a resolution to invite the International M. L. to hold its first general meeting in Budapest, June 1913, simultaneously with the Congress of the I. W. S. A. And so we hope to have the pleasure to cordially welcome our valiant co-workers, representatives of modern chivalry.

An improvised session of the political committee of the Fem. Egyesülete held after the shameful meeting in which our speaker was forcibly hindered from mounting the tribune initiated the sticking of posters, which were like a looking-glass to the Universal Suffrage Block, showing them their distorted features and wild gestures. But instead of learning by it moderation and dignified behaviour, they got still more furious at this unflattering likeness of their features. When on the 28th of April, at their meeting, our speaker Rosika Schwimmer, after having obtained the permission of the president, forced her way to the tribune an *organised and prepared* tumult of voices and lifted fists made it impossible for her to make herself audible. Amidst wild roars the meeting was closed and when the valiant group of feminists forced their way out Rosika Schwimmer received a blow on her shoulder, which a youngster aimed at her. The press unanimously condemned the scandalous behaviour of the socialists and the political committee of the Fem. Egy. passed a resolution which was published in the papers, saying, that they will not be lured into militant tactics, but will continue their parliamentary work from which, however brutalised, they will not desist. The incident aroused immense sympathy for us.

Prof. Florence Keys of Vassar College, N. Y. gave us two interesting lectures, the one to a little circle of political workers about „Woman suffrage and cultural advance” and the other public lecture about Coeducation. Both lectures were highly appreciated as being on a high level and giving evidence of a thoroughly cultured mind, clear insight and sound judgment. The press brought sympathetic interviews and good reports.

An interesting festivity took place in the circle of

the post-office-employees. It was forty years ago, that women were admitted as post-clerks and four women-clerks who entered then in this profession were celebrated by their colleagues and chiefs. They were surrounded by their families, husbands, sons and daughters some of the latter being themselves post-clerks. The Fem. Egy. and the N. Women Clerks Society were also represented and though at the beginning every body feared some demonstration which might disturb the jubilee, by the diplomatic behaviour of the suffragists it ended by being a through celebration of feminism and its ideals.

The Clerk's Association passed this resolution: The C. A. charges its Executive Committee to take an active part in the preparatory work of the Intern. Women's Congress of 1913 and to add to the Exec. Committee all those members of the Assoc. who have already attended I. W. S. All. congresses.

At a meeting to promote the organisation of the underpaid and overworked teachers of the Kindergartens, Miss Schwimmer had the occasion to speak of woman suffrage to some women who had never given a thought to the idea. She had an immense success. We got the conviction that the seed fell on good ground.

The preparations for the Congress are progressing, and the money-collecting is diligently continued. The Committee of Young People arranged a soirée to benefit the congress funds. Feminist artists were singing, playing, recitals and performances. A little play was given, written for the occasion by two youthful feminists, Miss Békássy and Miss Gyömri. The Committee of Interpreters held a meeting where Mrs. Végh gave a French lecture on successful feminism and Hilda Behr reported in German on the Stockholm Congress. The Committee of Arts was organised with Countess Katinka as president and the Committee on Excursions with Dr. Arauka Bálint as president and Mrs. Horváth as secretary.

EUGENIE MISKOLCEY MELLER.
Budapest, 5th of April 1912.

Austrian Empire.

VIENNA.

The prophet who predicted a speedy decrease of the suffrage movement must see that Austria, for one, is not bearing out the truth of his words. Never were the women more active and zealous in the struggle for their political rights. This was especially evident in the late municipal elections in Vienna. Although they lack the municipal vote and § 30 of the Law on Assemblies forbids them all free political activity to their great annoyance, yet the women of the Progressive and Socialdemocratic parties have set vigorously to work with the men of their party in order to liberate Vienna from the tyranny of the party which usurps the beautiful name of Christian-Socialist but is in reality most reactionary and despotic and moreover corrupt. A Progressive Electioneering Committee of women was formed, which kept in close touch with the men's district committees. Three members of this women's committee were invited as Delegates to the meetings of the Central Election Committee. In many of the numerous electors meetings of the last weeks, beside the men candidates, women gave addresses. As they often criticized sharply the present municipal administration they had often violent attacks from their adversaries to parry. But there were also a number of women's meetings held with the double object of enlightening women on public affairs and winning them for propaganda work and also of urging the women's claim to the vote on economic social and political grounds.

Especially the big women's meeting on April 19th, immediately preceding the elections, was a success. It had been called by the *Woman Suffrage Committee, the Universal Austrian Women's Union* and the *Imperial Association of Women Housekeepers* jointly. The hall, one of the biggest in Vienna, was crowded to the utmost; a great number of men, generally scarce guests at our meetings, had put in an appearance, and finally many hearers had to be refused admittance. The audience was actually filled with enthusiasm and the three speakers, Mrs. Helene Granitsch, Mrs. Adele Gerber and Mrs. Henriette Herzfelder, were greeted by storms of applause. The new leaflet of the W. S. Committee, Suffrage and Military Service, was widely circulated.

Many women also did yeoman service at the Electioneering Offices and were active canvassers on the polling days, reminding the negligent electors of their duty. The great Liberal papers did not fail to recognize loyally the help of the women, and, what is even more significant, they did not hesitate to publish articles concerning the election written by women. Neither have the pains we took proved fruitless; for the first time since over 20 years the municipal elections in Vienna brought a gain for the Progressive parties and a loss for the dominating party. Yet the latter has the whole electioneering machinery at its disposal and unscrupulously orders thousands of employees in municipal concerns to go to the polls and vote for its approved candidates. Nevertheless the number of progressive votes has enormously increased, and so it is to be hoped that a better day is dawning for us, only it will cost a lot of trouble still before we shall see it come.

HENRIETTE HERZFELDER.
Vienna, May 1st 1912.

GALICIA.

Momentarily the interest of all feminist societies in Galicia centres on the Polish Women's Exhibition to be held this summer by the Czechish women at Prague, a splendid proof of mutual solidarity among Slavic women and of sympathy for their Polish sisters at the same time.

A rousing address by Mr Hovorka, an eminent Czechish author, during his stay at Lemberg electrified the hearts of all his audience. They felt that this was an enterprise of the greatest value for national propaganda, because many visitors from different countries—we expect no less than 200,000—will have an opportunity of seeing that our land, which is waging so difficult a fight for its liberty, is developing by the common work and untiring efforts of its citizens. A long time is needed to rouse our women from sleep, but once interested and having their patriotic sentiment appealed to, they are set going and make an agitation which is not easy to follow day by day.

Nothing proves so conclusively the enthusiasm for the exhibition than the good will with which women of all classes and conditions unite to contribute towards the success of the Polish day. The whole trend of the organisation shows a spiritual bond and a general sense of responsibility towards the nation. Exhibition Committees were formed in the principal Polish towns: Posnania, Cracow, Warsaw and Lemberg (Leopol), consisting of many eminent men and women politicians and writers or society people etc. The energy and unanimity with which they are working throughout the country fills us with well-founded hope for the success of the exhibition, which will constitute a new proof of the activity of Polish women in economics and social culture, in religion and morals. The aim of the Polish women is to show that individuals may be killed but not a

civilized nation, and the exhibition will be a moral triumph and a consolation for our down-trodden people.
MARIE GERZABEK.
Jasto, May 1912.

France.

The Municipal Elections in France take place this year on May 5th and the French W. S. A. avails itself of the electoral campaign to make extensive propaganda throughout the country. In over 60 Departments posters were put up and questions were addressed to the candidates.

In France it is customary for the General Councils (conseils généraux) and Municipal Councils to publish their opinions on political questions of the day, and concerning woman suffrage surely favorable resolutions from a number of those bodies would not fail to have a very serious influence on the decisions of Parliament. Already several Councils have declared their views, in the Departments of the Seine (1907), the Somme (1910), the Rhône, Lyon (1911), at Villeurbanne (1912), in le Gers (1912) resolutions in favour of woman suffrage have been passed.

The action of the W. S. A. is planned on those lines, and the two following questions are now being put to the candidates:

1.) Are you in favor of immediately granting suffrage and eligibility to women for municipal purposes?

2.) Will you undertake to propose or to support in the new Municipal Council the following resolution advocating that reform?

Resolved that:
The Municipal Council of....., approving the claim of Frenchwomen to the vote in general and particularly to *suffrage and eligibility for women to municipal functions*,

expresses its desire that the Bill introduced for this end by Mrs Dussaussoy and Buisson be discussed in Parliament as soon as possible."

The suffragists in Paris and the Departments have already obtained excellent results which we shall announce in due time, but already now we can state that our delegates have been received with the utmost courtesy and their claims treated seriously. Several candidates undertook to sign our posters with their names and had them put up; some advocated our demand in their electoral addresses and invited our delegates to speak at their meetings; we may even add that the suffragists were listened to with great attention and that they were often greeted by applause. Finally the local papers published our manifestoes and thus contributed to make us known.

We suffragists had the great satisfaction of conducting from one end of France to the other an organised agitation; our efforts will result in filling us with confidence in ourselves, while bringing us into contact with the organisations of electors.

In Paris, and even more in the provinces, our posters were much read and commented and our declarations gained attentive consideration. By this campaign the Association has gained new propagandists who devote their energy to it, and this will permit us to extend our efforts and widen our action.

Mme V. Vincent, President of the French Woman Suffrage Association, has been entered as a candidate on the official list for the municipal elections of Saint Laurent sur Mer, Canton of Trévière, Arrondissement of Bayeux Calvados. The Mayor of the Municipality of Saint Laurent is Mr Perron, vice-Mayor (adjoint) of the XIth Arrondissement

of Paris. We hope that Mme Vincent will be elected on May 5th.

(Communications from the French W.S.A.)

P.S. The French W.S.A. will send gratis to foreign W.S.A.'s applying for it, a model of its election poster and the list of questions which was addressed to the candidates for Municipal Councils. (Apply to the Secretariate: 53 rue Scheffer, Paris).

Belgium.

On March 31st was held at Brussels the first congress for the protection of infants. Antwerp was represented by Mrs. Delhay, a lady doctor, and some gentlemen, Dr. De Gueldre from Antwerp treated the question of nourishment and a resolution was passed expressing the desire that Municipalities might take in hand the question of pure milk supply. In this congress, and more forcibly of course during the subsequent debates in the Chamber on child protection, we feel the need of women's participation in the affairs of the community borne in upon us with new strength. Is it not a shame that women like Mrs. Carton de Wiart, the wife of the Minister of Justice, who made extensive investigations on the subject, should be shut out from discussion on the laws which regulate the fate of the children they bring into the world?

At the elections for the Trades Councils (Prud'hommes) on April 15th women voted as well as men. At Brussels they cast one third of the votes, and some women were elected too: at Antwerp Mrs. Melis—Luyten on the servants' list, at Brussels Miss Callebout and Miss Collet as her alternate, at Ghent Miss Elisa de Bast. The „Handelsblad” from Antwerp, a Clerical paper, is full of praise for the new women electors, who have disarmed all critics and voted as if it were the most natural thing in the world.

Antwerp, April 1912. LEA ZIEKENOPPASSER.

The celebration of the 20-years-jubilee of the *Ligue Belge du Droit des Femmes* took place at Brussels on April 28, 29 and 30. The congress was well-attended. On the first day due tributes were given to Mr. Hector Denis M. P., on the second day the subject was the legal regulation of women's work. Mrs. Rutgers and Miss Drucker from Holland found much sympathy for their opinion that the law should not interfere with women's work without introducing the same limitations for men, because such course places women at a great disadvantage. Mrs. Rutgers gave an explanation of the work of the International Correspondence Bureau (Secretariate: 9 Verhulststraat, The Hague, Holland) which deals with factory-laws for women. The third day was devoted to woman suffrage. Mrs. May Wright Sewall spoke of the results in America and Australia, Miss Martina G. Kramers of the Internat. W. S. Alliance, Mrs. Brunschvieg, Mr du Breuil de St. Germain and Mme Oddo Deflou of the work in France, Mrs Corbett Ashby of the work in Great Britain, and after a lively discussion a suffragist resolution was passed.

Miss Marie Popelin L.L.D. has every reason to be proud of the congress of her League. The Municipal Council recognised its importance by a reception at the Hotel de Ville and the Minister of Arts acted as guide for the congressists in the collection of Miniatures.

The Executive of *Féminisme Chrétien*, of which Miss Louise van den Plas is the President, has sent

a petition to the Prime Minister to demand equal salaries for men and women teachers.

The Brussels W.S.A. has elected new Officers and is going to take up active work again. It held a meeting on May 2nd at which Miss Martina Kramers and Mrs Limbosch Dangotte were the speakers. There are plans for the formation of a Belgian Federation for Woman Suffrage consisting of Clerical and neutral, national and local societies.

M. G. K.

Italy.

Some time ago Luzzatti's Reform-bill, which proposed to add to the existing body of 1½ million of electors three millions of new ones, was pronounced by Bertolini M. P. too sudden a revolution in the country's politics. Now Mr. Bertolini, as Reporter from the Parliamentary Commission on Giolitti's Reform-bill, has to advocate an extension of the electorate to eight millions by addition of the illiterate. „Of course”, says Mr. B., „the right of suffrage cannot be absolutely „universal”, since even the most liberal electoral laws agree in excluding the minors, the insane, the criminals, etc.” Now in this *etcetera* are comprised all Italian women, and deputies of all political parties may be heard to argue their opinions without ever taking exception at the exclusion!

The Socialist women's paper „La Difesa delle Lavocatrici” hastened to protest and so did the Woman Suffrage Committee of Rome. The Naples Committee assembled last month with Roberto Mirabelli M. P. and marchesa Clelia Pellicano as guests, and on Miss Scodnik's motion they passed a unanimous resolution of protest, ending in these terms: „Let those who possess a sense of equity say whether it is just and logical to confer the vote on the illiterate and refuse it to the women who are responsible for the nation's education, the most important function in cultured states; to the Mothers on whom Nature lays the weightiest burdens; to the working women, the tax-paying women, and even to women in the Government's employment equally with men!”

Nor did the National Woman Suffrage Association remain inactive. It has called an indignation meeting at Rome for May 8th, in which will take part several M. P's., many women's associations, the Camera del Lavoro (local federation of trades unions), some professional organisations and the democratic political parties. The W.S.A. felt its duty to rouse public opinion and appeal to the nation to help the women and the deputies who are in favour of women's rights in the accomplishment of this simple act of justice. The Committee to arrange the meeting was formed as the outcome of an important session; it immediately issued an appeal to the citizens of Rome, which will probably not pass unheard.

M. G. K.

Egypt.

Meanwhile education the true sign of civilization is progressing and so we have every reason to be content. I was told that not more than ten years ago only 9.5 per cent of the male and 3 per cent of the female population could read and write. Since the political agitation education has been much more appreciated even for girls. It was impossible to learn what effect upon the per cent of literary the new demand for education had had, but certain it is that there are at least a hundred

girls in school to-day for every one ten years ago. The age for marriage is being pushed forward, so that twelve years is now considered too young by the more advanced. There is a much greater demand, than supply, for native women teachers, and those employed are exceedingly well paid, yet so powerful is the sentiment for seclusion that it is difficult to persuade parents to permit their daughters to take normal training. On the other hand, many young men are sent to Europe for education and many of these, demand educated wives. Meanwhile every school provided for girls is full and the movement will surely proceed, gradually replacing the present day illiterate woman, by the future educated one.

Strange as it may seem, I expect an affiliated Committee from Egypt. It is not yet organized, but members have been found and unless some event arises to prevent I hope that we may welcome delegates from Egypt at our next Congress. There has always been a small educated minority. These women feel keenly the need of improvement in the position of all Egyptian women. They are unaccustomed to organization and to any kind of public work, but there are a few ready to begin. It will be a longtime before „women's rights” in Egypt will be a question of woman suffrage. The men have little political power, and the City of Cairo has no municipal government. Years of education, and training must precede such an agitation, but there is much to do to prepare the way.

A Khedivial Princess is a feminist and has written some excellent papers to prove that the Koran is not opposed to liberty for women. A Moslem woman, has lectured at the newly founded Egyptian University on „Women's rights” and a Syrian girl has studied law and is employed in a law office. Leaders are thus coming forward and a woman's movement is as surely begun, as is the men's movement. Both are at present in the stage of agitation, but organization, and definite purpose will come later. Egypt will not slip back into its old indifference and inertia. It has been stirred into life by Western influences, educational, religious, commercial. It resents these, as interferences and a popular manifesto is „Egypvt for the Egypvtians”. It hates the British, the overlords, the missionaries and the tourists, but the bitterness of heart has awakened a sleeping people and even the women are awake. In the constitutional agitation of the past few years, the women have taken a keen interest, and representative government became a popular theme of discussion in the harems. By way of illustration of the present trend of things, I will give the two following stories. A young Moslem girl graduated at a government school. She was the pride of the school, a fine scholar, and a noble independent character. The head Mistress, a splendid English woman loved the girl devotedly and the affection was cordially returned. A marriage was arranged for the girl, without her knowledge as is usual, and the teacher attended the wedding. She met the bridegroom for the first time, and told him of her loving friendship for the bride, adding, „I hope you will permit her to come to see me sometimes”. „No, Madam,” replied the groom, „never.” Then, she asked, „will you permit me to go to see her?” and the reply came, „Never Madam, I wish my wife to be kept entirely away from all European influences.” This man had spent some years in England and was a graduate of Oxford! He was as good as his word, and no communication had ever found its way to her old friend from the girl-wife imprisoned in the harem by the husband she had never seen before her wedding day. This is a fact

example of many similar tale which illustrate the terrible handicap established usage puts upon the Egyptian woman.

One day, I met a Sheikh (priest) whose Moslem orthodoxy is attested by the fact that he occupies a position to which he has been appointed by the Khedive. I was told that his home life was a beautiful one, wife and daughters being admitted to comradeship and the whole family eating together. He spoke Arabic only but had an interpreter. He freely answered questions of my asking and when I delivered myself of my favorite opinion, that no people can rise to true greatness while its mothers are uneducated and dependent, he announced his entire agreement with me. He preaches liberty for women and education for girls from the pulpit of his Mosque and when I rose to go, he kept me while his interpreter delivered to me quite a speech of thanks for all I was doing for women! To tell the truth I do not think the dear old Sheikh quite understood what I was doing, but the fact remains that one man of very high standing and very wide influence lends his voice in behalf of the women of this people. Thus the forces for the new Egyptian woman, and against her, are being drawn into place. The struggle will be a hard one and countless will be the heart aches, and the sorrows of these long subjected women, ere they come into their own kingdom of personal freedom. Meanwhile, we of the more fortunate Western world must lend them our aid, cheer and encourage them, and make them feel that our world's campaign for equality of rights includes them.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

On „Princess Juliana”
En route to Ceylon from Egypt.
January 14, 1912.

South Africa.

In the House of Assembly on April 2nd Mr. Duncan (Fordsburg) presented a petition bearing 11,553 signatures praying for the extension of the franchise to women.

Mr. Krige (Caledon) had a similar petition from the Cape Province which bore the signatures of 500 ladies.

The petitions were greeted with Labour cheers. Reuter understands that a meeting of members of Parliament favourable to the Women's Suffrage movement was held in the caucus room of the House of Assembly. Capetown, on April 2. All parties were represented, and members from all four Provinces were present.

A number of letters of apology were received, including one from Mr. Stockenstrom, M.L.A. for Heidelberg.

It was resolved to form a Votes for Women Parliamentary Committee, while a sub-committee, consisting of Senator Charles Searle, and Messrs. Fremantle, Creswell and Brown, were appointed to deal with the position arising from the Speaker's ruling on Mr. Andrew's motion and to urge on the Government to withdraw the Electoral Bill if by the end of April they cannot see their way to get the Bill through this session. In the event of the Electoral Bill coming forward, it is anticipated that full discussion will take place on Women's Suffrage then. Reuter further understands that the Government are equally divided on the subject, five members being in favour of the movement and five against, while the supporters of the movement are also to be found on the front Opposition bench. At the meeting at Capetown on April 2, Mr. Brown (Three Rivers) was elected chairman and convener of committee.

Discussion of the question revealed a division of

opinion as to the form the franchise should take, many supporters being in favour of a spinsters' and widows' vote. Every opportunity will be taken to bring the question forward in the House of Assembly. The operations of the committee will be confined to Parliament.

April '12.

(Rand Daily Mail.)

Germany.

Der Deutsche Verband für Frauenstimmrecht hat an den Bundesrat und Reichstag bei der bevorstehenden Revision des Reichs- und Staatsangehörigkeitsgesetzes eine eingehend begründete Petition gerichtet, in der folgende Änderungen beantragt werden:

1.) das die Ehefrau in Bezug auf Erwerb und Verlust der Staatsangehörigkeit selbständig sei, und dass es ihr auch frei stehe, neben ihrer ursprünglichen Staatsangehörigkeit die jeweilige Staatsangehörigkeit ihres Mannes zu teilen;

2.) dass die minderjährigen Kinder die deutsche Staatsangehörigkeit der Mutter teilen, wenn sie, sei es nach dem Tode des Vaters, sei es mit dessen Einverständnis tatsächlich bei der nicht mit ihm lebenden Mutter sich befinden.

Ähnliche Petitionen zu derselben Materie wurden auch vom Preussischen Landesverein und vom Württembergischen Landesverein für Frauenstimmrecht dem Reichstage eingereicht.

From all sides women are now urging their claim to municipal suffrage. The Prussian W.S.A. sent a petition to the Prussian Chamber of Deputies demanding the extension of municipal suffrage to women in cities and country-districts. To substantiate their claim they allege that after the last professional census in Prussia 5,762,930 women are wage earners, i.e. nearly two thirds of the whole female population. Further they urge that everywhere in cities and country women have undertaken serious social duties. Already in 1910 there was a total number of 11,900 women filling honorary functions in Municipalities and Charity Boards. In 155 municipalities 7000 women are in active service for the care of the poor and of orphans. In 115 towns there are women on School Boards.

A petition of Dresden women's associations under the leadership of the Dresden W.S.A. was sent to the Diet of Saxony, and, although it was refused discussion by adopting the order of the day, yet in the report on the deputation it was recognized that sooner or later the legislating bodies would have to face the problem in question and that an increasing participation of women in public functions and the granting of more political rights in town and state to women would also be morally significant for the welfare of the entire nation. Only the Diet thinks the time has not yet come for this!

Meanwhile the participation of women in municipal affairs is always on the increase. So for instance the Town Council of Frankfurt a/M has just decreed the admission of women to the session of the Board for High Schools (Kuratorium), the Committee on Institutions (Anstaltsdeputation) and the Health Board, and has elected for this end three women for a period of six years. The imperial capital Berlin intends to put women on the Charity Direction Board (Armendirektion). A woman on the Local School Board at Stuttgart reports that her suggestions for the welfare of the children have been received with due attention.

As far as men are concerned, the Socialdemocratic Club in the Prussian Chamber has moved the granting of universal, equal, secret and direct suffrage to all adults *irrespective of sex*.

Moreover the National League of the Progressive Party in the Granddukedom of Anhalt has proposed to the Diet there the introduction of municipal suffrage for women.

ADELHEID VON WELCZECK.

Blasewitz, May 1912.

The Netherlands.

On the 5th of May the *Dutch Bond for Woman's Suffrage* (Nederlandsche Bond voor Vrouwenkiesrecht) celebrated its five years of existence in Arnhem. The evening before a great festivity was given in the large concert-hall and every place was taken. Many members were won that evening. As may be known the Dutch Bond for W. S. has also the education of women in political affairs and social work on its programme. Much good is worked out in this way, especially in the smaller places where women are so apt to become mere drudges and take no interest in the great big world. Courses and lectures on all these subjects concerning politics and social work have been organised in the different places where there are branches of our Bond. Our membership increases greatly and many a woman has thanked us for the happiness and interest it brought in their life. Our work goes on steadily and quietly, increasing in strength and depth, ever winning more people to join us in the march towards our glorious goal.

Naarden, May, 1912. NELLA BOISSEVAIN.

China.

The Chinese correspondent of the *Congrès permanent du Féminisme* at Paris reports that in China women have not succeeded in obtaining their political rights but that in several towns they are conducting a vigorous agitation.

At Nankin the women created serious disorders; they invaded the National Assembly and menaced to take up militant tactics and use brownings and bombs.

We received a petition which appeared in the Chinese papers and in the „Revue jaune chinoise” sent by the *Chinese Committee on Women's Rights* to the National Assembly at Nankin. It runs thus:—

„Gentlemen! Society consists of men and women. The women have the same number of duties as the men. Should they not then enjoy the same rights? In ancient times the sexes were equal, but since the Conservative scribes decreed to superiority of men, women have no longer possessed equality before the law. They are forbidden the education given to men and are only permitted to cook and clean the house. Is not this an injustice?

Fortunately the Chinese have now re-conquered their land and established a Republic. They have made a political revolution and are preparing a social one. To prevent it from being violent, men and women must be treated on a footing of equality by granting the women the right of participating in the affairs of the community.

It will perhaps be said that women have not yet reached a high intellectual standard. But is the intellect of all men sufficiently developed?

Before the Houpe revolution everybody said that the Chinese were backward. But now within a short period—in 100 days—they have expelled the tyrants and established the Republic, to the astonishment of all the world. It will be the same thing with the question of women's intellectual plane, which is admittedly low on account of their lack of the education given to men. And now that China forms a Republic and recognizes the principle of Equal Rights, should it not then give the same education to both sexes?

Possibly it may be said that in other countries women are not enfranchised neither. That is true. But may not China set an example to other nations?

So we ask you gentlemen, representatives of the people, to add to the Chinese Constitution an article enfranchising women and officially conferring on them the right of suffrage and eligibility:”

Mme. I. ORKA,

Paris, May 1912.

Secr. Congr. Perm. Fém.

Finland.

Our previous report on the twenty years jubilee of the Women's Union having somehow miscarried, I hasten to tell the readers of „Jus Suffragii” of it now.

The feast was opened by a speech from the President, Mrs. Annie Furuhjelm, in which, after a short review of the signs of the awakening of women in various countries, she made the balance of the gains of the women's cause in our own country, ending thus: „If we have attained little compared to our dreams and expectations, yet our Union—small and modest though it be—is a link of a world-wide chain; and above all material gains, above the great economic problem where the modern women's movement and labour movement meet we see a spiritual gain, the emancipation of woman's personality.”

—Then began the supper, at which many speeches were made, partly addressed to the guests present, partly made by them in response. The first was a welcome to Dr. Selma Lagerlöf whose presence gave a festive character to the whole meeting. From Sweden we had the honour of greeting another guest, Miss Valborg Olander, delegate from the Swedish W. S. A. The four delegates from Russian women's associations who honoured our feast by their presence have already been mentioned in the last number of „J. S.”. Many Finnish societies were also represented. There was a very remarkable speech from the Hon. President of the Union, Miss. Lucina Hagman, head teacher of a school, who, quoting many works of Selma Lagerlöf's, expressed her hopes that a greater participation of women in social and political life might promote justice in society and state. Miss. Hagman was the first President of our Union and filled that exacting function during sixteen years.

Telegrams and letters from our own country as well as from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Russia and Hungary gave us another agreeable testimony that our work is being looked upon with sympathy in other countries.

On the day of the feast Mrs Furuhjelm was presented a gavel inlaid with silver by a deputation from the Union.

* * *

Some successes obtained within the last months for our common cause merit to be recorded here. The Committee (Consistorium) of our University has passed a resolution to endorse Dr Phil Alma Söderhjelm's petition to be made eligible to a professorship, and the Railway-Direction had admitted its female employees to the function of Train Chief (Zugexpediteur).

Both the Women's Union and the Naisliitto have urged the non-socialistic women M.P.'s to petition for the abolition of dispensation of sex in order to make women eligible to state functions, and once more Dr Tekla Hultin proposed a bill to that effect. The fate of this bill is not yet decided. Lately however the Diet passed a resolution granting women the right to appear as Counsel (Sachverwalter) before a tribunal. Likewise a bill was adopted which makes the sentence for child-murder less severe.

ANNA LUNDSTRÖM.

Helsingfors, May 2nd 1912.