

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

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INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

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Wenn die Männer der Freiheit die soziale Stellung der Frau heben wollen, dann kundschaften sie erst aus, ob die öffentliche Meinung - die der Männer - damit einverstanden ist. Das ist dasselbe, alsob man die Wölfe fragte, ob sie mit neuen Schutzmitteln für die Schafe einverstanden seien.

Aus IBSEN's „Nachlass“.



Women are the daughters of men, and men are the sons of women, and you cannot perfect one until you nearly perfect the other. Women's suffrage can and will purify politics, but not in ten years.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

PRICE 2 DUTCH FLORINS PER YEAR.

## Editorial Announcements.

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

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

—, *Progress*, N. A. W. S. A. Headquarters, Warren, Ohio.

**Belgium**, *De Stem der Vrouw*, 3/4 franc, Ons Huis, Gent.

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

**Denmark**, *Kvindestemmerets bladet*, 2 Kroner, 34 Bredgade Kopenhagen.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3,10 Kroner, Kongens Lyngby.

**Finland**, *Nutid*, 6 Mark, 21 Alexandersgatan, Hel-singfors.

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**Sweden**, *Dagny*, 5 Kroner, 54 Drottninggatan, Stockholm.

—, *Morgonbris*, 50 Öre, Folkets Hus, Stockholm.

—, *Svenska Folket*, 2 Kroner, 36 Vasagatan, Stockholm.

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

**Hungary**, *A Nő és a Társadalom*, .... 41 Nefelejts u. Budapest VII.

**Austria**, *Der Bund*, 2 Kronen, 20 Kirchengasse, Wien VII.

**Iceland**, *Kvennabladid*, 2 Kroner, Briet Bjarnehé-dinsdóttir, Reikjavik.

**Italy**, *La Vita*, 37 Lire, 87 Via S. Claudio, Roma.

**Great Britain**, *Women & Progress*, weekly 1 d. 18 Buckingham Street, Strand London.

—, *The Tribune*, daily 1 d., Bouverie Street, Fleet Street, London E.C.

The international badge, which should be worn by every woman believing in woman suffrage, is to be ordered from **Mrs. J. PEDERSEN-DAN, Griffenfeldtsgade 39, Copenhagen.** 50 bronze badges 22 sh. 6 d., postage prepaid. Reduction in price for orders exceeding that number.

## DEAR CORRESPONDENTS!

The news from Great Britain is so plentiful this time that I have no choice but give an extra-page, if I would not keep from you very interesting facts. As our *Jus Suffragii* is still in the experiment-stage, I do not hesitate to let you have a supplement this time, hoping that you will go on gaining subscribers, as fast as you do now. In that case we might perhaps augment the paper's size.

It is needless to say that I repeat my request for news before the 6th, and for corrections, if there is anything wrong or untrue.

Yours sincerely,

MARTINA G. KRAMERS, Editor.

Rotterdam, 11 March 1907.

Dr. Käthe Schirmacher, who in October 1906 undertook a propaganda-tour to Eastern Europe and, as an officer of the I. W. S. All., was to examine the possibility of organisation for woman suffrage in the Balkan-States, had on her way through Hungary an opportunity of staying some time with Mrs. Dr. Engel, a zealous suffragist, in Nagy Surany, and getting some interesting glimpses of Hungarian country-life. In a big drawing-room meeting she explained to the leading ladies and gentlemen of the place the basis of the women's movement and of our claim to enfranchisement. Mrs. Dr. Engel herself joined the I. W. S. All. as an Hon. Member.

At Neusatz on the frontier between Servia and Hungary Dr. Sch. again addressed a meeting of Servian, Hungarian and Jewish women's associations, and gave an outline of women's rights. Until now these associations had chiefly been active in philanthropy; and it is clear that for woman suffrage there is still an extensive propaganda to be made in those provinces.

In Servia, where lately a National Council of Women has grown up and applied for affiliation to the International Council of Women, the first duties of women lie in helping to preserve the country's independence and in promoting nationa

education. That is why the Servian women's associations are mostly active on philanthropic, educational and patriotic lines. Yet, some ten years ago, a bill for women's political enfranchisement was presented to the Skuptschina and rejected. Its originator was Mrs. Katharina Milovak, who possessed all qualifications for being an elector. Dr. Schirmacher, in giving a lecture on women's rights at the Belgrado University, had an opportunity of discussing with some Servian deputies the expediency of woman suffrage. According to their judgment, the organisation of a N. W. S. A. in Servia would now be premature. So Dr. Sch. did her best to gain some prominent women as Hon. Ass. or subscribers to Jus Suffragii, to call their attention to the German W. S. Convention at Frankfurt a. M. in September 1907, and to urgently request the sending of delegates to the I. W. S. All.-meeting in Amsterdam in June 1908.

To Dr. Sch.'s grief her projected lecture in Sofia (Bulgaria) had to given up for lack of previous arrangements. In Bulgaria the leading position in the organisation of women has lately passed from Mrs. Carima to Mrs. Géorgoff; and Dr. Sch. learned that a suffrage movement was also being planned there, although it meets with similar difficulties as in Servia, there being no universal suffrage for men.

In Budapest and Vienna Mrs. Chapman Catt and Dr. Jacobs had shortly before made good propaganda for the suffrage, and so Dr. Sch. limited her efforts to working for the Federation against the White Slave Traffic and Abolition of State Regulation of Vice, not without success. However she took the opportunity of discussing with Frau v. Fürth in Vienna the organising of a N. W. S. A. in Austria and its affiliation to the I. W. S. All.

On her journey back to Germany, Dr. Sch. gave an address on women's suffrage in church affairs in the Leipsic branch of the German W. S. A. During the elections for the Parliament (Reichstag) she addressed meetings in Frankfurt a. M. and in Mannheim on "women's share in the elections". The Frankfurt meeting, splendidly organised by the W. S. Committee, was a great success for the women's cause, all the liberal parties there declared in favour of the enfranchisement of women, all, even the conservative, papers pointed to the importance of women's share in politics. The foreign press also took notice of the Frankfurt women's meeting.

Since February Dr. Schirmacher is again in Paris.

### Italy.

On 25 Febr. th Chamber of Deputies discussed the petition sent to the House by Anna Maria Mozzoni c.s. in which they ask that the political and municipal franchise be extended to women. The deputy Mirabelli, who has often advocated women's rights in the Italian Parliament, in defending it, said that art. 24 of the state constitution, which confers upon all Italians equality before the law, might well be interpreted in favor of women's right to vote at state and municipal elections. The revolution in woman's economic position in modern times was no longer to be denied, and it was time now that they should be man's companions in public life as well as in other respects.

After this speech from Mirabelli, the most learned member of the left side, Mr. Luzzatti, whom Giolitti called the most eloquent speaker and the

tenderest heart of the extreme right, addressed the House in a convincing, well-documented discourse on the right of women to have a voice in public affairs and the loss to the state if they continued to be shut out. He pointed out that nowadays the claim had become a world-wide one and that especially in times of religious and educational conflicts the mothers of the nation had a right to be consulted, and he concluded by asking the House to refer to the Government the petition of the women in order to base on it a project for woman suffrage. Other members thought it would be best to send the petition to the archives, which would mean its indefinite postponement. There was a more than animated discussion, ending in what the Giornale d'Italia describes as a pandemonium. Giolitti at length declared the question was not ripe for a decision this day and the utmost that could be obtained was a referring of the desired reform to Minister of the Interior. This motion is carried to the great joy of the many ladies who assisted at the discussion.

"It was really a great success for us," writes prof. Teresa Labriola, "I might call it a triumph. There has been a real, serious discussion on women's rights as citizens; a great orator, Luzzatti (surnamed "l'uomo giusto" — the just man) has pleaded our cause"

Miss Anita Pagliari, the secretary of the N.W.S.A., has recently visited Bari and Naples, where she gave interesting addresses and drew large audiences, who came to hear her eloquent defence of women's rights. This keeps the workers of different parts of the country in touch with each other, and helps Miss Scodnik's work for organisation in Naples.

### United States.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association has just closed (February 19th at Chicago) its thirtieth (39th) Annual Convention.

This meeting was the first national Convention held since the death of the great suffrage leader, Susan B. Anthony, and in all the many years since the organization of the association she missed but one of its annual conventions. All felt the lack of her presence and counsel and seemed to try to make up for the loss of the one who has led us for so long, by a closer attention to business and a deeper devotion to the work which she loved so well.

Only a week before the opening of this meeting, Miss Mary Anthony died, in her eightieth year. She was the only remaining sister of Miss Anthony, and the one who had kept the home and left her great sister free for her heroic public work.

Shortly before her death she dictated to Rev. Anna Shaw an encouraging message to the Convention:

The program of the five weekdays of the meetings marked one new departure from the programs of other years in the unusual number of prominent men who spoke during the evening sessions which are devoted entirely to addresses. The Mayor of Chicago who was unable to be present, sent an able substitute in the person of the City Prosecutor. A prominent professor was delegated to speak on behalf of the great University of Chicago and the Right Rev. Samuel Fallows, a presiding Bishop, represented the Churches. The President of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs and the President of the Chicago Woman's Club (an influen-

tial organization of one thousand members) greeted the Convention hospitably as did also a representative of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union. Only a few years ago our welcome would not have been so hearty a one from any of these associations, with the exception, perhaps, of the last named.

Some of the most prominent people of the city spoke at the different sessions, among them Miss Jane Addams who has been called Chicago's most famous citizen.

The afternoon session on Sunday called together an audience of a thousand people; they were addressed by Rev. Herbert Bigelow, an independent minister, by Miss Addams and by the leader of a radical congregation of Jews, Emil G. Hirsch, a rabbi in all but the name, a fine speaker and very popular in Chicago.

The two most important features of the entire program were the symposium upon Municipal Suffrage and the Memorial day in honor of Susan B. Anthony.

The former was arranged because of the present campaign in Chicago to have women enfranchised by the new Charter now being framed by a convention elected for that purpose. The National American Woman Suffrage Association stands for full suffrage for all women but, it was thought that a discussion of the benefits arising from even a partial suffrage in the hands of women, might possibly help the Chicago women to win the municipal vote. On Feb. 16th the subject came up in the Charter Convention and the vote was twenty seven to twenty seven, whereupon the Chairman cast his vote against the women and the measure was lost, but the Chicago suffragists are not yet without hope, as they think there are members of the Charter Convention strong enough friends of the movement to call the matter up for another vote.

February 15th, the eighty seventh anniversary of Miss Anthony's birth, was the special time devoted to honoring her, though, indeed, the entire Convention was, in a sense, a memorial to her. At the morning session Mrs. May Wright Sewall told of the plan of the National Council of Women to have a fine statue of Miss Anthony erected in some public place, but said that she did not at present ask co-operation for this monument.

Mrs. Mary Lewis Gannett, (of Miss Anthony's home city, Rochester, New York) spoke of the plan to erect an Anthony Memorial Building at the Rochester University, the institution which Miss Anthony was largely instrumental in opening to women a few years ago. Mrs. Gannett, who is president of the Association which is working for this memorial, asked the endorsement of the Convention, which was heartily accorded to the project.

Later in the day the General Officers of the National American Woman Suffrage Association reported from the Executive Committee, the Association's plan for its special memorial to its great leader. This is a fund for the carrying forward of the work to which she devoted her life. This Fund is to be not less than one hundred thousand dollars, to be raised within the years 1907 and 1908. A Board of Trustees has been elected and their Charter has been asked for from the Illinois Legislature now in session. Immediately after the vote had been taken upon this plan, the Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, asked for pledges toward the Fund, and before the Convention closed, more than twenty four thousand dollars had been promised, of which about five thousand is ready to hand to the Treasurer.

A message of sympathy and encouragement was

voted to the English suffragists who are striving against so many difficulties, to win the battle for the women of their country. The news of their latest attempt to be heard and the arrest and imprisonment of over fifty of them, was received with the greatest interest and the President, Rev. Anna H. Shaw, voiced the feeling of the Convention that a cause is nearing its triumph when its adherents are willing to suffer imprisonment for its sake.

It was decided to change the time of the Annual Convention from midwinter to the fall of the year, and later the New York Delegation invited the Convention to hold the Meeting of 1907 in that State, where in 1848 the Seneca Falls Convention began the public movement for the enfranchisement of women. It will probably be held in Buffalo, near Niagara Falls and as we hope to have there, on this sixtieth anniversary of the inauguration of our great cause, some of the foreign speakers and workers, they will be easily able to visit the magnificent cataract, worthy to be called one of the wonders of the world.

The International Badge adopted at Copenhagen, was accepted as the badge of the Association, a stick-pin to be attached to it by a slender chain, the stickpin to bear the initials of the home Association, "N. A. W. S. A." This was the suggestion of the International President, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who was unfortunately prevented by private business from attending the Convention.

Mrs. Foster Avery gave a report of the meeting of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at Copenhagen in which she praised the devotion of the workers in the European countries. A number of subscriptions to "Jus Suffragii" were secured. The design of the Badge appeared upon the Convention edition (ten thousand) of the Program.

Rev. Anna Shaw was unanimously re-elected to the presidency, which she fills so splendidly. The full list of officers is:

President Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, Swarthmore, Pa.; 1st Vice-President at Large, Rachel Foster Avery, Swarthmore, Pa.; 2nd Vice-President at Large, Florence Kelley, 105 East 22nd Street, New York City; Corresponding Secretary, Kate M. Gordon, 1800 Prytania Street, New Orleans, La.; Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell, 3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.; Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio; Auditors: Laura Clay, Lexington, Ky, Mary B. Sperry, California.

The meeting was grandly successful as a working convention, and both delegates and officers pledged themselves with a new consecration to carry forward the work to its inevitable triumph, encouraged by Susan B. Anthony's last public utterance — "Failure is impossible". R. F. A.

### Finland.

The Women's cause Union (Kvinnosaksförbund) celebrated the 1st of Oct., the day on which the new suffrage law came into force with a festive gathering, attended by a very large audience. Amongst those present was noticed Senator Leo Mechelin, the great friend and supporter of women's suffrage, now at the head of the Finnish government. The president Lucina Hagman opened the meeting by delivering a speech in the Finnish language touching the great reform that made the women of Finland free citizens in a free country. The vice-president, Annie Furuholm, spoke on the same subject in Swedish. The president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt had kindly sent an address, also Dr. Aletta Jacobs, Dr. Käthe Schirmacher and many others. These

tokens of sympathy from our foreign sisters, still battling for their rights created much enthusiasm, among the audience and were warmly cheered.

After the festive meeting of the first of October followed a period of intense activity. Four members of the Executive Committee of the Union (officers) were run as candidates for the elections; viz. Lucina Hagman and Alli Nissinea for the Young Finnish party, Helena Westermarck and Annie Furuhjelm for the Swedish National party. Four other members of the Union, Dr. Maikki Friberg and Dr. Tekla Hultin stand as candidates for the Young Finnish party, Mrs. H. Gebhard for the Old Finnish party, and Miss Mina Sillanpää for the social-democratic party, so that altogether eight members of the Union are candidates.

Lucina Hagman lectured on the „Women's program" before a very crowded audience. It would be most tempting to give a short résumé of these lectures, but I am afraid space forbids it. On the whole Lucina Hagman, who greatly fears that politics may have a deteriorating effect on women, exhorts women to stand so to say above „party strife", and to work for peace. So far women have not followed this line of conduct recommended by her; all those interested in politics, are members of some political party, and all our political parties (four in number) have women members in both the central- and the sub-committees that organize the elections.

The electioneering campaign has been conducted with great energy by the women of all the parties. The Women of the Young Finnish party have a special organisation with 30 branch-offices in different parts of the country, in order to run their candidates. As far as one can judge, the women candidates of that party have a great chance of being elected because of this special organisation, which seems to do good work. Experience (though short) has already shown that very many men of all parties are much against women taking seats in the Landtdag, and in consequence try to use their influence in order to make women vote for men only. The coming elections will show if women follow the lead or not. So far they have shown great interest for their new rights and every meeting concerning politics even in the far off villages is sure to be attended by women of all ages.

The Swedish National party had a meeting of women delegates in October presided by Helena Westermarck to discuss the candidates and fix their number.

The meeting gave proof that considerable interest was shown in the matter, and after a very hot debate and innumerable interpellations on the subject of the most „burning" questions on the party-programme, four candidates were elected. These four candidates are now run by the party. At the preparatory election, arranged by the Swedish National party in Helsingfors on the 31 of Dec. Helena Westermarck came out the first candidate amongst nine.

The women belong as I have said, to different parties, but still there exist special questions concerning the amelioration of woman's position which it is likely all the women deputies, when once in the Landtdag, will support. The prohibition of the liquor traffic has thousands of supporters amongst the women voters, and many are those whose chief interest in politics consists in getting into parliament persons willing to support a total prohibition law.

The Women's-cause Union (Kvinnosaksförbund) has appointed a good number of committees with

a view of preparing the ground for the following reforms.

- 1) Married women's property act. \*)
- 2) Extension of the right to vote for the municipal elections to married women, and the right to be eligible to be extended to all women taxpayers.
- 3) Raising of the age of consent.
- 4) Abolition of prostitution.
- 5) The amelioration of the legal status of illegitimate children.
- 6) A reform of the girls' schools, in order to facilitate for girls the obtention of the same educational advantages as for boys.
- 7) The opening of the same.

Members of the Women's cause-Union (Kvinnosaksförbund) have lectured in different parts of the country on women's new rights and responsibilities, and also on the election law.

Helsingfors, Febr. 28. 1907. ANNIE FURUHJELM.

The complete list of women candidates for the Landtag (Parliament) for the elections of 15 and 16 March comprises 4 for the Swedish National party, 11 for the Young-Finnish party, 10 for the social-democratic party, and 16 for the Old-Finnish party.

Baroness Gripenberg writes in Nylaende on the great zeal and energy with which each party makes propaganda. The Old-Finnish party has four travelling propagandists, and everywhere the men receive them in a friendly way, opening as it were generously the doors which have so long been closed to women. Baroness G. is a candidate in the district of South-Abo.

### Russia.

This last month, the elections for the Douma were the chief interest of all political parties. The struggle between the champions of liberty and those of the old regime was awful. In many towns and villages the administration actually terrorised the electors, forcing them to vote for the „black hundred" candidates, or their friends, the octobrists. A great many electors, belonging to the progressive parties, were thrown into prison or sent out from their constituencies. Notwithstanding their efforts, the new Douma is much more revolutionary than the first one was. The country is now watching with the utmost anxiety the activity of the Douma. Very few believe in the possibility of a peaceful solution of our political and economical crisis. No one trusts our Government. No one believes in the good designs of our premier—the Minister who introduced the martial law to in Russia, who sanctioned tortures, capital punishment, etc. It is expected that the Douma will be dissolved as soon as the question of the responsibility of the ministers before the Douma and the agrarian question come to the front.

Considering all the sufferings endured by those, who stand for liberty and justice and also the great danger, which menaces Russia,—our „Woman's question" is in the background at present.

Even our friends tell us we must wait and be patient,—an advice, which alas! most women always hear in most countries from all political parties.—The women's rights were very seldom mentioned here during the elective campaign,—either by the social-democrats, or the constitutional

\*) To this day the married women in Finland have not the right to vote for municipal elections, and spinsters and widows, who have the vote are, not eligible.

democrats (the people's Freedomparty), while the members of the Russian Union for Women's Rights could not speak at these meetings, the electors alone being admitted. However we, members of the people's Freedomparty, men and women alike, took part in the party-elections of the deputies for the Douma.

It must be also mentioned that at the banquet of the constitutional democrat party (which took place in Moscow after the party had won here a brilliant victory at the elections for the Douma) several speeches referred to the women's equal political rights: members of the const. dem. party expressed themselves very strongly in favour of them, and the audience heartily applauded these speeches.

It is to be hoped that the const. dem. party, which will probably play the first rôle in the Douma, will take a very firm stand in the demand of universal suffrage for men and women alike. But at present, the destinies of the const. dem. party and of the Douma itself are most uncertain. Very few believe that our parliament will have the power to effect the reforms which Russia needs so much; and if the Douma is dissolved, a great uprising may follow. Z. MIROVITCH. Moscow, 21 February (6 March) 1907.

### Sweden.

In the review „Mitt Hem" Miss Signe Bergman, the secretary of the Swedish N. W. S. A., gives a sketch of the victories won and the difficulties experienced during the collecting of signatures for the mass-petition of 142,128 women to the Riksdag claiming their enfranchisement. She ends by stating how little is to be expected from the political parties inasmuch as only justice to women is concerned. „Only when woman suffrage may be used by one party to oppose another, it has a chance to be declared urgent. Of late the question of women's enfranchisement is cast like a ball into the liberal (vänstre) party, which is „pledged to the principle", yet is afraid of strengthening the conservative party; and into the conservative (högre) party, which „has warm sympathies for the just claim", but fears to reinforce the radicals; so it has only the real support of one party, the social-democratic, and the near future will show whether it will succeed in getting the help of some radical and impartial deputies."

We are eager to see the results of the great work done by the mass-petition and of the cooperation promised the suffragists at the women's trades-unions, congress in January.

### Norway.

The political outlook for woman suffrage is not better now than last month. The Committee on Constitution, which has now taken the question into consideration, consists of 9 members with different views. The socialdemocratic party has as the first plank in its platform, universal suffrage for women in state and municipality. The radical party (venstre) has on its program political suffrage for women on the same terms as they have now municipal suffrage. The collective party (höire) has no sort of woman suffrage in its program at all. Yet Minister Michelsen is personally in favour of the measure; and so the future is uncertain.

On Febr. 27th in Kristiania took place the annual meeting of the Norwegian W. S. A. (Landskvindestemmerettsforening). The President, Mrs. F. M. Qvam, was reelected with 1212 votes; as officers were further elected: Mrs. Welhaven Gunnerson, Miss Dr. Trude Johnson, Miss J. Ellingsen, Miss K. Brugge, Miss M. Fossum. A proposal to change the constitution was rejected.

### Denmark.

The Joint-Committee of our „Landsting" and „Folkething" and the later sub-committee have come to no result as yet as to the conditions on which they might grant municipal suffrage to women. The „Folkething" has openly supported Woman-Suffrage for years, and the bill laid before Parliament in this session was carried by the „Folkething".

It seems to be the constant fate of the Woman-Suffrage-Question in Denmark to be linked to political dissensions between the two Houses.

The upholding of the old privilege belonging to the estate-owners in the country viz: the right of election of half of the municipal board by a fifth part of the electors paying the highest taxes in the constituencies, besides these same electors having had the right of a general election together with the other electors for the other half beforehand (the much talked-of double election) has for years been the condition the Landsting has prescribed the Folkething for being willing to grant suffrage to some of the women (tax-paying, independent unmarried).

Now the situation has changed somewhat: The double election has outlived itself; it must be left by its adherents. As an equivalent for it, the Landsting will have more power given to the County-Councils and the influence of the Parish-Councils diminished. Now it says to the Folkething: „On this condition we will grant municipal Suffrage to women; not only to tax-paying unmarried women but to both married and unmarried women, in fact as well to those who have a small income as to those who have a big income".

But the „Folkething" answers: „No, this price is too high for us to pay for Woman-Suffrage. And who knows, if Woman-Suffrage will be a profit to us? In Norway, where women are very radical, Woman-Suffrage has a conservative effect!"

And the „Landsting" thinks: „Even if Woman-Suffrage has had a conservative effect in Norway, we can not be sure it will have the same in Denmark, where the socialistic element has got a firm footing. If we would grant suffrage to women, we should be obliged to make the voting obligatory".

This is the present situation. Women are preparing for their usual refuge: Patience and Resignation. The bright hopes of an agreement of the Houses are fading away.

At the extra General Meeting of the National Danish Woman Suffrage Association an election of Officers has taken place, partly because a new Association, of which 40 organisations are members („Dansk Kvindesamfund") has joined, out of which some Officers were to be chosen for the Executive Committee of the N. D. W. S. A. Fru Nörlund, who several years ago founded the N. D. S. A. and since, in 1889, has formed an organisation for Woman-Suffrage, felt the work too great a strain upon her, and desired to retire from her

position as President. For this reason Fru Vibeke Salicath was elected as President, she is a well-known worker for several years in the Womans' movement. She has of late given lectures on various Woman questions, especially on Woman-Suffrage, not only in Copenhagen, but in several towns in the country. Among the Officers of the late Executive Committee, only one remains, namely Mrs. Johanna Münter, who continues her work as International Secretary. But both Fröken Eline Hansen, now Vice-President and National Secretary, and Fröken Julie Laurberg, the Recording Secretary, will be well-known to our guests in Copenhagen in July 1906 from the days of the Congress.

The membership of N. D. W. S. A. has been augmented, though some of the organisations or guilds of several hundred members have formed Suffrage Departments, diminishing the number often from 700 or 800 to 45 or 50, in order to be real Suffrage Organisations. We hope, indeed, that those Suffrage Departments will be able to draw more members from their own Society within their circle of Suffrage-Workers.

J. M.

### Canada.

At a largely attended meeting of the Woman's Equality Association in Toronto. Dr. Augusta Stowe Gullen gave the history of the association. It dated back to 1877, when it was called the Canadian Women's Literary Club, the members then being afraid of the word suffrage. They undertook the bettering of conditions in factories and stores for the female employees. Later the association branched out and they were able in 1883 to obtain for women holding property municipal suffrage. The cry against women entering Canadian colleges was raised, and the association were successful in having the doors of Toronto University opened to women. The appearance of women on the high and public school boards of the city was the next achievement.

Mrs. MacDonald Denison gave an interesting report of the annual conference of the International Suffrage Alliance held at Copenhagen in August.

Mr. Hughes introduced the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Douglas and carried: "Every argument in favor of universal suffrage for men is equally in favor of universal suffrage for women. Therefore, if men class this right as necessary for the protection of their interests, for the same reason may women's ideas and opinions be the legitimate outcome of the cultivation of faculties common to both sexes, therefore, manifestations and symbols inherently belong to both sexes alike. Therefore, be it resolved that in the opinion of this meeting the parliamentary and municipal franchise be extended to women on the same basic qualifications as to men."

### Australia.

During the summer months all the Australian women's political organisations are in recess, consequently there is nothing of special interest to report. In Victoria there is a simmering of political activity preparatory to the state elections which are announced to take place at the end of April. An attempt is being made to fuse the conservative & liberal forces into one body united in opposition the Labour Party. The latter stands solid for moral, social, & industrial reforms of a most cided character, which are demanded by a large

section of the people, which nevertheless does not want to owe them to a party that insists on such rigid discipline as does the Labour Party. To placate this important & influential section, the proposed coalition will be compelled to embody some planks in its programme of a fairly radical colour, chief of which will be woman suffrage. With a strong anti-labour Government in power pledged to woman suffrage, the Legislative Council is not likely to resist the reform again.

The Children's Court Act (Victoria) is now in operation, but, so far, we are most dissatisfied with the way in which it is being worked. It was passed through Parliament hurriedly in the last hours of the last session, and its administration is in the hands of a minister who has no appreciation of the spirit which animates the Juvenile Court System, a man who cannot get away from the old idea of *punishment* for delinquent children. Although our societies are in recess, we are so keenly sensible of the necessity of having the Children's Court properly worked, that we are calling a special meeting for Feb. 13th, to consider certain proposals relative to separate Courts, special magistrates, and probation officers, which will then be laid before the Cabinet.

The valiant efforts now being made by the women of England to secure their enfranchisement have the warm appreciation of the great majority of our workers, & the various State organisations are now carrying on negotiations which they expect will result in action which will prove beneficial to suffrage propaganda in England, Europe & America.

VIDA GOLDSTEIN.

Melbourne, Febr. 6 1907.

### Germany.

Among the German cities where women have taken a prominent part in the late parliamentary elections, we may name Frankfurt a.M., where circumstances were most favorable for their action. On 13 Jan. the members of the German W. S. A. held a most successful meeting, where Dr. Käthe Schirmacher gave an eloquent address on "Parliamentary Elections and Women's Enfranchisement." On this occasion all the candidates for the district of Frankfurt, only with the exception of those of the centrum-party, declared themselves in favour of woman suffrage; either personally in the interesting debate which followed the lecture, or by letter. Dr. Oeser, the progressive radical candidate, was the most emphatic in his declaration, and this fact was not without influence on the leading Frankfurt paper. Immediately a large body of women offered their help as electioneering agents, and, in the second election, they succeeded in procuring Dr. Oeser a large majority. 200 women were active on this occasion; in Mrs. Ines Wetzel's study all day long from 20 to 30 women were busy, and distributed heaps of manifests. It goes without saying that the Committee left its members free to work for which candidate they pleased. Some were active in socialist bureaus. Many also took part in the proceedings who were not members of the N. W. S. A.

In Berlin under Miss Maria Lischniewska's presidency a Liberal Women's League was constituted, which published its programme on 31 January.

As a similar league cannot exist under the Prussian law, it is presumably no more than a trial; and this fact makes discussion of the programme rather superfluous. So there is no need for consideration of the desirability of a separate women's organisation within a political party. It is not probable that the League will have a long life.

In Breslau in the Society for Women's Welfare the Chairman, Mrs. Wegner, gave an address on women's share in the parliamentary elections, after which some 30 women offered to make propaganda for woman suffrage. They are going to begin their agitation for votes for women in friendly societies, and also intend to distribute on a large scale a pamphlet, edited by the Dresden W. S. A. which states the rights of men in opposition to the lack of rights for women.

### The Netherlands.

The victory won for woman suffrage in the report on advisable changes in the state-constitution, in which report eligibility for women is recommended by the state-commission, is not a very decisive one. The commission was instituted by the cabinet-De Meester, and now this cabinet is demissionary; so, if our ministerial crisis does not end by the present cabinet being reinstated, the advice of its commission on constitutional changes will have no more than a documentary value.

Yet our suffragists are cheerfully continuing the preparations for the congress of the I. W. S. All. in June 1908, and we hope to see many of our co-workers in Amsterdam at that time, although we cannot assure them that they will witness then and there the enfranchisement of Dutch women.

On the 27th. of February a new society "the Dutch Union for Woman Suffrage", was formed at The Hague. The difference between this association and the N. W. S. A. lies not so much in its aim and constitution as in its officers. The President is Miss E. C. van Dorp, L. L. D., 9 Daendelstraat The Hague, and the secretary Mr. J. H. Lasonder L. L. D., 53 Avenue Concordia, Rotterdam. It is to be hoped that it may find new channels for propaganda to serve the cause in its own way.

Mrs. Montefiore one of the English suffragists that have been sent to prison, gave a successful tour of lectures in Holland. She had everywhere large and sympathetic audiences, and gave them a strong impression of the earnestness and perseverance of the so-called suffragettes, which did not miss its effect on the press.

The Dutch W. S. A. has addressed a message of sympathy to Mr. Dickinson on his introducing a woman suffrage bill in the English Parliament on March 8th, and sent a copy of the address to the members of the British Government, the receipt of which has been duly acknowledged.

### France.

The Society for Women's Advancement (Société pour l'amélioration du sort de la Femme) in Paris has held a reunion on 2 March to consider the question whether women should have a vote, to which conference delegates from several other societies were invited. Also two deputies were present; one of whom, Mr. Hubbard, proposed a plan of organisation and of conferences on woman suffrage throughout the country. Unfortunately

neither Mme Hubertine Auclert nor any one else belonging to the National Council of Women was present; and so we are unable to report what the relation between the new departure and the organised women in France will be.

### Belgium.

The Minister of Labour has presented to the Chamber a bill which contains some changes in the Industrial Councils and proposes to extend their right of arbitration in industrial conflicts between employers and employed. At the last moment Mr. Francotte added to his bill this clause: "women shall have the right of voting and eligibility on the same terms as men." He also proposes to permit a reduction of the age required for electors, and wishes to institute compulsory voting and a system of proportional representation. If this bill passes, women will probably also obtain the right of voting for the "conseils de prud'hommes."

### Great Britain.

A Women's Suffrage Bill will be introduced into the House of Commons on March 8th by Mr. W. H. Dickinson. The text is as follows:

1. In all Acts relating to the qualifications and registrations of voters or persons entitled or claiming to be registered and to vote in the election of members of Parliament, wherever words occur which import the masculine gender the same shall be held to include women for all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to be registered as voters and to vote in such election.

2. A woman shall not be disqualified by reason of marriage from being so registered and voting, notwithstanding the provisions of any law or custom to the contrary.

A Bill has passed the Second Reading on three previous occasions, but it has only once reached the Committee stage, through which it has to pass before going to the House of Lords. Should the Bill pass the Second Reading by a large majority, it will help our supporters in the House who are anxious that the Government should give facilities for the further progress of the measure.

Another circumstance of great value for the same purpose is the passing by the General Committee of the National Liberal Federation (at its meeting on the 3rd inst.) of the following resolution:

"That inasmuch as the extension of the franchise to women has been twice approved by the National Liberal Federation, this general committee strongly urges the Government to provide facilities for the passing of a Women's Suffrage Bill."

The resolution was carried by 78 to 73 votes, but that even a small majority of a purely party organization should be willing to make so strong a stand, is a striking fact.

In support of the Bill the Northern Women Textile Workers held a meeting in Trafalgar Square, London, on Saturday, March 2nd, and the Women's Liberal Federation are holding one on March 6th in Caxton Hall, Westminster.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in view of having so recently organized a great procession and Demonstration have not considered a further meeting necessary, but are bending all their energies to Parliamentary work.

The Procession, in spite of adverse weather, was said to be the largest and best organized that had ever gone through the streets of London. It was a mile in length, took an hour to pass any given spot, and contained some 3000 women, representing organized bodies of probably half a million. The chief bodies represented were the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, chiefly, of course by its London branch (the "Central Society") the Northern Joint Women's Demonstration Committee (textile workers and others) the Women's Liberal Federation, the national British Women's Temperance Association, and the Independent Labour Party.

The day before the Procession the National Union Summoned a Conference of Bodies actively interested in Women's Suffrage, which passed the following resolutions, nem. con.

(1) That this Conference, taking its stand upon the principle that, with regard to the Parliamentary Franchise the law should be equal for men and women, declares its opinion that neither sex nor marriage should be a qualification or disqualification, and urges that a bill should immediately be passed which will carry out the above principles. And the Conference further declares that women are not prepared to wait for their enfranchisement until Parliament deals with any further extension of the Franchise

(2) That this Conference urges the Liberal Party to act on the Resolution of the National Liberal Federation passed in Newcastle, and to take steps to introduce a Women's Suffrage Bill this session.

(3) "That in view of the industrial need of the Women Workers, this Conference most earnestly appeals to the Labour Party to carry out their pledge given to the women Textile and other Workers Committee, that they would give a prominent place in their first ballot this Session to a measure for the Enfranchisement of Women".

The following were represented at the conference: Association of University Women Teachers. Freedom of Labour Defence League. Hammersmith Women's Suffrage Society. Independent Labour Party.

Irish Women's Suffrage & Local Government Society.

Lancashire & Cheshire Women's Suffrage Society. Lancashire & Cheshire Women Textile Workers Labour Representation Committee.

Manchester & Salford Women's Trade & Labour Council.

Manchester & Salford Power Loom Weavers Association.

Metropolitan Radical Federation.

National British Women's Temperance Association

National Union of Women Workers.

Registered Nurses Association.

Scottish Christian Union of the National British Women's Temperance Association.

Scottish Women's Liberal Federation.

Society of Women employed in Bookbinding.

Women's Franchise Declaration Committee.

Women's Social & Political Union.

Union of Patent Cop Winders, Hank & Bobbin

Winders, Gassers, Doublers & Reelers.

Union of Machine and Electric Workers.

Cigar-Makers' Union.

Clay-pipe Finishers' Union.

Tailoresses' Union.

Shirtmakers' Union.

Union of Women engaged in the Bookbinding and Printing Trade.

The following letter has been addressed to the Prime Minister, asking him to move in the House of Commons that the signatories might be heard at the bar in support of a petition to remove the electoral disabilities of their sex. The precedents on which they relied were: (1) The case of Ann Fitzharris, widow of Edward Fitzharris, executed for treason in 1681. Her petition, in support of which she personally appeared at the bar of the House on March 16, 1688, set forth extenuating circumstances in her husband's case, and prayed the House "to take the whole matter into their consideration," and that the deplorable condition of herself and her three children should be mercifully dealt with. Her petition was successful in so far that, as the result of the investigations of a committee of the House, she and her three children were recommended to the charity of the King; and (2) in 1809 Mrs. Clarke was summoned to the bar of the House and required to give evidence in connection with the charges brought against the Duke of York regarding the corrupt sale of commissions in the Army. Mrs. Clarke was examined and cross-examined at the bar of the House for two hours. Both of these cases, it is stated, are to be found fully described in "Parliament Past and Present," by Arnold Wright and Philip Smith, pages 87, 88, and 391. The permission of the Prime Minister for the publication of the correspondence has been sought and obtained:

Letter to Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman.

"To the Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, M.P.

"Sir,—Encouraged by the support which you have already given to the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women, we write to ask a further important service at your hands. We have in preparation a petition to the House of Commons praying for the removal of the electoral disabilities under which women labour, and we ask you, sir, as you are convinced of the justice of our claim and consider that we have made out a conclusive and irrefutable case, that you will be so good as to move, when our petition is presented to the House, that we, the petitioners, belonging severally to the Liberal, Conservative, Unionist, and Labour parties, should be allowed to appear at the bar of the House of Commons in support of the prayer of our petition. You may possibly consider at first that this is an impossible thing for the House to allow, but apart from the fact that women, we believe, have in past times appeared at the bar in support of a petition, our request to be allowed this privilege is on a different footing from that on which men could base a similar request.

"Men have always been represented in the House; though all classes have not until recently been represented, still their sex has. Any case, therefore, which they wish to bring before the House can always be explained for them by men and from a man's standpoint. Our demand for enfranchisement, except when you, sir were so good as to receive the deputation last May, has never been officially stated by persons of our own sex to those directly responsible for the government of the country and the amending of the laws. We claim that women are loyal subjects of his Majesty the King equally with men; their record of crime, as shown in the official reports, is less than one-eighth of that of men; they contribute their share of taxation to the Exchequer; the women of the professional and working classes contribute by their work to the wealth of the community, while the domestic work of women contributes in a manner which can hardly

## SUPPLEMENT TO „JUS SUFFRAGII” No. 7,

MARCH 15TH 1907.

be measured to the well-being of the nation, and the devotion of large numbers of able women to social reform of various kinds has had an ameliorative effect of great value on the condition of the country.

"We therefore hold that in all these respects women have shown themselves to be good and dutiful citizens, and we believe we are within our constitutional rights in begging you to ask the House to allow us to state our case at the bar for the extension of the existing Parliamentary suffrage to our own sex. Parliament, as the fountain of law, is doubtless desirous to mete out justice to all, and we submit that no class of his Majesty's subjects in the United Kingdom stands more in need of justice than the unrepresented women. Awaiting the honour of your reply, which, together with this letter, we ask your leave to communicate to the Press, we have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servants,

EVA MCLAREN, 56, Ashley-gardens.

LOUISE M. KNIGHTLY, Fawsley Court, Daventry.

ISABELLA O. FORD, Adel Grange, near Leeds.

MILLCENT GARRETT FAWCETT, 2, Gower-street.

SELINA COOPER, Nelson, Lancashire.

PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY.

The Prime Minister's reply was as follows:

10, Downing-street, Whitehall, S.W.,  
February 13th, 1907.

"Madam,—The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for your letter of the 8th instant, and to say that he fears that there is a serious preliminary difficulty in the way of carrying out your suggestion. The only cases in which petitions are formally presented at the bar, are those in which the Lord Mayor or Sheriffs of the City of London or the Lord Mayor of the City of Dublin attend for the purpose. It would also seem that there is no precedent for women appearing in support of a petition and no recent precedent for men so appearing. Whilst he fully appreciates the force of the arguments which you and your co-signatories employ in support of the case for the enfranchisement of women, the Prime Minister fails to see how, under these circumstances, he can render you the assistance which you desire."— I am, madam, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR PONSONBY.

On Feb. 13th (the second day of the session) the Members of Parliament friendly to Women's Suffrage, held a conference in a room attached to the House of Commons. They again extended their courtesy, as in former years, to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, who were admitted to the Conference; about thirty representatives attended; the Northern Women's Franchise Committee also sent representatives, and the wives of several Members of Parliament were present. It was announced that 30 Members of Parliament had promised to ballot for a place to bring in a Women's Suffrage Bill. It was agreed that the final decision as to the wording of such a Bill must be referred to a further meeting of Members of Parliament in conference with the member who might be successful.

An interim report of the National Declaration is about to be published and will be reported next month.

MILLCENT GARRETT FAWCETT.  
FRANCES HARDCASTLE.  
FRANCES STERLING.

After the King's Speech on 13 February the Women's Social and Political Union, assembled at Caxton Hall, passed a resolution expressing its profound indignation at the omission of any declaration that the Government intend to enfranchise the women during the present session, and also another resolution to resolve itself into a deputation to convey to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet the foregoing resolution, and the meeting carried it into effect.

While the deputation from Caxton Hall was wending its way towards St. Stephen's, the guards at the various entrances to the House were being doubled, and inspectors were given special instructions. Four mounted police made their way towards the Strangers' Entrance, and within three minutes of the arrival of the deputation (headed by Mrs. Despard), a squad of thirty-two additional police, headed by an inspector, had made its way to that corner. Reinforcements arrived in rapid succession. From the conduct of the police it appeared that orders had been given to make as few arrests as possible, and possibly the unnecessary violence displayed towards some women was due to this order, an injunction which, if given, would necessarily suggest their terrorising rather than arresting; and when people cannot be terrorised, violence is a natural consequence. It is quite possible that some one in authority was sufficiently stupid to think that the women would retreat in fear at the sight of the horses. The extreme reluctance of the police to have any dealings with women who wore expensive fur coats or looked as if they had money or influence was strikingly noticeable. Tam-o'-Shanters and shabby coats acted as magnets. A favourite method of dispersing groups was to ride the horses into the midst, sometimes at a trot, and many women were badly crushed against the iron railings of St. Margaret's Church. A lady journalist, when presenting her credentials, was struck by a policeman and fell under one of the horses, being only saved from serious injury by her companions. The struggle continued for nearly an hour.

Meanwhile, some had succeeded in entering the House, and more than one got so far as the inner lobby, but no one managed to reach the desired goal.

At 8 o'clock the centre of interest was transferred to Caxton Hall, where Mrs. Despard triumphantly spoke of her arrest as an act of justice that the police had at last been obliged to perform, after evading her many times, and seizing in her stead some factory girl or working woman, whose offences had not been nearly so great or glaring. Mrs. Pankhurst's speech, which came last on the rapidly improvised programme, was a ringing battle-cry, which ended with the well-known watchword, "Rise up, women!" to which the immediate response from the audience was "Now". Then there was a rush, but an orderly rush, for the

doors, at which the women ranged themselves soldierly-wise round their appointed leaders, who were to conduct them, under the generalship of Mrs. Despard, to a second raid on the House.

The inroad was stopped by two rows of policemen, who stood shoulder to shoulder across the road from St. Margaret's Church to the stone coping outside Westminster Hall. As the wave of women broke on the opposing force, the first line pushed them forward, leaving the second firm to resist any further onslaughts. The tactics of the afternoon were, however, pursued, but to a much greater extent. Mounted police immediately broke up any groups that were formed. Policemen went about in twos and threes, and between their endeavours not to arrest and their irritation at the persistence of the women, their conduct was such that passers-by rushed home to write indignant letters to the Press. They were at least two to each one of the demonstrators. It should be noted, however, that no complaints of rough treatment have been heard from the prisoners themselves. These have all been volunteered by impartial bystanders. The women themselves are playing the game, and are prepared to pay the stake.

Being questioned in the House as to what was going on outside, Mr. Gladstone professed ignorance, and on being reminded of his duties as Home Secretary, assured the House that if undue violence had been used, notice would be taken of it.

The imprisoned women were released in different groups since March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and all received a hearty reception from their friends suffragists, and cordial thanks from admirers who realize what good they did the cause. "Women and Progress" says:

"There is still a little talk of alienated sympathy, of adherents falling off, 'shocked by the violence shown by women'; but this is unimportant. If one may be guilty of a paradox, they have only 'lost the sympathy they never had.' It is only the men who would not have given them support in any case who make these events an excuse for withholding support now. One may well ask, with Miss Janet Achurch, in the *Chronicle*, what manner of demanding the vote would be acceptable to the man predetermined to refuse it?"

Miss Vida Goldstein wrote an open letter to the Woman Suffragists of England showing what help and stimulus the women in enfranchised and unenfranchised countries can give each other, expressing her heart-felt sympathy with Annie Kenney, the Pankhursts and their followers, and pointing to the near relation of democratic movements and the propaganda for woman suffrage.

An anti-votes-for-women movement has been formed, and is now in full working order. A small, but representative, committee of ladies, headed by the Countess of Lonsdale, have drawn up a strongly worded protest against the granting of women suffrage. This protest is addressed to "all the women of the United Kingdom." It runs thus:

"We, the undersigned, fully realising the importance and value of women's work in our national life, especially in education and the care of the poor, protest against Parliamentary suffrage being granted to women, believing it would destroy, rather than add to, their real influence in their own sphere of work in the world."

Although the new movement has only been in

existence for a brief period, already a considerable number of women have signed the protest. The hon. secretary, Miss E. M. K. Taylor, 30, Hyde Parkstreet, W., explained to a "Daily News" representative yesterday the object and nature of the new organization. "We really think that the majority of women in the country do not want the vote," said Miss Taylor. "The really quiet woman at home certainly does not desire it."

"The granting of the franchise to women would, we believe, take away the home influence they possess at present. Women have their own uses in life, naturally very different to those of men. Of course, we appreciate very much the work done by women on Poor Law and Education Boards, but if the vote was given to them, we believe it would have the effect of a political bias."

None of the ladies who cherish these thoughts has had the courage of signing them with her name, and so they left their secretary to bear the brunt of criticism alone. In the very letter in which they appealed for signatures for a petition which they are promoting against Mr. Dickinson's Bill, they set the example of discretion by withholding their own.

Yet on 8 March Mr Evans, at the beginning of the session, presented an anti-woman-suffrage petition signed by 21000 names, which made Mr Redmond say: "Oh, it is always possible to make people hug their chains."

Miss Clementina Black has got in the first month of her collecting signatures to the Women's Franchise Declaration over 35000 names, and more than 100 sub-committees all over the country are actively helping her.

Mrs Montefiore's example finds imitation, and some other women are now refusing to pay taxes to a government in which they are not represented; among them is Lady Steel.

Four different bills on woman suffrage have been presented to Parliament: Mr. Dickinson's backed by 6 members and opposed by 5, Sir Charles Dilke's backed by 11 members, Mr. Levy's, and finally Mr. Cremer's opposed to the enfranchisement of women. This mixing up of the question with others does the cause much harm by dividing the advocates of women's rights. When on 8 March the question was before the House of Commons the members had so much to say, not only in support of the bill but also for the explanation of each one's standpoint with regard to the form chosen in Mrs. Dickinson's proposal, that the eight supporters of the measure filled with their speeches more than half the allotted time, and the nine opposers easily succeeded in nearly reaching the term of five o'clock, before Mr. Dickinson could move the closure. As on previous occasions, the Speaker then refused to give precedence to that motion, and Mr. Rees, the last opposer, was suffered to talk the bill out with the usual platitudes.

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