

JUS SUFFRAGII,

PUBLISHED BY THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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SECOND YEAR No. 4.

DECEMBER 15, 1907.

L'uomo cancelli dalla sua mente ogni idea di superiorità sulla donna: *non ne ha alcuna*. Come due rami che muovono distinti da uno stesso tronco, l'uomo e la donna muovono, varietà da una base commune, che è l'Umanità.

G. MAZZINI.



Perhaps, if you knew that the book-sellers of Denver reported that they had sold more books on Civil Government and Political Economy in six months after women were enfranchised, than in ten years before, you would be convinced that women appreciate the responsibility of voting, and prepare themselves to "administer the sacrament of citizenship" intelligently.

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

—, *The Woman's Tribune*, \$ 1,—, Clara Bewick Colby, Portland Ore.

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 Copenhagen.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3,10 Kroner, Kongens Lyngby 5.

Finland, *Nutid*, 6 Mark, 21 Alexandersgatan, Helsingfors.

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

—, *De Ploeger*, irreg. f 0,60, 53 Avenue Concordia, Rotterdam.

Norway, *Nylaende*, 4,70 Kroner, 3 Edvard Stormsgade, Kristiania.

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, 7 Rochusgasse, Wien III.

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

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

Great Britain, *Women's Franchise*, weekly 1 d. 13 Bream's Buildings Chancery Lane, London.

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

Poland, *Ster*, Boduena 2, Warsaw.

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

It has been said many times in the United States that Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin did more than any other one thing to accomplish the emancipation of the Negroes. Suffragists who lived during that period and were witnesses of its effect upon popular sentiment have often predicted that sometime, somewhere, a novel would be written which would do for woman suffrage, what that book did for the abolition of slavery. In the United States, many novels have been written touching upon the subject, but none have reached more than a small circle of readers. Elizabeth Robins, an English authoress, may prove the long expected benefactor. Macmillan's have just published a new production of hers, *The Convert* (\$ 1.50) which sets forth the whole movement in so artistic, intelligent and stirring a fashion, that no suffragist should fail to read it. I call it a great book, and hail it as a most timely and valuable contribution to the cause of woman suffrage.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

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.

The Netherlands.

The Central Committee for the reception of the **Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance** is very busy, arranging a suitable entertainment for its honoured guests. It is meeting with great sympathy and here in the Netherlands the number of those who wish to be inscribed as members of the Congress increases daily.

There is every reason to expect the attendance will be very numerous. Of course good places will be reserved at the meetings for our special guests: the officers of the Alliance, the delegates and their proxies, the fraternal delegates, the honorary associates. Still the Committee would find its work much simplified and feels it could

arrange matters best if it were acquainted as early as possible with the number of foreign visitors in order that it may take good care of their accommodation. Persons who have no function in the Alliance can become a member of the Congress by paying beforehand the sum of five Dutch florins, which secures admission to all the sessions of the Congress. The Committee therefore begs those who intend to take part in the proceedings to send in from to-day their name and address plus a postal-mandate of 5 Dutch florins to the address of **Mejuffrouw Johanna W. A. Naber, 5 van Eeghenstraat, Amsterdam.**

We intend to publish shortly a list of our members and would feel very proud if that list could be swelled from the beginning by a great many names of foreign members. They may feel sure of a hearty welcome.

National Committees in affiliated countries are earnestly requested to see this is published in all their women's papers.

JOHANNA W. A. NABER,
1st Secretary of the Central Committee
for Reception of the Congress of the Intern.
Woman Suffrage Alliance.

Amsterdam, Dec. 1907.

The N. W. S. A. has responded to the favorable law-project presented by the Government by editing a book like *The Case for Women's Suffrage*, issued by the English suffragists in the beginning of this year, which contains a short compendium of the arguments for the desired reform. This book called "Studiemateriaal voor Vrouwenkiesrecht" may be ordered from F. van Rossen, Heeren-gracht 281, Amsterdam by postal order of 3 Sh. It was presented to H. M. the Queen, who graciously accepted it, and to the members of both the chambers of Parliament. The press received it very favourably.

M. G. K.

Great Britain.

NATIONAL UNION OF W. S. SOCIETIES.

One of the important events of the past month in connection with the Women's Suffrage movement has been the decision delivered in the Scottish Law Court on Saturday November 16th.

The point under discussion was whether women graduates of the Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities were entitled to vote for the election of a Parliamentary representative of the Universities. The lower Courts had decided against the claim, and the case on Saturday came up for judgment on appeal. Lord McLaren upheld the decision of the lower Courts, pointing out that women have never enjoyed the Parliamentary franchise, and that, therefore, they could not do so in the Parliamentary elections for the Universities. The Act of Parliament gives the franchise to "every person who is a University Graduate not subject to legal incapacity". The fact that women graduate at the Universities does not remove this legal incapacity, and it appeared to the Court that there was absolutely no evidence in the terms of the Universities Act 1889, that Parliament intended to extend the franchise to women, when it empowered the University Authorities to admit women to graduation. The reclaiming vote was therefore refused.

The Right Hon. Lloyd-George, President of the Board of Trade, whilst on a political visit to

Glasgow, received a deputation from the Glasgow Women's Suffrage Society, headed by Mrs. A. Ballantyne, chairman, and including several prominent members of the Association. A memorial was submitted to him, asking for a pledge that the Government would introduce a measure for the enfranchisement of women before they demitted office. Mr. Lloyd George's reply is perhaps the most important utterance by a Cabinet Minister which we have had for some time, because it not only deals with the abstract, but attempts a practical discussion in considerable detail of the question of tactics and of the lines on which we may best proceed to further our cause. Mr. Lloyd-George emphasized the point that if the women leaders of the movement were to appeal to their own sex and educate them and stir them up to the point of demanding the vote, they would get it. It was such an obviously reasonable thing, he could not conceive of the right of men to deny it. It would be an intolerable act of oppression on the part of men to deny the demand if women asked for it. There was not a law that did not affect them as much as it affected men, and more than that, let them take all the great movements they were agitating for—improvement in the housing of the working classes, temperance reform, education—women were really much more directly interested in these movements than men were.

"Educate your own sex", concluded Mr. George, "before you start to educate the other. If you educate your own sex you will find no difficulty with the other. Since the introduction of Woman Suffrage in New Zealand and Australia, much greater attention has been paid to social and moral questions. Therefore, the sooner Woman Suffrage is introduced into this country the better, although the view that taxation should be the basis of representation is open to further consideration".

This announcement appeared in the "London Gazette" of Nov. 29. "The King has been pleased to make the following appointment to the Order of Merit, Miss Florence Nightingale".

There are twenty members of this Order, some soldiers and sailors, some artists, some men of science, but Miss Nightingale stands alone as the representative of her sex. The story of her life is known throughout the civilized world; how she vindicated the right of women to serve their country, not only in the protected circle of the home, but in outposts of difficulty and danger. Her name now is surrounded as it were by a halo, the halo of the reverential awe and gratitude of England, but when in 1854 she entered upon a certain bold course of action, the great deed was then, as always such deeds have been, worked out, through opposition, misunderstanding, and disheartenments.

This woman, revered by all, when the Queen was young, has been a life-long advocate of Women's Suffrage. Regarding this attitude, she says "I have no reasons. It seems to me almost self-evident, an axiom, that every householder and taxpayer should have a voice in the expenditure of the money we pay, including it as does, interests most vital to any human being".

It is interesting to note the advance the cause of Women's Suffrage is making in English women's clubs. The members of the Lyceum Club in London have always been keenly interested in the question, and have forwarded it by every

means in their power. It will be remembered that a large contingent walked in the procession last spring. The enthusiastic applause which greeted a casual mention of the subject by a member of the Incorporated Law Society at the debate recently held in the club between the two societies leaves no doubt that the interest of members has not abated.

London, Dec. '07. MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The "Women's Social and Political Union" has changed its name. This was due to the formation of the "National Women's Social and Political Union", a body which formerly belonged to the W. S. P. U. but split off, owing to difficulties arising out of the question of internal organization. It was found that the two names being almost similar caused confusion in the minds of the public, and the name **Women's Freedom League** has been chosen by a majority of the members.

Much work has been accomplished in the past month. Meetings, large and small, indoor and outdoor, have been addressed daily. In addition to this, a new policy of police-court demonstration has been initiated, the object of which is to attract attention to the fact that not only do women suffer from having no share in the making of the laws they are compelled to obey, but that the administration of the laws by men only inflicts upon them another and very grave injustice.

Mrs. Billington-Greig and Miss Irene Miller opened the campaign. They attended a police-court in London, and when the first woman prisoner was placed in the dock by her male gaoler to face her male judge, Mrs. Billington-Greig rose and uttered an eloquent and dignified protest. She was removed by the order of the magistrate, and Miss Miller continued the protest until she also was turned out.

A week later similar protests were made on the same morning in nearly all the London police-courts, and in many provincial and Scottish courts. In all cases the women were removed with a gentleness which contrasts well with the brutality met out to those other friends of our movement who dare to interrupt the pompous flow of ministerial eloquence at Liberal meetings by the unfeminine cry of "Votes for Women".

Another event of importance was the public Debate between Mrs. Billington-Greig and Miss Bondfield (Socialist) on the question of Adult Suffrage in the future versus what is known as the "limited Bill", a measure to enfranchise women on the same terms as are or may be granted to men.

Mrs. Billington-Greig ably advocated the immediate removal of the sex-disability, pointing to the fate of other European women, who have trusted to masculine socialistic promises, only to find themselves thrown on one side when their services had successfully resulted in manhood suffrage.

Miss Bondfield confined herself to the grievances of class oppression, ignoring the fact that sex-oppression is the more grievous condition.

Many English Socialists actually deny the existence of a sex-warfare, a fact which forces us to deny their existence as true Socialists. We can understand men taking up this attitude, just as we could understand a cat denying the existence of a cat-and-mouse warfare. Of course

if questioned, the cat would say: "My relations with mice are entirely friendly. I love the little creatures who have been created by a wise Providence for my use and pleasure, and I strongly deprecate any attempt being made to put false notions into their pretty little heads about cat-tyranny and the like. Their mousely duty is to come up at meal-times and be eaten. All time mice like being eaten; so it is not only their duty but their privilege". There is no cat-and-mouse antagonism from the cat's point of view. There is no sex-antagonism from the man's point of view. But are the cat and the man the best judges of this matter?

London, Dec. 1907.

MAUDE FITZ HERBERT.

Sweden.

"When we are looking for real political interest we must visit the women's meetings", wrote the other day a newspaper after a meeting at Trollhättan. "No political meeting for men would have been able to assemble so many persons as 300 on a fine Sunday afternoon.

After the lecture a resolution claiming suffrage for women on the same terms as for men was adopted with enthusiasm by all present.

On the 24th October a large meeting, attended by 2000 persons, was held in Gotenburg. The speakers were: Miss Eva Rodhe—veteran champion for woman's rights, who has past her 70th year and wears a medal for good civic work (yet is not thought worthy to vote!); doctor Phil. Mrs. Gulli Petrini, a renowned mathematician, sparkling with humour and wit, and Mr. Henrik Hedlund, editor of one of our best political papers: "Göteborg Handels- och Sjöfartstiding".

After the meeting I had the great satisfaction of hearing a lady say: I feel obliged to ask your pardon for not having been before now a member of the Society for Woman's Suffrage. I am quite ashamed of myself, but I did not know..."

It is the old, always repeated reason; *I did not know*. When people *do* know, they always recognize the undisputable right.

Everywhere one meets with sympathy. A few days ago I gave a lecture to an assembly of 400 persons—the National Good-templars' Union—on the subject: "Will women's suffrage favour the temperance cause?"

The lecture was received with warm applause and the president urged upon the women their duty to join the suffrage society.

"We have never heard this reform spoken of before now", he added, but of course it is as just as just can be". Three hearty cheers for woman's suffrage ended the meeting.

An organization of some female trades unions (social-democrats) has resolved to agitate for suffrage and arranged a meeting in December. Miss Anna Lindhagen is to give a lecture and the vice president of the Suffrage Society in Gotenburg, Mrs. Helen Sjöstedt has promised to recite a very fine poem she has written.—The social-democrat women loyally kept their peace as long as their male fellow-partisans had to fight their own cause. But now they feel it is time to join in the movement, and we all work together.

It is quite funny to observe how soon the men belonging to the liberal party have adopted woman suffrage as the most natural thing in world. It really does not look so bad after all.

Gotenburg Nov. 1907.

FRIGGA CARLBERG.

Lectures on citizenship and meetings that pass resolutions for woman suffrage all over the country. I have been informed of those of Stockholm on 17 November, Falun 24 November, Södertälge 5 December, besides many meetings in October and others planned for December and a course of lectures at Falun. The biggest meeting was that of Stockholm, where a woman presided, three women and four deputies of three different political parties spoke, and an audience of nearly 2000 persons unanimously passed this resolution: „The meeting declares its conviction that the country in many respects stands in need of women's entrance into politics, and that the suffrage-question cannot be considered resolved, as long as half the population is left out of all direct influence on legislation; so the claim of political equality of men and women should be granted by the Riksdag in 1908” At Falun too this same resolution was passed by a meeting of 1000 assistants, presided by a woman and addressed by a Provincial Governor, two members of Parliament and two women.

Every paper is full of „votes for women”, and we could find models of speeches for all sorts of audiences in Sweden now.

Will this steady work and unshaken faith get its reward next year?

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Finland.

Die Landtagsordnung für das Grossfürstentum ist folgende:

§ 1. Der Landtag des Grossfürstentums Finnland vertritt das finnische Volk.

§ 2. Der Landtag bildet eine einzige Kammer, aus zweihundert Landtagsmännern (Abgeordneten) bestehend.

§ 3. Wahlen von Landtagsmännern finden alle drei Jahre gleichzeitig im ganzen Lande statt. Der Auftrag eines Landtagsmannes fängt an, sobald er als gewählt erklärt wird und dauert bis zur Beendigung der nächsten Wahlen fort.

Der Kaiser und Grossfürst hat jedoch das Recht, wenn er solches nötig findet, vor dem Ausgange der im Mom. 1 erwähnten dreijährlichen Periode neue Wahlen zu verordnen. In solchem Falle soll, wofern nicht eine wiederholte Auflösung des Landtages stattfindet, die Vollmacht der Landtagsmänner drei Jahre gültig sein.

§ 4. Die Landtagsmänner werden durch direkte und proportionale Wahlen gewählt; und soll behufs solcher Wahlen das Land in wenigstens zwölf und höchstens achtzehn Wahlkreise eingeteilt sein.

Wo die Ortsverhältnisse eine Abweichung von der proportionalen Wahlweise hervorrufen, können jedoch über die genannte Zahl einige Wahlkreise gebildet werden für die Wahl von nur einem einzigen Landtagsmanne.

Bei den Wahlen haben alle Wahlberechtigten ein gleiches Stimmrecht.

Es ist nicht gestattet durch einen Bevollmächtigten zu wählen.

Nähere Bestimmungen hinsichtlich der Wahlkreise sowie der Zeit und der Weise der Wahlen werden in einem besonderen Wahlgesetze mitgeteilt.

§ 5. Berechtigt an den Landtagswahlen Anteil zu nehmen ist ein jeder finnischer Mitbürger, Mann sowohl als Frau, der vor dem Wahljahre vierundzwanzig Jahr alt geworden ist.

Das Wahlrecht gebührt jedoch nicht:

1) dem, welcher in aktivem Militärdienst steht;

2) dem, welcher unter Vormundschaft steht;

3) dem, der nicht während der letzten drei Jahre im Lande steuerpflichtig gewesen ist;

4) dem, der aus anderen Gründen als von den Kommunebehörden durch Zeugniß beglaubigter Mittellosigkeit, es unterlassen hat die ihm für die zwei nächstvergangenen Jahre zukommenden Staatsabgaben zu bezahlen;

5) dem, der von der Armenpflege für sich eine Unterstützung bekommt, wo die Unterstützung nicht eine zufällige war;

6) dem, der Bankrott gemacht hat, bis er seinen finanziellen Staat beedigt hat;

7) dem, der wegen Landstreicherei zu Zwangsarbeit verurteilt worden ist, bis zum Ende des dritten Jahres, nachdem er aus der Arbeitsanstalt entlassen wurde;

8) dem, der in Folge eines gesetzlichen Urteils bürgerliche Ehrenrechte entbehrt oder unwert ist im Dienste des Landes gebraucht zu werden oder für einen Anderen einzutreten;

9) dem, der überführt worden ist, bei einer Landtagwahl Stimmen gekauft oder verkauft zu haben, oder einen Versuch dazu gemacht zu haben, oder an mehr als einem Orte seine Stimme abgegeben zu haben, oder durch Drohung oder Gewalt die Wahlfreiheit gestört zu haben — bis zum Ende des sechsten Kalenderjahres nach dem Jahre, wo endgültiges Urteil in der Sache ausgesprochen wurde.

§ 6. Wählbar als Landtagsmann ist, ohne Rücksicht auf Wohnort, ein jeder, der wahlberechtigt ist.

Helsingfors, Dez. 1907.

ANNA LUNDSTRÖM.

Russia.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS IN RUSSIA.

The laws, which obtain in different parts of the Russian empire with regard to the rights of parliamentary voters are most complicated and numerous. There are four different elective systems, viz.: 1) European Russia, 2) Poland, 3) the Caucasus and 4) Asiatic Russia. Everywhere the law is obscured by scores of by-laws, exceptions, amendments etc. According to the law of 3 June 1907 (instead of 524 as required by the law of 6 August 1905) 442 members for the Douma are elected from the whole Russian empire, viz: 403 from European Russia; 14 from Poland; 10 from the Caucasus; 15 from Asiatic Russia.

As a detailed account of the suffrage right in Russia would take more than one number of „Jus Suffragii”, I shall only briefly explain the general laws, which regulate the right to vote in *European Russia*.

It is the property census which is the principal element in the suffrage rights, according to the law of 3 June 1907. But not all those, who possess the census, established by law, are entitled to vote. Thus the following persons are excluded: 1) Women, 2) Men under the age of 25, 3) Students, 4) Officers of the army and navy, 5) Tribes, which have no fixed residence, 6) Foreign subjects. Of these, women and officers of the army and navy who possess the required property-census, can transmit their voting-rights: the former to their husbands and sons, and the latter to their sons.

The electors are divided into five groups, according to different kinds of census: 1) Land-owners, 2) Peasants, 3) Workmen, 4) Citizens of the 1st category, 5) Citizens of the 2nd category.

The *Land-owners* (50,4 % of the 403) are divided into two groups: a) Land-owners whose property has a value of no less than 15,000 roubles; b) Land-owners whose property has a value under 15,000 roubles. The former take a direct part in the election; the latter through their representatives. *Peasants*, (who constitute 80 % of the nation, but only 22,3 % of the 403) From every district (volost), which has from 2000 up to 60,000 peasants, two voters are elected. These elect electors, who finally elect members for the Douma. *Workmen*. (2,4 % of the 403) Each factory which has from 50 up to 1999 workmen has the right to elect one voter. These elect electors, who finally vote for the Douma. *Citizens*. The citizens of the 1st category (14 % of the 403) are: a) those who possess a property of no less than 3000 roubles in one of the capitals and of no less than 1500 roubles in other towns. b) Traders, who pay a tax of 500 roubles in one of the capitals or no less than 50 roubles in other towns. The citizens of the 2nd category (11,2 % of the 403) are: a) those who possess a property in one of the capitals for a sum of no less than 3000 roubles or 1500 r. in other towns, b) those who pay a personal trade-tax, c) those who have resided in lodgings of their own for no less than 12 months, d) those who, having resided in a town for no less than 12 months, have received during that space of time a salary from the government or from the representative institutions. All citizens have elections of two degrees with the exception of 5 big towns: Moscow, S. Petersburg, Odessa, Riga and Kiev, where the electors directly elect members for the Douma.

By the law of 6 Aug. 1905 the proportion was: Landowners 31.5 % citizens 22.2 %; peasants 43 % and workmen 3.3 % of the 412 deputies from European Russia.

This short account of the elective system in Russia shows that it is the interest of the rich and not those of the whole people which are taken into consideration by the law of 3 June 1907. Thus in Petersburg we have about 3800 electors of the 1st and about 80,000 electors of the 2nd category; and both categories elect, each of them, three members for the Douma.

The principle of inequality prevails in questions of class, sex and nationality. The same inequality reigns in different parts of Russia. Thus 90 millions of inhabitants of European Russia have 403 deputies, or about one deputy from 250,000, while 9 millions in Poland elect 14 deputies in all, or one deputy from 700,000. The same system prevails in the Caucasus, where 7 millions elect 10 deputies. Thus the elective law in Russia is anything but universal or equal. Before concluding, we must draw the attention of those interested in the suffrage rights in Russia to one more point: the great influence which the administration keeps with regard to the elections for the Douma. The supreme direction of the elections belongs to the Minister of Interior: he regulates the elections and has also the right to divide, according to his will, the elective meetings by localities, nationalities, by census etc. The right of directing the elections in different governments and towns belongs to the local governors.

Moscow, Dec. 1907.

Z. MIROVITCH.

The *Polish Women's Union for Equality of Rights*, whose President is Mrs. Kuczalska—Reinschmit of Warsaw, is zealous although much hampered in its action. It gives conferences, edits the paper „Ster” (Rudder) and has presented to the second Douma a petition with about 4000

signatures, of which the Union's Secretary, Mrs. Theresa Lubinska, kindly sends us the following text: Polish Women!

Behind us lies the past of dead slumber. The hand of justice on the time-piece of liberty, comes to the hour of enfranchisement.

Woman with loud protest throws away the slavish subjection of her existence.

Woman *cannot* fulfil the citizen-duties in her house or country, till her voice is heard in the conditions of those duties.

Woman *wants* to be a free mother of a free generation.

The law which, founded on sexual inequality, does not call women to the ballot-box is *not universal* being the privilege of a minority, viz. of the men only.

In the Kingdom of Poland upon the whole number of 11,600,000 inhabitants, there are 6,000,000 of women.

In the name of justice we claim abolition of the iniquity which shuts out the women from legislation and thereby dulls their conscience towards other injustices, lowers ethics and hygiene in society and becomes the basis of many injuries done to the human dignity of woman.

We address to all Polish women the following appeal:

„Let us join all our forces to awaken in the conscience of women, the feeling of the great evil done to them, and in the men's conscience a just revolt against the name of tyrant.

We invite upon this appeal, signatures from women and men, to testify that we want a real universal equal suffrage, with secret, direct voting, without discrimination against sex, confession or nationality”.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Germany.

The long-expected project of a Law on Associations was sent to the Parliament (Reichtstag) in the latter part of November. According to our conjectures, as compared with the liberal Hessian and Wurtembergian legislation, it contains many impaired conditions.—„Rather a Prussian law”, will our southern countrymen say. A very objectionable paragraph is § 7, which only permits the use of the German language in public meetings. This may give rise to invidious discrimination against Poles, Danes and all foreign labourers who might be disagreeable to the Government. Yet there is decidedly one victory won, which the progressive women have long claimed in Germany, viz. sex-equality in the Right of Association. Societies which take an interest in the bill can order its text with all the Explanatory Remarks and the stipulations obtaining in other countries, from Carl Heymann's library, Berlin, Mauerstrasse 44. In the Explanatory Remarks added to the bill we find mentioned that in 13 states there are limitations now in vigour, whilst in the 14 others men and women are in equal condition as to the Law on Associations, in so far as the local authorities are not left free to interfere. Finally the entrance of women into public life in modern times is recognized; and the bill literally says: „Those women who have independently to earn their own livelihood have, through their economical interests, political interests as well and must be allowed the right of discussing these in associations and assemblies.”

In the Grandduchy of Oldenburg the members of the N.W.S.A. are strenuously agitating for the extension of Municipal suffrage and the granting of votes for the Diet to women, with the assistance of the Central Committee of the N.W.S.A., which has sent in petitions on the subject to the State-Ministry and to the Diet. The acting President Lida Gustava Heymann and Martha Zietz from Hamburg were sent out as speakers to the meetings called by the members resident in the more important towns of the Grandduchy.

Dr. ANITA AUGSPURG,
in „Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht“, 1 Dec.

On 19 November there was a meeting at Heidelberg called by the Women's Educational Society (Frauenbildung—Frauenstudium) and the W. S. A. of Badenia, where Dr. Gertrud Woker, teacher at the university of Berne, lectured on „Causes and Effects of the Movement for Women's Enfranchisement.“ All political parties had been invited, and some had sent delegates. The lecturer treated the women's question principally from a scientific point of view, and was much admired for her eloquence and logical argumentation.

In a meeting of liberal electors in the same town, Councillor (Regierungsrat) Dr. Beck declared: „The exclusion of women from political meetings and their political disabilities must come to an end. We rejoice in the participation of women in our work and in their attending our meetings; and what is possible in Southern Germany will do for Northern Germany too.“

The socialist women of Berlin have proposed resolutions to the Congress of Prussian Social-democrats to agitate for votes for women in parliamentary and municipal elections.

Dr. Woker from Berne also spoke at Tübingen on 30 November, and with no less success than at Heidelberg. After her speech Dr. Breitscheid gave a historical review of the demand of votes for women, and the meeting ended by the inscription of many new members who crowded round the President, Mrs. Renetta Brandt. On the previous day, at Stuttgart, a National Woman Suffrage Society for Württemberg had been constituted, and Mrs Anna Lindemann from Stuttgart elected as its President.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Der Sächsische Verein für Frauenstimmrecht (Vorsitzende Frau Marie Stritt) hat in seiner kürzlich stattgehabten ersten Generalversammlung einstimmig seinen Beitritt zum Deutschen Verband und durch diesen zum Weltbund für Frauenstimmrecht beschlossen. In einer am 1. Dez. veranstalteten öffentlichen Volksversammlung protestierte der Verein gegen den rückständigen Entwurf der sächsischen Regierung für ein neues Landtagswahlgesetz, der gegenwärtig der Zweiten Kammer zur Beratung vorliegt. In einem ausgezeichneten Referat legte Frau Katharina Scheven die Stellung der fortschrittlichen Frauen zu der Vorlage dar. In der Diskussion richtete Fr. Rosika Schwimmer, die auf der Durchreise in Dresden anwesend war, eine begeisterte Ansprache an die Versammlung, die mit allen gegen eine Stimme die folgende Resolution annahm: „Die auf Einladung des Sächsischen Vereins für Frauenstimmrecht am 1. Dez. 1907 in Meinholds Sälen tagende öffentliche Versammlung erklärt den dem Landtag zur Beratung vorliegenden Entwurf eines neuen Wahl-

gesetzes für die Zweite Kammer für unzeitgemäß und ungerecht, da er die erste Forderung des demokratischen Prinzips: *allgemeines und gleiches* Wahlrecht, nicht erfüllt. Insbesondere erblickt sie in dem Entwurf eine schwere Benachteiligung der auch fernerhin von einer eigenen Vertretung ausgeschlossenen weiblichen Volkshälfte. Sie protestiert gegen die weitere Gleichstellung der Frauen mit Unmündigen, Bankerotteuren, Schwachsinnigen und Verbrechern, die von jeher eine Entwürdigung der Mütter der Nation bedeutete, und die heute, wo der Frau gleich dem Mann alle Bildungsmöglichkeiten offenstehen, wo sie gleich ihm im Erwerbleben und im Kampf ums Dasein steht, völlig widersinnig erscheint. Die Versammlung spricht sich für Einführung des allgemeinen, gleichen, direkten und geheimen Landtagswahlrechts für Männer und Frauen auf Grundlage der von der sächsischen Regierung vorgeschlagenen Verhältniswahl aus.“

Wie aussichtslos in Bezug auf einen augenblicklichen greifbaren Erfolg solche Kundgebungen vorläufig leider noch in Deutschland sind, geht aus der Tatsache hervor, dass von sämtlichen eingeladenen Mitgliedern der beiden Kammern *nicht ein einziger* in der Versammlung erschienen war.

Dresden, Dez. 1907.

MARIE STRITT.

Norway.

The Norwegian women have now a great task to fulfil: not only they have to prepare the new electors for their duty, but also they have this month to exercise the municipal suffrage, which they possess since 1901; and our October-issue gave a glimpse of the work they are doing. Both the N. W. S. A. (Landskvindestemmeretsforening), which has continued its existence for the sake of obtaining votes for *all* women on the same terms as for the men, and the National Council of Women, are big national organizations, standing above the political parties and embracing members of different political and religious opinions. They have tried to put up in every district a list of women nominees for the municipal councils containing some names acceptable to each party, and they wish to conduct the work of enlightening the new electors on strictly non-party lines too. The National Council has sent a circular to its Local Councils and affiliated societies to remind them of the resolution carried at the annual meeting on the 5th of July: "that the N. C. takes up into its program of action the work of enlightening the Norwegian women on their newly-obtained rights, and of rendering them capable of fulfilling the demands and exercising the duties which the new law imposes on them and will further impose on them in the progress of social evolution in social, municipal and political respects".

The N. W. S. A. too has spread the following publication by means of the press:—

"To the Women of Norway!

Go to the polls and vote at the municipal elections! Know that we are now called upon to exercise our right!

Think that the welfare of the community, the home, the children and the town are at stake!

Mind that Norwegian women are *eligible!*

Take care that worthy women be nominated! Support bravely the nominated women!

The right to vote is a duty! Go and poll your votes!"

Ask sample-copies from the Editor.

On 27 November the Radical Party (venstre) held a well-attended meeting at Kristiania, at which Miss Frederikke Mörck spoke on a more equitable distribution of taxes, so as to lay them more on large than on small incomes. Moreover she advocated the appointment of women on public commissions. „Now that we have women on municipal councils and juries," she said, "they should also have a seat on Boards of Trustees (Tillidshverv) and be appointed to charges of confidence. Our community can not afford talents to lie unused and energy untested."

Both Miss Mörck and the other speaker, Mr. Lange, were much applauded.

On 19 October the N. W. S. A. gave a reception to its President, Fru. F. M. Qvam, in order to express its cordial feelings of gratitude and love towards its distinguished leader. In thanking all the women of Norway for their tokens of admiration and affection, Mrs. Qvam expressed her hope that it might not be long before *full* suffrage would be granted to *all* the women of the country.

The conservative parties have put up 12 women as candidates for the Municipal Council of Kristiania which consists of 84 members, the progressive parties also 12, the socialists 9 and the totalists 9. Women have also been elected on the executive and representative bodies of different parties and some have introduced bills etc. The women candidates are active enough, they have been giving lectures and conferences for the different parties every day during the last week of Nov. The result of the elections is that 4 women have been elected.

At Mrs. Kjelsberg's, the President of the Drammen Local Council of Women's request Mr. Berger, Councillor of the Superior Tribunal (Overretssagfører), gave a very instructive conference on municipal legislation on 25 November. He explained the particulars of the institutions and the different branches of administration that belong to the Town Council's sphere. His lecture was so much appreciated that the Drammen Local Council has edited it as a leaflet.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Denmark.

On Nov. 24 a new national women's suffrage alliance was founded in Denmark and named "Landsforbundet for Kvinders Valgret."

It has no other object than votes for women. It consists of 40 branches from all parts of the country and has a total of 4500 members. Among these branches that of Copenhagen has more than 1200 members.

This must be considered a good result, as the work out in the country was commenced this spring only. The simple programme of W. S. has proved to win much sympathy.

The meeting of delegates was very interesting and satisfactory almost all branches were represented. A member of men were present at the meeting, and they gave the women the testimony that they spoke better and more to the point than the majority of men.

Mrs. Rambush from Jylland was elected president and Mrs Elna Munch from Copenhagen, vice-president of the alliance.

The meeting ended with a little social gathering

with many speeches by men and women, and some excellent songs written for the occasion.

CLARA TYBJERG.

Copenhagen Dec. 1907.

Iceland.

The women of Iceland have a near prospect of becoming eligible for town-councils in the New Year.

The lawgiving Parliament (it seems there is another only to give its council: "rathgebend") of Iceland has proposed it and the Minister of Iceland has been in Denmark to get the signature of the King for this and other law projects. On 5 Dec. he sailed for Iceland from Copenhagen and we have good cause to presume, that the said proposal has been acquiesced.

JOHANNA MÜNTER.

Copenhagen, Dec. 1907.

Austria.

The steadily augmenting increase of the price of all commodities and victuals gave occasion to the Vienna W. S. Committee to call a public meeting for discussing the subject: Housewives and the rising Cost of Food. The pretty crowded meeting took place on Nov. 23rd, Mrs Daisy Minor occupying the chair. The W.S. Committee had succeeded in engaging two able speakers, Mrs Marie Lang from Vienna and Mrs Anna Meretta from Troppau as lecturers. Mrs. Meretta quoted statistics to show the enormous increase of the price of several commodities of late years, and asserted that the deputies (except the labour representatives) were too much concerned with ideal national issues, instead of giving attention to real economical questions. In order to obviate the increase of prices, it were best to avoid the second-hand trade and to form Consumers' Associations. At the end of her address, which met with much sympathy from the audience, Mrs. Meretta appealed to the women to unite their forces as consumers for the welfare of the community. Then Mrs. Marie Lang, referring to a resolution declared urgent by Parliament which dealt with the increase of the prices of victuals, treated of the importance of the ballot for women. The opening of the frontiers for import of cheap meat and a diminution of the duties on corn are the most essential conditions for the lowering of prices. Those provisions can only be made by Parliament, and so, in order to be able to work in that direction, women should be allowed seats and votes on the Representation of the People. The present dearth is mostly the consequence of a political machination, to combat which women should organise and urge their demand of enfranchisement.

A storm of applause greeted the lecturer's words, and after that some women discussed the difficulties of the domestic budget in families of teachers and other state-officials, and also the desirability of arranging a housewives' congress. Deputy baron Hock and the Town-councillors Dr. v. Fürth and Dr. v. Dorn treated the question of the organisation of customers especially in Consumers' Leagues and Cooperative Societies, and mentioned the advantages of Central Kitchens.

The meeting was closed with a reiterated appeal to women to join the Woman Suffrage Committee, and it has had the result of gaining many fresh adherents to the cause of women's enfranchisement. Vienna, Dec. 1907.

NINI VON FÜRTH.

BOHEMIA.

We cannot as yet form a regular W. S. A. because § 30 of the Law on Associations is an obstacle in Bohemia as well as in the other countries belonging to the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, Hungary alone excepted. The abolition of this paragraph is one of our first demands. So, in default of freedom of association, we have formed our Woman Suffrage Committee (See Jus Suffr. Nov. 1907), which, in addition to discussing the questions of the day, proposes to educate women in politics. The Committee holds weekly meetings of associated members and is led by its founders, who, however, have no official qualification. At every meeting current topics are discussed and the work is divided among the associates: newspaper-articles, speeches, press-notice, petitions, etc. Every woman who has consented to take upon her some task is understood to prepare it at home and to read it in the next Committee-session, with a view to mutual correction. This gives pleasure and interest to the work.

The Bohemian W.S. Committee regularly publishes in the papers appeals to all sorts of associations all over the country to ask their cooperation for presenting petitions, giving instruction on municipal elections, etc. It also sends out its trained speakers into provincial towns to lecture on women's enfranchisement and kindred subjects.

Much work awaits us in the nearest future. In February or March the elections for the Bohemian Diet (Landtag) will take place, and we propose to open negotiations with the different parties and persuade them to put up women as candidates; it is yet undecided whether as candidates of one or several parties or simply as candidates put up by us for the purpose of counting our adherents. Our cause is as yet too young to say anything definite, — but we are not lacking in courage, and as the matter now stands, we may expect at least some good results, for nowadays nearly all the leading newspapers in Bohemia speak of woman suffrage, which was never the case before the existence of our W.S. Committee. Prague, Dec. 1907. FRANZISKA PLAMÍNKOVÁ.

Italy.

We have to salute the resurrection of the review *La Voce della Donna* (the Voice of Woman) published at Bari. This time it intends to take articles from men as well as from women, treating of important issues touching the emancipation of women. Among these is also woman-suffrage, and our co-worker, prof. Teresa Labriola, is one of the editors.

The Women's Association in Rome (Ass. per la Donna) has sent to both the Houses of the Italian Parliament a petition demanding the abolition of some of the worst injustices to women contained in the Civil Code: the loss of nationality by marriage with a foreigner, the obligation to follow the husband wherever he chooses to establish his residence, the loss of disposal of property by marriage, the defence of suing the unmarried father for alimentation of a child, the exclusion of women from guardianship, and above all the denial of municipal and political suffrage to women.

In Perugia the National Congress for the Peace was held on September 20. Many women's associations were represented, and Irma Melany

Scodnik, the delegate of the Ladies' Peace Society of Palermo, gave a powerful address, showing that all the women's aspirations for the peace were of no actual value and influence, as long as they lacked the power of the ballot. Evidently she succeeded in convincing the audience, for the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"The Third National Congress, — considering that women, when they shall have awakened to see their duties, will serve with more efficiency the cause of national and international peace by educating the coming generations and propagating pacific means of settling international questions, — expresses its desire that women may soon obtain their political rights and complete personal independence, in order to gain a sense of their responsibility towards the community in the interest of universal brotherhood."

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

France.

Dr. Madeleine Pelletier edits a paper to advocate the women's claims under the promising title "*La Suffragiste*". It will not however limit its contents to the discussion of women's rights, but also treat political and scientific questions of the day.

In November the National Council of French Women had its quarterly meeting. The section for woman suffrage had been the only one which had worked during the summer. It had set about collecting signatures to a petition for votes for women, and its zealous President, Mme. Georges Martin, hopes to obtain a great many more.

Mme. Hubertine Auclert, President of the oldest established society for woman suffrage in Paris, has approached the Department Council (Conseil général de la Seine) with a request to pass a resolution in favour of votes for women, and they unanimously adopted the following motion: "that it is desirable that women should be enfranchised and should exercise the right of voting for Department and Municipal Councils (Conseil général et Conseil municipal)."

Miss Jenny Wallerstedt from Linköping gave five successful lectures on the women's suffrage movement in Sweden in different women's societies at Paris.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Australia.

In the "Monthly Record" of the Women's Liberal League we see the members of the Women's Liberal Leagues are determined to show the Legislators what they think of the tariff. The crowded meeting held under the auspices of the Central League in Sydney was followed by anti-tariff meetings in the country. The Armidale W. L. L. demonstration against the tariff was an immense success.

The Central League sent petitions to over 50 of the branches, some of which have been forwarded to Federal members for presentation. Others will be returned to the Central League to form one large petition. The Hunter's Hill W.L.L. has at present 750 signatures on their petition. Parramatta W.L.L. 1,000, Armidale W.L.L. 1,200, and St. George 628.