

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

FIFTH YEAR No. 3.

NOVEMBER 15, 1910.

Mulierem constat subjectam dominio  
viri esse, et nullam auctoritatem habere,  
nec docere enim potest, nec testis esse,  
neque fidem dare, nec judicare, quanto  
magis non potest imperare.

AUGUSTINUS.



Women are the custodians of the  
future, the guardians of its first public  
breath, the trainers of its earliest thought  
and impulse. Through untold labors and  
privations we bring the men to men's  
estate. Who shall say that our duty to  
the body politic ends there?

JULIA WARD HOWE.

PRICE PER YEAR 2 DUTCH FLORINS (= 3 Sh. 6 d. = 0.82 \$ = 3 Kr. = 4.25 Frs. = 3½ Mk.)

## HURRAH FOR WASHINGTON!!!

The State of Washington adopted an amendment to its constitution granting suffrage to women.

### Announcements.

The Report of the London Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance may be ordered from Mrs. Adela Stanton Coit, 30 Hyde Park Gate, London S. W., for 1 shilling and 3 pence post-paid. It contains the reports of the Auxiliaries of the I. W. S. All. and is indispensable to those who have to produce the national reports for the next Convention at Stockholm on June 12 1911

A similar Report of the Amsterdam Convention in 1908 may be had gratis on application to Miss Martina G. Kramers, 92 Kruiskade, Rotterdam, with 3d for postage.

### MUSIC FOR INTERNATIONAL HYMN.

The National Suffrage Association of Germany, Switzerland and Holland have each been asked to name one member of a Committee of three, whose function it shall be to judge the musical compositions sent in for the international hymn. Fifteen compositions are now in Miss Kramer's hands. Each is labelled with a motto, figure or word, which is also written upon the outside of a sealed envelope. The envelope contains the name of the composer. Miss Kramers has been instructed to pass the entire number over to the Dutch member of the Committee who will form her judgment, and without revealing it, will forward the compositions to the German member, who will follow the same procedure and forward the compositions to the Swiss member. She will return them to Miss Kramers. Each member will inform Miss Kramers of her choice. If all agree upon the same composition, it will be considered the choice of the Committee, and that composition will be presented at the Stockholm meeting as the report of the Committee. If each member of the Committee should decide upon a different composition, the report will represent a divided opinion. The Stockholm Committee of arrangements will secure a singer, or singers to present these compositions

to the Congress which will make the final choice. Even though the Committee are agreed upon one composition, the Congress in Stockholm alone can make the official choice. Any member of the Committee is at liberty to reject all the compositions as unworthy the hymn, and the Congress is at liberty to make this decision also.

No composition can be received after December 1, 1910. Some composers have expressed impatience at the delay in judgment, but this must be a notice to all such that the final choice will be made in Stockholm, and that there was never any intention of any other procedure.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

Those who wish to act upon our suggestion in J. S. IV p. 81 and V p. 2 are requested to send orders for any number of copies required before the printing is done.

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The editor will be much obliged to all readers who can spare back numbers of J. S., because they are in great request, not only those of the last year but ever since the paper was started.

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Will all the women's papers on our list J. S. IV 82, V 1 en V 9 follow the good example of the American „Woman's Journal” and announce the existence of „Jus Suffragii” with address and price?

### LITERATURE.

Before beginning this paragraph, the Editor must earnestly request the Auxiliaries of the I. W. S. Alliance to give their delegates to the Stockholm Convention exact instructions as to their desires with respect to it.

Are we to announce only publications edited by the National W. S. Associations, or works



recommended by them too, or also works written or sent to the Editor by eminent suffragists?

This question needs an answer, for it involves great issues for the Editor. If the Alliance should decide on the latter plan, the edition of „Jus Suffragii“ will require twice the time it does now.

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The Swiss W. S. A., Secretary Mme A. Girardet Vielle, Castel d'Al, Lausanne, wishes to edit *suffrage post-cards* and would be obliged to readers who would have the kindness to send samples of their publications in this line. I (Ed.) have already mailed to Mme G. V. the two sets of cards published by the Swedish W. S. A. in 1909 and by Dansk Kvindesamfund (not „Danske Kvindeforeningers Valgretsforbund“, as I announced by mistake in J. S. V 10) this summer. I dare say many suffragists will respond to this request from Switzerland.

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The Swedish W. S. A. rejoices in the appearance of *Pennskaftet* a novel by Elin Wägner (A. B. Ljus, Stockholm, 3 Kr.), which paints real life and the adventures of a real woman suffragist without the exaggeration so often seen in this topic. The heroine, a woman journalist (which accounts for her nickname „penholder“) though feeling warm sympathy for votes for women, does not bore her friends by continual talk of „the great aim“ and „the great cause“. Although showing no aversion from love, she does not make that the sole preoccupation of her life; on the whole the author contrives to paint human life without sacrificing its reality to the inculcation of her opinions on the reader. This novel is considered by some critics to fill the place of Elizabeth Robins's „The Convert“ in the Scandinavian literature.

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The Prussian W. S. A. published two new *leaflets*, the first to explain why they do not go in for suffrage „as it is or may be granted to men“, considering that, if one claims justice for oneself, one may not withhold it from others, and setting forth as their aim universal, equal, secret and direct suffrage for both sexes; and the other, entitled *Was wir wollen*, to call on every Prussian citizen, man or woman, to join the P. W. S. A., because professional women, mothers, home-makers and women employees need the ballot, and there should be a strong organization to obtain adult suffrage. On page 9 we see how the P. W. S. A. tries to show that the latter claim is a non-party one and that their attitude towards all political parties is the same, whilst every member belonging to a party is expected to work for woman suffrage there.

Pamphlet No. 8 of the P. W. S. A. *Das Wahlrecht der Frau zu den Beruflichen Interessenvertretungen* by Dr. Elizabeth Altmann-Gothheiner to be had for 0.20 Mk. 58 Fasanenstrasse Berlin, is a valuable document giving the reasons why the right of professional women to be represented on trades-boards can no longer be denied, now that their number is so fast increasing and in some cases, as sick-funds-administrations and the law on assemblies, their rights are beginning to find recognition. Dr. A.—G. gives a historical survey of the subsequent efforts made to get women enfranchised for Trades Councils, Commercial Boards, Agrarian Councils etc., in which they have always the traditional opinion of man's superior capacity and sovereignty against them.

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Mme Anna Kalmanovitch from St. Petersburg hats written in Russian an illustrated pamphlet **Suffragists and Suffragettes**. In Russia the public is still little acquainted with the suffragist movement and so the author gives a review of it, beginning with the International Council of women and then passing on to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance and ending with the strongest manifestation of the claim of votes for women, the struggle in England, whose success after the authors' conviction will benefit the whole world. Therefore she holds out the British suffrage pioneers as a model to all those who suffer from tyranny and oppression. The attractive booklet is full of portraits of prominent suffrage-workers.

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Mrss. Sherman, French & Co. in Boston have edited **The New Democracy** by Louise Downes (price \$ 2.—), dedicated by the author „to those whose feet are already shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace“. In it the author states that „Thought is born of Law. Wherever Law is, Thought is. Wherever Mystery is the absence of Law is. Wherever there is no appeal to Law you have a magnetic to-and-fro motion in the brain obscuring the One Law to eventually substitute personality for Law“, and ends by entreating America to „speak and know that the Word of your Life from out the soul of your Law is Home . . . Om . . . Om . . .“ The relation which this bears to woman suffrage will perhaps be clear to superior minds.

### Great Britain.

We are coming within sight of our goal; and the **National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies**, in common with the many other societies which are now all working towards the attainment of one object, are daily more filled with hope. Three Ministers of the present Government have recently made statements of great significance. The Prime Minister, when asked by two ladies in Scotland on Oct. 28, whether facilities would be given this Session for progress with the Conciliation Bill for Women's Suffrage, replied that he could not promise that such facilities would be afforded, as the Session had only one month to go. The suffragists then stated that Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill had voted against the Bill on the occasion of the Second Reading last July, and argued that their act seemed to show that facilities would not be given. To this Mr. Asquith made the noteworthy reply that the vote of these two Ministers could not be interpreted as meaning that the Bill was not to receive further facilities for consideration. In short, Mr. Asquith replied in such a manner as to confirm what our President, Mrs. Fawcett, has declared on several occasions, namely that the Premier is „leaving the door ajar“, and that we suffragists can, if we will, push it open and march through to victory.

Then on the same day, addressing a deputation from the Irish Women's Franchise League introduced by our friend, Mr. Nannetti, M. P. at Dublin Castle, Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, made a very striking, sincere, and manly speech. He did not, it is true, hold out hope of the Conciliation Bill being allowed to go through its further stages this Session, but he spoke in unmistakable terms of the absolute necessity for the Government to give ample time next Session for a Women's Suffrage Bill. The Bill would take a long time, because it had to be introduced in

a form which would admit of amendment, and a large party would oppose it altogether. But it was entitled to time; and Mr. Birrell added, „I certainly think that the time for shuffling and delay in this matter has gone by.“ The Minister for Education, Mr. Runciman, has also quite recently implied that the Government intended to give time for a Women's Suffrage measure next year.

In our view, however, there is no time like the present. The Conciliation Bill has passed its Second Reading with its great majority of 110, and it is (or will be on Nov. 15 when parliament reassembles) still before the House of Commons. Why should we sacrifice a Bill that has gone so far and that, in our belief, propitiates the largest number of opponents? It is true that the Bill gives us much less than equality with men voters; but we would sooner take the minimum now than wait till an uncertain date for perfect equality.

With these ideas firmly fixed in our minds, we of the **National Union** are combining with many other Women's Suffrage Societies in celebrating a great „Suffrage Week“ before the re-opening of parliament. The week (which will be over when these words are in print) should reach its climax on Saturday, November 12, when there will be an enormous joint Demonstration and Mass Meeting in the Albert Hall. According to the arrangements our beloved leader, Mrs. Fawcett, should preside, and the speakers should include Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Swanwick, the Earl of Lytton, Miss Reddish, Mr. Brailsford, the Ven. Archdeacon Escreet, and several of our supporters in the House of Commons.

I should add that the societies composing the National Union are holding meetings in all parts of Great Britain. In some towns, such as Cambridge, Miss Cicely Hamilton's „Pageant of Great Women“ brings home to spectators the unity of the women's cause, elsewhere (as in the beautiful old town of Guildford) there are processions of suffragists with banners winding through the picturesque streets and drawing crowds to meetings and overflow meetings in the public halls. In Portsmouth and elsewhere there are fairs, sales of work, receptions with addresses from stirring orators such as Mr. Housman: the quiet historic glades of our New Forest are all astir. From Park Lane, where Lord and Lady Brassey have held remarkable meetings, to the clubs and halls of remote villages, the same movement of thought and intense feeling goes: there is the one fixed resolve that women shall have in the highest sense, their liberty.

MARGARET HEITLAND,  
Member of Executive N.U.W.S.S.  
London, November 1910.

For the **Women's Social and Political Union** too this month has seen a wonderful spreading of activity all through the country. Two special opportunities have been afforded by the By-Elections at South Shields and Walthamstow of reminding the Government that they must give the further facilities -or the Conciliation Bill on the reassembling of Parliament on November 15th. In each constituency a manifesto was issued on behalf of the W.S.P.U. to electors giving them good reasons why they should oppose the Government nominee, but pointing out that a definite pledge from the Government to deal fairly with the women's question and give time for the Bill would mean the withdrawal of the opposition of

the W.S.P.U. at these contests. South Shields has already justified the result of the women's work by a tremendously reduced majority for the Liberal. The result of Walthamstow will soon be declared. But that which has proved the progress of the Woman Suffrage cause is the splendid and enthusiastic audiences, which the women have gathered in both constituencies. The contest at Walthamstow has been distinguished by a magnificent procession and mass meeting on Saturday, October 29th. Such an event is quite unique in the annals of electioneering.

But besides these activities the Movement has assumed a new phase by the arrest and imprisonment of two men-supporters on the occasion of Mr. Lloyd George's visit to the City Temple to speak. These two members of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement (a Union which puts the enfranchisement of women before any other political question and is determined to help the women in every possible way) waited near the building, and when the Chancellor of the Exchequer appeared they went up to him and asked what the Government was going to do for the Conciliation Bill. He refused to answer them, whereupon the honorary secretary of the M.P.U., Mr. Victor Duval, expressed his indignation, holding Mr. Lloyd George by the arm. Mr. Jacobs, for merely protesting at the violent way in which Mr. Duval was seized by the police, was arrested with him. Their trial was treated in a very summary way. They were fined, and on refusing to pay the fine were sent to prison. The fact that men are ready to go to prison for the Women's Cause, may well make the Government pause.

Further energies are being directed towards the great Albert Hall Demonstration to be held on Thursday, November 10th. As this will take place only a few days before Parliament meets, it is bound to prove a very important and solemn occasion. Besides the leaders, Mr. Israel Zangwill the writer, and Mr. Gerald Arbuthnot M.P., a member of the Conciliation Committee, will speak.

EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.  
London, November 1910.

The **Women's Freedom League** have never had a month of such activity as this October. To those who prophesied a permanent slackening of the suffrage agitation as a consequence of the reaction following the political excitement before and after the General Election the present position of affairs must come as a surprise. But as the movement has arisen out of the economic conditions which change only to become more acute, one solution alone is possible — success to the cause. Thus we find an immense awakening of public interest, ever growing audiences and ever increasing enthusiasm in the rank and file.

All these things have conspired together to make our October demonstrations and meetings noteworthy.

October the 8th saw our great Mass Meeting in Trafalgar Square London at which there were seven platforms, viz. W. F. L. Professional, Industrial, University, Church, Art and Literature and Reform. Among the twenty-eight wellknown speakers were Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, Miss Eva Gore Booth, Mr. Lawrence Housman, Mr. Joseph McCabe, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Surgeon, General G. J. H. Evatt, the Rev. C. Hinscliff and the Rev. Father Healey. The audience numbered thousands.



At the W. F. L. Special Conference on the 29th October, attended by delegates of all London and Provincial Branches, the following important resolutions were passed.

1) "That this Conference, recognising that in all fighting campaigns there must be progressive development, declares that the time has now come for the W. F. L. to extend its anti-Government policy so as to include interference with and impeding of all Government business including legislation, administration, taxation, and with special reference to laws making demands upon women, and to all applications of law to women."

2) "That the N. E. C. be requested to arrange a Conference with other Suffrage Societies with the object of trying to find some common policy for general election work, or failing this, of making arrangements which would prevent their working in opposition to each other in the same constituencies."

3) "This Conference records its intention of continuing militant action if the Conciliation Bill be defeated."

That as militant action is an expression of revolt against the denial of human liberty, this Conference reaffirms its belief in such action, and declares it to be a duty owed by British women to their sex and to their race.

Further, that this Conference affirms that such rebellion against injustice has the highest moral sanction.

That this Conference binds itself to continue the policy of abstention from any militant policy directly intended to injure persons or personal property."

B. BORRMANN WELLS.

Two members of the **Men's Political Union**, Mrs. Duval and George Jacobs, were arrested and charged, Mr. Duval with using insulting language and saying: "Lloyd George, you're a scoundrel, and a traitor to the women's cause", and Mr. Jacobs with assaulting a police-sergeant. They were sentenced to a fine or seven days, and both decided to go to prison.

Mr. Duval says:—"As a result of one week in prison I can testify by actual experience to the terrible sufferings that the hundreds of women must have endured who were imprisoned during the past few years. It requires some courage to go to prison, and it requires a good deal more to go the second time, and often as I sat in my cell in Pentonville Gaol, I thought of the women who went to prison more than once; I compared the treatment meted out to them with the treatment I was receiving, after my protest had been made. I thought of the cause on behalf of which all these sacrifices had been made, and I prayed in my heart that men would come forward in their thousands and so render unnecessary any further militancy".

("Votes for Women").

## Sweden.

It is now nigh upon five years since the Riksdag demanded a thorough investigation on women's suffrage, and still the Swedish women are waiting for the results thereof. As the coming Riksdag is the last of this electoral period and as every change in the constitutional law must be confirmed by two consecutive Riksdags in two separate electoral periods, it is of great importance that a Government bill on women's suffrage should be introduced during the next Riksdag.

In order to ascertain how far the investigation had advanced, the Executive Committee of the U. W. S. A. called on those to whom the investigation has been entrusted, and learnt that the work is progressing, so that it may possibly be finished and the result edited before the end of this year. The Prime Minister had also expressed a special wish to that effect.

After having gained this information the Executive Committee called on the Prime Minister himself, who confirmed the above statements and denied any wish on the part of the Government to use the investigation as a means of temporizing. Naturally he neither could nor would give any definite promise.

Such is the situation for the present; but if the investigation really gets finished in time for the next Riksdag and gives no discouraging results that hindrance for a Government bill is removed and within a few months the question of women's suffrage in our country may perhaps have advanced a large step towards its settlement.

On the 10th of October the Stockholm W. S. A. had a meeting, where it decided to invite the Central Board of the U. W. S. A. to hold its annual meeting in Stockholm in the beginning of January 1911. At the same meeting Miss Anna Kleman gave a very interesting lecture on the life of Mary Wollstonecraft.

In the last number of "J. S." I promised to give an account of the Swedish women's relations to the political parties, but as it is rather difficult to collect material for such an account I must take a little more time before I can fulfill that promise.

Stockholm, November 1910.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Our congress-work advances daily. The Central Committee of Arrangements has had its second meeting and the various Sub-Committees have been strengthened by the addition of representative members.

We have to report two events which show that the interest for the congress is already increasing.

Miss Lotten von Kraemer, who notwithstanding her 83 years of age takes a lively interest in suffrage work, generously gave 1000 crowns for a motor-excursion during the congress.

The Municipality of Stockholm gave us an allowance of 3000 crowns after a long discussion, in which the victory is in no small degree due to an eloquent and convincing speech made by a woman Town Councillor, Dr. Valfrid Palmgren.

The Central Committee is also taking all sorts of measures to provide finances for the Convention. It is going to send an appeal to all sorts of Women's Societies and organizations as well as to private persons in order to persuade them to contribute in some way to the congress-funds.

The Executive of the N. W. S. A. has published a stamp announcing the convention for 2 Oere, which is to be used on all postal communications of the Swedish suffragists. Within a week after being issued it has already been sold profusely, and it is understood that no suffragist will send Christmas or New-Year's wishes without affixing this well-designed stamp in white and yellow with legend in black.

The Central Committee has also issued postcards representing the House of Parliament, the Norrström and a part of the Royal Residence with an inscription announcing the congress. The profit of their sale as well as of the stamps will

go to the Convention funds, and we hope that it may be considerable.

Finally the Finance Committee has obtained the help of many of our best artists for a concert and a musical entertainment.

Neither is the Stockholm W. S. A. going to remain inactive. It has organised courses of lessons in English, French and German in order to prepare its members for a proper reception of their guests next summer. Of course there are quite a number of pupils at these lessons.

It goes without saying that we are greatly interested in knowing the names of the delegates whom we shall have the honour of receiving, and we request the N. W. S. A. as soon as the delegates are appointed, to publish their names in "Jus Suffragii".

NINI KOHNBERGER,  
Secr. Congress Committee.

Stockholm, October 1910.

## Iceland.

The Icelandic Association for Women's Rights was founded in June 1909, with three branches. In June 1910 it had its first regular general meeting in Reykjavik. Besides the representatives of Reykjavik's Association for Women's Rights, there were representatives from the branches Isafjörður and Blöndnas and from Sandarkrók's Association for Women's Rights, which joined the National Association at the meeting. The constitution is formed after the Swedish model. According to it, Reykjavik has three representatives, which shall be the ex-officio President, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Association and together constitute the Executive board.

As the communication in Iceland is very difficult and travels expensive, the general meetings shall hereafter only be held every alternate year. These meetings shall always be held in Reykjavik which is the centre of the steam-communication. As Reykjavik's Association for Women's Rights is free from paying any travelling-expenses for its representatives, it has to pay a greater annual contingent to the National Association than the other branches.

LAUFÉY VALDIMARSDÓTTIR ASMUNDSSON.  
Copenhagen, October 1910.

## United States.

Last Autumn the Suffrage Clubs of Greater New-York united in the formation of an organization along wholly new lines. The organization eventually became known as the **Woman Suffrage Party**, because it is organized after the same plan as that employed by the political parties. The City of New-York is now the second City in size in the world, numbering 4,700,000 population. It contains 63 Assembly Districts and of these each district is represented by one member in the State Legislature. Each Assembly District has been organized with a chairman called a Leader at the head. The members pay no dues, and the organization relies for support upon voluntary contributions. Each Assembly District averages 10,000 voters, and each District is divided into sections containing about 500 voters. Sometimes a section is not more than one City block, sometimes it covers several blocks. Such sections are known as Election Districts since the actual voting

is done in that district by the voters residing there. As far as the necessary co-operation has been secured, each Assembly District Leader has appointed a chairman called a Captain for every election district in her jurisdiction. This form of organization enables us to judge accurately as to the relative strength and weakness of our movement, and gives to a very large number of workers some responsible activity. Its achievements its chief justification. The organization was completed about January 1, 1910, and although it was officered it was considered that it had no members. The real work began at that time. In nine months it is enabled to chronicle the following results:

1.) The enrollment of 20,000 members, 2.) Over 400 public meetings held in halls, 3.) Over 150 open air meetings, 4.) An effort made to reach the delegates of 296 local political conventions by hearings and circulars with results varying from refusal to admit women to the convention hall in some Districts, to full and enthusiastic endorsement of woman suffrage in others, 5.) The publication of a monthly paper called the "Woman Voter", 6.) This issue of a successful lantern slide lecture for the benefit of those who do not understand English, 7.) The free distribution of 150,000 leaflets in English, the printing of 80,000 leaflets in Yiddish, 80,000 in Italian and 20,000 in Bohemian, 8.) The enlistment in active work of a much larger number of people than has been possible in any other form of suffrage organization, 9.) The maintenance of a Headquarters consisting of four rooms, 10.) The conduct of a campaign of great activity in which 156 different persons have addressed public meetings, and the only paid employment has been one Headquarter's Secretary, one regular stenographer with an occasional assistant stenographer, and all other work done by voluntary contribution, 11.) The conduct of a vigorous legislative campaign.

Its founders are naturally much gratified at its success as no other suffrage organization in this country has accomplished so much in so short a time. The results of its political work have been so marked that it is evident that a continuation of work along the same lines will make the woman suffrage question a genuine political issue and in no other way may we hope to win in the United States of America.

The organization has maintained a Headquarters in one of the most interesting of the great skyscrapers of New-York. This building covers one block and contains 8,000 people who come into it daily to attend to business tasks. Fully 4,000 of them are working women. This little city of women working for a daily wage offers a perpetual argument for the cause we represent. The Headquarters is on the 21st. floor where, from its windows, a wonderful expanse of view covering many miles is obtainable and gives constant inspiration to those who work within.

The work of the Woman Suffrage Party has awakened such general interest all over the United States, and so many requests have been received asking for information, that it has become necessary to issue a brochure explaining its aims and methods. The National Association has recommended the discussion of this form of organization to all State Suffrage Conventions and in several cities the newer plan of work is being begun.

The new organization promises no miracles of speedy enfranchisement for women, but it does offer a better method for the conduct of an active campaign, and is certainly destined to prove a significant factor in the final result.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT



## Russia.

Barely four weeks have elapsed since most of our social workers returned to their winter residences. During this period the Russian League for Women's Rights has not done much work. And, indeed, this winter season seems to be more unfavorable to all progressive achievements than the last three years. Amongst other sad symptoms we can refer to the funeral of the late prof. Mouromzoff. All the progressive elements in Russia united in expressing their respect and sympathy to the memory of the first President of Russia's first Parliament. All the progressive newspapers appeared in mourning on the occasion of his death. Prof. Mouromzoff's funeral was quite an historical event in Russia—so grand and imposing was the character it wore. The government was able to realize that love for liberty and justice was alive in the country; and had only been slumbering these last three years. Such a discovery was most unpleasant to the reactionary powers in Russia. They did their utmost to suppress the demonstrations of public sympathy on the late ex-President's funeral. The police interrupted and stopped several of the speeches on the grave; and the editor of the newspaper, who mentioned this fact, was arrested.

New repressions and reactionary measures are anticipated. Under these circumstances the women's movement in Russia is chiefly centred on questions of education. The demand for higher education for women is very great in Russia. Five years ago the doors of the universities have been opened before women. But Mr. Schwarz, our last minister of education (who has lately resigned) succeeded in driving them out of the universities,—and that in spite of the protests of the university professors and against the public opinion of Russia. However, Russian girls are often able to study at women's university courses. Much more tragical is the position of Jewish girls, most of whom have not the right to live in the chief towns, where high university courses are organized. However so great is the thirst for learning, that there have been instances of Jewish girl-students taking a yellow ticket (registered prostitutes), which gives the right to reside in any town!

The newspapers report a most terrible incident, which occurred this year on account of these shameful laws. A young Jew came occasionally to know that his sister of 18 years old was registered as a prostitute. He was so shocked by this discovery, that he committed suicide. Before taking poison, he left a short note to his sister: "Dearest sister! I have done with life, you must also die. We shall meet in another world, where there are neither Jews, nor prostitutes!" When Rebecca, his sister, who had taken a "yellow ticket" in order to have the right to live in St. Petersburg and study at the university courses, when she heard of his death, she fell ill and was taken to a hospital. When she at last recovered she threw herself in to the river and was drowned... Such heart-rending tragedies, so frequent in countries, governed by the "superior" sex, must make us realize, that no time should be lost in obtaining for women the power to change men's wicked laws.

In spite of the opposition which higher education for women meets here on the part of the highest educational officials, the tide cannot be stopped. Even Mr. Schwarz has been obliged partly to give way to public opinion and made some compensations to women-students. University courses—most of them for women only—have been

opened in many towns. Besides those, that existed before (in Kasan, Tiflis, Kieff, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Charkoff, etc.) the following high courses have lately been started: new medical courses for women in Charkoff; a medical institute in Odessa; new high university courses in St. Petersburg—both for men and for women; university courses of architecture for women in Tomsk (Siberia)—which is quite an event for Siberia.

Thus in spite of most unfavourable circumstances, women's education in Russia—so closely bound up with their political emancipation—is slowly developing and going forward.

Z. MIROVITCH.

Moscow, November 1910.

## France.

There was a general meeting of the French Women Suffrage Association on October 20, and Mme Jeanne E. Schmahl was in the chair. The president began by showing the great progress made by the Association within the last year. Not only the membership had considerably increased (in October 1909 the Association had 200 members and now over 1300), but the Association had succeeded in attracting prominent suffrage leagues as l'Egalité, l'Union Fraternelle des Femmes, la Société féministe du Havre, etc. Moreover the W. S. A. (Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes) is founding Local Branches in the principal provincial towns: three groups are in working order at Nice, Bordeaux and Clermont. In the near future more Branches will be definitely organised.

Then Mme Schmahl proposed to the meeting to amend the constitution so as to admit of the formation of an Hon. Council. This Council, composed of eminent women and men, would give the Association new material and moral strength. The proposal was unanimously adopted.

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As Mrs. Schmahl is in bad health at present, she requests communications to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the French Women Suffrage Association, Mrs. Léon Brunschwig, 21 villa Dupont, Paris 16th District.

(Communication from the Fr. W. S. A.)

## Italy.

The first Conference of Italian Socialist women, says the „Gleichheit“, took place on Oct. 20th in Rome on the eve of the National Socialist Congress. The Women's section of the Milan Socialist Union had called the conference with a view of discussing Anna Kulischoff's resolution on the organisation of the Socialist women, which was to be presented to the congress. [The text of this resolution was not sent me Ed.]

The Committee *pro voto donne* of Turin, although admiring Mrs. Kulischoff's energy and talents, felt prompted to publish a resolution setting forth in what respects they dissent from her opinions, containing the following passages:—

—„The distinction between a middle-class movement for women's rights and a proletarian movement for women's rights is wholly arbitrary and without foundation, since *women's rights* means the struggle of the female sex against the male tyranny which prevents the free expansion of the female personality by refusing her all rights and loading her with all duties. Nowadays no

woman to whatever class she may belong and in whatever conditions she be placed, is so privileged that she should not feel this lack of the most primitive civil rights. So if there is a movement for women's rights, it is one and the same for all women without exception.”—

—„The fight for the vote as a weapon to vindicate women's rights should not be considered from the standpoint of party- or class-interest, but as a means for the enfranchisement of half the human race.”—

—„If forsooth women's freedom, as well as that of any oppressed group, must be gained by the women themselves; it is true as well that it will never be gained if we do not solicit, as it was done for the men, the help and collaboration of the most intelligent and capable women, even though they should work with their brains instead of their hands.”—

Finally the Committee demands that no extension of the suffrage be adopted which should not include women, that being the only way in which to get a true representation of the people.

Mrs. Scodnik, who in „Il Pungolo“ of Nov. 2. quotes this resolution of the Turin Committee with great approbation, adds that she is sorry that people should introduce party-divisions between the workers for women's rights and that it would be much better to keep the general welfare in mind.

M. G. K.

## Australia.

Miss Vida Goldstein, President of the Women's Political Association, writes:—“In justification of the attitude of the Political Labour Council towards other political bodies, Mr. H agney says that, in the past, the Labour Party has had to fight organisations which, though agreeing with it to a great extent, have lined up with its opponents at election time, and he instances the Women's Political Association as one of these bodies.

Mr. Heagney is mistaken in his conception of the W.P.A. and its policy. It is a non-party organisation, and has never taken sides in a political contest. Its chief object is to protect women and children in regard to social, industrial and legal questions, in which none of the existing parties is primarily interested, and of which most of them are totally ignorant. Mr. Heagney includes the W.P.A. amongst the organisations which have endorsed candidates opposed to the Labour Party. The W.P.A. has endorsed only one candidate—myself—a non-party contestant, put forward for precisely the same reason that the Labour Party runs its own candidates: that a special viewpoint may have special representation in Parliament.

It seems to be a human law that the oppressed of one age become the oppressors of the next. The Labour Party sprang into existence because the working class, so-called, was oppressed by the Liberals and Conservatives, who could not understand its interests. Now, having attained political power, a section of the Labour Party would oppress all who do not see eye to eye with it on all points, instead of leaving them free to work out their political salvation. That section has specially selected women for oppression, for it will not allow them to have direct representation if a woman candidate refuses to join the Labour Party.”

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The Woman's Parliament, a sort of debating-club formed on the lines of the Australian Commonwealth Parliament by the Women's Political

Association, held most interesting debates on the Domestic Service and the Housing problem, which resulted in the adoption of two bills which would surely, be good models for real Parliamentary bills, dealing with the training of servants and the requirements for sanitary lodging.

Perhaps, if women get seats in the Australian Legislatures and are no longer content with the possession of the vote, we shall have to look to the Australian States for a model of “human” government instead of the “androcentric” one which Mrs. Perkins Gilman finds so manifest in the rest of the world.

M. G. K.

## Netherlands.

The Dutch Woman Suffrage Association, being non-partisan and non-sectarian and only uniting men and women of otherwise different opinions in the effort to obtain enfranchisement for women cannot pronounce itself for or against any proposed law. This is also the case concerning the Prime Minister's bill against married women in state employment. This bill proposes to dismiss women teachers and other women employees of the state on the day of their marriage, and we do not wonder that it has called forth a lively agitation among all those who vindicate for women economic independence and liberty to dispose of their own time and talents as they like. Now the Dutch N.W.S.A. has addressed a petition to the Second Chamber requesting that the law should not interfere with life and pursuits of thousands of women, before the possession of the ballot permits the women to express their opinion on such limitation.

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The State-commission for the revision of the constitution has of late shown so great an activity by frequent meetings that the W.S.A. felt the moment had come to present its claims to the members. Since the Prime Minister had judged unnecessary to appoint any woman on the Commission, we had to approach each member with an offer of data on the results of woman suffrage in those countries where it exists etc., and now our secretary is daily receiving applications from Commission-members of different political parties.

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This winter, instead of inviting foreign suffrage lecturers, we concentrate our efforts on the extension and consolidation of our organisation. Two of our most zealous members having a motor-car at their disposal arranged with a party of our most prominent speakers a lecturing tour in the remote southern part of the country. During the last week of October they addressed there several crowded meetings of men and women, who listened with great attention. Many showed their sympathy and appreciative by enlisting as members, and we founded four new Local Branches. As this is the most conservative part of the country with a mostly Roman Catholic population, this result may be considered rather encouraging.

DR. ALETTA JACOBS.

Amsterdam, November 1910.

## Denmark.

DANSKE KVINDFORENINGERS VALGRETS-FORBUND.

The Annual Meeting of „Kristelig Kvindevalgrets Forening“ (affiliated to the Valgretsforbund) was held at Esbjerg in July. The great



Mission House was crowded and the different lectures were heard with great interest, especially that of Rev. *L. Blauenfeldt*, K rup: „Is the womens cause in harmony or disharmony with the Holy Scripture”? It was followed by a most animated discussion, unveiling many amusing and old-fashioned standpoints and giving us an excellent opportunity of showing the audience how funny and old-fashioned they really were. Christian men and women from different parts of the country were present. It is a pity that so much prejudice and misunderstanding yet is prevailing among them, but the only way to get over it is to call them forward, hear their objections and lead them in the right direction.

Our suffrage paper „*Kristeligt Kvindeblad*” does a good work. It has many subscribers also among those not yet members of our society. In Norway it is used too as a pioneer for the women’s cause among some of the christian women there.

At the beginning of the year the paper had an inquiry in which the leaders of the christian societies in Denmark answered questions about women’s suffrage. The questions were sent out to about 35. Only 12 answered at all. Those who were more or less against suffrage answered immediately, the supporters more slowly; some excused themselves with being so overburdened with work, that it was impossible to get time for writing the answer, others kept entirely silence. The answers of this enq ete have later been published in many newspapers.

Several branches of christian societies or the societies themselves have joined us as adherents during the year. In October two have announced their union with us viz: „Blue Cross” (temperance) of Struer (60 member) and „K. K. V.” (a society of christian women working for the better understanding of using the municipal vote) in Copenhagen (600 members).

For the congres in Stockholm next year Mrs. *Blauenfeldt* has been elected to represent K. K. F.

Compared with the other suffrage societies in this country, K. K. F. is going on very slowly on. It will therefore be well to remember: 1st that we have the same hindrances and prejudices to fight against, that the other societies — if they then existed — had many years ago. 2nd the christian men and women do not join our ranks before they are wholly persuaded, that they are doing right in doing so. 3rd many of them know, that in doing so, they will put themselves in an unfavorable light before many of their fellow-christians. Therefore — only a strong persuasion is able to led them to be members of K. K. F.

With this in view, I will close my report by saying: for K. K. F. it was the first thousand of members that did cost. Now we are more than thousand and the other thousands will follow more willingly.

JOHANNA BLAUENFELDT, Pres of K. K. F.  
K rup near Horsens, October 1910.

### Norway.

The universal suffrage for women, which was introduced in Norway in the last session of the Storting, is to be exercised during this winter at the elections which are going to take place in the two next months.

According to the return of population made on the 26th of October, it must be noted that in Kristiania there are 54173 women to 38778 men voters. Thus there are, in the capital only, over 15000 women electors more than men.

Among those women more than 27000 are married, 3000 are servants, and as to the rest, most of them are self-supporting.

So you see it was high time that we got our suffrage.

F. M RCK.

p. t. Copenhagen, 4th of November ’10.

### Germany.

In the absence of a report on the two annual meetings of Suffrage Associations announced in our preceding number, we take from „*Zeitschrift f r Frauenstimmrecht*” a communication on the 9th meeting of the National Council of German women at Heidelberg on Oct. 6.

The meeting discussed the claim of women to municipal enfranchisement during a whole day. The claim itself was unanimously approved, but an amendment, moved by the delegate of the German W. S. A., to the effect that municipal suffrage for women should be *universal* and *direct* was lost. To be sure the men are not yet in possession this kind of suffrage, but the present system would entirely exclude the married women, and the bulk of the professional women would be voters in the Third Class. The N. C. will address petitionsto all the Parliaments of the Federated States of the Empire demanding municipal enfranchisement for Women.

The „*Gleichheit*” (S.-D. women’s organ) blames this resolution since it does not claim adult suffrage, without however saying one word of approval of the W. S. A., which does.

The „*Centralblatt des Bundes deutscher Frauenvereine*” adds an account of Dr. Altmann-Gott-heiner’s clear and thorough argumentation on women’s municipal rights and gives a full report of the N. C. meeting, in which the adoption of three resolutions is mentioned: one against the German Emperor’s condemnation of the women’s movement, the second against the Report of the Imperial Commission on the Reform of Penal Law disapproving of women jurors, and the third expressing a wish that the Alsatian Synod’s proposal to enfranchise women in the R formed Church be confirmed by the Governor.

Mrs Stritt was replaced by Dr. Gertrud B umer as President of the German National Council.

M. G. K.

### British India.

Mrs. Ramji Bin Rowji summarises the needs of her sisters for legal, educational, social, and moral reforms. She points out that “if the mothers of the nation are left in outer darkness; no decrease in crime is possible. Under the amended Factories Act, the women have an eleven hours’ day with an hour and a half for rest, and the children have a seven hours’ day, with half an hour’s rest for six hours’ work. But we have so little to eat, and we have so little of comfort. . . Over two hundred thousand children are married under four years of age, over two millions between five and nine, and three millions under fourteen. Premature motherhood, malaria and consumption, carry us off by thousands. Those who survive have generally a hard time of it. Soyon may judge how many personal sacrifices we, the women of India, have to undergo in order to make two ends meet.”

FRANCES SWINEY  
(The Anglo-Russian.)