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Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bohemia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Galicia, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United States.



A GROUP OF WOMEN VOTERS—(taken at the Budapest Congress).

Dr. Tekla Hullir, M.P. Miss Maud Younger (Cal.) Miss Schlingheyde (California) Mrs. Colby.
Left to right, front row: Miss F. Wills (Cal.), Mrs. Spencer (Australia), Fru Qvam (Government delegate, Norway),
Miss Furuhjelm, M.P. (Finland), Mrs. Viola M. Coe (Oregon).

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NOTES.

With this number we begin a special page, or more, giving the results of women's votes in countries that have enfranchised them.

We appeal to women voters for news for this page. Our picture this month is of a little group of the women voters who attended the Congress at Budapest. As a supplement we also give the list of laws for which men and women are equally responsible. This supplement was specially printed for the *Common Cause*, from which we have obtained copies. It was compiled by Elinor Byrns and Helen Ranlett.

Suffragists Visiting London.

We heartily invite Suffragists from other countries to visit headquarters when they are in London. We shall be glad to do anything in our power to be of use to them.

News for "Jus Suffragii."

The Editor is fully aware of the danger of a preponderance of English and American news in *Jus Suffragii*. Every effort is made to obtain news from all countries, but ultimately this matter rests with correspondents. News of matters interesting Suffragists will be welcomed from all countries. It is very difficult to get any news items from many countries in the Alliance. All who wish the paper to be really international are invited to make it so by contributing.

Woman Suffrage in the German Reichstag.

On January 13th the question of Woman Suffrage was debated in the Reichstag on a petition demanding the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as it is granted to men. The petition was referred to the Chancellor "for his information," after a Socialist motion to add the words "with a view to action being taken upon it" had been rejected.

Woman Suffrage in the Swedish Speech from the Throne.

On January 16th the Riksdag was opened by the King. The Speech from the Throne contained the announcement that Bills would be laid before Parliament for granting the Parliamentary franchise to women, and that both justice and the welfare of the State now demand that the rights of political citizenship be extended to women.

Bohemia.

The Austrian Prime Minister, Count Stürgk, announced on January 26th to the leaders of the German and Czech parties in the Bohemian Diet that the Austrian Government proposes to approve Woman Suffrage in Bohemia, but not to allow them to be elected. Women had the right to vote for the Bohemian Diet since 1861, and also eligibility. At the last elections Mrs. Vikova Kuneticka was elected by the district of Inlada Boleslav. The Governor, however, refused to give her a certificate which would give her admittance to the Diet. Last June the Government suspended the Bohemian Constitution, and great demonstrations were held by the women's organisations.

NEWS INTERESTING TO SUFFRAGISTS.

Woman Commissioner of Correction in America.

Dr. Katharine Bement Davis, the new Prison Commissioner in New York, is the first woman to hold this important office. She will have an important voice in city prison administration. She will have charge of the Tombs Prison, seven district prisons, a penitentiary, several workhouses and reformatories, and the city prisons. Dr. Davis is a member of the Rockefeller Bureau of Special Hygiene, which is carrying out a scientific investigation into the causes of crime among women. The salary attached to the appointment is \$7,500 a year (£1,875).

The Couriau Affair in France.

The South-eastern Feminist Federation, one of the first societies to take up the question, has taken up the Couriau case energetically. It draws attention to the exclusion of women from the schools for apprentices in the printing trade in Paris and Lyons, and is approaching the Trade Union and Municipal Authorities with requests to open these schools to women. It points out that women are excluded from other apprenticeship schools, e.g., in hairdressing, and that everywhere efforts should be made for their admission.

The Federation du livre has refused to admit the Women Printers' Union of Lyons.

The "New Alliance" in France.

Great indignation has been roused among young men and women in France by a lecture by M. Jean Richepin, the Academician, in which he said that every true man must have tasted the lowest and vilest debauchery in order to prepare for life. A league of University students and others has been formed to combat these poisonous precepts, and recently they formed a procession through the streets of Paris distributing leaflets urging an equal moral standard for men and women.

Girl Scouts.

In England, France, and Germany the movement for Girl Scouts is spreading. Besides the outdoor exercise so necessary but so neglected in girls' education, they learn how to camp out, camp cooking, and ambulance work.

The Dangers of Petticoats.

Dr. Brench, lecturer at Charing Cross Hospital, London, has published the results of an investigation into the causes of mortality of children from burning. These cases are generally due to the clothing catching fire, and whereas up to the age of 3 the deaths are pretty equally divided between boys and girls; after that age the rate for boys rapidly diminishes, and after 6 is almost negligible, whereas for girls it only diminishes slightly, and continues very high even to adult age. The doctor attributes to the petticoats of girls. The boys' death rate diminishes from the age when he is put into masculine attire. Hundreds of girls' lives are sacrificed to the ballooning form and flimsy material of feminine apparel. The doctor recommends the adoption for girls of stuff knickerbockers, jersey, and tunic, similar to gymnastic costume, which allows freedom to the limbs and avoids the present danger of inflammability.

English Census of Occupation.

It will come as a shock to many who think of England as rich and free to learn that there are in England and Wales 146,417 little children from 10 to 14 engaged in wage earning, and of these 31,823 are under 13. Little girls from 10 to 13, who ought to be at school, are in service, or working in metal trades, chemicals, paper-bag making, and no fewer than 8,833 in textile factories. There are no less than 59,398 little girls of 14 and under in textile factories. It is interesting to see how these manufactures tend to fall more and more into women's hands; they employ now 642,041 women compared with 400,474 men.

Altogether, of all the 333 trades and occupations enumerated, only the odd 33 employ no women, viz., Army, Navy, police, engineers, motor-car drivers, gamekeepers, railway engine drivers, platelayers, etc., dock labourers, miners, lead and zinc manufacturers, ship platers and riveters, navvies, and well-sinkers.

There are in the liberal professions 187,283 women teachers, compared with 76,428 men; women in commerce, in agriculture, in the manufactures of steel, in metal works, motor works, building trades, furniture works, brick, pottery, glass works, chemicals, skins and leather, stationery, textiles, all

departments of clothing, of food manufacture, and every kind of trade.

In view of the enormous amount of industry shown by the women wage earners of England and wealth gained for the country by them, the parrot cry of "back to the home" is a self-evident absurdity.

The true moral suggested by the figures is that these women should no longer be deprived of their rights as citizens, but should have power to protect their industrial interests and to secure the full reward of their labour, as well as to safeguard the children.

American Federation of Labour and Women Suffrage.

Two resolutions passed by the Convention of the American Federation of Labour deserve quotations as showing the stand that working men are making for women's liberty.

The San Francisco Labour Council moved a resolution, unanimously carried, vouching for the excellent results to the State of California that have followed the granting of Woman Suffrage, and reaffirming with increased emphasis the belief of the American Federation of Labour in the fundamental right of women to the vote.

The second resolution, after setting forth the urgent need of organising women workers, authorised the Executive to levy a toll of one cent upon the members of all affiliated unions, the money to be spent in the organisation of the wage-earning women.

While in many countries men are attempting to exclude women from industry, the American workmen have the intelligence to see that it is to the true interest of the men to raise the status of the women.

An Answer to the Anti's.

Hardly less significant than the men's declaration is that of the women in answer to the assertion by the Anti's that working women are too busy for the "burden" of the vote. The following is an extract from a long resolution:—"Whereas a group of women of leisure, who by accident of birth have led sheltered and protected lives, and know nothing of the dangers and hardships confronting the working women, and have never had to face the misery produced by long hours and low wages, are now carrying on a campaign to defeat the efforts of working women to obtain the vote:—Resolved, that the National Women's Trade Union League of America solemnly protest against the active opposition of these women of leisure, who persist in selfishly obstructing the efforts of the organised working women to obtain full citizenship."

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance and the Fight Against Commercialised Vice.

In accordance with the resolution passed by the Congress at Budapest, a letter was sent to the heads of Governments of all countries affiliated to the Alliance, except the Netherlands and Denmark, whose Suffrage leaders asked that they should be excepted.

Replies have been received from the Governments of Great Britain, the United States, and Canada acknowledging the receipt of the letter.

In France the official letter has not yet been forwarded to the Government, for the U.F.S.F. had good reason to know that the present Government would throw it into the waste paper basket. The official letter will be handed to the Minister as soon as the occasion is favourable.

In Roumania and Galicia, owing to Ministerial changes, it was also thought advisable to wait a little.

Government Inquiry into Venereal Disease in Great Britain.

The Royal Commission of inquiry into the extent, causes, and results of venereal disease has heard much expert evidence.

Dr. Stevenson, superintendent of statistics, pointed out that owing to the prevailing reluctance to certify disease as venereal, statistics show fewer cases than actually exist; they also ignore the large number of cases of disease indirectly due to venereal disease. But present statistics can be relied on for their comparative figures, and it is instructive to notice that the incidence of these diseases in London is 4 times as great as in the country.

Dr. Johnstone, of the Local Government Board, laid stress on the very remarkable decrease of disease in the Army, and the urgent importance of early recognition and treatment. He believed that if the public were properly educated, and

ample facilities for treatment were provided, there is now an opportunity to reduce these diseases to a very small compass.

Colonel Scott, of the Army Medical Department, attributed the very great diminution of disease in the Army to temperance and to better barrack conditions, education, and wholesome recreation.

N.B.—These improvements are largely due to the work of Florence Nightingale.

Dr. Burnett Ham, of the Health Department, Victoria, Australia, gave interesting evidence of measures taken in Victoria. Doctors were asked to notify voluntarily cases of disease. Only one quarter of the doctors responded, and notified 5,500 cases. Government thereupon took action, free beds were provided in the general hospitals, patients were not discriminated against in any way, and soon came in willingly. A night clinic for men was opened. The results have been very successful, and have led to early diagnosis and treatment. A Health Bill is now before the Victorian legislature, it provides for free treatment for all patients, prohibition of quacks, and the making of the transmission of venereal disease a penal offence.

Important evidence as to the results of syphilis was given by Dr. Mott, pathologist to the London insane asylums. He stated that 15½ per cent. of male admissions were due to general paralysis of the insane (a result of syphilis); that male cases were in the ratio of 5 to 1 of female cases, and that of these female cases half were due to gonorrhoeal infection. He called attention to the importance of statistics of infant mortality to trace syphilis, and described amongst the many results of infection, still births, infant mortality, blindness, deafness, stunted growth, paralysis, dementia, imbecility, fits, general debility. The histories of 34 infected mothers showed 175 conceptions, 104 deaths in infancy, 41 seriously diseased, only 30 apparently healthy or doubtful. He urged ample provision of laboratories and education.

Government Bill in India to Protect Girls. Introduced in Viceroy's Council.

Anyone disposing of or obtaining possession of a girl under 16 for any immoral purpose is liable to 10 years' imprisonment.

A magistrate may remove any girl under 16 from immoral surroundings and place her under care. Voluntary agencies are invited to supply the homes. Several evils are aimed at: (a) adoption of girls by prostitutes; (b) dedication in temples. The traffic in European women in India is a great evil; Austrians, Italians, women from the Balkans, and Japanese are imported, and are helpless, owing to their ignorance of the language and want of money. There are no rescue homes in North India for white women. India is not included in the International Agreement against the traffic in women.

Revision of the Swiss Factory Acts.

The revision of the Swiss Factory Acts is now under consideration. These affect women as much as, or more than, men, but women have no voice in framing them. The normal working day is to be reduced from 11 to 10 hours. At present only 3 per cent. of workmen and 35 per cent. of workwomen work more than 10 hours.

Where there is a Saturday half-holiday 10½ hours may be worked, but the week must not exceed 59 hours. Married women working in factories (and in Switzerland there are 28,000 of them) have a dinner interval of 1½ hours in order to prepare the family dinner, and after five years they may claim Saturday afternoon to clean the home and do their washing.

What a picture these dry regulations call up of unremitting toil on the part of the woman worker! Note that the larger proportion of workers whose hours exceed 10 are women. Then whereas the man has his dinner hour free for rest, the wife has to devote it to the toil of cooking and washing up before hurrying back to the afternoon's factory work. The same applies to the Saturday half-holiday where it exists. And women are the weaker sex, and their place is the home, so they must do double work, in the factory and in the home, and may not have the protection of the vote.

Married Women's Municipal Vote in Toronto.

Owing to a timely cable from Mrs. Flora McD. Denison we were able to report in our January issue the result of the Toronto referendum for extending the Municipal Suffrage to married women. But it must be clearly understood that the vote is not won, and that this was only an inquiry, not, as stated in so many papers, a victory.

NEWS FROM COUNTRIES WHERE WOMEN VOTE.

The School Superintendent of Chicago.

A fierce battle has raged round Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, the famous school superintendent of Chicago. Two burning questions were, the power of the book trust to impose school books, and the desire of some commercial interests to make the elementary schools training grounds for commerce. To both these influences Mrs. Young was opposed, and had behind her the keenest educationists and the mothers of the school children. After she had been ousted from her appointment such a storm was raised that she has been reinstated, to the great satisfaction of public opinion. The influence of the women voters is said to have been the decisive factor, as well as the support of the Federation of Labour.

Eight-hour Law for Nurses in California.

The eight-hour law for nurses who are in course of training has been introduced in California and upheld by the Law Courts in the test case decided in December. It establishes a working week of 48 hours.

It will afford welcome relief to an overworked class of women, and better organisation will ensure that the patients are not neglected.

Oregon Upholds the Red Light Bill.

The Bill for suppressing bad houses (red lights) in Oregon has been brought before the Law Courts as a test case, and been upheld as constitutional. The owner of the house must give good security that the house will not again be used for immoral purposes, or the State will sell the property. N.B. in Iowa, where women do not vote, the Red Light Bill has been declared unconstitutional. In Oregon they vote.

The "Physical Force" Argument in Oregon.

Recent events in Oregon, U.S.A., demonstrate how a woman, vested with proper authority, can dispose of sufficient physical force to settle a town dispute. Miss Hobbs, the Governor's secretary, was sent to enforce his orders and close the drink saloons in Copperfield. She went to the Town Hall, read the proclamation, and when the Mayor and members of the City Council refused obedience, the soldiers, who accompanied Miss Hobbs, marched them off to prison. Miss Hobbs settled the job and left by the next train!

The sheriff is to be tried, and Miss Hobbs will act as special counsel for the State. The favourite Anti-Suffrage argument is that women have not "physical force," and therefore must not have a vote.

In civilised States "physical force" in the shape of soldiers and police is at the service of properly constituted authorities, irrespective of sex.

Minimum Wage for Women in Oregon.

The Industrial Welfare Commission of Oregon has fixed a minimum wage of \$8-25 (33s.) for all women employed in industrial occupations, and a working week of a maximum 54 hours a week.

WHY WORKING WOMEN NEED THE VOTE.

The Ford Motor Company will at once put into operation a profit sharing plan by which \$10,000,000, representing approximately one-half the profits of the Company, will be distributed annually among its employees. According to the press statements announcing this plan, the women employees will not share in the distribution of profits, "not being considered the economic factors that men workers are," although the women as well as the men will have increased wages. In California, where women vote, two hundred men employed in the garment-makers' trade recently went on strike, not because of dissatisfaction with their own wages, but because the wages of 150 women employed in the same trade were too low. The employers then offered to increase the wages of the women at the expense of the men (that is, by lowering the wages of the men), and the women, not to be outdone in generosity, refused to accept the increase. California women, it seems, are not only economic factors, but are also the recipients of the chivalry of which one frequently hears from Anti-Suffragists.

AUSTRALIA.

PROVISION FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN.

Social legislation advances very rapidly in Australia, and what was true six months ago in any one State may be superseded now.

The principle of payment to respectable mothers of destitute children is carried out in all the States of Australia—but all destitute children so relieved are not necessarily wards of the State, and so cannot be technically said to be "boarded out." In some States they are, in others not. In N.S.W. the State Children's Relief Department has a Council of men and women, to which destitute children are committed as wards of the State. These children are boarded out to their mothers wherever possible. This State is most emphatic in maintaining family associations. Regular visiting by the Department's Officers follows.

In South Australia, which also has a Council of men and women in its State Children's Relief Department, destitute children do not necessarily come under the care of the Council and cannot be said to be "boarded out." The mothers may receive relief directly from the Destitute Board. The Children's Council have been trying for years to get these children committed to them (the Act permits it), but only so late as last year they were defeated again owing to some premature agitation in the Press, begun by someone outside.

In Victoria there is no Children's Council, but payment has been made from the Department to mothers who are allowed to keep their children and are inspected. This has been in force for 16 years.

In W.A. children are boarded out to their mothers and inspected, the rates being the same as for foster-mothers. No Children's Council, but Department.

In Queensland, which is rejoicing in a new Act, 1911, children are boarded out and inspected. Report for 1912 states "that out of 3,359 State children, 1,564, representing 616 families, are with their mothers."

There is no Children's Council in this State.

At an Interstate Congress on Dependent Children, held in Adelaide in 1909, in which the most States took part, the principle of "boarding out" as a legal right was exhaustively discussed.

There was a unanimous opinion that relief given in any other way than through the Children's Departments, with its accompanying supervision, was morally and economically unsound in its results. A resolution was passed approving the value of boarding out, but the words "legal right" were omitted for technical reasons. It was said that relief through Destitute Boards accustoms children to waiting for doles of charity, and the lack of regular supervision gave no guarantee of the proper use of the money.

MARY BOOTH.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN PRACTICE.

The "New York Evening Sun" has just printed the results of a questionnaire on equal Suffrage in the United States. The results are in many respects more satisfactory than any which have as yet been published. The "Sun" says editorially:—"The common opinion of unbiassed observers in those States where Woman Suffrage prevails is strongly supported by the results of the 'Evening Sun's' questionnaire concerning the effect of the women's vote. In a general way it is apparent that the consequences of extending the franchise have been neither so disastrous as the Anti-Suffragists predicted nor so suddenly and remarkably beneficial as some enthusiastic reformers expected them to be. An important point is that in none of the States is there any show of dissatisfaction on the part of the voters generally.

"The object of the inquiry was to secure an important review by trained reporters' with no axes to grind. Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists alike are naturally inclined to select the strong points in their own favour, and the weak points on the opposite side. On the present occasion, however, the object was not to prove anything, but merely to review the actual results, and the questions were drawn up as far as possible in such a way as to exclude the danger of mere speculative guessing. The following points have been pretty well established:—(1) Women who have the vote do vote. (2) Their ballot has already passed a considerable body of law. (3) The Suffrage States seem to be satisfied to have women go on voting.

"The first disposes of a common argument of the Anti-Suffragists, which is that the majority of women do not want the vote. The second contradicts an equally common belief, namely, that if women had the vote they would make no practical use of it. The third tends to discredit the further opinion that if they did make use of it the results would be calamitous. In every respect these conclusions bear out those drawn by experienced and impartial inquirers in Finland, New Zealand, and other countries where the experiment has been made.

"A circumstance worthy of note is that in all of the States a considerable number of laws have been passed which have an obvious bearing on the welfare of women and children. Whether these laws are invariably wise and well thought out is a question which need not for the moment be considered. The main point is that they reflect the interest of the women and show that the women's vote is by no means insignificant. As to the vote of the disreputable women, which has always been held up as a great peril by the Anti-Suffragists, it is clear that it has had no evil effect."

ILLINOIS NOTES.

Contests as to the constitutionality of our Partial Suffrage Law have thus far been decided in our favour in all the lower courts. The great number of April elections, when women may vote in 12,000 school districts, in about 3,000 townships, and in about 500 cities and villages, have been preceded by 100 or more special elections scattered over Illinois through its 385 miles of length and its 218 miles of width. In the 102 counties of the State men have generally been so satisfied over woman's possession of the vote that in only four counties were men found willing to oppose woman's enfranchisement by beginning a legal contest.

This almost universal goodwill on the part of men is encouraging. Only one of the contests has been appealed to our Supreme Court, and a decision is expected in February.

The protests and mass meetings of women voters have forced Mrs. Ella F. Young back into her place as head of Chicago schools, and now all the janitresses of the City Hall demanded the payment of certain withheld salary due them, and also a future increase in salary. Both requests were granted. The learned women and the janitresses both find women's ballots helpful.

The first year the Colorado women had the ballot the sale of books on Civil Government increased tenfold. The experience of Illinois women during the first six months of their partial enfranchisement has shown the same zeal for knowledge, but with this difference, as the enfranchisement of Illinois women is not complete, the ordinary works on Government and civics need to be supplemented by new literature showing the exact limits of women's legal rights. A number of excellent publications on civics, and handbooks for women voters have now been brought out, elucidating every side of the voter's duties.

Henry E. Lagler, librarian of the Chicago Public Library, said: "The new woman's reading room has shown that the demand for books on civics and social problems has increased enormously."

CATHARINE WAUGH McCULLOCH.

CHILD LABOUR AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The eight hours a day for children is the crucial question nowadays. In Massachusetts the textile interests are threatening to repeal this "obnoxious clause" in the new child labour law. Last year California passed a Child Labour Law and provided for an Industrial Welfare Commission to make mandatory regulations concerning wages, hours, and conditions of labour for women and minors. Colorado, Oregon, and Washington established similar commissions. All of these States have Woman Suffrage. It would be interesting to see what would happen in any one of these States if an attempt were made to repeal any laws for the benefit of children. It is, however, practically certain that no such attempt would be successful, since women, once they are granted the franchise, are thoroughly alive to their responsibilities and their powers.

NORWAY.

Women are coming well to the front in the forthcoming elections in Norway. There are 12 women among the 62 Conservative candidates, 9 among 37 Liberals, 12 among 45 Independents, and 9 among 59 Socialists.

The Norwegian Women's Patriotic Society is celebrating its ten years' jubilee in January.

The revision of the Mothers' Insurance Bill is making good headway in the direction desired by the Women's Patriotic Society. Payment is to be made two weeks before and six weeks after the birth of the child. Every mother gets a lump sum of 40 kroner. Free attendance is also provided. The law is to come into force on January 4th, 1915.

There are to be 11 women representatives on the Borough Council at Christiania for the next three years, an advance of two on the present representatives. Of 60 representatives in Frederiksstad 12 are women.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

AUSTRALIA.

WOMEN'S LETTER TO LLOYD GEORGE.

The following letter has been sent from Australian women voters to the British Chancellor:—

Right Hon. Lloyd George, M.P., London.

Dear Sir,—We note that in your reply to the deputation from the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, which waited on you on October 23rd, you advised Englishwomen to organise more great demonstrations, and added "That is how they won the vote in every other country—in Australia, etc."

We desire to inform you that you are quite mistaken in making that statement. In Australia we had no great demonstrations. We had only very ordinary public meetings, and deputations which were always received by the Premier. Australian women won the Suffrage by securing pledges from a majority of members of the popular House, and then bringing pressure to bear on the Government to carry into effect the wishes of the people, as expressed through their representatives, for the Suffrage to be given to women on the same terms as men, by means of a Government measure. Twenty years ago we realised the impossibility of obtaining an alteration of the Constitution by a Private Member's Bill. English Suffragists have had similar pledges for many decades, but not until after eight years of militancy do we see them all united as were Australian women in the endeavour to exert pressure on the Government to introduce and carry into law a measure for the enfranchisement of women.

Had English Suffragists realised, as did Australian women, and as the Women's Social and Political Union did from its inception in 1903, the futility of trying to obtain an alteration of the Constitution by private members' measures, your country would have been spared the sad necessity for militancy.

Because our Australian statesmen recognised the natural outcome of industrial and political evolution, Australian women did not require to adopt the methods of revolution to win their political freedom.

We wish also to let you know that there is an ever-increasing number of men and women in Australia, in the cities, in remote bush towns, who are amazed at the failure of the British Government to respond to the demand of women for government by consent, and who are horrified at the barbaric treatment meted out to women who have risen in rebellion against the unnameable, the burning wrongs from which women and children suffer.

We protest against the persecution of our English sisters, and we beg you to do in connection with votes for women what you would assuredly do if the Cabinet refused to entertain the thought of Welsh Disestablishment—refuse from the Cabinet. —Yours faithfully,

VIDA GOLDSTEIN, President,
Women's Political Association of Victoria.

FRANCE.

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON THE MUNICIPAL VOTE FOR WOMEN.

When we consider the enormous amount of work awaiting the Chamber of Deputies, we are forced to admit that it will be impossible to get the Chamber to put Women's Municipal Suffrage on its order of the day before the elections, which will take place in the spring. Monsieur Buisson, the reporter on the Dussaussoy-Buisson Bill, hoped to bring the question before the Chamber, although he knew that the Bill could not be discussed. He wished to ask the Committee on Universal Suffrage, of which he is President, to authorise him to present to the Chamber a demand for an inquiry into Woman's Suffrage; this demand would have led to a debate and a vote of the Chamber, showing to some extent the state of opinion among the deputies with regard to Woman Suffrage. Unfortunately, instead of bringing the question before the Chamber, the Commission on Universal Suffrage decided that its President, M. Buisson, had all the necessary authority to make the inquiry that was asked for, and that it was unnecessary to bring the matter before the Chamber. This is not what we should have wished. We should have infinitely preferred a debate in the Chamber, which would have begun to put the question of Woman Suffrage before the country. The inquiry will then take place, and different persons and Societies will be called before the Committee of Inquiry to give their opinions. We consider this a small thing, but better than nothing.

THE SUFFRAGE BOOTH ON THE BOULEVARDS.

We are delighted to praise the initiative shown by the Ligue française pour le droit des femmes (President Mlle. Bonneval, general secretary Mme. Maria Véroine) in holding a feminist booth at Christmas and New Year. Their enterprise was crowned with great success. Thanks to the special permission granted in Paris at New Year, it is possible to set up little shops in the open air, which would not be allowed at ordinary times, and the French League for Women's Rights took advantage of this to establish a feminist stall from December 20th to January 4th, where pamphlets and propagandist articles were sold, while Maria Véroine and other leaguers made open-air speeches and answered objections. At the same stall the Institution of the Entr'aide, specially founded to provide well-paid home industries for women, offered needlework for sale, side by side with soap and pencils bearing Suffrage inscriptions.

We rejoice at all enterprises which help the object we have in view, and this first attempt at popular propaganda was a great success.

DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER,
President of the W.F.S.F.

GERMANY.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE DISCUSSION IN THE REICHSTAG.

On January 13th the Reichstag met again after the close of the Christmas holidays.

Amongst other petitions that from the German Woman Suffrage Federation (Verband) asking for the vote and eligibility to the Reichstag for women was the order for the day.

The committee had asked that the Reichstag might hand over the petition to the Chancellor for his information.

The question of Woman Suffrage was now fully debated by all parties. The Social Democratic party had made a proposal which went further, viz., that the petition should be sent to the Chancellor and action be taken on it.

This proposal was supported by several representatives of the party with great zeal and warmth. Some members of the Progressive People's party (fortschrittlicher volkspartei) supported the Social Democrats.

Conservatives and National Liberals showed themselves strong opponents of Woman Suffrage, and demanded to pass on to the order of the day. But the Centre, in this question, strange to say, more progressive and far-seeing than the other parties on the right, supported the committee's appeal. After the Social Democrats' motion had been defeated, the committee's motion to send the petition to the Chancellor for his information was accepted. A small step forwards, as, up till now, all petitions for the granting of the Imperial Franchise to women were met by passing to the order of the day.

MARIE ENGBELMANN.
Deutscher Verband für Frauenstimmrecht.

HUNGARY.

Rosika Schwimmer has returned from her lecturing tour and addressed a public meeting on her experiences in Finland. She told of the wonderful heroism of the Finns, and the unselfishness and idealism of the women. Her lecture roused great interest.

The organisation of a branch society is a much harder task in Hungary than in other countries, and therefore we had cause to rejoice at the originating of a branch society in Szeged (the largest country-town of Hungary) with about 150 members. We owe this success to the enthusiasm caused by the excursion of the Congress members on their tour of study of "child protection" in this country.

The first number of our paper, "A nő," has appeared, and we send it on its way with our fondest wishes. It is edited so as to rouse the interest of wider circles, as we want to procure for it the right of selling it on the streets after foreign example, and so as to open to our members a new field of activity.

The Feministák Egyesülete has also edited a Hungarian bulletin of the Budapest Congress in 1913.

Lately it happened for the first time that the Minister of the Interior gave the right to trade as a chemist to a woman in Hungary. Formerly women could only be assistants in a chemist's, a very tiring and under-paid work, but ownership of an apothecary makes a very good living indeed, and is generally given to few select people. A chemist's business which worked for any time could be bought, but they are generally very dear.

EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER.
Budapest, January, 1914.

SWEDEN.

GOVERNMENT BILL FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

For the second time in the Swedish history of Woman Suffrage a Government Bill for Woman Suffrage will be presented to Parliament 1914. In his speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament, His Majesty the King mentioned the question in about the same words as in 1912 (see *J. S.*, No. 6 of that year): "Convinced that justice, as well as the interest of the State, require the extension of political citizenship to the women of our country, I mean once more to lay before Parliament a Bill for that purpose." This means that the present Liberal Government will do its best for the success of our cause; but as to the passing of the Bill, it is impossible to venture a guess. The proportion between the political parties in Parliament is about the same as in 1912, and it will still be possible for the Conservative majority in the First Chamber to prevent the Bill from passing. This would defer the solution of our question for at least another three years, because this year is the last of the present Parliament, and every change in the Constitution must pass twice and in two different Parliaments. This does not sound very hopeful, but the present political situation in our country is such as may give rise to many unexpected combinations and complications. The Prime Minister has in many ways demonstrated his interest in Woman Suffrage, and had promised to speak at a public meeting in connection with the meeting of our Central Board, though the public meeting must be given up, because of the burial of Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

On the 8th and 9th of January the Central Board of the National Woman Suffrage Association had its 11th annual meeting in Stockholm. The N.W.S.A. now consists of 213 local Societies, which had sent 106 representatives to the meeting.

At the opening of the meeting Miss Anna Whitlock gave a short exposé of the events of last year, and drew the lines of the work for the present. In no other country had Woman Suffrage become so decidedly a party question, owing to the fact that in Sweden two political parties, the Liberals and the Social Democrats, had taken up the question on their programme, while the Conservatives were against Woman Suffrage, though they had as yet made no decided declaration of principle. In that situation the organised Suffrage Women had two courses to choose between, either to separate and form three different Societies, or to keep together as before, working for three different parties, the Conservative women trying to convince their party of women's interest in public affairs and in the welfare of the State. If the Suffrage Women of Sweden could show that they do not let party interests go before everything else they would have given a good example to the whole country.

Miss Whitlock ended her speech by saying that to her sorrow she could no longer remain President of the N.W.S.A., because of her school work, which took up all her time and strength.

Then followed the usual elections. Miss Signe Bergman, the former vice-president, was unanimously elected president; Miss Karolina Widerstenn, M.D., vice-president; Mrs. Ezaline Boheman, secretary; Miss Thorborg Widebeck, treasurer. The rest of the first private meeting was taken up by discussions on matters of organisation, etc.

Next day's private meeting was to a large extent taken up by reports from the Presidents of the different Societies on their work for the manifesto to Parliament 1914 (see *J. S.*, No. 6, 1913), and by a discussion on the time and manner of presenting the manifesto to Parliament. It was impossible to fix any definite sum of names, as lists were coming in daily, but in the next number of *Jus Suffragii* I hope to give a report both of the sum total and of the further arrangements.

At the evening meeting, which was open to members of local Societies, the following subjects were discussed:—

1. Experiences from the collecting of names for the manifesto to Parliament, 1914.

2. How to make it possible for Suffrage Societies to build houses of their own.

3. What I have learnt in the Suffrage work.

It was of a quite special interest to hear from a representative from the far north of the world, in that part of the country with its sparse population and hard climate, and of the interest in Woman Suffrage that had been aroused among those women living under such different conditions.

As a whole this meeting of the Central Board gave a very stimulating impression; the number of representatives had never been so large, and from all parts of the country voices were heard, telling that the work of last year had widened and deepened the interest for Woman Suffrage.

Stockholm, in January, 1914. EZALINE BOHEMAN.

UNITED STATES.

COMMITTEE ON W. S. IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

When this letter is written (January 12th) the newspapers are announcing that the Committee on Rules of the House of Representatives will pass a resolution providing for a separate Committee on Woman Suffrage in the House. The newspapers add that in any event the question of Suffrage will not be taken up until all of the important matters before Congress have been considered, and that moreover it is suggested that in order to keep the question of Woman Suffrage in the background until there is nothing else for Congress to do, a "packed" Committee be appointed. However, merely securing a Committee on Woman Suffrage will be a tremendous triumph and advance. Most Suffragists believe that if only they can have in the House a committee which has to give the proposed Suffrage Amendment consideration there will be no doubt that a favourable action will be taken. The proposed amendment, which was favourably reported in June by the Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage, is still awaiting its third reading in the Senate.

THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Mrs. Medill McCormick, of Chicago, has been appointed Chairman of the Congressional Committee of the National Suffrage Association. Mrs. McCormick is one of the four women who are given most credit for the passage of the Suffrage Bill in Illinois last summer. She is also partly responsible for the defeat of Judge Putebaugh, of Peoria, Ill., in the November elections. Judge Putebaugh was a candidate for the election to the Supreme Court Bench of his State. He was known to be an Anti-Suffragist, and to have a record on other questions which made it possible for the Suffragists to attack him successfully. The Supreme Court of Illinois will soon pass upon the Constitutionality of the Illinois Bill. Some of the women there felt it was most important to see to it that an avowed Anti should not be elected to the bench. The Illinois case will come up about the middle of February. The decision of the Court is awaited with the most intense anxiety. It is said that many thousand Illinois men and women who took no interest in Suffrage, or who were active Antis, have now become workers for the Suffrage cause. The Chicago Woman's Club alone is reported to have gained one thousand members since the passing of the Suffrage Bill. There is no doubt that there will be a tremendous disappointment and indignation if the decision of the Court is adverse to the Suffragists. The women of Illinois would then have to wait the passing of an amendment to the State Constitution, in which case they could not be enfranchised until November, 1916, or could devote all of their energies to working for the Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw are to-day starting for a month's campaign in New York State. Suffrage Conferences will be held in every district. Both Mrs. Catt and Dr. Shaw will lecture before the Suffrage Schools which have been organised in many places throughout the State.

All Suffragists of the United States were delighted when Mayor Mitchell, of New York, appointed Miss Katherine B. Davis Commissioner of Corrections. This is the first time a woman has held such a high office in New York City, but everyone feels sure that Miss Davis will "make good," because of her splendid record as head of Bedford Reformatory for Women. It seems significant that all the women who are being elected or appointed to positions of responsibility in this country are Suffragists. Among these others who could be mentioned are Miss Julia Lathrop, of Chicago, head of the Federal Children's Bureau; Mrs. Borden Harriman, of New York, a member of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations; and Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, superintendent of the Chicago Public Schools; as well as Miss Davis.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES NOT AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

The I.W.S.A. disclaims all responsibility for views and facts stated by contributors from other societies. It is considered that readers will be interested to hear the views expressed by other organisations, but such reports must not be taken as in any way endorsed by the I.W.S.A.

THE WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

Mrs. Pankhurst's successful tour in America was brought to a close at the end of November last, and she returned to England immediately, arriving on December 4 at Plymouth.

The authorities, in fear of the women who had come to welcome her, arrested her on board and conveyed her by a secret and indirect route to Exeter prison. She was released on December 7th, the night of the Great Empress Theatre Demonstration, when the £4,500 which she had brought from America was added to the collection, amounting to over £15,000.

Mrs. Pankhurst was re-arrested within the term of her license on December 13th, and released again in a very weak condition on December 17th.

Amongst those who have been re-arrested under the "Cat and Mouse Act" since November are Miss Lake, arrested on December 9th and released on December 12th; Miss Gween, November 28th, December 2nd; Miss Hall, January 14th, January 15th; Miss Ansell, January 19th, January 22nd; and Miss Stevenson, January 23rd.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst has been twice re-arrested, on December 9th and January 3rd, and on both occasions was kept in Holloway for several days hunger and thirst striking.

In proof of the complete failure of the "Cat and Mouse Act," the Home Secretary has resorted once more to the torture of forcible feeding. Miss Kitty Marion, who was arrested on January 6th, was forcibly fed shortly after her adoption of the hunger strike, and is still in Holloway. Miss Phyllis Brady was arrested on January 14th on the charge of burning down Lady White's house, and is now undergoing the same torture, although she is only on remand, and therefore, according to English law, technically innocent.

Finally, we have the appalling case of Miss Rachel Peace, who has been forcibly fed for the greater part of the time since her arrest on October 6th. She was twice compelled to abandon the hunger strike by fear of being driven to madness by the torture inflicted on her by the doctors. The following are extracts from her first statement, published in "The Suffragette" of December 19th:—

"Both times I have deliberately given it (the hunger strike) up because of the ghastly horrors I have to face every night. It is no ordinary nightmare. . . . It is a wonder I am still sane. The solitude alone is enough to drive me mad. . . . I am in pain the whole time. Sometimes it is acute. Always for a time I have a queer numbed feeling in my arms and legs, and then afterwards—two or three hours afterwards—it seems that every nerve in my body is twitching. At this time my throat was often so swollen that they had to make a second attempt to get the tube down.

"I am resolved to give myself a little longer and then I shall go back to the hunger strike. Surely heaven will help me and protect me from the other evil."

RUSSIA.

WOMEN ON JURIES.

The St. Petersburg Club of the Women's Progressive Parties decided to present a Bill to the Douma for the admission of women to the jury. At the Douma's request the Bill was worked out by the St. Petersburg Society of Women Lawyers and introduced into the Douma by the member, M. Schingareff. The Bill demands for women the right to be members of a jury on an equality with men. To gain adherents for this principle in Russia, information is needed on women on juries in other countries. The editor of "Jensky Westnik" appeals to the editors of women's papers of all countries to send her answers to the following questions:—

- 1.—Do women serve on juries in your country?
- 2.—If so, have they the same rights as men?
- 3.—In what year did women obtain the right to sit on juries?
- 4.—What form does the activity of women on juries take?
- 5.—How did women obtain the right to sit on juries?

Answers should be addressed to the Editorial Office of "Jensky Westnik," rue Spalernaya 42, St. Petersburg.

M. POKROVSKAYA, Editor.

THE COMING INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN ROME.

An event of the International Women's Movement is approaching to which I wish to draw the attention not only of all Suffragists, but of all those to whom the Woman's Movement means an innumerable series of wants and wishes which turn on the axis of political rights, which are the alpha and omega of everything we wish to get or to do.

We who are placing "Suffrage first" are not doing it because of a monomania, but because history and our own experiences have taught us that we cannot get the whole of our rights, cannot secure our possession of older rights, and

cannot work in the line of social reform as it appears necessary to us women, as long as we are without direct political influence.

Having learned to see the connection between our enfranchisement and all our other demands, we are not able to deal with any of our questions without considering them in connection with Women's Suffrage. And the essential point in our educational work is to teach the indifferent and our opponents to see our ardent desire for Woman Suffrage in connection with our want of all the other reforms.

At this stage of our movement it is nearly impossible to believe that a big international Congress should be called together to discuss women's questions, not only omitting, but putting aside on purpose, the question of Woman Suffrage. The International Council of Women is holding its Quinquennial in Rome, from 5th to 14th May. In connection with it the Italian National Council of Women is arranging an international Congress, as the National Councils of those countries do where the meetings of the I.C.W. are held.

While the I.C.W. has given to Woman Suffrage the place on its platform which this central question of the movement deserves; while Woman Suffrage is one of the chief questions to be discussed at its Quinquennial and its public meeting, the following Congress suppresses Suffrage absolutely.

After having got the first programme, which was also signed by two Italian Suffragists who have worked hitherto with our Alliance, I wrote asking whether the omission of Woman Suffrage is a mistake, and urged the placing of this question on the programme. First I got a letter promising to change the programme in so far as to put Woman Suffrage on it; later another letter told me the Executive Committee does not feel itself able to answer the request concerning Woman Suffrage.

I wish now to urge all Suffragists who intend to take part in the Quinquennial of the W.C.W.—and I hope many of us will attend this interesting and important gathering—not to join as members of the Congress arranged by the Italian National Council of Women, if Woman Suffrage will not be put officially on its programme. Not one of the excuses of the National Committee can be taken as a serious reason for omitting Woman Suffrage.

It is said the programme is certain particular questions, "Woman's Labour Inside and Outside of the House," etc. But if we consider that there is a single problem of the Woman's Movement which could be solved without Woman Suffrage we should put ourselves in the wrong and justify those who always advise us to put our energy into one or the other question. Just because we are convinced that every detail of the labour question, be it housework or any other, depends on our ability to co-operate in the Parliamentary regulation of these questions, we never cease to ask Votes for Women when such advice is given to us.

Shall we now gather as an international body of women, and like good children act as we have always been advised to do by our adversaries who deny the connection between Woman Suffrage and all our other problems?

If the Italian Committee will not take up officially as one point of its programme the discussion of Woman Suffrage in connection with the questions of its programme, no good Suffragist will be able to attend the Congress, which would be a denial of our fundamental principles based on the history and the development of the Women's Movement. Everyone attending the Quinquennial and being obliged to boycott the Congress would be sorry, and it would be a great loss to miss that opportunity of international co-operation in favour of such important questions as woman's labour. Therefore we hope that the Italian Committee will make it possible still at the last moment—it is pretty late already—to join heartily the great work they are preparing in Rome.

Consider, too, the merely national side of the question. I was told the Italian Committee does not dare to risk losing the sympathy of the Italian public, which in general is opposed to Woman Suffrage. When we remember that in Italy all adult men, even the illiterates, have got the vote, and that all women are excluded from the right of citizenship, we see it is a unique opportunity for the Italian women to discuss Women's Suffrage in connection with the most womanly questions by women of all parts of the world.

History has taught us that the question of Parliamentary reform loses all interest for men as soon as men have their universal vote. The hardest struggle for women to get their vote is just in countries where the movement cannot be united to a general demand for Parliamentary reform. In such countries—and Italy is such a one—international gatherings of women are of first class importance for Women's Suffrage, as

we have seen, *e.g.*, in Sweden. To miss this opportunity would be the open denial of the demand for Women's Suffrage on the part of the Italian Women's Movement, organised in the Italian National Council of Women. It would be a strong setback of the Italian Woman Suffrage movement, because it would give all alien opponents the possibility to ignore the demands of the Suffrage movement, pointing out that the International Women's Congress held in Rome has shown that women themselves admit that there are lots of problems which could be solved without Women's Suffrage.

I trust in the earnestness of the Italian feminists, and hope they will not spoil the splendid work going on all round the world by falling back to the spirit of a long-past time in which we could believe that Woman Suffrage is not more than one of the problems of feminism. We have learned that Woman Suffrage is an essential part of each of our demands. Therefore we cannot accept any suppression of this most important integral part of all our demands.

If all those intending to attend the Congress will make every effort to convert the Italian Committee I hope it will see its own interest in accepting our request. Should it not do so we should be very unhappy at being obliged to boycott the Congress. Of course we shall therefore not miss the opportunity to attend the Quinquennial of the I.C.W., which includes everything of importance in connection with women's life.

The Italy of Male Universal Suffrage should be taught to recognise Women's Suffrage too.

ROSIKA BÉDY SCHWIMMER.

THE WOMAN FACTORY WORKER IN RUSSIA.—II.

Translated from an article by Dr. Pokrovskaya.

FINES.

The matter of fines which are exacted from factory workers by their employers is a very serious one. Fines are imposed for: late arrival, work which is not found to be up to standard, for laughter, even for indisposition. At a certain well-known calendar factory in St. Petersburg the women workers receive 0.45rbls. (11d.) a day, and the fines have been known to amount to 0.50rbls. (1s.) a day. At a weaving factory, also in St. Petersburg, women operatives may earn as much as 1.25rbls. (3s.) a day, but owing to deductions for various fines the earnings often sink to as low as 0.25rbls. (6d.) a day. If a worker is feeling unwell and sits down, a fine is incurred of from 2d. to 4d. If an article is dropped, the fine is 1d. to 3d. If the worker fails to "stand to attention" at the entrance of employer or foreman and until he leaves the room she is fined from 2d. to 3d. At a certain new cotton spinning factory in St. Petersburg fines vary between 6d. and 1s., and the average earnings amount to between 11-12rbls. (£1 2s.—£1 4s.), with a maximum pay of 18rbls. (£1 16s.) a month. At a well-known chocolate factory in Moscow the fine for laughing is 0.75rbls. (3s.), and if a worker is 15 minutes late she is dismissed for one week. At another old-established and famous chocolate factory in case of sudden illness a woman employee is instantly discharged. In a certain cartridge factory the workers are searched before leaving, and those who persist in having pockets are fined.

There exists a custom of arbitrarily lowering the pay for piecework, so that in some factories the earnings fell from 0.80 and 0.20rbls. (3s. 1d. and 5d.) to 0.30 and 0.5rbls. (1s. 1d. and 1d.) for the same work.

Frequently workers who earn a high average are placed on less paying and unaccustomed work. This is largely connected with personal favouritism or spite on the part of the foremen.

HOURS AND SURROUNDINGS OF LABOUR.

In the majority of factories where women are employed the working day is from 10—11½ hours, after deducting the dinner and breakfast intervals. On Saturday, in many factories, the work stops at 2 o'clock. A considerable amount of overtime is, however, worked in addition. At several factories (which are quoted by name in the original) the work sometimes lasts 16 and 18 hours per day. The workers are forced to work overtime on pain of instant dismissal or of transference to inferior employment, and in the case of children actual physical force is used to make them continue in their places. Dining and lunch rooms are rarely provided, and in many places no definite time is allowed for meals. In one well-known factory one hour is allowed for meals, but there is no place where the workers can eat their food except in the work-rooms or in the lavatories.

The position of women workers on the tobacco plantations is the worst. According to a report published by the Sevastopol branch of the Women's Protective Union, young girls are sometimes kept at work during 22 hours in the day. Owing to the difficulties of carrying on the process of breaking the tobacco leaves in the daytime, the girl-workers are driven into the plantations at 4 a.m., where they work until 9 a.m. After that they are engaged in the processes of weighing and tying the packets of tobacco, which work is continued through practically the whole day, with the exception of short intervals for meals. At the same time the women workers are continually exposed to brutal and degrading treatment and assault. Not infrequently their earnings are not paid to them.

It happens sometimes, as on April 25th, 1913, at a cotton spinning factory in St. Petersburg, that the workers strike as a protest against the dismissal of old workers and their replacement by girls between 14 and 16 years of age. The result of the strike was a wholesale dismissal of all the women, whose places were filled by young girls. Not infrequently the women strike on account of the rude treatment which they receive from their foreman, actual bodily ill-treatment not being unknown. Such strikes rarely accomplish anything.

The worst aspect of woman's factory labour is, however, the moral danger to which women are exposed from those in power over them.

Immoral proposals from foremen and from their assistants are of general occurrence, and women who resist are persecuted in every possible way, and sometimes actually violated. In a large tobacco factory in St. Petersburg the women workers who were asking for raised pay were cynically informed that they could augment their income by prostitution.

All these hard conditions in connection with factory life have the result of driving a certain number of women workers into tolerated houses of prostitution or into the streets. This is directly encouraged by the management of some factories.*

The Factory Inspectors' Report for 1911 does not mention, in enumerating the nature of various complaints received from workers, any complaints of a moral nature on the part of women factory workers. This may partly be accounted for by the fact that the women shrink from mentioning these facts to male inspectors, partly on account of the attitude of the inspectors themselves, of whom many consider it perfectly natural that the factory management should, in regard to its female employees, assume the part of the quondam owner of serfs. Women factory inspectors would render invaluable service in protecting women workers from moral exploitation and danger. In February, 1913, a Bill to allow women to act as factory inspectors was introduced in the Imp. Duma. On April 24th it was debated and favourably received. It was, therefore, a matter of general surprise when the Secretary of the Board of Trade, on behalf of the Government, declared that at a Cabinet Council the Minister of the Department of Trade and Labour had declared that female inspectors would be entirely superfluous, since the male inspectors were carrying out the work of inspecting factories entirely satisfactorily in every way. The Cabinet Council thereupon negatived the proposal of allowing women to act as factory inspectors.

SONIA LEATHES.

* The names are given by the writer.

The Legal and Political Status of Women in the United States.

By Jennie L. Wilson, LL.B., Member of the Iowa and Michigan Bars. Price \$2-50 post paid, 1,007, Fourth Avenue East, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The book is somewhat on the lines of "Women's Position in the Laws of the Nations," published by the International Council of Women, and of "The Legal Status of Canadian Women," by Henrietta Edwards. Four-fifths is given up to digests of the laws as they affect women, one for each of the fifty States and Territories. Not every possible subject is dealt with, but woman in her family relations and as affected by marriage is fully treated, as is also her position as a voter, and her right to practise law. Her conditions as a factory worker are not touched upon. The subject of the unmarried mother is also omitted, and the laws dealing with the social evil. In a preliminary chapter is given a clear and succinct account of the Common Law of England, which forms the basis of the law of the States in the American Union other than those settled by the Frenchman or the Spaniard. In the following chapters is a summary for the whole country of the laws at

present in force, treated under the headings of Marriage, Divorce, Property Rights, The Community System, Guardianship, Miscellaneous, Citizenship, and Naturalisation. Technical legal phraseology is avoided, and the style is suited to the general reader.

The writer describes one of her objects as being: "That readers in each State may compare the laws of their own State with those of other States, and may then work for the adoption into their own codes of that which is most desirable in others, and for the uniformity of laws in all States upon the same subjects." The work, however, should be useful not only to readers in the country of the author but to anyone interested in improving the condition of women in his or her own country. No country with a woman's movement should be without a similar compilation of the laws as they concern women.

Broadly speaking, the legal position of the American woman as here set forth is in advance of that of the average woman in the civilised world. One cause, no doubt, is that in some of the American States married women were early placed in a position of economic independence, in so far as they were given the right to own and control their own property. In Michigan, so long ago as 1855, married women were given the control of their property and wages. Throughout the States, with some exceptions, with regard to inheritance and to the control over their husband's disposal of real (that is, landed) property, they are less at a disadvantage compared to men than in many other places. In Texas, even now, however, married women do not own their own wages. These belong to the husband.

In some States husband and wife at Common Law hold their property "in community," as the legal phrase has it. This method of possession, as a rule, has certain advantages for the woman should she become a widow, but, as interpreted in practice, and where the Common Law has not been modified by legislation, it is the husband only who has any right to use or spend any of the property held in community during the continuance of the marriage. But in most of these States, too, the old restriction which gives the wife no right to any of her property has been either removed or modified.

In Massachusetts there is a wise provision that certain property of a spendthrift husband may be secured for his wife and children. It is in Colorado that a married woman seems to be most completely emancipated, not only from the limitations of her right to use what is her own, but also from those other galling restrictions as to her right to make contracts, restrictions supposed to be in her interest, to save her from herself. There she has "every right that her husband enjoys, and is subject to the same liabilities." How good it is to see an enfranchised State recognising the need of giving to women the dignity of responsibility.

According to the law in fifteen States married parents are treated as equal guardians of their children. One may doubt, however, at least where the interpretation of this law is in the hands of judges holding their positions by the votes of male persons only, whether in practice it is interpreted as giving any effective weight to the opinions of the mother should her wishes conflict with those of her husband. In most of the other States also the Common Law has been altered by legislation so that at least the widowed mother becomes the legal guardian of her child on the death of her husband.

Many interesting points might be noted, as that the legal age for marriage varies for women from 12 to 18 and for men 14 to 21; that the divorce laws vary from absolute prohibition of the dissolution of the marriage tie in South Carolina to the latitude of Washington, where, in addition to the grounds provided by statute, the judges may grant divorce on any other grounds they deem sufficient. It is curious in the twentieth century, when one believes the stocks and similar forms of exposure and indignity to have become things of the past, to find in Nevada a law providing that anyone over 18 who wilfully strikes, beats, or tortures any maiden or woman over 16, may be lashed to a pillar for not less than two nor more than ten hours, bearing, fastened to his breast, a placard with the words "Woman beater" or "Wife beater" in large letters.

The statement that women have gained full Suffrage in Michigan is not correct. Probably when the book went to press the report to this effect, which at the time was believed, had not been contradicted.

The book is to be commended both to students of the history of the emancipation of women and also to practical reformers.

CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

WAR AND WOMEN.

By Mrs. St. Clair Stobart (G. Bell, 3s. 6d. net).

A debt of gratitude is due to Mrs. St. Clair Stobart from well-wishers of the Women's Movement throughout the world in that she has recorded in detail one of the most important services to that cause rendered during the present generation.

"I am not a writer of books," she states at the outset of this memorable volume, "War and Women," "and I dislike publicity. . . . I confess I would almost rather have gone through my war experiences again than have written about them." Convinced, however, of the obligation to those who are fighting the women's cause in other directions, Mrs. Stobart has given us a history of the unique experiment during the recent Balkan War of the Women's Convoy Corps, of which she was founder and commandant. By so doing, it may be hoped that she has for ever laid to rest the argument that as women take no part in warfare they, therefore, can claim no share in the Government of a State.

Her book must, it is true, be regarded from the standpoint of history rather than of literature, but if the sleight of hand of the expert writer is sometimes lacking, ample compensation is offered in the living interest of the narrative and the romance of the recorded adventures.

It must, however, be borne in mind by the reader that Mrs. St. Clair Stobart is in no wise a militarist. Her experience of the horrors of the battlefield has, on the contrary, left her in revolt against the savagery of warfare, which she considers "we must no longer condone as a tragedy," but must condemn "as a crime." She maintains, however, the principle that while warfare is the recognised medium for the settlement of national differences, women are bound to take their place in the recognised defence of their country. Hence the book is a plea for the inclusion of women as "practical and living factors in the Territorial Service" of Great Britain. And if they undertake such duty she rightly insists they must work with and under the organisation of the Territorial Army, and not primarily, as now, under the jurisdiction of the Red Cross Society, which is intrinsically an organisation for other purposes. Her plea for reconsideration of the place assigned to women in Great Britain in the scheme of National Defence is, moreover, fully endorsed in the prefatory note contributed to the volume by Viscount Esher.

That women are fit for such work, that they can undertake it under the most adverse circumstances and deal successfully with such tasks under the severest privations, Mrs. Stobart's tale reveals page by page. Active service was indeed the final test of her experiment in founding the Women's Convoy Corps. Some years before the Balkan War broke out this energetic and patriotic woman had been pondering the question whether her sex ought to take a practical share in National Defence, and had found a gap in the British Army where she considered women might best serve. The gap occurs in the work of conveying the wounded in battle from the field hospital at the scene of operations to the hospitals at the base, such service being now performed by voluntary orderlies or stray benefactors. Mrs. Stobart, after due consideration, inaugurated the Women's Convoy Corps for the fulfilment of this mission. During four years she trained her company in such necessary arts as cookery, laundry, housewifery, signalling, driving, riding, cycling, map-reading, life-saving, waggon and fire drill, and in the difficult tasks of improvisation work in field and in hospital. Her corps was duly tested in the period of the annual camp. When the Balkan War broke out, in October, 1912, the Commandant justly felt that the "call" had come, and her astonishment was great when the fiat went forth from the British Red Cross Society that units of *men only* were to be sent to nurse the sick and wounded, it being stated that there was "no work fitted for women in the Balkans."

In other words, the sphere of work opened by Florence Nightingale, one had hoped, for ever, was to be relentlessly

re-closed. The answer of the Commandant of the Women's Convoy Corps to this challenge was characteristic. "I determined," she recounts, "to go out to the Balkans and see for myself whether there was indeed no work for women." One piece of good fortune awaited her courageous proposal, namely, that she was accompanied on her way by Mr. Noel Buxton, Chairman of the Balkan War Relief Committee, who espoused her cause from the outset. With this aid, and the power of her own dauntless will, one is not surprised to read how obstacles melted before her; how "miracles" happened just at the right moment; and how on arrival at Sofia the Medical Military Department received her with open arms, begging her to improvise a hospital at Kirk-Kilisse, the headquarters of the Bulgarian Army.

The Commandant at once cabled home for the selected contingent of her corps, who were awaiting her orders at Westminster, and at once a band of fifteen trained women, comprising doctors, nurses, and cooks, set out to show the world of what stuff disciplined women are made. During the week that elapsed before her contingent arrived, the Commandant's hands were full, and she luckily gives us a vivid record of hospitals inspected, of stores requisitioned, and of equipment got together in spite of every obstacle. Then follows perhaps the most interesting part in this absorbing book, an account of the arrival of the contingent and their seven days' trek in bullock waggons across a war-scourged, hunger-bitten country. The privations of that journey must have been remorselessly severe, but the little cortège pursued its way across roadless plains and mountain passes of Rumelia and Thrace, undaunted by the lack of food and by sights and scenes of horror left in the trail of modern warfare. Yet, at the end of those days of misery the Commandant could report of her corps, of which the members were all drawn from the "leisured classes," and accustomed to every luxury in their homes: "Never once during the whole trek, or indeed from the start to finish of the expedition, did I hear a word of grumbling or of discontent at any of the privations or inconveniences which were encountered by any of the party."

The "inconveniences of the trek" were, however, child's play in comparison with the Aegean task which awaited the little band in the preparation of their hospital at Kirk-Kilisse. But the women proved equal to their task; houses were commandeered, scrubbing-brushes and soap requisitioned, and water conveyed in paraffin tins—for pails there were none—from the nearest source. With splendid enthusiasm and lightning rapidity the work was undertaken, and within forty-eight hours of the arrival of the Convoy Corps in Kirk-Kilisse the hospital was "a going concern." It was none too soon, for that very evening fifty wounded soldiers with untended wounds arrived at their door. "Can you take them in?" asked the Red Cross official, pointing outside in the darkness. "Of course I can," was the Commandant's reply; "that's what we're here for."

Life in the hospital is very graphically described in the following pages of the volume, and the reader who desires to know what it means to be "busy" is recommended to Mrs. Stobart's translation of the term into practice at Kirk-Kilisse.

Very soon, she tells us, the hospital was housing, feeding, and treating 92 in-patients, in addition to the out-patients, and we hear that the percentage of recoveries effected was "really wonderful," only one death, and that a medical one, occurring out of the 729 cases attended. These included soldiers of many nationalities, friends and foes, lying side by side, secure in the comfort of skilled attendance from devoted women doctors and nurses. When the day of departure of the Convoy Corps at length arrived, one patient, who was to be transferred to the usual military hospital, voiced the opinion of the many sick and wounded who had passed through the hospital, when he said in tears, "Where we go, we shall be looked after by fathers, but *you are mothers*, and that is *much better*."

Thus the Women's Convoy Corps has shown, as the author claims, that women can be of use in war-time, not only in hospitals administered by men, but that "they can improvise and administer on their own account a hospital of war in all its various departments," and, as they convoyed themselves with such signal success over country just evacuated by the enemy, testimony is borne to the fact that "they could as easily have attended *en route* to wounded soldiers."

This record, full of human interest to the general reader, will be, it may be confidently asserted, of especial appeal to Suffragists who claim equal opportunity for men and women in a world whether at war or at peace.

L. KEYSER YATES.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

DENTISTRY.

Women may be dentists in:—Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Netherlands, Norway, Roumania, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United States.

In the following countries they may study in the schools and universities, hospitals and clinics, under the same conditions as men:—Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Galicia, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.

They can study in Hungary (conditions not stated).

In Great Britain women can qualify at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin, and within the past two years at the Royal College of Surgeons, London. England has granted the Licentiate of Dental Surgery to women also. They can train at the National Dental Hospital, London, and the Royal Free Hospital, London (for the necessary medical studies, which complete the dental course), but other dental hospitals in London are not open to them.

In the United States all dental colleges—except Universities with dental departments—are open to women. These departments are not.

In Roumania there is no University course in dentistry; men and women study abroad.

In South Africa, as in the case of medicine, women and men alike must study abroad in order to obtain a degree.

The following are the numbers of women practising dentistry as far as can be ascertained:—Austria one (in Vienna); in Galicia, 10 to 20; Belgium, 43; Canada, 10; Denmark, 114; Finland, 17; France, 324; Germany, in January, 1912, 105, now the number is greater; Great Britain, 12; Netherlands, 48 (30 in practice); Norway, 70; Roumania, 25; South Africa, 4 or 5; Sweden, 68; Switzerland, 9; United States, 1900, 807.

With regard to the success they achieve, and the appointments open to them, the following information is of interest:

DENMARK.

The National Government and Municipal Authorities do not employ women very willingly.

FRANCE.

No teaching posts are open to them, nor any competition for such posts. The Government and Municipalities employ women surgeon-dentists in Lycées (High Schools), Government Departments, and Communal High Schools, on the same terms as their male colleagues.

They receive a salary of from 200 to 1,200 francs for quarterly, monthly, or weekly visits, and 100 to 200 francs in certain schools for quarterly and half-yearly visits.

The above-mentioned posts, paid or not by the Government or Municipality, are not open to competition. Nomination is necessary; for the Lycées and High Schools nomination by the director (headmaster) is necessary, for Government departments by a director, a secretary, or an influential member of Parliament; for Communal Schools by the director or a municipal councillor.

The nominee must then be accepted by the council of these institutions.

Out of 1,200 surgeon-dentists in practice in France there are 324 women in actual practice, and most of them are married. Their income varies from 500 to 4,500 francs.

They rarely buy a practice; generally they succeed their father, or other relation. Generally, they build up their own practice through personal connections.

It is useful to warn women who think of embracing this profession that it is necessary to have private resources and connections so as to be able to wait and get together a practice, otherwise there are great risks, especially since the decree of January 11, 1909, which extends the necessary period of study.

H. LEROY,
Dentist.

GERMANY.

Dental qualifications were thrown open to them at the same time as medical. Before that time a number of women dentists and dental mechanics who had studied in America were in practice. But in many German towns the former were not allowed to use their degree, D.D.S.

According to the census on January 1, 1912, there were 45 women dentists who had qualified in America, and 60 who

had qualified in Germany, but the latter figure has now certainly been exceeded.

The number of women dental mechanics cannot be ascertained, but is certainly greater than that of the dentists.

Women doctors and dentists have, in general, a satisfactory practice and good income, although not the large incomes of some male specialists.

Many women doctors treat only women and children.

Besides being assistants in public hospitals, many women hold appointments as Insurance doctors and as school doctors.

GREAT BRITAIN.

There is a good and increasing demand for the woman dental surgeon, and all those women who have gone into practice have, comparatively quickly, got a large connection of patients.

Recently the posts connected with School Dental Clinics have been offered to women on the same terms as to men, but there were no qualified women to take the posts.

Women should aim at having all the dental hospitals and colleges open to them, and do their work so conscientiously and thoroughly that the staff appointments would necessarily follow. The woman dental surgeon should certainly demand the same fees as a man.

MRS. HANDLEY READ, L.R.C.P. and S., L.D.S.,
Hon. Dental Surgeon, Royal Free Hospital, etc.

GALICIA.

Women can qualify as dentists at the Polish Universities of Lemberg and Cracow.

Dr. Madame Mira Pauek, who successfully practises dentistry at Lemberg, sends us the following remarks:—

About 15 years ago the Polish University of Lemberg, founded by John Casimir, King of Poland in the 13th century, admitted me to study medicine as an outside student. I was the first and only woman student at that time. The Polish University was congratulated by France, Belgium, and Italy on its progressive attitude to women.

Soon women were admitted on an equal footing with men to the medical faculty at Lemberg and Cracow. During the whole course of my studies I received great attention and assistance from the professors. As a doctor I have a good practice, and I meet with no difficulties or distrust on the part of my colleagues on account of my sex.

Madame Francoise Raff Rothfeld sends us the following communication:—

Women doctors and dentists in general enjoy the same rights as their men colleagues.

But women dentists employed as dental mechanics have lower salaries than men.

NORWAY.

The State's school of dentistry was established in 1908; twelve students are admitted per year, men and women on the same terms. Before the establishment of this school, the dentist students had to learn from dentists in private practice. The first Norwegian woman who passed the examination of dentistry was Petra Lie, in the year 1872. It is told that a professor of medicine, who was a member of the Board of Commission for the examination of dentistry, resigned this office, because he thought it undignified to sit in a commission that was obliged to examine women. The next woman dentist passed her examination eight years afterwards, and had no difficulties on account of her sex. As for the public, they seemed to have no prejudices; the first woman dentist had more work offered than she could undertake.

DR. LOUISE QVAM.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Miss Nathan, of Johannesburg, is President this year of the Transvaal Dental Society. (The census figures are rendered useless by classing dentists and dentists' assistants under one heading.)

SWEDEN.

In Sweden women dentists practised even in the 18th century, but only during the last 20 years have they done so to any great extent. But there has never been any prohibition to women to practise dentistry.

At present 68 women practise dentistry in Sweden. The total number of dentists is 425; women, therefore, represent one-sixth of the whole.

Some women have a very large practice, and no woman dentist has had any difficulty in finding patients.

It is as yet rare for any dentist to be employed by the State or Municipality, and then only as supernumeraries. But a commission has been appointed to inquire into the question of public provision for the care of teeth, and there is no doubt that when such provision is made, many women dentists will be appointed.

Six men and three women dentists are now employed at the National Schools in Stockholm, and one woman has held an appointment as military dentist.

UNITED STATES.

Women succeed in the United States if they do good work. Only very recently have Municipalities taken any interest in dentistry. Last year one woman was appointed to a subordinate position in Philadelphia. Municipalities are only beginning to take an interest.

DR. MARY STILWELL KUSEL.

Philadelphia.

BOHEMIA.

The Austrian Government has proposed a new Suffrage Bill for the Diet of Bohemia extending the franchise to all men, but excluding women unless they are taxpayers, and taking away from the women the right of eligibility. This change, though in some quarters it has been welcomed as a victory for Woman Suffrage, means the abolition of the previously existing equality between men and women, and it will also deprive many women of the Suffrage who now possess it, as many women are now qualified to vote by paying a small tax which Parliament now proposes to abolish.

DENMARK.

1.—THE LEGAL POSITION OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

No measure has been passed in Denmark for providing a pension for mothers in general, but several important laws have been made during the last few years for the purpose of securing public support for children, such as paying an allowance to unmarried mothers, and to wives with children deserted by their father. A Bill is still pending regarding pensions for poor widows and children. A summary is here given of the different laws and of the Bill pending.

For many years it has been the law in Denmark that as soon as fatherhood has been proved, the father of an illegitimate child has been forced to pay something towards the cost of the mother's confinement, and at least half of what is strictly necessary for the child's support, but as a rule only till its 14th year.

The law of the 27th of May, 1908, bettered the legal position of unmarried mothers and their children. The support of the illegitimate child is now looked upon as a public duty. In cases where the father does not pay promptly or disappears, the mother can then get the contribution towards the child's support paid in advance out of municipal funds, after which the municipality may try to get the amount refunded by the father. If he is unable to pay, the expenditure is regarded as a public charity, rendered to *him* (which involves loss of franchise until repayment has been made), and he may be punished by imprisonment.

But the woman who intends to claim anything from the father must sue him in order to prove the obligation, and suit may be brought as early as in the sixth month of pregnancy. If the man denies paternity, he can only free himself by evidence on oath. When the paternity has been established, the authorities fix the amount of the contribution. Private agreement between father and mother is only legal if confirmed by the authorities.

The contribution which the mother can obtain is toward the support of the child (until its 18th year) to cover special expenses (such as illness, confirmation, professional education), and toward the support of the mother herself one month before and one month after confinement, and expenses in connection with the latter. If the father dies, his estate and heirs must take over the obligations.

The amount of the contribution is determined with due regard to the circumstances of the mother. It must not be below the cost of good nursery homes in the district where the mother resides, and not above good middle-class circumstances. The contribution of the father is fixed as a rule at three-fifths of the amount settled upon for the support of the child according to the above. The contribution is higher for the two

first years than later on. The normal contribution from the father for the first two years varies from 66 kroner per annum in the country to 144kr. in Copenhagen, later on from 50kr. to 120kr. per annum.

The influence which secured the passage of this measure was public opinion, especially among women, stirred up partly by the frightful mortality among illegitimate children, partly by the many cases of infanticide committed by deserted mothers without support for themselves and their children. A committee, consisting of men and women, elected by Dansk Kvindersamfund (Union of Danish Women), worked out a Bill which was presented to the Government in 1906. It was officially stated by the Minister of Justice, when bringing before Parliament a Government Bill later on in the same year, that "he had followed the main lines of the committee's proposal." As already mentioned, the Bill was passed May, 1908.

The cost imposed by this Act is very heavy to the municipalities, especially for Copenhagen. In the accounts for the fiscal year 1909-10 the expenses to Copenhagen on this item were 535,000kr., and for the year 1911-12 729,000kr.

The working of the measure is recognised as successful. Already in 1911 the mortality among illegitimate children in Copenhagen had decreased perceptibly. This of course may be due in some degree to the work which has been done in general to improve the care of children. The paying out in advance of half a year's pension for the child to the mother has been criticised, because there is not sufficient guarantee against careless mothers using the money foolishly or for their own purposes instead of for the child. In proposing some amendments to the law, with the object of securing better control on this point (in February, 1913), the minister said that the law had on the whole worked successfully, and that nobody would think of changing its main principle for the protection of illegitimate children and their mothers.

2.—By the law of the same date (27, 6, 1908) the married but abandoned, separated, or divorced mothers obtained the same right as the unmarried mother to claim from the municipality, in advance, payment of the amount fixed as due to her from her husband.

3.—Widows have not yet obtained the same right to assistance when necessary, out of the public funds, but Bills have been repeatedly introduced with that object in the last two Parliamentary sessions by the Government. It is proposed to fix the amount on the same lines as for illegitimate children, but the Bill proposes to support legitimate children only as a rule till their 14th year. It is hoped that the Upper House, which has hitherto blocked this measure from economic reasons, will pass the Bill this year, thus ending the unfair position, that illegitimate children and their mothers are in a better position than widows and their children. In any case it will only be a matter of time before we see this injustice abolished. It must, however, be said that during the last few years efforts have been made to keep widows free from public assistance, which deprives them of citizen rights, by helping them as far as possible out of private funds.

4.—ASSISTANCE TO MOTHERS WORKING IN FACTORIES.

The Danish Factory Law of the 11th of April, 1901, forbids mothers to work for four weeks after their confinement, unless they can produce a doctor's certificate that they are able to re-commence work without injury to their own health or to that of their new-born child. As a result of a most energetic campaign from the women-workers and feminists it was at the same time decided that the mother, unmarried or married, who during this time needed assistance should have the right to it without it being reckoned as public assistance. The Factory Law is now under revision, and there is every reason to believe that the four weeks law will become absolute, and that the admission to public assistance for the mothers will be facilitated, and the amount paid out in such a way as to remove any possible stigma. Dansk Kvindersamfund has handed in a petition to the Government, suggesting that this may be included in a revision of the law.

A reliable system of inspection is now coming, and it will increase the usefulness of the law immensely.

A Widows' Law was passed in April, 1913. Widows with children in poor circumstances will from January, 1914, get 100kr. yearly till the child is 12 years old, and 60kr. yearly till it is 14 years old. If she marries again, lives an immoral life, receives public assistance, or improves her financial position, the help under this law is withdrawn.

TH. DAUGAARD.