

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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SEVENTH YEAR No. 3.

NOVEMBER 15, 1912.

Women have proved efficient in municipal work. In amending the Constitution we do a simple act of justice by availing ourselves of the opportunity to enfranchise the women. I take it for granted that the day we adopt a new Constitution, Woman Suffrage will become a fact in our country.

KLAUS BERNTSEN, Prime Minister, in the Danish Folketing, Oct. 23, 1912.



My life flowed like a tranquil stream;  
Around my thoughts I reared a wall;  
Earth's woe slipped by me as a dream,  
And moved me not at all.  
But that was Yesterday. To-day  
I hear strange voices in the air;  
They follow me and seem to say  
Hard things I cannot bear.

ISABEL MACDONALD,  
in „The Vote”.

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

## Announcements.

The address of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the I. W. S. Alliance, is again: 2 West 86th Street, New York City.

Contributions towards the travelling-expenses for delegates from India to the I. W. S. All. Convention at Budapest in June 1913 may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. A. Stanton Coit, 20 Hyde Park Gate London S. W.

Lack of space obliges us to hold over the announcement of new literature: e.g. the British Men's League's *Handbook on Women's Suffrage*, Mlle Pissargevsky's *Notes sur les Recensements de divers Pays*, and Mr. Paris' *Kultursozialismus*.

## Should Suffragists be Encouraged to Enter Political Parties?

*Resolution passed at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Germany:*

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the German N.C.W. considers the collaboration of individual women within the political parties as a necessary consequence of the women's movement and as a way for the fulfilment of their duty as citizens opened to women by the promulgation of the Imperial Law on Assemblies. In view of the increased danger for the unanimous action of German women for their rights, the N.C.W. declares that it will persevere in its completely non-partisan attitude as a Council and use its best efforts to make the increasing entrance of women into the political parties subservient to the interests of womanhood as advocated by organised German women.

*Mrs. H. C. van Loenen—de Bordes, Eisenach.*

My answer to the question can be short. As to our National Association I entirely endorse the opinion of Anna Shaw: „our Nat. Association is and must remain non-partisan in politics and non-sectarian in religion”; the political attitude of individual members however is a question of tactics.

Let me illustrate my meaning by the following two examples.

One of our quiet middle-parties, in Holland, is that of the Free Liberals. They do not belong to the extreme right, nor to the extreme left; they do not want you to give up your whole personality to „the Cause”. Some members are for, some are against W. S. Some were still hesitating 5 or 6 years ago, when the party was constituted. I joined them in order to use my influence as best I could, and because my membership did not encroach upon my suffrage-work. As long as I lived in Holland I made myself useful in our Nat. W. S. Association as an officer, a delegate, a member of Committees etc.—but I cannot speak nor debate in public. So the suffrage work did not take up all my spare time; the F. L. Party took only very little of it; in our meetings I could bring in W. S. whenever it was suitable and of course my vote was always influenced by my feministic opinions.

In this way I worked for W. S. in our Association and at the same time, indirectly, in the political party.

The second case is that of an officer of our N. W. S. A., who joined the S. D. Party.

Now we all know that the S. D. belong to the extreme left and that the feelings of a good S. D. for „the Cause”, rather differ from those of a quiet middle-man. We also know that the person in question is a good speaker and a good debater.

The S. D. P. will certainly not be satisfied if she only gives her name and her contribution. It will want her to speak and debate. Her membership will take up a great deal of her time, and I think that she ought to give all her time to W. S. — that she ought to use her talents only for W. S., which has plenty of work for her to do.

Therefore, to my opinion, the question cannot be settled in a general way, but ought to be weighed carefully in every individual case.

Eisenach, Nov. 1912.

*Leopoldine Kulka, Vienna.* My strong conviction on this score is that participation in practical politics is not only the best means to obtain the franchise for women but also the natural evolution of social

reform. We must all realise that, however important we think the possession of the vote, it is always only a means towards the attainment of our various political or social aims; and it seems to me inconsistent to neglect the aim in the struggle for the means. I find a corroboration of this my opinion in the fact that in those European countries where women have got the vote, in Finland and Norway, they have gained it as a consequence of their great interest shown in the fight for the liberation of their country, which implied direct participation in politics.

Now in those countries and at the time of their enfranchisement the situation of the women was less complicated, in so far as the majority of suffragists were of the same political opinions, which is by no means the case in the international suffragist movement. Here indeed it is not a question of women joining one and the same party, but *different* parties; and the apprehension is that this might endanger the unity among women suffragists.

But to my thinking this difference can only strengthen, not harm, the position of suffragists both inwardly and outwardly. Inwardly, because this is the only way for women to come to an exact realisation of the meaning and the value of political rights; and outwardly, because by this action the various political parties will be brought to recognise of how much use women may be for them, whereas now mostly the claims of the women seem only a nuisance to them.

On many parts the view has been expressed here that individual members of suffrage associations may be left free to join any party, but it was mostly added that the Associations as such should always remain non-partisan. I for one would not have that considered an axiom. To be sure unity and generality of a demand is a fine ideal, but experience teaches us that great political questions are seldom decided by agreement of all parties, but by *one* dominating group. And so possibly the enfranchisement of women may be in most countries not the outcome of a compromise between different parties, but due to the victory of one of them over the others. I hold that one of the greatest dangers for the suffragist movement is this, that by our desire for unity and extension we are losing sight of our real basis—the basis of every emancipation—that is: making for progress. This danger is the more imminent, as the Socialist women are working outside our movement, depriving thereby our organisations of a counterpoise to the conservative masses in it.

I do not think it would do harm to our cause if some suffrage organisations came out openly, not as neutral but as progressive. Should the event prove that the number of conservative women who can reconcile the demand for the vote with their general view of life is sufficiently great, they would of course organise on their own account. And to me it seems probable that the work of one of the two camps has more chance of gaining the interest and support of the men and thereby becoming triumphant, than the present unity.

### Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage.

The Congress of the Men's International Alliance which has just been held in London is not only the event of the week. It is in a sense the most important event in the whole campaign for Women's Suffrage. From the outset the cause has not lacked chivalrous helpers among the other sex, but the organisation of an association of men with the sole purpose of doing justice to women marked a new

and important stage in the campaign. A League of citizens, whose „guns are loaded”, to use Mr. Zangwill's famous phrase, was a new and welcome departure, even when it was confined to one country. But when the movement spread, when leagues were formed in other countries, too, and when all these were federated last year into one international league, then success became certain. No longer was it possible to talk of a „sex war”. Nor can we any longer be told that only a few extremists in our own country are clamouring for women's enfranchisement. The internationalism of the demand, and the fact that men are making it for women, must for ever explode two of the trite old arguments against it.

Even suffragists are frequently found quite unaware of the extent to which the movement has progressed in other countries. They scarcely suspect that in Denmark and Sweden the proportion of members of suffrage societies to population is far greater than in England, notwithstanding the immense variety of associations into which we are unfortunately always splitting up.

Of all the many strong arguments in favour of Women's Suffrage, none surely is stronger than the fact that the movement is world-wide. When we read in Mrs. Chapman Catt's wonderful accounts of her travels, how the Chinese women helped in the Revolution, how their „Dare to die” clubs were transformed into Suffrage societies, because they understood, after a successful war, that the next step was to take their share in the improvement of peaceful government, when we find that the women of the Portuguese Republic formed themselves into a society to ask for the vote, when we read in the monthly numbers of „Jus Suffragii” (as alas! too few of us do) of the progress of the movement in the twenty-four countries of the International Alliance, we feel that we are a part of the greatest movement of the modern world, that everywhere woman is at last finding utterance.

Every great nation which takes a step in the right direction helps humanity as a whole. Surely the men who heard the speeches of Mr. Beckman (Sweden), M. du Breuil de St. Germain (France), Mr. Zsombor Szasz (Hungary), Frau Rosika Schwimmer (Hungary), Madame Martina Kramers (Holland), and others, will realise how much depends upon their determination and self-sacrifice in the interest of this great Cause.

Yet another point is the admirable success of the business meetings at which significant resolutions have been passed after eager and yet cautious discussion. A text of the most important is given below.

„The First Congress of the Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage desires to call the attention of men of all nations to the serious economic effects upon their wages and security of employment arising from the steadily increasing employment of unorganised and unrepresented women, who necessarily accept a lower scale of remuneration for equal work. It points out that the granting of women's enfranchisement in twelve countries and States of Europe, the United States and Australasia, has been followed in almost every case by steps towards equalisation in the rates of remuneration of men and women in many professions and trades; and it regards the enfranchisement of women in other countries as vitally necessary in order to secure economic equality, and thus to check the displacement of men by women, which will inevitably continue if the latter are not given equal responsibility and power as citizens.”

On Monday, October 28th, at 11 a.m., was the Reception of the Report of the Committee upon the

Statutes of the International Alliance, followed by the election of the President and officers.

The resolutions carried were as follows:—

„That this Congress calls attention to the serious evils to the race consequent upon the white slave traffic and the social subordination of women, and considers that the enfranchisement of women is imperatively demanded in order to obtain rational and just legislation and administration concerning these matters. It points out that in every country where Women's Suffrage has been passed the age of consent has been considerably raised, and the white slave traffic has been greatly reduced.”

„The first Congress of the Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage notes with regret that an opinion exists in some quarters that the political and general emancipation of women is fraught with danger to motherhood and the quality of the race. As a proof to the contrary it calls attention to the fact that the general and infantile mortality in Australia, where women have long been enfranchised, has become the lowest in the world, and desires to record its conviction that the interests of race-improvement will best be served by granting to women the fullest opportunity of development.”

„The first Congress of the Men's International Alliance desires to express its emphatic dissent from the frequently expressed opinion that the granting of Women's Suffrage would be a danger to national security and military strength. While believing that the influence of women in politics will be in the direction of assisting the peaceful settlement of international disputes, it points out that the Senate and House of Representatives of Australia have officially testified to the ability of women in matters of defence and imperial concern, and that New Zealand and Australia have been foremost in giving practical effect to the demand of women for naval and military efficiency as a means of national preservation.”

„The first Congress of the Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage sends most cordial greetings to the workers in the Women's Suffrage Cause in various countries, and expresses its earnest hope that their efforts will be crowned by early success.”

Formal invitation to the Men's International Alliance to participate in the Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at Budapest in 1913 were cordially extended by Frau Rosika Schwimmer on behalf of the Hungarian Feminist Verein and by Dr. Megyery de Megyer on behalf of the Hungarian Men's League for Women's Suffrage, and arrangements will be made for the representation of the Men's International Alliance at the Budapest Congress.

The Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., was unanimously re-elected President of the Alliance.

(from *The Common Cause*.)

### Denmark.

#### DANSKE KVINDEFORNINGERS VALGRETSFORBUND.

From one year to another the necessity of a revision of our Constitution grew more and more urgent,—not only did the women claim their right but the way in which f.i. the Constituencies were arranged and the Upper House was composed were matters that made it urgent to amend the Constitution. In the form in which the Constitution was adopted in June 1849 it was democratic so far as the men were concerned, but in 1866 it was „revised”, which meant a privileged vote for the Upper House.

On the 23rd of October 1912 (the anniversary of

the day, 64 years ago, when our *first* Parliament for discussing a free Constitution assembled) our Prime Minister, Mr. Klaus Berntsen, placed before the Lower House an amendment in which as main points were included: Universal Suffrage for the Lower House for men and women of 25 years of age and indirect Suffrage for the Upper House through the Municipal Boards, for which women since 1908 are electors. It ought to be understood that we, when we speak about Suffrage, mean eligibility as well, and I beg to point out that there is made *no exception* whatever as regards women in this Bill. The Bill was subjected to a debate of three days and all liberal parties,—Liberals, Radicals and Socialdemocrats promised their support.—It was then sent to a special Committee.

As a rule it is difficult to prophesy in political questions. I shall therefore confine myself to state some facts which are of interest when calculating the chances of the Bill.

The Majority of Conservative Members which always opposed any amendment has been decreased to one vote and it is likely that in this case this majority will be doubtful,—but even if it is used to kill the Bill this will only mean delay not defeat. After the next general election the majority will no doubt have been changed into a minority.

Although the Liberal party, which has formed the Government, declared its willingness to support the Bill, it is well known that a fraction of it is opposed to some of the measures of the Bill, this difference is regarded as more or less important but it is at any rate hardly likely to ruin the Bill.

We seem at *this moment justified* in believing that Danish Women will be enfranchised next year.

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One of our groups, „Dansk Kvindesamfund”, held its usual „week of agitation” last September, and from the 22nd to the 29th more than 80 meetings were held where large audiences passed a resolution asking Votes for Women. Leaflets were distributed and there was a splendid sale of the beautiful illustrated book of History which the Union has published. However refreshing this sort of work is to look upon when it has been done and the result in form of new members etc. is coming, one cannot help wishing that our special „week of agitation” may not be required any more. Perhaps it will hardly be understood in those countries that are *struggling* (in the most extreme meaning of the word) how utterly difficult it sometimes is to keep the interest alive in a country where every person with any brains „agrees”. It will be a great relief when we—evidently before long—are able to educate our members *by aid of the vote*.

„Valgretsforbundet” had its annual meeting on the 10th of October and the following officers were re-elected: Miss Eline Hansen, President; Mrs. Johanne Mønter, Vice-President; Mrs. S. v. d. Osten, Nat-Secretary; Miss Louise Neergaard, Treasurer, and Miss Th. Daugaard, Int. Secretary.

TH. DAUGAARD.

Copenhagen, Oct. the 6th 1912.

#### LANDSFORBUND.

Speaking for the Constitutional Reform Bill the prime-minister, Mr. Berntsen, said: „...I take it for granted, that when the new constitution has been adopted, woman suffrage will be an accomplished fact in this country.”

Three days later, by appointment of the prime-minister, the first reading of the bill began, and the leaders of the parties expressed themselves to the effect that the sections of the bill concerning

woman suffrage are certain to be carried.

However, this is of little real importance as long as the whole reform bill has not been adopted. But there are signs indicating that this will happen. Judging by present appearances, the bill will pass the lower house (Folketing) by a large majority (ca. 100 against 14), and it may even happen that it will be carried unanimously. Thereupon it goes to the upper house (Landsting), and it is possible that it will also be carried there, as the conditions of the upper house have been altered considerably by the late elections.

If all goes well, the reform bill will pass both houses during this session, and thereupon the whole diet will be dissolved in the spring of 1913 and new elections be held. If the new parliament *adopts the bill unaltered it will become law*, and in the autumn of 1913 new elections will take place, in which the women will be able to use their votes for the first time.

CLINNY DREYER.

(Landsforbundet for Kvinders Valgret.)  
November 3rd, 1912.

### Hungary.

We told you we had the best hopes on the part of the Government, but because of our Party-neutrality-principles we have endeavored to form a Conciliation Committee, for we wished to avoid getting the vote through the favour of one single party, as this would put us under a moral obligation to that party.

The first to answer our request for the formation of a Conciliation Committee were the representatives of those two opposition parties, which are not allied to the Coalition. The Prelate Dr. Alexander Gieswein, M. P., often mentioned in „Jus Suffragii” for his favorable attitude towards W. S., kindly relieved the representatives of our Society and of the Men's League for W. S., for we worked in conjunction with the Men's League for the formation of our Conciliation Committee. Dr. G. promised on behalf of the Christian-Socialist Party, whose leader he is, to join the Conciliation Committee. The Vice-President of the Bourgeois Democratic Party, Dr. Alexander Petö M. P., received our representatives and promised on behalf of his party to join the Conciliation Committee.

On September 9th Count Albert Apponyi was so kind as to meet our representatives in our Headquarters. He then declared that, although having been formerly opposed to W. S. he now felt convinced of its necessity. It is through this conviction that he has also induced his wife, who is president of the National Council of Women, to encourage the Council to present a petition to the Government asking for Votes for Women. As we have already reported, this proceeding of the Council was highly advantageous and we were the more grateful because the Council had until now refused to take any active part in the W. S. movement.

Count Apponyi, whose world reputation as an orator and as staunch supporter of the peace and arbitration movement is well known, conferred with us as leader of the Independent Kossuth Party. He explained that, under the present political circumstances, it would be impossible for the united opposition parties to work in a Conciliation Com. in which the Government Party would also be represented. But being convinced of the necessity of granting the vote at least to a certain number of women when universal Suffrage will be granted to men, he took upon himself the task of inducing the opposition parties to include W. S. in their Suffrage program and insist upon its being passed. While we

conferred with Count Apponyi, the Vice-President of our Political Committee conferred with François Kossuth, the president of the Independent Kossuth-party.

Kossuth promised on his part to bring the question before his party. Personally he declared himself to be in favour of granting women for the present only the vote and not eligibility. But as the measure of enfranchisement to be granted to women does not depend on him, he declared himself to be ready to send a delegate from his party into the Conc. Com. composed of the opposition Parties.

All the members of the Government Party, with whom we have lately conferred, assured us, that the feeling towards W. S. in their Party is very warm. You can imagine how surprised we were under these circumstances to read the account of an interview, in which the Prime Minister was said to have declared that he found it impossible to secure W. S. in the Reform Bill. We would have been perfectly puzzled, had we not got from very reliable source the following facts, which explain Mr. Lukacs' conduct. The Prime Minister knew that on the opening of Parliament on September 17th he would have to face a very difficult political situation. So he sought a compromise with the Socialdemocratic party, which, as the reader is aware, was only allied with the other opposition parties for the purpose of extending the right of suffrage. Now in Hungary the Socialist party has no representative in the House and, on the other hand, none of the allied opposition parties has the necessary hold on „the man in the street” to produce crowded meetings. The Socialdemocrats were pledged to agree with the opposition parties upon the Reform Bill of June 4th, which demands the vote for 2,400,000 men, including illiterates, paying a certain amount of taxes. (The whole bill is based on educational and property qualifications and limited to 2,400,000 men out of the whole nation; still they call it a „Universal Suffrage Bill”, as if you would insist on calling a baby an adult person.) And now the Premier calculated that he would only have to propose a Franchise Bill giving votes to 100,000 people, in order to gain the support of the Socialists. This would have taken „the street” from the Opposition and divided their forces. So the Prime Minister offered the S. D. Party a compromise, assuring them at least 20 seats in the House and a large subvention for the National Medical Help Fund, which employs many Socialists at high salaries.

For this compromise the Socialists demanded that the Prime Minister should drop Woman Suffrage, and Mr. Lukacs in his difficult situation, not wishing to stand the risk, agreed to drop the enfranchisement of women and so we got the ominous declaration of which the interview in „As Uzsag” had informed us.

We would have been still more shocked than we were, if we had not received at the same time the intimation, that the Government's party is very displeased with the Socialdemocratic compromise and doesn't stand by it, neither on the other points, nor on the point of W. S. Prominent members of the Government party agreed, that W. S. should be proposed but that they would have to find a formula which would bring the vote to their own female relations too, whereas the formulas discussed until now in competent circles would suit only the wage-earning women. We were glad to have all this important information before the 16th of September, when we had the biggest meeting ever arranged in Hungary for W. S. Six thousand people occupied all the seats of our Redoute and about 2000 had to leave the building for lack of space.

The immense platform was occupied by the delegates of about 50 societies with different objects, assembled from the whole country.

Though members of the S. D. P. had warned us that they intended to disturb our meeting, the proceedings began in the highest spirits, and Miss Vilma Glücklich who occupied the chair managed most cleverly the difficulties.

During the speech of the principal speaker of the evening the Socialists began to make a noise. But the moment they remarked Dr. Villiam Vazsonyi, M. P., the leader of the bourgeois Democratic party, they cried „hear, hear Vazsonyi”, until he came to the platform at the request of the chair. As soon as Dr. Vazsonyi rose to speak an indescribable tumult began. The police cleared the galleries, but the same people pressed into the hall and continued shouting and screaming until Dr. Vazsonyi after about 20 minutes' scandal left the platform.

We were immensely sorry not to hear Vazsonyi, because it was one of our greatest victories to have converted him, who two years ago prevented our speaking for W. S. in the same hall.

After his quitting the platform, our greatest dramatic actress, Marie Saszai, could speak for W. S. from the antialcoholists' point of view; Mrs. László spoke for the employees of the post and telegraph; Mrs. Lugmayer for the teachers; Miss Wilhelm on behalf of the Women's Clerks Associations and the Rev. Haypál from the point of view of the peace movement. After this the tumult renewed, but the meeting adopted our original resolution with immense enthusiasm, against the shouts of the Socialists and their student partisans. The meeting lasted from 6 until half past ten.

We may state here that the preparations of the meeting of the 16th September gave us a brilliant proof of the capacities of our co-workers.

The meeting itself as well as the press reports next morning taught us, that the intended harm to our cause turned out to have had the best result: all respectable men and women learned now what we had to expect from the new rulers of ours, if the Electoral Reform enfranchised these men, without giving us at the same time the means of self-defence: our own vote.

The next day, the opening of the Parliament changed the political situation very materially by the scenes in our Parliament. The event bound the Socialists again to the Opposition, so that the compromise between the Government and the Socialists was broken. Now our chances are the same as they were before the ominous compromise. There is always the possibility of the Socialists pressing Count Apponyi and Kossuth too to drop W. S. But of this there is little danger, because the Opposition, if it does not endorse W. S., would surely not oppose it, provided the Government will take it up into its Bill.

Last week our representants, together with the indefatigable president of the Men's League, Professor Dirner, called on the Secretary of State Charles de Némethy, who is to draft the Electoral Reform Bill. He received us most kindly, gave us the chance of the longest interview possible and declared himself—what we knew already—to be the warmest friend of W. S. We had the impression, that the question of the formula is the greatest difficulty now to overcome. The next visit was paid to the Secretary of the Prime Minister, Mr. Alexander de Jessensaky, Chief of the election managing matters. He too promised to support W. S. The pressure of work upon our hands now, made it necessary to enlarge the number of officers of our Political Committee. Elected were: President Countess Teleki, acting President Rosika Schwimmer, Vice Presidents Mrs.

Ida de Molnár and Mrs. Olga Ungár, Chief-Secretary Mrs. Eugenie Meller-Miskolczy, Secretaries Paula Pogány and Mrs. Szidonie Szegváry.

We have now hot days before us. The horrors of the Balkan war are occupying the general attention, but notwithstanding this we have to be prepared for the introduction the Parliamentary Reform Bill any day. The Congresswork is going on splendidly also.

Budapest, Oct. 1912. ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

### Great Britain.\*)

The early days of October coincided with the half-yearly Council of the *National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies* which was held at Manchester. Some six hundred delegates were present. The assembling of this great number of representatives of the Societies throughout the country illustrates very strikingly the wide-spread and democratic system of organisation, which is a distinctive feature of the National Union. The meeting was of exceptional interest in view of the fact that since the last special Council in May several important by-elections have arisen to test the effectiveness of the policy then adopted.

Mrs. Fawcett, who received the usual warm welcome from those present, dwelt particularly upon the Election policy. She reiterated the fact that they were a non-party Association and that their principle had been uniformly to support, at elections, the candidate who was the best friend to Women's Suffrage. They had now developed this policy by taking into consideration, not only the opinion of the individual candidate, but also the attitude to suffrage of the political party to which he belonged.

This new development in the policy of the National Union was quite simple and quite straightforward. To take no note of the attitude of the various parties would be uncommonly stupid. It would be neglecting an obvious fact of first rate importance governing the whole situation, namely, the enormous practical influence of party loyalty and party discipline upon the votes taken in the House of Commons. Speaking of the Women's Suffrage amendments, which will be moved to the Government Franchise Bill, she counselled the utmost activity and discretion on the part of all members and Societies in securing for these amendments the largest possible measure of Parliamentary support. The results at Crewe and Midlothian, to which the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies had contributed so largely, had placed the Labour Party in a much stronger political position than they had ever been in before. In these circumstances it was unthinkable that in any negotiation between the Labour Party and the Government regarding the Reform Bill the claims of women should be disregarded.

The honorary Secretary reported a remarkable increase in the size of the Union, which now numbers 398 Societies, besides smaller branches, whereas the report for 1911 gave the number as 311. New branches are being formed every week. The membership of the Union which was given in the report of 1911 at 30,408 now stands at 35,563.

The honorary Treasurer reported a very satisfactory financial position.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously:

\*) The Report from the *Women's Freedom League* and the organ of the *Men's League* have not arrived in time. — Ed.

1. That all friends of women's suffrage in the House of Commons, whatever form of Franchise they prefer, be urged to vote for the amendment deleting the word „male” from Clause 1, subsection 1 of the Reform Bill, which alone makes possible subsequent amendments enfranchising women.

2. That this Council looks to the Parliamentary Labour Party to give effect to the resolution passed by the Annual Conference of the Labour Party at Birmingham on January 26th, 1912, by refusing to accept any measure of Franchise Reform which leaves women entirely unrepresented.

3. That all friends of women's suffrage in the House of Commons be urged to support the inclusion of women in the Irish electorate under the Home Rule Bill [Defeated on Nov. 5. Ed.]

Some detailed explanation of the object and practical bearing of these resolutions may perhaps not come amiss to non-English readers.

*Resolution 1 on deleting the word „male”.*

The point with which this resolution deals is one of paramount importance. The first lines of the Franchise Bill run as follows: „Subject to the provisions of this Act every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary elector. . . .” The future operation of the Act is thus, at the very outset, deliberately confined to men. It is apparent that, should this governing sentence be allowed to pass without modification, it would be impossible to move at a later stage any amendment to include women in the Act.

An initial amendment to omit the word „male” is required and one to this effect has already been given in. Considering the composition of the present House of Commons, in which the majority of members are in favour of the principle of Women's Suffrage, there should be no difficulty in rallying the votes of all suffrage groups in the House in support of this necessary amendment.

*Resolution 2 on the support by the Labour Party.*

The Resolution of the Labour Conference to which reference is made was an injunction given last January by the organised forces of Labour to their Leaders, to convey to the Government an intimation that no Reform Bill which leaves women entirely unenfranchised will be acceptable. This adoption of women's suffrage by a political party was an event of great significance, and the National Union showed its appreciation by deciding, that in giving future support to parliamentary candidates, account should be taken, not only of their individual opinions, but also of the official attitude towards women's enfranchisement of the party to which they might belong. Thus in certain of the recent by-elections the National Union has worked on behalf of the Labour candidate.

The Council's present resolution urges the Labour Party to record a solid vote against the Franchise Bill, should none of the women's enfranchising amendments be incorporated in it.

The supreme struggle must inevitably occur over the Reform Bill. The National Union is organising an extensive campaign of preparation, which will include deputations to members of Parliament, a great attempt to secure the support of the Irish Nationalists, peaceful propaganda throughout the country and demonstrations by means of mass meetings. The most important of these, at which Mrs. Fawcett will preside will be held at the Albert Hall, London, on the 5th November; this will be followed a few days later by a mass meeting at Brighton. Platforms representative of Liberalism, Conservatism and Labour have been arranged on both occasions.

N. S. B. ATKINSON.

31st October 1912.

The month of October has been a peculiarly busy one for the ever busy *Women's Social and Political Union*. The new premises in the Kingsway known as Lincoln's Inn House are now in almost complete working order, and next month will be „warmed” by the Christmas Fair to be held in the large Hall.

But not only new promises, but a new official organ, „The Suffragette”, has been introduced to an astonished yet admiring Union and public, for „The Suffragette” is the new-born sister of „Votes for Women” now again the entire property of its originators Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who in consequence of some divergence of opinion on the particular form of militancy to be practised by the W.S.P.U., have, as is announced by both papers, resigned their membership of the W.S.P.U.

But, although these distinguished and most self-sacrificing supporters of the Woman's Cause have ceased to be members of the W.S.P.U., they are as determined and as generously self-devoted to the enfranchisement of women as ever, and it is with every belief in the ultimate triumph of Justice that the W.S.P.U. and the editors of „Votes for Women” will alike work for freedom for women, although their lines may not be parallel.

The great Albert Hall Meeting on Thursday, the 17th of October, was a very triumph of defiance of a reactionary Government. Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. George Lansbury, the member of the Labour Party who has not waited to be led, but has of his own free will acted honestly towards the Woman's Cause, were the speakers. Mrs. Pankhurst spoke to a thronged meeting of the burning necessity for the enfranchisement of women, whose experience had taught them the bitter and shameful degradation of the lives of women and unprotected children. She made a stirring appeal to the women to retain and to use the weapon of militancy against a Government which would only yield to pressure, and she defied the Government to imprison and torture Suffragist women while not daring to take or touch the leaders of Ulstermen, or make arrests in the case of men rioters and looters of property.

Mr. Lansbury introduced as a „splendid exception”, spoke next and in words of honest and manly sincerity stated he would be no party to keeping in office any Government that refused Justice to women. „Principle plays no part in the business at all. . . . these people will only be moved by the power of public opinion outside the House of Commons.”

The W.S.P.U. has nothing against the principle or aspirations of any political party, but it maintains that if principles are only flaunted as recruiting flags, and aspirations are sacrificed to mere party expediency, the women are justified in opposing that party, until it returns to a sense of its public duty. The Coalition Government then is united against and opposed by the W.S.P.U., until it yields to the insistent and logical demand for a Government measure, to give women the vote on the same terms as men.

Meanwhile, while Mrs. Leigh, and Miss Evans have had to be released from prison and have since been pursued and annoyed by the constant surveillance of the police, the case of Miss Helen Craggs came on for trial at the Oxford Assizes. She was tried, sentenced to nine months hard labour on Saturday, October 19th, and was conveyed to Holloway Prison.

On Wednesday afternoon, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, the Home Secretary had to confess that owing to the state of her health consequent upon a Hunger Strike followed by the usual Liberal torture of forcible feeding, Miss Craggs had been released that day! On Tuesday in the

same week, in Dublin Miss Gladys Evans who had been re-arrested for failing to report her change of residence to the police, was brought up on remand almost in a state of prostration. She had been six days without food in Mountjoy Prison. She was released, declaring she had no intention of complying with any conditions consequent on her discharge by a Government at war with women who were struggling for political emancipation.

Perhaps there is nothing so remarkable as the futile cowardice of the Government, unless it be the stirring courage and high endurance of the women who fight in solitude and in prison against their official antagonists.

Several outbreaks of militancy in the form of attacks by fire on pillar post boxes have been attributed to Suffragists, so far the suspicion has only been justified by one arrest.

The Government, after having occupied Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's Surrey house by bailiffs for weeks past, has „sold him up” with a view to recouping itself for the costs of the Conspiracy Trial at Bow Street. This piece of sharp practice has only further demonstrated the splendid stand for principle made by the victims of the contemptible piece of jobbery and the utter lack of principle shown by the jobbers. We believe these „burglars” have not acquired as much out of the job as they had planned. The „best laid schemes of mice and men gang off ugly” so what can jobbers expect? London, Nov. 1st 1912. *Press Dept. W.S.P.U.*

Both in London and the country the *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association* has been working very hard among Conservative and Unionist M.Ps. in order to induce them to give pledges to vote for the Conciliation amendment to the Reform Bill, and members everywhere have loyally co-operated with the Central Office in this all-important work. Deputations have been organised, and where this has not been advisable, local constituents and influential Conservatives have been asked to write to their respective M.Ps. on this matter. Individual members of the C.U.W.F.A. have also done splendid work with regard to the Municipal elections which have recently taken place.

Among the forthcoming meetings to be held in London by the Central Office is the quarterly meeting of the Women's Council on the 12th of November, and the Annual Meeting of all members of the Association, on the 13th, which will be held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, presided over by the President the Countess of Selborne.

The Duchess of Marlborough has kindly consented to open a Café Chantant at the Kensington Town Hall on the 20th, which we hope will attract many suffragists and friends, and will result in a substantial addition to our Organisation Fund.

Early next month the Central Office are holding a large meeting at the Knightsbridge Hotel, at which Winifred Countess of Arran will take the chair, and Mr. Sydney Goldman, M. P. and Dr. Flora Willey will be the speakers.

One of the Association's most useful and far-reaching forms of propaganda work is through a series of Lantern Lectures: „Women at Work”, „Lands Where Women have Won the Vote”, and „Women's Work in the Empire”, which have been written and arranged by members of the Literature Committee. These lectures are illustrated by many beautiful and effective slides, and we are glad to state that the other Suffrage Societies have been quick to see the utility of these lectures, and have taken advantage of this inexpensive form of instructing the uninitiated in the already large and important

part women take in the Imperial and social affairs of the Empire, and of the value and necessity of the Parliamentary vote.

The number of C. U. W. F. A. branches is steadily increasing, and from the numerous letters received from Conservative centres in all parts of the country, it is only too evident that the work of a party organisation is greatly needed and appreciated.

*The Hon. Secretary C. and U. W. F. A.*  
London, Nov. 1912.

## United States.

Before this letter reaches the readers of *Jus Suffragii* the great suffrage campaign of the women in the United States will be over, and we fervently hope that spread across the pages of our international paper will be news which will make all the suffragists of the world happy. When every man casts a secret ballot it is impossible to foretell what will be the result. Even now, only ten days before election, the most experienced leaders in the various political parties are entirely in the dark, although of course each party is claiming the victory. Our president of the National Suffrage Association, Dr. Anna Shaw, who has made a canvass of every State where a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage is to be voted on, is at the present moment in Kansas, where she will finish her tour. A glance at the map will show how many thousand miles she has travelled, beginning with several weeks in Ohio; then going to Michigan and Wisconsin; 2,500 miles from there to Oregon; a thousand down to Arizona; another thousand back to Kansas; and still another thousand to New York, where she expects to arrive November 4, the day before election. So she will be here to help us celebrate our defeats and our victories!

I received a long letter from Miss Shaw to day, written in far-off New Mexico, where she had stopped one day at a good hotel in Albuquerque for rest and was just starting for Kansas. It was the only day in three months that she had not been either travelling or speaking, and yet she wrote: „You will be surprised to see me looking so well. I am very tired but feel better in every way, both in spirits and health, than when I left home.” Her much loved friend, Miss Lucy Anthony, has accompanied her on the trip. Dr. Shaw does not see how it will be possible for us to lose Oregon or Arizona. She says she never had as large audiences in proportion to the population and that everybody seems to be in favor; no opposition to be seen. The women of Kansas feel absolutely sure of winning. They have made a splendid campaign, the most prominent women in the State working for it; organizations of every kind declaring in favor; all the leading men using their influence for it. The loss of any one of these three States will be a very great surprise and disappointment.

I would not express a doubt as to Wisconsin if this were to be read before election, but as it will not be, I may say that to those who study these questions closely a victory there seems impossible. The brewing industry is one of the greatest in the State and even the farmers would not want to see any injury to this market for their grain, while there is probably a larger proportion of Germans than in any other State. All of these forces seem to fear the effect of woman suffrage. On the other hand there is an immense Scandinavian population which seems to be almost unanimously in favor; there is a very large Socialist vote which can be depended on; and this State is the home of United States Senator La Follette, who is the founder of

the Progressive party and should have been its candidate for President instead of Mr. Roosevelt. He has been always a strong, consistent advocate of votes for women, and his wife, who is a university graduate and also a graduated lawyer, has been canvassing the State for weeks, speaking out of doors at fairs and at conventions of men and making hundreds of converts. In politics the State is one of the most progressive in the Union. At the last election about half-a-million votes were cast.

Nobody seems to want to hazard a guess about Michigan. The greatest strength of the suffragists lies in the farmers. They are well organized in about 900 Granges, which have always recognized the equality of women. These are making a strong, systematic campaign for the amendment and have ascertained that women pay taxes on \$ 177,000,000 worth of property in this State which is not thickly populated. None of the political parties, however, is very friendly and the suffrage bill was rather forced through the Legislature by the Governor. The State Federation of Labor and the labor leaders are in favor here, as in all the other States, but the election in Ohio showed that the workingmen, as a whole, did not stand by the suffrage amendment. The suffragists are not so well organized as in some of the other States and have not been able to secure the necessary funds, but they have some wonderfully strong and effective speakers and workers. Michigan must be considered an extremely doubtful State. It has over half-a-million voters.

When this is read in the light of the election returns all of these forecasts may prove to have been wrong, but they will at least help the readers to understand the situation. No words can express how thankful we will be when it is all over, and we shall devoutly hope never again to have six campaigns at one time. It is a terrible strain on the finances and on the workers. Very few of the latter have had a day's rest during the past six or eight months and it has been impossible to raise enough money to meet the legitimate demands. Almost all of the service has been given without pay. If only one State should be won, however, we would consider it worth all the six campaigns have cost. If all should be lost, there would not be a day's cessation of work in any State. The Ohio leaders from twenty-three countries have already met and arranged to spend one year in thorough educational, organizing effort and the second year—1914—they will again bring their question before the voters.

On November 9th, whether there has been victory or defeat, a great night parade will take place in New York City, under the auspices of the Men's League for Woman Suffrage, in which societies from many States will join. The men will carry torches and the women, dressed in white, will carry Chinese lanterns. Arrangements are under way for a mass meeting in Carnegie Hall on November 16th to welcome home our international president, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who is expected to reach here on the 14th from her nineteen month's trip around the world. And on the 21st our national convention will begin in Philadelphia. This will probably be the largest and in many ways the most important ever held in this country. Matters of deep concern will come up and the policy of the Association must be mapped out. Woman Suffrage has now become one of the political issues in the United States and henceforth it will be a fight to a finish. Never was there need of such wisdom, strength, courage and harmony among both leaders and followers, for therein lies the hope of the future!  
IDA HUSTED HARPER.  
New York, October, 1912.

## Germany.

At the General Meeting of the German National Council of Women at Gotha Miss Dr. Gertrud Bäumer gave an address on Should Women Enter into Politics? She presented this action on the part of the women as a *necessary sequel to their emancipation*. Working in common with men for the great aims of national life will be the best guarantee against women being sex-biased. As compared to the danger which might lie in division among the women occasioned by political differences, this advantage seems of higher importance. As a matter of course the *non-partisan position of the Association as such* should be strictly maintained. A resolution to this effect was carried by a notable majority; only the delegates of the Women's Evangelical Church League (Deutsch Evangelischer Frauenbund) abstained from voting. This however is of little significance in view of the unanimity among all the other societies in the National Council, which has at present a membership of 500,000 persons. Yet in Germany the collaboration of women in political parties of men is rather a difficult affair, since only the Socialists and the little group of Democrats have woman suffrage as part of their program. Our hope that the great Liberal Party would at last declare in favour of women's franchise *has again been disappointed* by the resolutions of the Mannheim National Congress. To be sure the debates proved that the number of suffragists within the party has considerably increased, but the congress did not arrive at a definite position in the question of the enfranchisement of women. It did not go beyond passing a resolution which vaguely promises support to the women in their efforts to gain their political rights. A group of women who had menaced to abandon the Party in case their claims were not accepted, have failed to give effect to their menace and have remained in the Party.

The most important political event are the elections under the new Employees' Insurance Law, which gives women the same electoral rights as men. This law is meant for all those who have no state pension as Government or Municipal employees, and makes all persons in private employment liable for insurance. The women under this law are mostly commercial clerks, office clerks, private teachers, actresses etc. whose salary is under 5000 Sh., nurses, journalists etc. In the elections, which have already partially taken place, numerous women have taken an active part and have actually succeeded in getting their candidates elected. But as for many towns the elections have not yet come to an end, we shall report on the results next time.

ADELHEID VON WELCZEK.  
Dresden, November 1912.

In the Report from Germany for October we inadvertently omitted the sentence: *Miss Von Harbou* gave an address on Friends of Woman Suffrage, *Dr. Schirmacher* on Enemies of Woman Suffrage.  
Ed.

## Sweden.

After a time of comparative calm the autumn-campaign has now begun both in Stockholm and in the country. The N. W. S. A. has decided to make its utmost efforts in order to double the number of its members, or at least to get a considerable increase.

The beginning has been made in Stockholm by Mrs. Else Kleen, one of our cleverest women journalists and a very ardent suffragist. She has, if

not invented, so at least put into system a new form of agitation—the shop-agitation. After having laid her plans, she has made a beginning by visiting shop after shop, first on the one, and then on the other side of the street. And acting on the principle that charity begins at home, she has begun with her own immediate vicinity in order to make sure that every woman in every shop in her own street should have heard a preaching on the text of woman's suffrage. Further she has got permission to speak to the women employed in several great establishments and warehouses and finally she has given lectures on this new form of „Mobilisation". By these means she has already won at least 300 new members for the Stockholm W. S. A. The example set by Stockholm has awakened a keen interest in other local societies, and now Mrs. Kleen has gone on a tour to several W. S. A. We wish her good luck in her good work.

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In December half of the towns of Sweden elect members to their Town Councils and preparations for these elections are already going on. With each new election the women become more interested and eager to get women elected into the Town-councils, and almost everywhere the suffrage-societies lead the electioneering work of the women.

These elections have more and more got a political character—five of the largest towns elect members to the First Chamber—and because of that the lines between the three political parties are very sharply drawn. As we know the Conservative party in Sweden is absolutely opposed to women's political suffrage and have declared that the women must wait till they have become a powerful factor in the State. Now one of the best means of showing themselves as such a factor is the women's municipal suffrage and eligibility, and the coming elections give the Conservative women an occasion to show their party, that they are dissatisfied with its position towards the question of woman's suffrage. They can show it either by separating themselves from their party and working for a special list, that takes up only the names of suffragist Conservative women—or by refusing to vote. Probably most of the women voters will choose the first way, which by no means favours the other parties at the expense of their own, but still gives them an occasion to demonstrate their dissatisfaction.

In any case it is important that the women should use their municipal suffrage, and I will finish this article by quoting some lines from the leading-article in the last number of our suffrage-paper „Votes for Women" (Kvinderösträtt).

„At each election it is absolutely necessary to make the most energetic propaganda for the women's participation in the elections. Neither faint-heartedness nor timidity or a bad example must prevent the women from fulfilling their duty. With regard to suffrage more than to most other things, we can apply the sentence, that it is a *right* only as long as we fight for it; when we have got it, it is a *duty*."

EZALINE BOHEMAN.  
Stockholm, November 1912.

## Austrian Empire.

GALICIA.

The *Polish Women's Rights League* at Lemberg has opened its winter campaign by a well organised manifestation. A deputation of delegates from sixteen Polish and Ruthenian associations with different objects went with the President of the Committee,

Mrs. Melanie Berson, to the Galician Diet in order to present to the President of the Electoral Reform Committee a memorandum demanding votes for women.

It is now a most important moment, for the Commission of the Diet is drafting a project of electoral reform. The President mentioned the enfranchisement of women and claimed attention for the repeated petitions presented each year by the women, who had a right to the vote since they very generally supported themselves and collaborated with men in educational and patriotic work. Mr. Dr. Leo complimented the deputation and said a word of encouragement to those plucky women, but he gave no definite answer. The Democratic parties in the Diet recognise the justice of the suffrage claim, but the Conservative parties do not accept the introduction of woman suffrage. However we hope to succeed in obtaining a partial franchise for women and we may possibly get an instalment before the final victory.

The League also decided to continue its lectures on various social questions and its open air meetings, which prove of enormous help to educate the masses and are bringing round public opinion so as to make it favour the enfranchisement of women.

MARIE GERZABEK.  
Stanislawow, October 1912.

## The Netherlands.

For the *Dutch W. S. Association* joy and sorrow have come at the same time. Our beloved President, Dr. Aletta Jacobs, has come back on Nov. 3rd from her long travels in the interest of the suffrage cause, and two days before we lost in Mrs. Theodora Haver one of our earliest pioneers and most efficient speakers and workers.

Dr. Jacobs' return brings us great encouragement. She comes back strong and healthy to guide our attack on the enemies of votes for women and burnish up to shining glitter the faded sympathies of half-hearted friends, in anticipation of the momentous year that is to come for the enfranchisement of women in the Netherlands. However all suffragists will miss the untiring devotion of Mrs. Haver, who, as President of the Amsterdam Local Branch, as a journalist and lecturer, might have done great service to the cause in the approaching year of constitutional revision and of parliamentary elections. Her decease was not unexpected; during the whole summer she was in hospital and we knew that there was no cure for her. The grief of her fellow workers at her death found an outlet in a funeral as no feminist in Holland ever had before. All the women's rights societies of which she had been a member had sent banner-bearers and delegates; the bier was covered with the white and yellow suffrage flag and followed by a multitude of floral tributes. Then came the relatives and after them hundreds of suffragists from all parts of the country. Preceded by a band playing Beethoven's and Chopin's funeral marches, the procession wended its way through the streets of Amsterdam of the railway station, from where the body was to be transported to the crematorium at Bremen. The funeral made great impression. This was the first time that a woman suffrage procession was seen in the streets in Holland.

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The preparations for the Exhibition are in progress, the plans are laid out and every Sub-Committee is at work. The Suffrage Department can boast of much help from other countries. There is only to be a show not a sale of suffrage articles from

abroad. For lectures and speakers all arrangements have yet to be made. The duration of the Exhibition will be from May 1st to October 1st 1913.

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With a view to the approaching elections the three Liberal parties (Radical Party, Liberal Union and Free Liberals) are arranging a compromise. Probably they will agree on free trade, state education, retention of the limits of the royal power and electoral reform. The latter is proposed to mean introduction of Manhood Suffrage immediately and for the female sex... the possibility of one day gaining the vote by dropping the word „male” from the qualifications for electors. The compromise is not yet agreed to.

Meanwhile our Annual Meeting is to take place on Dec. 7 and 8 in The Hague (address: Mrs. Van Balen, Laan van Meerdervoort 341) and the Dutch W. S. A. has determined to make sure what the attitude of the different parties will be towards woman suffrage, by inviting delegates from each party to declare their intentions in a public meeting on the previous evening. That will enable the W. S. A. to determine its line of conduct.

M. G. K.

The *Men's League for W. S.* has been occupied this month with the meeting of the International Men's Alliance for W. S. in London. This meeting was an unqualified success not only for the country in which it was held but also for those who had sent delegates. In Holland the two leading Amsterdam papers gave daily accounts of the proceedings and the Rotterdam paper and two papers in The Hague contained each two extensive reports of the whole congress. The provincial and weekly papers are now following more or less in their steps; and thus the whole press is busy convincing the public that there is no antagonism against the male sex in claiming votes for the women.

We expect that shortly the Government will publish its project for a Revision of the State Constitution. Possibly that will direct our League's activities into a new course.

W. A. E. MANSFELDT.

Utrecht, November 1912.

### France.

The General Council of Seine Inférieure has passed the suffrage resolution presented by the French W. S. A. and the Feminist Society of Havre. A similar resolution was defeated last year by the same Council, so our serious and methodical propaganda has proved fruitful.

The Municipal Council of Brest has passed the same resolution.

New Groups of the F. W. S. A. have been founded in Ardèche after a series of lectures by the General Secretary. Mr. du Breuil de St. Germain is now lecturing in Bretagne.

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On Nov. 2nd in Paris there was a General Delegates' Meeting for the purpose of revising the Constitution of the French W. S. A. to make it a genuine federation. This was the first time that our W. S. A. gave such an impression of strength and activity. Our Constitution, drafted since several months in collaboration with our Local Groups, was discussed in a most democratic and liberal spirit. We felt in leaving this meeting that the Association was entering upon a new phase of its growth and that its foundation was now solid.

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In the last number of „Jus Suffragii” we gave an incomplete address for the contributions to be sent

towards the erection of a monument in the town of Avignon, where Stuart Mill spent the last winters of his life near the grave of his consort, where he was buried himself. The person appointed to receive contributions is M. Guida, 12 Place Crillon, Avignon (Vaucluse). We will add an interesting detail which we have heard lately: the Committee has resolved, according to the funds received, either to erect a simple statue of the great thinker and suffragist, standing, noble and expressive in attitude, or to place on the pedestal a symbol reminding his lifelong devotion to women's rights. Thus it will partly depend on our friends to see the latter plan realised; and so we have decided to open a suffragist subscription-fund in the paper „La Française” (64 rue Richelieu, Paris), which will publish the list of gifts in its columns and will undertake to forward them to the Avignon Committee.

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

### Belgium.

On Oct. 30 the Liberal fractions of the Chamber and the Senate assembled under the presidency of Count Goblet d'Alviella and decided to abide by their resolution of July 2nd and to demand compulsory state-education, Manhood Suffrage with proportional representation, and state-pensions for working men. They refuse to support the general strike, and thereby leave the Socialist Party to its own devices. The women are anxious to see whether the Socialists will now carry out the Stuttgart and Copenhagen resolution and demand Adult Suffrage, for men and women.

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The Antwerp Women's Union has edited a leaflet containing the women's disabilities and unjust discriminations against women in the laws of Belgium. This Women's Charter is an excellent piece of propaganda.

M. G. K.

### South Africa.

The publication of the first Woman Suffrage newspaper marks the second step in the consolidation of the Women's Enfranchisement movement in this country. It is the natural outcome of the formation of the W. E. A. U.—the central body which has drawn together and brought into touch nearly all the existing societies which are working for this object.

The spirit of mutual help which has been engendered by the Annual Conference is now confirmed by this monthly paper, which the Literay Committee has been empowered to issue.

The objects of *The Woman's Outlook* are briefly:

1. To serve as a record of the activities of the various leagues and societies which are engaged in working to gain the Parliamentary vote for women.
2. To keep an outlook upon the work of women in the world at large and particularly in South Africa.
3. To serve as a medium for the interchange of ideas upon questions dealing with the interests of women and children and schemes for the bettering of moral and social conditions.
4. To encourage women to fit themselves to take part in public affairs by studying economical questions and by making themselves personally acquainted with social conditions in their own towns and villages

(from: *The Woman's Outlook*.)