

JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

FIFTH YEAR No. 4.

DECEMBER 15, 1910.

Die Befreiung besteht darin den Individuen das Recht zu schaffen sich zu befreien, jeder nach seinem eigenen Bedürfniss.

HENRIK IBSEN.



It is woman, the dainty, the beautiful, the beloved wife and revered mother who has by common consent been expected to do the chamber work and scullery work of the world.

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN.

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

Announcements.

In quality of Secretary of the I. W. S. Alliance I must call the readers' attention to the fact that it would be desirable to amend our last Resolution on page 7 of the Amsterdam Report and page 140 of the London Report, since in countries where an agitation for universal suffrage is going on, as for instance in Holland and Hungary, this Resolution is apt to be misunderstood. The Adult Suffragists base their antagonistic attitude against the Woman Suffrage Associations not on any action on their part but on the paragraph of the aforesaid Resolution which runs thus:— "We ask for the franchise on the same terms as it is now or may be exercised by men, leaving any required extension to be decided by men and women together, when both have equal voice, vote and power." To be sure the I. W. S. Alliance, repeating this Resolution in London with omission of the last clause, had no intention of ordering each affiliated W. S. A. to demand neither more nor less than the existing franchise awarded to men by the law of its country or of obliging them to agitate for the retention of all existing electoral qualifications with the exception of the sex qualification—as if we suffrage workers could for one moment imagine that electoral systems would ever be changed with the sole and unique object of enfranchising the women!—yet our opponents, Adult Suffragists and Socialists, keep on saying that by this Resolution our Auxiliaries for instance the Dutch W. S. A., must stand for limited woman suffrage, which they term „lady suffrage“.

Now if we want to make it clear that we advise our Auxiliaries not to advocate any electoral system with or without new or old qualifications for electors, but simply to remain non-partisan and non-sectarian and put suffrage before party and stick to our propaganda for votes for women, taking care that the women's claims be not neglected or forgotten by the politicians, I believe that we should amend the above-mentioned Resolution at our Stockholm Convention.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS,
Secr. I. W. S. Alliance.

LITERATURE.

The **French W. S. A.** reminds the reader that its new pamphlet "*La Charte de la Femme*" and the result of the *inquiry on women's political rights* may be ordered from the Secretary of the W. S. A., 21 Villa Dupont, Paris XVI for 0,60 frs. inland and abroad.

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Mme Orka, Hon. Secretary of the Congrès permanent du Féminisme International, has published two well-informed and very interesting leaflets "*La Femme au nouveau Monde*" and "*La Femme scandinave*", which may be had from the author, Mme Orka, 38 rue de Penthièvre, Paris.

The **Hungarian W. S. A.** sends a post-card designed by one of its members, illustrating the struggle of woman kind for the vote by the picture of a male and female figure entwined in "*nodi tenaci di nemico e non d'amante*", as Tasso says, the man frowning upon his companion and deliberately holding the palm above her reach.

Was this design inspired by the attitude of the so-called Universal Suffrage Club?

The **Woman Citizen Publishing Society**, 13 *Bream's Buildings, London E.C.*, is rather more optimistic. It publishes a new year's card "with prophetic greetings", on which we see the old year, ragged and bent, slinking away, whilst the new year with a glory round its head and votes for women under its arm runs to open a bolted and chained door of a building not unlike Holloway Prison. It is quite a comforting sight and must bring joyous thoughts to all suffragists.

LECTURERS.

Rosika Schwimmer (see "*Jus Suffragii*" IV p. 82), 67 *István ut, Budapest VII*, will give a series of lectures in Germany during January.

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Annie Furuhjelm from Helsingfors, Second Vice-president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, will go on a lecturing-tour in Germany to speak on the results of woman suffrage in Finland during the month of March. She can speak in English, French or German. Address: *Mme A. Furuhjelm, 6 Ludwigsatan, Helsingfors.*

The Report of the London Congress may be ordered from Mrs. Adela Stanton Coit, 30 Hyde Park Gate, London S. W. for 1 Shilling and 3 pence post paid. It contains the constitution and Rules of Order of the I.W.S. Alliance, the reports of the twenty-one auxiliaries and in addition those of Iceland and Poland; the proceedings; the resolutions; names and addresses of officers, committees, auxiliaries and Honorary Associates; an account of the social attractions of the congress; the President's address, etc. This pamphlet is one of our best means of propaganda, showing the actual state of the suffrage-problem, and should therefore be in the hands of every suffragist and every M. P. in the world.

A similar Report of the Amsterdam convention held in 1908 may be had on application to Miss Martina G. Kramers, 92 Kruiskade, Rotterdam. Both these Reports are of special interest to those who have to give a review of the suffrage movement in their country for our next convention, which is to take place in Stockholm in June 1911. There are more than a hundred copies left of each, and it was decided to give these to public libraries, in case the affiliated National W.S. Associations should apply for them; not more than fifty copies at a time however. As it is, no applications at all have come; so it would be advisable for our Auxiliaries to make a present of these Reports to the speakers and reporters who will have to do for the Stockholm congress what their predecessors did for the Copenhagen and the Amsterdam meetings. Mrs. Stanton Coit and Miss Kramers will gladly send the volumes to any applicants who are well-known suffrage workers on receipt of twopence for postage.

United States.

The headline across the first page of the November *Jus Suffragii* "Hurrah for Washington!" showed that you had received the good news of our recent election. I am sure your readers will be glad to have a little more information.

As you know, each one of our 46 States has the entire authority to say which of its citizens shall do the voting, and all of them but four have put into their constitutions that it shall be only males. These constitutions can be changed only by consent of a majority of the voters, and although the effort to secure this has been made in many States it has always failed except in four: Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. This is the third time that an amendment has been voted on in the State of Washington. The first time, in 1889, there was a majority against it of about 19,000; in 1898 of about 9,000, and now in 1910 it has been carried by a very large majority, the reports varying from 25,000 to 40,000, but it is unquestionably the greatest victory woman suffrage ever has had in the United States. It is said that every county in the State gave a majority in favor of it and that in the cities it was carried by 5 to 1. The churches, the temperance people, the farmers, and especially the working men, in fact all of the best elements of the State, gave

their votes in favor. Too much praise cannot be given to the suffragists of the State for their well-organized campaign, and they have indeed been splendidly rewarded. About 165,000 women received the franchise, and as it has been put into the constitution of the State it never can be taken away.

An amendment was lost in Oregon, the State just south of Washington, but as it asked for suffrage simply for tax-paying women the National Association took no part in the campaign, as it stands only for universal suffrage.

An amendment for full suffrage was voted on in South Dakota also, but the conditions of the election were so peculiar that all the amendments for various questions which were submitted were lost.

One was also voted on in Oklahoma and apparently was defeated, but there were so many irregularities in the election that it is probable the courts will declare that a second one must be held. In this case the suffragists will make another effort.

It is a very slow process to have to get the franchise State by State, as there are so many, but there seems no other way for us at present. If we could carry enough States, we could then bring such a pressure on Congress that it would be obliged to submit a National amendment to be voted on by the Legislatures of the different States, and if three-fourths of them endorsed it all the women of the United States would be enfranchised. This would be much the better way, as then the question would not have to go to the individual voters, but it is impossible until a much larger number of States have given the suffrage to women.

More political work was done by women in the last campaign than ever before in our history. The suffragists have always regarded this as a great moral question and have worked for it on the ground of justice and right. They have become thoroughly convinced, however, that it is fundamentally a political effort. In many States, therefore, the women worked for or against the members of the Legislature who were to be elected, trying to have the friends of woman suffrage sent to that body. Strange as it may seem women in the United States have always been taught that they must not touch politics or they would be contaminated. Very few of them have ever taken any part in political campaigns and the work is comparatively new to them. They are very quick and intelligent pupils, however, and even at their first attempt they have had a wonderful effect on the political parties. There is no doubt that at the elections two years from now they will be sufficiently organized and experienced to make a strong and effective fight, so that it will not be at all strange if the political parties are found striving to get the influence of women instead of treating them with contempt as they have always done in the past.

Heretofore when an amendment has been defeated in any State the women have lost courage and have given up the work for a long time. Now the indications are that in the three States which they lost this fall they will immediately organize and begin the campaign over again. In this way they will be able to hold all the ground that they have gained and add enough more to it to win a victory the next time. The liquor and the corporation interests will get tired of putting up hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. It is not these forces alone, however, that defeat woman suffrage when it goes to the voters, but

a very large element in the churches and among the temperance people as well cannot overcome their prejudice against the equality of women, and so they cast their votes against the amendment. The women of other countries can hardly realize what it means for every individual man in a State to have the right to vote on this question. It is doubtful if it could be carried in any European country under such a condition.

There does not appear to be the slightest cessation of interest in Woman Suffrage in any part of the country and there is every reason to believe that the tide has at last turned and that it will finally carry us on to victory. In New York State the favorable sentiment seems to grow stronger with every passing day, and even with the many headquarters in this city—the National State, the Woman Suffrage Party, the Political Union, the Suffragettes, Mrs. Belmont's society, Mrs. Mackay's, and several others—we are entirely unable to supply the demand for speakers. All kinds of church societies, many clubs of different description, and in fact organizations of every sort, want to hold woman suffrage meetings because they have learned that the mere announcement that this question will be discussed is sure to attract a large audience. We see nothing but hope and encouragement and our constant wish is that every day was twice as long and every worker could have her strength ten times multiplied.

IDA HUSTED HARPER,
Chairman National Woman
Suffrage Press Committee.

Great Britain.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and other suffrage organisations have made enormous efforts since I sent my last chronicle of our work. During "Suffrage Week" which preceded the re-opening of Parliament meetings were held daily, and several in a day. Most of the public halls of London—including the Albert Hall where the National Union held a great demonstration—were occupied by suffrage speakers and resounded with the cheers of enthusiastic and dauntless supporters of our cause. Parliament, however, had scarcely begun its autumn session before it became apparent that Mr. Asquith intended to dissolve it because the Conference between party leaders had failed. He was not, however, allowed to do so without being pressed to state the views of his ministry towards the question which after the Second Reading of the Conciliation Bill in July, they had done their best to ignore. In reply to a question from Mr. Keir Hardie on Nov. 22, the Prime Minister said.

"The Government will, if they are still in power, give facilities in the next Parliament for effectively proceeding with a Bill, if so framed as to permit of free amendment."

A few days later, on the 28th, Parliament was dissolved; and even before it had done so, suffragists were preparing for their own General Election campaign. Many of the societies within the Union began to question the local candidates concerning their attitude towards Women's Suffrage. In some of the constituencies Women's Suffrage candidates came out to fight a party candidate whose views on out question were unsatisfactory.

Mr. Brailsford, secretary of the Conciliation Committee, appeared on the scene at South Salford, formerly represented by the anti-suffrage Mr. Belloc. Happily, however, Mr. Charles Russell,

the Liberal candidate in place of Mr. Belloc who has retired, proved to be a strong suffragist, while his Conservative opponent expressed himself less unfavourably towards our cause than formerly. Consequently Mr. Brailsford found there was no need to press his own candidature. In East St. Pancras, at the moment of writing, Mr. Herbert Jacobs of the Men's League, is standing as a Women's Suffrage candidate. His Liberal opinions make him an antagonist to the Liberal candidate who takes the line that women can only be enfranchised on the lines of adult suffrage. In Glasgow, on the other hand, Mr. Mirrlees, a Unionist, stands as a Suffrage candidate in a division where another Unionist who is not a supporter of our claims was intending to have a "straight fight" against a Liberal. Party candidates have a lively objection to these three-cornered struggles, and will probably be inclined to modify their hostility towards women's suffrage in order to avoid them. Elsewhere the National Union is consistently following out its policy of supporting those candidates who really "mean business" and intend to push a Women's Suffrage Bill through at an early date, and opposing all those who will not promise some measure of help in the next Parliament.

By the time these words are in print, we shall know what forces numerically we can rely on for the immediate future.

MARGARET HEITLAND,
(Member Executive Committee, N.U.W.S.S.)
London, December 3, 1910.

Once again has the Women's Social and Political Union demonstrated all that it is prepared to do and suffer in the Cause of freedom. The month began with a monster meeting in the Albert Hall at which it was clearly explained that if the Prime Minister did not make a satisfactory pronouncement with regard to Woman Suffrage when Parliament met on November 15th militant tactics would be resumed. The vast and enthusiastic audience applauded the speakers to the echo, and no less than £9000 was subscribed to the funds of the Union in the course of the evening. Parliament met, and Mr. Asquith made no allusion to Woman Suffrage, a peaceful deputation headed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, Mrs. Ayrton and many other well known women marched on Friday, November 18th from Caxton Hall to the House of Commons in order to express their dissatisfaction personally to the Prime Minister.

To keep within the letter of the law which forbids processions of more than 13 persons to approach the House, the deputation was divided into groups of 12. It was allowed to proceed unhindered as far as Parliament Square. There a mob organised by police in plain clothes was waiting, and pushed and hustled the women who had to force their way to where the uniformed police in a solid line, barred their further progress. If they were committing an illegal act, they should have been arrested; if not, allowed to proceed as every other deputation is allowed. Instead the police flung the women back into the mob who treated them with the most brutal violence and insult. With the greatest courage group after group of women came forward and tried to reach the House of Commons; time after time they were repulsed with brutality, flung about, bruised and battered. When, after some hours of struggle, it became clear to those in authority that no

amount of ill treatment could break the women's spirit, arrests were made to the number of 114. But the next morning the Home Secretary caused the charges against them to be withdrawn, thus refusing the women all opportunity of making their case heard and exposing the systematized violence to which they had been subjected. Even the magistrate before whom they were brought commented on the injustice of such a proceeding.

On the following Tuesday, Mr. Asquith made a statement promising to give facilities to a Suffrage Bill at some unspecified time in the next Parliament. The W. S. P. U. saw the worthlessness of such a pledge which has been given before, and promptly rejected it. Another deputation of 400 women marched to the official residence of the Prime Minister in Downing Street (the House of Commons having risen) to protest against such trickery and to demand that the question should be treated in the next *Session* of Parliament. When the deputation reached Downing Street it was again met by the police, and a struggle ensued. Several of the women indignant at the treatment they saw being dealt out to their comrades, defended them bravely and were arrested. Others feeling they could not again offer themselves to the brutality of the police went to the houses of Cabinet Ministers, and broke windows with a stone by way of protest, following the example of the men who so acted before the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832. Seventy-three women are now in prison, some for as long a period as the months for doing a few shillings' worth of damage to window panes.

Parliament was dissolved on November 28th, and in the General Election campaign which immediately began, the W. S. P. U. adopted the policy of opposing all Liberal candidates on account of the hostility which the Liberal Government has shown to the cause of Woman Suffrage, and its refusal of a promise to do justice immediately if returned to power.

EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.
London, Dec. 1910.

November has been spent in strenuous preparations for the General Elections. Every suffrage Society has followed its own special lines of attack and those of the **Women's Freedom League**, decided at a special conference, were as follows:

1. An effort is to be made to prevent overlapping and inconsistency by agreement with other societies.

2. In accordance with the anti-Government policy the W. F. L. shall concentrate upon opposition to the Liberals in constituencies where the majority is small or there is a three-cornered fight.

3. Liberal Members who voted for the second reading and Grand Committee stage of the Conciliation Bill or gave effective help to the Conciliation Committee shall not be opposed.

4. Branches shall apply anti-Government policy in their own districts, concentrating upon demonstration at the polling booths.

5. Special campaigns are to be organised in the constituencies of Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George, and other Cabinet Ministers if possible.

We are reserving militant action until the Election excitement has subsided when the significance of a suffrage demonstration is more likely to be appreciated by the public and therefore by the Government.

The "Mission Week" run by eleven of the

principal societies immediately preceding the re-assembling of Parliament, was a success from every point of view and terminated with a Mass Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall London.

We have now to look forward to a slight spell of reaction following the present tremendous excitement and then in February to a fierce and resolute attack on our opponents until the Government's pledges are redeemed.

BETTINA BORRMANN WELLS
London, December 1910.

Sweden.

For a long time all socially interested women in the various towns of Sweden have been busy preparing for the coming elections of town-councillors, that are taking place during the month of December in every town with the exception of Stockholm. In general the different W. S. A. have taken the lead, tried to unite the women and to awaken their interest in the elections and in the nomination of women candidates. And they have done so partly because they know, that one of the arguments against the *immediate* introduction of woman suffrage is, that the women must first show their interest in the municipal elections and use their municipal rights.

However it is difficult to foresee how far the result is going to match the efforts and then this is the first time — with the exception of the Stockholm elections — that women have been eligible as City-councillors. Naturally it will take a good deal of time before this eligibility will be taken as a matter of fact, from which no escape is possible, and it is not always so easy for the hitherto omnipotent men to sacrifice some of their sex-apanage to make place for the women.

In the next number you will know the result of the elections. Let us hope that it will be satisfactory from our point of view. Already Miss Gerda Plauting-Gyllenbaga, member of our Central Board, has been elected Councillor in Huskvarna, the youngest town of Sweden. She is the *third* woman and the *first* outside of Stockholm that has been elected City-Councillor.

On the 24th of November the Stockholm W. S. A. held a meeting, where the question of "Women's conscription" was discussed.

In Sweden all men at the age of 21 are liable to military service for a time, varying between 8—12 months. From time to time the question of such a service for women, though in another form, has come up, and it was chiefly because of a newly published and much discussed pamphlet on this subject that the question was taken up by the Stockholm Woman Suffrage Association.

After an introductory speech by doctor Karolina Widerström, president of the Stockholm W. S. A. followed a long and very lively discussion. Many different suggestions were made as to what form such a "service" conscription should take, at what age it should begin how long it should last and if it should be compulsory or voluntary.

The following resolution was passed:

"A thorough and rational preparation of the women for their mission as housewives and mothers is a subject of great importance to the State. The Stockholm W. S. A. assembled for a meeting on the 24th of November 1910, expresses its hope that women may soon have a seat and vote in Parliament so that among other questions also the question of such a preparatory year for women may get a satisfactory solution."

At this meeting there was also the election of members of the Stockholm section of the Central Board, which form the Executive Committee. The present members and substitutes were all re-elected.

The time for the meeting of the Central Board in Stockholm is now fixed for the 9th and 10th of January 1911.

Stockholm, December 1910. EZALINE BOHEMAN.

The work for the congress is steadily progressing, and if it is not so much spoken about, that is because it is so to say the preparation of preparations which occupies us now.

Christmas is approaching and brings with this great national feast thoughts of Christmas presents etc. This originated among some suffragists the idea of opening a shop in one of the most crowded streets of the town for the purpose of selling sweet-meats, decorations for the Christmas-tree, postcards, books and other trinkets of that kind. A game called "The Suffrage Game" will be published on purpose for this occasion and the decorations, like everything that is sold will bear the colours yellow and white as a token of the international character of our cause.

The shop will be open during a week in December and the profits of the enterprise will flow into the Treasury of the Convention.

We feel sure of great success and we hope to make a large sum of money, for the public interest in our undertaking is very great and we have received promises of all sorts of gifts.

Our congress-stamps have been much in demand, the first issue, which we never hoped to exceed, is nearly sold off. It is the same for the post-cards.

The congress-bureau is open daily during some time already and we remind all those concerned that all demands of information should be addressed to this bureau p/a "Rösträttskongressen", Stockholm. We are looking forward to the publication of the names of the delegates in "Jus Suffragii", and we are also eager to hear of other prominent persons who will attend the Convention.

We also arrange a little exhibition during the congress. It seems practical to us if all countries would send their propaganda-articles, badges, pamphlets, symbols etc., for surely such exhibition would suggest new means of propaganda.

Finally we have the pleasure of announcing that Rev. Anna H. Shaw intends to go to Stockholm for the congress and that we have already made arrangements for her to preach.

All Swedish Suffragists are proud to be able to show our beautiful country to our guests from far and near, feeling of what great service to the suffrage cause the Convention will be.

NINI KOHNBERGER,
Secr. Comm. of Arrangements.
Stockholm, Dec. 1910.

Norway.

The different political parties in Norway are making preparations for the municipal elections. And so do the women. All sorts of meetings are being held, and people have discussions in their societies; women are giving addresses to the electors, alone or together with the men, and all the leading women do what they are able to do. The Conservative women in Kristiania have organized their own club, which has increased very rapidly.

All the political parties have this year put more women on their nomination lists than formerly, so we may hope that they will succeed in bringing many women into the municipality in the year 1911. But that depends in the first instance on the women themselves, as in many places they have the majority of the votes. If they only will register and cast their ballots! I hope they will feel it their duty to do so. Qui vivra verra!

FR. MÖRCK.
p.t. Copenhagen, October 1910.

The different political parties are beginning to take up into their program of action the women's demand of better conditions of labour; this is a turning-point in the struggle for women's rights and liberty and at the same time a step forward in social progress.

The *Conservatives* (höire) are known to have no program, and so they have made no definite declaration with respect to their standpoint regarding the women's demands.

The *Progressive Party* (Frisindede Venstre) aim at "more satisfactory conditions of labour and competition for women".

The *Radicals* (Venstre) say in art. 10 of their program: "Just conditions of labour for the women employees of the municipality. Appointment of a larger number of women on municipal boards, as officers and factory-inspectors, in school-boards, relief-boards and as guardians, also as police matrons." They also declare in art. 4 that they are in favour of schools for professional education of young men and women.

The *Socialists* have a list of 15 desiderata, in which no mention is made of the conditions of women's work. One would be inclined to ask whether women lack all influence in that party or whether the Socialists are so content with the economical position of women that it needs no improvement.

However we have gained so much that *the conditions of women's work have become a problem for the conscience of the community, which will be solved by the common sense of justice.*

The number of women nominated with a chance of being elected Town-councillors is: 4 Conservatives, 4 Socialists, 3 of the Progressive Party and 2 Radicals.

("Nylände", Dec. 1, 1910.)

Russia.

The Moscow Branch of the "Russian League for women's rights" has had yesterday its first general meeting after last April. The vice-president's report shows that the council of the League has had in Moscow 14 meetings in three months. The work, done during this time is not big; however, three branches of the League have been here more or less active: 1 The bibliographical section is organizing a library of books on the women's question. 2) The section for the abolition of prostitution is organizing a course of public lectures on the subject, investigating the question of prostitution and trying *a.* to check it and *b.* to save its victims. 3. The economical section is doing presently a great work: it is collecting statistics and informations with regard to the condition of life of women-students. This section has issued 7000 leaflets, addressed to ten women's University Courses and high schools. A commission of the economical section has worked out rules of normal conditions for the employment of

servants and is going to make an effort to introduce them into life. The vice-president of the council made a fine speech on our great genius, the late Count Leo Tolstoy. She pointed to the fact, that though L. T. never sympathized with the women's movement, however, it is amongst women that his high ideas of love, self-abnegation, mercy and universal brotherhood — are met with the greatest enthusiasm: it is in womankind that these ideas are alive and active . . .

As I have stated many times, under the present political conditions in Russia, our work is going on on a very modest scale. Unfortunately our press, — even the progressive part of it — helps us very little in the way of propaganda; and though our liberal newspapers declare themselves in favour of women's political rights, — they find any other subject more important and interesting. At the same time, they do a great deal of harm to our cause by representing the suffragettes' movement in England in a most false and ridiculous light. At the bottom of almost all they say, we find malignity and vulgar prejudice — the characteristic feature of the attitude of the majority of the male sex towards women in their fight for equal rights. I may as well give a few examples. In June 1910 our "progressive" newspaper, "*Russkoio Slovo*" which has a correspondent in London, gave a description of two processions: of workmen June on the 10th, and of women on the 18th June. Though the first was comparatively quite insignificant, the correspondent speaks of it in the most respectful terms, as for the women's great procession (18 June), which the English press has described as "an historical event", — the correspondent speaks of it as of a funny farce, on which the public gazed with the utmost indifference. (!)

Here is a sample of this gentleman's style:— Speaking amongst other things, of the representatives of one of the associations in the procession, he says: "There were many in number, but, by bitter irony of fate, they were almost all very ugly. In general, amongst 4½ miles, there were very few handsome women." What would the reader think of a journalist, if, speaking of the workmen's demonstration, he should dwell on the good or bad looks of the workmen!

The correspondent of another progressive paper "*Russky Vedomosty*" (N. 265) describes the late scenes before Westminster (the W. S. P. Union's demonstration) as a ridiculous demonstration, where the women, "most of them hysterical old maids", behaved in a cruel and silly way.

I believe all the national and other Women's Unions should unite against the malignant press, (in all countries) which does so much harm to our cause by representing it under a false and vulgar aspect. I would suggest that the VIth Congress of the "I. W. S. A." in Stockholm shall devote a few hours to that most important question.

We must throw light on the attitude towards the women's question of the press of the 22 countries, represented in our "I. W. S. A."; while some means must be devised to put an end to vulgar jeer and calumny with regard to the women's strife for the political emancipation of one half of the human race.

The Moscow branch of the "League for Women's Rights" has taken upon itself the initiative of inviting all societies and private persons who have deep admiration for Count Leo Tolstoy's ideas, — to unite in organizing an international

ethical union for the propagation of the great writer's ideas and principles of universal brotherhood, love and peace.

Any suggestions with regard to that scheme will be thankfully received.

Moscow, Dec. 5 1910.

Z. MIROVITCH.

Netherlands.

There is in our country, especially among the labour classes, a strong desire to have the State Constitution revised so as to make possible an extension of the right of suffrage, irrespective of wealth or tax-paying, for this and the male sex are now the main qualifications for electors. It goes without saying that our agitation for woman suffrage goes along with the movement for the revision of the Constitution; and so class-and sex-demands run parallel here and both contribute to swell the agitation. Yet, curiously enough, the Socialdemocratic party, although demanding in their monster-petition adult suffrage with full political equality of the sexes, in their meetings in support of the petition, take every opportunity to warn their people against entering the W. S. A.

Of course careful students of this paper and of our Monthly Organ know that we hold that our non-partisan and non-secretarian attitude obliges the W. S. A. not to advocate any particular electoral system with or without qualifications, but then every one is not a "careful student" of suffrage literature and there are some people with whom arguing is no use.

Still, as it is, the Socialist petition is intended to enfranchise men and women and be signed by men and women, and the canvassing, which will be energetically carried on, cannot fail to rouse a wave of suffrage sentiment in the labor classes, which must benefit the cause.

The Progressive Democrats or Radical Party have drawn up a similar petition with the same aim, adult suffrage, but demanding it on more general grounds, so that every friend of universal suffrage can sign it without giving as reason a desire that the labouring classes shall come to occupy their rightful position in the State. So this second petition based on less decided views is calculated to receive more signatures. Both parties will hold meetings in support of their action, and these give the W. S. A. as many opportunities to judge whether the demand of votes for women is satisfactorily put to the fore, failing which of our members may question the speakers after their address. Moreover the visiting house to house to collect signatures must arouse the interest even of those that were hitherto indifferent, and women both as canvassers and as signers of the petition are part and parcel of the whole action.

A third party, the Liberal Union, not wishing to remain behind in the agitation for electoral reform, has resolved also to hold public meetings on the subject of universal suffrage. This too may prove a good propaganda for our cause, for although a petition is a more powerful means of urging a demand on the people by visiting them in their homes, public meetings, called by different parties, cannot fail to have effect also.

The three Clerical parties that form our present Government have come into power on the understanding that the Constitution should be revised for electoral purposes, so they instituted the State Commission. But there is the end of their har-

mony: each has a different ideal as to the extension of the suffrage and they speak of "organic suffrage" and "household suffrage" without being quite agreed as to the meaning of these words. Indeed accordance is impossible with them since the component parties of this so-called religious coalition consist of Conservatives and Democrats with different views on the vote for men as well as for women, some orthodox people among them still holding the views of the Ancient Testament as to woman's place in the Community.

The joint storm of the three progressive parties, which reach so many classes in the nation and therefore use so many different weapons, against the Government fortress with its divided garrison, cannot fail to make a breach in this stronghold, whose dismantling is sure to bring to the women of our slow country more political freedom.

Amsterdam, Dec. 1910. DR. ALETTA H. JACOBS.

France.

The membership of the French Woman Suffrage Association is growing daily and new modes of organisation are increasing its efficiency. In Paris it has formed sections for each city-district, in order to become better known in the different parts of the capital and to be ready for action in election times. The next municipal elections in France will take place in 1912, and the Association begins its propaganda work from this moment: lectures, visits, study of municipal questions of interest for each city-district . . . and for the electors.

In the country departments the Association goes on forming new Local Branches: since a month groups are in function at Nimes and Rouen (for the Seine Inférieure). For the inauguration of the new Local Branch of Seine Inférieure a big meeting was held on Nov. 27 at Rouen in the Town Hall. The General Secretary of the association attended it together with the deputies Ferdinand Buisson and Louis Marin, staunch supporters of women's rights. Prominent people from Rouen and Havre supported them on the platform, and the success of the meeting was enormous, which is partly due to the speakers who were warmly applauded, but also to the organisers, Mme Texcier, President of the new group and Mr Millot, secretary of the Society for University Extension at Rouen. Our best auxiliaries in the provinces are university people and those interested in social work.

Mme Maria Vêrone gave at Havre a lecture on woman suffrage, which was much applauded; the meeting had been organised by the French National Council of Women (Norman Section), the Chairman of whose Suffrage Section is Mme Jardin. She is also Vice-President of the new Local Branch of the F. W. S. A. for the Seine Inférieure, and together with Mme Rebour, Chairman of the Feminist Society at Havre, she is conducting a vigorous propaganda for suffrage throughout the province, for which all the women's associations unite their efforts to promote the action.

There is an active campaign afoot now to secure for women teachers the same salary as for men. A bill was introduced into Parliament to this effect, and even before the discussion of the Report, Mrs Buisson and Marin have obtained over 300 signatures from M.P.'s. Their total number being 597, we may be sure of a majority for the bill.

Public opinion seems favorable to the reform, and so we may hope soon to gain an important victory for women's rights.

The movement is in great progress and we are glad to be able to say that the question of votes for women has now become a *serious* one, which is quite a new aspect of the problem in France.

C. BRUNSCHVIEG,

Secr. French W. S. Association.

Paris, December 1910.

As a result of differences as to the organisation and direction of the French W. S. A. Mrs. J. E. Schmah, founder and President, and Lady d'Uzès, Vice-president, have resigned their membership of the Executive of the French W. S. A. (Union française pour le suffrage des femmes.)

("Le Figaro", Dec. 10 1910.)

Hungary.

The greatest event of late was the formation of the "*Group of Feministic Youth*". After two public meetings in which Vilma Glücklich and Rosika Schwimmer addressed the young people — about 500 young men and girls attended both meetings — the group has gained about 250 members, who are working enthusiastically and with a good will to help our great cause.

The Group is doing educational work by lectures and courses about the women's question. At our public meetings those young girls and boys — from 16-24 — are doing splendid and helpful steward work.

We are glad to report, that the Independant Order of Good Templars, after having discussed the question since spring, has now resolved that they adopt Women's Suffrage as a chief plank of their platform, being convinced, that only in possession of women's suffrage a country will be able to free itself from the evil of alcoholism.

We had the great joy to have on the 2nd of December a lecture of Miss *Gina Krog*. A great audience enjoyed with us the fine, artistically made lecture of our great Norwegian co-worker. We expect another success by the first public meeting arranged by our Men's League for W.S., which will be held on the 12th of December and where the speaker is to be Professor Broda of Paris. He will speak about the results of W. S. in Finland and Australia.

The Freemasons, the Socialdemocrats, and members of the Justh-Independent-Party have formed a new Reform Club to support the demand of Universal Suffrage. But as usual they *exclude* Women's Suffrage from their demand.

In the Educational Board of Budapest we have a very interesting fight for the right to elect women-teachers for middle schools. Though women are excluded from eligibility, but have the vote, we succeeded in getting a lady candidate, who is supported by most of her colleagues. A deputation asked the mayor of Budapest to initiate a change of the Board's rules, so as to give women also the passive vote (eligibility). It is nearly sure that the proposed change will take place, for the whole press supported the demand and our mayor is a good feminist.

As to the questions, we are asked to answer:

- 1) by Bohemia: In no active political parties women are allowed to join. So we have the privilege not to be able to work in men's parties.
- 2) by Sweden: It is perfectly impossible to say who will go to our Stockholm-Congress.

Besides Mrs. Bertha Engel, Mrs. Ilona Kohlbach and Rosika Schwimmer who are nearly sure to attend the Congress, *intend to go*: Miss Dr. Aranka Bálint, Mrs. Jules Tiry, Mrs. Coloman Balajthy, Miss Ida Szemger, Mrs. Szinonie Szegvári.
ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest, December 1910.

Denmark.

LANDSFORBUND.

We have the pleasure to report, that one of the leaders of the Landsforbund, *Mrs. Julie Arenholt*, has recently been appointed as factory-inspector in Copenhagen. Mrs. Arenholt will receive the same wages as a man and her work will have to be done in the small hours of the morning between 3 and 8 o'clock, as some of it consists in inspecting bakeries and such places, which are open only at such times. There is no doubt, that the energetic and skillful lady will shew herself most able upon her new field of activity and hereby greatly add to the respect with which men now begin to look upon the work of women.

* * *

The leader of the agitation, *Mrs. Elna Munch*, has just returned from a visit to Berlin, where she had delivered an address upon the Suffrage movement in Denmark, which had attracted a large audience and was received with heartfelt applause.

CLINNY DREYER.

"The Zoo", Copenhagen, 5-12-10.

The office of Mayor of Copenhagen being vacant by Mr. Knudsen's death, Miss Helene Berg, cand. phil. formerly editor of this paper, offered herself as a candidate to fill the post.

("Kvinden og Samfundet",
30 November 1910.)

Austrian Empire.

AUSTRIA INFERIOR.

At the Socialist congress there were this time, except 170 men, 21 women delegates, which was owing to the decision taken last year that wherever there was an organisation of women it should have the right to be represented at the congress. Moreover some districts had sent a woman as delegate. Comrades Reumann and Skaret strongly advocated the formation of women's clubs and Adelheid Popp, thankful for their support, added that much energy should be given to the organisation of women. After the National Congress, there was a Women's Conference with 60 delegates of whom 19 had come from the provinces, and some represented trades unions in Vienna. At the end of June there were in Austria Inferior 3617 women members of the Socialist party. The lack of funds made help from the Party-treasury desirable. For the education of the members they are going to have debates and meetings on the Dearth of Food and Woman Suffrage, and for the young people they will found libraries and arrange evening-entertainments.

("Die Gleichheit", Dec. 5, 1910.)

BOHEMIA.

The question before us at present is the annexation of several suburbs to Prague to form "Greater Prague".

Not one of the representatives who are to settle the matter thinks of it, that by such an action,

thousands of women will lose the right to vote for municipal officers, which right they have heretofore had in their respective municipalities, but which Prague does not yet grant its women.

The women of Prague and suburbs therefore held a public mass meeting the latter part of October, to which they invited the Representatives of Prague and explained to them, that it is not possible to day, when the right of suffrage is being extended in all progressive municipalities, that Prague should deny it to irreproachable citizens, who have heretofore had it; for the law reads, that only criminals and the like can be deprived of the right to vote.

The women of the suburbs sent a deputation of six women to the mayor of Prague with a declaration, that they would rather sacrifice anything else than give up the right which is theirs as honorable citizens. At the same time they demanded Prague to send a proposition to the Diet, which shall provide equal rights for the women with the men.

We trust this just demand will receive a hearing.

F. PLAMÍNKOVÁ,
Prague, Dec. 1910. pr. J. F. SISKORSKY.

Germany.

The Prussian W. S. A. will hold its annual meeting at Berlin on Dec. 5 and 6. In the evening of the 6th there will be a great public meeting. On Sunday 4th of Dec. the Berlin W. S. A. has arranged a suffrage-tea, at which Mrs. Elna Munch from Copenhagen will give an address on the Danish women's movement and its effect on public life. Musical and other entertainments will follow. ("Die Frauenbewegung", Dec. 1, 1910.)

Switzerland.

The Swiss National Woman Suffrage Association begs to thank many readers of this paper for sending picture post-cards to the secretary.

The S. N. W. S. A. has appointed Miss G. Knecht, from Zurich to be a member of the committee to judge the musical compositions sent in for the international hymne.

A. GIRARDET VIELLE, secr. Sw. W. S. A.
Lausanne, Dec. 4 1910.

Australia.

There is something to be said for "politics" on the score of added brightness to a woman's life. Some remarkable testimony was lately given by a husband, who declared that since his wife has taken an interest in politics she had enjoyed better health and brighter spirits, and that instead of coming home to a catalogue of domestic grievances he found a woman full of interest in current events, and ready to discuss with him the salient practical questions of the day. This was pleasant hearing, and an agreeable change from the time-worn complaints about "neglect of home duties" and expressions of pious hope that "poor Mr. Political Woman's husband does get his socks darned once and again". We never hear this wail about neglected homes when women spend their mornings at the Glaciarium and their afternoons at bridge! But any show of public spirit, of interest in her country's welfare, marks a woman for the lash of severe criticism. The remark of the husband quoted above was a pleasing exception to the usual tradition.

("The Liberal Woman",
Sydney, N. S. Wales. Nov. 1st 1910.)
