COMMON CAUSE, APRIL 25, 1912.

NON-MILITANT

ONE PENNY.

Women's Liberal Associa-

tions have suffered from the

Common Cause, The The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

APRIL 25, 1912. Registered as a Newspaper. Vol. IV. No. 159.

Notes and Comments.

The Wreck of the "Titantic." The terrible disaster to the "Titanic" has overshadowed terrible disaster to the " verything this week and our hearts are sore for the survivors. t is difficult to imagine a more agonising situation than that of women in the boats knowing that those they loved best had

best to stay in the organisation which has refused to do any-thing effective for the enfranchisement of women and work within it or to go out of it. Miss Sparks expresses her intention under certain circumstances of leaving the N.U.T.; Miss Cleghorn, on the other hand, urges members to remain within the Union and educate it from within. Mrs. George writes a letter showing some of the dangers with which we are familiar. There is no doubt that the

een left on the wreck, or erhaps even not knowing, but fearing the worst. Con-troversy may well leave such sorrow untouched and we endorse fully the digni-fied protest of our Hon. Secretaries which will be found on page 41 in the Press Report. Mrs. Fawoett as written a short appreciation of one of our very good friends, W. T. Stead, who died as surely he would have wished to die :---

"Nothing is here for tears; nothing to wail Or knock the breast; no

weakness, no contempt, Dispraise or blame; noth-

ing but well and fair, And what may quiet us in a death so noble."

No description could be more piteous than the bare statement, in Lady Duff Gordon's words, that when the survivors were taken aboard the Carpathia, "there, I believe, were more than fifty women who had lost their husbands and among them fifteen brides." We are glad to hear that in New York, as in England, all possible will be done for the widows and orphans who are poor, but how little that is! And how terrible to think that it will often take the form of depriving the bereft wife of what yet remains to her of comfort in the persons of her children—and his.

An Unofficial Forecast by the Enemy.

A forecast of the possible

Parliamentary time-table given by the "Observer" on Sunday, runs as follows : May given by the "Observer" on Sunday, runs as follows: May 6th, Home Rule Second Reading begins; May 14th, division; May 20th, Second Reading Welsh Disestablishment; May 23rd-June 17th, Whitsuntide recess; June 24th, Committee stage of Home Rule Bill begins. The forecast goes on to suggest that the Report and Third Reading stages could not be concluded before the middle of October. Parts of the Welsh Bill are to be dealt with by Standing Committee.

Photo: Ernest Mills.

Leaving, or Dr'ving the Party. Two correspondents to-day raise the question whether it is

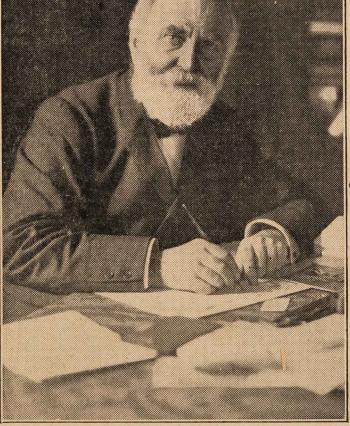
the now

moned for the 14th will enable members of the National Union to suggest and discuss policy for the future. It must be aimed at

courageous resolutions re-An Effective Policy. The special Council sum-THE LATE W. T. STEAD. (Editor of the "Review of Reviews.") one thing, and one thing only-at influencing votes in Parliament. We must bear in mind the causes of the evaporation of the majority for the Conciliation Bill, and do our utmost to eliminate them so as to secure the introduction and prosecution of the Reform Bill, and

To that we are pledged. If we reconsider the causes of the loss of the Conciliation Bill we shall find the best remedies. These causes were mainly:—(1) Fear of splitting the Government. This affected the Nationalists and some Liberals. We

withdrawal of some of their ablest and most energetic women, but they have suffered in precisely the way that narrow party people least appreciate and least care to remedy. The average party agent really likes an association of subservient ladies who will do for nothing all the work the men will not do for nothing and may not be paid for, and we are not at all sure that they are not consider-ably relieved at being disembarrassed of women with an inconvenient sense of honour and a notion that pledges are made to be kept. Where a whole association can be taken over, the lesson is unquestionably a salutary one, but the pre-vailingly Anti feeling in some associations is en-tirely due to the fact that Suflragists have resigned and left the Associa-tion to the Antis. It is a matter which must, we think, be determined by the circumstances of each case. If Dr. Ethel Williams had left her association some years ago, she could not have triumphantly taken it with her in its



will do them more harm than being true to their word. (2) Absence of some Labour Members on business connected with the coal strike. We have to make the Labour party feel our cause is theirs.

(3) The prospect of the Reform Bill. This terrified some Conservatives who did not see that by deserting the small measure they might be making the only alternative a larger one; it accounted for some of the less scrupulous Liberals who thought they could " make it right " on the Reform Bill. We must make it our business to see they do so.

(4) Lastly, but by no means least, the state of opinion with regard to the militants; this formed as it were a favourable medium for the culture of the rat bacillus. The National Union is unable to affect the policy of the W.S.P.U. The only way in which this policy can be counteracted is by education and by a great union of all the forces making for the enfranchisement of women, and by bringing these forces to bear upon the parties. If our members will test all proposed lines of policy or protest, by asking whether they will affect any of these causes or no we shall have some valuable contributions and not waste our time

Putting Pressure.

Viewed in the light of these immediate objects, we think that time and money could be better expended than in the "no new frocks" movement advocated by Mrs. Archibald Little. Of course it is obvious that the amount of money spent upon luxuries of every description must be considerably curtailed by the handsome subscriptions our members are sending us, and no doubt there are many who could practice further selfdenial if they would. But as a system of boycott, we think it would not be very effective, for the women who are most lavish in personal expenditure are not the kind of women who are ardent suffragists, and the thing to be any use as a boycott

would have to be on a gigantic scale. With regard to the "general post" idea, first suggested by Miss Marshall and adopted by the National Union, it is a misapprehension to suppose that it requires anyone to live away from home, or change her residence. The policy is merely that party people should not work for the candidate in their own constituency, if he is an anti-suffragist, but should transfer their work at election-time to some neighbouring constituency where their party candidate was a suffragist. This allows of pressure being put in the way it is most felt, at election-time, and through party channels; it also makes it possible for people to work for suffrage without abandoning party.

More Good News of Liberal Women. We are very glad indeed to report energetic action on the part of Liberal women at Epsom and in Northumberland.

At a meeting convened by the ELSWICK WOMEN'S LIBERAL Association, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, much enthusiasm was evinced.

Dr. Ethel Williams, President, was in the chair and proposed

supported by Miss Lily Telford (Darlington), and carried unanimously.

A second resolution was proposed by Dr. Ethel Williams :-"That this meeting of Liberal women pledges itself, unless some measure for the enfranchisement of women has previously become law, not again to support at elections a political party which has not put Women's Suffrage on its party programme." Seconded by Mrs. Dung (Catashard), and carried by a second

Seconded by Mrs. Dunn (Gateshead), and carried by a considerable majority. A copy of these resolution has been sent to the Liberal member for Newcastle and an account of the meeting is being sent to Women's Associations in other parts

of the country. The President (Mrs. Homan) and Secretary (Mrs. Tarrance), of the Epsom WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION, sent in their resignations, and the result was that at the annual meeting an

amendment was put to the effect that "The President and Secretary be asked to postpone indefinitely their resignations, and that the E.W.L.A. decide to do no more work until the Suffrage is granted to women." This was passed by a large majority, and the Association is thus kept in being as an organisation, and will be able to devote itself entirely to securing the franchise for women.

Our New Members.

With new societies affiliating weekly at such a great rate, it is not perhaps amiss to remind them that the National Union is open to men as well as to women, and all our societies should cordially welcome men as members and officers. Some have established the plan of a "Men's Group," and the fact that men's hours and conditions are often not the same as those of women may doubtless sometimes make such a group a con-

must endeavour to prove to these gentlemen that such action venience. But we are always sorry when anything is allowed to separate men and women more than is absolutely necessary, for we have always found that the sexes complement each other and do the best work when each has the criticism and experience of the other to rely on.

APRIL 25, 1012.

The I.L.P. In a recent issue we alluded to the Annual Conférence of the I.L.P., and to the resolutions on the agenda con-cerning women's suffrage. On account of the coal strike, the conference was postponed and will now be held on May 27th, at Merthyr. It is hoped that local members of the National Union will be able to make effective demonstrations in support of the splendid work being done for us by the I.L.P.

We have received the interesting report of the National Administrative Council, from which we note that the I.L.P. has organised some 200 meetings in favour of political equality of the sexes, and congratulates itself that this has brought the women's movement and the Labour movement nearer to each other. With regard to women workers, it is stated that the number of organised wage-earning women is now 222,000; the Women's Labour League now has 110 branches, and with the Railway Women's Guild, numbers over 5,000 members. The new daily paper (the *Daily Citizen*) is being prepared, and we hear that it is hoped it may start in the autumn.

The Partisan Home Office.

Mr. McKenna's remarkable answer in the House on the 17th (see p. 40), in which he seemed to suggest that punishment should be vindictive and that the injured party should have some say in the amount of the punishment, was one of the oddest and most irresponsible and unjudicial things we have ever heard of. No doubt many injured persons often feel that the punishment of the person who has injured them is not "anything like severe enough" to satisfy their emotions but has Mr. McKenna ever thought to satisfy then emotions but has Mr. McKenna ever thought what should be the basis of civilised law? Surely not the satisfaction of the desire for revenge, measured by the passion of the injured person. We have sympathy with the injured shopkeepers and insurance companies and we think the law would be better if it provided some way by which restitution could be enforced. But the exhibition of the inward machinery of the Home Secretary's mind is of a piece with most of the other revelations of the hidden springs of the Government action with regard to the They never have acted judicially; they always have militants. manipulated the law and its administration in accordance with their own party exigencies and in a most ignoble pandering to the emotions of a mob and a mob-led press. It is a sorry chapter.

Violence of the Antis. A letter from Prof. Herbertson appeared in the Times of the 20th, relating how four young men " of good social position " in Bicester turned upside down the bedroom of one of the ladies who, as members of the National Union, were doing propaganda in the district. Our workers at Nottingham had a very rough time and were pelted, one lady having a tooth broken. Will the Antis " repudiate " these gentle arguments on their side by ceasing to work?

The Press.

We recommend an excellent article by Miss Clementina Black on "State Franchise in America," in the Standard (Woman's Platform) of April 18th, and one from the great alienist authority, Dr. Forbes Winslow, in indignant and contemptuous refutation of Sir A. Wright, on the 19th.

Pleasant Letters from Abroad.

A correspondent, ordering the paper from New York State, writes : "Please keep the change for the C.C., that is, send the paper wherever you think it will do most good in England. I like it very much, especially the editorials. . . . I'd like to be able to send a flat contradiction to the *Times* as to Mrs. Markham's statements. If English women are like Americans, they use the vote when they get it—see enclosed pamphlet—and if English churches and charities are managed as are American ones, the bottom would drop out of them if women didn't earn and collect money to keep them going." A Finnish Lady Member of Parliament writes : "I take the

opportunity to thank you for sending me the COMMON CAUSE. I read it always with the utmost interest. It is splendidly well edited, and what the French call bien documentée, convincing, and full of facts without exclamations. This has been a trying time for the National Union. We follow events in England with keen interest."

"The Plaint of an Anti-Suff."

While militants their hammers plied, I felt convinced our Cause was winning; But now with Wright upon our side, I feel less sinned against than sinning. (From PUNCH, April 17, 1912.)

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"ACCIDENTAL."

In a letter to The Times, dated April 12th, Mrs. Humphry Ward complains of the

"ALMOST EXCLUSIVE STAFFING

of our higher schools and colleges for girls at the present moment by

WOMEN HOLDING SUFFRAGIST OPINIONS."

This, she says, is "unfair" to parents and pupils, and she suggests that the anti-suffragists should make "a serious attempt by liberal and legitimate methods to redress the balance.'

Let us consider for a moment what is implied by Mrs. Humphry Ward's statements. The women all women who have had the

BEST EDUCATION OBTAINABLE.

They have most of them been to first-rate schools, Was this an "accidental connection"? Miss Clough and every one must have attended some University was the and passed an examination

QUALIFYING HER FOR A DEGREE

Most of them are entitled to Honours degrees, for the women's colleges at Oxford and Cambridge admit only women who are reading for Honours. for Girls. Miss Beale created When a post is vacant, there are many applicants. The committee who consider the applications do not ask whether the candidates are suffragists or anti-suffragists. They choose the woman who has the

BEST QUALIFICATIONS

and who seems to them in every way best fitted for It was no less and no more accidental than was the the post. The only logical conclusion we can draw, then, on Mrs. Humphry Ward's own showing, is that the best-educated and most competent women are

"ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY " SUFFRAGISTS.

Are we not, therefore, justified in assuming that the inevitable effect of education upon women is to make them realise that their enfranchisement is

JUST AND NECESSARY ?

If this is so how can the anti-suffragists "redress but they have left the balance"? They want anti-suffragists to teach their girls, but good teaching cannot be given by

UNEDUCATED WOMEN.

And practically every woman, when she is educated. becomes a suffragist. It is really a pitiful dilemma for the anti-suffragists!

They might attempt to "redress the balance" by getting committees to say, when advertising a post.

The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage.

"NO SUFFRAGISTS NEED APPLY."

But, seeing that all the best women who apply now are suffragists (for are they not chosen on their merits ?), to exclude suffragists would mean appointing, in every case, a definitely

INFERIOR STAFF.

Would it not also be stretching a point to describe such discrimination as "liberal and legitimate"?

But Mrs. Humphry Ward, in what is perhaps the most amazing sentence of her letter, attributes the prevalence of suffragist opinions amongst highlyeducated women to "the

ACCIDENTAL CONNECTION

of the early stages of the higher education movement with a group of suffragist women universally esby Mrs. Humphry Ward's statements. The women who staff the high schools and colleges for girls are all women who have had the swallow this. Miss Emily Davies

FOUNDED GIRTON COLLEGE.

FOUNDER OF NEWNHAM

-an "accidental connection" again. Miss Buss created the

NORTH LONDON COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

CHELTENHAM COLLEGE.

In what conceivable sense can the connection of their epoch-making work with these women be regarded as

"ACCIDENTAL" ?

connection of the David with Michael Angelo, or the connection of

"HAMLET" WITH WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

No! Mrs. Humphry Ward must not think it strange that the spirit which animated the

PIONEERS OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION

still lives and will live in those who to-day are reaping the fruit of their labours. They won much,

MUCH FOR US TO WIN.

and we repay them ill if we rest content with less than all they hoped and strove for.

MOTTO:

"Their works do tollow them."

MARCARET ROEERTSON.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office by first post on Tuesday POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

British Isles: 6s. 6d., Abroad: 8s. 8d. per annum. Copies of back numbers 1id. (post free), or 2id. when more than three months old. A tew numbers of Vol. I. to be had at 3id per copy, post free.

- LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.
- CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last day possible, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.-This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., giving the name and address of the news-agent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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The Orientalists.

As the suffrage controversy goes on, the real nature of the opposition to women's votes reveals itself. It is not an agree-able revelation, and no suffragist man or woman can enjoy it and we are glad to see that many of the better sort of anti-suffragists are crying out indignantly that this is most emphatically not what they mean. Much of the old difficulty was inertia, the want of imagination of the prosperous (women as well as men), the depression and helplessness of the miserable. The energy and impetus of active and intelligent suffragists might have carried it against mere inertia; but now that the active and alert hostility of the real forces of reaction has been roused, it is becoming more and more imperative for the merely inert to search their consciences and see if they really feel at home in the camp in which they find themselves almost by accident, just as the few women of real public spirit and intelligence who have been working with the reactionary men are being forced to question whether they have really the same ideal of womanhood as their allies.

Mrs. Ward and Miss Markham, without question the two women who count most, have lately had some rude shocks. There was Mr. Kipling's doggerel about the "female of the Species," which, if it had any sense at all, indicated that the female was a more formidable fighter than the male, and so knocked the bottom out of the one argument that ever had anything in it—what is known as the "physical force argu-Yet the Antis were so misguided as to acclaim this ment piece of rhymed vituperation of mothers as a kind of battlehymn in the war they are trying to work up between the exes. Then followed the painful exhibition by Sir Almroth Wright of a temperament distressingly warped and fundamentally unhealthy. This in itself was not of very grave significance, because mature people know very well that such temperaments exist and sometimes are conjoined with real ability and accomplishment; what was really rather nightmareish was the publication of such a crazy letter in the best place and type by the Times, and the simultaneous publication of a leader in that paper recommending it as a scientific contribution "very ably treated." This amazing leader contained two sentences which accurately define what is at bottom the ideal of the genuine Anti, and the contemplation of this ideal, when stripped of all verbiage, is one which can only revolt all women who are not slaves with the heart of a slave. Here it is :-- "Women, operating as women upon and through men, exercise a power which is enormous, and independent of legislative arrangements. That power is great, and often entirely dominant, even in countries where a woman's face is not seen to insist in the inclusion of women.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. outside the harem." (Italics ours.) The conjunction of these two sentences is not fortuitous; it is vital. Not long ago a prominent politician was honest enough to say, "I don't want women to have the vote because, candidly, I would like all women to be slaves "; this is the real, the fundamental desire of the genuine and consistent Anti, and all the distinctions between local and imperial Government, between professional work when done for public or for private purposes are swept away by these candid people, who make it quite clear that women are to be slaves, and are moreover to be the victims of that most pitiable and repulsive of all slaveries, the slavery of sex. They are to "operate as women upon or through men," and they are assured that by such "operation" they are independent of legislative arrangements, and they are reminded that the women of the harem enjoy these privileges. One wonders how long English women will continue to be blind to all the hideous implications of such theories, and one rejoices that they are at last being dragged into the open, and finding their place in print, for we have always known that they were the real foundation of the opposition.

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The real opinion of a certain section of Anti-suffragists is found in the fact that they circulated Sir A. Wright's letter to the Houses of Parliament, and to a good many members of the N.U.T.; Mrs. Moberly Bell (their Hon. Secretary) wrote, ' we felt he had put forward some of the points that we would like to make in a masterly, professional manner," and later copies were obtainable, with a piece of paper pasted over the With the compliments of the Committee." Clearly imprint. some of the more enlightened members of the League had protested when it was too late. Now comes a fresh number of the Anti-Suffrage Review, with a notice of Mr. Harold Owen's book, in which "among our warm acknowledgments we may offer a word of criticism," and this is, that "he would have done well not to leave his approval of administrative activity so much to the inference of his readers." Now the writer of this review may believe that women are really fit for adminis-trative activity" in the field of local government, but it is sheer nonsense to say that Mr. Owen's book suggests any "inference" at all. Mr. Owen is the crudest and most such consistent Anti, and argues not only that women are unfit for the vote, but that they are unfit for every form of productive and administrative work, and that "woman is wholly superfluous to the State except as a bearer of children and a nursing mother." Men of this type speak of unmarried women as women "for whom there is no room in England," and would have them shipped overseas to find "rest each one in the home of her husband." Suffragists have always maintained that these were the real opinions of their opponents, and the more civilised Anti-suffragists have indignantly denied it; now at last these opinions are published on the house-tops. Will the more civilised Anti-suffragists endure to stay in the camp? If so, they must bear the responsibility of tolerating these disgusting opinions: if they will come out from the organisation into which they have blundered, we will be more generous to them than they have been to us, and though we shall not be able to commend their consistency, we will not deny their honesty, and we will not even require them to determine that "they will take no further step whatever towards the attainment of their ends" until the Rudyards cease from Kipling

There are two pieces of work which are absolutely essential if we are to retain any belief in the professions of the Antisuffragists : one is, that they should clear their organisation of people holding the views of Mr. Owen and Sir. A. Wright, and the other that they should, in accordance with their second-string " policy, do real hard work in promoting an amendment to the Home Rule Bill for the enfranchisement of Irish women. We do not know whether Miss Markham is a Home Ruler; we imagine Mrs. Humphry Ward is not. But the question is not whether one is or is not a Home-Ruler; the question is whether, if Home Rule is passed, women as well as men are to vote for the representatives of a local and subordinate Parliament, or in other words whether the Bill would be a better or a worse Bill if women were included. Mrs. Ward's enthusiasm for women in Local Government has been rather enthusiasm for an accomplished fact than that which informs a pioneer; she now has a chance of breathing that enthusiasm into a great reform in the making, and we hope she may rise to it. If really we are to have Home Rule all. round, it is of importance not less to Anti-suffragists than Suffragists that the first of the local Parliaments should represent women, and since a very large proportion of the Irish members are favourable to the enfranchisement of women, it would be no imposition on them for the Imperial Parliament

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this young journalist's work made on one of the master minds of It may be said that, if this is the case, there is no hardship his time. Stead made a carefully thought out plan. He got together what he called a Secret Commission to investigate what was going on in the infernos of London. He proved beyond all shadow of doubt that young children were daily sacrificed to the cruel lusts of men, that the entrapping and ruining of young women was a regular branch of trade, and that all the horrors springing from this white slave trade, horrors of the most ruthless and abominable description, were constantly going on in England without let or hindrance. He induced a Committee, consisting of Bishop Temple, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Spurgeon, Dean Vaughan, Mr. Hugh Price Hughes and others, to hear the evidence which this Commission could bring before them, and day after day, in the most conspicuous part of The Pall Mall Gazette, this evidence was published from July 6th, 1885, for about a fortnight. There was a howl of execration from those who can put up with these abominations taking place so long as they are not mentioned in polite society. Certain people recommended that the author of these articles and the paper in which they appeared should be prosecuted. Messrs. W. H. Smith were too virtuous to allow The Pall Mall to be displayed on their bookstalls, and could with difficulty be opposition and it may be defeated, but however the Senate induced to supply it to their customers. But Stead's work was constituted, it will be an unknown quantity that may prove successful in its aim: the House of Commons dropped the very serious obstacle to women's suffrage. former levity with which it had prevented the Criminal Law With the question at the stage it now is, clearly no new Amendment Bill becoming an Act. It was passed through all its stages, and the moral conscience of the country having become awakened out of sleep, much wholesome effort was made to attain a really higher standard of moral conduct. The Vigilance Association was formed under the direct influence and auspices of Mr. Stead and has done valiantly in carrying on the work for which he sacrificed himself in 1885. Mr. Stead himself was imprisoned for three months at first as an ordinary criminal, for a technical breach of the law in the course of his 0 heroic work. But he did not mind that; he and the governor of In Memoriam. the prison became fast friends and when he left Holloway he was allowed to carry away his prison clothes. These he donned W. T. STEAD. on each successive anniversary of his imprisonment, for he took

in waiting until the Irishmen have enfranchised their own women. Those who are not being asked to wait rarely see the hardship of waiting. The necessary alterations of the Irish franchise laws would take many years. To say that the Nationalist members are favourable to the enfranchisement of women is not to say they "put it first," and it is highly improbable that they would begin their legislative work by thinking of the women; at least, all history is against such a supposition. When they have got their electoral machinery in working order, their parties and their agents with all their vested interests and crusted prejudices, Irish women will meet over again all that opposition which we find in England, and which is like the mindless and heartless opposition of dead matter. Even supposing the more logical and passionate temperament of the Irishman leads him to a more prompt attention to human needs than is given by the sentimental and stolid Englishman, he may have all sorts or difficulties to contend with. No one yet knows how the Second Chamber is to be constituted. It seems likely that the Government proposal to begin with a nominated Senate will meet with great constitution should be set up which shuts women outside the doors of a local Parliament, and we appeal to Mrs. Ward and Miss Markham to signalise their complete disagreement with the reactionaries and Orientalists of their party by a bold and emphatic declaration in favour of the enfranchisement of Irishwomen. We shall then believe that they have taken up Local Government not merely as a stick wherewith to beat the Suffragists.

Of all those who perished in the great disaster of the wreck great pride in what he called his order of the Broad Arrow. of the "Titanic," none will be more sincerely mourned than If we ask, What made him what he was? I think the reply W. T. Stead. He was so intensely alive, had such a keen enjoymust be : The divine gift of imagination. He had the power of ment in his hundred and one active interests, that it is almost putting himself in the place of others: when he heard of a impossible to associate him with the thought of death. His little girl child of thirteen subjected to worse than murder, the was a very many-sided character; the writer of the Truth about recital did not go in at one ear and out at another; he became the Navy and the enthusiastic advocate of the two-keels-for-one that child, and he rested not night nor day till he had made it principle, was also a mainstay and foremost representative of the impossible, or at least difficulty, that other children should suffer Peace movement. The friend and champion of Cecil Rhodes a like fate. He told me once that besides the great influence and the probable inspirer of Rhodes's last will and testament on his mind, in the formative period of youth, of Mrs. Josephine was also a noted Pro-Boer; and the strenuous opponent of "Aurora Leigh." The whole woman's question is in that autocracy in all its forms in this country was the skilful apologist of autocracy in Russia. But there were no cross-currents or book, and in the words of Marion Erle, where she says, "I was apparent contradictions in his attitude towards all the group of not ever, as you say, seduced but simply murdered," are questions which mainly concern the readers of THE COMMON probably to be found the seed from which sprang the great work CAUSE : he was the strenuous friend of justice to women always which Stead accomplished in 1885. and everywhere, whether it concerned the Parliamentary He fully appreciated the enormous value which Women's suffrage, educational opportunities, professional employment, Suffrage would have in helping the world on to a better the principal of a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, and relationship between men and women. He was our constant last but not least over all that range of moral questions which friend and helper. We all feel the poorer for his loss. The last time I saw him and exchanged greetings with him was on are the measure of human degradation, because they involve a sacrilege of things that should be in the holy of holies. What March 28th. We women were tramping up and down Parlia-ment Square waiting for news of the Conciliation Bill. He Stead did to rouse public opinion to a tolerably decent standard on these matters of grave national importance will never be came on his way towards his home in Westminster, and gave forgotten, and when the history of the reform of moral ideas on us his good wishes. Defeat was our immediate guerdon : but the relation of the sexes comes to be written his name will ever with work like ours there is no such thing as defeat. We must hold an honoured place. go on, working harder, devising new and more effective methods, and cheered by the remembrance of men like William Twenty-seven years ago the age of consent for little girls was thirteen. Children of that age were bought and Stead, who had taken for his motto Alfred the Great's last words, "Protect and shelter the weak. With all thy might right that which is wrong." There is a new Criminal Law Amendment Bill before the House of Commons now : it deals Committee of the House of Lords which inquired another blow at the White Slave Trade. It is blocked just as the Bill of 1885 was, but we are not where we were then. We are in a better position, and we owe a great deal of that betterment to the man who was lost in the "Titanic " on April 15th.

sold for immoral purposes in London and many other places and the law did nothing for their protection. There was this awful subject and cognate. matters. It reported and, mainly by the influence of the then Lord Shaftesbury, a Criminal Law Amendment Bill, raising the age of consent and making other necessary changes, was passed through all its stages, not once only, in the House of Lords; but session after session it M. G. FAWCETT. was talked out, counted out and otherwise blocked and prevented from passing in the House of Commons. The mass of members knew nothing and cared nothing for these things. A few did know and wished for no change and these few, by The Anti-Suffrage Handbook. The Anti-Suffrage League has published-or, rather, has had the apathy and ignorance of the rest, were let to have their way. At this time there was a young journalist in London, formerly editor of The Northern Echo, who had become editor of The printed-a little book to enable their workers to put misleading questions at Suffrage meetings, and write misleading letters to the Press. I know this sounds a very harsh thing to say of Pall Mall Gazette. He determined that the Minotaurs of London should no longer have their daily tribute of little anyone, and I should not say it merely from a perusal of the children. In the National Gallery at Milbank is Watts' picture book, grossly misleading as it seems to me to be. I say it of "The Minotaur" to remind us always of the deep impression because, by the question put to some (not all) of those who try

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to buy the Handbook, it is evident that the last thing that is them; there are only about two and a half millions-rather less. desired is that we should get hold of it. If it were intended to convert, or if it were perfectly straightforward, there could be nothing more desirable, from the point of view of Anti-Suffragists, than that it should be widely circulated and read, especially among Suffragists. But, as I shall show, it is not culated to convert anyone. It is designed purely to baffle Suffrage speakers for the moment, and convey the impression that there is "something wrong." I give one example only. It is a glaring one.

The question is put from the audience : " Is it not a fact that the industrial laws, which you have quoted as helping sweated women in New Zealand, were passed before women had the vote

We do not all easily keep dates in our heads, and are liable to be baffled by such a question. If it were an honest one, this would be perfectly fair. But it is not, and the questioner either knows that it is not or she is ignorant to a degree which should keep her silent.

An Industrial Act was passed in 1890. It did very little for the worst-off, i.e., the sweated women.

Women were enfranchised in 1893. In 1894 the "Industrial Arbitration" Act was passed. It came into force in 1895. It was consolidated and amended in 1900, and several times since. These Acts are the charter of the sweated woman, and are especially valuable" to her in a way in which the Victorian Wage Boards (set up before the enfranchisement to women in Victoria) are not.* Yet these are the Acts under which those awards were given, which raised the condition of the sweated women, and which, according to the Anti-Suffrage Handbook (p. 39), "were drafted and introduced . . . before women had votes." This is a distinct attempt to mislead. Many beneficent laws are "drafted and introduced" which are never *passed*, or not until those chiefly concerned have political power.

I propose to go through the book and deal, as briefly as possible, with the more glaring mis-statements.

On page 7 the author (anonymous) of the Handbook accuses nplaining that, under the promised Reform Bill, "every us of con tramp" will have a vote, and no educated woman. We do not know-nor does the author-what the Reform Bill will be; but, if there is to be a residential qualification, "every procurer and bully (if male)" may be put instead of "every tramp," and the position of the educated (and virtuous) woman will be no less an outrage.

On page 8 we are told that the country has not pronounced on Women's Suffrage. But the Times (November 24, 1910) said that this was made an issue at the coming General Election, by Mr. Asquith's promise of facilities :

Woman Suffrage, and Woman Suffrage on a democratic basis, is an issue at this election, and if the election confirms the Government in power, the new Parliament will be considered to have received a mandate on the subject of Woman Suffrage."

Mr. John Massie, Hon. Treasurer to the Anti-Suffrage League, and to the "Campaign Committee," which issues this book, wrote in the same issue of the Times :-

"It is no use for Liberals to profess that, at the coming General Election, there will be one issue, and one only, before the country. There will be two-government by the Lords and government by women

It is no use for Mr. Massie to profess it either.

These expressions of opinion were nowhere contradicted by Anti-Suffrage Leagues or speakers until after the election.

Pages 12 to 21 are occupied by an attack on the honour of the House of Commons. It is hardly necessary to say that the more Anti-Suffragists assure us that the pledges given by members of Parliament mean nothing at all, the more anxious shall we become to obtain some more effective hold on them than is-on their own showing-afforded by "womanly influence." However, on p. 19, even the Handbook abandons the attempt to prove that there is not a majority in the House for the principle of Women's Suffrage.

On p. 22 the author puts the number of election addresses, mentioning Women's Suffrage, at 103, and uses this as showing that the question was not before the country. Nothing is said of the enormous number of candidates who received deputations, gave written pledges, or were questioned at public meetings, the answers in every case being published.

It would be interesting to know in how many election addresses the Insurance Act was mentioned, or Manhood Suffrage, or Welsh Disestablishment (outside Wales), or Home Rule (outside Ireland)

Passing now to its most important section on "Women and Labour," the author begins with the statement that "Suffragist speeches generally imply that the amount of women's work in factories and workshops is much greater than it really is." It "really is" 2,353,147. We are apparently expected to draw the conclusion that it cannot matter much what happens to

There are, however, also 2,260,352, it appears, who are engaged in professional or commercial occupations, or domestic services. But—"the only occupation from which women are barred by legislation is work in mines" (p. 26). This is a "terminological inexactitude" of the most magnificent kind, and accordingly it is printed in conspicuous type. In reply, I will quote Mr. Pethick Lawrence's admirable pamphlet, "Women's Votes and Wages." Speaking, to begin with, of Government employment, he writes :-

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Civil appointments account for some 250,000 employees. These include the vast army of officials working in Government offices, from the permanent heads of departments down to the inior clerks, also some 100,000 employees in the Post Office, also the posts of Customs officers, tax collectors and assessors, inspectors of schools, inspectors of factories, governors and doctors of prisons, diplomatic agents, consuls, etc. . . the bulk of them, practically all the best paid, are arbitrarily closed to women. Thus, women cannot be appointed to any of the more important work in Government offices, they cannot fulfil ny but the lower grades of service. (The italics are mine.) Women cannot be customs officers, as they frequently are in France: they cannot be tax collectors or assessors; there are no women governors or doctors of prisons, even for such a prison as Holloway, which is confined solely to women. (The italics are mine.) There are no women consuls, and no women in the diplomatic service. There are only about 20 women factory inspectors, where there are some 900 men; there are only 20 women school inspectors, where there are about 250 men. In the Post Office all the best places are held by men.

It is open to question whether in the Police Force, which in London is directly responsible to the Home Secretary, women might not with advantage be included for special purposes, as they are in Norway. An illustration of what is meant will be found in the fact that women's lodging-houses have to be open to the inspection of the police at any hour of the day or night."

Mr. Lawrence goes on to point out that women may not practice at the Bar (and this excludes them from judgeships and recorderships). The law could compel their admission. I would add-they may not be stipendiary magistrates; they can hold but a tiny proportion of the best-paid medical posts; they can hold no preferment in the Church, and Mr. Lawrence points out the hardship this inflicts on women prisoners, who can only see the chaplain in the presence of a third person.

Add to this, the wholesale exclusion of women (by law) from many skilled industrial occupations by the simple process of closing to them the technical classes by which they could acquire the necessary skill. t

It only remains that having, as far as possible, closed the best best paid and most highly skilled employments to women, and so driven them into sweated industries pecularly liable to widespread unemployment, Mr. John Burns shut the relief works provided for unemployed women by the Local Government Board on the ground that their work was " unremunerative." Yet "the loss on the men's work per person was even greater than that on the women's." §

A. MAUDE ROYDEN. (To be continued.)

Our Duty to the Children.

Miss Naish's little paper contains a brief but admirably lucid and reasonable account of the present position in which the unmarried mother finds herself on the birth of her child; of the law as it affects her and the man concerned; together with some practical suggestions for remedying the inequalities of their position and the evils arising from them-evils most serious in their reaction on the children. Readers of the COMMON CAUSE may have seen her artcles in the "Standard" and in the may "Enlishwoman"; but the subject is so important that it is worth while again to recapitulate some of the main points which, it may be remarked, are all urged with great cogency in the Majority Report of the Poor Law Commission (Part viii., chap. 4).

The present form of the law on the subject is conditioned by the recommendations of the Poor Law Commission of 1832. The Bastard Laws existing before that date, by which any man became the putative father of an illegitimate child on the uncorroborated statement of its mother, had been productive of so much immorality and injustice that the Commission recom-

"Sweated Industry," by C. Black (p. 246-7). See my "Votes and Wages."

\$"Women's Votes and Wages." F. W. Pethick Lawrence (p. 15).

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mended that the sole burden of maintenance should, up to the Women and Local Government. age of 16, be thrown upon the mother. In 1844 an améndment was introduced which enabled the mother, by a proceeding in Petty Session, to obtain an affiliation order upon the putative REPLY TO MISS VIOLET MARKHAM. father. The amount of this order is limited to 5s. a week irrespective of the man's income: but the maximum is DEAR MADAM,-We are glad to learn from you that you did seldom reached. The costs of the order and expenses incidental not intend in your speech in the Albert Hall to make an attack the child's birth, or if it has died, of its funeral, may be on women in general, but only on women ratepayers. included. As a matter of fact, as the 1909 Commission stated, It certainly appeared to us from the report in the Anti-Suffrage Review, as well as from that in the Times, that your Procedure under the law as it now stands is uncertain and Since 6 or, in some places 14 days, during which no remarks had a wider bearing; in these reports you are made to speak of "suffragists" as not using the powers that they difficult." supervision is exercised, must elapse between the serving of the order (for which the woman has to pay 3s. 6d. plus 2s. 6d. for possess; but all suffragists are not ratepayers, nor are all service) and the hearing of the case, "in a large number of cases ratepayers suffragists; and again, in another sentence as reported, you speak without qualification of "women," saying, the procedure fails and the man escapes payment by the simple expedient of removing to another place." (Poor Law Com-Is it not humbug to talk about women having no share in mission Report). If, however, the order is granted, the man is the national life, when, a small minority excepted, they have only legally liable on application by the woman herself. Witshown so little practical interest or sympathy in causes which concern the aged, the sick, the destitute, the erring, the welfare of little children?" It is therefore not surprising that, in nesses before the Commission strongly emphasised Miss Naish's condemnation of "a regulation by which the girl is again placed in the power of a man who has already refused to common with many others, we fell into the error of supposing egalise his relations with her." She urges that the procedure your indictment was more general than you intended it to be; should be facilitated and the opportunities for evasion reduced : but even thus restricted, it appears to us to be seriously unjust and that the power to make application for and duty of enforcto the class you attack in altogethder ignoring the large number of that class who serve on education committees, old-age pening the order should rest upon the administrative authority sion committees, and other statutory committees (not to men-(in most cases the Poor Law Guardians), and should be executed tion subordinate bodies), and also in wholly ignoring the grave by a maintenance officer instead of by the woman herself. difficulties in the way of women's taking a larger share than The Maternity Benefit granted under the Insurance Act will

doubtless be a real advantage to the unmarried mother; but they do take in local Government. The assumption appears to be that nothing but callous inneither this nor whatever sums may, by improved procedure be difference to their fellow-creatures prevents a large number of recovered from the father, can be expected without a profound women from standing for election on to local government change in law and opinion, to go far towards solving the bodies, and that but for a similar want of feeling, the women problem of the future of the mother and her child. It is to ratepayers could easily secure their return. But this is far be looked for in the systematic provision of help for her at indeed from the truth. In regard to the first point, you speak this difficult period, and, on the moral side, in the maintenance in your letter of April 10th of "the million-odd women rateof the maternal relation. At present the unmarried girl who finds payers who are qualified to sit and vote." This is greatly to over-state the field that is open for choice of candidates, herself about to become a mother must, in the vast majority of instances, apply to the Poor Law Guardians. The treatment for by far the greater number of qualified women ratepayers at present provided by them is thoroughly unsatisfactory. To are workers without leisure or money to enable them to come forward, even under favourable local circumstances. As quote once more from the Commission's Report: "There is, perhaps, no more difficult problem in Poor Law administration regards the second point, the following are the facts : that the than the treatment of unmarried mothers, and none in which local franchise is not the same for women as for men; that discriminating methods might have greater results. The need the men electors are in a vast majority; that the elections are for introducing a different system from the present has made worked by party organisations which have proved extremely itself universally felt among Poor Law workers. It is in unwilling to put forward women instead of men; that women discrimination that the way of reform is to be found : the worst have no party funds available for election purposes, and as a feature of the present system is the lack of it. It is a fundarule do not possess sufficient private means to meet such mental mistake to assume, as has been the case hitherto, that expenses themselves. For the regrettable paucity of women all the unmarried mothers coming to the workhouse (where councillors the blame lies on the men who form the caucuses far the larger proportion of births are illegitimate) belong to and pull the strings. the same class. On the contrary, three classes may be dis-You call attention to the fact that 232 Boards of Guardians tinguished, for which entirely different treatment is required. (or more accurately now 230) have no woman member, but it must not be forgotten that Rural District Councillors who There are the feeble-minded-in whose case segregation and serve as Guardians are elected by parishes, each of which returns only one member; and it is not extraordinary that a detention is essential alike in their own interest and in that of the population as a whole. There are next the depraved: for single member should in most cases be a man, especially whom again prolonged detention is necessary if any reformative influences are to be brought to bear upon them: and who when it is borne in mind that the parochial register in England must be separated from the young mothers, fallen for the first and Wales admits no women lodgers, no women owners and time in whose case wise treatment may mean useful and happy no women as service voters, thus putting men electors in a lives in the future: but who are at present deprived of such a very great majority. prospect by the associations to which they are subjected in the It is no doubt desirable that these difficulties should stimulate rather than discourage women electors; and the Women's Local Government Society does, as you state, earnestly appeal workhouse. Few unions at present provide separate accommodation for them : yet "The moral atmosphere of a workhouse is such that no young girl should be introduced into it if we have to them to do their utmost notwithstanding. But it is one any hope or wish to reclaim her.". The Commission strongly urge that "all first cases should be dealt with in institutions thing to make an appeal of this sort, and quite another to attack women ratepayers in public as tolerating slums and apart from the workhouse. Where suitable voluntary homes insanitary dwellings, infant mortality, indifferent education are available, it would be well that these should be utilised and child labour. We have answered your accusation at some length, for the .; the authorities should. . . failing these, institute homes of their own. In either case . . the services of really important matter is for all of us to know what the true situation is, that we may be able to train our batteries on charitable workers should be utilised to watch over the girls on the first return to the world." the genuine obstacles in our way, and not on illusory shadows.

In these homes the girls should be retained for some time: long enough for the restoration of their own health, the establishment of the health of the child; and the acquisition of such training, etc., and outfit for service as may enable them to return to the world with a fair chance of self-maintenance. On these lines it should be possible not only to save the mothers but to give to the children that fair start which is of paramount importance to the nation.

"Whose Children are These?" By Ethel M. Naish, Birming-

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M. A. H. ham. Cornish Bros., Printers to the University. Price 2d.

We cannot but think that if your membership of our Society had dated further back than from February 10th, you might have had a truer appreciation of the difficulties which impede the work of women in local government. Signed on behalf of the Women's Local Government Society,

JANE M. STRACHEY, President. MARY T. LOCKYER, Hon. Treasurer. ANNIE LEIGH BROWN, Hon. Secretary. 19, Tothill Street, Westminster, April 18th, 1912.

A Message to the N.U.T.

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From Miss Isabel Cleghorn, ex-President of the N.U.T., we have received the following :-

I am pleased to be asked to send a message to the women teachers who read THE COMMON CAUSE.

My message is one of encouragement, of hopefulness. Do not let the failure to carry the franchise resolution last week weaken your faith, either in the righteousness of your cause or the friendship and goodwill of your fellow-teachers. The principle of the enfranchisement of women was not voted upon, and therefore was not defeated. The question upon which the delegates divided was : " Shall votes for women be discussed at our annual conference?" at least, that is what was really meant by the moving of the "Previous Question. answer was, 36,225 against its being discussed, 22,284 for its discussion. But that did not necessarily mean that 36,225 are against the principle that sex should be no disqualification for the vote. It simply meant that in many, nay, in most cases those who voted against, believed in "Votes for Women," did not consider it a suitable subject for discussion at an educational conference. So, do not be discouraged—go back to your local Association and convert the doubters; but do not go back for that purpose only; take your due share in the work, in the discussions, in the formation of policy.

Help to strengthen the Union by bringing into the ranks of the Association of which you are a member those who are outside, educate your women colleagues on their duties towards education, towards their profession, and then show them how they can assist both, by helping the cause you have so much at heart-the enfranchisement of women. And so, in quiet strength, in fearless faith, in unfailing hope your end will be attained. ISABEL CLEGHORN.

In Parliament.

THE HOME RULE BILL.

The Bill was on April 16th read a first time by 360 to 266, majority 94. Mr. Birrell's speech in winding up the debate should be read, for most of it constitutes a series of arguments for the enfranchisement of women. "Every year that passed," he said, "had heightened the character and increased the efficiency, and had already gone far completely to establish the

reputation of these county councils." He alluded to the well known and pressing need for Poor Law Reform in Ireland, and said it was generally admitted that it " would be dealt with far more quickly, and I think, far more wisely in a Parliament in which everybody, we hope, would be fully represented than by this House." He said also: "We are all of us potential rebels; I have no sympathy with persons who say 'Oh, no. you must never in any circumstances speak as if you would rebel.' I am capable even myself, in my old age, of becoming a rebel." The spurs which he appeared to consider adequate for rebellion were "whenever your religion is oppressed or your property differentiated and despoiled

SUFFRAGISTS AT ELTHAM COLLEGE.

In reply to a question by Mr. MacCallum Scott on the 18th, as to whether the women teachers at Eltham Training College were using their official position for the dissemination of literature in favour of Woman Suffrage, Mr. J. A. Pease replied : There is nothing in the Regulations to prevent teachers in training colleges from expressing opinions upon topics such as Woman Suffrage, and I think we may rely upon the sense of responsibility in the teachers to restrain them from using their influence improperly in matters of this kind."

SUFFRAGIST PRISONERS.

Mr. McKenna, answering questions on April 17th, said that the number of women being forcibly fed varied from day to day; it was then seventeen. He also stated that he had allowed certain modifications of the prison rules after consultation with the Chairman of Quarter Sessions. These are not, however, by any means the privileges hitherto accorded to political prisoners like Sir Starr Jameson and Mr. Ginnell. Mr. McKenna said : "I can assure the hon. member (Mr. W. O'Brien) that the owners of the windows, who lost between them some $\pounds 6,000$, which has not been repaid to them by the persons who broke their windows, are strongly of the opinion that the punishment has not been anything like severe enough." On the 23rd Mr. McKenna described a letter which had been circulated to the press by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst as "a tissue of falsehood." Forcible feeding had been carried on "with as little use of force and as much gentleness as the conduct of the prisoners would permit. No woman has been thrown into dark, damp and unwholesome cells. No woman has been handcuffed except where that was the only way to prevent her breaking her windows or furniture. No woman has been frog-marched, beaten or bruised."

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

 OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

 METHODS:
 (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary (vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country.
 (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

 How. Secretaries:
 President:
 Secretary:
 How. Treasurer

 MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
 MES. HENRY FAWCETS, LL.D.
 MISS GREATIONE COOKE.
 MRS. AUREBACEL

MISS GREALDINE COOKE. MRS. AUERBACEL MISS GREALDINE COOKE. MRS. AUERBACEL Hom. Secretary to Press Committee : MISS EMILY M. LEAF. Telegrams : "Voicelees, London." Hom. Sec. to Literature Committee : MISS I. B. O'MALLEY. Telephone : 1960 Victoria. Offices : Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

From Headquarters.

SPECIAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING. The Executive Committee has resolved to call a special general Council Meeting of the National Union, to consider the position of the Union in view of the present situation. This meeting will have the powers of the annual meeting with regard to any alteration of the rules or policy, should the resolutions passed make this necessary. The meeting will be held in the Essex Hall, Strand, W.C., on Tuesday, May 14th, and will be continued on Wednesday, May 15th, if necessary.

The resolutions to be proposed by the Executive Committee will be despatched to Secretaries of Societies on May 2nd, and resolutions for inclusion in the agenda must be received at the offices of the Union not later than May 7th. Societies are requested to send the names of delegates by the same date. The number of seats for visitors (i.e., members of N.U. Societies not acting as delegates) will be limited, and applications for these must be sent through the Secretaries of Societies in good time.

Members are reminded that the list of Societies, with names and addresses of Secretaries, is published quarterly in THE COMMON CAUSE, and copies of the last number containing the list can be obtained from the offices of the N.U. ORGANISERS.

LIST OF SOCIETIES.

The N.U. has recently created a new grade of "assistant organisers," and it is hoped that it may be possible to appoint an assistant organiser, as well as a full organiser, to every Federation. A number of organisers have also been appointed for training.

NEW SOCIETIES.

- The following new Societies have been affiliated to the Union : North-Western Federation .- Murton-cum-Hilton. North-Eastern .- Walker and Wallsend.
- Eastern Counties .- Felixstowe, Walton and District; Southend and Westcliff-on-Sea; Thetford.
- N. and E. Ridings of Yorks .- Grimsby.
- Oxford, Berks and Bucks .- Wokingham; High Wycombe.
- West Midlands .- Nuneaton.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants .- East Grinstead. South Western.-Tiverton. K. D. COURTNEY.

LONDON SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.



APRIL 25, 1912.

Press Department.

APRIL 25, 1912.

The following encouraging reports have been sent to us this week from the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation, the Fastern Counties Federation, and the South Western Federation :-

Miss Atkinson, of the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation, says :---" The work of procuring insertion for general Suffrage news becomes increasingly easy. The daily papers published in the large towns are naturally the most important, and of these the Sussex Daily News (Brighton) and the Evening News (Portsmouth) are both satisfactory. Among those papers issued weekly or bi-weekly, 22 are in the Surrey area, and from these the Farnham Herald must be singled out as being most consistently useful and friendly. The Surrey Mirror, Surrey Leader, and Croydon Times are also sympathetic, while the Surrey Times has given publicity to a series of letters from the Vice-Chairman of the Federation, in which the policy of the National Union has been constantly defined.

In Sussex, 31 papers are dealt with. The Eastbourne Gazette devotes several columns weekly to "Women's Sphere," and Suffrage news is well represented. The Brighton Herald constantly gives space to communications from the Federation Local Correspondent, while the Editor of the Hove Gazette, a little paper with a value all its own and which might well be taken by the Hove residents, courteously inserts all Suffrage news sent him.

Hants has 22 papers serving the area covered by the Federation. Entirely new ground has lately been broken in the Isle of Wight, and the Editors of the Shanklin Gazette, Isle of Wight Guardian, and the Isle of Wight Mercury have expressed proved themselves friendly. Valuable work has been done with the Hampshire Chronicle and Hampshire Observer-the former paper was apparently only awaiting a correspondent to enlist whole-heartedly on the "right side." Many a short article on Suffrage has appeared in its columns. Special nention must be made of the Hants and Sussex County Press. whose Editor has been placing a column practically once a week at our disposal. It is necessarily a somewhat invidious task to elect certain papers for special commendation, and the impossibility of mentioning all those which, in varying degrees, have rendered us service must be borne in mind. Nearly every paper reports local Suffrage news fairly, and distinctly hostility is

The number of papers now regularly dealt with is 75; and it hoped that the whole 120, which is the total number published in the three counties, will, through the agency of our rapidly-acreasing number of Societies, gradually come under superision

In relation to the system of organisation adopted in this Federation, the importance of the work done by the orrespondents cannot be over-estimated, they alone coming into direct touch with the editors, and to them in the main the access of the work is due. To those whose cordial and steady operation have made the organisation of press work in this ederation a light as well as a pleasurable task, I gladly take he opportunity of expressing grateful thanks.'

norte

Miss Fanny Johnson, from the Eastern Counties Federation, The following letter was sent to the Press on the 20th :--DEAR SIR,--May we, on behalf of the National Union of The Cambridge Daily News had a very good account of an Women's Suffrage Societies, express our profound regret that some Suffragists and Anti-suffragists should have responded terview with Mrs. Heitland (President of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Society), and with Mr. Vulliamy (Secretary of the Men's League in Cambridge University), after the defeat to the invitation to make the terrible disaster of the Titanic the field for controversy on the question of women's suffrage? the Conciliation Bill. The same issue contained a good Before such a calamity as the wreck of the Titanic, one itorial reference to the subject, embodying the views of the feeling alone should be paramount : that of heartfelt, respectful tional Union. This paper is invariably sympathetic.

sympathy for all those who have suffered bereavement. The Bedfordshire Times is another good paper. It contained long and sympathetic editorial after the defeat. On the whole The heroism and tragedy connected with such events should surely place them beyond the range of political controversy. ere is a tendency for the best results from the Liberal papers. Yours very truly, but in constituencies which are represented by prominent and K. D. COURTNEY, Hon. Sec. nvinced Suffragists of either party, such as Lord Robert EDITH PALLISER. cil, the local press is apt to follow suit.

The North Herts Mail and Herts Express, for example, both nionist papers, are favourable, partly no doubt for this eason, and also partly, no doubt due to the fact that the local ecretaries, Miss Villiers (Hitchin) and Miss Wilkinson (Letch-worth) are peculiarly active and able."

that the fact that we are a Trade Union House and are entrusted with the business of so many National Societies (Suffrage and others) is an important point in favour of our claim for your business.

THE COMMON CAUSE.



From the South Western Federation we hear " that the two Conservative papers, the Gazette and the Western Morning News, are not "hearty supporters" of the Suffrage cause, though they report meetings, etc. For that Miss Baly says: "We depend chiefly on the Western Daily Mercury, a Plymouth paper, and the Express and Echo, an Exeter evening paper. These two journals never fail, if space allows it, to insert any paragraphs connected with Woman Suffrage sent to them. Mr. Herbert Thomas, the managing-director of a group of seven Cornish papers, viz., The Cornishman, the Cornish and Morning News, the Cornish Telegraph, the Cornish Tidings, the Redruth Advertiser, the St. Ives Weekly Summary, the Helston Advertiser, and the Hayle Mail, is a supporter of Woman Suffrage.'

EMILY M. LEAF.

41

Literature Department.

Requests for Suffrage literature come to us now from all over the world. One of Mrs. Auerbach's first actions on her return from South Africa was to send large parcels of pamphlets



YOU THINK?

THE COMMON CAUSE.

which, as everyone knows, is one of the six American States strength is. which will vote on Suffrage amendments to their constitution this autumn. We are publishing this week a leaflet called, "Why we are in a Hurry," founded on an A B C page in the COMMON CAUSE which Mrs. Auerbach says she found specially useful in South Africa. The arguments for Women's Suffrage are based on principles of universal justice which apply everywhere, and leaflets published for use in Great Britain are read with interest by women striving for freedom all over the world.

42

The National Union has stocked Miss Lowndes's delightful pamphlet on "Banners and Banner Making," price 3d., pub-lished by the Artists' League and reviewed in the COMMON CAUSE of April 11th. It comes at a good moment, as many Societies which have not yet got banners will want to make them for summer open-air demonstrations. Miss Lowndes gives some very practical suggestions, and at the same time timulates the imagination. Her visions of delphiniums are refreshing to the tired suffrage-worker, and it is good for us to think about something so different from our usual subjects of thought as "chevrons" and "vair and counter-vair," even if we do not quite know what they mean.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

Mr. Snowden's Encouragement.

The following reply has been received by Miss Palliser to a letter thanking Mr. Snowden for the part he took in the debate on March 28th :--

" April 2nd, 1912 "DEAR MISS PALLISER,-I thank you for your letter conveying to me the thanks of your Executive Committee for the little help I was able to give our cause last Thursday. I do not need that you women should thank me for anything I am able to do to help this movement, which is as much mine as yours.

Like all of you, I was very depressed for a little with the result of the division, but I was more indignant than sorry. I am not now in the least depressed, as after thinking it all over am inclining to the view that the result was perhaps the best thing in the circumstances. The 'antis' mustered their full strength-they never can do more-and every circumstance favoured them.

"I am sure I need not tell you all to keep up your hearts. That you will do, and the movement will go on. The division district.

Contributions	to the	General	Fund.	1
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Already acknowledged since Nov. 1st, 1911 £2,056 5 3 Received from April 1st to April 18th :--

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Mrs. Joshua					1	1
Mrs. Arthur Withington		***			1	1
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Mrs. Tennant ... " Olå Clo' " ... Miss H. A. W. Stark Mrs. Webster 1 1 0 AFFILIATION FEES. Tiverton W.S.S. ... Peterborough W.S.S. ... Wakefield W.S.S. ... Sheffield W.S.S. ... 1 17 1 2 Langport 3 15 5 6 1 0 0 1 0 3 7 6 Malvern £2.252 5 1

By Election.

EAST NOTTINGHAM.

Re

ult of the poll : Sir John Rees (U) Mr. T. W. Dobson (L)	6,482 5,158
Unionist majority	the second

We were not fortunate enough to get Mr. Dobson returned as member for East Nottingham, but everyone engaged in the campaign has the satisfaction of feeling assured that the question of the enfranchisement of women is better understood and more sympathetically regarded as a result of our week's hard work.

result of our week's hard work. Circumstances combined to make our experiences unusual. The short time at our disposal necessitated many meetings daily, and strenuous work generally; this we which we had no control," made our which we had no control," made our

and leaflets there. On Saturday came a request from Ohio, last week showed who our friends are and what our genuine

"With kindest regards, I remain. " PHILIP SNOWDEN.

APRIL 25, 1012.

Treasurer's Notes.

If proof were needed of the depth and intensity of purpose and of the calm courage that inspires Suffragists at the present moment, it would be amply provided by the letters which continue to reach us daily from all parts of the country. Some are from new contributors, and others are from old friends who announce their decision to increase their subscriptions and nearly every donation is accompanied by some word of encouragement, so that as one reads these letters, it is as though one felt the pressure of friendly hands, and heard the sound of brave voices and saw the happy light of hopeful, trusting eyes.

One friend sends us money "for increased propaganda work," and another sends a donation " in consequence of the adverse vote." A lady who has sent us two generous cheques within the last fortnight writes : " I am sure the Central Office needs all it can get to cheer it on its way just now." Another subscriber writes : "The amount is larger than his contribution last year because of the present increased need of support," and yet another writes: "This is a moment of such importance that everyone will do all they can." And three others have each sent us donations as "Easter Offerings."

The realisation of difficulties does not daunt us but, on the contrary, it fires us anew with an ever stronger desire to find the best and surest means of overcoming them.

Anyone who happens to travel to and fro in the country must be struck with the colossal ignorance that still exists with regard to the Women's Suffrage question, and this in spite of the long campaign and incessant labours of the Suffragists and the recent activity of the Anti-Suffragists. So the work that still lies ready to our hand, and for which no one need wander far afield, is the work of education and enlightenment, and money so spent cannot fail to yield its harvest of reward.

We have received some valuable help in the form of special donations to the Nottingham by-election, where our speakers have displayed the utmost courage and devotion, and we are now confronted with another by-election in the Forest of Dean Division of Gloucester, and we should be grateful for anything to help the campaign which is already going forward in that HELENA AUERBACH.

experiences somewhat exciting, and lent a flavour of adventure to our evening meetings. The constituency is an extremely poor one, and a by-election offered unwonted opportunities to the small boy, whose sense of humour consisted in collecting missiles of objectionable nature, which he threw with laudable industry, but not unerring accuracy at open-air speakers. Even so wet paper balls, banana skins, etc., occasionally punctuated our remarks, eggs happily always missed us, though members of the crowd suffered. This does not imply that we had not many interested listeners, and on polling day especially, we had much expressed sympathy, even from those supporting the opposition candidate. We held from five to seven meetings a day, and at the midday meetings especially, had splendid hearing. We found it almost impossible to get away, these meetings usually lasting until nearly three o'clok. Motingham has a large female population, and a marked feature has been the great interest taken by women in our meetings. On election day we were delivering literature at a busy corner when some women asked for a meeting.

corner when some women asked for a meeting. I began speaking, though with some doubt as to the wisdom of the proceeding, on account of the locality. It was a great success, however, and as Mrs. Cooper and Miss Ward were having a similar experience at another point, while litera-ture was eagerly accepted everywhere, the day's experiences were encouraging. Another quite unusual feature was the accept-

ance of our position, as supporters of a party candidate as a suffragist, and not as a party politician. Our policy was recognised as logical by members of both parties.

An indoor meeting on the eve of the poll was crowded with an interested and intelligent audience. The speakers were Mrs. Cooper, Miss Eva Ward and I, and Mrs. W. E. Dowson took the chair.

APRIL 25, 1912.

of the children, is have, Suffragists than ever. The Nottingham Society helped nobly, and will be able to carry on the work. C. E. COWMEADOW,

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West Riding (Yorks). OBGANISING IN SHIPLEY AND DISTRICT. On March 27th I arranged a meeting in the People's Hall, Shipley, when Mrs. Parrish was the speaker and Mrs. Aldersley and I helped. Mr. Mortimer kindly took the chair for us. There were about 50 people present.

of the children, is likely to make all of us keener **R** ecreation Hail, Otley. There was only a small attendance. EVELYN S. CLARKSON.

April 13th. The speakers were Mrs. Kellett and Mis Hunt. Literature was distributed, COMMON CAUSES sold, and about 15 people became members. A public meeting is being worked up, and there is every hope that a flourishing Suffrage society will soon be established in Cromer in Cromer.

A New Society-Southend, Westcliff and

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were arranged.

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volunteers are wanted to take charge of the office from 2.30 to 6?

2.30 to 6? ROCHESTER.—Following on the large and successful public meeting at the Corn Exchange, a meeting was held in the antercom of the Corn Exchange, a meeting was held in the antercom of the Corn Exchange, on March 28th, Strood, Frindsbury and District Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. Miss Duttton presided over a representative gathering of local supporters of the movement. The number of members then announced was 43; it was since increased to close on 60. Vice-Presidents and Committee were then elected, and Miss Conway Gordon was sepointed Hon. Secretary and Mrs. Ward Hon. Secretary. Work is going forward, and the COMMON CAUSE has begun to be circulated in the district.

West of England.

West of England. Mark.—The weekly office meetings have been continued, and our speakers have included Mrs. Skemp (Modern School Education), Miss Williams (The vote as it affects wages), Miss Blackstone (Frofessional Women and the vote), and Miss Chambers (Shakespeare's Heroines). An enthusiantic meeting to discuss plans for the summer mapaign has resulted in a scheme for suffrage pionics to be held in outlying villages, fortnightly, during the market of the summer of the summer of the summer observed the summer of the summer of the summer observed the summer of the summer of the summer of the method is a state of the summer of the summer of the summer observed the summer of the summer of the summer of the summer of the method was a great success. Sixteen members and was a leften fraser's campaign of a week here way was a brilliant success. She spoke at meetings of varying types, seven in all, the hast, at the Ladies' Oth.

<text><text><text><text> songs and recitations. Seven new members were enrolled, and the collection was good, though not adequate to the

North Eastern.

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. RLINGTON.-Two evening meetings have been held at Cruickshanks', both addressed by Miss Lucas. Six members joined.

GATESHEAD.—The annual meeting was held in the Joatsworth Hall on March 10th. Dr. Ethel Williams pre-ided. Reports were passed showing a steady increase in membership and funds. Mrs. Hardie and Miss Tem-perley read reports of the Albert Hall and Council meet-ners. Miss Freda Gillespie sang, and an impromptu whist irive, for which a prize was given by Mrs. Hardie, ended ware conceptly meeting.

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Scottish.

ABERDEEN.—The shop, opened at 474, Union Stre \mathcal{E} on April 15th, attracted crowds to its windows, and many enquirers find their way in, and go out the richer for pamphlets, leaflets and COMMON CAUSES. The sale for pamphlets, leaflets and Connox Causes. The sale of fancy goods and of sixpenny teas has paid about threequarters of the week's rent, but the stall badly needs replenishing. Will no English friends, with happy recollections of Highland holidays, or of Deeside and the Granite Gity, send offerings of "unconsidered trifles" for us to sell? Miss Foggo, on her round of calls, wins new members daily, and we hope to draw in more at our At Home on April 30th, when Miss Lumsden is to speak on "Chivalry," and I on the political situation.

ALICE CROMPTON. Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

BREAKING NEW GROUND. On the kind invitation of the Misses Shakespeare a very successful drawing-room meeting was held in TWIFORD, Hampshire, on the 15th. The Rector took the chair, and the address was given by Mrs. Lyall Dempster, Federation Organiser. Good propaganda work was done and members gained.

work was done and memotrs generating BOURNEMOUTH SOCIETY. Miss Margaret Robertson spoke to a large audience at the Princes Hall on the afternoon of April 19th. Her brilliant address was much appreciated. The Rev. J. G. Kelsall, Rector of Milton, presided.

Conference of Liberal Women's Associations,

The following resolution was, on the motion of The following resolution was, on the motion of Mrs. Price White, Bangor, seconded by Mrs. Phillips, Pennaenmawr, unanimously passed at a conference of the Liberal Women's Associations of North Wales, held last week at Bangor :--"That this conference desires to record its gratitude for the efforts made by Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey to advance the Parliamentary enfran-chisemant of women. and, while pledging itself to work

APRIL 25, 1012.

unremittingly for this much-needed reform, this con-ference of Liberal women urges members of the Weish Party to actively support an amendment to the Reform Bill, which will secure the enfranchisement of women upon a wide and democratic basis during the session 1912." In proposing the resolution, Mrs. Price White

priory read reports of the Albert Hall and Council meetings. Miss Freids (lifespie sang, and an improvide which a verse successful are report of the work of the are successful work. In February Miss Robb, and the Society is to hand, which gives evidence of the large amount of work that has been one meetings, at which eight members were enrolled as uffrequently organisations, and were subscription of work that has been one meetings, at which eight members were enrolled as uffrequently organisations. And urged the whole performance was a great success, both financially and in the impresent of work that has been were and the Area tenberg, and the whole performance was a great success, both financially and in the impresent and eard the Prese reported graphically.
To draft 20th the sunnal meeting was held at Whites fitter and work of the society overs a great debt to the consistent hard work of the oversurdened shoulders.
Nukarna de cond Robert Geell was the principal speaks, and in a treasure, this Lowe, of Haltwhiste, book and in his inimitable manner he laid before an enthus as in the financial work of the coversurdened shoulders.
Nukarna also spoke. The collection amounted to £13.
On March 25th Dr. Ethel Willnam was held railing to police than to control the Arms and work of the Frequency and Nave, K. G. E. March 28th and eard work and a differ the fride work and and in two hours cakes and candles had realises.
To ready, March 18th, andrew's Ward received a degine work, and a sufface resolution was cerred and the frequency of the first point of the strengt with interruption.
The charle if the ameeting was held for the impair was held for the impair was held to the intervention of the strengt was held to the frequency in the chail of a strengt was held to the frequency in the chail of a strengt was held to the frequency.
The constant and the other point was the principal speaks.
The constant work of the covershured shores with the strengt was held ton the belief in his "new religon" resists the fi assaults upon his belief which are made by wife's opposition and scepticism, but he succur to the subtler assault of Mammon, in the she of a millionaire who offers to endow a cathed and priesthood for the new religion with I three millions. We are led to suppose that, I himself, Trame would have been able to res himself, Trame would have been able to resust even this temptation, but there is his wife at his elbow, his wife who has become a sort of semi-convert and who uses her ingenuity to point out to him all the "good" he could do by renouncing his deepest convictions and founding afresh all that he most condemns. So, in a state of utter howildreared Trame gives in

bewilderment, Trame gives in. The real psychological difficulty is now evaded, for an interval of ten years stands between this and the final act, and we are shown none of the and the innal act, and we are shown hole of the steps by which Trame reconciles himself to the character he has been forced to adopt, so that in the last act he is the very thing against which he began by fighting. One can only suppose that a certain wordiness, a fondness for epigram and alliteration which are marked in Trame from the years fort given by the clue to the weak spot in alliteration which are marked in Trame from the very first give us the clue to the weak spot in his character which made him so easily played upon by the cunning, soft, weak woman, his wile. There is no great tragedy here; Stephen Trame is not a great prophet lost; he is not a deep thinker silenced. And what is Mary, his wile' She is the sort of woman who holds to her religion when it "comforts" her; who has only a momentary qualm at the deep dishonour of persuading her husband to sell his soul and accept money to propagate a religion she (at that time) persuading her husdand to see in sour and accept money to propagate a religion she (at that time believes impious; who becomes a convert when she sees the religion prospering and revert abjectly to the religion of "comfort" when she feels the need of it. A man who could let such a woman direct his course is not much of a prophet.

The two performances last week were very The two performances last week were very conscientiously carried out, and several of the minor and more comic parts were delightfully acted, especially the Bishop's wife, by that adorable actress, Mrs. Theodore Wright, and Trame's first disciple, the atheist farmer, by Mr. Horace Hodges. But Miss Adeline Bourne as the wife seemed to us to blow up the whole piece by her acting. It was very fine in a way, but it seemed as if her strong and independent character simply could not fit itself into the marrow confines of Mary Trame, and she presented her in tatters, picturesque and tragic, but her in tatters, picturesque and tragic, bu

The Pioneer Players.

The triple bill presented at the King's Hall, Covent Garden on the 21st by the Pioneer Players was an entirely delightful performance, and we can heartily recommend each of the play

APRIL 25, 1912.

performed. "Race Suicide," by H. Hamilton fyle, is a really funny little piece with three men and one woman discussing the subject of the itle; at least, the three men are supposed to be liscussing the formation of a society for the prevention of race suicide and the wife of one it them joins, uninvited, in the discussion of the natter, greatly to the scandalisation of the entemper who prefer keeping it to "general ter, greatly to the scandalisation of the tlemen, who prefer keeping it to "general neiples." It was capitally acted, Mr. Hubert ben again making a perfect vicar, and Miss ry Jerrold being admirable as the petulant

actical woman. The second piece, "The Surprise of His Life," The second piece, "The Surprise of His Livy Jess Dorynne showed three young women" whom had "been made an honest woman" by by of whom had "been made an honest woman" by the man who had betrayed her; another who was having the same privilege offered by her betrayer, for a consideration; and a third who thought she had a prior claim to the desirable gentleman. How the women in the end stick by each other and refuse the honour of any alliance with the man is well worked out, and the part of the econd girl was brilliantly played by Miss Auriol

Lee. A play called "Macrena," by Christopher St. John, was the third piece and it seemed to us quite the best thing Miss St. John has done. It was very well acted indeed, Mr. Clarence Derwent taking a new part at the last moment, and doing it remarkably well. The story is one of Russian persecution in the first half of the nineteenth century, but we are much mistaken if many of the points and some of the applause were not aimed at present happenings in England. The culminating horrors that are offered to Macrena and her nuns are that they should be thrown to the dissolute soldiers, and we cannot forget that when it was supposed public opinion would tolerate it, women in London were not protected by the police, but were actually hurled by the crowd. Miss Ellen O'Malley acted the part of Mother Superior with a beautiful cheerful-ness and serenity, and the other nuns were also excellently rendered by Miss Esme Hubbard, Miss Hilda Moore and Miss Gillian Scaife. All three plays are short and require few wormatios or scenery, and we recommend them to

Miss Hilda Moore and Miss Gillian Scatte. All three plays are short and require few properties or scenery, and we recommend them to Suffrage and other societies wishing to have dramatic entertainments. They should communi-cate with the Secretary, Pioneer Players, 31, Bedford Street, Strand.

Miss A. M. Royden on Joan of Arc.

Miss A. M. Royden gave a moving account of he life and death of Joan of Arc at a lecture or the Church League on April 17th at Caxton all. She held the view that Joan was "one of e sanest, wisest, most practical and level-aded of mystics," and she derided the theory M. Anatole France that Joan was under stly influence; to this and to the "scien-" hypothesis of hysteria she said there was M he" hypothesis of hysteria she said there was ally one objection—namely, that there was no idence for either. She believed not only that an possessed "almost hard common sense," it that she did have communion with the britual world. To Miss Royden it was "more say to swallow the religious gnat than the ientific camel," and she would have none of a theory which according denius with mad science camel, and she would have hole of the theory which associated genius with mad-ness, Shakespeare with the cretin, Joan of Arc with—one whose life is entirely governed by "physiological reverberations." In evi-dence of the remarkable healthiness of the Maid, the lecturer instanced that she easily bore the weight of mediæval armour and healed arvellously; that she had no egotism and owed shrewd sense and a sense of humour. he creation of an intense national feeling in rance was Joan's gift to her country; her will

A rance was Joan's gift to her country; her will for action was contrasted with the Dauphin's fondness for interminable councils. Miss Royden gave a thrilling picture of the Maid in prison, tortured and deserted, but always steady of nerve and ready of wit; of the dreadful episode of her pretended recanta-tion and of her marturdow. ion and of her martyrdom. As a passionate presentment of what made Joan of Arc one of the greatest people of whom we have any know-edge, the lecturer was most stimulating and convincing.



PAMPHLETS.

We have received THE WOMAN QUESTION, a sermon by the Rev. Lucking Tavener, preached in the Unitarian Church, Skene Street, Aberdeen. It was suggested by two little-known pictures by G. F. Watts and the monumental "She shall be

THE COMMON CAUSE.

called Woman," by the same painter. In it the author maintains that women representing motherhood and love is the highest creation, and should be given the utmost freedom to develop. THE SCHOOL AND THE HOME, by Marion Phillips, D.Sc. (Women's Labour League, 32 pp., 2d.) is an admirably compiled pamphlet showing what has been done and how much more remains to be done in co-ordinating and humanizing a really efficient health service for children. We are made vividly to realise the dreadful waste really efficient health service for children. We are made vividly to realise the dreadful waste even of the little that is done, by lack of co-ordination, and by the inhuman want of consider-ation for working women, who have often to neglect their homes or their wage-earning for the doubtful privilege of getting a medical opinion which cannot be carried out. When one thinks that all women can do is to *administer* laws which need such radical alteration before they can fit human needs, one does not wonder that which need such radical alteration before they can fit human needs, one does not wonder that women are sometimes a little discouraged with local government whose scope seems in these matters so often to be restricted to making

matters so often to be restricted to making reports and tables. We have received the ANNUAL REPORT of the MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. Dr. Drysdale is now the Hon. Secretary and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell the Hon. Political Secretary, while Mr. Brailsford edits the monthly journal. The report states that "Members of Parliament would not have ventured to recede from their pledges had there been adequate pressure from their electors," and appeals to the thousands of men who are in favour of women's enfranchise-ment to take a far more active part than they have done in influencing legislators. have done in influencing legislators.

TEACHERS AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. With regard to your paragraph under the above heading, and Miss Lawrence's letter on the same subject, may I point out that the decision of the National Union of Teachers that the Parliamentary Representation of Women is not a suitable subject for discussion at their Conference appears the more absurd when one considers the fact that every woman in that Union has to pay an annual subscription "for Parliamentary Purposes." It is quite clear to me that what is unsuitable for dis-cussion cannot be suitable for payment, and I shall no longer pay for Parliamentary Representation until such time as the law allows me to have it, or the N.U.T. makes some effort to obtain it for me. I intend to offer this year's subscription without the sum earmarked for Parliamentary purposes. If the N.U.T. refuses to accept the offer, I shall sever my connection with the Union, of which I have been a member for four-and-twenty Years. TEACHERS AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Union, of which a harder of suffragist members would If a sufficient number of suffragist members would do likewise I feel sure that the Union would awake to the fact that it has something to do with the politics for which its members are made to pay. ELLEN SPARKS.

19, Howard Street, Penrith. April 21st, 1912. THE BEST POLICY FOR PARTY WOMEN.

THE TEST POLICY FOR PATTY WORK. There have been good many references lately, in survival to the print of the same of the same of the same been are been as the same of the same been as the same

Letters to the Editor.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publi-cation, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column. Correspondents are requested to write ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY.

interested members to their own views-the uninterested



45

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THE COMMON CAUSE.

badge worn to show the cause of the resulting shabbi-ness of attire. She suggests that this would make all the Welsh drapers back Mr. Lloyd George in his efforts to get us the vote. Mrs. Little declares her intention of ordering "one last new frock," and then if a hundred ladies approve of her intention, of securing a badge. She adds that this need not prevent us from following Miss Maude Royden's idea, which she seems to think involves leaving one's home to live in another constituency.

[We refer to this letter in Notes and Comments.-

WAS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE A SUFFRAGIST ?

<text><text><text><text><text>

Our Advertisers. <text><text><text>

Other Societies.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY. The office is now open as usual on Tuesdays and Fridays from 5 to 6 p.m., or by appointment. Drawing-room meetings are now being arranged. Orders may be sent to the office for the splendid pamphlet by Mr. Clayton price 1d.; also leaflets at 12 a penny. These are very good for distribution among our Catholic friends who are still Antis.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The ACTRESSES FRANCHISE LEAGUE. The next At Home of the Actresses' Franchise League will be held in the Grand Hall of the Oriterion Restaurant on Friday, May 3rd, at 3 p.m. Madame Larkcom will be the hostess, and among the speakers will be Miss Abadam and Mr. Charles Lazenby.

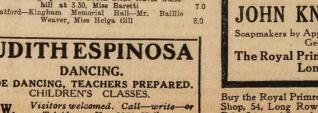
Forthcoming Meetings.

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.

(The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

8.0

APRIL 25. Knutsford-Town Hall-Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Miss I. O. Ford, F. S. Oppenheim, Eeq., M.A. (chair) Bath-Suffrage picnic to South Stoke leaves Guild-hill at 3.30, Miss Baretti Watford-Kingham Memorial Hall-Mr. Baillie Weaver, Miss Helga Gill



members who are most unlikely to go to a Suffrage meet-ing unless it is held by their own society? G. M. GEOBGE. MRS. ARCHIBALD LITTLE writes a long letter suggesting that a "no new frocks" pledge should be taken and a badge worn to show the cause of the resulting shabbi-dend of this should make all badge worn to show the cause of the resulting shabbi-Morrison, M.A., Dr. C. C. Burt (chair) 7.30 APRIL 26. Shanklin-Co-operative Hall-Miss Constance Aston, Miss N. O'Shea, Mrs. Russell Cooke (chair) 80 Purley-"Highwood," Peak's Hill-Mrs. Brailsford's drawing-room meeting-Miss Helen Ward, Miss M. A. Wallie (chair) Afternoon Berkhamsted-Mrs. Ferguson's drawing-room meet-ing for young people-Miss J. Hamilton Thomson, B.A. Afternoon Birmingham-Mrs. Graaville Bantock's drawing-room meeting-The Lady Isabel Mar-gesson, Rev. Gertrude von Petzold 4.0 Liverpool-Hope Hall, Hope Street-Joint meeting of W.L.F. and Liverpool W.S.S.-F. D. Acland, Eeq., M.P., Mrs. Philip Snowden, Mrs. Egerton Stewart-Brown (chair) 80 Bushey-Mrs. Green's drawing-room meeting-Miss Huddersfield-Ravensknowle, Dalton-Mrs. C. F.

APRIL 25, 1912.

Helga Gill Huddersfield-Ravensknowle, Dalton-Mrs. C. F. Sykes' drawing-room meeting-Miss Clarkson, Miss Siddon (chair)

(Cumberland)—Town Hall—Miss Margaret Robertson 7.30 Egremont

Wilmcote-Open-air meeting-Miss E. J. D. Morri-son, M.A., Miss Elizabeth Coyle (chair) 7.30



APRIL 25, 1912.

Brighton-Y.M.C.A. Hall, Old Steine-Brighton and Hove Committee "At Home"-Dr. Mary Thorne 4,45

MAY 1

MAY 2

3.0

Club 3.0 Swansca-Mrs. Lewis Lewis's drawing-room meet. ing-Miss Helen Fraser Afternoon Swansea-Minor Albert Hall-Lecture-Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Dillwy (chair) Evening Wallsend-Co-operative Hall-Mrs. Philip Snowden 7.30 Leighton Buzzard-Assembly Room-The Lady Frances Balfour, Dr. Pearson (chair) 8.0 MAT 3.

MAY 3. Stockton-on-Tees — Borough Hall — Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss Lucas Newcastle-on-Tyne — 27, Ridley Place — White Elephant tea and sale Newbridgo-Mrs. Atkinson's "At Home"—Miss Noel Wright 3.30 Wolverhampton-Mrs. Schofield's drawing-room meeting-Mrs. Timpany, B.A. MAY 6.

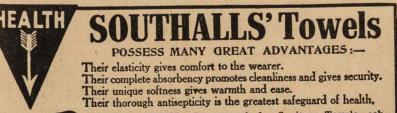
MAY 6. Nottingham—Office, 54, Long Row—Whist drive, admission 6d. Letchworth — Fir Croft — Speakers' Class — Mrs. Rackham 3.0 Letchworth—Odeey Schoolroom—Mrs. Rackham 7.0 Bristol—111a, Whiteladies' Road—"At Home"— MAX 7. Miss Helen Fraser 8.0

Miss Helen Fraser MAY 7. Huddersfield -- 60, West Parade -- Miss Harrop's drawing-room meeting--Miss Clarkson, Miss Siddon (chair) Birkenhead--Y.M.C.A. Hall--Miss Abadam, Miss Dora Mason, M.A., Councillor T. Raffies-Bulley, J.P. (chair) Newcastle-on-Tyne -- 27, Ridley Place -- Suffrage choir practice conducted by Mrs. Bellas Simpson

MAY 8. New Milton-Pagods Tea Rooms-Mrs. Rowe (Bournemouth) 4.30 Newcastle-on-Tyme-27, Ridley Place-Shop assis-tants' meeting 8.0 East Bristol.-Moorfields-Miss Helen Fraser Evening

LONDON. APRIL 25

ensington-55a, Bedford Gardens-Miss Deane and Miss Childers "At Home"-Debate-Mrs. Stanbury, Miss Sinclair 8.0



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THE COMMON CAUSE.

APRIL 28. Leyton-Essex Hall-Leyton and District Jewish Social Union - Debate - Mrs. Stan-bury, Mr. Liverman Mary Thorne4.45Bytoff "Barbert Half-Deytoff" and District Several
Dottingham-Gafe Orient-Miss C. Leadley Brown
APRIL 234.5Bottom Deytoff" and District Several
bury, Mr. Liverman8.0APRIL 23
Notingham-Gafe, 54, Long Row-"Home Lace
Workers "-Miss Peters (See, Women
Workers "-Miss France of Edvarsak, Miss Muriel
Matters7.0APRIL 23
Lighted -Invitation meeting--Miss
Areal 507.0Newell Hill-35, Leaside Avenue-Drawing-room
meeting--Miss Isabel Green3.0Lighted-Swan Hotel-Invitation meeting-Hits
Matters7.0No Kensington--32, Hyde Park Gardens-Mrs.
Franklin's meeting -- "Personal
Reminscences of Leo Tolstoi and
Alexandre Dumas Fils" - Prince
Bartinksy-Tickets 559.0Stab-Post Office Chambers, Northgate Street-
Annual meeting-Miss Tanner (chair)8.0N. Paddington-11, Lauderdale Parade, Maida
Vale - Social meeting - Miss Holen
Ward3.30Birmingham-43, Frederick Road, Edgbaston-Miss
Kirby's muscal" at Home "-Tickets day8.0N. Paddington-10, Miss Holen
Ward8.15Sadido-Tree Cedars "-Mrs, Strimutor's drug-
Data7.0N. Paddington-11, Lauderdale Parade, Maida
Vale - Social meeting - Miss Holen
Ward8.15 8.0

Kirby's musical "At Home - Hokets, 2s. Redditoh-"The Cedars"-Mrs. Shrimpton's draw-ing-room meeting-H.H. The Rance of "Sarawak, Miss Muriel Matters Norwich-Thatched Assembly Rooms--Annual meet-ing-Rev. J Glynn Edwards, Mrs. Stuart (chair) Dewsbury-Exchange Hall-"An Englishman's Home," "How the Vote was Won"-Address by Miss Clarkson Felinstowe-Spa Pavilion-Mrs. F. D. Acland, Mrs. Rackham, Lady Mary Cayley (chair) Coventry-Mrs. P. V. Vernon's "At Home"-Canon Masterman MAY 1

MAY 1 New Milton-Pagoda Tea Rooms-"W. S. and Social Reform "Miss Kemp Furner, A. W. Barker, Esq. (chair) Gateshead-Bewick Hall-Mrs. Philip Snowden Stafford-"Rotherwood "-Mrs. Joyce's drawing-room meeting-Miss Muriel Matters, Miss Noel Wright Aftern Eastleigh-Council Chamber-Mrs. R. Lyall Dempster, Lady Chance (chair) MAY 2

3.0

eamington-Birch's Music Rooms, Parade-Warwick and Leamington Franchise

MAY 3.

Terrace, Cambridge.

Debate-Mrs. Stanbury, Miss Sinclair 8.0 APRL 26. Wimbledon - Drawing-room meeting-Mrs. Henry Fawcett, R. F. Cholmely, Esq. Evening

Ward
 3.30 MAY 4. Norwood-Central Hill Hall-Women only-Miss
 3.0 Abadam
 3.0 Muswell Hill-The Exchange-Open-air meeting-Mr. Malcoln Mitchell Evening

3.0 Mawen Hill - Hold Exchange Optical Interview Mr. Malcoln Mitchell Evening MAY 6.
Clapham Road-Upper Schoolroom, Claylands Road — "Sons of Temperance" — Mrs.
Rogers 8.15
7.3 MAY 7.
S. Kensington — 36, Eardley Crescent, S.W. — Lecture, "Travels in the Gold Coast Colony" — Mrs. Mary Gaunt, tickets 28. 3.0
5.30 Blackheath — Blackheath Chambers—Annual meet-ing, 7.30. Social evening 8.0
Kensington—Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel — The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss 0.0. Corbett, B.A., Miss. M. Robert-son, B.A., Miss Helen Ward (chair) 3.30
MAY 8.

MAY 8. Ealing-Buol's Cafe Restaurant-Mrs. C. J. Hamil-ton, Prof. de Sumichrast 3.15

SCOTLAND.

 SCOTLAND.

 APRIL 26.
 Edinburgh-40.
 Shandwick Place-Public meeting
 4.30

 APRIL 27.
 Edinburgh-Bucclench St. Hall-Jumble sals
 2.30

 APRIL 30.
 Aberdoen-Central Hall-"A Home "--Miss L. I.
 1.

 Aberdoen-Central Hall-"UD Miss Alice
 1.
 1.
 Central Hall—"At Home"—Miss L. I. Lumsden, LL.D., Miss Alice Crompton, M.A. 7.45

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE

APRIL 28. Aberdeen-I.L.P., St. Nicholas St.-Miss Alice Crompton, M.A. 7.0

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