

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

THIRD YEAR No. 12.

AUGUST 15, 1909.

The Ladies—God bless 'em,  
So long as they 're quiet!  
Our offspring they dress e'm  
And 'tend to our diet.  
They train our young daughters  
And tutor our heirs—  
So what should they know  
About Public Affairs?

("Colliers Weekly".)



Abbate dunque la donna siccome  
compagna e partecipe, non solamente  
delle vostre gioie o dei vostri dolori,  
ma delle vostre aspirazioni, dei vostri  
pensieri, dei vostri pensieri, dei vostri  
studi e dei vostri tentativi di miglio-  
ramento sociale.

GIUSEPPE MAZZINI.

PRICE 2 DUTCH FLORINS PER YEAR.

## Announcements.

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

A similar Report of the Amsterdam Congress may be ordered from Miss Martina G. Kramers, 92, Kruiskade Rotterdam, for one shilling post-paid during the course of three months, after which time the remaining copies will be distributed to public libraries.

**Congresses.** On July 19th at the Second Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses in the Church House in London, the International Woman Suffrage Alliance was represented by its Vice-president, Mrs. M. Garrett Fawcett L.L.D., who made the following address:—

"Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and ladies, I consider it a great honour and pleasure to present to you the cordial greetings of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance. I believe, and the conviction is strengthened after listening to the thrilling reports which we have heard, that your aim is included in our aim, for you desire the elevation of the status of nurses—the best training and professional status; and what are we aiming at but at elevating the status of the whole of woman-kind throughout the world? To use a Stock Exchange expression, we are seeking to raise the stock of women to par. Here at present the stock is often below par, and we wish to raise it to par and even to a premium. When women workers have to appeal to the Government to enact legislation on their behalf, they find their lack of political influence and helplessness. For instance, your President has devoted a large

amount of time and talent to the question of the Registration of Nurses, but so far you have not been successful in attaining it. It took 12½ years to obtain the registration of midwives, because the House of Commons was taken up with the business of those who have votes. It is an immense disadvantage to women workers to have no vote, and women's suffrage is thus a practical question to which nurses should give time and thought."

Mrs. Fawcett concluded by expressing the hope that when the resolution on the agenda dealing with the women's suffrage was discussed, it would be carried by a very large majority, and prove that nurses stand side by side with other professional women on this question.

Miss J. C. van Lanschot Hubrecht (Holland) proposed and Baroness Mannerheim (Finland) seconded the following resolution, which was carried with practical unanimity:—

"The International Council of Trained Nurses offers its sincere and respectful congratulations to the women, and especially to the trained nurses, in those Countries and States in which they have been granted the rights of citizenship.

This Council is convinced that the possession of the Parliamentary Franchise, which places in the hands of women power and responsibility, will raise the standard of women's work, and, in consequence, increase the professional efficiency of Trained Nurses."

**Lecturers.** The Propaganda Committee of the National Council of German Women issues a list of 26 women lecturers who may be invited to give conferences on different subjects. We mention here the names and addresses of those who include woman suffrage in their list of subjects.

**Mrs. Dr. Altmann—Gottheiner**, 7 Rennershofstrasse, Mannheim.

**Mrs. Dr. Eliza Ichenhäuser**, 30 Bayrischer Platz, Berlin W.

**Mrs. Clara Lang**, Monbijou bei Zweibrücken i/Pfalz.

**Miss Maria Lischnewska**, 16 Martin Lutherstrasse, Berlin W.

**Miss Dr. Käthe Schirmacher**, Marlow i/Mecklenburg.

Mrs. Marie Wegner, 109 Kaiser Wilhelmstrasse, Breslau.

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Miss Rosika Schwimmer, Budapest VII, Istvanut 67, (see "Jus Suffragii", III page 10) is going on a lecturing tour in eastern and northwestern Germany, the Rhineland and the Netherlands from September to December. Those who wish to secure this eminent speaker should lose no time in inviting her.

*Literature.* The German W. S. A. distributes a leaflet for propaganda, which is a catechism of eighteen questions and answers all calculated to show women's disabilities and inferiority before the law, and the only remedy, which is "votes for women". The last question is: Who stands in Germany for women's political enfranchisement? and the answer is: The German Federation for W. S. unites and organizes all the women and men who endorse woman suffrage. Everyone who is convinced by the above statements of the justice of our claim should join the Federation.

A pamphlet "W. S. is a claim of justice, expediency and civilisation" to be ordered from Mrs. Winckler, Werben bei Cottbus, Spreewald, for 5 Mark per 100, gives motives why women should demand votes, and then urges wives, mothers and professional women of all classes to organize for this aim. The author shows clearly that the men-governed state gives all educational and other opportunities to boys in preference to girls, then points out that notwithstanding this the number of self-supporting women is fast increasing, and ends by advocating an equal moral standard for both sexes. Then follows a call to the women to join the G. W. S. A., which they can do by paying 2 Mk. annually at least and give their name and address to the Executive, 25 Paulstrasse, Hamburg. Post-cards with forms of declaration of membership are attached and the booklet has a beautiful coloured cover. It is dedicated to Anita Augspurg, the initiator of the suffrage movement in Germany by the author, Lida Gustava Heymann.

The Hungarian W. S. A. makes use for distribution of a leaflet on men's and women's rights compared, which they edited two years ago. It does still excellent work in awakening, even arousing, the women.

#### International Suffrage hymn.

##### Iru, Homfratinoj!

Iru, homfratinoj,  
Ĉiam al konker'!  
Post vi servutego  
Antau vi liber'.  
Levu la stendardon  
Je la sunmaten',  
Kontran maljustaj'o  
La batalo jen!

##### Rekantaj'o:

Iru, homfratinoj,  
Ĉiam al konker'!  
Post vi servutego  
Antau vi liber'.

Jen arme' virina  
Plena je esper';  
Vi mars'adas nune  
Sur heroa ter'.

Ne timug'u iel;  
En la lumon vi  
Iros el la nokto  
Kun rezoluci'.

##### Rekantaj'o:

De virinaj manoj  
Venas viv' kaj am';  
Devas vi respondi  
Al la g'oj proklam'.  
Levu vi la s'arg'on;  
Justo kaj junec'  
Estas via forto,  
Venkos la verec'.

##### Rekantaj'o:

CHARLES B. MABON.

We gratefully publish this Esperanto text as an encouragement to get other translations into the languages of each of our auxiliaries. Up to now we have not heard of any that have been made except into Dutch.

On the whole we are not sure that Zamenhof's Esperanto is the best international language. Probably its qualities are superseded by the Linguo Internaciona di la Deligitaro, sistemo ido, as advocated by Prof. Jespersen from Copenhagen.

*Musical competition.* For a new tune to our adopted international suffrage hymn, ten compositions from Great Britain and one suggestion from the Netherlands have been received up to the present moment.

Do not the composers of our other nations feel like trying their genius at a melody?

*Instruction to the Editor of "Jus Suffragii".* In its meeting on May 5th 1909 the Board of Officers of the I.W.S. Alliance have instructed Miss Kramers to give the preference to news sent by Auxiliaries, but if space permits she is authorized to use her own judgment as to the relative importance of other societies and countries.

#### Finland.

In addition to former proposals for new laws presented to previous Diets, which, we are sorry to say, have for the most part not yet been taken into consideration, this time the women M.P.s presented the following new proposals:—

To give an allowance from the state treasury to the co-educational school at St. Petersburg;

To introduce general compulsory education;

To promote speed in the introduction of laws on the legal status of the Jews, that they may get the right of sojourning in the country and obtaining citizenship;

To give instruction on the dangers of alcoholism to the inmates of the prisons;

For so-called trade workshops and contracts of professional education with state allowances for minors that have ended an ordinary school course;

For the transformation of the Justice Department in the Senate into a Superior Court;

For state subsidies in behalf of free kindergartens;

For the foundation of Asylums for Drunkards.

It will be evident from this enumeration that, in accordance with their previous action, the women have again, with few exceptions, kept to reforms of an ethical nature. That in our great political questions of the day they will agree with

the views of the different political parties, is highly probable. Presumably these questions will decide the particular nature of the present Diet. But it is hoped that some questions of high importance for women, especially the guardianship of the husband over his wife, will come to a solution this session. The opening of the Diet has been postponed until September 15th.

ANNA LUNDSTRÖM.

Helsingfors, July 13, 1909.

#### Great Britain.

The quarterly Council meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was held on July 6th in Nottingham, the report showing an accession to the strength of the National Union of 24 new societies. The National Union had worked at nine by-elections during the past half-year, and the electors' petitions were recognized as a valuable part of the propaganda work done by the Union. These had been signed by 15,643 electors. The organization work was being well prosecuted, and there are now divisional secretaries in over 100 constituencies. Mrs. F. T. Swanwick had been obliged to resign from the executive on account of her taking the editorship of "The Common Cause".

It was resolved that the Union should organize a deputation representative of women engaged in public, professional, industrial, political, and philanthropic work, and should request the Prime Minister to receive it, and that the members of the deputation should subsequently address a public meeting on the subject of the enfranchisement of women, and also that the Union should endeavour to secure an informal conference with Members of Parliament of all parties with a view to forming a strong and representative Parliamentary Committee for Women's Suffrage.

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The following resolution was passed at the Executive Committee, held on Thursday, July 15th, 1909, and was duly forwarded, with a covering letter, to Mr. Herbert Gladstone:—

"That the Executive Committee of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, while reiterating its adherence solely to legal and constitutional methods of work for the Enfranchisement of Women, protests against the punishment of women, who in the cause of a purely political agitation commit breaches of the law, by sending them to prison in the second class, when they refuse to pay fines, and forcing them to wear prison clothes. It urges that women committing such offences for political reasons should be treated as first class misdemeanants, and resolves to send this resolution to the Home Secretary to urge him to remove all such women prisoners into the first class, following the precedent set by the cases of Dr. Jameson, Mr. Stead, and Mr. Ginnell, M.P., in Ireland".

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The financial result of the Swimming Competition organized by Miss Rendel and Miss Costelloe was a net profit of £27 10s.

(from "The Common Cause").

The month of July has been one long series of striking and important events in the history of the Women's Social and Political Union. The cases of the 108 women arrested on June 29th came up again July 9th, but the day before that,

an event happened which proved, and which will prove of the utmost importance to the Women's movement. As I showed last month, Miss Wallace Dunlop had been sent to Holloway for one month's imprisonment for "malicious damage", i. e. for printing a clause from the Bill of Rights on the walls of the House of Commons. During the whole time that our campaign has lasted, the Women's Social and Political Union have protested against their prisoners being placed in any division other than the first, in which they are, as political prisoners, entitled to be placed. Miss Wallace Dunlop when she was sent to Holloway this time and found that she was not to be accorded the treatment given to political prisoners in any civilised country in the world, determined that some protest must be made. The form of protest that she adopted was the terrible "hunger strike" well known to the prisoners in Russia. This protest, which consists of refusing all food until the authorities make the desired concessions, is the most terrible it is possible for any prisoner to adopt, because it will only prove successful when the authorities realise that the prisoners mean to carry it through even to death itself. For four days Miss Wallace Dunlop refused to touch food with the result that at the end of that time an order was given for her release.

The following day, July 9th, was the adjourned hearing of the trial at Bow Street. The prisoners were defended by Lord Robert Cecil, son of the late Lord Salisbury, who enlarged on the legal point raised the previous week. His brilliant defence, however, produced no effect upon the sentences which were given, for Mrs. Pankhurst and her colleagues were sentenced to one month's imprisonment in the 2nd division, but the magistrate agreed to suspend the operation of their sentences until his decision should have been confirmed by a higher court.

The 14 women, who had been convicted of stone throwing, however, were ordered to appear in court. They received sentences varying from one month to six weeks imprisonment. When these women arrived in the prison they determined to do their part to carry the protest against the treatment of women political prisoners in England. They began by refusing to obey all prison regulations with the result that they were confined for several days to what is known as the punishment cells. They also broke many of the panes of windows in their own cells, partly as a protest and also in order to obtain fresh air. When placed in the punishment cells, the women saw that all their means of protest had been taken from them except the hunger strike, which they accordingly adopted. When the authorities found their prisoners were almost dying, they released them, and one by one the brave women regained their liberty. The reception they received at the hands of their fellow members on their release was overwhelming. Women were touched and moved by their heroic protest, and many who had hitherto not been in sympathy with the movement, were forced to realise that the women were in deadly earnest.

This "hunger strike" has taught the Women's Social and Political Union a very valuable lesson; it has taught them that they need no longer submit to imprisonment for a period exceeding a few days. The Government are in a dilemma, they have only three courses open to them. If they imprison women, they must either release them at the end of a few days or allow them to die in prison. If they do the former, then it means that women can carry on their militant tactics

with impunity at the gates of the House of Commons. If the women were to die in prison, then the Country would never forget it or forgive the Government who had allowed them to die. The third method with which to end this impasse is by giving votes to women, and this is what the Government is being forced to do.

The Secr. W. S. and P. U.  
London, Aug. 1909.

The painful and constitutional siege of the House of Commons by the **Women's Freedom League** still continues. Every day when the House sits, our members take up their stations outside each entrance, with colours conspicuously displayed and a petition in their hands: closely they scrutinize each in-going and out-coming member lest the Prime Minister should escape them. Every night, or more often in the early hours of the morning, members as they turn their faces homewards find the women still waiting at the gates. Nothing deters them from their dreary vigil, neither drenching rain nor scorching sun nor all night sittings—and in this last particular we have been most unfortunate.

Interesting and picturesque variations have been introduced into the personnel of the band of delegates at St. Stephen's. With the idea of impressing on the public the different classes of women who are demanding the vote, we sent down one night representatives of the sweated women workers; the following night these gave place to university graduates hooded, gowned and trenched, and this week a number of nurses in uniform have taken their part. The effect of this "silent siege" has been enormous: the current of popular sympathy has set in our favour; the boycott of the London press is breaking down, and in particular the "Daily News", the "Evening News" and the "Daily Chronicle" have come forward as our champions. Moreover in the House of Commons itself a tremendous amount of feeling has been aroused and many members, not remarkable for their suffragist sympathies, are saying that we have earned an interview with the Premier. Constant questions in the House have kept our cause well before the public.

Our constitutional right to be in wait for Mr. Asquith outside St. Stephen's has thus been tacitly admitted; but when we similarly picket Downing Street, arrest immediately follows. Ten of our members have been sent to Holloway for three weeks because they waited for the Prime Minister outside his official residence. In all cases the prisoners were released before the expiration of their sentences, Mr. Gladstone preferring to take this course rather than treat them as political prisoners and transfer them to the first division.  
London, Aug. 1900. MURIEL NELSON.

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The arrangements for publishing our new paper are well in hand. A company has been formed and a prospectus giving title and full particulars will be issued in a few days. This publishing of a paper specially our own is a step that will call for the fullest support from all members and friends of the Freedom League, but we are sure that it will prove a successful one. The paper will be a bond of union and interest between all members and a means of enlisting the support and sympathy of many who have not yet definitely joined our ranks.  
London, July 1909. MARION HOLMES.

MARION HOLMES.

96

## France.

L'Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes retardée dans son essor par une grave maladie de sa présidente, Mme J. E. Schmahl, n'avait guère pu jusqu'à présent que recruter des membres; les adhésions de femmes de valeur de toutes les classes de la société qui ne cessent de lui venir en font de jour en jour davantage un excellent instrument pour la campagne électorale de 1910. Bien que les vacances ne soient pas favorables à l'action, l'U. F. S. F. vient cependant d'organiser une enquête pour obtenir les opinions d'hommes éminents demandées au Congrès de Londres, par l'A. I. S. F. (Intern. Wom. Suffr. Alliance).

Elle a lancé un appel pour réunir le nombre d'abonnements nécessaires pour une édition française de "Jus Suffragii".

Elle a adressé au nouveau président du Conseil des Ministres, Monsr. Briand, une requête le priant d'inscrire le vote des femmes dans son programme gouvernemental.

Dès sa fondation l'U. F. S. F. a présenté à Monsr. F. Buisson, député de Paris, un voeu émis dans une réunion plénière, en faveur de la déposition d'un projet de loi destiné à accorder aux femmes le suffrage municipal et politique. Monsr. F. Buisson, depuis longtemps acquis à cette réforme, vient, en sa qualité de rapporteur de la commission de la Chambre des Députés, de déposer son rapport, en tous points favorable au projet de Monsieur Dussaussoy, (recemment décédé), demandant pour les femmes le droit de vote aux élections des conseils municipaux, aux conseils d'arrondissements et aux conseils généraux.

Le rapport de Monsieur F. Buisson élargit ce projet, en demandant non seulement le vote mais l'éligibilité des femmes. On peut espérer qu'il sera discuté à la rentrée des Chambres, en octobre-novembre.

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D'autre part des démarches sont faites par "La Française" et le syndicat des caissières comptables, employées aux usitures pour qu'un siège soit créé à l'intention des employées au Conseil Supérieur du Travail. Les ouvrières y sont représentées par Mlle. Blondelu. Les femmes employées, moins nombreuses que les hommes, n'y pourraient guère encore avoir d'élue si une place ne leur est spécialement destinée. Les hommes n'en ayant que deux, elles demandent, pour qu'il ne leur soit rien enlevé, qu'on en crée une troisième. Le Ministre du Travail, M. Viviani, semble favorable.

JANE MISMÉ.

Secrétaire Générale de l'U. F. S. F.

Deputy Ferdinand Buisson presented again on July 16th the late Mr. Dussaussoy's law-project on women's municipal enfranchisement; amending it however by adding eligibility to the vote.

M. G. K.

## Norway.

I am sorry to say that the Law on separate prohibition of women's work during the night, was carried by 16 to 15 votes in the Lagting.

Now we rely upon the Odelsting and hope that it will defend its standpoint and keep to the decision of the 23rd June. The law will then probably not be carried finally.

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The Socialist party here in Kristiania has nominated a woman, Fru Marie Aslaksrud, as their candidate for the Storting. We have what we call "enkeltmandskredse", that means that the town is divided into districts, and every political party in the 5 districts has to nominate one candidate. Fru Marie Aslaksrud is the first woman nominated for the Storting.

In the same district where her nomination took place the Socialists have also nominated a woman alternate.

FR. MÖRCK.

Kristiania, 29th July.

The prohibitionists and the anti-prohibitionists of women's night-work are waging an ardent strife both in Odelsting and Lagting; indeed their numbers of votes come close upon each other in the two legislative bodies. The Lagting, which discussed the question on July 19, was inundated with petitions, the Socialists and Radicals claiming abolition of women's work during night-hours and the women's associations demanding equality of legislation for men and women. The latter reminded the M.P.'s of the resolutions of the women printers, the factory-girls and the Kvindesaksforening; and a new feature was the following memorial addressed to the Lagting by Dr. Dagny Bang and eleven other women physicians from Kristiania who have their patients chiefly among the working classes: "To the Lagting: We are aware that an agitation is being carried on to obtain the Lagting's endorsement for a clause in the Factory Law containing special restrictions on women's work, which has been rejected by the Odelsting. We the undersigned women physicians beg to declare our conviction that separate factory-laws for women—except when they become mothers—are not called for and their practical effect is detrimental to the women themselves. We therefore respectfully urge the Lagting to adopt the law on this point as modified by the Odelsting."

Yet the Lagting adopted the law as framed by the Committee (i. e. with the so-called "protective" clause for women) although by the smallest possible majority; and so, in case the Odelsting sticks to its former decision the bill has to come back to the Lagting once more. Then, if the two parts of the Storting do not agree, the bill has to be discussed *in plenum* by the whole Storting, where a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority is required for its adoption. So the fate of the bill is very uncertain still.

M. G. K.

## Iceland.

The interests of Iceland, that has home-rule since many years, are represented in the Danish cabinet by a minister, who has to know the Icelandic language (which is so difficult that with this understanding only an Icelander can fill the office) and who must have his chief residence in Iceland. At the same time that high official has at home about the same power as a president of a republic.

In the Althing that held its sessions in Reykjavik in the later part of February, its president, Mr. Björn Jónsson, spoke in favor of women's suffrage. He wished that the revised constitution might enfranchise the women of Iceland completely. He added, that he intended to offer a proposal for revision in that direction, as soon as the planned new constitution was to be discussed. He himself, a man of past 70, had always had the

firm conviction, that women ought to have the same rights as men. Against the objection of Mr. Hafstein, the minister, that the women of Iceland are not yet quite ripe to enjoy political rights and that they had better receive them gradually, he replied, that there was no fear, that the revision of the constitution should be achieved so very soon.

About a month after the Althing was closed, Mr. Björn Jónsson became Iceland's minister, instead of Mr. Hafstein.

All members of the committee for the revision of the constitution are said to be unanimous in their intention to give women the same rights as men. But the project for revision, when shall it be ready?

The Icelandic Women's Union, thinking the uncertainty about the opinion of the greater part of the M.P.'s most hurtful to their progress, arranged a private meeting, soon after the Althing was over, to which the M.P.'s for the country-districts were invited to explain their views on the enfranchisement of women the committee of the Union in Reykjavik. Many of them came and those of the conservative minority said that women's suffrage is to be dealt with in 1911 together with the revision of the constitution. Those of the progress-party, the majority, were very prudent in their expressions concerning the certainty whether this revision will be in order in 1911 or not.

Many of the M.P.'s chiefly the newly-elected ones, consider Iceland's complete independence from Denmark as the only important issue at stake; they may obtain it now by a majority and it may be understood that they do not wish to run the risk of losing their seats by a dissolution of Parliament for the sake of revision of the constitution.

On the other hand, Mr. Björn Jónsson said in the last Althing, when he was still its president, that revision of the constitution will be in order in 1911, in the next session.

Let us hope that he did not say it only "pro forma".

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The General Synod of Icelandic Clergymen, presided by the bishop of Iceland, assembled the 2nd of July in Thingvellir (the valley of Parliament, where for many centuries the Icelandic parliament held its sessions in the open air). The following motion was adopted:

"The synod attests its full approbation of the claims of women for equal political rights with men". Since many years the women of Iceland have the vote for the church affairs on the same terms as men.

E. V. D. HOEVEN.

Alkmaar, Aug. 1909.

## Germany.

On July 14 the **German Federation for Woman Suffrage** sent a petition to the Federal Council (Bundesrat) of the German Empire, in which they requested the Council to institute throughout the Empire the 18th of January as a Memorial Day to commemorate in the schools the anniversary of the foundation of the Empire, requesting on the other hand that the Council shall induce the school authorities no longer to celebrate so-called Sedan-day on the 2nd September. In case the Council considers the latter request to lie outside of its competence, the G.F.W.S. asks that at least

97

the annual celebration of January 18th be encouraged in all educational institutions. The motives for this request are of a humanitarian and of a political nature, since military glory is less important than the founding of a state, and the friendly relations with France should not be troubled. The petitioners trust that in this matter the feelings and the judgment of women have a right to be consulted, and that they are competent to express these.

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The Managing Committee of the German Parliament (Reichstagsdirektion) declared the petition of the G.W.S.A., in which an addition was requested to § 1 of the Electoral Law making it clear beyond all doubt that women should be qualified to be electors on the same conditions as men, out of order, as the session is now closed. On Febr. 19th 1908 the Committee on Petitions (Petitions-kommission) had *unanimously* decided *without discussion* to rule this request out of order, but on Nov. 4 1908 an M.P. had amended the Committee's decision by entrusting the petition to the Chancellor for consideration.

The same fate was shared by a petition of the Prussian W.S.A. for the introduction of universal, secret, direct suffrage for men and women in Prussia. The Diet (Abgeordnetenhaus) endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Petitions and refused to consider the request, disregarding the protests made by a Progressist and a Socialist.

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The Württemberg Local Council of Women, at the instigation of the N.W.S.A., petitioned the Diet to cancel the clause in the Employment Bill which makes all appointments of married women in state service unstable and retractable in quadrennial periods. In the Explanatory Remarks attention is drawn to the repeated prolonged absence of men state employees in case of election as members of Parliament or Diet, which is never alleged as a motive for loss of employment, besides advancing other well-known reasons derived from the good of the community.

(from „Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht“, Aug. 1909.)

Der Schlesische Verein für Frauenstimmrecht wurde am 10 Juni 1908 in Breslau gegründet. Er zählt 200 Mitglieder.

Der Verein besteht zur Zeit aus drei Stimmrechtsgruppen: Breslau, Liegnitz, Görlitz und den Einzelmitgliedern in dreizehn verschiedenen Orten. In Breslau bestand schon vor der Gründung des „Schlesischen Vereins für Frauenstimmrecht“ eine Gruppe für Frauenstimmrecht innerhalb des Vereins „Frauenwohl“.

In Liegnitz hatte der „Deutsche Verband für Frauenstimmrecht“ Einzelmitglieder, die sich, sobald das neue Vereinsrecht gesichert schien, mehrere Monate vor der Gründung des Schlesischen Vereins für Frauenstimmrecht zu einer selbständigen Gruppe zusammenschlossen. Der Anschluss an den „Deutschen Verband“, den die Gruppe Liegnitz warm befürwortete, liess sich unter den augenblicklichen Verhältnissen nicht ermöglichen.

Die auf der I. Hauptversammlung in Görlitz noch einmal durchberathenen Satzungen versendet auf Wunsch die Vorsitzende,

ELSA HIELSCHER,  
(Schlesien.) Panten bei Liegnitz.

## Hungary.

Our summer campaign is a busy and varied one. In the end of June we arranged a boat excursion. We hired a big steamer which was decorated with an illumined legend in enormous letters: „Valasztójacot a nőnek“ (votes for women). Many hundreds of our friends took part in the cruise, which, along the beautiful banks of our capital, excited a great deal of curiosity and interest. On board the guests were entertained with a mock election and some other pieces of propaganda.

At present we are also doing active work in watering places and summer resorts not only distributing literature and leaflets, but if possible also holding meetings. In those places where foreign visitors are staying, we also give lectures in German, e.g. in Pistyán, Frencsén, Teplitz etc., and we hope to be of service in this way to our sisters abroad.

Besides posters and votes-for-women-stamps, we find illustrated post-cards very useful. The British Artists' League kindly permitted us to edit some of their designs with a Hungarian text.

Our latest leaflet, containing 31 answers to the question why women should have votes, has a brilliant success. All newspapers reprinted it entire, the opponents added their comments. Some papers replied by giving 31 „reasons why women should have no votes“. The 31 answers however contained but one idea, viz. that politics and maternity were incompatible, a precious argument which we daresay is pretty well known to our fellow-workers abroad.

A remarkable event was the invitation from the Temesvar Socialdemocratic Secretariate sent to a speaker on women suffrage, for a suffrage meeting arranged at Temesvar by the S.D. Party. For fear of the consequences of such insubordination towards the National Executive of the Party, this transaction was afterwards explained as if the Temesvar Branch had not actually „invited“ the suffragist to speak, but as if she had offered to speak of her own accord and they had simply acceded to the request. I only mention this case to give an illustration of the spirit which pervades the Socialdemocratic Party.

In the course of August another series of summer resorts is to be visited and meetings held there. On the 14th we hold a meeting of members and a reception in honor of our Dutch fellow-worker, Dr. Aletta Jacobs, who is having a holiday in the Hungarian mountains at Tatralomnicz.

Budapest, August 1909. ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

## Servia.

The Servian Woman Suffrage Society has made great progress during the few months, since the society has been organized, and the press pays much more attention now than formerly, and sometimes devotes long articles to our movement.

The Report of the fifth International Conference has been translated into Servian, and at a meeting of our own members and others who are interested in the world's progress the audience will be informed of the state of the feminist movement in different countries. The meeting is to take place in the autumn, because just now is the dead season in Belgrade, and we hope that we will find a great deal of sympathy among our public and especially among the women who will give us their support. The organisation has aroused a great interest

and has gained supporters among men politicians. Some members of Parliament sympathise with political equality and have promised to support our petition.

ELLEN S. LOSANITCH,  
Belgrade, July 26, 1909. Secretary S. W. S. S.

## Sweden.

Hardly anything can be said of the suffrage movement here during July. At the end of June and the beginning of July the liberal party held a series of summer meetings, mostly in open air, and at one of them Miss Sigrid Kruse, president of the Karlskrona branch spoke of our cause. Also the Social-Democratic Women's Clubs from the south of Sweden had their annual summer meeting at Malmö, and one evening was given to the suffrage, Mr. Aug Nilsson, M. P. speaking.

But beside this, as far as I know, nothing at all has been done. Since the movement started I have not known a month of July to have been so void of interest as this one. But to be sure, if we need a special excuse for this inactivity, heaven has given it to us: the whole month has been rainy and the evening temperature about 10–12° C., which surely is not inviting for open air meetings.

As to the Government's new investigation concerning the effect of woman suffrage in the countries, where it has been introduced, we hope that the political organizations of women in Australia and the suffrage states of America will see to it, that the choice of literature as well as the statistics brought forward be as complete as possible; of course it is of the greatest importance to us, that the effects of woman suffrage in those countries where it exists long enough to give any results shall be clearly and comprehensively stated. The more thoroughly the investigation is made, the more good will come of it to our cause.

LUND, Aug. 3 1909. ANNA B. WICKSELL.

## Italy.

At the July meeting of the Turin Committee for Woman Suffrage the Hon. Sec., Teresa Moglia, presented a complete and detailed report on the Committee's work during the period from June 1907 to June 1909, rejoicing in the success obtained and the headway made by the suffrage cause during that time, and expressing her wish that the day might not be far distant when the desired reform shall have enfranchised all women. Her report was unanimously approved.

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The Turin Committee is actively trying to institute Sub-Committees in the towns of Piemont, and on July 4th it sent a delegation to the meeting called by the Teachers' Association of the neighbouring town of Asti in order to discuss desirable reforms in the position of teachers. Several speakers treated this subject, bitterly criticising the carelessness of the Government in this respect. Prof. Zanzi declared in favour of votes for women especially for women teachers. After the official speakers, Miss Emilia Mariani, President of the Turin Committee for Woman Suffrage and herself a teacher, made a powerful speech, addressing her colleagues in particular and urging them to take an interest in the vote, the only weapon which constitutes a direct means of defence of

their own interests. Then Miss Teresa Moglia, in behalf of the Committee, gave enthusiastic greetings, exhorting all the Piemontese women to unite with those of Turin in order to make our just claims more efficient and worthy of our noble aim. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

„That the Italian teachers assembled at Asti demand that all the powers of the nation shall be given scope by the immediate granting to duly qualified women of equal civil and political rights with men, and that they claim those educational reforms which may soon make every inhabitant of the kingdom a true Italian citizen“.

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Very important was the audience granted by the Prime Minister Giolitti to the whole Executive of the Roman Comm. for Woman Suffrage, which resulted in a promise on the Premier's side to take part in the discussions when the question would come up in the Chamber of Deputies. The Executive represents the class of the working women, that of the women employees, that of the professional women and that of the peasant women.

On the same day as our above-mentioned meeting, July 2nd, the Roman Committee had called an important gathering, to which it had invited for the occasion the most prominent political men. Several M. P.s attended the meeting, to which all progressive political parties had sent their representatives. The daily papers agreed, says the „Alleanza“, in describing the gathering as a brilliant one. The Hon. Sec. of the Roman Committee, Miss Troise gave a splendid review of the women's movement within the last quinquennium. The „Alleanza“ reports that the following resolution was carried with great enthusiasm:—

„That this General Meeting, renewing its claim that political rights should be granted to all women and approving the reports given, urges the political parties here represented to help the National Committee (N. W. S. A.) in the agitation which it is about to begin for the obtention of the vote“.

Turin, July 30. TERESA MOGLIA.

Since Febr. 21 there exists in Milan a Lombardian Committee for Woman Suffrage, whose President is Mrs. Virginia Treves Tedeschi. Its aim is to work for the recognition of the women's right to a vote in commercial, political and municipal matters on the same conditions as men have it, and to educate women to exercise this right.

(„l'Alleanza“).

## Denmark.

The Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret held its annual congress in Vejle, Jutland on the 10th and 11th of July this year. About 200 delegates and other members were met. A resolution was carried, in which was expressed the hope, that in the next session of the Rigsdag the Government would amend the constitution so as to give the same political rights of voting and eligibility to women as to men.

A proposal to send in a request for affiliation to the I. W. S. Alliance was unanimously adopted. The president Mrs. Rambusch and the vice-president Mrs. Elna Munch were chosen as representatives of the Landsforbund in a national committee, which is to consist of members of the society already affiliated and of members of the second society that wants to be so, according

to the Constitution adopted by the I. W. S. All. at the London congress.

To awaken the interest of women in wider circles, the Landsforbund has edited a booklet, "Women's Birth-Day Book", like the one, which has been prepared by the Highgate Branch of the London Society for Woman Suffrage. This book contains quotations (translated into Danish) from celebrated foreign authors and leaders of the movement together with a number of sentences written for this occasion by Danish women and men—authors, politicians and others, who wanted to show their sympathy with the cause. The booklet was sold in large numbers at the Vejle congress. On the second day a public meeting was held, at which about a thousand people were present. Speakers were Mrs. Elna Munch, Mrs. Johanne Rambusch and Mr. Jeppe Aakjar, one of the best known Danish authors, who has written a most beautiful Women Suffrage Song, which he presented to the Landsforbund.  
Ringsted, August 1909.

CLINNY DREYER.

### Spain.

Our Spanish co-worker Miss Sarda sends an ably written pamphlet on the legal condition of women by Dr. R. M. de Labra. After a comparison of the status of married women in other countries with that of Spain, the author gives a review of the different bills on woman suffrage introduced into the Cortes (Parliament) and states the non-party character of the measure. He concludes by pointing out that the different economical conditions in which modern women live are inconsistent with a continuation of the *status quo* of her legal status.

M. G. K.

### Australia.

On May 17 at Adelaide there was an Inter-State Congress of Workers among Dependent Children. Miss Spence advocated the boarding-out system with proper control. She mentioned that in each State of Australia there was a branch of a Government department which was responsible for all the children of the State, stating that this example was often quoted by countries where women were not yet recognized as citizens. Dean Latham of Perth and some others advocated the system of institutions. Miss Vida Goldstein from Victoria pointed to the desirability of a boarding institution for young people who had already taken up positions.

Is not such Government care of poor children in this equal suffrage Commonwealth an incentive to other nations for enfranchising the mothers?

M. G. K.

### United States.

The National Suffrage Convention just held at Seattle proved to be one of the most interesting in our history. There were good audiences, encouraging reports from the different standing and special committees, and a great deal of eloquent speaking, which was received with enthusiastic applause. When the Treasurer asked for pledges for the year, more than three thousand dollars was secured.

The National Woman Suffrage Association elected the following officers: President, Rev. Anna H. Shaw, Moylan, Pa.; corresponding secretary, Prof. Frances Squire Potter; treasurer, Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, O.

One of the most important decisions reached

at Seattle was to move the National Headquarters from Warren, Ohio, to New York City. The new arrangement will enable the National Association to secure Mrs. Ida H. Harper as National Press Chairman and editor of Progress, and to engage her whole time. The work of the National Treasurer will continue to be done at Warren, O. The rest of the manifold activities of Headquarters will be moved to New York.

A disagreement which had been growing among the Washington suffragists came to a head just before our convention, and the Seattle papers devoted much more space to this local discussion than they did to the proceedings of the National Convention. This disagreement had arisen between the Spokane delegation and the Washington state delegation. A motion was made that neither of the contesting delegations should be seated. An amendment was offered and adopted, that both of them should be seated and given the courtesies of the floor, but without a vote. The press reports of a disorderly scene in the National Convention were wholly baseless. The vote was taken in an almost painful silence.

The Suffrage Day at the Alaska-Pacific-Yukon Exposition was greatly enjoyed. In the morning, on arriving at the Exposition, we found above the gate a big banner with the inscription "Woman Suffrage Day". The day closed with a splendid dinner given by the Washington State Association. Other social features of the Convention were a reception and special church services, which were much appreciated by the numerous delegates.

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The Connecticut State Senate has passed a bill giving women the franchise in municipal elections. It may not become a law, but even the passage of such a bill by one branch of the Legislature of that conservative old State has a significant look.  
(from "The Woman's Journal".)

The American Suffragette, official organ of the National Progressive Woman Suffrage Union of New York City, made its initial appearance in June.

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Latest and perhaps most significant of all developments of the present "suffrage wave" is the rise of the Voters Woman Suffrage League, composed entirely of men, in New York City. George Foster Peabody, the eminent philanthropist, has consented to act as president of the new league, and Max Eastman, a fellow of philosophy at Columbia, and a contributor to the Atlantic Monthly and the North American Review, is acting as secretary.

The League has no intention of holding meetings, circulating literature, or doing any active work of that kind at first. It simply desires to announce publicly that its members stand for the enfranchisement of women. Those interested in the movement believe that this will have an effect upon two classes: those who regard woman suffrage as a cause for mirth, and those who are moved only by opinions which have ballots behind them. Members will also hold themselves ready to give advisory aid to the women's suffrage associations when it is desired, and to appear at legislative hearings and other occasions when their presence is desirable. One task, however, the League contemplates when it shall be thoroughly organized: the republication of the writings of John Stuart Mill on the rights of women, a peculiarly suitable task for a men's suffrage league.

(from "Progress".)