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PROGRAMME

Of the meeting of the Board of Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance and Presidents of the Affiliated Societies in London, July, 1914.

MONDAY, JULY 6.—8 p.m. Lady Brassey's reception at 24, Park Lane, under the auspices of the Women's Tax Resistance League.

TUESDAY, JULY 7.—4 to 6 p.m. Reception by the Countess of Selborne, President of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, at 32, Sloane Gardens, S.W., the house of Mrs. Gilbert Samuel, hon. secretary of the C. and U.W.F.A. The guests will be received by the Countess of Selborne and Winifred Countess of Arran. Lady Betty Balfour will speak.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8.—10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Meeting of the Board of Officers at the Headquarters of the I.W.S.A., 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C. 9.30 p.m. Informal reception by Mrs. Stanton Coit, 30, Hyde Park Gate, S.W., to officers and national presidents or proxies.

THURSDAY, JULY 9.—10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2.30 to 5 p.m. Joint meeting of Board of Officers and national Presidents or their proxies.

5 p.m. Tea given by Miss Balfour, 4, Carlton Gardens, S.W.

8.30—11 p.m. Reception by the Woman Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Entertainment by the Actresses' Franchise League.

FRIDAY, JULY 10.—10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Meeting of the Board of Officers at Headquarters.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. National Presidents or proxies visit the offices of the chief Suffrage Societies.

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Meeting at the International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W., at which representatives of the chief Suffrage Societies explain their policies (private).

SATURDAY, JULY 11.—Morning free.

4 p.m. Reception by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., 2, Gower Street, W.C., to Officers, National Presidents, and Honorary Associate Members.

SUNDAY, JULY 12.—Motor excursion to Reigate, Surrey. Leave London 11.30 a.m.; return 7 p.m. Lunch and tea at Mrs. Auerbach's, Hethersett, Reigate.

MONDAY, JULY 13.—4 p.m. Reception at International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.

TUESDAY, JULY 14.—The delegates will be received at the House of Commons by—

(a) The Joint Committee for Woman Suffrage.

(b) The Unionist Committee for Woman Suffrage.

(c) The Liberal Committee for Woman Suffrage.

(d) The Labour Committee for Woman Suffrage.

NOTE.—Arrangements are being made by Suffragists in the House of Lords for the Officers and delegates to hear a debate.

NOTES.

As we go to press, a telegram has been received from Denmark stating that the indirect election has given results favourable to Women Suffrage, and that the final election will take place on July 10.

Miss Paula Pogány writes to ask that anyone possessing surplus copies of the Hungarian Congress stamp will send them to her.

Jus Suffragii. Many annual subscriptions are now due, and the remainder will be due in August or September. Will readers of *Jus Suffragii* kindly renew their subscription before going away for their summer holiday?

The Swedish authoress, Selma Lagerlof, who got the Nobel prize in literature five years ago, has been made a member of the Swedish Academy. It is the first time a woman has received this honour, and the more remarkable as the Swedish Academy has always been considered one of the most conservative institutions in the country. Moreover, the number of members is limited to 18, which makes the honour all the greater.

The Conference on July 9th of the new Woman Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, will, it is hoped, mark a step in the linking up of the women's political organisations, not only of the British Empire, but of the world. Sir John Cockburn presides at the afternoon meeting, which will be addressed by well-known leaders in the English Suffrage struggle. The evening reception is convened to meet the President and officers of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance. The warm desire of the promoters of the new Union is to strengthen the work of the great International body by the closer union of the women in the different parts of the British Empire.

Turkish University Open to Women.

The Imperial University in Stamboul, the Dar-ul-Fuome, has recently opened its doors to women, and already 200 have been in attendance. The lectures to which women are admitted are separate from those of the men, and include the subjects of pedagogy, hygiene, domestic economy, science, the "rights of women," and history. The medical school is not yet open to women, but the need of the secluded woman, who is not allowed to receive a visit from a male doctor, is so great that this restriction will probably soon be removed.

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MRS. CATT'S SPEECH TO THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS IN CHICAGO.

Mrs. Chapman Catt addressed the Biennial Convention of Women's Clubs on June 12th on "The World Progress of Women." The entire audience rose to greet her. The following extract from her speech is given by the *Christian Science Monitor*:

"Marvellous have been many of the developments of the history of the uprising of woman, and yet the great mass of women to-day are seemingly immovable. Wherever there has been progress at all in the world, there has been a woman who has seen a vision.

"Women are not in rebellion against men. They are in rebellion against worn-out traditions, and against superstitious relics of bygone ages. It is a battle between the men and women who have seen the vision and those who have not.

"It is a marvellous thing to see how this movement has come up among all people. Usually movements are confined to one people, but the woman movement is world-wide. Before there were steamships and telegraphs and railroads, two wonderful women were born, one an American prophetess—Susan B. Anthony, the other a Persian woman. One was born in the Christian West, the other in the heathen East. One came from among a people who made their boasts of being the most generous to their women in the world. The other arose in the world's most conservative country.

WORK OF TWO WOMEN.

"The Persian woman was of a noble family. In early youth there came to her a vision which made her arise, burst through the throng of traditions which had bound her, and go out with a message of freedom, to take off the veil from the face of the women in Persia.

"She spoke to the people, and the mob went away saying there was much truth in what she said. The priests sought to confuse her. She knew her Koran better than they. But in the fateful year 1848, while still in her youth, beauty, and strength, she was struck down by an assassin in order that the movement for women might come to an end.

"The vision did not come to Susan B. Anthony until three years later, but when it came she followed it, and the vision was the same as that which had come to the Persian woman. In India, soon after, there arose a new sect founded upon the equality of the rights of women and of men—the leaven which is bound to leaven the whole lump of ignorance and superstition.

"A little later in a country which had closed her doors to the outer world there arose a woman who seated herself on the throne. There never was then a more marvellous woman than the Empress of China, notwithstanding her lack of many ideals of ours."

"When the Chinese Republic was established, it was women equally with men who were elected to the Assembly. Those men and women are now refugees, but in their breasts is planted a vision which will compel them to arise.

"How can you account for this marvellous uprising on the same dates in different parts of the world? I do not think that we of the Western world have any right to claim the woman movement as our own—it is a world movement. No race and no nation can rise higher than its motherhood. There had come a time when greater things were to be accomplished by the human race, and the women must be freed from their shackles. In Persia the spirit of that woman of one hundred years ago has never been forgotten.

"Because of the industrial and social conditions affecting women, whole races have failed in time past in action. It is no longer a question of right for women to have a vote—it is the question of duty, duty of motherhood to take care of the race."

DIARY OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT.

Day.	Year.	Country.	JULY.
1.	1776.	France.	Birthday of Sophie Gay, author "Léonie de Montbreuse," etc.
2.	1804.	France.	Birthday of Georges Sand, novelist.
3.	1642.	France.	Death of Marie de Médicis, built the Luxembourg, etc.
5.	1510.	France.	Death of Catharina Cornaro, warrior-heroine, patroness of Letters.
5.	1904.	France.	Death of Marie Laurent, artist, tragédienne, reformer.
6.	1819.	France.	Death of Mme. Blanchard, celebrated aeronaut.
7.	—.	Great Britain.	Mrs. Creighton born.
10.	1321.	France.	Death of Marie de Brabant, protector of troubadours.
12.	1536.	Holland.	Death of Erasmus, philosopher and feminist.
12.	1733.	France.	Mme. de Lambert, author of "Reflections on Woman."
12.	—.	Great Britain.	Birthday of Harriet Martineau, author.
12.	1910.	Great Britain.	First Conciliation Bill (for Women's Suffrage) passed second reading by majority of 110.
13.	1645.	France.	Death of Mlle. de Gournay, author of "Equality of Men and Women."
13.	1793.	France.	Death of Marat, leader and reformer, feminist.
13.	1859.	France.	Death of Aug. Duchemin, decorated for military feats.
14.	1817.	France.	Death of Mme. de Staël, author "Corinne," "Delphine," etc.
17.	1869.	Great Britain.	First public meeting for Woman Suffrage, in London—18,500 pamphlets circulated by London Society.
18.	1817.	Great Britain.	Death of Jane Austen, author, novelist.
18.	1890.	Great Britain.	Death of Miss Lydia Becker at Genoa.
22.	1804.	France.	Birthday of Victor Schoelcher, anti-slavery agitator and feminist.
23.	1757.	France.	Birthday of Marie Schellinck, heroic sub-lieutenant.
23.	1859.	France.	Death of Mme. Desbordes Valmore, author of "Élégies et Romances, Idylles."
24.	1819.	France.	Death of Mme. Gail, celebrated musical composer.
24.	1912.	Great Britain.	Death of Miss Emma Cons, age 75 years, Alderman on first London County Council.
25.	1858.	Great Britain.	Wife sold by her husband at Thirsk.
26.	1684.	Italy.	Death of Lucrece, learned Venetian woman, doctor of arts.
26.	1858.	Great Britain.	George Bernard Shaw born.
27.	1768.	France.	Birthday of Charlotte Corday.
28.	1824.	France.	Birthday of Alexander Dumas, fils, celebrated author.
30.	1827.	France.	Death of Mme. Guizot, author of celebrated works on Education.
31.	1867.	U.S.A.	Death of Maria Sedgwick, author.
31.	1878.	France.	Death of Mme. Pape-Carpentier, writer on Pedagogy.
1893.	France.	Death of Victor Considérant, philosopher and feminist.	
1908.	Great Britain.	Formation National League for Opposing Women Suffrage, under the leadership of Mrs. Humphrey Ward.	
1813.	Finland.	Birthday of Sophia M. Palin (now oldest woman voter in Europe).	

WHAT WOMEN WANT.

Suffragists are perpetually confronted with the question, "How do your needs and aspirations differ from men's, and why shouldn't they represent you?" Women have for many generations been so secluded in their own homes, so cut off from all possibility of comparing their experiences and taking corporate action, that it is only slowly that they are working out schemes of reforms, which often differ from or are opposed to men's. If we examine these differences of opinion and feeling we find that women are above all concerned with the health and happiness of human beings, whereas men are apt to overlook the human factor and to concentrate on the production and protection of wealth, or of established institutions. It used to be freely prophesied that women would be the great conservatives, and would instinctively oppose innovations, but the boldness with which they propose new and far-reaching reforms is evidence of a progressive spirit unfettered by convention or tradition. In England the Women's Co-operative Guild is the one great organisation of married working women, numbering 32,000, working for the most part in their own homes as wives and mothers. These women constitute a great league of consumers who are also producers, and they have distinguished themselves as employers of female labour by introducing a minimum wage scale far in advance of the only other minimum wage—viz., that put forward by the Government in its Trades Boards Act.

The co-operative women succeeded in securing the adoption of a minimum wage of five shillings for girls of 14, rising by two shillings a year to 17 shillings at 20 years of age, and no future minimum wage scale can ignore the standard thus set; 12,000 women and girls are now receiving it. At their recent Congress in Birmingham in June, the women attacked other burning problems in the same determined spirit. They have taken up the teaching of sex hygiene, and arranged for teachers' classes; an active campaign has been carried out for systematic and adequate maternity benefit, not doled out to the chosen by the Insurance Act, but extended to all who need it, and on an adequate scale. [The W.C.G. was instrumental in abolishing the ridiculous Government regulation, whereby the insurance maternity grant was paid to the father!] A deputation on the subject was received by Mr. Herbert Samuel, President of the Local Government Board, and the scheme attracted great attention in the Press. The present campaign aims at a truly national scheme under the Public Health authorities. It advocates the establishment of maternity centres under the local authorities, where help and advice could be obtained; that the Government should make a money grant to defray the expense; and that midwives should be appointed by the municipalities.

Another difficult problem shirked by our male legislators has been boldly faced by the women. Divorce Law Reform has been recommended by the Royal Commission appointed to investigate the marriage laws, but men are too indifferent or too timid to attack the problem. For four years the co-operative women have been studying and discussing the question and pressing for reform. Working women in England undoubtedly suffer terribly from the difficulties of getting release from a wretched marriage, and they also realise the bad effects on the children of home life where the parents are only kept together by compulsion. They therefore supported the Report of the Royal Commission, which recommended that divorce should be granted for adultery, bigamy, cruelty, desertion (after four years), drunkenness, and commuted death sentence, that all the grounds should be the same for men and women, and that the cost should be reduced so as to be within reach of the poor. To these recommendations the women added divorce by mutual consent after two years, and the appointment of women assessors, "believing that these reforms are necessary in order to safeguard the sanctity of marriage, the self-respect of women, the highest interests of men and women alike, the rights of children, and as conducing to morality and respect for the law."

This manifesto coming from 30,000 or 40,000 married working women startled many people, who had looked on them as bulwarks of things as they are, and steps were taken by a group of Catholics to counteract their activity. The Women's Co-operative Guild, which has been largely responsible for the spread and success of co-operation, receives a little of its own back again in the shape of an annual grant of £400 from the Co-operative Union. The Catholic Federation sent a deputation to the Board objecting to the women's support of

divorce law reform, and the Board (which consists of men only), without receiving any deputation from the women, sent them an ultimatum that they must either drop divorce law reform, and in future confine themselves to a policy approved by the Board, or the grant of £400 would be withdrawn. This ultimatum was discussed at the Congress in Birmingham at which 900 delegates were present, and the women unanimously and indignantly rejected the terms offered, and chose independence rather than sell their liberty.

Again, we see men supporting women's activity only so long as it conforms to their wishes, but woe to women who claim liberty to think and act for themselves!

Other reforms advocated at the Congress concern the health and education of children, and here again the women show a more progressive spirit than the men of their own class. A Bill has been recently introduced by Mr. Denman into Parliament for (1) the abolition of half-time (the system in force in Lancashire by which children spend half-time at school and half-time in the factory), and the raising of the age for school attendance to 15.

This Bill was dropped owing to the opposition of members representing Lancashire. The women, who included about 200 delegates from Lancashire, passed a resolution supporting the abolition of half-time. Finally, a resolution demanding the Parliamentary and municipal Suffrage for adult women was passed, and called on all guildswomen only to support candidates at election who were pledged to this reform, for, as the mover of the resolution said: "It is no good asking for all these reforms unless at the same time we ask for the vote."

M. SHEEPSHANKS.

THE SUFFRAGE MEETING IN ROME, MAY 15, 1914.

This great international demonstration in favour of Woman Suffrage may without exaggeration be called epoch making. For the first time Rome was the scene of a huge and enthusiastic meeting, demanding equal political rights for women, and so great and triumphant was its success that it cannot but greatly influence the progress of the women's movement in Italy. The meeting was organised by the Italian Woman Suffrage Federation, and the credit for its success is due to the Roman Committee, and particularly to the devoted and untiring labours of Professor Anita Dobelli-Zampetti. The arrangements could not have been better, and are the more to be praised as there was no precedent for such an imposing demonstration, and the organisers had no previous experience of anything on a similar scale. The I.W.S.A. was consulted beforehand, and Miss Macmillan and myself, who were in Rome, were able to assist in the arrangements. The National Theatre, the largest and most important in Rome, was taken, and some concern was felt lest the audience should look small and insignificant in such a great building. There was, however, a keen demand for tickets, so that although, owing to police regulations, no one was admitted without a ticket, the public poured in long before the appointed hour, and the difficulty was to find room for all those eager to be present. The whole parterre was set apart for members of Parliament and politicians on one side, and delegates and members of the International Council of Women on the other side. The first balcony or circle was reserved for various public bodies and eminent individuals. The remaining four circles were for the general public who had taken tickets. It was not anticipated that more than one or two circles would be filled, and it was prophesied that in accordance with Italian habits half the public would arrive late and the other half would leave early. All these prognostications were falsified by the event. The crowds that thronged the theatre could not be seated. By the time fixed for beginning the meeting every seat was filled from floor to ceiling, every scrap of standing room was filled, and dozens of people were turned away. The stage was occupied by the Executive Committee of the Italian Federation, Mrs. Lollini, Miss Romelia Troise, Miss Lavinia Holl, the speakers, members of the I.C.W., and others, among whom were: Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon (Great Britain), Vice-president of the I.C.W., Baroness von Funk (Germany), Mrs. Baer Stein, Dr. Tarugi (Milan), Miss Chrystal Macmillan (Great Britain), Mrs. Daisy Minor (Austria), Miss Gina Krog (Norway), Miss Honegger (Switzerland), Mrs. Forchammer (Denmark), Mrs. Chabanoff, Mrs. Miliukov, Mrs. Biske (Russia), Mrs. Hallsten (Finland), and many more. As seen from the stage the theatre presented a most imposing spectacle, the whole auditorium being packed

with an eager and attentive throng, who followed the speeches with keen interest and intelligence, and applauded enthusiastically the points made by the speakers.

Mme. de Witt Schlumberger presided, and in her opening remarks explained the objects of the meeting and the constitution of the I.W.S.A. Professor Dobelli-Zampetti followed, and welcomed the meeting on behalf of the Italian Federation, giving an account of "who we are, and what we want." The Rev. Anna Shaw then made an eloquent oration on "The Basis of Woman's Suffrage," giving the broad human principles on which rests representative government for either sex, and evoking the enthusiasm habitual when a great theme is greatly treated. [The Italian public had been interested in Dr. Shaw's work and personality by a very sympathetic interview with her which appeared, with her portrait, in the *Tribuna* the previous day.] Miss Vilma Glücklich, of Hungary, was the next speaker, and delighted her audience by addressing them in Italian as well as by her interesting exposition of the connection of Woman Suffrage with the problem of education. Mrs. Creighton, President of the British National Council of Women, followed, and gave as her reason "why women wish the vote" the desire to serve the community. Unfortunately, her speech was interrupted and disorder created by a few militant Suffragists. Frau Regina Deutsch, of Germany, devoted her speech to the economic problem; and Maitre Marie Vérone to the moral problem, including the traffic in women and equal moral standard, and also the "peace movement." Her eloquent speech met with a mixed reception, some passages being loudly applauded, whilst her attack on armaments met with opposition from some of the men present. Fru Anker, of Norway, speaking in Italian, gave a brief but effective account of the effects of Woman Suffrage in Norway, and a final summing up of all the arguments was given by Prof. Teresa Labriola. The entire audience remained to the end of the proceedings, and showed by its attention and applause the deep impression produced by the speakers.

Full and fair reports were given in the Press, together with caricatures of the speakers! A most important result and indication of the effect produced is the fact that a group of members of Parliament present at the meeting agreed to take joint action in support of a Woman's Suffrage Bill. With this meeting, therefore, a new era for Woman's Suffrage opens in Italy.

M. SHEEPSHANKS.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

DENMARK

"LANDSFORBUNDET FOR KVINDERS VALGRET." VICTORY DELAYED.

The women of Denmark are certainly having their patience put to a test.

We thought the day was near to gain our victory, but no, it has all been changed, so that now matters are all unsettled, and we cannot say what will happen next.

The Conservative party in the Upper House have tried an entirely new manoeuvre.

For many years this party has had the majority in the Upper House, and for the first time for these many years the Liberal parties got a majority of one vote at the beginning of this year.

The day the new Election Bill had to be voted in the Upper House there was a majority for it, but when the House was going to vote for the passing to the third reading, all the Conservative members rose and took their leave, with the result that the House was not able to vote for want of a quorum.

A few days later the Upper House had to deal with the Constitutional Reform Bill. On that day the Conservative members did not meet at all, so that although there was a majority for the Bill it could not be passed.

A few days after, the Government dissolved the Upper House, and ordered re-elections for it.

The enfranchisement of women depends on the result of this re-election.

The election will be finished by July 10th, and then Parliament is meeting again, so the result will not be known until the end of July.

The annual meeting of the "Landsforbund for Kvinders Valgret," which was fixed for the 4th and 5th July, has now been postponed until the autumn, as we should not like to hold that meeting before we have got the vote.

Copenhagen, 19th June, 1914.

ELNA MUNCH.

On the 10th and 11th of June, 1914, a meeting was held in Copenhagen under the presidency of "Dansk Kvindesamfund," and it was visited by delegates from all the Northern countries—Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, and Denmark.

Women of the North have often felt the want of a closer connection, and Danish women felt it particularly when they in 1913 had to decide upon some most important questions in the proposal for a civil law to be introduced in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark.

The Chairman of the Government Committee that considered this question on behalf of Denmark asked for the help of Danish women, and it was in this most important and interesting work that we so much would have appreciated to hear what Swedish and Norwegian women were thinking about the proposals before us.

We tried at once to get a meeting arranged, but time was too short; we did not get the meeting in 1913, but we did indeed in 1914, and a most successful meeting it was!

On the programme was, first of all, Marriage and Divorce, parents' relation to and right over the children; and last, not least, the financial arrangements between married people.

On the first day in the evening we had a marvellous and crowded meeting for Women's Suffrage, where the famous Professor Harald Høffding, president of the Danish Men's League, was the first speaker, and most able woman speakers from all the other countries followed him.

In the same evening the whole Congress, about 1,200, were received by the Board of Municipality, who gave a splendid festival at the beautiful Town Hall buildings.

On the second day the question about the laws for protecting children was on the programme for the morning; and in the afternoon the topic, "Special Laws for Women," called forward a series of most effective and sincere and logical speeches.

All the speakers protested against any kind of law that would decrease the possibility for women of earning their own livelihood just on the same terms as men are able to earn their living.

The second day ended in a festival at the seaside place, Skodsborg; and on the third day a small number of delegates discussed the possibility of a steady co-operation between women of the Northern countries. This most interesting and important discussion took place at Marienlyst, another famous beautiful seaside place on the Sound.

The delegates had been taken to Marienlyst in private motor-cars belonging to members of the Danish Royal Motor Club, and with the beautiful view of the old Danish castle, "Kronborg" (in the cellar of which our national hero, Holger Danske, is said to "sleep"), women of the North exchanged pledges of future co-operation and comradeship, and we all felt the solemnity of the occasion and the responsibility that we placed upon ourselves; but we also felt most deeply the joy of living in a time in which it was the women that took the lead and tightened the links of the chain.

The next women's meeting will probably be held in Stockholm (1916), and in 1918 Finland has invited the Northern Women's Congress to take place in Helsingfors. Both invitations were received with enthusiasm by the delegates.

A sort of Executive meeting to decide upon the outline of future work, etc., will take place in Copenhagen before or after the Berlin Congress in 1915.

A report of the meeting will be published in some few weeks, and I do wish that all the members of the International Alliance were able to read the Scandinavian languages and enjoy the speeches—so instructive and full of spirit, so promising for the future. It is at meetings like this that one's heart fills with joy over belonging to a movement that can—and does—set parties aside and go forward for the cause only.

We had the pleasure of seeing Miss Annie Furuhjelm, from Finland, the second Vice-president in the Alliance, as the official delegate from this body, and her greeting on the "Suffrage evening" was received with applause, and so were telegrams from Headquarters, and from many good friends all the world over, to whom we hereby repeat our very best thanks.

It was a disappointment to the Congress that just before our meeting the amendment of the Danish Constitution was blocked by the Conservatives in the Upper House, and the enfranchisement of our women thereby delayed. We thought that we were justified in being convinced that we should meet our guests as political citizens, but, of course, one ought never to believe in things that are subject to party politics. To-day the election of the voters that again have to elect the members

of the coming Upper House is taking place, and if the democratic parties get the majority, things will probably progress rather quickly; if not, Danish Suffragists can take their holidays without scruple—we shall again be waiting and looking on.

TH. DAUGAARD.

Copenhagen, June 29th, 1914.

FRANCE.

At the request of the Union Française pour le Suffrage des femmes, supported by some other Suffrage societies, Monsieur Justin Godart, Deputy of the Rhone and Vice-president of the Chamber of Deputies, on June 15 demanded that the Chamber should take up the Buisson Report. This proposal was supported by 236 deputies, and it was voted *nem. con.* that the new Legislature should consider the Report.

This marks a success for the Suffragists already while waiting for the discussion, which cannot probably take place before the autumn.

On June 23 a group of deputies was formed in the Chamber, called "For Women's Rights," with Mr. Justin Godart as president, and vice-presidents Messieurs Andrieux, Louis Marin, Manger, Siegfried, representing different political opinions.

DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER.

Paris, June 27.

GALICIA.

POLISH WOMEN CLAIM THE MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE.

On the 16th May, 1914, the Polish Committee organised a great meeting in favour of municipal Suffrage and eligibility.

The Municipal Council of Lemberg will probably be obliged to revise the electoral law under pressure of the Democratic party on the council. For that reason we considered it a favourable opportunity to claim Suffrage for women.

We invited to the meeting all the municipal councillors, members of Parliament and of the Diet who live in Lemberg, all the women's societies, and editors of papers.

The audience was large and enthusiastic, and for the greater part drawn from the Democratic and Socialist party.

Three members of Parliament, five municipal councillors, two editors, attended the meeting. As usual, women formed the greater part of the audience. Mme. Dekanska and Mme. Berson were greatly applauded, and after them the municipal councillor, Dr. Dwernicki, the lawyer, made an eloquent speech setting forth the great services that women can render in municipal affairs.

A keen discussion followed, the lion's share in which was taken by members of Parliament and municipal councillors. The following resolution, proposed by the President, was carried unanimously: "Considering that social justice demands that rights shall correspond with duties, women who fulfil all social duties, working, and paying taxes, demand the right to take a share in municipal government equally with men. Women demand a democratic franchise for municipal councils, which should include all citizens, men or women."

It is difficult to say to-day what the influence will be of this meeting on the course of our affairs; but one thing is certain, and that is that it was a most effective piece of propaganda. It is good that people who only sympathise with our movement should hear that not only women desire their emancipation, but that there are men profoundly convinced of the social necessity of women's enfranchisement and co-operation in public life.

EDVIGE TOMICKA, President.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

The anxiety recently expressed in several organs of the Government concerning the National Union's election policy is a gratifying tribute to its effectiveness. The *Westminster Gazette*, which is considered to be more particularly the organ of the Prime Minister's section of the Coalition, devoted a whole column to scolding us for opposing the kind of men who have been "supporters" of Women's Suffrage for the whole of their lives, but who are prepared to support through thick and thin a Government which does not think it worth while to keep its word to the women. The *Westminster Gazette*, however, declared that our election policy is "much more annoying to the Government than any of the activities of the militant organisations, and this will greatly help to stiffen the real friends of Women's Suffrage in prosecuting the policy."

While the Home Rule Bill is still awaiting its fate in the House of Lords, the Government has introduced a Bill to "amend" it. Irishwomen have been pleading with Mr. Redmond to allow the enfranchisement of Irishwomen to be included in this Amending Bill, and he has replied with the transparent evasion that Ireland should decide for herself whether she wants women enfranchised. Mr. Redmond's impudent claim that he is entitled to hold up Women's Suffrage in Ireland on the plea of Irish nationality (have Irishwomen no nationality?), and that he is also entitled to defeat Women's Suffrage in Great Britain—where, according to him, he is only a foreigner,—is not likely to endear his views to really democratic people anywhere.

On June 20th Mr. Asquith received a deputation of East End women, who laid before him the crying needs of the poorest. This concession was the direct outcome of the expressed determination of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst to die of hunger and thirst unless he yielded. She had just been released from prison under what is known as the "Cat and Mouse Act," because she would have died if they had tried to keep her any longer. She was carried to the House of Commons and laid on the pavement outside, whence she refused to go until he consented to receive her friends. He found what they had to say instructive and moving, and remarked with regard to Women's Suffrage, "If the change has got to come we must face it boldly, and give it on a thoroughly democratic basis." Why the leader of a so-called democratic party should wait until a girl nearly dies before he will receive a deputation of women suffering from cruel and wicked social conditions is a question one must leave to party politicians to explain. Meanwhile, women of all classes are indignant at the "Status of Aliens Bill" which makes it impossible for a woman who marries a foreigner to keep or acquire British nationality. Other Bills which are making women remember their helpless position very bitterly are the Bishop of London's Bill to raise the age of consent for girls from 16 to 18, and introduce other reforms necessary for their protection; the Half-Timers' Bill to put a stop to the overworking of school children; the Pure Milk Bill.

All women are being made to pay for the militant outrages, while men who have provoked them are exempt. The British Museum, for instance, is closed to all women except those who get a special ticket beforehand. There has been a disgraceful outburst of incitement to lynch law in the Press. One paper called *The People* urges that "it is time the people themselves took these women in hand, and dealt with them vigorously," while the *Evening Standard* recommends that people should "be agreed to jeer, pelt, beat, and otherwise maltreat" militant Suffragists. A certain number of blackguardly people have amused themselves by following this advice, and, of course, as the mob never troubles to discriminate, but will attack any person who cannot defend herself or himself against numbers, we have had the edifying spectacle of perfectly harmless women savaged by well-dressed young men. The Press, even when it does not directly incite to brutality, makes excuse for it, and while giving the utmost publicity to every sort of outrage, Suffragette and Anti-Suffragette, fails to inform the public of the immense amount of steady work being done by Suffragists. We are not proud of our British civilisation just now, and we do not wonder that foreigners who see only London are disgusted at the tone there. But even in London the disorders are scum on the surface of things and in the country, especially in the North where the newspapers are far better, we get a juster impression of the great force of the Suffrage movement. Our work is in the country: it is made effective at elections.

H. M. S.

HUNGARY.

There has been reference to the revival of the Suffrage League in our last report. This has led to the formation of a new political party, the Radical Bourgeois Party, which has Women Suffrage on its platform. At the constituent meeting of the party, the leader and president, Dr. Oscar Jászi, put forward a programme which included a great part of our claims, political, economic, and social. This fact is of great importance to our movement, as we hope that the other political parties comprehending the necessity of winning the sympathies of such a well-organised body as the Feminists' Association before general elections, when every party looks round for allies and helpers, will compete to win over the women to their side.

As we must and will remain non-partisan, we have sent our delegates, and where they failed to find the leaders of the

parties, sent messages to ask the parties again to endorse Woman Suffrage. The leader of the Democratic party, Mr. Vázsonyi, professed, as he had before, to be in favour of Woman Suffrage, and declared that the claim of Woman Suffrage is on his party's programme since 1900, which we were pleased to hear. We always know Dr. Vázsonyi to be an adherent to our movement, but saw that his partisans were not all convinced of the practicability of his claims concerning Woman Suffrage, and that he always was only too ready to drop the question when found in the least inconvenient or troublesome. We hope that this attitude will change in future.

Dr. Giesswein, our venerated friend and staunch supporter of Woman Suffrage, as president of the Christian Socialist Party, promised to consider with his party which are the common claims of this and of the new Radical Bourgeois Party, and will mention among these Woman Suffrage.

We have not had time to get the answers of the other parties yet. Meanwhile we are beginning our organisation for the elections which are to be next year, and have already strong political centres about the whole country and promises of support from Freemasonic lodges and local branches of different political parties, so that we feel that we are indeed a welcome and considerable help to any candidate at the elections. At our headquarters we have a map of Hungary dotted with little flags showing all the places where we have local branches or members. This map will appear as an illustration in our official paper, and we hope to make splendid propaganda with it.

EUGENIE MISKELCZY MELLER.

Budapest, June 12th, 1914.

THE NETHERLANDS.

"VEREENIGING VOOR VROUWENKIESRECHT."

June has been a lively month for the Suffragists of the Netherlands. On Sunday, June 14th, the "Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht" held at the same time six open-air meetings in six different parts of the country to preach the principle of Woman Suffrage and also our new device, "Constitutional Equality for Men and Women." Large preparations were made to make those meetings a success for our cause, and days before all the daily papers, the big ones and the local ones, gave articles about Woman Suffrage and our methods of propaganda.

The different meeting-places were carefully selected from the most picturesque parts of our country, and where we had to ask permission from a landlord or landlady to use their wood for our purpose, it was always most courteously granted.

The members of each of our 140 branches could attend the meeting nearest to their residence, and many of them formed groups to go together by private trams, steamers, on bicycles, or by train to the nearest meeting-place. All the meeting-goers were decorated with a broad white satin ribbon, on which was printed "Vrouwenkiesrecht" (Woman Suffrage), or "Grondwettelijke gelijkstelling van man en vrouw" (Constitutional equality for men and women), so that the crowds in the streets knew for what reason those women had gathered. As soon as they had arrived in the town or village where the meeting was to be held, the members of the different branches together in carriages richly decorated with our colours made a tour through the neighbourhood and invited the inhabitants to come that afternoon to our meeting. At each meeting were six or seven speakers. A musical band and a choir for our Suffrage songs kept the people in good humour.

Just as at our demonstration in Amsterdam, in all the different places where the meetings were held the man in the street showed the greatest sympathy with our movement, and everywhere only words of appreciation, encouragement, or esteem were heard. The most beautiful weather helped to bring thousands of people to our meetings, and it was a pleasure to observe the faces of so many peasants and working-men and women when they visibly agreed with the speaker. They all were willing to sign our petition for constitutional equality, and we got the impression, if the introduction of Woman Suffrage in our country should depend upon the votes of the people, instead of the votes of the members of Parliament, in no time all the women of the country would be enfranchised.

Our papers gave the following days long and good reports of the different meetings, and our different supporters in long Press articles praised the sympathetic and womanly way in which we propagate the Suffrage cause in Holland.

We are now preparing our annual summer meeting, which

will this year take place on July 19 in Deventer, a prettily situated country town in the midst of our country.

DR. ALETTA H. JACOBS, President.

UNITED STATES.

WOMEN'S CLUBS FOR SUFFRAGE.

We have great reason for rejoicing over the two Suffrage victories in the United States last week. The first was the endorsement of equal Suffrage by the Federation of Women's Clubs. The delegates to the Federation Convention, which was held in Chicago, represented 5,000 small clubs, with about 1,500,000 members. The Federation has, up to this year, taken no action on the Suffrage question, although many State Federations had previously endorsed it. The Press of the United States has appeared to recognise fully the importance of the action of the Federation, which represents the most conservative, as well as the most progressive women of the country. The fact that the convention was held in Chicago was a strong factor in securing this favourable Suffrage action. The enthusiasm and determination of the newly enfranchised women of Illinois made a deep impression on the delegates from all of the non-Suffrage States.

THE ILLINOIS WOMEN VOTERS.

A few hours after the vote of the Federation, Suffragists throughout the country were delighted to hear of the favourable decision of the Illinois Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the partial Suffrage Bill passed just a year before. This Bill, it will be remembered, gave the Illinois women a vote on all officers and questions not provided for in the State Constitution. They have already voted in large numbers at a number of municipal elections. This decision probably means that Suffragists in other States will try to secure a vote on presidential electors by an Act of the State Legislature. It is claimed that this will be possible in any State, although there are only a few States (notably, New Hampshire and Vermont) where the municipal franchise also could be secured, as in Illinois.

THE SUMMER CAMPAIGN.

The coming of warm weather has not meant the lessening of Suffrage activities. On June 27th Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Miss Jane Addams, and Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, president and vice-presidents respectively of the National Association, will go to Washington to present resolutions to Congress. The resolutions which will be presented will differ from others that have been taken to the capitol in that they call upon Congress to do that which is most effective for equal Suffrage instead of urging any particular measure. It has been arranged for Vice-president Marshall and Champ Clark, speaker of the House, together with a committee from Congress, to receive the Suffragists.

Active out-door work is going on in almost every State, but especially in the five campaign States—Montana, Nevada, North and South Dakota. Suffragists are finding the Chautauquas a splendid field for propaganda work. Mrs. Robert La Follette, wife of Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, will take the Suffrage side in sixty-five debates on sixty-five successive evenings against Miss Lucy Price, an Anti-Suffragist. They will make Chautauqua speeches in four States—namely, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. The Chautauqua is a truly American institution. It consists of a succession of lectures, classes, debates, etc., widely attended by the people of the county or State. It is usually held in a large tent and lasts a week, with a different programme every day.

The Anti-Suffragists have, as usual, become active in the campaign States. In one State they are arguing that women should not vote because Woman Suffrage would mean prohibition, and that would mean destruction of the business of the State. In another campaign State they are insisting that women should not vote because women who have been enfranchised have done nothing for prohibition—that instead they have worked for a more liberal sale of liquor. And so it goes. In Montana, it is said the most important business interest of the State is fighting the Suffrage amendment. It is also said that the wife of one of the officials of this company recently spent an afternoon driving to the houses of the employees of the company and persuading the wives to sign Anti-Suffrage pledges. Everywhere the Anti-Suffragists are resorting to the Feminism and Socialism bogies. They cannot connect the Suffrage movement with either Feminism or Socialism, but they seem to think that joining the words in the same sentence is enough to frighten the voters.

ELINOR BYRNS, Press Chairman.

June 19th, 1914.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES NOT AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

During the last few months our work has increased rapidly. Three new organisers have been appointed, and we find we could do with double and treble that number if only we had sufficient funds in hand. Branches have quite recently been started in Bangor and Ebbw Vale by Miss H. G. Davies, our organiser in Wales; in Scarborough and Leeds by Miss E. Rogers, our Northern organiser; and in Norwood and Muswell Hill by keen London members and friends. If all this can be done in such a short time by so few workers, it only shows what lies before us, as we are able to cover the ground more effectually.

The chief event in London last month was the demonstration in Hyde Park of the United Religious Leagues for Women's Suffrage on June 18th, when five platforms were occupied—namely:

- (1) The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.
- (2) The Church League for Women's Suffrage.
- (3) Free Church League for Women's Suffrage.
- (4) Friends' League for Women's Suffrage.
- (5) Jewish League for Women's Suffrage.

At each platform an interested and sympathetic crowd gathered, and the resolution calling upon the Government to extend the Parliamentary franchise to women in "the interests of justice, morality, and religion" was passed practically unanimously, only one or two hands being held up "against."

Previous to the demonstration, the C.L.W.S. organised a procession from the Embankment to Hyde Park, and in spite of a few dismal prognostications that it would be "broken up" by the crowd, it was a tremendous success, much interest and sympathy being shown all along the route, and we hear from onlookers in the Park what an impression it made as we came up, headed by our processional cross, the bands playing well-known hymns, and our banners and bannerettes fluttering gaily in the breeze.

The success of this has taught us the need there is for the Religious Leagues to come out into the open far more than they have ever done before.

Our monthly paper has had a record sale largely owing to the fact that we published *verbatim* the magnificent speech made by the Bishop of London in the House of Lords on Lord Selborne's Bill for the Enfranchisement of Women. We shall shortly have this speech out in pamphlet form. The Bishop of Kensington's pamphlet ("The Moral Issues Involved in the Woman's Movement") has been widely circulated among leading statesmen on the other side of the Atlantic, and has aroused great interest judging by the number of letters received.

Inquiries about our work are constantly coming in from friends overseas, and we do most cordially invite all who are visiting England to make a call at our offices at 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, London, W.C., where they will be heartily welcomed.

MISS L. CORBEN, Organiser.

MR. ASQUITH AND A REFERENDUM ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Lord Murray having suggested deciding the question of women's enfranchisement by referring it to men and women municipal voters for decision, Mr. Asquith stated in Parliament that he did not support the suggestion.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons as to whether the Government would appoint a committee to inquire into the injustices which women complained were inflicted on them by a man-made Parliament, Mr. Asquith rejected the proposal.

The British Prime Minister makes no suggestion for dealing with women's grievances. We should like to remind him of his own saying that the voice of the country could be best heard at elections. When women can voice their grievances at elections, Select Committees and referendums will be superfluous.

BRITISH WIVES AND FOREIGN HUSBANDS. RIGHTS OF MARRIED WOMEN. INALIENABLE NATIONALITY.

The British Nationality and Aliens Bill, which has reached the report stage in the House of Commons, is one which will have a far-reaching result over the whole Empire, affecting as it does, not only our own country, but also all British Possessions and all Colonies. During the twelve years during which this Bill has been considered by the Governments of all these parts of our Empire, it is acknowledged that no thought whatever has been given to the interests of married women, whose position as chattels and appendages of their husbands is more clearly expressed and emphasised in the new Bill than ever before.

The Bill says that any woman who is a British subject shall, if she marries an alien, become an alien, nor shall she by reason of the death of her husband cease to be an alien. It classes married women directly in the status of lunatics, minors, and idiots. A valuable opportunity for doing justice to women is being lost by passing this Bill.

Any British woman who marries a British subject may at any time during the marriage be made to forfeit her British nationality and rights by the act of her husband, who is free to adopt the nationality of any other country. As a Turk he may place her in a harem; as an American citizen in some States he can divorce her either without her consent or without justifiable cause; as a Frenchman he can take possession of her property. Marriage is in the eyes of the State a legal contract between two parties, and it is manifestly unjust to allow one party to alter that contract without the consent of the other.

There are besides, in the East End of London and in other cities at our ports, many Englishwomen who are the wives of foreigners, often Poles, Russians, and sometimes Chinese. Large numbers of French and German subjects reside in our midst and marry. In many cases their wives are not at first aware that they are uniting themselves to aliens until the loss of some English right or privilege makes them realise their sad position. Throughout our Empire the numbers of British subjects who become the wives of men of coloured races are very large. These women have urgent need for the protection of our laws, and should not be cast out from citizenship of our Empire except by their own desire. We ask, therefore, that every British woman who marries an alien shall be free either to retain British nationality or to adopt the nationality of her husband.

When Ministers say that they think it is "beneficial" for women in every case to be forced to assume the nationality of their husbands, our rulers show a deplorable ignorance of the advantages of individual freedom. What women ask is that the law should allow each woman to judge the case on its own merits, and proclaim her right to decide whether she will or will not adopt a foreign nationality. The assertion that this Bill has been considered and agreed to by officials in every part of the British Empire is no reason for this deplorable neglect of the interests of women. The object of passing this Bill is to give increased facilities to men to change their nationality. Nothing has been done to free married women from the heavy chain which binds them as chattels to follow their husband's choice of nationality.

The Aliens Bill when passed by the British Parliament has yet to be considered in Colonial Parliaments. Only their Government officials have as yet agreed to the proposed changes. It remains to be seen what democratic Legislatures will do in defence of a married woman's right to preserve her nationality. Women in this country will be very grateful to any Parliament in the British Dominions which will reject all the clauses of the Bill referring to married women, and will substitute for them a recognition of the full right of all British women who marry aliens to remain British subjects. This right of retaining British nationality on marriage was enjoyed by British women from earliest times until the year 1870, when it was taken away by Parliament on the plea of masculine convenience. It is this Act of 1870 we seek to repeal.

LAURA ABERCONWAY.

Women Help to Draft Laws in Sweden.

The Government has appointed a committee to frame a law for the better protection of unmarried mothers and their children. Four women are included on the committee: Ellen Afzelius and Anna Lindhagen—both of them inspectors for the care of children,—Ebba Wedberg and Ebba Pauli.

BERTHE VON SUTTNER.

June 9th, 1843—June 21st, 1914.

In Baroness von Suttner the world has lost a great and representative woman, a distinguished and famous authoress, and an ardent champion of all that is worth fighting for, more especially of "war against war."

The daughter of the Austrian Count Kinsky, Field Marshal and Chamberlain, who died before her birth, she was born in Prague, and on her mother's side had also soldier's blood in her veins. She writes with absolute frankness about herself, her youth, and her mother in her "Memoirs." Owing to her high social birth and position, as well as to her personal beauty, charm, and accomplishments as a linguist and singer, she was received at different Courts, and carried everything before her in Society circles. Many were her successes and romances, varied her experiences and struggles. She led a butterfly life of excitement and enjoyment, having been engaged several times, first at seventeen to a millionaire much older than herself, whom she felt she could not marry, then to a Prince Witgenstein, who died on a voyage. Her mother squandered their fortune through extravagance and gambling, so Countess Berthe determined to earn her living, and accepted the position of governess-companion in the house of Baroness von Suttner, and there fell in love with the younger son, Arthur Gundaccar, seven years her junior, who reciprocated her feelings passionately. The lovers met with determined opposition on both sides of the families, and finally married in secret. They made their wedding journey to the Caucasus on a visit to friends, and afterwards remained for nine years in that country, earning their living in various ways, enjoying solitude, and overcoming privations in their perfect matrimonial happiness. It is here they began to study philosophy and social questions. He was war correspondent for a time; she contributed to daily papers and reviews, and published some very successful novels. Thus having made a name for themselves, they were affectionately recalled by Baron Suttner's parents, and went to live with them in their feudal family seat, the Castle Harmannsdorf, in Austria. Here they were surrounded by relatives and friends conservative to the core, full of social, racial, and religious prejudices, which only helped to stimulate Baroness Berthe's mind and thoughts. Her book, "Das Maschinenzeitalter" ("The Age of Machines"), which appeared in 1889, tackles many social problems with such outspoken courage that she published the first two editions anonymously—under the pseudonym of "Somebody"—to get a better hearing. The desired result followed, and no one suspected the author to be a woman, but one or other of the foremost men of the day—amongst them Carl Vogt and Max Nordau—were suggested by the critics. The book is written in the form of lectures, given by a professor to his students in the year two thousand, telling them the history of the past century with its terrible blots, its antiquated laws and customs, its iniquities and cruelties to men and beasts. The chapters on Love, Marriage, and Women are all the more remarkable for having been written twenty-five years ago in a Catholic country, and for still being ahead of the times everywhere. She exposes mercilessly the hypocritical cant of men about their veneration of the other sex, which the poets sing of as a higher ethereal being, exploiting her body, and soul at the same time. On the one hand, women are brought up for the admiration and pleasure of men; on the other, taunted by them for being emotional and frivolous—they are reproached for being slaves to fashion and ridiculed as guys and blue-stockings if they emancipate themselves from these self-same fashions. The political disabilities of women are often explained as advisable, owing to their being too easily influenced by religious teachers. "Are there not males and believers?" she asks, "or only hypocrites who teach what they do not believe to keep women in subjection to religion and superstition?" The whole book is so full of interesting ideas and original suggestions that it ought to be read more widely and translated into many tongues. In another of her books, "Doctor Hellmuth's Donnerstage," she treats satirically of similar subjects, attacking high-sounding common-places and common prejudices, and denouncing stupidity as the greatest hindrance to progress. But the novel which gave her world-wide fame and decided her life's work was "Die Waffen nieder" ("Lay Down Your Arms"). It shared the fate of many great books. Rejected by several publishers as offending the susceptibilities of a military State, as not being of general interest, etc., etc., it was finally published, the publisher even then protesting against the offensive title.

Success was instantaneous, and, similar to that of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," it was devoured by readers and quoted by statesmen in Parliaments. It converted the authoress's sceptical friend, Alfred Nobel, who devoted in consequence one of his generous yearly prizes of £8,500 to the cause of Peace; it influenced, as it is said, the Tsar greatly in calling the Hague Conference together. This work has been translated into numerous languages, amongst them into Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, and Esperanto. When writing this marvellously successful novel, and studying carefully facts and figures, the Baroness for the first time heard of the existence in England of Peace Societies, and entered into correspondence with the founder and President of the International Arbitration and Peace Association, the late Hodgson Pratt, who is now succeeded by Felix Moscheles. Soon afterwards the writer and her husband had the good fortune to meet the Suttners in Venice in March, 1891, and the privilege of becoming their intimate friends, they held daily, as she writes, "a congress of four," and she promised to take an active part in this great question of Peace, a promise she kept with determination and energetic enthusiasm. She, who had never in her life attended any meeting, now convened many, spoke in public everywhere, founded Peace Societies in Austria, Hungary, and helped to do so in Germany, where all efforts had previously failed. In the autumn of the same year she, as the President of the Austrian Peace Society, came with many delegates, amongst them members of Parliaments, to the International Peace Congress in Rome. Unforgettable the impression the Baroness made on us all with her beautiful and always dignified personality, her eloquence, conviction, and perfect French diction. From that time on to the last she worked incessantly for this great cause. She founded and edited an influential monthly review called, like her novel, "Die Waffen nieder," disarming the scurrilous attacks of ridicule, contempt, and hatred, from which she suffered even more than most pioneers, by reprinting them in her own paper. Many countries were visited by the devoted pacifist, who addressed innumerable meetings in Europe and America, working on alone courageously after her husband's death. She was received in audience by many potentates, by the Emperor of Austria, the late King of the Belgians, the Queen of Holland, the Presidents Roosevelt, Taft, and Loubet, and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace. The only woman allowed to be present at the historic opening session of the first Hague Conference, the Baroness's portrait figures amongst statesmen in the Palace of Peace.

A Suffragist of lifelong conviction, she often expressed regret that women did not take a greater part in a movement open to all, and which she considered to be the foundation of every reform—as changing the ever-to-be-denounced principle that Might is Right into Justice is Might.

Far ahead of her time, Berthe von Suttner will find full recognition only by future generations as a great woman in every sense of the word and a leader of men.

MARGARET MOSCHELES.

PUBLIC MORALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

A valuable and successful Conference was held at Southsea on June 15th to 18th, to consider the relation between morals and health, by the International Abolitionist Federation.

The subject of the Conference was "A Constructive Policy," involving the reduction of public immorality, and the reduction of diseases resulting therefrom. The keynote of the whole was "Liberty with Responsibility," and advocacy of an equal moral standard, based on justice, occupied a foremost place in the deliberations.

At a large meeting of welcome presided over by the Bishop of Winchester, his Lordship struck the right key in a notable declaration of the importance of dealing with moral evil by moral forces—not by material means. An important aim was to protect the young from the deadly evil of impurity, and from the train of evils, moral and physical, that sprang from it. This whole subject, he said, becomes ever more complex. The action taken must grow increasingly scientific; it must include those economic forces of irregular employment and low wages and the like, which counted so much in the matter; it must bring together more adequate and searching knowledge, and it must co-ordinate the resources, moral and physical, which God had given them for remedy. They would ask new things from the medical profession—that they would not use their knowledge and remedies to make vice more easy and indulgence more safe; and that they should make men and women aware

of the judgment of God, silently written in the grim detail of fact, and challenge our youth, in the name of clean, wholesome, noble manhood and womanhood to help in making the new morality, which may, please God, in a far-off day, wipe the nightmare of prostitution from off the earth.

The Conference opened with a series of warm and glowing tributes to the devoted service of the late Right Hon. James Stuart, who for fourteen years had been president of the Federation, and who, with Mrs. Josephine Butler, had been one of its founders. Many of the foreign representatives expressed their appreciation of his valued help, and testified to how much they owed to his interest and support. In the words of Kant, said Mrs. Scheven, of Dresden, Mr. Stuart realised that the rights of those who obey must necessarily take precedence of the well-being of those who command. Justice was the standard under which he fought life's battle, and his firm belief in the necessary and final triumph of justice on earth strengthened the courage of his co-workers when face to face with the many difficulties they encountered. He stood for the ideal of true chivalrous manhood, standing up for the cause of the miserable and downtrodden for justice's sake.

Amongst those joining in this tribute to Prof. Stuart's life and work was the Bishop of Winchester, Mr. G. W. Johnson, C.M.G., Frau Scheven (Dresden), Madame Avril de Sainte Croix (Paris), M. de Meuron (Geneva), and the Rev. P. H. Wicksteed.

The presidency of the Federation rendered vacant by the lamented death of Mr. Stuart was filled by the unanimous election of M. Yves Guyot, Paris, the distinguished French economist. Special mention was made of his labour for the cause, particularly to the fact that he was one of the early martyrs of the movement, as nearly forty years ago he suffered six months' imprisonment in Paris for his outspoken criticism of the regulation system.

The discussion on the progressive reduction of public immorality was divided into two sections—the responsibility of law makers, and the responsibility of local authorities. Remarkable papers were read on the former by Mr. J. Bronson Reynolds, New York, and on the second by Councillor Dawson, of Hull. Speaking with a wide experience, each agreed on many of the special features, in condemnation of the segregated vice districts, which never succeeds in segregating vice, but propagates it, and attracts to their area a criminal and dissolute population, which being huddled together become dangerous, whereas, being scattered, they are comparatively innocuous.

On the utility of the employment of women police they were equally agreed, as was also Frau Scheven, speaking later from her German experience. Women police, it was explained, could not be substituted for policemen, but, properly trained, they could support the work of the police, and could do work of a character which men cannot do.

The third day's discussion was on the responsibility of the State towards the reduction of venereal diseases. This was a "Doctor's Day," and some very valuable and remarkable papers were given. Dr. Mearns Fraser, medical officer for Portsmouth, presided, and the chief speakers were: Dr. Santoliquido, of Rome, Councillor of State, Chairman of the International Bureau of Public Hygiene (Paris); Dr. Svend Lomholt, a physician and statistician of Copenhagen; Dr. Rist, Paris; Dr. E. F. Skinner, Sheffield; Dr. Douglas White, Harrow; and Dr. Helen Wilson, Sheffield.

Dr. Skinner dealt with diseases in the British Army. He showed how disease had been reduced during recent years, partly by improved methods of diagnosis and treatment, and partly because of the improved moral tone of the soldier, owing to the betterment of his social conditions, the provision of rational amusement and recreation, and the example of sobriety set by his officers. From this Army experience many valuable lessons could be learnt for use in the civilian population. Disease was sufficiently prevalent to demand immediate measures, which should include a personal purity crusade and efficient early treatment.

This latter was of the greatest importance, and should be sought as in the Army, by persuading sufferers to seek early treatment. At the Sheffield Hospital an out-patients' department has been opened in the evening, so that workmen can thereby secure treatment without sacrifice of time and wages.

At the Sheffield University a successful course of lectures on these diseases and their treatment had just been completed for qualified medical men. More education for the general public was suggested—particularly among certain classes, such as school teachers and health visitors.

As with the lawyers, so the doctors were practically unanimous. They strongly urged early and adequate treat-

ment of all sufferers. The first necessity was to take care of the sick, and at as early a stage as possible. The aims of public health were described as first, a correct diagnosis, and, second, the isolation and extinction of every focus of infection. Modern discoveries have put these aims practically within the reach of every practitioner and every patient.

The result of an inquiry among the thirty-two nations represented at the International Bureau of Public Hygiene demonstrated beyond the possibility of doubt that early treatment (without notification) is much better adapted to check the spread of disease than any compulsory measures.

Dr. Helen Wilson, winding up the discussion, said that in the long run there was no real divergence between the teaching of true hygiene and true morality, and if their ideas appeared to conflict there was something wrong with one or the other, or perhaps with both. The idea that hygiene was promoted by the regulation of prostitution was now as obsolete as the belief that it was somehow in the interests of morality to allow venereal diseases to flourish unchecked. It must be remembered that hygiene was made for man, not man for hygiene.

Delegates to the Conference attended from France, Germany, Holland, Austria, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, the United States, South America, South Africa, and from many city and town councils, and other representative bodies in this country.

COLORADO WOMEN VOTERS ACT IN A CRISIS.

Colorado women, not content to rest on their laurels after their successful appeal for Federal intervention, are making every possible move to stop bloodshed in the coalfields. The Women's Peace Association submitted the report of its Investigating Committee to Governor Ammons, and demanded action, and resolved that if the militia (who were responsible for the outrages) were sent back to the coalfields they would start proceedings to remove the Governor. The women of Denver are showing what a vote can do. The three women in the Legislature have been urgent in their appeals for humanity. When the Legislature only proposed raising money to pay the militia, Senator Ring Robinson told the Democratic Party group that if that was all they proposed, and thought it would satisfy public opinion, they had as much sense as a kitten. The Women's Committee demanded an instant investigation of the militia's conduct and the taking over of the mines by the State. The men failed to act, and all the initiative for reforms was left to the women. They visited the scenes of the outrages, and said that the horrors they saw there roused protest from every mother's heart. They laid the blame on the militia, which was recruited from mine guards and desperadoes, and they accused the officer in charge of testing the range of the machine guns by firing on the tents inhabited by women and children, and the soldiers of setting fire to the tents with paper soaked in oil. Wholesale looting followed the massacre. Fifty of the hunted women were about to become mothers, and babies were born beneath a hail of bullets.

After making their recommendations the Women's Committee set off across the American Continent to report the matter to the President of the United States, and to urge him to leave the Federal troops in charge of the mines to prevent civil war. Women from the miners' camp bore witness to the atrocious treatment they had experienced. Judge Ben Lindsay accompanied the women. The women's influence counteracted that of the State Governor, who wished to leave matters in charge of the militia. They told how women helped to defend their homes and children, how women (one of them, Mother Jones, 82 years old) were thrown into gaol and children butchered. The plan they laid before President Wilson was: (1) To keep the Federal troops in charge of the mines; (2) to insist on arbitration on the matters in dispute, and oblige Rockefeller to come to terms. While the women's deputation was conferring with President Wilson in Washington, those left behind in Denver were working, too. Senator Ring Robinson showed how much more highly she valued principle than party ties by voting against her party when they voted money for the militia, and she succeeded in the Senate in pushing through a memorial to President Wilson asking him "to intervene further in the situation by such methods as may seem best to him." The measure that she had worked so hard to secure was, unhappily, defeated in the "House."

The women then telegraphed to President Wilson that the Legislature had adjourned without any attempt to settle the strike, and had done nothing but vote money for the militia, that the situation was controlled by the mineowners, and that unless the President intervened civil war was imminent.

The Women's Relief Commission in the coalfield sent a similar telegram from the scene of its labours, where it was making good the harm done by men. So the situation remains at present. *Harper's Weekly* pays the following tribute to Senator Robinson:—

The only woman Senator in the United States, already fully tested and a proved honour to her State, still further established her statesmanship during the Colorado civil war. Several times she sought her information at the seat of battle. She talked with the militia and their wives, as well as with the strikers and leaders. Where so many were blinded by hate she was tolerant. Even when her heart suffered she was calm. When she sympathised most she had the needed scepticism of the investigator. She sought not the easiest temporary escape, but permanent solutions. She is an example of the undoubted truth that politics is one of the occupations in which a number of women are needed, and one of the occupations in which the first-class female intellect shows at its best.

MISS SYLVIA PANKHURST AND MR. ASQUITH.

"The East End Federation of Suffragettes," consisting of working people in the East End of London, requested Mr. Asquith to grant them an interview, and marched in a great procession through London to the House of Commons to demand it. Mr. Asquith refused to receive the deputation, and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst announced that she would refuse to eat or drink until he changed his mind. Accordingly after a hunger and thirst strike in Holloway Gaol, where she is still intermittently suffering imprisonment for a speech she made, Sylvia was motored to the House of Commons, and remained there until she received an assurance that Mr. Asquith would receive the deputation. On June 20th the East End women were received by Mr. Asquith, and told him the story of their struggles. Points brought out by the speakers were:—

- (a) The scandalously low wages earned in the East End, often only seven or eight shillings a week;
- (b) the pressure on women of rise in prices;
- (c) the enormous amount of sickness among married women, proved by the Insurance Act;
- (d) the services rendered to the State by the mothers, and their need for enfranchisement to improve the conditions of the home;
- (e) that the East End women would organise a strike, "no vote, no rent," unless their claims for the vote were satisfied.

The sweating of women workers was illustrated from personal experience, and some poignant tales were told. A brushmaker showed the Prime Minister a brush for which she was paid 2d., and which was sold for 10s. 6d.; she had to make 200 holes for 1½d. A widow described her struggle to keep her children, and how she was driven from her work by the unwelcome attentions of the foreman, how another worker who was seduced by the same man took refuge with her, and when starvation threatened the persecuted woman and their children the young mother drowned herself and her baby. These tragic tales of poverty and oppression evidently impressed the Prime Minister, whose reply was more sympathetic than he is wont to give to the unrepresented sex. He accepted their statements as corresponding to the actual facts of East End life, and promised to give them careful consideration. He also promised to consult the Home Secretary as to the alleged unjust imprisonment of Sylvia Pankhurst.

WOMEN'S INSURANCE.

We are interested to hear that an all sickness and accident policy for professional and business women is to be issued by Mrs. Shelley Gulick. Hitherto companies have fought shy of issuing a policy of this description, on the ground that the claims arising from women would be so many that they would swamp the premiums.

A policy against accident and certain specified diseases has been issued by several companies, but as many women workers have expressed their dissatisfaction at such inadequate protection against times of illness, Mrs. Gulick has formulated a policy which should fully satisfy their requirements. This should meet a great demand on the part of the woman worker for a policy which will give her adequate cover in case of illness and accident, and although it is impossible to foretell whether the experiment will prove a commercial success until it has been in force for a year or two, we feel that a step in advance has been made as far as insurance for women is concerned.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN. QUINQUENNIAL IN ROME.

The attitude of the I.C.W. to Woman Suffrage has been the subject of some discussion in the Press, and has been in some quarters misapprehended. It may therefore be worth while to note the part played by Suffrage in the proceedings. The time-table of discussions allotted a certain amount of time to the presentation of (1) reports from the National Councils, (2) reports from Standing Committees, (3) discussion and voting of resolutions. Woman Suffrage was included under all three heads; on every occasion mention of it was received with applause and enthusiasm.

In the reports from the countries, the most interesting Suffrage news came from Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, Great Britain, and the United States.

Readers of *Jus Suffragii* are already familiar with the march of events in these countries, and it is not necessary to give the reports in full.

The following are the main points:—

Denmark reported that its women were now on the threshold of enfranchisement, and would shortly be full citizens. Sweden reported that since the last Quinquennial women had gained eligibility to every municipal board and committee except the Landsting, that in 1910 for the first time two women were elected to the Town Council in Stockholm, in 1911 40 women, and at the end of 1913 a great number to town councils all over Sweden. The Suffrage Association has 211 branches and about 15,000 members; Women's Franchise Bills, promoted by the Liberals and Socialists, were passed in 1910 and 1911 by the Second Chamber, but defeated in the First; the same fate attended the Government Bill of 1912. (As is known to readers of *Jus Suffragii*, the King's Speech last session again included Woman Suffrage, but owing to the acute question of national defence fresh elections were held which postponed the issue.)

Great Britain reported that its National Council had passed a resolution "that without the firm foundation of the Parliamentary franchise for women, there is no permanence for any advance gained by them," and that this resolution had led to the withdrawal of one branch and a few Anti-Suffrage members, whose places had, however, been more than filled by new enrolments.

The United States reported that the movement for universal Suffrage for women was absorbing their interest (the full report of Suffrage work was reserved for the Standing Committee on Suffrage). Canada reported that its National Council had asked the Dominion Government to confer full Suffrage on women.

Finland, where women enjoy the full franchise, gave an account of the work done by its women members of Parliament. Norway, which is in the same happy position, reported improvements in laws affecting women.

2. The Standing Committee on Suffrage, presided over by the Rev. Anna Shaw, attracted a large number of visitors, and the reports on Suffrage from each country were extremely interesting.

Mrs. Hamilton gave an account of the steps taken in Canada by means of questionnaires to draw attention to laws unjust to women, especially the unfair laws of succession which Canada has inherited from England.

Women's municipal franchise has been extended to married women in Vancouver and Calgary, and a woman judge in the juvenile court appointed in Calgary.

Sweden gave an inspiring account of its great petition and manifesto, its courses of lectures on sociology, well attended even in the most remote and desolate districts, and of the details of Parliamentary progress.

Germany, though with little of actual achievements to relate, gave evidence of great progress in public opinion, as evidenced by the debate in the Reichstag, and the desire of all political parties to enlist women's interest and support; women are now on many municipal committees with a vote (and even are chairmen in some cases), and are on insurance committees.

Great Britain described the great growth of the Suffrage Societies during the past five years; the National Union alone, which five years ago had 70 branches, 3,000 members, and £13,000 income, now had nearly 500 branches, 55,000 members, and £45,000 income; there are four weekly Suffrage papers, and many monthlies and quarterlies. Great progress has been made in Ireland. All important women's organisations and 179 town councils in Great Britain have passed resolutions in support of Woman Suffrage. Great support is

also received from Labour organisations and from the churches.

The Netherlands showed immense growth; the membership has grown in five years from 4,000 to 20,000.

Australia was represented by speakers from New South Wales, Queensland, and West Australia, and gave a good account of women's increasing political interest and activity.

France gave evidence of a great improvement in public opinion and increased interest in the question, especially evidenced by the brilliant result of the "Journal's" referendum, in which half a million women demanded the vote.

The United States gave an interesting comparison of legislation in Suffrage and non-Suffrage States, and an account of the States gained since 1909—Washington, California, Oregon, Arizona, Kansas, Alaska, and Illinois. 63,000 women voted in the Chicago elections, and this fact, together with the first favourable vote in Massachusetts, forms a landmark showing the great advance in the Eastern States.

3. Lastly, the Suffrage resolution proposed by Mme. Siegfried, of France, seconded by Frau Marianne Hainisch, of Austria, and supported by the Rev. Anna Shaw, was carried unanimously with acclamation. The resolution ran as follows: "Realising the rapidly changing character of the problems that have to be considered by the Governments of the present time, and seeing that these problems increasingly affect the moral, educational, and industrial life of the people, it grows more and more important that women should recognise their responsibility in national life. The International Council of Women therefore reaffirms its earnest belief that the right of voting in Parliamentary and local elections should be given to women in all countries where representative government exists."

The unanimous voting of such a resolution can leave no room for doubt as to the attitude of the I.C.W. to Woman Suffrage.
M. SHEPHERD.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN CANADA.

Recent developments of the Woman Suffrage movement in the United States have had their effect in Canada, and have stimulated the advocates of equal franchise to renewed activity. Hitherto the propaganda in the Dominion has been mainly carried on by local societies and organisations more or less independently. The need for correlation and concentration of effort led some time ago to the formation of a Canadian Suffrage Association, which was duly incorporated. Its organisers, however, failed to take the steps required to make the Association properly representative of the local societies, or to act up to the provisions of the charter. Considerable disaffection was thus caused, and has been aggravated by refusal to permit delegates of the local societies to participate in the election of officers.

This latter action led to the formation recently of a new national Suffrage organisation to be known as the National Union of Woman Suffrage Societies of Canada. It was deemed better to do this rather than to take other actions, that might have resulted in pain and trouble to those who still remain connected with the Canadian Suffrage Association, and also because the rules of the International Alliance provide that under certain circumstances two national organisations may be sanctioned.

At the preliminary meeting held in Toronto, representatives from many local societies in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, and other provinces attended, and the resolution to form the new National Union was carried by a practically unanimous vote. The following officers were elected:—Honorary president: Lady Drummond, Montreal. President: Mrs. L. A. Hamilton. Vice-presidents: Mrs. Gordon Wright, London; Professor C. Derrick, Montreal; Dr. Mary Crawford, Winnipeg; and Mrs. Cassin, Ottawa. Corresponding secretary: Mrs. W. R. Lang, Equal Franchise League, Toronto. Recording secretary, Miss Jessie Melville, Teachers' Suffrage Association, Toronto. Treasurer: Mrs. Campbell MacIver, Equal Franchise League, Toronto.

Steps have also been taken to organise a Provincial Association in Ontario for the purpose of bringing more pressure to bear on the Provincial Government and Legislature to concede equal franchise. In this respect the situation in Canada corresponds to that in the United States, the provinces having power over their own franchises, and their voters' lists also applying to the Federal elections. Like the United States, too, the women of Canada have approached the Dominion Government and asked for a nation-wide grant for Woman Suffrage.

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"The Case for Women's Suffrage." By the Bishop of London. (Extract from speech in the House of Lords, May 8th.)

"Sweated Women and the Trade Boards Act." By J. J. Mallon (Secretary of National Anti-Sweating League).

"Suffrage 'Indifference.'" By Lady Chance.

"Women's Work in South Africa." By Mrs. Mackintosh (President of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa).

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AUGUST 1, 1914.

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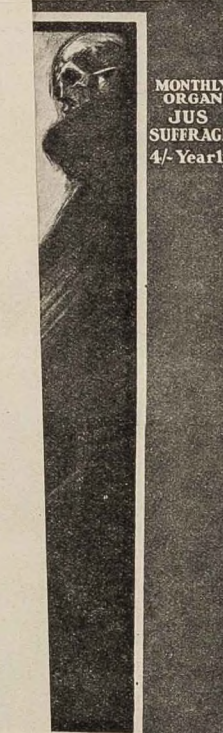
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Small posters have also been issued, giving declarations by statesmen in favour of Woman Suffrage.

It was proposed to have all these posters displayed on the Underground stations, and a contract was drawn up with the billposters. What was the amazement of the office when they received an intimation that the great trust which controls all the underground railways of London refused to allow the picture to appear, it being considered unworthy to be seen by the side of announcements of whisky, soap, and corsets which adorn the hoardings! Protests were made at once, and these remonstrances led to the withdrawal of the ban and the fixing of the posters.

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WAR.

The August number was in print before the terrible news of war was made known. We send out the number as it stands, only adding the appended account of steps taken by the I.W.S.A. Headquarters to protest in the name of women against this international crime.

WOMEN FOR PEACE.

The International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, who early issued a manifesto on behalf of peace to various Governments, sent the following message to Queen Wilhelmina of Holland:—

As representing the women of twenty-six countries, we appeal to your Majesty, as the woman ruler in whose country is the centre of peace movements, to take steps to enable the Powers, now on the brink of a terrible war, to settle their differences by peaceful methods.

As guardians of the race whose homes must suffer, whose children will be taken from us, we appeal to your Majesty, as a queen and a mother, to give us your help in averting this terrible war.

Will your Majesty graciously be pleased to receive a deputation to lay our case before you?

FROM 12,000,000 WOMEN.**APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF EUROPE.**

The committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, representing twenty-six countries and twelve millions of women, yesterday issued a manifesto to the Governments of all nations. It was presented to the Foreign Ambassadors in London, and to Sir Edward Grey. The appeal declared:—

In this terrible hour, when the fate of Europe depends on decisions which women have no power to shape, we, realising our responsibilities as the mothers of the race, cannot stand passively by. Powerless though we are politically, we call upon the Governments and Powers of our several countries to avert the threatened unparalleled disaster.

Women find themselves on the brink of the almost unbearable position of seeing all that they most reverence and treasure—the home, the family, the race—subjected not merely to risks, but to certain and extensive damage which they are powerless either to avert or assuage. Whatever its result, the conflict will leave mankind the poorer, will set back civilisation, and will be a powerful check to the amelioration in the condition of the masses of the people, on which so much of the real welfare of the nations depends.

We women of twenty-six countries, having banded ourselves together in the International Woman Suffrage Alliance with the object of obtaining political means of sharing with men the power which shapes the fate of nations, appeal to you to leave untried no method of conciliation or arbitration for arranging international differences which may help to avert deluging half the civilised world in blood.

On August 4th a women's mass meeting was organised by the I.W.S.A. in London, and the following Societies took part: National Union of Women Workers, National Federation of Women Workers, Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Labour League, and National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The chair was taken by Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and besides speakers from the above Societies, representatives from the following countries spoke: Switzerland, Germany, Hungary, and Finland.

Resolutions were passed protesting against the war and urging women's societies to organise relief of those suffering from it.

We specially beg all our readers to let us know if they safely receive this number.

Supplement to "The Suffragist" August 1914

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