

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

FIFTH YEAR No. 1.

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Moderfølelsen og den Trang til social Retfaerdighed, som er nedlagt i den kvindelige Natur, vil foranledige Kvindene til at tage Parti for de smaa og svage i Samfundet.

ANNA WHITLOCK.



A government of freemen let us cure,  
With justice for its wounds the only salve,  
A government by all and not by half.  
The dangers of this life the women dare,  
In government their due's an equal share.

C. M. SAIN.

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

## Announcements.

I have the pleasure of announcing the admission of two more National Women Suffrage Associations into our International Alliance.

The **Landsforbund of Denmark** has met all the requirements agreed upon at the London Congress and has been duly accepted by the special committee appointed to pass upon the qualifications of second national societies. It has 8000 bonafide dues-paying members, a record which is truly remarkable in so small a population and proof positive that there has been not only rare leadership at the head, but a wide-spread belief in woman suffrage throughout the land. The Valgretsforbund is also doing vigorous forward work, and with two such splendid societies in active service, we are surely justified in expecting full suffrage for women in that progressive country ere long.

**Iceland** has formed a **National Woman Suffrage Association**, consisting of four local groups with the administration located at Reykjavik. Its constitution is in harmony with the rules of the Alliance and has been accepted. Iceland has already given municipal votes and eligibility to women and the suffragists have presented to Parliament a petition, asking for full suffrage, signed by a majority of the adult population. In no other country has this been accomplished. The Icelanders are a brave, sturdy people and the suffrage movement in that country is a wholesome, natural evolution which is bound to end in victory ere long. The international Woman Suffrage Alliance welcomes these two Scandinavian Societies with especial satisfaction. The Alliance now numbers 24 national societies, representing 22 different countries. Verily our grand movement is marching nobly onward.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

The next Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will meet in Stockholm, June 12th-17th, 1911. Last year the Swedish Association extended an invitation to the Alliance to meet in Stockholm, provided no political devel-

opments made it seem unwise to do so. That reservation has now been withdrawn and the date proposed by the Swedish Association has been accepted by the International Board. The meeting therefore is now an assured fact. Any suggestions for the program or for the business proceedings will be gratefully received. The question which should be uppermost in our minds when thinking of the Alliance, is: How may the Alliance assist the movement in the countries of its various auxiliaries. By what means can it give more help? Any and all suggestions touching upon this point should receive careful consideration at the Stockholm Congress.

Will the Presidents of our Auxiliaries kindly make the announcement of the date of this Congress, to their members in order that the vacations for 1911 may be planned to include a June visit to Stockholm. It has been pronounced by more than one traveller, the most beautiful capital in Europe and is worthy of a visit on its own account. It is not too early to make plans for it now.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

*List of Woman Suffrage Papers in different countries, with address and price per annum.*

**Australia**, *The Woman Voter*, 2 Sh., Whitehall, Melbourne, Victoria.

**Austria**, *Der Bund*, 2 Kronen, 7 Rochusgasse, Wien III.

—, *Neues Frauenleben*, 4 Kronen, 5 Riglergasse, Wien XVIII.

—, *Oesterreichische Frauenrundschaue*, 6 Kr., 11 Am Hof, Wien II.

**Bulgaria**, *Jensky Glas*, 6 francs, Mrs. Pateff Bojilowa, Bourgas.

**Canada**, *Freyja*, \$ 1.—, Miss M. I. Benedictsson, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**Denmark**, *Kristeligt Kvindeblad*, 2 Kr., Körup pr. Horsens.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3,10 Kroner, Studiestraede 49II, Kopenhagen.

—, *Kvindevalgret*, 1 Krone, Skindergade 27I, Kopenhagen.

**Finland**, *NuId*, 6 Mk., 12 Georgsgatan, Helsingfors.

France, *Le Journal des Femmes*, 5 francs, 31 rue Francoeur, Paris.  
 —, *La Suffragiste*, 4 francs, 62 rue Damrémont, Paris.  
 —, *La Française*, 6 francs, 49 rue Lafayette, Paris.  
 Germany, *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, 2 Mark, Post Ebenhausen Ober Bayern.  
 —, *Centralblatt des Bundes deutscher Frauenvereine*, 4.80 Mark, Dürerstrasse 110, Dresden.  
 —, *Die Frauenbewegung*, 5 Mark, Wormserstrasse, Berlin W 62.  
 Great Britain, *The Vote*, weekly 6 sh. 6 d., 148 Holborn Bars, London E. C.  
 —, *Votes for Women*, weekly. 1 d., 4 Clement's Inn, London W. C.  
 —, *The Common Cause*, weekly, 6 Sh. 6 d., a year, 64 Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.  
 Hungary, *A nő és a Társadalom*, 6 Kr. 36 Elemer utca, Budapest VII.  
 Iceland, *Kvennabladid*, 2 Kroner, Fru Briet Asmundsson, Reykjavik.  
 Italy, *L'Alleanza*, 6 Lire, 2 Corso Garibaldi, Pavia.  
 —, *Unione Femminile Nazionale*, Lire 1.50, via Montdi di Pietà 9, Milano.  
 —, *Giornale per la Donna*, Lire 3.50, via dei Pianellari 7, Roma.  
 Netherlands, *Maandblad voor Vrouwenkiesrecht*, f 1.—, 43 Linnaeusstraat, Amsterdam.  
 —, *De Ploeger*, quarterly f 0.60, 53 Avenue Concordia, Rotterdam.  
 Norway, *Nyrlaende*, fortnightly, 4.70 Kroner, Victoria Terrasse 5II, Kristiania.  
 Poland, *Ster*, 10 francs, Boduena 2, Warsaw.  
 Russia, *The Women's Union*, 4d. per number, 84 Nicolaewskaya, St. Petersburg.  
 —, *Jenski Westnik*, Spalernaya 42, St. Petersburg.  
 Sweden, *Dagny*, weekly, 4.50 Kroner, 51 Mästersamuelsgatan, Stockholm.  
 —, *Morgonbris*, 60 Öre, Folkets Hus, Stockholm.  
 Switzerland, *Frauenbestrebungen*, 3.10 frs., Alpenstrasse 5, Zürich II.  
 U.S. America, *The Woman's Journal*, weekly, \$ 1.00, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

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

A similar Report of the Amsterdam convention held in 1908 may be had on application to Miss Martina G. Kramers, 92 Kruiskade, Rotterdam. Both these Reports are of special interest to those who have to give a review of the suffrage movement in their country for our next convention, which is to take place in Stockholm in June 1911. There are more than a hundred copies left of each, and it was decided to give these to public libraries, in case the affiliated National W.S. Associations should apply for them; not more than fifty copies at a time however. As it is, no applications at all have come; so it would be advisable for our Auxiliaries to make a present of these

Reports to the speakers and reporters who will have to do for the Stockholm congress what their predecessors did for the Copenhagen and the Amsterdam meetings. Mrs. Stanton Coit and Miss Kramers will gladly send the volumes to any applicants who are well-known suffrage workers on receipt of twopence for postage.

The international badge, a brooch with the above figure and of half its size, may be ordered from Mrs. J. Pedersen Dan, 39 Griffenfeldtsgade, Copenhagen.

#### LECTURERS.

Annie Furuhjelm from *Helsingfors*, Second vice-president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, will go on a lecturing tour in Germany to speak on the results of woman suffrage in Finland during the month of March.

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Gina Krog, 3 Edvard Stormsgade, Kristiania, president of the Norwegian Council of Women and founder of the first woman suffrage society in Norway, who was the Delegate of her country's Government at the Amsterdam W.S. Convention in 1908, will give a series of lectures in Germany in October and November, for which she was invited by the National Council. She is the editor of „Nylaende.”

Dear correspondents and readers!

May I call your attention to the letter from Prague in this issue. I wish you would try to answer in your monthly letters to „Jus Suffragii” some of Miss Plamínková's questions; and give in the report of your country to be presented to the Stockholm Convention, a comprehensive answer to the whole inquiry proposed by Bohemia. Would not that be a great help to all suffrage speakers and authors and at the same time facilitate the work of those who may eventually have to condense into a résumé the information contained in the various reports?

I would also, if possible, stimulate you to a laudable emulation with Roumania, which has ordered 200 copies of this paper to be sent as samples to M.P.s and other persons who may be induced to take an intelligent interest in the international movement for woman suffrage and to subscribe to „Jus Suffragii”.

And, please, don't let me wait for your reports in vain next month. Try to let me have them before the sixth.

Believe me yours sincerely,

MARTINA G. KRAMERS, Ed. „J. S.”

Rotterdam, Sept. 11 1910.

### Great Britain.

The text of the bill to Extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women Occupiers now before Parliament is:

*Be it enacted, etc.:*

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification, or of a ten-pound occupation qualification, within the meaning of The Representation of the People Act (1884), shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.

2. For the purposes of this Act, a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same property.

3. This Act may be cited as „The Representation of the People Act, 1910.”

And this is how men qualify for the vote:— Under the existing law men in order to possess the franchise have to qualify in one or other of the following capacities:—(1) Occupiers, (2) owners, (3) lodgers, (4) university graduates.

(1) Occupiers are divided into two classes—householders (technically known as inhabitant occupiers) and occupiers who are not householders.

Householders are those who actually dwell in a house or part of a house which they either own or rent. There is no limit of value, so however small a rent be paid or however small a part of the house be occupied, even only a single room, provided the terms on which it is rented give her entire control over it, a woman householder can claim the franchise.

Occupiers other than householders are those who occupy lands, farms, offices, shops, and other buildings otherwise than for residence. In their case the occupied premises must be of the clear yearly value of at least £ 10.

In boroughs any number of persons may be joint occupiers of either kind, but the value of the premises occupied must be such as to give £ 10 (or more) for each occupier claiming the franchise. In counties not more than two persons may claim the vote as joint occupiers for the same premises unless they shall have derived the same by descent, succession, marriage, marriage settlement, or unless they shall be *bona fide* engaged as partners carrying on trade or business. (This proviso is obviously directed against the manufacture of votes by a number of people joining to take a farm for the purpose of obtaining them.)

(2) Owners, in order to obtain a vote, must be possessed in a county constituency either of freehold estate valued at not less than £ 5 per annum, or under circumstances of leasehold property.

(3) Lodgers in order to obtain a vote must occupy apartments of the value of not less than 3s. 10d. per week. (The apartments may be let furnished, but in either case the minimum rental of 3s. 10d. a week—i.e., £ 10 a year—is reckoned on the unfurnished value.)

(4) University graduates are those who have graduated in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, Dublin, Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Glasgow, or Aberdeen, and their votes are for special members of Parliament who represent their Universities.

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Once again the women of the Women's Social and Political Union have demonstrated with infinite patience the „Will of the people”. June 18th 1910, the march of the 10,000 was made to call upon the Government to give an early day for the Second Reading of the Woman Suffrage Bill, which had passed its first reading so triumphantly. The result was obtained and the Second reading was put down for July 11th and 12th. A splendid majority of the representatives of the people passed the Second Reading by 110 votes. When from the later vote it was decided to keep the Bill to be considered by the whole House, the enemies of the measure thought they had killed it, but when the friends of the measure

showed that such was not the case, the women outside the House determined to strengthen the hands of their friends within by another demonstration calling upon the Government to give these further facilities this Session.

July 23rd 1910 makes one more mile-stone passed in the march for Women's Emancipation. Two years ago the W. S. P. U. made a record by holding the largest political demonstration in Hyde Park that had ever been held. In 1910 that record was beaten, for the crowd was as large, but the difference lay in the fact that it was an entirely friendly and sympathetic crowd which passed the Resolution at the end with great enthusiasm, and that the organisation was absolutely perfect. On the former occasion there were 20 platforms, and in the latter 40 platforms. Whereas in 1908 there were seven smaller processions to the Park, on this occasion there were two magnificent and huge contingents, one from the East and one from the West. In the East was the Prisoners' Pageant with its representation of 617 imprisonments—the banners and symbols carried were mostly reminiscent of imprisonment, with rattling chains and delicate wind-bells, and a perfect colour-scheme in purple, white and green. Many other Suffrage Societies such as the Women's Freedom League and all the well-known organisations joined in this.

The West Procession was quite different in character, being Roman in feature—banners were borne with „Justice” and the like mottoes on oblong entablatures, suggestive of the emblems of Imperial Rome. The main features of this Procession were the W. S. P. U. Band who marched with military precision, and the noble band of 1000 women graduates in cap and gown of innumerable Universities. As before this group of learned women did not fail to ram home the the iniquity of denying women the vote.

Punctually at 4.30 the vast meeting began. The audiences listened enthralled for the hour during which the speakers urged on them the reasons why the Government should complete the further stages of the Bill. At 5.20 the bugles rang and a purple, white and green flag was waved from the Conning Tower. The Resolution was put and carried enthusiastically. Cheers broke out all over the vast area. It was not till the people were dispersing that those of us who had taken a part in this marvellous demonstration realised the mighty congress that had collected.

London, Sept. 1910. EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

The Women's Freedom League reports that the Government has chosen to refer to a standing Committee of the whole House the Bill drafted by the Conciliation Committee, which on the 12th July passed its Second reading by a composite majority of 109. This means that the Bill will not pass into law unless facilities are granted by the Prime Minister. As Mr. Asquith has declared two months ago that „the Government recognised that the House ought to have an opportunity, if that is their deliberate desire, of effectively dealing with the whole question”, he is clearly under an obligation, in view of this great majority, to provide facilities, i.e. time, in the November Session; but with a display of most unworthy quibbling, he at present declines to permit the whole question to be dealt with effectively. The result is that every Suffragist is committed to a campaign of unremitting activity from now on until the House meets, and if by that time public opinion, peaceably aroused, fails to secure attention, there will

probably be a renewal of militant activities, calling for every sacrifice, even the greatest.

The Women's Freedom League is at present organising a Constituency Campaign in the districts of their opponents, and a great Holiday Campaign everywhere, carried on by holiday Suffragists, special Organisers and Caravans.

The month of July has been noteworthy for a series of "Right to Vote Demonstrations" in London and the Provinces, and for a great Procession and joint Suffrage Demonstration in Hyde Park of 15 Suffrage Societies, 40 Platforms, 40 Bands and 150 Speakers were features of the Demonstration, the holding of which was due to the initiative of the N. W. S. & P. U.

Everyone feels that victory is in sight, and the Movement has grown so strong and so much a part of the serious political thought of far-seeing and fair-minded people that the lately developed aggressive opposition organized by a group of titled reactionaries is serving only to forward the Cause. Their first and only Public Meeting in Trafalgar Square, London, was attended by such a body of Suffrage Workers, Literature Sellers and Canvassers, as to render the proceedings a farce.

London, August 1910. BETTINA BORRMANN WELLS.

Parliament adjourned on the 3rd August. The reform for which we are fighting seemed within our reach when the Second Reading of the Conciliation Bill was taken with such a triumphant majority — then it was snatched away by Mr. Asquith in a mood of sullen antagonism and the struggle continues. The present position of the Bill is summed up by Mr. H. N. Brailsford the Secretary of the Conciliation Committee as follows:—

"The Prime Minister has met the demand for further facilities for the Conciliation Bill with an uncompromising refusal. Our only answer is that we take our stand upon the rights of a majority. We have overcome obstacles more formidable than this. We began our work an obscure committee which stood alone. We now know that behind us is more than half the House of Commons, and every woman who respects herself. Refusals no longer interest us.

We have told the Prime Minister that we shall lay before him evidence, before Parliament reassembles in the autumn, of the urgency and extent of the demand for the passing of our Bill this year. It lies with the Suffrage Societies to make that evidence for us. They can, if they will, make the country talk Suffrage throughout the autumn. They can convince even the blindest of politicians that this is a question which cannot be delayed. It is to members, when they visit their constituencies in the autumn, that this conviction must be brought home. Let those who voted straight realise that they have done a popular thing, that they are on the winning side, that they have made friends and disarmed opponents. Let those who voted against you realise that they have alienated the support not only of women who will soon be electors, but of men who already are electors.

Among the most useful work that can be done is the organisation of men sympathisers. We have already a majority that will vote. We have to convert it into a majority that will insist.

I am often asked, Is there any hope for the Bill this year? Hope is a thing that has to be made."

On the day Parliament adjourned the Women's

Freedom League lined the approaches to Westminster with women in the colours of the League, everyone carrying a copy of our paper "The Vote", and now, throughout the country, an active constituency campaign is on foot. Our holiday work is having most encouraging results and the slackening of interest usually experienced during the summer months is quite absent this year. The whole country is permeated with suffrage enthusiasm and when Parliament reassembles the Government will find it dangerous to neglect any longer our just demands.

London, Sept. 1910.

B. BORRMANN WELLS.

### United States.

During July Suffrage meetings were held every night in New-York on the street corners, attended by as many hundred people as could hear the speakers. They were so respectful and orderly that there was no need of the solitary policeman standing on the outskirts of the crowd, and it is said many converts were made among men who would not go into a hall. This is the first time street speaking ever has been attempted by the suffragists in this country.

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*Progress*, the monthly paper which has been published for a number of years by the National Suffrage Association, is now consolidated with the *Woman's Journal*, of Boston. This will continue to be edited by Alice Blackwell, daughter of Lucy Stone, who founded it forty years ago. It will be issued weekly, as usual, and will be the national organ.

New-York, July 26, 1910. IDA HUSTED HARPER.

The Woman's Suffrage party in New-York, of which Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt is the head, announces that the second city convention will be held in Carnegie Hall, October 25. The district leaders are requested to hold their district conventions between the dates October 7 and 21. No one will be permitted to vote or speak at a district convention who is not enrolled in the Woman's Suffrage party, and the captains of the districts are requested to turn over the registration lists to the leaders.

Inquiries are being made as to the advisability of a suffrage parade and open-air meeting on October 29, and on Friday, September 9, there will be a meeting of representatives of suffrage organizations to consider plans for such an event. One of the suggestions made is that a suffrage pageant be given on the lines of the recent successful affair in England.

(The Woman's Journal, Aug. 27, 1910).

### Sweden.

In our northern country it is more necessary than elsewhere to make the most of the short but splendid summer and to collect a harvest of warmth and light for the long, dark days to come. Therefore the summer is, more or less, a time of rest or at least of relaxation from work, and the suffragists have also taken a short and well needed holiday. But the work has not stood completely still for all that. This summer has been free from elections of any kind, but it has instead been a summer of congresses and meetings, both

national and international, and we have done our best to get in something of women's suffrage at most of them. At the international Peace congress Sweden's reports to the three last congresses were distributed among the members, and as well from official speeches as from private conversation you got the impression that the friends of peace reckoned on the carrying through of woman's suffrage as an effectual help in the battle for peace.

In the middle of August a great congress of teachers—male and female—from the northern countries was held in Stockholm, and at that congress, in which participated some 7000 persons, a great quantity of suffrage literature was distributed gratis among the members. This was also a quite unique opportunity of reaching persons from our vast, but sparsely populated country, persons all the more susceptible of impressions, just because of their comparatively secluded life. In connection with this congress the Stockholm W.S.A. arranged a great suffrage meeting in one of our theatres. The speakers were Mrs. Ann Margret Holmgren, Miss Ellen Key, Mrs. Ellen Hagen and the American enthusiast for peace and women's suffrage, Miss Anna Eckstein—a collection of some of our very best women speakers. No wonder then that the public was enthusiastic and the meeting a great success.

About the middle of this month several "landsting" are going to elect members to the First chamber, and for our question these elections are of the most importance. Directly the women can not influence these elections, but the W.S.A. will of course interpellate those candidates that have not officially declared their attitude to the question of women's suffrage and send in an address to the President of the "landsting", demanding that in the nomination of candidates due consideration may be given to the question of women's suffrage. As a curiosity may be mentioned that our Prime Minister will be put up as a candidate by one of the "landstings".

The autumn has now set in and with it have been taken up again the preparations for the congress that had already begun in the spring. In less than 10 months we must be ready to receive to the best of our ability, our honoured guests from so many different parts of the world. For us the coming year is going to stand in the sign of the congress, and the suffragists all over the country must join their forces to get as good a result as possible. Reports from the head-quarter regarding the preparations for the congress will from time to time appear in "Jus Suffragii".

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Stockholm, September 1910.

### Norway.

At the Congress of the National Council of Women, held at Stavanger, Mrs. Betsy Kjelsberg, the factory inspector of Norway, made a speech about the necessity of having a woman inspector for all the children's homes in the country. A resolution was unanimously adopted and telegraphed to the Storting, in which they demanded the appointment of a woman with paedagogical education in the State Committee instituted for the inspection of the homes for children and schools.

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The elections for the municipal Councils are going on from October to December. This will

be the first time that all women will cast their ballot.

The work to secure women candidates has begun. We hope that we shall succeed in having many women elected now.

I do not doubt that the leaders of the most important political parties will nominate them, but I am not sure that we can trust the mass of electors to elect them. Time will show that.

Rotterdam, September 1910. FREDRIKKE MÖRCK.

The Storting has ended its session, and the bill for universal parliamentary suffrage for women, which was discussed in the Committee, will not be passed into law and will have to wait until 1911. So the agitation for women's Suffrage will not have reached its aim within 25 years of existence, for on the 27th of November it will be a quarter of a century ago that Miss Gina Krog held the first public meeting on the subject of votes for woman.

(Nylaende, Aug. 15 1910).

### Denmark.

The International Socialist Congress at Copenhagen was this time again preceded by a Socialist women's conference on August 27. What the exact relations are between this women's convention and the men's convention that follows, is not stipulated in any statute; only if this women's gathering is meant to show the dominant position of Germany (and of Mrs. Zetkin, editor of *Die Gleichheit*) and to draw the Socialist women away from any action in common with non-partisan women's organisations, we may say that it serves its purpose admirably well.

In the absence of a report written by a witness of the proceedings, I give what information I could gather from the press, a spectator and one delegate.

There were about 150 delegates from 16 nations and the meeting was held under the presidency of Clara Zetkin in the Concert Palais, where the next week the S.D. Congress was to meet. There were three points on the agenda: International relations between S.D. women, universal woman suffrage and the ways and means to obtain it, and the claims of women upon public charity. Every compromise and all agitation for limited suffrage as an instalment, though advocated by Mrs. Despard, Miss Gjöstein from Norway and Miss Thatcher from U.S. America, was vigorously opposed and the German resolution, to the effect that any limited suffrage was to be rejected as dangerous for the labouring classes and all common action with non-Socialist women to be repudiated; was nearly unanimously passed with about 10 dissenting votes. Neither the number of votes nor of constituents was exactly known to my authorities, but here follows the resolution.

„Zur Frage des Frauenwahlrechts bekräftigt die Zweite Internationale Konferenz Sozialistischer Frauen die Resolution, welche die Erste Konferenz zu Stuttgart 1907 beschlossen hat.

Angeichts der fortgesetzten Versuche, die grosse Mehrheit des weiblichen Geschlechts durch die Einführung eines beschränkten Frauenwahlrechts zu prellen und gleichzeitig damit dem Proletariat in seiner Gesamtheit einen Weg zur politischen Macht zu verlegen, betont die Konferenz insbesondere nochmals diese Grundsätze:

Die sozialistische Frauenbewegung aller Länder

weist das beschränkte Frauenwahlrecht als eine Verfälschung und Verböhnung des Prinzips der politischen Gleichberechtigung des weiblichen Geschlechts zurück. Sie kämpft für den einzig lebensvollen konkreten Ausdruck dieses Prinzips: das allgemeine Frauenstimmrecht, das allen Grossjährigen zusteht und weder an Besitz, noch Steuerleistung, noch Bildungsstufe oder sonstige Bedingungen geknüpft ist, welche Glieder des arbeitenden Volkes von dem Genuss des Rechtes ausschlieszen. Sie führt ihren Kampf nicht im Bunde mit den bürgerlichen Frauenrechtlerinnen, sondern in Gemeinschaft mit den sozialistischen Parteien, welche das Frauenwahlrecht als eine der grundsätzlich und praktisch wichtigsten Forderungen zur vollen Demokratisierung des Wahlrechts überhaupt verfechten.

Angesichts der steigenden Bedeutung, welche der politischen Emanzipation des weiblichen Geschlechts für den Klassenkampf des Proletariats zukommt, erinnert die Konferenz des weiteren an die folgenden Richtlinien:

Die sozialistischen Parteien aller Länder sind verpflichtet, für die Einführung des allgemeinen Frauenwahlrechts energisch zu kämpfen. Daher sind insbesondere auch ihre Kämpfe für Demokratisierung des Wahlrechts zu den gesetzgebenden und verwaltenden Körperschaften in Staat und Gemeinde als Kämpfe für das Frauenwahlrecht zu führen, das sie fordern und in der Agitation wie im Parlament mit Nachdruck vertreten müssen. In Ländern, wo die Demokratisierung des Männerwahlrechts bereits weit vorgeschritten oder vollständig erreicht ist, haben die sozialistischen Parteien den Kampf für die Einführung des allgemeinen Frauenwahlrechts aufzunehmen und in Verbindung mit ihm selbstverständlich all die Forderungen zu verfechten, die wir im Interesse vollen Bürgerrechts für das männliche Proletariat etwa noch zu erheben haben.

Pflicht der sozialistischen Frauen in allen Ländern ist es, sich an allen Kämpfen, welche die sozialistischen Parteien für die Demokratisierung des Wahlrechts führen, mit höchster Kraftentfaltung zu beteiligen, aber auch mit der nämlichen Energie dafür zu wirken, dass in diesen Kämpfen die Forderung des allgemeinen Frauenwahlrechts nach ihrer grundsätzlichen Wichtigkeit und praktischen Tragweite ernstlich verfochten wird."

In accordance with this, Fru Ruth Gustafsson, whom the readers will remember as speaker at the last National Convention of the Swedish W.S.A., has expressed her contentment at this clear "drawing of the line", for which the Swedish delegates took the initiative—of course outsiders cannot know how the Swedes influenced the German proposal printed in Die Gleichheit of Aug. 20, and announced the departure of the S.D. women from the Swedish W.S.A. Miss Anna Whitlock and Miss Signe Bergman, on being interviewed by "Dagens Nyheter" were not very down-hearted, since the action in the country-provinces will become easier and it is to be hoped that the S.D. women may succeed better than heretofore in interesting the men of their party in the cause of woman suffrage. M. G. K.

Miss Daugaard, International Secretary of the Valgretsforbund, sends an English translation of part of the above resolution, and further reports: England voted against it and declared that they would gladly accept a bill for limited suffrage,—"Just to slip the foot in", as Mrs. Despard said in one of her brilliant speeches. She spoke at

several public meetings and was everywhere received with enthusiasm and greeted with a storm of applause at the end.

## Austrian Empire.

### BOHEMIA.

It seems a long time since the readers of "Jus Suffragii" have heard from the Bohemian Suffragists. This is partly owing to the difficulties in organisation which the law of the Empire throws into their way and partly to the hostility of political parties to any non-partisan organisation.

The W. S. Committee is now doing two kinds of work, a) for the political education of women, b) for the defence of their eligibility in the Diet. In the autumn of 1909 and the beginning of 1910 with the aid of the Zensky Klub esky we gave a course of lectures and of 18 debates on the political history of our country with a review of the foundation aims and methods of the different political parties. We succeeded in getting the very best political leaders and lecturers, some parties sent us their founders and most eminent men, e. g. Masaryk, Kramár, etc. which we hold a sign that earnest account is taken of our movement. A clear picture of the whole political situation since 1848 was drawn by a lady editor of the Young-Czechish party-organ. Then came lectures and debates on the Old-Czechish, Young-Czechish, Socialdemocratic, Civil-Progressive, National-Socialistic, Agrarian and Progressive parties. (Besides these there is still another party, the Clerical one, with which however the non-partisan movement for women's political rights is not in touch). To conclude the course of lectures, we had four debates on woman suffrage: a) on its general meaning and the objections mostly brought against it, b) on the political rights of women in other countries, c) on the Bohemian women's right to vote for Diet, Municipality and other corporations, d) on women's part in the Czechish political parties. These last lectures will be held again this year in Prague and its environs.

The last-named theme touches upon the weak point of the women's political work. In many parties the women have always been active members, in some there were no women at all, in others their names only paraded on the membership-roll but they had not joined in the real work. Within our experience we have seen that politicians have ceased to disregard us, and their courting our participation is one of the results of our work. Woman Suffrage has now become a burning question of the day.

The women have begun to enter into the parties in greater number, and from that moment dissensions have originated between politically organised women and those that stand outside of the parties.

When in 1905 we founded the Czechish Committee for Woman Suffrage, it contained women of all parties and some non-partisan women. Already in the first year of its existence, the Socialdemocratic women left the Committee *officially*, then followed the National-Socialists, yet there were friendly relations between the party- and the non-party-women, until Miss Plamínková declared in a public meeting that to be sure "our aim was universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage", but that *for the moment* we would be content with claiming equal rights with the men. Then came attacks from the Progressive

party against the W. S. Committee verging upon hostility, under pretence that our standpoint was a "feminist" one and that we had *left* the banner of universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

Meanwhile it is a curious fact that the founder and undisputed leader of the Progressive party is a true friend of the women's movement and does not hesitate to recognize that, on tactical grounds, the agitation for woman suffrage should be conducted on non-party lines.

Heaps of articles and pamphlets were already published against us, and the whole aim of the raid seems to have been to hamper the work of some members of the W. S. Committee by demonstrating its superfluity. They claimed a new organisation which was to consist of delegates from the various parties. We accordingly gave this suggestion a trial and sought to form a "delegation" beside our W. S. Committee, in which the Executive of each party should have two representatives, who, together with two delegates from the W. S. Committee, should form the *Council*, whilst the executive power was to consist of the Executives of the parties being free to act *without pledging their party*. But this delegation never came into being, spite a half-year's work. Yet an institution like this would certainly prove a benefit, and we will surely realize it one day, but not before the politically organised women come to see that the action for their vote falls to their own task, among all the other party-claims, and that the demand for the vote is *common* to us all; and also that, if we can form bodies containing representatives of all parties, whose aim is abstinence, purity, child-protection or education, we may as well have one for *woman suffrage*, since the women's lack of rights is as much a social evil as those named before. Much as the methods for obtaining votes for women may differ, yet only in so far as the agitation is made by common efforts it may hope to obtain any success.

Nowadays such co-operation is gaining more and more ground in the Czechish nation. It is curious to see that *the women* have *from the first* tried to adoperate this means, while the influence of men politicians has made the co-operation cease.

The reason why I write at length on this matter is the following: *We stand sorely in need of the experience of other countries* (we have made efforts to get much information direct, but without success) and we believe that our experience may on the other hand serve to show the way to other W. S. Associations.

We therefore wish to propose that an *inquiry* should be made in "Jus Suffragii" touching the following questions:—

1. In how far do women join political parties?
  - a) In what number.
  - b) In what function.
2. What are the relations between the women in parties and the women suffragists outside the parties?
  - a) as to leaders, officers, etc.
  - b) have they members who do not belong to any party?

Next time we will report on our positive work for obtaining votes for women during the last eight months.

Prague, July 1910.

F. PLAMÍNKOVÁ.

### GALICIA.

As Mme Zaleska told our readers (J. S. IV p. 80) the women students in Lemberg and Cracow have organised to obtain the same rights enjoyed by the men students. They have now issued a vigorous protest against the action of the Russian Government, which, by instituting courses of scientific lectures for women at the Warsaw university, has partly succeeded in drawing the Polish women away from their struggle for national education. Their object is the defence of their own Polish language, spoken by 23 millions of people, and deprived from the right of being used in schools. The indignant protest of the women students of Lemberg and Cracow, partly addressed to their Russian colleagues, from whose feeling of solidarity they expect a boycott of the Warsaw lectures, was published in many women's papers as Frauenbestrebungen, Nylaende, Dagny etc. We lack space to publish it here as it does not directly touch upon woman suffrage, but surely a patriotic movement among women of the strength it shows in Poland now, cannot fail to promote the cause of "votes for women".

M. G. K.

### Argentina.

On May 29th in a meeting at Mme Ramirez's house in La Plata was formed the **Feminist National League**, which has the object of uniting the women of Argentina and adopted the following principles: "Considering that women do not enjoy all the liberty and welfare due to human beings and that this slavery of half the race is detrimental to social progress; we form a union for the *emancipation of women* upon this programme:

- 1) That marriage shall in no way disqualify the wife from the exercise of her civil rights,
- 2) Political rights for women,
- 3) Introduction of divorce,
- 4) Protection of children.

Mrs Maria Arabella Ramirez was elected president and six other ladies are to form the Executive with her. The secretary's address is: La Plata, 45 No. 923.

M. G. K.

(„La Nueva Mujer", June 1910).

### Netherlands.

The Dutch W.S.A. has two annual meetings; one the delegate-meeting that takes place about Christmas-time and is destined to discuss tactics and organisation, and one in the summer that is intended to promote the intercourse of the branches and exchange of news on the success of *different* methods of propaganda used in the different branch-societies. The latter of these meetings was held in Middelburg on July 10 th. An unfinished discussion on the N.W.S.A.'s "neutrality" (= non-partisan attitude) had obliged the Executive to make this gathering a continuation of the last winter-meeting, and the Executive's explanation of the Association's constitution with respect to our position outside of all political parties, was approved by a nearly unanimous vote.

The agitation going on in our country against the bill in which the Cabinet proposes to oblige all married women to resign their post in case they are employed by the State, as for instance teachers are, seemed to most suffragists a proper object of propaganda. Here it is evident that teachers in possession of a vote would not be so

easily dismissed. So the W.S.A. resolved to give active support to the action against Mr. Heemskerck's bill.

In order to attend the summer-meeting many speakers and propagandists had come to Middelburg, and it was not difficult to induce them to make propaganda- and lecture-excursions all over the province of Zeeland, for which our zealous organiser, Miss C. S. Groot, had previously prepared the ground. Although everybody had predicted a failure, since this particular province was as indifferent to woman suffrage as could be and midsummer was not a time for meetings, yet we did not allow ourselves to be discouraged and we started, being determined to awaken interest, if it was sleeping. And we found our pains rewarded by 168 new members and the formation of 7 Local Branches. This is a new proof that we should not attach too much value to pessimistic predictions and that sympathy may be gained as soon as people come to listen to us and really to consider our claim in a serious way.

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By the same majority as last year the proposal to give women a vote in Church matters, the Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church rejected the request of some lady-students of divinity who asked to be declared eligible to be Ministers. So again by 10 to 9 votes the church deprived itself of the valuable asset of the talents, energy and interest of half its members, only because these happen to be women.

\* \* \*

The State-Commission appointed to prepare the revision of the Constitution, which seemed at first not to be a model of activity, has become diligent at once. Indeed it is having meetings every day now. We are very anxious to see what its proposals will be and whether it will take the wish of the women into consideration, that the state may cease to disqualify half of its citizens on account of their sex.

The opening of Parliament is to take place on September 20.

ALETTA H. JACOBS.

### Germany.

The Prussian W. S. A. held a protest-meeting in Berlin against the Emperor's speech at Königsberg. The room was crammed full mostly with women. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "This meeting protests against the Emperor's speech made at Königsberg, slighting public opinion and the will of the people, and against the dictates which the Emperor thought fit to give to women. This meeting claims the right of self-assertion for the whole nation and is determined to guard it if necessary. The meeting expresses the strongest blame to the Government for not having prevented similar utterances and intends to take care in the next elections that the will of the nation be fully shown." (Press-clipping.)

L. G. H.

### Switzerland.

We have great regret in announcing the death of Dr. Marc Dufour at Lausanne on July 29. He was born at Villeneuve in 1843 and was a teacher's son, but soon, like his two brothers, he grew to be a glory for our small country. After brilliant studies in medicine especially as an oculist, Mr. Dufour was appointed physician at the Blind

Asylum at Lausanne. There his activity and zeal found full scope and he showed an untiring devotion to his work and his patients, who had the highest veneration and love for him. I need not speak of his attainments, which are well-known, since patients of every nationality came to seek his advice; but what I would express is the deep grief of Swiss women at the loss of a staunch friend of their cause. For since years he advocated our opinions, being desirous as a politician to see the rights which were due to women granted to them. We had no better speaker to support our cause, and when our Vaud W. S. A. was founded, he was glad to associate himself with our work and encourage our efforts. In a conference given at the People's Home three years ago and entitled Justice and Women's Rights, he was the first to discuss and defend the women's question frankly and openly. Notwithstanding his busy life, he often did us the honour of attending our committee-meetings and assisting us by his useful advice. His death is a great loss to our young association, and our only consolation is that we have a right to feel proud of the support of men like Ch. Secrétan, Dr. Hilty and Dr. Marc Dufour, who were the pioneers of our movement, and whose remembrance will follow and strengthen us in the struggle to come.

Lausanne, Aug. 2nd 1910. A. GIRARDET VIELLE.

The Cantonal Council of Zurich decided to add the following clause to art. 16 of the Constitution: "The law is to decide in how far, under the qualifications of art. 18, suffrage and eligibility for public functions may be accorded to women." For this measure the sanction of a referendum is still required before it can pass into law.

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On June 26 at Chancy (Geneva) women exercised for the first time their right to vote in church matters. Among the 111 electors, male and female, 19 women and 27 men polled their votes in the election of a minister. So the number of votes was 61% female and less than 34% male of the registered electors.

The Geneva press is not free from prejudice against women, for the N. Z. Z., which on another occasion judged it necessary to find an excuse for the appointment of a woman teacher of English, thought fit to end its account of the elections on June 26 by the following paragraph: "The election went on in a calm and dignified way. The women voters showed no embarrassment or timidity in exercising their right".

(Frauenbes'rebungen.)

### Australia.

At the meeting held in Melbourne on 6th June by the Women's Political Association the following resolution was passed:—

"That this Association of enfranchised Australian women protests against the proposal of the Tsar to deprive the people of Finland of their constitutional liberties, which the Tsar promised to uphold when he took his oath of coronation. This Association earnestly hopes that the representations on behalf of Finnish liberty, now being made to the Douma, will result in the heroic people of Finland having preserved to them their constitutional right of self-government, under which they so nobly paid the debt they owed their women in the struggle for freedom, by recognising their right to direct representation in the Diet".

(The Woman Voter, July 1910).