

JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

SEVENTH YEAR No. 9.

MAY 15, 1913.

A lady there was who said: „Why
Should men have the vote and not I?

To call this democracy

Is naught but hypocrisy —

I'll get me the ballot or die!

Woman's Journal, March 1 '13.



Hun rejste sig, hun sagde: her bliv ej
[ret paa jord,
Saa længe du alene skal sigge lovens ord.
Du byggede stort i høiden, fik jorden
[underlagt,
Men grunde retfærd paa den, det star
[ej i din magt.

Björnsterne Björnson.

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

Convention Arrangements.

We have been asked from many sides several questions to which the answer may be of general interest. Our Hungarian June is usually not yet hot, but pretty mild. We can but mention that June of last summer was not warm at all, and as this year surprises us with the most extraordinary sorts of weather, we fear our dear guests will have the trouble of bringing spring-dresses as well as summer ones.

We intend to bring the guests attending the Vienna meeting in an extra-hired boat (from Vienna to Budapest). The boat will leave Vienna in the morning at 8 o'clock and reach Budapest the same evening at 6 o'clock.

We advise those who are coming from Vienna by train to take the line via Marchegg—Pozsony, as this is far nicer than that via Bruck—Királyhida which takes exactly the same time. The guests arriving via Marchegg arrive at the West station in Budapest.

Free admittance to all meetings and all social functions and festivities is granted to the Officers of the Alliance, the delegates, official delegates of Governments, Distinguished Guests and Press-representatives. Alternates and Associate members of the I. W. S. All. have free admission to all meetings and such social functions for which general invitations are extended, for instance to the Festival given by the City on the Fisher Bastion. Visitors, ordinary members of the Congress and fraternal delegates have to buy Congress-tickets and tickets for all those social functions for which no general invitations are issued.

Most of the Hotels are quite close to the Congress-Hall, and the others are to be reached from the Congress-Hall within very short time by electric tram. Several Correspondents are in the habit of addressing their letters „Budapest Austria". Will they kindly notice that Budapest is in Hungary.

We have sent to the National Presidents the Congress-tickets and the Railway-certificates for the delegates and the alternates of each Country. The Certificates for the Austrian Railway will be sent by the Austrian Committee for Woman Suffrage on application. All the other reductions and favours

are granted on the mere showing of the Congress-ticket.

The General director of the Post-, Telegraph and Telephone Service gave permission to hold a collection throughout the whole country among the employees of the post in favour of the Congress-fund.

We take much pleasure in informing you that the Iceland Government granted the sum of 1000. Danish crowns to enable the delegate of the Icelandic W. S. A. to send a delegate to the Congress. We shall have the pleasure to have Mrs. Briet Asmundson and her young daughter with us at the Congress.

The International Congress of the Men's Leagues promises to become a gathering of eminent Men.

Their program includes most interesting topics treated by good speakers. Amongst their speakers are several distinguished guests of our own Congress such as Senator Mechelin from Finland, Mr. Keir Hardie from England, Mr. Beckman from Sweden, Dr. Drysdale from England, Mr. du Breuil de St. Germain from France, Colonel Mansfeldt from Holland, Herman Bahr from Austria.

As this is the last report we are sending before our great event, we wish to express to you our warmest wishes for a happy and agreeable journey towards Hungary, which expects you with the warmest cordiality in the hope you will be so kind as to believe in our goodwill whenever you might meet failures during your stay with us.

Your presence is the greatest help towards an early and final victory of our Cause in our country, and let us hope in all other Countries.

Au revoir in Budapest!

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest, 6th May 1913.

TIME-TABLE.

June 13. Departure from Vienna at 8 o'clock in the morning. Officers' meeting and later private meeting of presidents of affiliated Countries on the steamboat. Arrival in Budapest at 6 o'clock.

14. *Morning.* Executive Committee meeting.

Afternoon. A paedagogical meeting under the auspices of the Schoolboard of the City of Budapest. Teachers will be invited by the schoolboard offi-

cially, speakers by our Society. On this occasion will speak: Mr. Beckman (Sweden), Eline Hansen (Denmark), Mrs. Despard (England), Mrs. Perkins Gilman (America), Miss Glücklich (Hungary), His Excellency Georg de Lukács, former Minister of Instruction (Hungary), Comtesse Pardo Bazán Officer of the Ministry of Instruction in Spain, Dr. Alexander Geswein M.P. (Hungary), and, if present, Helen Loring Grenfell and Judge Lindsey from Colorado.

Evening. Reception offered by the National Society (Feministák Egyesülete) to the International Executive Committee.

15. *Morning.* Religious Service with Reverend Shaw preaching.

Lunch arranged on the Isle of Marguerite near the Church, where the Service will be held.

Afternoon. Solemn opening in the Royal Music Academy.

Evening. Opera parée in the Royal Opera, which usually is closed earlier but remains open until this day in honor of the Congress.

16. *Morning.* Business meeting.

Afternoon. Carriage drive through Budapest.

Evening. Reception. By the City on the Fisher Bastion where a Hungarian festival will take place. Short speeches by representants of the various countries.

17. *Morning.* Business meeting.

Afternoon. Visit of social, educational and other institutions and private invitations.

Evening. Grand public meeting: Chair Mrs. Chapman Catt; Speakers Jane Addams, Mrs. Perkins Gilman, Frau Stritt, Rev. Shaw, Marchesa Lucifero (French), Mrs. Fawcett, Dr. Gulli Petrini (German), Comtesse Pardo Bazán (French) and a Hungarian speaker (not yet appointed).

18. *Morning.* Business meeting.

Afternoon. Visit to social, educational and other institutions, private invitations, among which is one of the Dutch Consulate.

At 6 o'clock meeting. Speakers from states where Women are enfranchised. From 3—6 Business meeting of the Intern. Men's League.

Evening. Steamer excursion on the Danube.

19. *Morning.* Business meeting.

Afternoon. Young people's meeting. (Invited speakers) Chair: Miss Glücklich, Lily Braun (Germany), Signora Eugenia Lebrecht Vitali (Italy), Adele Schreiber Krieger (Germany), Mrs. Perkins Gilman (U.S.A.), Countess Teleky (Hungary), Dr. Ch. V. Drysdale (England), Mrs. Corbett Fisher (England), Laufey Asmundsen (Iceland).

Evening. Public meeting of the Men's International All. for W.S. Speakers: Mr. Beckman (Sweden), Senator Mechelin (Finland), Mr. Keir Hardy (England), Herman Bahr (Austria), Prof. Wicksell (Sweden), Col. Mansfeldt (Netherlands), Dr. Wilhelm Vázsonyi M.P. (Hungary). Chair: Georg de Lukács.

20. *Morning.* Business meeting.

Afternoon. Business meeting of the Men's International Alliance. Very interesting program.

Evening. Farewell banquet. Short speeches from representants of various countries.

21. Excursion to the Lower Danube and the Balaton.

22. Excursion starts to the Tatra.

The time when the Excursion to visit the Institutions of the State's Care of Children will start is not yet settled. This party will visit Nagyvárád Debrecen, in the centre of the Hungarian lowland (puszta) and Szeged, and their surroundings.

(This table is still subject to modification.)

In addition to our former communications we may say that, two more hotels are recommended: *Hotel Britannia*, front-room or back-room with one bed 4—6 Kr., with two beds 4.50—6 Kr.; *Hotel Excelsior*, front-room or back-room 4.50—6.50 Kr., with two beds 9.50—12.50 Kr.

We recommend the following restaurants:

Grand Hotel Hungaria, Lunch 5 Kr., Dinner 8 Kr.
Hotel Bristol, Lunch 4 Kr. (in Grillroom 3 Kr.), Dinner 6 Kr. (in Grillroom 4 Kr.).

Hotel Vadászkiirt, Lunch 3.50 Kr., Dinner 6 Kr.
Restaurant in the Congress-building (Redoute), 2.40 Kr. table d'hote at fixed hours by arrangement.

Restaurant Delli, Lunch 3 Kr., Dinner 3 Kr.
Restaurant Dreher (Andrássy-ut), Lunch 3 Kr., Dinner 3 Kr.

Restaurant Katona, Lunch 3 Kr.

Reduction of fares was granted: 1) on the lines of the Ungaro-Croata Seeschiffahrt: from Ancona or Venice to Fiume second class tickets will count as first class and third class tickets as second; 2) on the Woermann Line (German East Africa steamers) 10% reduction.

May we request all visitors of the Congress to favour us with indication of their profession as well their name, because several professional organisations have expressed a wish to receive colleagues as their guests.

Congress Announcements.

Press-Proposals.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF SCHEME FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PRESS BUREAU.

The N.U.W.S.S. sends the following suggestion from Great Britain.

The Press Bureau of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance shall be established for the collection and distribution of international news relating to Women's Suffrage and kindred subjects such as the progress of the Women's Movement, the economic position of women, legislation affecting women etc. The news shall be collected and distributed from and throughout those countries which have Societies or Organisations affiliated to the Alliance.

For this purpose a Committee shall be formed which shall be responsible for raising and spending the funds, and for the general management of the Bureau.

The Constitution of the Committee shall be as follows:—

The Hon. Officers shall be

a) The Chairman.

b) Treasurer.

c) Hon. Secretary.

These shall be appointed by the Executive of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance for the first two years, and shall subsequently be elected by ballot at the bi-ennial meetings of the Congress. The other members of the Committee which shall not number less than 10 in all shall be appointed annually, (subject to the consent of the Executive of the I.W.S. Alliance), by the Executive Committee of the Society of the country in which the Bureau is established. Nominations for the Committee of the Bureau shall be invited from the subscribing auxiliaries.

Each member of the Committee shall be responsible for representing the interests of the press work of one country or group of countries whose conditions in this respect, it shall be his or her duty to study and report upon.

Questions on difficulties as to publication shall

be referred to the Committee of the Bureau, and thence if necessary to the Executive of the Alliance.

FINANCE. It is suggested that

a) The expense of the Bureau be borne by the auxiliaries which co-operate in the scheme, and by the donations and subscriptions of individuals.

b) That the yearly contribution of each of these auxiliaries be at the rate of 10 times the amount of its affiliation fee.

To ensure the working expenses for two years, an appeal for funds shall be made at the coming Congress to all the auxiliaries, and if the response at the end of three months guarantees the undertaking, suitable offices shall be taken and the necessary staff appointed by the Committee which is responsible.

Estimate of expenses reckoned on assumption of the Bureau being established in conjunction with the offices of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Rent	£ 50
Secretary	„ 150
Clerk	„ 50
Postage	„ 40
Papers	„ 5
Stationary	„ 30
Other expenses.....	„ 45

370 (£ 400)

As to estimated expense if Bureau established elsewhere, so far estimates from the other auxiliaries have not been received.

I. WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS BUREAU.

a) To act as collector, clearing house, and distributor of news received from the auxiliaries of the I.W.S. Alliance and all parts of the world, and to correct misleading statements.

b) Communications shall be received and sent out in any of the three languages: French, German, or English. (If communications are made or desired in other languages, the Society sending or desiring these must bear the expense of the translation.)

c) Information received from any country shall be circulated as soon as possible in suitable form for insertion to all the co-operating auxiliaries. The source of information shall be given, and the Society sending the news shall be held responsible for its accuracy.

d) Arrangements can be made direct with the papers, Press Associations, Syndicates and correspondents in certain countries if in the opinion of the auxiliary this is considered desirable.

Telegraphic Communications.

It is suggested that the International Press Bureau arrange to receive telegraphic communications of events of international interest concerning the Women's Suffrage Movement, and to communicate it to those auxiliaries and agencies which are prepared to refund the expenses of communication.

Suggestions for the office work of the Central Bureau.

a) Foreign press cuttings relating to the subjects to be dealt with shall be taken from the best agency or agencies available for this purpose.

b) The best Woman Suffrage papers be taken from all the affiliated countries and they shall be filed and indexed.

c) Statement shall be made as to the growth of the Movement in each country, and suitable items of news of international interest from the papers shall be published.

d) The International Press Bureau shall be responsible for organising the press reports of each International Congress.

2. THE WORK OF THE AUXILIARIES COOPERATING IN THE SCHEME.

It is recommended that:—

a) Each country shall through a press office organise the collection of news in its own area.

b) Forward to the Central Bureau all news for which immediate publication is necessary.

c) Summarise at suitable intervals material of international interest, and forward it in a form ready for insertion to the Head Office.

d) Send descriptive material when offered by accredited correspondents.

e) Forward short statements regarding the political situation in relation to Women's Suffrage, policy of the Society, its organisation, progress etc.

f) Give due notice of any important event likely to occur, affecting Women's Suffrage, and telegraph result to the Central Bureau.

g) Send full particulars to the Central Bureau, of press agencies, suitable correspondents, favourable and influential newspapers, newspaper-syndicates if any, and recommendations as to the best methods of dealing with the distribution of news throughout the area that the whole country may be covered as far as possible.

h) Communicate important current events to the correspondents of foreign newspapers living in the country.

i) Send reports of progress of press work, and particulars regarding insertion of news etc.

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Material shall be sent free of charge to the Central International Press Bureau, but each Auxiliary shall make what internal arrangements it thinks fit with its own newspapers and contributors regarding payment for material received.

It is understood that the details of the scheme if adopted, shall be subject to the revision of the Committee of the Bureau.

NOTE. In Great Britain for the purpose of organisation and of the press work the Societies of the Union are grouped into Federations which cover definite geographical areas.

The Press work is undertaken:—

1) By the Central Press Department at Headquarters.

2) By the Federation Press Secretary in the Provinces.

3) By the local Press Secretaries of the Societies.

The Central Press Department supplies the London daily papers with current news, and certain selected important provincial papers.

1) It provides the Federation Press Secretary with latest information, and suggestions for arranging the work, collects press cuttings from the country and files and indexes the information.

2) The Federation Press Secretaries arrange that the chief papers in their area are overlooked—subdividing these amongst the local Press Secretaries—organise the circulation of news, ensuring reports of meetings, and contributing correspondence to papers.

3) The local Press Secretaries of the Societies are responsible for the local papers in the same way.

As some of the best London papers publish practically all the important statements of the National Union, the latest information from Headquarters can thus be rapidly circulated throughout the whole country.

The Central Press Department is also in touch with correspondents in foreign countries to whom it sends news from whom it receives it.

LETTER FROM COPENHAGEN.

As we are now nearing the Congress, I had hoped to find some of the lady-journalists expressing their opinions concerning the proposal for an International Press Bureau in the April-number of „Jus Suffragii”. But none came. I confess to feeling a little disappointed at this, as I am very interested in the question, and believe that many other readers are so too.

As the leader of a suffrage-correspondance to about one hundred daily papers, which has been going on with some few interruptions for more than five years, I have found it very difficult to obtain correct information about what was going on in foreign places before it was almost too late to print it. It therefore seems to me, that there can be no doubt about the usefulness of having a means by which to get news somewhat quicker. I also think, that such an institution ought to be established by the Alliance and guided by an editor chosen at the Congress. According to an announcement from Great Britain in the March-number of „Jus Suffragii” this seems to be the intended course.

But if a press-bureau is to be started under the auspices of the Alliance, I think we ought first to take into consideration, whether it is possible to work it alongside with „Jus” without any inconvenience to the latter, to which we owe some duty as the official organ of the movement. Is there not a certain risk to a monthly bulletin in having a press-bureau at its side, because the paper might possibly lose in freshness, and interest, and even importance, if most of its news has already been published by the bureau and been discussed in the daily papers of different countries? I do not think, that any scheme, however well considered, can prevent this, since a bureau will always have to make a point of issuing the news as quickly as possible, while the official organ will have to print the more broadly-written reports about quite the same things.

Like all organs making propaganda for a new and not very popular cause „Jus Suffragii” has been battling hard for some years to gather its present number of subscribers. But now that the movement is spreading and the Alliance growing strongly, there is reason to believe, that it will get a far larger number of subscribers, and that it will be easier to give it financial support. The larger the Alliance grows, the more necessary it is that the official organ should be the best possible source of news to those who are working for woman suffrage in different parts of the world, and that it should enlighten and encourage them as frequently as possible.

Would it not be the best plan to make „Jus Suffragii” a weekly paper and to use some of its columns for those news, which we all long to have? Even a bureau will hardly be able to exchange the news from the one country to another much quicker than in a week, or to correct the misunderstandings and calumnies in a much shorter time.

I know, of course, that an alteration like this is a thing, which only the board of officers should propose. And I have not the least idea, whether the editor herself would care for such an alteration. *) Nevertheless, I take the liberty to mention it, because I feel, that we really need a means by which to secure correct news and therefore must do something to get it; and at the same time I fear, that this need may make us choose some plan, that will

*) I do not see that the feelings of the present editor of „Jus Suffragii” matter much in this respect; but I do see that overlapping should be avoided. Ed.

make it difficult to „Jus” to maintain its position.

Without going into details I only want to add, that by making „Jus” a weekly the paper would have space enough for the news—even if it is limited to four pages—because the reports would not require so much space when divided by four, as now that they are printed once a month. Financially seen, I doubt that it would be much more expensive to provide the editor with help for the increased work and to issue more numbers of the paper than to start an independent bureau, engage an editor and have the news printed separately. Considering the importance of the enterprise it might be that the Alliance could see its way to render some help, and it seems only natural, that the press-departments of the different countries should be willing to add their share, seeing that they hereby will get a source of news without having to start a bureau.

Asking forgiveness for this article being rather long I beg the readers to make allowance for the fact, that I have been obliged to explain myself in a language, which is not my own.

CLINNY DREYER.

Zoological Gardens, Copenhagen.
May 4th, 1913.

JUS SUFFRAGII AND THE PRESS-BUREAU.

The two proposals given above convey to our readers an idea of the complexity of the press-problem now before the International Alliance. A editor of the organ of the I.W.S.All., which has now existed for seven years, I believe that I may be permitted to say a few words too that may help to serve as a basis for discussion at Budapest.

It seems to me impracticable to have both a press-bureau to collect and distribute suffrage news and articles, and the I.W.S.All organ to collect suffrage news from all our affiliated countries. On the other hand I do not see how a paper, fortnightly or weekly, started and conducted by the international body, can make sure of seeing its news published in the existing national papers. Refutations and contradictions of false statements would encounter even more difficulty than would the news, to be published by the same organs or read by the same public as the inaccurate reports which they are meant to supersede.

The only control we can possibly exercise on any paper must be by its own readers and subscribers, so, if a press-bureau or international suffrage paper is ever to have authority in any country, it should have the help and support of the rank and file of our members in each of our affiliated nations.

No board of editors, however competent, can possibly contrive that suffrage news and suffrage reports shall be treated by the daily or even the weekly press as equally important as local news about thefts, fires etc. or meetings held by political parties, unless there be a strong demand that editors should do so, coming from large numbers of readers. To bring this about, each of our affiliated Auxiliaries should have its own press-bureau. Up to this moment I only know of Great-Britain, Denmark, Sweden and Hungary, that possess this institution. We tried a press-bureau that had the task of supplying news to local papers in Holland, but we have had to give up the enterprise for lack of support from our members.

Should the Convention of the Alliance, foreseeing this nearly insuperable difficulty in 22 of our 26 countries, limit its action to the collection and publication of news, and, to do this effectively, resolve to have an organ that appears more than once a month, the Auxiliaries should feel it their

duty to augment the circulation and get ten or even a hundred times more subscribers than „Jus Suffragii” has now; for 1100 subscribers will not do for the organ of a world-wide Alliance with millions of members.

I hope that this fundamental fact may be taken into serious consideration, when we meet at Budapest.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS,
editor „Jus Suffragii”.

PROPOSAL FROM FINLAND.

Finland sends the following suggestion for the Budapest programme.

We propose that a *Permanent International Committee of enfranchised women* be appointed (or nominated) within the I.W.S.A., in order to exchange political experience, to discuss a policy regarding the broadest lines of women's politics.

We think a body of this kind would be useful to further mutual comprehension and to strengthen the sense of solidarity among women voters. It would also keep up the interest of enfranchised women for the Alliance and its Conventions.

Experience has shown that women's political energy in countries where suffrage exists is as much, perhaps more, in want of being strengthened and kept awake, than in such countries where the struggle is still going on. A relaxation in the political activity of enfranchised women would surely be a serious danger for the world's suffrage movement.

If our suggestion should be accepted, we propose the Committee in question to be appointed (or nominated) at the Congress at Budapest. In the interims of the Conventions it would have to prepare the programme for a meeting of enfranchised delegates at the Convention of I.W.S.A., either some day during the time of its sessions, or a day after its adjournment, so that it could go on from Convention to Convention.

Details connected with the election or appointment of this Committee we are not yet ready to offer.

The creation of such a body ought in no way to prove detrimental to the interests of I.W.S.A., on the contrary it may become a point of issue for an evolution that possibly will be needed in a nearer or farther future, depending upon the progress of women's enfranchisement.

(The National Federation for Finland.)

Hungary.

A telegram announces us that the Hungarian Parliament voted a grant of 10,000 crowns for the Convention and that the Minister of Education was appointed official Delegate of the Government to the Congress.

M. G. K.

Austrian Empire.

VIENNA.

As this is the last „Jus Suffragii” before the gathering in Vienna, we once more give the official programme and call to mind several things worth knowing. The official entertainments begin with a great reception of the Viennese Suffrage Committee, on the 11th of June at night. Invitations will be sent to members of the Town Council, deputies and other official personages.

On the 12th of June a drive will be made, and a visit to the lace-exhibition arranged by the associat-

ion of home-industry, on purpose for the occasion, and to the most important sights of Vienna. At night a meeting will be held in one of the largest halls in Vienna where foreign personages are going to speak, and a supper afterwards. The time between these programme-numbers will be filled with private entertainments.

For the 11th of June a lady, Mrs. Heller, invites the foreign guests to a tea in her palace where the opportunity will be offered to see Viennese interior art and comfort.

On the 12th a musical tea will be offered by the periodical the „Wiener Mode”.

The 13th museums, charitable institutions e.g. will be visited and in the afternoon the visitors will be received in the Adria exhibition, in case they do not prefer to make excursions in the surroundings of Vienna. Theatre tickets will be provided at a reduced price. Below we give a list of recommendable hotels and pensions, as well as the most important routes to Vienna.

To be able to make effective preparations we beg those who intend to honour us with their visit, to inform us of it as early as possible, and not later than the 4th of June. June is one of the months Vienna is most frequented by foreigners because of the races, and the hotels will be crowded, so visitors are requested to write in time about special wishes concerning lodgings.

Addresses to obtain informations are:
Österr. Frauenstimmrechtkomitee Wien I, Reichsratstrasse 7.

Bureau der Österr. Frauenstimmrechtkonferenz, Neuer Frauenklub, Tuchlauben 11.

It is here that during the sojourn in Vienna will be the information office of the conference, and all visitors are required to go there first after the arrival in Vienna, to receive their invitations, programme, map of Vienna e.g. All information will be given there by ladies speaking all languages.

Communication from the Vienna Committee.

BOHEMIA.

The united Czechish Women's societies in co-operation with the City Council of Prague and with the Association for Promoting Visits of Foreigners (*Svaz pro povzneseni náostevy cizincu*) heartily invite all delegates to visit Prague (June 7—10) in their way to Buda-Pest. (Those, who decide to come are asked to apply for accomodation before the end of May to the undersigned committee, which will get reduced prices for them in first-class hotels from 3 K. upward for a single room.)

Vybor pro volebni právo žen.
Praha-II., Jungmannova trída 7.

Some Bohemian feminists have requested the French feminists to address a memoir to the Diet in favour of the admission of Mrs. Bozena Víkova Kunetická, elected representant of the towns of Mlada, Boleslav and Nymburk, as M. P. The *French League for Women's Rights* immediately responded to this appeal and is now circulating the following petition:—

„Considering that in the last election Mrs. B. V. K. was elected by the districts of Mlada, Boleslav and Nymburk to represent them in the Diet of the Kingdom of Bohemia;

Considering that in the second election she was the only candidate for all the political parties, and as such has been unanimously elected;

Considering that the Diet has to pronounce upon the validity of such election;

we, the undersigned, advocates of political equality for the two sexes, full of respect for the decisions of the body of electors, trusting that the Diet is animated by a spirit of justice,

express our hopes that the election of Mrs. B. V.—K. be considered valid.”—

A memoir with the same text will be addressed to the Governor of the Kingdom, the President of the Diet.

Many hundreds of signatures have already been collected, among which are those of deputies, lawyers, professors, men and women teachers, etc.

The French League for Women's Rights (127 Avenue de Clichy, Paris) has petition-lists at the disposal of all persons and organisations who will ask for them.

MARIA VERONE,
Gen. Sec. of the French League for W. R.

GALICIA.

Nowadays in the Diet of Galicia, in the press and in public opinion, there is no more overwhelming subject than the planned electoral reform, which was killed at one stroke by the higher clergy. The bishops of Galicia disapproved of the reform because it had too much of the Jewish element in it, and left free scope to Liberal and Radical tendencies. This phenomenon of modern life reveals the lack of proper relations between social life and the Church. After long preparatory work, made difficult by the desire of expansion of the Ruthenian element and of the Jewish national party, the Electoral Reform came in collision with a dangerous obstacle. The situation has now become dangerous, whereas the reform was to have given a just and peaceful solution to the great vital problem of nationality which takes such prominence in our country as to be an obstacle to the social life of the community. The Galician clergy has an enormous power and, having no counterpoise in strong democratic organisations, it exercises absolute authority in the country and brings it to a political crisis. Now it is proposed as a remedy that the electoral system should be revised in the reactionary sense of the bishops.

When it became known that the revision would decidedly take place, the Polish and Ruthenian women's associations in co-operation with the Polish Woman Suffrage Committee arranged a public demonstration before the Diet in order to make the claims of the women generally known. There were three women speakers, who declared that the women expected to be enfranchised by the electoral reform, and that the franchise was their principal demand, embracing all the others. The speakers were much applauded, and the meeting proved an imposing manifestation of the strength and unity of the feminist movement. After the meeting the delegates presented to the Marshal of Galicia, Count Goluchowski, a petition preceded by a short review of the women's movement, which demands recognition as a new element in social life. The deputation requested the Marshal's help to advocate their cause. The Marshal listened attentively and declared to be in favour of votes for both sexes, but said that the present Chamber has no majority for enfranchising the women. Many hearers got the impression that the women's movement in Galicia has now become a practical issue in public life.

MARIE GERZABEK.
Ladislawoff, April 1913.

The Polish and Ruthenian women of Galicia have the right to vote for Municipal Councils and for

the Diet, but it is limited by a tax-qualification and it is an indirect vote, for they are not allowed to cast their ballot personally, only by a man proxy. This unjust and silly law will shortly be abolished. The Commission on Electoral Reform has resolved to grant the direct franchise to women and there is no doubt but the Diet will adopt this proposal.

This is the first victory gained by the Polish women in their struggle for the vote, and small as it may seem, it is very important for Galicia as an encouragement for the women. Moreover the casting of ballots by the women themselves will put an end to the fraudulent traffic in women's legitimations.

The ancient truth that those in power will not suffer themselves to be ousted of their rights otherwise than by a determined struggle, has again been confirmed. Ever since electoral reform became a question of practical politics, the women's social and political union „Komitet pracy obywatelskiej kobiet” (K. P. O. K.), under the presidency of the untiring and enthusiastic pioneer, Miss Marie Dulebianka, has conducted a strong agitation for woman suffrage. It organised a series of lectures in all the districts of the City, called public meetings and sent deputations to the Commission on Electoral Reform.

In order to ascertain the number of suffragist M.P.'s and Town-Council-Members, the K. P. O. K. held two inquiries. The inquiry among the M.P.'s has not yet come to a close on account of the short duration of the last session; the other gave excellent results. It consisted of two questions: 1) Do you consider that women should be made eligible for the Municipal Council? 2) Can we count on your support when the municipal electoral reform will be put on the agenda? Of the 100 members of the Town Council 52 have answered in the affirmative without any restriction; 23 more answers were affirmative with restrictions as to personal qualifications or as to the number of candidates; 14 members abstained from answering and only 3 flatly answered *no*. So the Polish women of Lemberg are justified in hoping a good result of the coming electoral reform.

Several times during the past year the K. P. O. K. has united nearly all the existing Polish and Ruthenian women's organisation in Galicia for common action. The petitions presented to the Marshal of Galicia, Count Goluchowski, in March were signed by over 100 Polish and 30 Ruthenian societies. Lately at the invitation of our Committee K. P. O. K. a great public demonstration took place on April 20th on the square before the House of Parliament, where the Diet meets. Thousands of women and men awaited the return of a Delegation of 200 women, which had presented two petitions to the Marshal, one Polish and one Ruthenian, demanding full political rights. The Marshal's benevolent reception was communicated to the manifestators by Miss Dulebianka and Mrs. Berson, who were saluted with applause.

So the women's movement in Galicia has entered upon a new period, that of public demonstrations. Lemberg, April 1913. Dr. FELICIE NOSSIG.

Great Britain.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is not very seriously concerned with the result of the voting on Mr. Dickinson's Bill, for even if it passes all its stages this session, it is hardly possible that it should ultimately become law. *)

*) Indeed on May 6th it was defeated by 266 votes against 219. Ed.

The Union has never accepted the offer of facilities for this Bill as an equivalent for the debt which the Government owed. It had been repeatedly pointed out by Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Lloyd George, Sir John Simon and other members of the Government that the chances which a Private Member's Bill gave were distinctly inferior to those which would have been afforded had Mr. Asquith's pledges been fulfilled. So strongly was this conviction expressed at the last Annual Council Meeting that Suffragist supporters in the House have been urged to reject the new offer unless certain conditions were attached.

1. It must be a measure agreed upon by all Suffragists in the House of Commons, who will promise to support the Bill as it stands, and to vote against all amendments.

2. Some means must be found of neutralising, if not of winning, the Irish vote.

3. The Bill must be promoted by a Committee of all parties, including Front Bench men from both sides of the House.

4. This Committee must pledge itself to oppose any Franchise Bill until the women's demand has been fairly met.

The present bill is freely open to amendment and can be altered in committee at the will of the House; not one of the conditions mentioned above has been fulfilled, and though Mr. Snowden and Mr. Henderson are supporting the Bill, they have strongly protested against the Government's refusal to give anything better than what is offered by facilities for this Bill.

It is however perfectly clear that under present conditions, it affords the only real chance this Session to Members of Parliament to redeem their pledges to vote for a Woman's Suffrage Measure, and therefore they are under the greater obligation to make the most of it.

Meanwhile the House of Commons is proceeding with the Plural Voting Bill, the one part of the original Franchise Measure which the Government really cared about. This is designed to help the Liberal Party, and does not attempt to remedy any injustice except that which weighs against Liberalism.

Time has been demanded for a discussion in the House of Commons on the proposal that Mrs. Fawcett, the Countess of Selborn, Lady Frances Balfour and others should be heard at the Bar of the House on the subject of the enfranchisement of women. A petition has also been presented from a number of women's organisations with 54,000 signatures, praying that a resolution might be passed to enable their representatives to appear at the Bar of the House to give reasons why the enfranchisement of women should be enacted. So far neither of these demands has been granted by the Prime Minister. London, May 2nd 1913. EMILY M. LEAF.

The meetings of the Women's Freedom League during the month have been more than usually successful. We arranged a reception in honour of Mrs. Chapman Catt and gave her an enthusiastic welcome from the members of the Women's Freedom League. We were delighted to have this opportunity of paying our homage to the President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and her address with its breadth of view and wide tolerance of other people's views convinced us that statesmanship should not be the monopoly of one sex.

The Women's Freedom League took a vigorous part in the recent Whitechapel by-election and held numerous orderly and successful meetings during the campaign. Several of our members have had

their goods distrained on for their refusal to pay taxes to a government which denies them representation, and on each occasion afterwards held a protest meeting against this injustice.

In pursuance of its policy of defying the law so long as women have no voice in the legislating of their country the Women's Freedom League held a midnight meeting in Trafalgar Square April 23rd. Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Munro, Mrs. Julia Wood and other members of the League mounted the plinth of Nelson's column and began addressing a crowd which quickly assembled, on votes for women. After speaking for 30 minutes in spite of the authorities, Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle and Mrs. Wood were arrested, and the next day sentenced to 14, 10 and 7 days respectively. They were released without any reason being given the following day.

Sunday May 4th, Mrs. Despard took part in the Free Speech meeting in Trafalgar Square, and the following evening Miss Boyle, Miss Munro and other members of the League went to Hyde Park to hold a meeting there in defiance of the police regulations. They were arrested and the next day were sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment. The Women's Freedom League is trying to make it clear to the Government that in a Free State it is much easier and more economical to govern people with their consent than without it.

London, May 1913. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

The meeting of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association at the Knightsbridge Hotel, London, on Tuesday, April 29th was a great success. The Countess of Selborne presided, and the speakers were Miss Violet Martin (who has done much valuable organising work for the Association) and Mr. Mirrlees of Cambridge. The previous week a paragraph appeared in the daily press inviting all those who were interested in the Suffrage movement from the Conservative point of view, and who believed in working for the enfranchisement of women by educative and constitutional methods, to attend the meeting. As a result numerous letters were received at the Head Office asking for invitation cards, and it was very encouraging to see how much interest was evinced by the many strangers who attended the meeting.

Lord Robert Cecil, K.C., M.P. who has worked so hard in and out of the House of Commons for Women's Suffrage, has kindly promised to speak at our next meeting at the Knightsbridge Hotel on May 27th. Lady Willoughby de Broke will receive the guests and address the meeting from the Chair.

Several hundreds of tickets have been sold for the Annual Dinner of the C.U.W.F.A. to be held at the Hotel Cecil on May 19th. Lord Willoughby de Broke and Miss Macnaughtan will be the speakers, and at the close of the dinner a reception and entertainment will take place in the Grand Hall.

During the past few weeks the Central Office has been very busy endeavouring to gain Conservative support for the private Member's Bill which came before the House of Commons on May 6th. The failure of this measure to pass, although disappointing, caused no surprise, and far from being disheartened, it has already had the effect of making all keen Suffragists still more earnest and still more determined to have injustice removed.

Meetings of the C.U.W.F.A. have been held in Bristol, Croydon, Edinburgh, Leamington, Lindfield, Paddington, Portsmouth, Woking, and new branches have been formed in Bexhill, N. Sussex and Rutland. London, May 1913. L. G. SAMUEL.

The United States.

I am so busy with preparations for sailing next week for a five-months' stay in Europe that my message to „Jus Suffragii” must be brief, although there is much to say. Things move very rapidly in this new and enterprising country and the interest in woman suffrage has suddenly centered in the national capital at Washington. The treatment of the women's procession, as related in my last letter, roused Congress to a sense of its duty and the splendid Committee on Woman Suffrage in the Senate has received deputations of women almost every week asking for a national amendment. Last week I was in Washington and went to hear the anti-suffragists plead with this committee not to recommend this amendment to the Senate. It was very amusing to hear them tell of the failure of equal suffrage in the States where it exists to the members of the committee who live in those States! Seven of the nine are strongly in favor and one of the other two members told me he had an open mind and was not opposed. This committee will undoubtedly report in favor and compel a discussion by the Senate during this year.

President Wilson in the first six weeks of his administration has received more deputations of suffragists than did any other President in the four years of his term of office. The very first delegation he received after he became President was one of women asking him to recommend in his message to Congress a national amendment. I was with them and we were welcomed with as much courtesy as if we had been foreign diplomats. Since then he has received three other deputations. Of course the principal reason why we are finding so much favor in Washington is because of the revolution which has taken place in the politics of our country; the overthrow of what is known as the „aristocracy of privilege” and the beginning of a more democratic régime. This does not mean the ascendancy of any one party but rather of the democratic element in all parties, and the political equality of women is regarded by many as absolutely essential to a real democracy. We realize that we must win the victory in still more States before we can get a national amendment but we believe that this is not very far in the future.

The defeat in Michigan was so large that nobody seems to have ascertained the exact figures. This was foreshadowed in my last letter. When the suffrage amendment was submitted to a referendum there last year the opponents had no idea it would be carried and so made no contest until the last moment, when they defeated it by fraudulent votes in Detroit. This time they made a strong, well organized fight, sparing neither money nor work, and the suffragists were not sufficiently equipped to overcome the immense forces against them. While this was a great disappointment it seems not to have checked the suffrage movement in any other State or to have shaken public confidence. The chief event of the present week has been the vote in the Pennsylvania Senate in favor of submitting the amendment to the electors. The bill passed the lower house early in the winter and there was a long and determined effort to keep it from passing the Senate. It must go through another Legislature in 1915. There is no more amazing feature in the movement in this country than the passing of this bill by the old hide-bound States of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey, and nothing could more clearly indicate the lessening power of the political „bosses”.

Before this is read the procession in New York

will have taken place and suffragists of many States are now preparing for it. It is expected to far surpass all previous parades, and indications are that 30,000 will be in line. The preceding evening a mass meeting will be held in the Grand Opera House, addressed by former President Roosevelt; and another will be held in Carnegie Hall the evening after the parade, May 3. It is to be regretted that so many of the suffrage leaders will be in Europe en route to the Budapest Congress, but most of them expect to attend other meetings before that of the Alliance and cannot delay their sailing. All are looking forward with the keenest pleasure to the reunion with the old friends and acquaintance with many new ones.

IDA HUSTED HARPER.
New York, April 1913.

Norway.

The following bill for amendment of the Constitution has been proposed to the Storting (Parliament of Norway) by the Norwegian National Woman Suffrage Association every third year, when proposing of amendments to the Constitution is admitted, since 1898:— „§ 50. Entitled to vote are the Norwegian citizens, *men and women*, who have fulfilled 25 years of age, have resided in Norway 5 years and live there.”

The parenthesis „men and women” is the only new thing in this paragraph, which was for the rest of the wording made a part of our Constitution on April 21 1898, when men got the universal political suffrage.

Now the Constitution-Committee of our Storting, reporting this amendment, has *unanimously* proposed to make it a part of our Constitution.

We have at present, as a consequence of the elections of 1912, again the same Premier whose Government in 1908 proposed universal political suffrage for women, and all our political parties have this reform in their platforms. Every member of the Storting is therefore bound to vote for it. We are looking forward with great hope and delight to the moment, when men and women will be invested with the same political, as they have already the same municipal suffrage.
Gjaevran, May 5 1913. * * *

On May 3rd 1913 the Storting (Parliament) adopted with 89 votes against 30 the equalization of salaries for men and women in post-service. Ever since, half a century ago, women entered the post-service they have had the same pay for the same work as men. Five years ago a Conservative Government proposed lower wages for women post employees, on fiscal considerations, but the proposition was lost. Last year another Conservative Government proposed that women post-expeditors should get lower additional grants after a certain term of service than the men in the same position. The elections of 1912 returned a great majority of Liberals to the Storting and a Liberal Cabinet was consequently formed. The present Postmaster General seconded the minority of the Committee that had reported upon this bill. The majority had proposed to accept the bill, the minority to drop it. Many members also seconded the minority of the Committee. So the bill was lost by 89 to 30 votes. Henceforth the women employees will continue to receive equal pay for equal work, as they have always had before.

LOUISE QVAM.
Gjaevran pr. Stenkjaer, May 8th 1913.

Today the Constitution-Committee of the Storting has *unanimously* carried the proposal, tending to give universal political suffrage to women on the same conditions as men have it.

If the Storting now carries it, which it probably will do, then 230,000 women more, will have the vote.

A member of the Constitution-Committee, the socialdemocrat Chr. H. Knudsen, has announced his intention to introduce the socialdemocratic proposal, tending to give the vote to all citizens, men as well women, being 21 years of age. Now the limit of age is 25 years.

Kristiania, May the 2nd. FR. MÖRCK.

The final victory in Norway is in sight and will be won before the June congress. The last battle has already begun and has indeed proved to be no battle at all. Our Committee on Revision of Constitution proposes unanimously to the Storting to give women the universal political vote.

The report is not yet printed, but as correspondent for „Jus Suffragii” I have been permitted by the chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jacobsen, to read it in manuscript.

This historical document begins with an outline of the movement for woman suffrage in Norway. Already in 1886 political suffrage for women was proposed in the Storting, and as early as in 1890 44 out of 114 members of our Parliament voted in favour of it, 15 of them indeed for womanhood suffrage. The census vote was, as is generally known, granted to our women in 1907 with 96 votes against 25; on that occasion 48 members with the well-known Radicals, Mr. Bryggesaa and Mr. Castberg at their head—both members of our present Government—would go the length of granting universal woman suffrage at once.

The Committee says: „Lately during all discussions on the matter, it has been nearly unanimously admitted on all sides that the question has not been, if equal suffrage should be granted, but *when* the universal suffrage should be given to women. Experience was wanted. It has come. For 12 years women have voted in public affairs in Norway. We believe that it has been for the public benefit. On the other hand the census system that we chose as a transition has proved a failure and ought to be set aside as soon as possible.”

We have passed the stage of academic discussion long ago. None of the old arguments, and trite phrases is mentioned in the document. The Committee only refers to the experience in Norway and to the notorious growth of the International Alliance. It finds no argument against the cause in the unlawful behaviour of the suffragettes, because they „indeed are comparatively very few”.

From our last general elections in 1912 it gives the following figures:

Percentage of the voters who cast their ballot.

	Towns		Country	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
First elections	69.67	69.20	64.52	42.39
Deciding elections	72.01	73.81	67.67	49.89

The Committee concludes: „In this country we have reached a stage, that all political parties in their programmes agree in the view that women should have the same right to vote as men. Nor is there any difference of opinion on the matter in this Committee.”

Of the many motions demanding a regulation of the suffrage the one coming from the Landskvinde-

stemmeretsforeningen (National Woman Suffrage Association) through Mr. Bryggesaa is proposed to be made law in the constitution. It will grant the vote to 225,000 women that now are voteless.

WILHELM KEILHAU.
Kristiania, 8-5-1913.

Germany.

The Executive of the German Union of Woman Suffrage Societies in collaboration with the Executive of the Prussian W. S. Association and the Local W. S. Societies of the city of Berlin beg to invite cordially the honoured Delegates and Congressists whose way to Vienna and Budapest goes over Berlin to come to the capital of the Empire for a visit on *June 5th and 6th*. At Mrs. Catt's suggestion the above mentioned organisations have arranged a reception for the 5th and a big public meeting for the 6th in honour of our dear fellow-workers from abroad. Whilst the former evening will be chiefly devoted to pleasant intercourse, we hope that the latter will give the inhabitants of the German capital an occasion of becoming acquainted with the most famous pioneers from all nations, especially the representatives of those countries where women are already enfranchised.

We cherish the hope that a great number of suffragists may feel inclined to accept our invitation and we beg to apply for information or for participation in our gatherings to *Mrs. Dzialoszynski, Berlin-Grünewald, Hohenzollerndamm 100/101*.

Following on these lines the *Dresden W.S. Society* together with six other progressive women's associations in Dresden (Rechtsschutzverein für Frauen, Frauenbildungs-Frauenstudium, Intern. abolitionistische Föderation, Abstinenter Frauenverein, Kaufmännische weibliche Angestellte, Verein für neue Frauenkleidung und Frauenkultur) begs to invite the honoured Delegates and Congressists bound for Budapest to pay a visit to their city on *June 7th and 8th*. They too have planned a public evening-meeting for the 7th and a social gathering for the 8th. We shall take the greatest pleasure on that occasion to show our guests the sights of our town and its environs. We beg to apply for the Dresden gatherings to *Mrs. Marie Stritt, Dürerstrasse 110, Dresden*.

* * *

The Delegates of the German Union of Woman Suffrage Societies to the Budapest Convention are: Frau Marie Stritt, Dr. Anita Augspurg, Frau Regine Deutsch, Fräulein L. G. Heymann, Frau Auguste Kirchhoff, Frau Maria Lischniewska, Frau Emma Nägeli, Frau Helene Neesen, Frau Frida Radel, Frau E. von Rumpler, Fräulein Klara Schleker, Fräulein Helene Schiess, Except the Delegates and the 12 Alternates, a great number of congressists from all parts of Germany will go to Budapest.

ADELHEID VON WELCZECK.
Dresden, May 1913.

Sweden.

After some months, devoted to organizing the work, the collection of names on lists for the demonstration to 1914 (see „J.S.”, number 6) is now going on in most parts of the country. The Central Bureau in Stockholm has sent out no less than 28,000 lists and about 100,000 leaflets. A special demonstration-stamp and dito card has been printed by the N. W. S. A. In Stockholm the collecting of names began on the 15th of April with seven public

suffrage meetings on the same day and in different parts of the town. All those meetings were full, and the public greatly interested. In all the suburbs round Stockholm the same sort of agitation-meetings are being held. The local committee of the Stockholm W. S. A. has divided the town into districts, quarters and houses, and about 600 women are now canvassing in their different districts.

Two of the political parties, the Liberals and the Socialdemocrats, have manifested their interest in the suffrage demonstration. At its great annual meeting in Stockholm, the Liberal party made a declaration to the effect that the Liberal organizations as well as the Liberal press and the private members of the party ought in every way to help the women in their demonstration for political suffrage and eligibility, by taking up the question at their meetings, by working for it in their press and by actively supporting the collecting of names.

In a leading article the leader of the Socialdemocrats has requested the members of that party, especially the women, to show that they really understand the importance of this demonstration by supporting it in every way.

But if those two political parties have given the suffrage-women their support, the Conservatives have done and are still doing their very best to put stones in our way. All over the country—from Stockholm to the smallest place where a newspaper exists—the Conservative press has articles against woman's suffrage. „Do not write your name on the lists” is their warning to the women, and even women have tried to hinder us in our work by finding fault with the wording on the lists and with the fact that women as young as 18 years may write their names on the lists, etc.

Lately an organization of young Conservative men has decided to agitate against women's suffrage—and especially against the demonstration—by arranging protest-meetings in their local societies. When the Executive Committee of the N. W. S. A. heard of this, they invited the Stockholm society to a discussion at a meeting on April 20th, but the invitation was not accepted. Instead of that the young men arranged a meeting of their own on the same day. At the meeting of the N. W. S. A. dr. Lydia Wahlström and dr. Gulli Petrini were the leaders of the discussion, and afterwards an opponent of the enfranchisement of women—though not belonging to the above-named organization—gave his reasons for believing that the time was not yet ripe for woman's suffrage. Several speakers answered him.

At the other meeting two speeches were held against woman's suffrage and after that a resolution was read amidst a great tumult of „ayes” and „noes”. A regular vote was demanded, but not granted, and no discussion was permitted. A woman tried to speak but was silenced and the same happened to a well-known Town-Councillor, who made an indignant protest against this way of conducting a meeting. The arrangers of that meeting have really made a very bad start and, though a week has passed since then, the papers are full of articles protesting against the meeting.

A real anti-suffrage movement has now begun in Sweden—though as yet no anti-suffrage society has been formed—but I do not believe that it will be of any real danger to the suffrage movement. As yet it has only resulted in indignation and an increased enthusiasm for the suffrage-work.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Stockholm, in May 1913.

Netherlands.

When in February the Government announced its intention of laying before the nation a proposal for revision of the State Constitution in which the right of suffrage should be extended to all men „householders and of independent position”, without taking the least heed that the people is composed of men and women,—the indignation of the thinking and reading public was aroused. Immediately the big daily papers (mostly of Liberal opinions) gave leading articles—even cartoons—showing their disapproval of this total ignoring of the whole movement for women's enfranchisement, which has now been at work twenty years in our country. The Cabinet's voluntary deafness to the well-founded claims of the women, aggravated by their point-blank declaration: „in our proposals we ignore the women”, caused a wave of indignation to rise and swell all over the country; and this not only among people with political views opposed to those of the Government. Many a Roman Catholic and orthodox Calvinist is in sympathy with the revolt of Dutch women against this scandalous treatment of the mothers, wives and daughters of voters as incompetent to share the rights of their men-folk.

There was a seething indignation in the Dutch nation, and the National Woman Suffrage Association has given it vent in a dignified but powerful protest, manifested by a demonstration in The Hague, the seat of the Government, on May 4th. The Concert-hall of the Zoological Garden was packed, floor and gallery, and troupes of suffragists from north and east had travelled hours to participate in this meeting and help express the common indignation at the action of the Government. Those who arrived at the station at nearly the same time walked to the hall of the meeting in a procession, headed by the decorated motor-carriages which had served on the previous day to advertise the meeting. This was the first real suffrage parade in Holland.

In addition to the women speakers we had invited representatives of the different political parties, and the three Concentration-Parties (Liberals) and the Socialdemocrats were represented by their prominent men, mostly M.P.s. The public was enthusiastic and cheered the speakers. Finally the following resolution was adopted with great applause and without a dissentient vote:—

„That this meeting, called by the N. W. S. A. on May 4th 1913 at The Hague, having heard the motives of the Executive and several speakers, declares its indignant disappointment at the Government's proposal concerning electoral reform in the approaching revision of the Constitution, which, by declaring women—men's equals socially and economically—their political inferiors, ignores the movement, living and growing among Dutch women, that makes them claim their enfranchisement. This meeting is of opinion that the economical evolution in modern society brings the enfranchisement of women as a natural sequel, and that the Government, in proposing that women shall remain deprived of the vote, deliberately refuses to see the existing economic facts. Protesting indignantly against the reactionary Government proposals which will exclude women from citizenship for years to come, this meeting calls upon the Dutch nation and especially upon Dutch women of all opinions and classes to join in a protest against this arbitrary and iniquitous action of the Government that stamps the whole female sex with inferiority, and requests the Executive of the

W. S. A. to communicate this resolution to the Government.”—

The Exhibition of *Women in 1813 and 1913* was opened in Amsterdam on May 2nd. It proves a great success. Among the 24 sub-committees each representing some activity of women, that on Suffrage occupies a large place. The centre of its hall is formed by a table with literature, photo's, badges and propaganda-articles sent by 15 W. S. Associations of different countries; on the wall there is a large suffrage map of America, Europe and Australia; in the corners we have tables with the badges and literature of the W. S. Association, the W. S. League (Bond) and the Men's League. Part of the hall has seats for visitors who want to have tea with a suffrage-chat into the bargain. All the readers of „J. S.” should come and see for themselves.

Amsterdam, May 1913. ALETTA JACOBS.

The elections for the States-General will be held on June 17th and the second elections on June 27th. The great question is now whether the Government, that ignores the women's claims completely, will be left in power or not. Its working majority is composed of three parties, the Antirevolutionaries, the Conservative Potestants and the Roman Catholics, who have lately renewed their coalition. On the other hand there is a confederation, called Concentration, of their enemies, the three Liberal parties, who have agreed to join hands for the June-elections. The Socialdemocrats stand apart and put up their own candidates, but in second elections they have agreed to support the Concentration parties. So there is a chance that the Liberals may come out with a majority. Certainly the attitude the Government has taken with regard to the enfranchisement of women—viz. total ignoring of the female half of the nation—is not calculated to promote their chances. The protest-meeting of May 4th in The Hague has brilliantly shown the rise of suffrage sentiment in the Netherlands.

The Men's League is continuing its action to inform the electors of the opinion of the candidates on the score of the enfranchisement of women, by addressing questions to each of the candidates and publishing the answers. We also make propaganda by our share in the exhibition at Amsterdam. Our table contains statistical diagrams showing the relation between the enfranchisement of women and the amount of wages paid to female labour. The three national suffrage societies of the Netherlands have divided the care of the suffrage room with its international exhibits, stalls and tea department. Utrecht, May 1913. W. A. E. MANSFELDT.

France.

The National Congress of the French W. S. A. will take place on May 12th. In the report which the Hon Secretary is going to present she will speak of the truly encouraging results which we have obtained within the last year. In 1912 the French W. S. A. had 16 Groups, 5 Sections, 6 Affiliated Societies and 6000 members. In 1913 there are 48 Groups, 15 Sections, 8 Affiliated Societies and 9000 members. Numerous Groups are in process of formation, and the existing ones are establishing new sections. This shows that the Association is in full growth. „If our Groups are prosperous and are augmenting in number”, says the Report, „it is because we do not limit our work to claiming the

vote. We hold that every demand for rights implies duties, and in the W. S. Association we are trying to make ourselves worthy of our future task as electors and elected. The vote is not an end, but a means; therefore we should study all the questions which we shall be responsible for solving when we shall be enfranchised. We must not only pay attention to the demands of the women, but to questions of social hygiene, political economy, public morals etc. „Perhaps what makes us differ from other feminist societies is only the fact that we hold that enfranchisement should come *first* and *before everything else*, for we wish to have our say in the laws that concern us, either for ourselves or for those who represent us. At present no deputy can truly speak in the name of women, and when we demand reforms, it is in the name of charity but not of justice that we obtain them.”

Among the topics that will be treated at the congress we name:—1) questions relating to the official organs of the W. S. A. (official bulletin in *La Française, Jus Suffragii*), 2) propaganda by the press and by school programs, 3) proposals concerning the activity of the W. S. A. during the parliamentary elections of 1914, 4) proposals on propaganda, badges, etc. We also intend to appoint our delegates for Budapest, but considering the number of congresses that are to take place in Paris in June, we do not suppose that our delegation will be a full one.

Indeed on June, 9th will be held in Paris the Abolitionist Congress, but chiefly the international congress organised by the National Council of Women of France from June 3rd to June 9th will demand great efforts from most of us. This congress will be particularly interesting on account of the eminent speakers, of the promised reports, and also of the interest shown by the French Government. Among other things the congressists will have a reception on June 8th by the President of the Republic and Mme Poincaré. Some days before the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mme Pichon will give us a reception. And in addition to this the Minister of the Interior will take the chair at the opening session in the Sorbonne on Monday June 2nd at 9 o'clock in the evening.

We hope that on their way to Budapest a great number of suffragists will be able to stay some days in Paris and participate in the congress. All informations will gladly be given them by the Secretariate of the congress 1 Avenue Malakoff, Paris. The French W. S. A. is also at the disposal of suffragists for sending them all documents relative to the congress (The secretariate of the French W. S. A. is 53 rue Scheffer, Paris).

The two Reporters appointed to treat suffrage questions at the Paris congress are Mme Schlumberger, Vice-President of the French W. S. A. and Mme Maria Vérone, Councillor in the Court of Appeal.

(Communication from the French W. S. A.)

Italy.

When Parliament was discussing the electoral reform which proposed a near approach to universal suffrage, the Roman Committee for Woman Suffrage sent a Deputation to the Chamber of Deputies which was received by the parliamentary groups of the various political parties, who gave pledges to vote and speak in the Chamber in favour of the enfranchisement of women. Yet another Deputation was received by the Premier and the Cabinet. Mean-

while a meeting was held to set forth the claim of women to be comprised in the electoral reform, where the speakers were Mrs. Professor Anita Zampetti—Dobelli, Miss Romelia Troise and Miss Pasini, President of the Milan Committee. Prof. Teresa Labriola was in the chair.

In the Chamber many speakers advocated the enfranchisement of women and many declared their readiness to vote for an amendment in favour of votes for women, but the President of the Cabinet declared that if woman suffrage should be passed, he would take the bill back. To avoid this, only 47 M.P.'s voted for the amendment. Next month we shall send more news.

Rome, April 1913.

ROMELIA TROISE.

Finland.

The three associations, which constitute the National Federation for Finland have elected the following delegates and alternates to take part in the Congress at Budapest in June next:

For the „Suomalainen Naisliitto“:

Delegates: Dr. Maikki Friberg, Helsingfors; Dr. Tekla Hultin M.P., Helsingfors; Mrs. Helmi Kauranen, Viborg; Miss Olga Oinola, Helsingfors; Miss Helmi Tenzèn, Helsingfors.

Alternates: Miss A. Edyth Hultin, Helsingfors; Miss Hilja Vilkmán, Helsingfors; Mrs. Elsa Hösteko, Jyväskylä.

For the „Svenska Kvinnoförbundet i Finland“:

Delegates: Miss Bertha Tabelle, Mrs. Nadine Topelius, Miss Mily Tojkander, Miss Harriet Blauw, Helsingfors.

Alternate: Miss Ogda Stålström, Helsingfors.

For the „Kvinnosaksförbundet Unionen“:

Delegates: Dr. Jenny af Forselles M.P., Miss Cely Mehelin, Helsingfors; Miss Anna Stenfelt, Abo.

Alternates: Mrs. Elin Malin, Miss Alli Nissinen, Miss Ellen Bremer, Helsingfors; Mrs. Aina Aminoff, Miss Berta Hamberg, Miss Annie Holmqvist, Mrs. Carin Lindberg, Abo.

At the same time we will mention, that Miss Annie Furuholm has resigned the presidency of „Kvinnosaksförbundet Unionen“ and that Miss Lucina Hagman, former President and afterwards Honorary President of the Association, has again accepted the function.

E. SALTZMAN,

Helsingfors,
April 1913.

Honorary Secretary of the
National Federation for Finland.

Servia.

This time there is no report of the Servian Union, for during such exciting times when our army was fighting all over the Balcan Peninsula, it was not the moment even to think of any work for woman's enfranchisement. All the ladies on the committee are so much taken up by the hospital work or by the care for poor families in newly conquered Servia, that one has absolutely no time for anything else.

Our president is chiefly occupied at present by a Home for poor fatherless children who have been left without parents during the war. One of our vice-presidents is at Durazzo working as nurse in a hospital, she has left Belgrade after having organized the hospital of the Servian Sisterhood, a hospital which is considered as the best one in Belgrade and which is run only by ladies. The

other vice-president is at Monastir helping the poor families by distributing money, garments and so forth; many of the ladies on the Committee are gone as volunteer nurses all over the conquered regions, some to Bulgaria, and just now you can imagine how busy the nurses are receiving every day sanitary trains full of Servian wounded, from Adrianopol and in a few days we may also expect them from Scutari.

I hope now you will understand the impossibility of sending you any report.

ELLEN LOSANITCH.

South Africa.

I am glad to be able to report that the question of Woman Suffrage has for the first time formed the subject of a debate in the Union Parliament. On Feb. 11th Mr. Andrews, a Labour member, moved „That in the opinion of this House should be made eligible for inclusion in the lists of persons qualified to vote in Parliamentary elections“. The debate occupied part of 2 days, being concluded on March 5th. Able speeches in support of the motion were made by the Minister for Education (Mr. Malan) and another member of the Government party, by 4 members of the Opposition, 4 Labour members (including the mover), and 2 Independents. The speeches in opposition came entirely from the rank and file of the Government party, and their quality may be gauged by a few extracts from the newspaper report. Mr. Du Toit asked: „What would become of the children if women followed in man's footsteps, and had to attend meetings?... If once they had ladies in Parliament they would find them to be serious handicaps in their work, and Parliament would never get finished.... Women with self-respect would never accept the vote.... The hon. member concluded by saying that the proposal was a devilish one“. „Mr. Neethling“ opposed the motion.... because if women were granted the vote all chivalry would disappear“. „Mr. Marais said Colonial women were too honourable to be dragged across the floor of that House“. No attempt was made to answer the sound arguments advanced in support of the motion. The Prime Minister „sat on the fence“. „Personally he would like women to have votes“, but „he doubted very much whether the time had come“—„doubted whether to-day the women of South Africa would be prepared to accept the suffrage if it were given to them“. He added the unwarranted assertion that „to-day only a very small minority of the women would avail themselves of the vote if it were granted them“. Two other members who spoke favoured only a limited franchise for women. The debate was ended by „moving the previous question“—a method of avoiding a direct vote. The subject however will probably be raised again on April 8th, when a franchise question comes before the House.

The above mentioned statements of the Prime Minister have formed the subject of resolutions of protest passed at meetings in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth, and of a letter addressed to him by the Executive of the W. E. A. U.

Pretoria, March 1913.

IDA G. HYETT.

On account of the Budapest Convention there will be no „Jus Suffragii“, issued in June.