

JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

SEVENTH YEAR No. 7.

MARCH 15, 1913.

The revolution in social conditions now preparing in Europe is chiefly concerned with the future of the workers and the women. In this I place all my hopes and expectations; for this I will work at my life and with all my strength.

MILLICENT G. FAWCETT.



Decem virorum futura non tantas linguas
movent quantas vita unius feminae.

G. ERARDA.

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Announcements.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt announces her wish to retire from the office of President of the International Alliance at the Budapest Congress. In a letter to the Presidents of the affiliated National Suffrage Associations she explains why the claims of her country supersede those of the international movement, and then invites nominations for a new President in the following terms:—

„As the Suffragists of one Country cannot possibly know the qualifications of those of another, and as it is unwise to trust the selection of our Board of Officers to Delegates who have had no opportunity to consider the merits of candidates, I suggest that you bring the question of International officers before your own Board. If your Association decides that it has a candidate to bring forward for any office, I suggest that you either make the announcement in „Jus Suffragii”, or inform the Presidents of all other Countries of your nomination by private letter. I believe this plan will result in a list of several candidates from which an excellent Board of Officers can be chosen.

The coming I. W. S. Convention at Budapest June 15—20 promises to become a most interesting event. Crowds of well known Suffragists have already signified their intention of taking part and new Hon. Associates are joining every day. According to rule (Constitution IV : 5). Associated Members have all the rights of Delegates except the vote and can attend congresses without further payment than their yearly subscription of £ 1 to the Alliance. We recommend our various affiliated Associations the methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in Great-Britain who appealed to their members to join the Intern. Alliance! This appeal has brought in over 40 new Hon. Associates in the last two months alone and if followed by other countries would greatly help the funds of our organisation and the circulation of this paper.

Applications for membership to be sent to the first of the two undersigned.

ADELA COIT, Treasurer.

30 Hyde Park Gate, London S.W.
M. G. KRAMERS (Ed. „Jus Suffragii”).

In order to give more facility for new subscribers we have arranged with the post that every post-office within the International Postal Union will take subscriptions for *Jus Suffragii*

Indeed, unless our readers help to augment our circulation and persuade the new subscribers to pay in advance, there is little chance of the I. W. S. Alliance ever getting a third (German) edition of its organ.

The *Union of International Associations*, which held its first congress at Brussels in May 1910, will hold its second one this year June 15—19. The reader will remember that the I. W. S. Alliance joined the Union because it affords a welcome opportunity for getting acquainted with other international unions and because in its Central Office it assembles all documents and organs published by the affiliated international societies. The Union gives the I. W. S. All. its place beside no less than 510 international organisations of the most various aims and scope. The Men's International W. S. Alliance will probably also affiliate with the Union.

This world-wide Union of all kinds of (mostly men's) societies is a near approach to the realisation of the ideal which was in the minds of Susan B. Anthony, Frances Willard and their associates when they started the International Council of Women. No propaganda for any particular object (for or against the enfranchisement of women, for instance) is intended, but the various societies come into touch with one another and their documents are kept in the *Central Office* 3bis rue de la Régence, Brussels, and the *Annuaire de la Vie Internationale* reports their growth and their actions.

The Brussels Congress, to be held in the same week as our Budapest Convention, promises to be of great interest.

Congress Announcements.

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN SUFFRAGE
ALLIANCE.

The *International Women's Suffrage Alliance* has, in conformity with the resolution taken at the

Congress in Stockholm, resolved, to accept the invitation of the Austrian Women's Suffrage Committee and to convene a preliminary Conference on the 11th and 12th June 1913 to Vienna, as a form of introduction to the International Congress, that is to be held from the 15th to the 20th June in Budapest.

For the first time since the beginning of the Austrian Women's Movement an International Meeting will be held in Vienna; Men and Women from all parts of the world will meet in Austria's splendid capital, to give evidence of the great importance, that is now already attributed to the Women's Suffrage Movement and to join in a common plea for the enfranchisement of Women.

The Austrian Women's Suffrage Committee will try its best to render the short stay in Vienna as attractive and pleasing as possible to its guests. A large Committee, to which women of all classes of society, representatives of all professions, the leaders of the Women's Movement, renowned artists etc., belong, has been formed, to make all necessary preparations and to give a proof of the well-known Viennese hospitality.

The Programme of the Conference has been fixed as follows: In the evening of the 11th June a reception will be given by the Viennese Suffrage Committee; in the morning of the 12th of June a circular tour through the City, visits to the principal places of interest will be made; in the evening a large public Meeting and, after it, a general supper. Besides this, private arrangements will be made. On the 12th of June the Women's Journal „Wiener Mode“ will give invitation for a musical five o'clock tea. A visit to the Adria-Exhibition in the famous „Prater“ is also in view.

The directors of the Austrian State Railways have granted a reduction of the fare on all lines of the government railway. The ticket of membership entitles each holder to pay: for the I. and II. Class of the passenger-train the half of the fare for the express-train, and for the I., II. and III. Class of the express-train the fare of the passenger-train.

Different hotels have offered reduced prices for their rooms. If requested, private hospitality will be given to some delegates.

Every man and woman, taking interest in the Women's Suffrage Movement can partake in the Conference after having procured a ticket of membership à 4 Crowns.

Detailed information is given by: *The Women's Suffrage Committee, Vienna, I. Reichsratsstrasse 7* or by the „Bureau of the International Suffrage Conference, Neuer Frauenklub, Vienna, I. Tuchlauben 11.

We hope, that numbers of men and women will accept our invitation and come to visit our beautiful city.

The Viennese
Women's Suffrage Committee.

THE BUDAPEST CONVENTION.

In Congressmatter we Hungarians have some very urgent requests!

The proceedings are going on splendidly: our press is full of the news about the Congress. We are happy to be able to give most interesting news on the enlistment of congress-members. Besides all the beloved pioneers of our movement, we shall have the great pleasure to make the acquaintance of some eminent personalities who have not yet attended our former congresses. All suffragists will surely be glad to meet Jane Addams from Chicago, Countess Emilia de Pardo Bazán, the famous Spanish writer who occupies such a high office in Ministry of Education in Spain. The Countess will be one of

the speakers of the great evening meeting. Helen Loring Grenfell is delegated as representant of the Legislature of Colorado. Hermann Bahr, the famous Austrian writer, Marchesa Lucifero, the ardent Italian suffragist, will be for the first time among us. We fondly hope to welcome Judge Lindsey from Colorado.

Our Congressfund has got a gift of 1000 crowns from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Among the excursions planned for the congress one will be arranged for the purpose of studying the State Institutions for the Care of Children, which are known as the best arranged in Europe. The Chief of that Department, Dr. Paul de Ruffy, Cabinet functionary, is arranging that party and intends to take charge of the visitors and guide them personally through the country. Those taking part in this excursion will be the guests of the Municipalities in the various towns they will visit.

The female teachers, organized in the „Maria Dorothea Society“, lately had a meeting with a lecture by Countess Teleki, the President of our Executive Committee. They decided to follow the example of the post-employees and ask for holidays during the time of the congress.

The Hungarian National Council has urged the I. C. W. and its N. C.'s to send their delegates to our congress and intends to entertain them at a special party during our congress.

The Chief Consul of Turkey in Budapest offered to help us to get several Turkish delegates.

We are obliged to make a very strong appeal to the affiliated Societies of the I. W. S. All., amongst whom many did not answer our requests and questions.

We have not yet got announcements who will be the delegates and alternates. Our press is urgently asking for photographs and biographical notices and we have already exhausted our stock of press material. Will those who have not yet sent these notices do so at once. They would help us very much.

We would be much obliged to have early applications for rooms in order to be able to select as carefully as possible the lodgings desired.

As we have to exhibit the propaganda-material of all countries, we beg you all very much to post the things immediately, as we have to know what space we need for this exhibition. The material for the exhibition of propaganda-material is to be addressed to Mrss. Sigmund Buchler & Co., expeditors for the Congress, Tözsdepalota, Budapest V.

Detailed programs and information on the cost of living will be sent very soon to every affiliated country.

We beg all correspondents to excuse delay of answers, but the end of our Suffrage Campaign requires all our forces. Next week we are at the end and will know whether the congress shall be able to celebrate our victory or help us to get over the bitterness of defeat.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest, March 3rd, 1913.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Great Britain's proposal has been modified so that Article V Section 1 shall read:—

„The Executive Board of Officers shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, an Honorary Treasurer, an Honorary Corresponding Secretary, an Honorary Recording Secretary and three (or two) additional Secretaries (or members, or interpreters).“

Mrs. Catt and Dr. Jacobs recommend the addition of a section to Article 3, in order that the women

who are struggling to better the condition of their sex in Asiatic countries may become connected with the Alliance and given the help they need. It should follow Section 5.

In a Country where no woman suffrage organization exists, and where the status of women renders woman suffrage agitation impractical, as is the case in most Oriental countries, a Committee of not less than ten persons which has been formed of persons engaged in forwarding the woman movement may become auxiliary to the Alliance by the payment of ten shillings annually and shall be entitled to one voting delegate in all International meetings. Whenever any such country secures the authority to enfranchise its women, the Auxiliary Committee must conform to the qualifications for regular auxiliaryship.

Mrs. Catt proposes the following amendments to Article 3, Section 1. Strike out in fifth line the words „by twelve delegates“. Add in 8th line after Alliance, the words „and shall be entitled to twelve delegates“.....

.....Insert this sentence in 10th line after period: „National Auxiliaries having more than 10,000 members shall pay £ 3 and shall be entitled to eighteen delegates, and those having over 20,000 shall pay £ 4 and be entitled to twenty-four delegates

Mrs. Catt proposes the following amendments in order to improve the election system:

Article VIII Section I Drop the remainder of the paragraph beginning with „In the election of officers.“

Section II Keep unchanged.

Section III Keep first sentence. Strike out remainder of paragraph and substitute the following:

„The Honorary Corresponding Secretary shall send a blank nominating ballot to the President of each Auxiliary, six months previous to the quadrennial Congress. Any auxiliary may return nominations for any or all offices, and these must be in the hands of the Honorary Corresponding Secretary one month previous to the Congress. Nominations may be made from the floor of the Congress and admitted by consent of a majority of the delegates. A nominating Committee, consisting of an Honorary Corresponding Secretary and two additional members appointed by the President shall prepare a printed ballot containing the names of all nominees to be ready for use on the day set for the election.

A Board of Election consisting of six delegates—three to be appointed by the President and three by the Convention, shall conduct the election. They shall prepare a ballot box to receive votes for a period of hours determined by vote of the Congress two days previous to the election. After ascertaining that the voter's name is on the official list of delegates, they shall provide her with a printed ballot. She shall then place a cross opposite the name of the candidate of her choice, fold the ballot once and drop it into the ballot box. The Board of Election shall open and count the ballots in the presence of each other.

The proposal will again be made to establish an International Headquarters in London. It is hoped that a definite plan for this step may be presented to the Congress.

The National Union of Great Britain proposes the establishment of an International Suffrage Press Bureau,* and wish such delegates as are especially interested to meet in Budapest before the Congress, in order that a definite plan for conducting and

* See „Jus Suffragii“ VII p. 2.

financing such work may be formulated ready for presentation to the Congress. Those who can attend such a Conference will please notify Miss Chrystal Macmillan, 14 Great Smith Street, Westminster W., London, England.

The National Federation of Finland proposes as a business suggestion. That a Permanent International Committee of enfranchised women, be appointed within the I. W. S. A. in order to exchange political experience and to devise ways and means of assisting woman suffrage all over the World. See „Jus Suffragii“ for details.

The French W. S. A. sends the following communication.

The Executive of the French W. S. A. agrees with the following proposals of Great Britain for the Budapest Convention: Change of Constitution, appointment of five International vice-presidents instead of two; Order of Business, to devote one session to a plan for organising an International Press Bureau appointed by the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

The Executive of the French W. S. A. has sent to the President of the I. W. S. All. and to the National Presidents the following resolution concerning the congress:

—„The French W. S. A. begs to submit the suggestion that at the Budapest Convention the Delegates from each of the enfranchised countries, having some form of parliamentary or municipal suffrage, will answer the following questions:

1. What is the situation in your country with regard to equal pay for equal work; a) in the case of men and women teachers, b) in the case of other functionaries in State employment, especially the employees in post-, telegraph- and railway-offices?

What progress have you made since your enfranchisement?

2. What progress have you made since your enfranchisement with regard to temperance and legislation against liquor traffic?

We ask to have the text and the exact dates of the laws passed concerning equality of salary for men and women and against drink.

With the documents and data procured we propose to edit a pamphlet which may render eminent service to all those countries that are not yet enfranchised.“

Literature.

The *Suffrage Annual* and *Women's Who's Who*, by A. J. R. published by Stanley Paul & Co.'s 31 Essex Street London W.C. for 6 shillings, is a very useful directory for suffragists as it gives a long list of names of people who have played a prominent part in the movement with a list of their works and all sorts of information even including their favourite recreations. This list however is liable to be far better completed in a new issue; for instance we miss many eminent workers of the Men's League. On the other hand the nomenclature of national W. S. associations seems to be quite complete, indeed there are 44 with addresses, lists, Officers, Branches etc. A very useful table of dates makes the reader acquainted with the principal facts of the suffrage movement in Great-Britain. As this handbook confines itself to the question of suffrage it give details which the Englishwoman's Year-Book does not contain and therefore may well find a place on the suffragist's desk by the side of the Year-Book.

More Light on the Woman Question compiled from the „Anglo-Russian“ and from „The Men's League's Monthly Record“ by Jaakoff Prelooker (to be had for 2d. at 136 St. Stephen's House, Westminster) is the most inspiring souvenir one could possibly have of the Men's League's Congress in London from Oct. 23 to Oct. 30 1912. We find here an enumeration of all the existing Men's Leagues and their delegates, the resolutions passed expressing the relation between woman suffrage and wages, white slave traffic, race progress and imperial efficiency, the Constitution of the International Men's Alliance for Woman Suffrage and, last not least, the principal points from the speeches made at the numerous meetings and entertainments. Those who know Mr. Prelooker as an author will understand the pleasure it gives to see the pamphlet introduced by two of his articles on the suffrage question.

United States.

All the predictions in my last letter have been fulfilled and we are very happy over the situation. The Legislature of Michigan by a large majority has re-submitted the amendment for woman suffrage and it will be voted on in April. The Governor has said that measures will be taken to secure a fair election, so that the women shall not again be deprived of the victory they have won. It will be much more difficult, however, to win now than it was the first time, for then the enemy had no idea until the last minute that the amendment would be carried and all they could do then was to stuff the ballot boxes with fraudulent votes. Now they will make a strong, organized fight. The New York anti-suffragists have been working for weeks in Michigan, and also their so-called national president, to prevent the Legislature from allowing another vote on the question. It was addressed for an hour and a half by their best speaker but not one Michigan „anti“ had a word to say. Every prominent organization of women in the State had its representatives there asking for the bill, and the members of the Legislature reeded the wishes of their own women. Now the eastern „antis“ will have to join their forces with those of the most corrupt elements in Michigan in the effort to secure a majority against the amendment, but it is not believed this will be possible. There are not more than six weeks to make the campaign and they will be weeks of great anxiety among the suffragists of the whole country. It is to be hoped that for awhile all the money and effort will be concentrated on this one State, as the contest will be the most important that has yet been made.

Almost as soon as the Legislature of Nevada was ready for business both houses adopted the woman suffrage amendment with only two or three dissenting votes. The women there are working very hard for a special election in September, as they do not want to wait for the regular election in 1914, and they feel absolutely certain of success whenever it shall be held. At the present moment it does not seem likely that there will be any other suffrage elections in 1913, as it is customary to vote on all amendments at the general elections, which in most States take place in the even years. The bill passed the second house of the South Dakota Legislature just after my last letter was written, so in that State and in Montana the question will be voted on in 1914, and that is none too soon, for they are big States, with a widely scattered population and there is much work to be done.

The suffrage bill has gone through one house of

the North Dakota Legislature, the Missouri Legislature and the Pennsylvania Legislature, but nobody can tell what its fate will be in the other house. En several it has failed to pass one house after receiving a very large majority in the other. This is not altogether a disappointment to the suffragists, as they feel that they have already as many campaigns as they can manage properly—Michigan, Nevada, Montana and South Dakota—with one or two others almost a certainty.

The New York Legislature adopted the bill in both houses by very large majorities and the women feel that they now have an immense task before them with a population of over nine millions to be influenced, representing every nation on earth. The bill has to pass another Legislature in 1915, and the opponents still hope that this can be prevented, but it will be impossible if the favorable sentiment grows as rapidly the next two years as it has the last two. The city is like a bee hive of suffragists; they swarm everywhere and their meetings are without number, ranging from those of thousands in the largest halls down to those of nightly occurrence in parlors and on street corners. They give plays and concerts, speak between acts at the theatres, advertise in the big show windows, carry on bazaars and pure food markets. The word is on everybody's lips. At the celebration of Miss Anthony's 93d birthday in one of the large hotels a beautiful bust of her by Mrs. Adelaide Johnson, which she recently made in Rome, was unveiled before a fashionable audience. Two days later the farewell meeting to Miss Jane Addams was attended by 3,000 people representing every class and condition. In the spring the entire State will be covered by caravans and walking parties of pilgrims.

The activities throughout New York State are duplicated in varying degrees in many other States. There are probably thousands of columns on the subject every day in the newspapers of the country. They have given that many to the one subject alone of the suffrage „hike“ from New York to Washington. „Hike“ is a popular bit of slang which means to jog along in a careless, easy fashion but with a determination to „get there“. This little band of women marched from New York to Albany, the State capital, about 150 miles, with a message to the new Governor the last of December, and now they are on their way with one to the new President. There are about a dozen of them and they are joined along the route by scores of women who walk with them for a day. Their march of nearly 250 miles has been one continuous ovation. When they entered the cities they have been greeted by the Mayor and in Baltimore they were received by Cardinal Gibbons. In the university towns the students have made the wildest demonstrations of delight, acting as guard of honor, demanding speeches and showing them every attention. The cadets and the local militia have formed an escort for miles. The suffragists of various cities have entertained them with luncheons and banquets and they have left a trail of converts to the cause.

They are due in Washington February 27, and after a little rest, of such a thing is possible, they will join the big parade on March 3. This has quite thrown in the shade the inauguration parade of the following day. Special trains to carry the women will be run from many points and there will probably be representatives from every State. After it is all over, then we hope to find time to sit down and think hard about going to Budapest, which we have not been able to do in all the whirl of the past weeks and months. There promises to be a large, representative delegation of American women.

I wish I could put into words the enjoyment and exhilaration of suffrage work in the United States; the happiness of those engaged in it; the pity they feel for those on the outside, and their strong desire to share their joy with the women of all the world.

IDA HUSTED HARPER.

New York, February 1913.

Hungary.

As we are in the hottest point of our campaign it is perfectly impossible to give you a report about our news.

Next month!

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest March 1913.

Great Britain.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOM. SUFFR. SOC.

Seeing that the results of the Speaker's ruling in January last with regard to the amendments respecting woman's suffrage has created a completely new state of things, and that the promise of a private member's bill made by Mr. Asquith is not equivalent to the no fulfilled pledges for an equivalent to the Reform Bill the Council opened at the Holborn Town Hall on February 27th; the Hall was crowded, 700 or 800 delegates had assembled from all parts of the country to decide the future policy of the Union.

Mrs. Fawcett L.L.D. was enthusiastically greeted in taking the chair. She opened the proceedings with a Presidential address, in which she laid stress on the events of January last, which events showed that Mr. Asquith is a bad parliamentarian, as he had made promise after promise to his own followers which he could not perform. The assurances received from Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Lloyd George, Sir John Simon and Lord Haldane were only a „rhapsody of words“, but though they might not blame the Government for the impasse created by the Speaker's ruling, they did blame them for having „torpedoed“ the other opportunity of success, and also having failed to keep their pledge, the Ministers did not consult the women as to what they would consider an equivalent for the unredeemed promise. A private member's bill, the alternative offered by Mr. Asquith, had not the slightest chance of passing and the question to decide that day was „what was to be the policy of the Union“?

In the first place the Union would only work for a Government measure in distinction to a private members' bill though they would place no obstacle in the way of the latter. A resolution to this effect was passed, and also one welcoming the resolution of the Labour Party passed at their conference in London in January 1913 calling upon the party in Parliament to oppose any Franchise Bill in which women are not included.

The non-party policy of the Union was developed on the lines of strengthening any party in the House which adopts Woman's Suffrage as part of its official programme. At present the Labour Party is the only one which has done this. The policy to be adopted at bye-elections must be aimed at shortening the term of office of the present Cabinet, and in order to give effect to its determination to strengthen the Labour Party, the powers of the Election Fighting Fund for supporting Labour candidates were considerably extended.

It was pointed out that the policy adopted, though aiming at the shortening of office of the Prime Minister is not necessarily anti-Liberal.

The Annual Report showed the rapid progress of

the Union during the year. There are now 411 Societies with a membership of 42,438, an increase of 12,000 during the year. Over 1,000 meetings had been held. The following resolutions were passed:—

„That the Council of the National Union of W.S.S. reiterates the protest against militant methods which was made by the National Union in 1908, 1909, 1911 and 1912. The Union remains convinced that the use of violence in political propaganda is wrong in itself and injurious to the cause of Woman's Suffrage.

2. That the N.U.W.S.S. welcomes the resolution of the Labour Party passed at their Conference in London in January 1913 calling upon the party in Parliament to oppose any Franchise Bill in which women are not included.

3. That the N.U.W.S.S. does not regard the offer of facilities for a Private Member's Bill as an equivalent of the Prime Minister's pledges with respect to an amendment to the Franchise Bill, and calls upon the Government to redeem its pledge in the only way now possible by immediately introducing a Government Measure giving votes to women.

4. That the N.U.W.S.S. believing that a Private Member's Bill can have little chance of becoming law in the lifetime of this Parliament, resolves, while placing no obstacle in the way of such a Bill, to concentrate on work for a Government measure for Women's Suffrage and to adopt such a policy as will be most likely to bring an undivided Cabinet in favour of Women's Suffrage in power.

5. That the general objects in all bye-elections shall be to shorten the term of office of the Cabinet as at present constituted especially by opposing Anti-Suffragist Ministers.

6. To strengthen any Party in the House of Commons which adopts Women's Suffrage as part of its official programme.

M. E. LEAF,

London, March 1913.

Press-secretary.

The *Women's Freedom League* has pursued a vigorous campaign since the Franchise Bill was withdrawn. As soon as Mr. Asquith announced its withdrawal a Public meeting was held at Caxton Hall, immediately after which Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Andrews, Mrs. Sproson and others proceeded to Trafalgar Square to hold a meeting there in defiance of the law. This resulted in the arrest of Mrs. Despard and two others who refused to give their names to the authorities. Mrs. Despard and one of her colleagues were sentenced to 14 days imprisonment and the third to seven days in the second division. An unknown person paid Mrs. Despard's fine two days later, and every evening while the others were in prison a protest meeting was held outside Holloway gaol.

Mr. McKenna subsequently received a deputation from the Women's Freedom League to discuss the infringement of the rights of the Public by the authorities. Little satisfaction was gained from this deputation the Home Secretary being of the opinion that the Public had no rights.

A few days later a Proclamation in the form of a mediaeval challenge to the Government was posted throughout London, in Scotland, Wales and in many provincial towns. Several of the fly posters were caught and warrants for their arrest have now been issued, but only three of these have up to the present been successfully served.

Following our policy of attacking the mal-administrators of the law a strong protest was sent to

the Recorder and other Judges concerning the exclusion of women from the High Courts of Justice when suffragists are being tried. The only reply to this was the further exclusion of women last week.

As Parliament opens Monday, March 10th, the usual poster parade carrying our message to the Prime Minister, will be held outside the House of Commons and on the following Wednesday we shall hold a meeting to deal with the King's speech.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

London, March 1913.

At the quarterly meeting of the Women's Council of the *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association* on February 18th, an address by the President was read to those present, in which she expressed the opinion that a Government measure was the only satisfactory way of dealing with the question of the enfranchisement of women, but as at present there was no prospect of this she urged members to give their support to the private bill which was now being drafted. This bill would probably be on the lines of the "Dickinson" amendment, which was not opposed to Conservative principles, a sit kept the "house" as the basis of the qualification for the parliamentary vote.

During the meeting, Mr. Arnold Ward's bill for the "equalisation in all respects of the local government franchise for women with the local government franchise for men" was fully discussed, and the Committee finally passed the following resolution:

"That as a step towards removing the disabilities of women, this Council approves of the principle of Mr. Arnold Ward's bill."

On Tuesday, March 4th, a very successful At Home was held in London at the Knightsbridge Hotel. The Viscountess Dillon took the Chair, and Mrs. John P. Boyd-Carpenter and Mr. H. Baillie Weaver addressed the guests. Applications for invitation cards to this meeting far exceeded those received on previous occasions, and we are pleased to state that as a result many new members were enrolled and a good deal of literature was sold.

Interesting meetings have been held in Cheltenham, Dorset, West Hayling, Leamington, Weymouth and Wimborne, and several At Homes have been given in W., S.W., and N.W. London.

The Annual Dinner (followed by a reception and entertainment) will take place at the Hotel Cecil on Monday, May 10th. The Hon. Treasurer suggested that Vice-Presidents and Councillors should make themselves responsible for a certain number of tables, and this appeal has been warmly responded to. It is also hoped that the London Honorary Secretaries will undertake special tables for their Branch members.

Letters in the name of the Association have been sent to all members with regard to subscribing to the "Standard", and the replies received conclusively prove that that newspaper has benefited considerably by our Association alone, since the initiation of the Women's Platform.

Susan, Countess of Malmesbury and Lord Willoughby de Broke are among the latest additions to our list of Vice-Presidents.

LOUISE GILBERT SAMUEL.

London, March 1913.

Sweden.

In the last weeks Stockholm has been visited by no less than three foreign suffrage-women and among them two real suffragettes. Those interested in woman's suffrage have had the pleasure to hear the well-known world-citizen and speaker, Miss

Jessie Ackerman—who after 26 years of globe-trotting has at last found her way to our distant country—speak about "The Australian women as citizens". Of great interest was also to hear the two English suffragettes Miss Tite and Mrs. Coats-Hansen, speak about the militant suffrage-movement and of the suffrage-question in England just now. Another well-known suffrage-woman from our neighbouring country Denmark, Mrs. Elna Munch, is going to give a lecture on Sunday 9th on "The Danish Parliament and Woman's Suffrage, a subject of great actuality and interest".

In this month the elections for the town-council are going to take place in Stockholm. This time three of the present women town-councillors stand for re-election and two other are nominated candidates. The result will probably be given in my next report.

Three new local societies of the N. W. S. A. have been founded in 1913—one of them in Kiruna, a mining district in Lapland, on the other side of the polar circle. In that place the interest for woman's suffrage was so great, that the society was founded without any outside initiative and more than a hundred women became members at the first meeting.

One of our well-known suffrage agitators, Mrs. Tønning is just now on a tour in one of our other northern provinces, where she is the first speaker on the subject of woman's suffrage. The result of her pioneer-work has already shown itself in a new suffrage society.

Our great work for a demonstration in 1914 has begun to organize itself in different parts of the country and preparations are going on everywhere.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Stockholm in March 1913.

Denmark.

DANSK KVINDEFÖRENINGERS VALGRETTS-FÖRBUND.

On the first of March the Conservatives of our Upper House announced their long-expected amendments to the Reform Bill before our Parliament which proposes Women's Suffrage. The only question in the Bill that is not touched by the amendments is Woman Suffrage. About all other things the Conservatives seem to differ very much from the liberal proposals. No reading has taken place yet, but we shall evidently not escape the political fight that will postpone the introduction of women's political enfranchisement.

For the rest we are busy with the Municipal Election all over the country. It is very difficult to see how things stand and how many women will be elected for the Boards; but on the whole the Parties seem to regard the Municipal Woman Voter with more consideration than they did four years ago when women voted for the first time. The Parties arrange special "Women's Meetings" and almost every morningpost will bring us a letter in which our value and duty as a voter is explained, followed by the advice "on the 11th of March to vote".... for the Party that writes the letter.—Indeed, women have become very important persons in the parties' eyes!

TH. DAUGAARD,
Int. Sec.

Copenhagen, February the 5th 1913.

The Netherlands.

The *Dutch W.S.A.* finds its action greatly hampered by the illness of the President, which however promises to come to an end soon now.

The various parties are beginning their election work by lectures on the political situation given by their eminent men. The women have yet to answer the challenge of the Government, which entirely ignored their claim of citizenship in the proposed revision of the State Constitution, and it is not yet decided what action Dutch suffragists will take under the circumstances. Meanwhile our Exhibition takes up much time and energy and we have every reason to hope that it will prove a success. It is to be ready for opening on the 1st of May.

Recently the *Dutch Bond for W.S.* felt it to be its duty to publish a manifesto protesting against the action of the militant British suffragists, which was largely circulated by the press.

The *Men's League for W.S.* did not issue such a protest, but published a new leaflet written by the President, Colonel Mansfeldt, setting forth what the standpoint of the League should be among the contesting political parties in the approaching election campaign. First the author explains the reasons why a league of men with the object to enfranchise the women has a great task to fulfil and is a much needed factor in the common struggle for the vote. Then he proceeds to give a review of the attitude of the different political parties and their programs with regard to woman suffrage, illustrated by quotations from the party-leaders, and concludes by emphasizing the necessity of testing each candidate's own personal views on the enfranchisement of women, since this issue seems to divide each party and the question is not to be solved on party lines. A fervent appeal to the men to feel ashamed of their long disregard of the women's claims and unite in a demand to let the women come and help to further the best interests of the community, forms the close of the pamphlet.

The questions which the Men's League will put to every parliamentary candidate are the following:

1. Are you in favour of Womanhood Suffrage?
2. If so, do you believe it to mean suffrage and eligibility as well?
3. If not, are you in favour of limited suffrage for women, and what do you propose the limitations to be? for instance tax-paying, married or unmarried status or householdership, the filling of certain offices or employments, the possession of a grade or educational qualification, a limit of age, or do you propose the municipal franchise first?
4. Is it your opinion that the State Constitution should contain a clause securing the vote to women?
5. Are you opposed to granting any sort of suffrage to women, and why?

The answers to this set of questions will be published by the Men's League for the enlightenment of the electors.

M. G. K.

Belgium.

We have the pleasure to inform the readers of "Jus Suffragii", of the actual constitution of the contemplated Belgian Federation of woman Suffrage, on the 10th of February.

The constituting societies are:
La Ligue belge du Droit des Femmes, founded in 1892.

La Société pour l'Amélioration du Sort de la Femme (1897).

La Ligue catholique du Suffrage féminin (filiale du Féminisme Chrétien de Belgique) (1902).

L'Union belge pour le Suffrage des Femmes (1902).

L'Union des Femmes gantoises (1906).

De Vrouwen-Vereeniging van Antwerpen (1910).

De Liberale Vrouwenbond (1913).

At the assembly of the 26th of February the Executive has been constituted as follows:

President Mme Jane Brigode, general secretary of the "Ligue belge du Droit des Femmes".

Vice-President Mme Elise Nyst, secretary of the "Société pour l'Amélioration du Sort de la Femme".

Secretary Mlle Louise van den Plas, president of the "Ligue catholique du Suffrage Féminin".

Adjunct-secretary Mme Dangotte Limbosch, secretary of the "Union belge pour le Suffrage des Femmes".

Treasurer Mme De Mol Palmers, president of the "Liberale Vrouwenbond".

Our Federation has been founded at a moment at which our country passes through a serious crisis with regard to the electoral system.

The reader knows that we are governed by the universal suffrage, with an additional vote given to property, to the family and to a certain degree of education.

The Socialist party denounces numerous deficiencies of the electoral laws, especially with regard to the province and the municipality it protests against the plural vote in the name of equality and demands that the citizens be electors at 21 years of age.

The Liberal party agrees only partially with those claims.

The Roman Catholic party, which has a strong majority, flatly refuses to revise the constitution though a certain number of its members are advocates of pure and simple universal suffrage.

The Socialists don't propose Woman Suffrage. The Liberals are absolutely hostile to it. The Roman Catholics declare that in no way they can conceive of pure and simple Universal Suffrage without votes for women. But for the moment they won't grant anything. The Government alleges two motives to justify its absolute refusal.

The first is: that the Socialists threaten with a general strike if the Government does not give in, and that it will not yield to a threat which it considers revolutionary.

The second is: that several social laws seem more urgent than the electoral reform, and where there exist great divisions between the parties, the revision would cause a considerable delay in Parliamentary work.

M. de Broqueville, head of the Cabinet, advises the parties to form a commission in Parliament or apart from Parliament to study a formula of conciliation which might form a basis of the discussions for the Chamber regarding the parliamentary, municipal of the electoral reform. They propose to have the revision of the constitution afterwards.

M. Hijmans, leader of the Liberal party, asked the Government to institute a Parliamentary Commission to study the whole of the electoral laws, including the revision of the constitution.

The Government declared its inability to consent.

The Socialist party rejects M. Broqueville's proposition, declaring the Labour class sacrificed, and incites the labourers to a general strike the 14th of April.

The Liberal party advises the Government to yield, to evade the disasters always attendant on an attempt at universal strike.

The Government does not seem disposed to resign. In spite of the position, taken up by each party there is some possibility of their agreeing and coming to a mutual understanding.

Because the official paper of the Socialists declared that if the opposition had triumphed at the last elections they would have reformed the electoral laws for the municipality and the province before

revising the constitutional articles which regulate the Parliamentary suffrage.

The socialist minority only follows its anterior programme if it accepts to-day the suggestions of the Government. In this case we shall intensify our propagand on the side of the municipal and provincial suffrage, and as Woman Suffrage has friends among the Conservatives as well as among the Progressives we shall have a chance to succeed.

We apologise to the direction of „Jus Suffragii” to send such a long correspondence. But we think that this explanation of the Belgian political situation will permit the readers better to understand the events which will occur in Belgium in the months to come.

*The Executive of the Belgian Federation
for Woman Suffrage.*

Brussels, March 1913.

France.

The National Council of Women of France is organising a great international congress in June, from the 2nd to the 7th. We hope that delegates on their way to Budapest will take interest in it and stop in Paris to participate in the congress, not only by attending, but also by the reports they could give to the National Council (please communicate with the Secretariate, 1 Avenue Malakoff, before May 1st). We published the program of the congress in „Jus Suffragii”, but as the agenda has been somewhat altered it is advisable to ask Mme Avril de Ste. Croix (1 Avenue Malakoff Paris) for the definite program.

Brilliant festivals are to take place in public clubs, moreover the French railway companies have offered considerably reduced prices. We hope that in France there will be a general response to the call for this congress and that a great number of foreigners will honour us by their presence and present to us the results of their work and experience.

The French W. S. A. keeps up a strenuous agitation and is continually founding new groups. Since some months Local Societies have been formed in Ardèche, Branches du Rhône, le Nord, Orne, Maine-et-Loire, whilst in Seine-et-Marne, Var and Marne they are in process of formation. A number of delegated organisers are still preparing the ground for new Sections and we find that wherever our case is well put the suffrage cause gains sympathy. We are getting more and more help from university circles and we meet with most active support there.

Groups of socialist women are now organising in sundry cities of France; their organ is the paper *L'Équité*. It treats the economic, political and social status of working women. (Information to be had from Mme Marianne Rauze, rue des Volontaires, Paris). There will be a Socialist congress at Brest during Easter. In collaboration with different groups the French W. S. A. will organise a suffrage meeting during the congress and will be represented there by a delegate.

On Monday May 12th the French W. S. A. will hold its Annual Meeting in the Musée Social, 5 rue Las-Cases at Paris. The agenda is not yet definitely made up, but the principal questions to be treated will have reference to the electoral campaign of 1914 and to the organisation of our propaganda by the press.

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

South Africa.

A pleasant event of this month was the informal conference of the W. E. A. U., held in Cape Town, where many visitors from other parts of the Union assembled during the summer season. Mrs. Cook (President of the Women's Citizen Club, Cape Town, and Vice-President of the W. E. A. U.) presided, and delegates from Bloemfontein (Orange Free State), Durban (Natal), Johannesburg and Pretoria (Transvaal) and Uitenhage (Cape Province) were present. The open session was also attended by members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Besides discussing methods of suffrage propaganda, and how the Parliamentary situation might best be turned to account, the Conference dealt with other questions of interest to women: the advisability of petitioning for an alteration of the law enabling women to practise as lawyers, the comparative treatment accorded to men and women in the Government service etc. The forthcoming Congress at Buda-Pest, the circulation of our paper, „The Woman's Outlook”, methods of raising money and other important matters also engaged its attention. The meeting proved a valuable stimulus to those who took part in it; opportunities being rare for suffragists from the widely distant parts of this country to meet and exchange views.

Several efforts have been made by the W. E. A. U. to approach members of the government, but their requests for an interview have been met with either refusal or postponement; showing that our ministers are not yet alive to the urgency of the need for enfranchising women.

IDA G. HYETT.

Pretoria, January 1913.

Canada.

In the Legislature on Dec. 16 J. E. Bradshaw, of Prince Albert, spoke in support of his resolution favoring votes for the women of Saskatchewan. Canadians, he said, should not be too hasty in condemning the methods followed by the English suffragettes. The window-breakers were not women of the ordinary classes, but cultured ladies of refinement. The present law, declared Bradshaw, denies women the right to vote, though according it freely on the foreign immigrants, who do not understand the language of the country, and who are herded blindly to the polls.

Hon. Mr. Motherwell stated that he did not think the time ripe for such a movement in Saskatchewan, where the rights of women are well protected. Hon. Geo. Langley thought the resolution premature, but stated that if the motion came to a vote, it would receive his support. The debate was adjourned.

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.

Have you BACK-NUMBERS to spare for the editor?

On peut échanger ce numéro contre l'édition française en le renvoyant à la rédactrice.