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PRO PATRIA.

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Notes and News.

Wanted, Urgently—Another Florence Nightingale.

"The news from Mesopotamia is little short of ghastly," writes Mr. Ian Malcolm in *The Times* of March 16th. "We hear of lack of hospital accommodation, shortage of medicines, anaesthetics, dressings, bandages—in fact of all hospital equipment—to an extent that is positively alarming. One letter from the spot tells me of three medical officers in charge of 1,000 badly wounded men with practically no dressings or bandages, and having to do their surgery without anaesthetics. Another correspondent writes that a single nurse was in charge of 500 cases, mostly amputations, with only coolies to help her. A third person writes that one officer, shot in the lungs, lingered eighteen days before he died, and never got his bandages changed."

The War Office representative says that medical arrangements out in the East are under the Indian Government, and washes its hands of all responsibility for the wounded. Nor is this all; offers of large quantities of hospital supplies were made to the authorities, three months ago, and at intervals ever since. All the offers were refused. Now, after the appalling need cannot be ignored, "it is officially stated that the Red Cross and St. John are in touch with the India Office and the War Office, and large supplies are being sent," says another writer who points out that these stores will take weeks, or even months, to arrive. It seems to matter little whether the Indian Government or the War Office is the more to blame. The same evil system is probably equally deep-rooted in both, and the canker of officialism corrupts both.

Shirking Responsibility.

"Much harm has been done already, and a heavy responsibility lies on the shoulders of some authority," concludes Mr. Ian Malcolm. "But there is still time for that person to make amends if he will but call in the organisations, such as I have mentioned above, and co-operate with them. Then he will get all the stores and doctors and nurses that are wanted for our gallant Army in the East. Let him not be afraid of sending nurses there. The sex that has faced the brutalities of the Germans after the retirement from Mons, that has worked through typhus in the Balkans, and endured the rigours of the Serbian retreat, will face the dangers from Turk and Arab with equal fortitude and calm."

But Mr. Ian Malcolm is an optimist. Nothing, no exposure, no shameful breakdown will teach the encysted official anything. He is perfectly secure behind his pigeon-holes; and he is fully aware of it. Probably, as a matter of fact, 40 per cent. of the officials now in Government departments ought to be removed at once (for the safety of the country) and interned behind red tape entanglements, not for the period of the war only, but for the rest of their lives.

Their places should be taken by practical women, whose experience of life has not been limited to smoothing out hindrances to the working of official routine.

The Future of Women War Workers.

At a conference convened by the Manchester Women's War Interests Committee on Saturday, the chief subject of discussion was a resolution that "No woman shall work now or be retained after the war in engineering shops at less than the recognised trade union rate of wages when employed on work hitherto done by men. Where a recognised trade union rate does not exist, the wages shall not be less than £1 for a week of 48 hours." Delegates were present from trades councils, trade unions, the Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Suffrage Societies, and other organisations.

In moving the resolution, Mrs. Annot Robinson pointed out that many women in Manchester engineering shops were getting less than 20s. a week, and one delegate stated that women were wheeling shells at 12s. a week—work for which the ordinary male labourer was paid 25s. During the discussion a representative of the Leigh Trades Council said that the engineers had not agreed that women's labour should be retained after the war, and were going to weed the women out when the war had come to an end. This view was opposed by several delegates, who said that women would have to work after the war in the occupations they were now in. Councillor Pitt said he wanted the engineers to recognise that the women were in the shops for ever. The engineers' delegates were trying to create a sex war. Did they, he asked, mean to turn the women out into the streets? They could no more stop the increase of

women in industry than they could stop the evolution of the machine in industry.

"To Rebuild the World Afresh."

In an article in *The Daily News*, entitled "A New Industrial World," Mr. Frank Dilnot expresses the same view. Speaking of the armies of young women now employed in industries previously run by men, he says: "It is impossible that these women will ever be entirely dispossessed, and the country will have to make up its mind to the fact." He continues by showing that only the barriers of custom have hitherto kept women out of these industries, and advises trades unions to concentrate on the question of preventing the exploitation of women at the expense of men. In his opinion, there will be sufficient scope for some time to come for women's employment in the new industries, that have been opened to them, and "the irruption of women's labour into our national life will actually meet a want." "All those," he concludes, "who have learned to labour in these times of stress will be required to rebuild the world afresh when peace comes. There can be no doubt that the organised forces which control our workers will be well advised to survey the problem as it affects themselves at an early date."

Anti-Suffrage Movement Finances in U.S.A.

"Definite proof that liquor-men contributed large sums to a fund used to fight equal suffrage in the four Eastern States last fall, is understood to be in the hands of the United States Government," reports *The Woman's Journal*. Examination of brewery books at Pittsburgh has revealed that substantial contributions were made to the anti-suffrage chest; and it is plain that the movement at the November election was practically financed by the liquor interests. A suspicious recurrence of the same items appears to show that anti-suffrage campaigns last year in New Jersey, New York, and Massachusetts were also financed by the "rum forces."

A Federal investigation of these peculiar political activities was begun in Pittsburgh on February 18th. It will be the first genuine exposure of the liquor-ring, and desperate efforts have been made to prevent proceedings. Certain prominent persons implicated have disappeared.

Women at the Plough.

An interesting demonstration of what women can do in agriculture was given last week at South Elkington, near Louth.

Lincolnshire farmers have hitherto been very sceptical as to the possibilities of utilising women's labour, but after witnessing a dozen women and girls ploughing a straight furrow under exceptionally heavy conditions over the rain-soaked fields, were bound to admit that they did their work as well as the average ploughman. Several of the women who took part in the competition had had practically no training with the plough itself, or the huge cart horses that pulled it. Onlookers were amazed at the ease and dexterity with which they performed their task. Meanwhile, in a neighbouring field, other women were carting and spreading manure, pulling and preparing roots, feeding sheep, threshing corn, and generally, as Mr. Palmer, secretary of the National Farmers' Union, put it, showing that there are things on a farm a woman can do which farmers have hitherto thought impossible.

Too Late!

We still receive on Wednesday mornings a quantity of letters and notices of meetings "for insertion in the next issue." May we remind our readers that war conditions make it impossible to have these late contributions printed in time to appear in the current number? All letters and communications should reach us on Monday or, at latest, on Tuesday morning, if they are to be inserted without delay.

"Pro Patria."

Through the courtesy of the proprietors of *Punch*, we have the pleasure this week of reproducing this cartoon, "a tribute to women's work in war-time," for readers of this week's special number. A beautiful proof on India paper of the cartoon was presented to Mrs. Fawcett by Mr. F. Laurence Bradbury, of the firm of Messrs. Bradbury and Agnew.

The picture has been framed, and as a gift from Mrs. Fawcett, now adorns the National Union Headquarters.

A Co-operative Women's Farm.

An enterprise, as far as I can ascertain, unique in this country, is that of the Women Co-operative Farmers, Ltd., who started, three years ago, a little colony of women smallholders at Heathfield, Sussex. The aim of the directors is to provide a means whereby women and girls who have had a theoretical training at an agricultural or scientific college, can turn their knowledge to practical account by becoming smallholders as tenants of the company. One woman alone has very little chance of success on a small holding, but a group of women, with the help of co-operative organisation and facilities, are in a much more favourable position, and should be able to earn a living.

At present, the Heathfield scheme is still in its infancy, but there are already thirteen women farmers who have made a good start on holdings varying in size from one to eighty acres, and in helping to develop the remainder of the 400 acres that form the estate there is an excellent opening for women with a little capital to render a national service, while making a living for themselves.

The rearing of stock this year is a matter of vital importance, and in this the Heathfield women farmers are showing themselves very proficient. They are rearing a number of calves of good breeds, and are also specialising on pigs, a line which the Managing Director, Miss Emerson, is very anxious to develop, as she considers that there are special facilities on the estate which should make pig-keeping highly profitable. Poultry-keeping is also carried on, though only as a side line, as it is not thought that this is likely, by itself, to make a living.

I had the pleasure last week of visiting Miss Emerson, and being shown over the greater part of the farm, and was much struck by the ingenuity shown in adapting old buildings and putting them to the best possible use. The central farmhouse, where Miss Emerson lives and accommodates her pupils, is not a new model farm, fitted with every modern convenience, regardless of expense, but an old building, enlarged and adapted. Everything is handy for practical use, and sanitation is carefully considered, but no money has been wasted on fads or superfluities. Many farming enterprises started in this country by educated men come to grief because so much capital is put into the buildings that there is not enough left for stock and working expenses. The women farmers have not made this mistake, but have arranged comfortable quarters for themselves and their livestock with a very small outlay. Most of the cottages on the estate are new, having been built either by the company or by the tenants themselves, but the tenant of a picturesque old Tudor farm which I visited had adapted it with very little expense, and had herself helped to convert a large old barn into a thoroughly satisfactory cowshed.

The complicated question of house accommodation and farm buildings is one of the chief difficulties which faces the inexperienced back-to-the-lander. A hunt through several home counties will give the most disappointing results in what may be called "the ready-made." A beautiful old lichenous cottage, surrounded by a picturesque old orchard of lichenous apple trees (long past the period when they paid rent for themselves in fruit) will turn out quite impracticable as an abode for an educated woman farmer, even if she imagines she is prepared to live as the previous tenant lived. But the alternative of "starting to build" may well give her pause, even if there is that rare thing in the country, a good water-supply handy. By the time the little house is built and its defects duly discovered, it is sure to be found out that the biggest item in the heavy bill was paid for experience; but if it had been set about properly from the first, it need not have cost anything like so much, nor have handicapped its owner with such a heavy outlay at the start.

In the matter of housing and byres, Miss Emerson is prepared to give sound practical advice, which will save the beginner the expense of learning from her own mistakes. The cottages on the Heathfield Estate are planned to save labour. A small, well-planned dwelling put up for one of the tenants, with kitchen, sitting-room, and bed-rooms on the ground floor, and a loft and bedroom above, cost £200, I was told, and was as easy to work as a flat in town. A larger house of the bungalow type, with a big picturesque sitting-room and verandah to the south, overlooking a glorious view, cost a somewhat larger sum. Another cottage actually consisted of two small "flats," quite independent, one above the other. Every cottage has a bath-room, with hot and cold water laid on, "an absolute necessary for out-door workers," as Miss Emerson said, and

great ingenuity is shown in the planning of the dairy, the fuel-shed, and store-rooms. Then the houses are, as far as practicable, built with materials which lie to hand, and these materials are bought by the co-operative society for the benefit of their tenants, with knowledge of local conditions, and so they can buy more cheaply.

Another of the difficulties of the small farmer is the expense of outlay on certain kinds of farming implements. The size of the farm will not "bear" the cost of good, modern agricultural machinery, which is only in use for a part of the year, but has to be kept in good order for the twelvemonth. But tenants on the Women's Co-operative Farm can hire everything necessary from the management, and save themselves outlay and storage room. A good deal of the old grass-land has already been ploughed by a motor-plough in readiness for future tillage.

LEARNING UPON YOUR OWN LAND.

As I have said already part of the work of the Women Co-operative Farmers is the training of pupils. For many reasons Miss Emerson considers it preferable that the pupils should, as soon as possible, if not from the first, "learn upon their own land." All the work they put into their own holding, and all experience gained will be of use hereafter on the spot; and they reap the benefit of their labour. But Miss Emerson also takes a few pupils on her own farm. Some of these when trained have taken posts as bailiffs or in dairy management, and some of them take work on the farms of the smallholders, but Miss Emerson thinks that the training given at Heathfield is perhaps most useful to the girl of eighteen or nineteen who has a decided taste for an out-of-door life. Two or three years of practical work, followed by a course of study at Reading, should make an admirable preparation for farming in England, or for life in one of the Dominions.

WOMEN AND LIVE STOCK.

The most important of all the industries at Heathfield is the rearing of live-stock, and the dairy work. The great need of the future in England, after the war, will be meat and milk produced in this country, and it is the training of women in the care of livestock that Miss Emerson is particularly anxious to undertake. Her girlhood was spent on an Irish estate, where she acquired a knowledge of cattle which proved invaluable afterwards in South America. She and her partner are also qualified to act as their own veterinary surgeons. She considers that the care of young animals is very specially a woman's work; sympathetic handling emphatically "pays."

"The farmers round about here say they dare not go near a sow with her litter because she is so fierce," Miss Emerson says, "but we find our sows will let us do anything with them at those times; they have never known rough treatment, you see, and they have confidence and no fear. And they thrive," she added. "We give our pigs warm, cooked mangold, instead of feeding them on the raw roots, and they thrive and fatten in much less time. There are the woods for them to run in and keep healthy and pick up part of their living. We hope by and by to keep pigs on a really big scale, and to start a central bacon-curing factory on the farm. I am convinced that pig-keeping is essentially a woman's industry"; and after looking at the clean, wholesome "red Tamworths," who put up their heads to be patted, one is quite ready to be convinced likewise.

Miss Emerson will be glad to give full particulars of the scheme to anyone interested. Capital is needed to start the enterprise, and also workers to carry it out.

SOFT FRUIT AND APPLES.

By way of preparation for coming tenants Miss Emerson has already put in some thousands of fruit trees on the land, "so that the purchaser of a holding who wishes to grow fruit will not have so long to wait." Black currants and green gooseberries, the staple crop of one small holding, are combined with poultry, and each holder grows all her own vegetables besides. Another holder is doing very well with raspberries and apples. A certain proportion of the farm is woodland and copse, which provides the hurdles, fences, and wattle wanted on the estate, and osiers are grown along the river-side.

"And was this farm under cultivation when you took it over?"

"It might almost be called 'derelict,'" said Miss Emerson. "The previous owner kept it largely for shooting over, and sacrificed agriculture in the interests of game. We are reclaiming the land for food production."

"You know this ought to be going on all over England. We want women to make up their minds quickly to take up their share of this work, and to start to grow crops vitally necessary for us all, on the land that has been sacrificed to sport and starved of labour, capital, and brains. We want all three here, of course. We want more money to make some roads, to build more cottages, and to get every bit of these four hundred acres into cultivation. We want to see this farm a thriving colony of co-operative women workers, but this is only a beginning. As soon as we can we want to start all over again somewhere else. We want to have co-operative farms all over the country, and the right types of women settled upon them."

And I hope they will be settled by women who will have their say not only in the affairs of the country and the countryside but in the affairs of the nation which they serve. Did not Mrs. Poyser say: "I've a right to be heard; for I make one-quarter of the rent and save another"?

The Women's Land Service Corps.

While the work of recruiting women from the rural population to go upon the land is being undertaken by the local Women's Agricultural Committees, the organisation of a supply of educated girls has been entrusted by the Government to the Women's Land Service Corps, 50, Upper Baker Street. This association is not a "corps" in the military sense. There is no drill, and members wear no uniform. The term is used to show that they are not amateurs in search of a new sensation, likely to drop any task that may prove distasteful, but a body of trained women, seriously taking up work essential to the nation and conscientiously performing what they undertake.

In telling me about the work of the Corps, Mrs. Roland Wilkins, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, laid great stress on the care taken by the Selection Committee to pass only suitable candidates for training.

"We are getting," she said, "an enormous number of volunteers; but we weed out 60 per cent., either on account of physique, or because they cry off when they find they will be expected to clean out pig-sties, and other unpleasant jobs of that kind. Candidates are subjected to a very thorough cross-examination before they are accepted."

"We take care not to paint farm work in too rosy colours. Some people are going about canvassing domestic servants in towns, telling them they can earn twenty-five shillings a week on the land, and that there are good prospects of permanent employment. This is most mischievous and misleading. Domestic servants used to town life are not the kind of women wanted on the land; wages are rarely as high as 25s.—I should say the average is more like 15s.—and the prospects of regular employment after the war we consider to be very small indeed."

"It is very important that girls should not be led to expect that there is necessarily any future before them in making a living on the land. Women with a gift for farming and a little capital can, and do, make a living; but for the average girl without capital there is not much chance. We do not advise girls in regular employment to give up their posts. A large number of our candidates are girls who are out of employment, while others are not dependent on what they earn, and want to take up the work from patriotic motives only."

"Some women are offering to work without wages. This is, of course, an entirely wrong principle, and we do not allow it in the corps, as the farmers are quite well able to pay, and there is no reason why they should be subsidised. At the same time, it is very difficult to insist upon a really adequate wage, except in districts where there is a dearth of labour. Even 12s. a week, which is all that can be obtained in some places, is an advance on the wages women were able to earn on the land before the war in many districts. On 12s. a week two or three women sharing a cottage can manage to live, but it does not provide the kind of existence an educated woman would choose as a permanent thing."

"Having been passed by our Selection Board, girls are sent for a month or six weeks' training to one of the three training farms managed by the Women's Farm and Garden Union, or to take a special agricultural war training course at one of the agricultural institutes. Some are also received as pupils by farmers, or by landowners on their home farms, the girls just paying for their board and lodging. For the course arranged by the Farm and Garden Union the fee is 15s. a week."

"Unfortunately this sum, moderate as it is, debar from training a number of very suitable young women—daughters of poor

country clergymen, for instance, whose parents can afford to let them live at home but cannot afford to pay for their board elsewhere. We badly need a little scholarship fund. £3 will pay for a girl's training. Surely there must be many women who cannot go on the land themselves who would gladly pay for a proxy?"

In reply to a question as to the kind of farm work women were chiefly wanted for, Mrs. Wilkins told me that milking was the chief need, but that women were being employed on work of all kinds.

"The main object," she said, "is to release the men who are still left on the farm to do the heavier work and set the women to the lighter work—the feeding and care of animals, driving of all wheeled machines, hoeing, and various harvesting operations. Some women, and even some men, seem afraid to tackle the 'reaper and binder,' but there should be no difficulty in this for a woman who has had the mechanism of the thing explained to her and is used to horses. When I was farming I always drove a two-horse cutter myself, and looked on this as a soft job."

"No; I don't consider that the average woman is fit for the plough. Some women, I know, can plough quite well. And again, the nature of the ground makes a great difference. On light soil, with a modern plough, a strong woman ought to be able to manage well enough. But it is not a job I advocate for women as a rule."

"Then there are many skilled jobs that need experience. These, of course, cannot be handed over to a novice with any safety. But there is plenty of fairly light work about a farm that a healthy, well-developed young woman with her wits about her can learn to do in a few weeks."

"Do you," I asked, "find that country women take readily to having educated women as leaders, as suggested by your corps?"

"That depends on how it is done," Mrs. Wilkins replied. "It is only in certain districts, where there is a demand for it, that we shall work on those lines. We get inquiries for them from a certain type of farmer, who say they would employ local women if only they had some reliable woman who would look after them. In those places where women have not been accustomed to work for farmers, they, too, have welcomed the idea when it was put to them."

"One thing is very certain; the village women will not obey one of their own number. Our girls are not to be exactly forewomen, either. Their status is difficult to define. They are to be leaders, working with the local women and setting an example, even if they are not actually more efficient than those of whom they are in charge."

"We shall try to place several in the same village, so that they can live together; but they will not necessarily work all for the same farmer. In some cases we may send out whole parties, in charge of a 'captain,' but our idea is to meet requirements as they arise."

"Housing," I suggested, "must be one of your greatest difficulties."

"Yes;" was the reply. "It is going to be a very serious difficulty. We shall get cottages lent where we can, and ask local people to furnish them. At present, farmers do not, as a rule, like the idea of having educated women to board with them. They think they will give trouble. But we hope that, when they have become used to our girls working about the place, this prejudice will vanish."

"In some places the rector's wife, or some lady of the neighbourhood, has offered hospitality; but this does not seem a right principle. There is no reason why the farmer should be subsidised, and he ought to be made to pay a fair wage that will enable women workers to pay for board and lodging."

Women's Agricultural Committees.

WORK IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

The effect of the war on agriculture was felt in the Lancashire and Cheshire districts in the early part of 1915. As the men were called to the colours, it was evident that immediate steps would have to be taken to meet the shortage of workers if the land production of the counties was to be maintained. To deal with this problem, County Committees were formed in both Lancashire and Cheshire, under the presidency of the Countess of Derby and Lord Newton respectively, to promote the employment of women in agriculture during the war.

The functions of the committees have been to appeal to women to come forward and offer themselves for work on the

land in the present emergency, to arrange training facilities for inexperienced women, and to overcome any prejudice which may exist amongst farmers as to the employment of women. A large number of women responded to the call, but it was found that comparatively few of them were experienced farm workers. The Committee therefore approached the local Education Authorities with a view to arranging special short courses of training for war students at the Agricultural Colleges. An appeal was made to the Board of Agriculture for a grant towards the cost of training, with the result that a number of students were trained free at the Worleston Dairy Institute and the Henhull Hall Farm for residents of Cheshire, and at the County Council Farm, Hutton, for residents of Lancashire. Several members of the Committee undertook to train women on their home farms, and a few farmers have also offered training facilities with the idea of employing women afterwards on their own farms until such time as their men are able to return to the land. The training has usually covered a period of two months, and instruction has been given in milking, light farm work, dairy and poultry work.

It was soon evident that there would also be a demand for women gardeners, chiefly for work in kitchen gardens. In view of the importance of utilising every available inch of ground, it was felt that steps must be taken to fit women for this work. Through the courtesy of the municipal authorities, it has been possible to arrange short courses of instruction in horticulture at some of the public parks. The main object of the training has been to enable the students to gain a general insight into the work, and to give them an opportunity of adapting themselves to outdoor life before they actually take up work with an employer. The horticultural training has in all cases been given free of charge, but students have been responsible for their own board and lodging during the learning period.

In September the President of the Board of Agriculture called a meeting of representatives of County Councils and appealed to them to establish County War Agricultural Committees to deal with various agricultural problems arising out of the war. The Cheshire War Agricultural Committee delegated the whole of the work in connection with the employment and training of women to the existing Women's County Committee, and in Lancashire the two Committees are working in close co-operation.

At the end of the year, Lord Selborne called a conference to discuss the institution of a village registration scheme. The County Committees took up the matter enthusiastically. Registrars have now been appointed in nearly all the villages in the two counties to receive the names of women willing to help in either agricultural or horticultural work, and offers of employment or training from farmers. They will also be responsible for the provision of housing accommodation in the event of necessity arising for the importation of workers from another district. The registrars, in their turn, have appointed canvassers, whose duty it is to make the scheme as widely known as possible, and to appeal to women to come forward from patriotic motives to assist their country in the present emergency.

The result of the village registration scheme is extremely interesting, in that it proves that the most urgent need of the moment is the provision of training. Large numbers of women have offered their services, but for the most part they are quite inexperienced. The committees will, therefore, take immediate steps to extend their training facilities as far as possible, and will concentrate their efforts on fitting an army of women to do their part in bringing the war to a successful conclusion.

The women of France have shown us what can be done in this direction, and when it is fully realised that the question of home production is a most important factor in determining the issue of this war, it is inconceivable that British women will fail to take their share in work which is closely allied to that done by our men in the fighting line.

Women's Defence Relief Corps.

At a time like this, when people find themselves quietly tackling jobs they had not imagined it was possible they could undertake, the experiences of those early birds—the pioneers in each trade and industry—make interesting reading. Last year it occurred to Miss Conry, then the President of the Women's Defence Relief Corps, that women would be needed to take the place of farm labourers who had joined the Army. The members enthusiastically agreed to offer their services, and at a certain riding school in the Brompton Road lessons in haymaking were started.

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A few farmers—pioneers themselves—agreed to try the new labour. Bands were hastily enrolled and sent into Middlesex, Kent, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The work was tentative, the women were inexperienced. Not one knew whether they would be able to stand it, and the farmers were as dubious as the women. The weeks of harvest passed slowly, but the verdict was that ordinary women were capable, without special training, of undertaking harvest operations with success. Lord Selborne expressed himself pleased with what had been done, and urged the corps to make further efforts.

They work on this plan. Letters in the papers apprise women who are patriotically willing to help save the crops to apply to this year's president, Miss Myers, 10, Abbey Road, N.W. They are enrolled as members for harvest work. The corps then sends an organiser to interview the farmers with regard to housing, payment, and other necessary arrangements. Contracts are drawn up to ensure the workers receiving a fair wage. To cover the expense entailed by this a small enrolment fee is charged. As the strictest economy has to be observed, this corps has not felt it would be right to indulge in a printer's bill, i.e., it has no leaflets or pamphlets for distribution, but depends—and not in vain—on the kindness of the Press to make its activities known.

It is anxious to insist on this: the worker should be careful not to lower the rate of wages by giving unpaid services. That would be a terrible unkindness to the men who are gone. She should remember that the farmer expects to pay extra for harvest work, and if she cannot herself negotiate for a fair wage, she should see to it that someone—like this corps—does it for her.

Our bands start work in market gardens in April and May. We are offered contracts for hay, corn, and cherry-picking, and we would be glad to hear of women willing to go as gardeners. In fact, we want as many volunteers as we can get; and the woman who is willing to help garner the crops should bear in mind that she also is doing a war job.

The Bristol branch of this corps is prepared to send labour to farmers in that part of the country. Volunteers in neighbouring counties, should write to Mrs. Dacres Paterson, 17, Northumberland Road, Redland, Bristol.

C. A. DAWSON SCOTT.

Correspondence.

THE STUDY OF "WAR PROBLEMS."

MADAM,—I should like to back up the appeal recently made to Societies by several of your correspondents to organise meetings and study circles for the study of international relations and of problems arising out of the war. When in February of last year the Council gave permission for such courses to be held under the auspices of the Union, the enterprise fell somewhat flat; partly, I think, because most members were too engrossed in urgently necessary practical work to have much energy left for sustained intellectual effort; partly because an unfortunate impression grew up that to study international questions was necessarily to identify oneself with "pacifism," or even with pro-Germanism.

Now, the work that most women are doing, though heavy, has settled down more or less into a routine. It need not, and ought not, to be allowed to absorb the whole of their brains. There is a growing feeling in the Union that it is time that we "got back to doing actual Suffrage work." How far direct Suffrage propaganda among outsiders is practicable at present is, I think, a difficult question. But there is one kind of Suffrage work for which I am sure the time is over-ripe, and that is the self-education of women in those problems which they claim to help in solving, after the war. And of those problems, surely the most urgent, the most difficult, and the most important, is that of the future organisation of international relationships.

Every woman who has enough mental capacity to think at all, and who yet permits herself to put that question aside, without ever troubling to learn what others are thinking and writing about it is, it seems to me, practically an Anti-Suffragist. She is allowing herself to become a living exemplar of Mrs. Humphry Ward's well-known thesis, that women are fit to have a voice in domestic politics, but unfit to cope with the problems of Empire.

The assumption that study of international relations necessarily leads to pacifism is not for me to dispute, but it is odd to find how frequently that assumption is made by Imperialistically minded patriots.

Finally, may I suggest that for many people the best kind of "study circle" consists of one person; the best time of meeting is any hour between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., and the best place of meeting is Bed. It is not difficult to form the habit of waking at a fixed time; reading for half-an-hour and thinking for half-an-hour, more or less, and then going to sleep again, and for many busy people it is the only practicable way.

ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

P.S.—A member of the Liverpool W.S.S., Mr. E. V. Burns, Lea Vale, Gateacre, Liverpool, has drawn up a short bibliography of books on "War Problems," which can be obtained from him, together with other information useful to those wanting to start Study Circles.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COMBATING VENEREAL DISEASES.

MADAM,—The investigations of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases have thrown a strong light upon the disastrous effects of this scourge on the life of the nation. They have also shown that these diseases

can be successfully combated, and in time eliminated, by the prompt application of the methods of modern medical science. But this achievement, which would put an end to an immense amount of misery and suffering, and would powerfully operate in increasing the efficiency of the population and in relieving its financial burdens, can be accomplished only by the action of Government in providing the necessary facilities for treatment, and by the spread of knowledge among the medical profession and the general public.

The National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases was formed in order to secure the fulfilment of these conditions, and it has already, by inaugurating lectures and in other ways, sought to draw attention to the grave danger which exists and which will, as all experience proves, be greatly intensified when the war ends.

We desire to secure the co-operation of all bodies which are engaged in work directly or indirectly connected with these diseases, and especially to impress upon County Councils and Municipal Authorities the necessity for helping in the dissemination of sound knowledge and plain warning.

The National Council proposes now to organise a comprehensive educational campaign to combat venereal diseases in all suitable ways and especially along the lines laid down by the Royal Commission. This will involve the organisation of a number of conferences and courses of lectures, and the immediate issue of an authoritative summary of the principal conclusions of the Report. These and other measures will need financial support, and we earnestly hope that all who realise the vital importance of combating diseases which are gravely impairing the national vigour and inflicting heavy loss of potential population, will be willing to assist our efforts.

Communications can be made to the Honorary Secretaries, at Kingsway House, Kingsway, W.C.

SYDENHAM (President of the Council), THOMAS BARLOW (Chairman of the Executive Committee), LEONARD DARWIN (Treasurer), FREDERICK TAYLOR (President, Royal College of Physicians), W. WATSON CHEYNE (President, Royal College of Surgeons), FRANCIS CHAMPNEYS (Chairman, Central Midwives Board), LOUISE CREIGHTON, RICKMAN J. GODLEE, J. ERNEST LANE, J. SCOTT LIDGETT, MALCOLM MORRIS, FREDERICK W. MOTT, MARY SCHARLIEB, HUBERT M. SOUTHWARK.

WORKERS ON THE LAND.

MADAM,—How great is the need of workers to cultivate the land may be seen from the fact that in this village 60 per cent. of the labourers' cottages have been vacated during the last few months; and one can have no confidence that the remaining labourers will stay. We have so neglected the farm labourer that, although he is the most necessary to our sustenance, he feels the most despised, and now that other work is available he is only too ready to "better himself."

We have in our hands the opportunity of showing that work on the land is good, healthy, and dignified. Cannot THE COMMON CAUSE do its share by making a special point of asking for advertisements of work and workers wanted?

There is here a very good opening for a small colony of workers on nine acres who could do farm work in the neighbouring farms, and also help in gardening, and at the same time build up a business of their own in the way of market or flower gardening, growing herbs, poultry, rabbits, or goats. I may add that there is a commodious bungalow available, four cottages close by, and the land is already stocked. Little or no capital is required, but it would be necessary for the head to have sufficient knowledge of gardening to keep the stock up.

H. DRAKE.

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE.

MADAM,—I welcome M. P. Willcocks' conclusive timely remark in "Giving a Lead" of March 3rd issue. "How long are we to take in awaking to the fact that we are required to do something more for humanity than merely to save lives and money—that the reckless policy of one half of the race may pour out both like water spilt upon the ground?" The abundance of articles on economy in the papers cannot prevent the time when many will have nothing left to economise on if the present unprecedented wastage is allowed to continue. The healing power of womanhood has come out so splendidly, it is time for the creative one to take the lead when the heated passions do not see a way out of the waging terrible destruction. Some years before the conflagration broke out one could observe that there were hidden forces at work to produce a war atmosphere, and this is still kept up at high pressure. It ought to be the work of true womanhood to create better visions which will help the bleeding Europe towards a righteous peace based on goodwill and international justice. I believe that I am speaking for many silent readers in asking M. P. Willcocks for a further lead "in awaking us to the fact that we are required to do something more for humanity," and to point out reconstruction in helping to unmask "the masked words" by which many good forces are kept spellbound.

Long ago, Lady Henry Somerset said, "It is the mother's love the world needs"; and at present—it needs it more than ever.

S. A. W.

RESOLUTION B.

MADAM,—At a meeting of the Manchester and District Federation Executive, held on March 8th, a resolution was passed unanimously instructing us to write to THE COMMON CAUSE asking why Resolution B. (dealing with E.F.F.), passed at the Annual Council, was not published in the list of resolutions given in THE COMMON CAUSE on February 25th. They asked us to explain that they thought this to be the most important resolution passed at the Council, and that they thought its suppression would have an undesirable effect.

Further, they instructed us to say that they felt it desirable that a more definite connection should be made on every possible occasion between the various kinds of work recently so interestingly described in THE COMMON CAUSE and the need for the vote which these often so strikingly emphasise: in short, they feel that opportunities to accentuate the Suffrage demand should be made as well as taken, especially in our own paper. They request you to publish this letter in your next issue.

C. D. SIMPSON (Chairman), M. G. THODAY (Hon. Sec.), ETHEL LAMB (Hon. Treas.).

[The question raised is dealt with under "Notes from Headquarters."]



The Call of the WOMEN

"Rattle and clatter and clank and whirr,"
And thousands of wheels a-spinning—
Spinning Death for the men of wrath,
Spinning Death for the broken troth,
—And Life, and a New Beginning.
Was there ever, since ever the world
was made,
Such a horrible trade for a peace-
loving maid,
And such wonderful terrible spinning?"

(From Poem, "VOX CLAMANTIS,"
by John Oxenham.)

Thousands of brave women and girls are toiling in the munition factories that the men in the trenches may not break their hearts in attempting to fight with too few guns and too little ammunition. Toil never ceases—all day and all night the women and girls labour at the means of destruction as they have never worked before.

Life in the workshops is hard—but there are difficulties no less outside. The girls and women have trooped into towns where they had no friends, where decent lodgings were difficult or even impossible to get, and where provision for cheap and nutritious meals was non-existent.

THE Y. W. C. A. HAS COME TO THE RESCUE

with the result that hostels, huts and rooms for recreation and rest, canteens and every kind of practical and effective help are being organized wherever needed.

In one place the Y.W.C.A. have been given entire charge of a specially constructed village—situated four miles from a great factory, connected by a light railway—where 1,000 girls are housed, fed and cared for.

WOMEN'S WAR TIME FUND

Of the Young Women's Christian Association

The Fund is administered with business-like economy. Once a club, hostel, or canteen has been started, it is then made to be as far as possible self-supporting. We want your help for initial outlay. This is always heavy, now more than ever.

**SEND WHAT YOU CAN,
BUT SEND IT NOW.**

£400 will provide a REST and RECREATION ROOM with Canteen complete.

£1 will provide a BED.
1/- EVERY SHILLING HELPS.

£20 will build and furnish a CUBICLE.

£5 will furnish a CUBICLE.

A young girl in one of the munition factories writes: "I worked at — before and after the Y.W.C.A. started work, and I cannot tell you what a difference the Y.W.C.A. has made in the lives of all of us in the munition works."

Her Majesty the Queen has sent a generous donation and expressed full sympathy with the work. Amounts large or small should be sent to the Duchess of Sutherland, 9, Stratford Place, London, W., to Lord Sydenham, Hon. Treasurer, Young Women's Christian Association, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W., or to Miss Ploton-Turbervill, at the latter address.

REMEMBER! It is in the FACTORIES that the War will be won, and it is the girls and women who are working in the factories for whom we now appeal.



Women's National Land Service Corps.

SHORT COURSES IN FARM WORK have been arranged for women between the ages of 20 and 35 who wish to SERVE THEIR COUNTRY BY WORKING ON THE LAND. Cost of training (including board and lodging), 15/-, 25/- a week. SPECIAL APPEAL is made to EDUCATED WOMEN TO COME FORWARD. All information from the Secretary, W.N.L.S.C., 50, Upper Baker Street, N.W.

HORTICULTURAL and AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, STUDLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

Thorough training in all branches of work on the land: FARMING of over 200 acres of land, DAIRYING (including the making of soft and hard cheeses), POULTRY-KEEPING, BEE-KEEPING, etc.: 40 acres of garden and pleasure grounds: 23 market, fruit, and plant houses. SPECIAL SHORT COURSES arranged to meet emergency needs. Holiday Courses for Schoolgirls during the Spring and Summer vacations. For full particulars and prospectus apply to: The WARDEN, STUDLEY COLLEGE, STUDLEY.

SCHOOL OF GARDENING. CLAPHAM RECTORY, near WORTHING, SUSSEX.

NATURE STUDY COURSE FOR WOMEN. An Easter Vacation Course for the special Study of Pond Life, Bird Life, and Gardening, will be held from April 15th to April 29th. The Course will be conducted by Miss F. Collins, Miss C. Cracknell, Principals of the above School, assisted by Miss G. M. Towsey, of the South Hampstead High School. Fees for the Course, £5 5s. 10s. 6d. extra for a single room. Applications to be made to the Principals.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

On TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, at 8 p.m., at CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER (Room B). A PUBLIC DISCUSSION, opened by Mrs. PEMBER REEVES, Rev. Dr. R. F. HORTON, M.A. (Chair), on "The New Industrial and National Position of Women." Among those taking part in the discussion will be Miss Beatrice Harraden, Miss Winifred Hilday, Miss Helena Normanston, B.A., Miss Esther Roper, Miss Helen Ward, and Rev. G. Fleming Williams. ADMISSION FREE. Tickets, 1/- and 6d., to be obtained from 15, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

IDEALS IN SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION.

A Series of LECTURES now being given on SATURDAYS at 3 p.m. The Queen's (Small) Hall, Langham Place, London, W. (Sole Lessees—Messrs. Chappell & Co.) March 25th. Mr. William W. Poel. "The Theatre and the Nation." April 1st. Mr. W. R. Lethaby. "The City as it might be." ADMISSION FREE. Reserved Seats 2/6 and 1/- Apply: Booking Office, Langham Place, and Social Reconstruction Secretary, 19, Tavistock Square, W.C., from whom full particulars of further Lectures of the Series can be obtained.

IN sending Parcels to Soldiers and Sailors the under-mentioned testimony of two eminent Explorers on the food value of Cane Sugar is worth considering:—

Sir Ernest Shackleton says:—"It is remarkable how much two lumps of sugar will do to heat up a man on the march. On our last march after three lumps of sugar we could feel a glow of heat spreading all through us." Of brown cane sugar, Sir Martin Conway says:—"I have the greatest belief in brown cane sugar as a muscle stimulant for men and horses whenever severe physical labour is called for."

Cuffy's Toffee is made of this Cane Sugar with Fresh Butter and Milk—nothing else. It is not only a delicious Sweetmeat, but also a Sustaining Food of the highest value.

Cuffy's Toffee is packed in Portable Flat Tin Boxes: 4-lb., 1-lb., and 4-lb. each. Free Sample for 3 stamps from THE CANE SUGAR AGENCY, 35, Swan Street, Southwark.

Technical & Driving Lessons in Motoring

Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to learn motor driving for business or pleasure should immediately commence a course of practical instruction at the Motor Training Institute. Private Driving Lessons in modern four cylinder cars fitted with the Institute's Safety dual control pedals are given by qualified instructors. The instruction is thoroughly practical and embraces the complete management of the motor car. Write for Booklet No. 22.

Motor Training Institute, Ltd. Appointed by Royal Automobile Club. 10, Heddon St., Regent St., W.

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS to be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W., and all ADVERTISEMENTS must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday. Advertisement representative, S. R. Le Mare.

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

The Only Argument.

The Conference held on March 16th at Sunderland House on the question of the employment and maintenance of educated women no longer young raised several problems familiar to Suffragists. For the state of affairs revealed by the speakers showed with startling clearness the process by which the woman worker is put at a disadvantage where she is not absolutely thrust out of the market for educated labour. The Government, as Mrs. W. L. Courtney pointed out, set a most unfortunate example by issuing directions to the Labour Exchanges that no woman over forty should be put upon Government work. As every applicant for work requiring experience, organising capacity, initiative, and ability to manage a department or a staff of clerks was informed at the outset that her application could not be entertained unless she registered herself at a Labour Exchange, a large number of women, in every way fitted to take responsible posts, went to the nearest Exchange and entered their names, as required. How far the over-worked Labour Exchange officials succeeded in classifying and dealing with the thousands of applicants in March and April of last year nobody will ever know. It is enough to say that tailoresses, charwomen, laundry hands, matching and trotter girls, women with University degrees and subsequent training and experience of the conduct of business were all entered pell-mell in the books of the Labour Exchange, and told to call "daily" until they found employment. Middle-aged women, it appears, are rejected in any case by the Government. They, like too many other employers, want "young, cheap girls," to quote from another speaker. The value of the woman over forty, who can exercise authority, and brings a wider experience to her work, was, and still is, almost entirely overlooked. Yet probably most of the mistakes made in choosing the younger candidates could have been avoided if the selection had been made by women; and Punch's unfortunate bank manager, nonplussed by the pert young person who reproves him for making a fuss about trifles when the books will not balance, is paying, partly for his own inexperience, partly for the superstition which has shut women everywhere out of the more responsible and (more particularly) out of the better-paid posts.

We are so thoroughly accustomed to the idea that competence in a woman will be passed over automatically, when promotion is being discussed, that we ought to be able to remember that the woman of forty who is not occupying a good position, with an adequate salary, is not necessarily a failure, nor even too old to have a future before her. She has only not been promoted—because she is a woman. In an educated man of the same age, maturity of character, experience and skill are valuable, he has arrived at his full power. The educated woman, according to the Government, is too old at forty. But it is precisely women's experience, insight, and power of direction that many a department, bank, and factory now is in need.

Apparently, the official mind is haunted by a horrible fear—that women are incapable of filling higher positions in Government employment, but that they might fill them only too well. Real proficiency in circumlocution and official routine can only be learned in years of leisurely study, and women of business would probably make a lot of awkward suggestions for getting things done. Women have another disastrous way of getting things done with extraordinary economy of time and money. Business habits, a thrifty eye to the nation's expenditure—a long perturbing vista of coming horrors! Therefore, the best

thing to do is to make sure that, as women are to be employed, they shall be taken young and inexperienced, and hereafter kept in their place; and all the rewards of service shall be the prerogative of the male. What is perhaps the most unfortunate aspect of the whole matter is that a priceless opportunity of introducing new methods and much-needed reforms is being buried. A generation of women clerks, trained carefully in all the evil traditions which have been the despair of reformers, and systematically set, according to the brilliant inspiration of the late Emil Reich, to do all the monotonous drudgery, while the more interesting work was reserved for the privileged sex, will not prove a reservoir of new vitality and energy. The official mind will see to that! The age disqualification for women was a shrewd stroke for the vested interests of red tape.

And yet, if women had had the vote before the outbreak of war, would it have been so easy to safeguard the preserves where masculine incompetence is (apparently) able to work disaster for our soldiers with impunity? Would it have been possible to send troops to the Far East, as ill-equipped with

hospital supplies as our men were in the Crimea, when Florence Nightingale came to the rescue? We are often reminded that the power of the average voter is sufficiently meagre; but, also, instructed by many an object lesson, we know how sensitive is even a Coalition Government, to the only argument which a voter, at a bye-election, can address to their minds. If a large body of women-voters determined, once for all, to put a stop to the waste which is ruining us; to the yet more awful waste of heroic lives now being muddled away in the Far East for lack of a little ordinary foresight—nay, for lack of ordinary readiness to listen to warnings and advice, and for lack of commonsense to accept repeated offers of the needful hospital stores; can it be doubted that women voters would have carried their point? No force in this country has yet been strong enough to hack a way through the jungle of red tape to efficiency. No power will be sufficient until the proper weapon is put into the hands of the women of Great Britain, and they are able, at last, to do for the men of the country what they have proved, so far, incapable of doing for themselves.

The Work of the National Food Economy League.

By LADY CHANCE (Hon. Organiser).

Nearly a year ago THE COMMON CAUSE printed an article from me on a scheme for saving the food of the nation, which was at that time the work of the Education Branch of the National Food Fund. The scheme was then in its infancy, and it has since undergone much modification, though its aim, which is to prevent waste of the nation's food resources, has not varied. Last October the Education Branch separated from the parent tree and became an independent organisation under the name of the National Food Economy League, though still remaining, by courtesy of the original society, in free occupation of its offices at 3, Woodstock Street, Oxford Street, and retaining its original personnel and committee.

Since the first tentative scheme was launched much has happened, and a remarkable revolution in public opinion has taken place on the subject of economy. A year ago we of the National Food Economy League, were laughed at by all but a very few (and those were chiefly educated, thinking Suffragists) for attempting to start what then appeared to most people an uncalled-for and superfluous campaign. At that time scarcely anyone would so much as discuss the possibility that the need might arise for husbanding the nation's financial resources, and, as a concomitant of these, its food supplies.

The Government had from the first embarked upon a career of reckless and ostentatious extravagance, and the nation, very naturally, followed an example which so thoroughly appealed to all its past habits and inclinations.

But gradually, during the latter part of last year, a change became apparent. First one voice and then another was raised in warning and exhortation, until to-day a perfect chorus of appeals for thrift is being shouted in "trumpet tones" from every quarter. In this changed atmosphere it is to be hoped that the work of the National Food Economy League will find its growth considerably stimulated and its expansion facilitated.

Those readers of THE COMMON CAUSE who are not already acquainted with the work of the League may be interested if I describe it in some detail. The aim of the teaching is primarily to give instruction in the scientific principles of the economical use of food, and not merely in cookery as such. The teaching is carried out by means of specially prepared cheap literature and by demonstration-lectures. These latter are not lessons in how to make a certain number of cheap dishes, but are arranged on a very carefully thought-out educational plan, by which housewives are taught true economy in buying, cooking, and using food. The syllabus of six lessons, each of about two hours, contains all that is strictly necessary to give a good foundation of knowledge of the most important theories and methods relating to the economical use of ordinary foodstuffs, and it is thought that after this basis of knowledge has once been acquired by housewives they should be able to apply it successfully to the everyday needs of the home, and to expand it indefinitely by the aid of the League's "Handbook" and their own experience.

The campaign has been in active operation since April last, the pioneer "centre" having been formed by the Guildford Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. Since then teachers have been sent to more than one hundred centres all over England. As each "centre" usually means from two to six sets of classes, with attendances varying from fifteen or twenty up to sixty or more, it will be seen that a considerable number of people have

been instructed, though naturally not nearly so many as have been reached by the cheap booklets. The popularity of these is very great, and they have been selling in tens of thousands ever since they were first published last spring. The Handbook for Housewives—generally known as the "Yellow Book"—was originally issued at 1d., but, owing to increased cost of production, it was found impossible to continue selling it at this price. It was therefore slightly enlarged and improved, and is now published at 2d., which cannot be considered dear for a 42-page booklet, nicely got up in a serviceable cover. It contains, in addition to over a hundred economical and tested recipes, a full explanation, in very simple language, of food values, hints on the proper arrangement of meals, on the feeding of young children, on how to make and use a hay-box, on how to save fuel, and on how to construct various makeshift utensils out of materials that are everybody's hand, and a page of illustrations. Its teaching is suited to those families with an income of 25s. a week and upwards, and is even adapted to households where one or two maids are kept.

For families with less than this income the booklet, *Housekeeping on 25s. a Week* (16 pages, price 1d., or 1½d., post free) has been prepared. The sub-title of this is "How to Feed a Family of Five on 16s. a Week in War-time," and a solution of this very difficult problem is given on pages 8 and 9 in the form of a week's sample meals, with cost, the prices given being those for which the materials could be bought in Blackfriars, London, in November, 1915. It may be said at once that the amount of food which can be provided for a sum of 5½d. a day per head is a bare minimum, if everything down to the last sprig of herbs has to be bought at town prices. But it is just possible to get a physiologically sufficient amount of the various necessary food elements for this sum by reducing the quantity of animal food to a mere flavouring, and by depending on cereals (especially oatmeal) and pulses for the bulk of the protein required. The amount of milk is wretchedly small, being only one pint of skim milk a day, but it is difficult to see how more could be allowed without reducing the other necessary foods to less than enough to satisfy hunger.

Besides the week's menu, the 1d. booklet contains about fifty recipes, which give a sufficient number of alternative dishes to allow of the meals being varied for four weeks without increasing their cost. It also contains, like the "Yellow Book," hints on saving fuel, on feeding children, and on economical methods of cooking, including cooking in the hay-box.

Both booklets lay great stress on the importance of using only the most nutritious kinds of bread and flour, and recipes are given for bread-making not only with wheat-flour, but with barley, rye, and maize-meal. In the demonstration-lectures a special feature is made of home-baking which is shown to be perfectly practicable with the humblest appliances and the most ordinary of ovens.

It should be mentioned that the N.F.E.L. has always based its appeal to the public to economise on patriotic grounds rather than for personal reasons. It also touches on the question of the appalling waste of good food involved in the production of alcohol, and strongly urges the necessity for the exercise of self-restraint in the matter in order that this frightful source of waste—to say nothing of disease, poverty, and crime—may be checked.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: MRS HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: MISS EVELYN ATKINSON, MRS OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).

A number of inquiries have been received by us as to why the resolution on policy passed by the National Union Council in February was not published in THE COMMON CAUSE.

Our Maternity Unit for Refugees in Russia.

The formal opening of this Hospital on March 13th was announced last week. A telegram has been received from the Secretary in Petrograd, telling us to expect "copy" from her on this matter.

TWELFTH LIST OF DONATIONS.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Miss Lucy Mason (4th donation) £ 1 0 0' and 'Beaconsfield W.S.S. 3 12 2'.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Miss Margaret Bradley 10 0' and 'Camberley W.S.S. (Council collection) 4 0'.

LOST LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE N.U.

In view of the fact that several letters containing Cheques and Postal Orders have lately failed to reach us, we shall be glad if any contributors who have not received an acknowledgment will communicate at once with the Hon. Treasurer, at 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

IN MEMORY OF DR. MARY MURDOCH.

All Suffragists will hear with deep regret of the death of Dr. Mary Murdoch, of Hull; and many will mourn her loss as an acute personal sorrow. She was a splendid woman in every way; first-rate in ability and in professional skill, and first-rate also in character.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL AT AJACCIO.

A recent letter from Dr. Mary Blair shows how greatly our Hospital was needed at Ajaccio. Numbers of soldiers have been admitted, suffering from diseases contracted during the great retreat through Albania.

There are a great number of infectious cases in the island, and, owing to the scarcity of accommodation and the non-arrival of the tents, the greatest precautions have to be exercised in order to prevent the spread of infection.

The main ward upstairs is for women and children. There is comparatively little illness amongst the women. We have at present three maternity cases with their babies in the ward; and the maternity ward is also full.

The out-patient department is open daily at Ajaccio in the mornings, and a small massage department has been started. Visits are paid daily to Salines and Chiavari.

"Common Cause" Scholarships for Commercial Chemistry.

A great national effort is about to be made to secure efficiency in British manufactures. It is very widely recognised that in future chemical knowledge will be needed in large numbers of industries where it has been hitherto neglected or ignored.

It is not so certain how far these scholarships will be open to the cleverest of our young women. They have been forgotten in the past. Though the nation's need is great, it is not always remembered that women are often shut out from service simply for lack of adequate training.

With great pleasure we can now say that Mrs. Blane's kind offer of £2 if four other friends would subscribe a like amount, has been more than accepted—for six donations have now been received.

Table with columns for donor names and amounts. Includes entries like 'Mrs. Henriques 10 0' and 'Miss Goodrich 10 0'.

HOSTELS FOR WOMEN.

MADAM,—In these days when so many appeals are being made, many of which are excellent, all of which are good, one does indeed hesitate to make an appeal for funds by letter, yet when one has real confidence in the work for which one is appealing one can afford to be shameless.

In large cities where the influx of women into the labour market is taking place, emergency conditions prevail: now under these two words, "Emergency conditions," there lies a great deal. It is essential that women who are working should work under conditions that will not sap their life.

List of Societies and Federations in the N.U.W.S.S.

Federations, Hon. Secretaries, and Key to Letters.

- B. Scottish.—Miss Elsie Inglis, M.B., C.M., Office: 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.
C. North Eastern.—Miss Hardcastle, 3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
D. North Western.—Org. Sec.: Miss N. Walker-Jones, Watermill House, Milnthorpe, Westmorland.

- C. Anfield Plain.—Mrs. Arthur Gibbon, 21, Edward Terrace, New Kyo, Anfield Plain.
D. Appleby.—Mrs. Baker, Battlebarrow, Appleby.
E. Ascot.—Pro tem., Miss P. Forrester, Greenaway, Ascot.
G. Ashton-under-Lyne.—Miss R. Dyson, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne.

- O. Cheltenham.—Miss Mills, Lowmandale, Leckhampton, Cheltenham.
H. Chester.—Miss Annie Adams, Shirley House, Liverpool Road, Chester.
I. Chesterfield.—Pro tem., Miss Jessie Smith, Walton Rise, Chesterfield.
G. Chinley and Chapel-en-le-Frith.—Mrs. Thoday, 6, Lyme Park, Chinley, Stockport.

R. **Guildford and District**.—Miss Sylvia Drew, Blatchford, Chilworth, Surrey.
Branch: Cranleigh

U. **Hackney, N.**—Miss L. Portlock, 70, Osbaldeston Road, Stamford Hill, N.

F. **Halifax**.—Mrs. H. H. Quilter, 54, Free School Lane, Halifax.

M. **Harlow and Sawbridgeworth**.—Miss E. G. Young, The Green, Harlow, Essex.

M. **Harpenden**.—Mrs. Oakshott, Chelsfield, Clarence Road, Harpenden.

F. **Harrigate**.—President: Dr. Laura Veale, 23, York Place, Harrigate.

C. **Hartlepool (West)**.—Miss Durnford, 82, Wansbeck Gardens, West Hartlepool.

M. **Harwich and District**.—Mrs. Valentine, Lyndhurst, Dovercourt.

R. **Haslemere and District**.—Miss E. A. Jones, Longdene Copse, Haslemere.

G. **Haslingden**.—Mrs. Berry, 55, Carrs, Haslingden.

R. **Hassocks (Branch of Sussex, Central)**.—T. Cantford Esq., Trehills, Hassocks.

R. **Hastings, St. Leonards and East Sussex**.—Miss A. Kate Rance, 26, Boscobel Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

J. **High District**.—Miss Ruth Stokoe, The Prospect, Hay, Hereford.

R. **Haywards Heath (Branch of Sussex, Central)**.—Miss Spooner, Hillside, Haywards Heath.

R. **Heathfield and District**.—Mrs. Cunliffe, Little London, Horsham Road, E. Sussex.

G. **Heaton Moor**.—Mrs. E. Lamb, 4, Norman Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport.

P. **Henley and District**.—Mrs. Blair, Roselawn, Ship-lake, Oxon.

J. **Hertford**.—Mrs. Harmer, Ellesmere, Hereford.
Branch: Leominster.

S. **Herne Bay**.—Mrs. Cowper Field, "Wivenhoe," Belling, Herne Bay, Kent.

M. **Herts (East)**.—Miss L. Fuller, Youngsbury, Ware.

P. **Herts (West)**.—Miss G. Bradford, North End House, Watford.

H. **Heswall (Branch of Wallasey and Wirral)**.

C. **Hetton**.—Mrs. Parker, 8, Richard Street, Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.

C. **Hexham**.—Mrs. Walton, Ingelholm, Stocksfield.

G. **Heywood**.—Miss Harvey, 95, William Street, Heywood.

P. **High Wycombe**.—Mrs. Woodward, 61, Priory Avenue, High Wycombe.

M. **Hitchin, Stevenage and District**.—Miss Plowden, The Briar Patch, Knebworth, Herts.

M. **Hockwold and Brandon**.—Mrs. Tennant, Merton House, Cambridgeshire.

F. **Holmfirth**.—Miss Margaret Wright, Scales, Thongs Bridge, near Huddersfield.

M. **Holt**.—Miss Verrall, The Pightle, Leatheringsett, Holt, Norfolk.

Q. **Honiton**.—No Secretary.

R. **Horley**.—Joint Secs.: Miss Millicent Weekes, Chadderton, Horley, Surrey; and Miss E. Nottidge, The Briars, Horley.

R. **Horsham**.—Miss Churchman, 5, Middle Street, Horsham; and Miss Knight, Rapkyne, Nr. Horsham.

R. **Horsted Keynes**.—see under Sussex, Central.

C. **Houghton-le-Spring**.—Mrs. Atkinson, 63, Sunderland Street, Houghton-le-Spring Fence Houses, Co. Durham.

I. **Hucknall**.—Mrs. Rayner, 204, Beardall Street, Hucknall.

F. **Huddersfield**.—Mrs. Studdard, 44, Springwood Street, Huddersfield.

E. **Hull**.—Miss Hyde, Rosemount, The Park, Hull.
Branch: Beverley.

P. **Hungerford**.—Miss E. Davis, Beckford Cottage, Hungerford.

M. **Hunstanton**.—Mrs. Messiter, Wavel Kellie, Hunstanton.

M. **Hunts**.—Miss Staley, 111, School Lane, Bushey. E. Herts.

E. **Hurstpierpoint**.—see under Sussex, Central.

G. **Hyde**.—Mrs. W. Middleton, B.A., 7, South View, Woodley, near Stockport.

S. **Hythe**.—see Stoke-on-Trent.

F. **Ikley**.—Mrs. G. E. Foster, Greenbank, Myddleton, Ilkley, Yorks.

Q. **Instow**.—Mrs. Hastie, Instow, N. Devon.

M. **Ipswich**.—Miss Gardner, 21, Westerfield Road, Ipswich.

C. **Jarrow**.—Mrs. Gunn, 21, Bede Burn Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Co. Durham.

F. **Kelghey**.—Miss W. Robinson, Cote House, Cross-hills, near Kelghey.

D. **Kendal and District**.—Miss Harrison, Hill Cote, Kendal.

K. **Kennington (South)**.—Mrs. H. Fyffe, 79, Victoria Road, Kennington.

D. **Keswick**.—Mrs. Frank E. Marshall, Hawse End, Keswick.

K. **Kettering**.—Miss Bristol, 47, Broadway, Kettering.

O. **Keynsham**.—Mrs. E. Calvert, High Street, Keynsham, Somerset.

J. **Kidderminster and District**.—Mrs. Ellis Talbot, Summerbank, Kidderminster.

M. **King's Lynn and District**.—Miss Hovell, M.A., 21, Guanock Terrace, King's Lynn, and Miss Chadwick, High Street, King's Lynn.

P. **King's Sutton**.—Miss Harman, High Street, King's Sutton, Banbury.

T. **Kingston and Surbiton**.—Miss M. Farmer, 9, Anglesea Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

A. **Knowle and Dorridge**.—see under Solihull and District.

D. **Lancaster**.—Mrs. W. Croft Helme, Castramouth, Lancaster.

L. **Lapworth and District**.—see under Solihull and District.

Q. **Launceston**.—Miss Alice Weyll, St. Mary's Vicarage, Launceston, Cornwall.

L. **Leamington**.—see Warwick and Leamington.

F. **Leeds**.—Mrs. Grosvenor Talbot, Southfield, Burley, Leeds.
see Stoke-on-Trent.

K. **Leicester**.—Miss Sloane, M.A., 13, Welford Road, Leicester.

G. **Leigh**.—Miss L. Cook, 13, Railway Road, Leigh, Lancs.

P. **Leighton Buzzard and District**.—Pro tem., Miss Britton, 18, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.

J. **Leominster**.—see under Hereford.

M. **Letworth and District**.—Miss Pole, Field Lane, Letworth.

R. **Lewes**.—No Secretary. Hon. Treas.: Mrs. Chandler, Kingston Road, Lewes.

L. **Lichfield**.—Hon. Treas.: Mrs. Kingscote, Chorley Vicarage, near Lichfield.

I. **Lincoln**.—Miss Harrison, Witham View, Drury Lane, Lincoln.

R. **Littlehampton**.—Lady Maud Parry, 17, Kensington Square, W.

H. **Liverpool**.—Mrs. Burns, Lee Vale, Gateacre, Liverpool.

T. **Liverpool University**.—Miss H. C. New, The University, Liverpool.

T. **London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine**.—Miss F. E. Rendel, London (R.F.H.) School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, W.C.

T. **London Society**.—Miss Philippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.
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Bow and Bromley.—Chairman: Mrs. Kitcat.
Brixton.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Stella Moss, 22, Fairmount Road, Brixton Hill.
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I. **Louth**.—No Secretary.

M. **Lowestoft**.—Mrs. Alice Ponder, Waldo Cottage, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft.

P. **Luton and District**.—Mrs. Chalkley, 32, Oldley Road, Luton, Beds.

R. **Lymington and District**.—Miss C. S. Batchelor, Old Ferry House, Lymington, Hants.

H. **Lytham and St. Anne's**.—Miss A. Sefton, Sunny-side, Ansdell Road North, Ansdell, near Lytham, Lancs.

P. **Maidenhead**.—Miss E. A. Duncan, Abbotsleigh, Maidenhead.

S. **Maldstone**.—Mrs. J. Hewlett Hobbs, 13, Hastings Road, Maldstone.

E. **Malton and District**.—Pro tem., Mrs. Ernest Taylor (Hon. Sec.), Bannisdale, Malton, York.

J. **Malvern**.—Miss B. Alder, S. Werstan's, Malvern.

G. **Manchester**.—Mrs. Conway, M.A. Office: Grosvenor Chambers, 16, Deansgate, Manchester.

I. **Mansfield**.—Mrs. Manners, Edenbank, Mansfield, Notts.

M. **March**.—Mrs. Sherbrooke Walker, March Rectory, Cambridgehire.

S. **Margate**.—Mrs. Houghton, 59, Approach Road, Margate.

G. **Marple**.—Mrs. Sinclair, Green Bank, Marple.

M. **Marple Bridge**.—Miss Isabel Shanks, Ingleside, Marple Bridge. Assist. Sec.: Mrs. Pritchard, Brierdale, Towns-cliffe Lane, Marple Bridge.

D. **Mayport**.—Miss Sybil Maughan, Hayborough, Mayport, and Miss B. Ritson, Ridge-mount, Mayport.

K. **Melton Mowbray**.—Miss Lilian Wright, The Rectory, Frisby-on-the-Wreak, Leicestershire.

E. **Middleton**.—Miss Ward, Park Road South, Middlesbrough.

C. **Middleton-in-Teesdale**.—Mrs. Beadle, Burnbrae, Middleton-in-Teesdale.

R. **Midhurst**.—Hon. Sec. (pro tem.): Miss B. New-house, Amblerley House, Epsled, Petersfield.

D. **Morecambe**.—Miss Woistenhilme, Westbourne, Morecambe, W.

C. **Morpeth**.—Miss M. E. Ayre, 11, Howard Terrace, Morpeth.

M. **Morton-cum-Hilton**.—see under Appleby.

T. **Mussoorie (India)**.—Miss Weatherley, "The Deodars," Mussoorie, India.

O. **Nailsworth**.—Miss Meade King, Dunkirk Manor, Nailsworth, Glos.

P. **Newbury and District**.—No Secretary.

C. **Newcastle-on-Tyne**.—Miss K. R. Andrew, 2, Grain-gerville Road, Newcastle.

R. **New Forest**.—Miss A. Bateson, Bashley Croft, New Eton, Hants.

B. **Newington**.—Mrs. Brockenhurst, Lymington, Ringwood.

R. **Newhaven**.—Miss Coker, The Bungalow, Newhaven, Sussex.

R. **Newport, I. of Wight**.—Miss L. Hills, Birchfield, Newport, I. of Wight.

Q. **Newquay**.—Miss A. Jones, Langath, Edgoume Gardens, Newquay, Cornwall.

Q. **Newton Abbot**.—Mrs. F. A. G. Fursdon, Mondell, High Week, Newton Abbot.

H. **Newton-Willows**.—Miss Watkins, Kirkby, Newton-le-Willows, Lancs.

F. **Normanton**.—Miss Dutton, 111, King Street, Normanton.

E. **Northallerton**.—No Secretary.

K. **Northampton**.—Mrs. E. Chamberlain, Five Gables, Holmfield Way, West Park, Northampton.

M. **North Walsham and District**.—Mrs. Baldry, Highlands, North Walsham.

N. **Northwich**.—Miss E. Brock, Mossfield, Winnington, Cheshire.

N. **Norwich**.—Miss Edith L. Willis, Southwell Lodge, Ipswich Road, Norwich.

T. **Norwood**.—Miss M. Alice Russell, 12, Delcourt Mansions, Rosendale Road, Dulwich, S.E.

I. **Nottingham**.—Mrs. Gerard Dowson, The Manor House, Radcliffe-on-Trent.

L. **Nuneaton**.—Mrs. Mather, The Garden Gate, Long Shoot, Nuneaton.

G. **Oldham**.—Mrs. Bridge, 82, Greengate Street, Oldham.

L. **Oilton**.—Mrs. Bennett, Trimpley, Kineton Road, Oilton.

S. **Orpington**.—Mrs. R. Parkes, Oakover, Beaumont Road, Orpington.

Q. **Ottery St. Mary**.—Mrs. Pares, Easthayes, Ottery St. Mary.

K. **Oundle and District**.—Mrs. H. T. Mackmurdock, Home Farm Cottage, Warlington, Oundle.

C. **Ouston and District**.—Sec.: Mrs. Hare, Ouston House, near Birtley.

P. **Oxford**.—Mrs. Geldart, 10, Chadlington Road, Oxford, and Miss E. Lewis, 13, Rawlinson Road, Oxford.

P. **Oxford Women Students**.—Miss Deneke, Sunfield, Northam Gardens, Oxford.

R. **Oxley and Linsfield**.—Mrs. Seyd, Splinney Meade, Rockfield Road, Linsfield.

Q. **Palatine**.—No Secretary.

P. **Pangbourne**.—Miss L. C. Jones, Jesmond Hill, Pangbourne (pro tem.).

T. **Paris**.—Mrs. Pearde Beaufort, 29, Torrington Square, W.C.

S. **Parbury, Matfield, and District**.—Miss Mabel Symonds, The Gings, Matfield, Kent.

D. **Penrith**.—Miss Altham, 22, Brunswick Square, Penrith.

Q. **Penzance**.—Mrs. J. B. Cornish, 4, Clarence Place, Penzance.

J. **Pershore**.—Miss M. E. Davies, Napleton House, Nr. Worcester.

Q. **Plymouth and District**.—Dr. Mabel Ramsey, M.D., 4, Wentworth Villas, North Hill, Plymouth.

O. **Portishead**.—Mrs. Stanley Wood, 11, Adelaide Terrace, Portishead, Bristol.

R. **Portsmouth**.—Mrs. L. Wallace, 72, Kimberley Road, Southsea.
Branches: Cosham, Gosport.

H. **Preston**.—Mrs. Todd, Farington Lodge, Leyland, Lancs.

R. **Purley**.—Miss Wallis, 2, Foxley Lane, Purley.

G. **Radcliffe**.—Miss M. Lofthouse, 122, Water Lane, Radcliffe.

S. **Ramsgate**.—Mrs. C. A. Howe, 70, Ellington Road, Ramsgate.

G. **Rawtenstall and Waterfoot**.—Miss F. Whitehead, Ashday Lea, Holly Mount, Rawtenstall.

P. **Reading**.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Margaret Jones, 229, King's Road, Reading.

E. **Redcar**.—Mrs. W. S. Fothergill, 9, Nelson Terrace, Redcar.

J. **Redditch**.—Miss Alice M. Milward, Foxleydale, Redditch.

R. **Reigate, Redhill, and District**.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Crocker, Undercroft, Reigate.

P. **Richmond**.—Mrs. Bailey, 13, Denbigh Gardens, Richmond.

R. **Ringwood**.—see under New Forest.

G. **Rochdale**.—Mrs. A. N. Chew, 115, Yorkshire Street, Rochdale.

S. **Rochester**.—Mrs. Cobbett Barker, Bryant House, Strood.

M. **Romford**.—Mrs. E. Walker, The Nook, Oak Street, Romford.

G. **Romiley**.—Miss O. Powell, Rosegarth, Lane Ends, Romiley.

J. **Ross**.—Mrs. Thorpe, Wyton, Ross.

R. **Rotherfield and Mark Cross**.—Miss White, Longcroft, Rotherfield.

F. **Rotherham**.—Mrs. MacLagan, 2, Inglehurst, Broom Lane, Rotherham.

L. **Rugby**.—Miss Muriel Waidling, The Limes, Rugby.

R. **Ryde (Isle of Wight)**.—Mrs. Grant, Northwood, Queen's Road, Ryde.

C. **Sacrison**.—Miss M. E. Gunn, Prospect House, Sacrison.

M. **St. Albans**.—Mrs. Stuart, South Lea, Hillside Road, St. Albans.

H. **St. Helens**.—Miss Christine Pilkington, The Hazels, Prescott.

Q. **St. Ives**.—Mrs. F. Crichton Matthew, 9, Draycott Terrace, St. Ives, Cornwall.

>O. **Salisbury**.—Miss Hardy, Hamcroft, Old Blandford Road, Salisbury.

Q. **Saltash and District**.—Mrs. Waller, The Cottage, Barraton, near Saltash.

E. **Saltburn-by-the-Sea**.—Miss Leakey, 9, Leven Street, Saltburn-by-the-Sea.

E. **Scalby**.—Miss J. M. Barker, Sunny Bank, Scalby.

E. **Scarborough**.—Mrs. Shorham, Sevenoaks, Falconer Chambers, Huntriss Row, Scarborough.

R. **Seaford**.—Miss Parker, 9, Chichester Road, Seaford.

H. **Seaford**.—Pro tem., Mrs. Bell, Lyndhurst, Norma Road, Waterloo, Liverpool.

C. **Seaham Harbour**.—Miss Grimes, 31, Byron Terrace, New Seaham, Co. Durham.

F. **Sevenoaks**.—Mrs. Hyslop, Settle, Yorkshire.

F. **Seventon**.—Miss Coleman, Babbercombe, Granville Road, Sevenoaks.

R. **Shanklin**.—Miss E. de B. Griffith, Snowden, Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

F. **Sheffield**.—Pro tem., Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, The Grange, Eccleshall, Sheffield.

M. **Sheringham**.—Miss Baker, White Lodge, Cromer Road, Sheringham.

C. **Shildon and District**.—Miss Curry, 37, St. John's Road, New Shildon.

F. **Shipley**.—Mrs. Brunton, 12, Park Mount Avenue, Shipley, Shipley.

L. **Shipton-on-Stour**.—Miss Lilian Dickins, Cherrington, Shipton-on-Stour.

S. **Shoreham and Offord**.—Miss Dorothy Scott, Dorset Home, Shoreham, Sevenoaks.

C. **Shotley Bridge**.—Miss A. C. E. Walton-Wilson, Derwent Dene, Shotley Bridge, Northumberland.

J. **Shrewsbury**.—Miss Hills, 15, Butcher Row, Shrewsbury.

Q. **Sidmouth and District**.—Lady Lockyer, 16, Pen-y-wern Road, London, S.W.

D. **Silloth**.—Miss Wilson, 4, Hilton Terrace, Silloth.

D. **Silverdale**.—Mrs. Sleigh, The Vicarage, Silverdale, W. Woking.

I. **Skegness**.—Miss I. M. Willoughby, Rayleigh, Derby Avenue, Skegness.

E. **Skelton-in-Cleveland**.—Mrs. Kelson, 15, John Street, New Skelton-in-Cleveland, Yorks.

P. **Slough**.—Miss Simpson, 106, St. Leonards Road, Windsor.

L. **Solihull and District**.—Mrs. Allport, One Oak, Solihull.
Branches: Knowle and Dorridge, Lapworth and District.

R. **Southampton**.—Mrs. Farquharson, Hazehurst, Hulse Road, Southampton.

H. **Southport**.—Miss McViney, 133, Sussex Road, Southport.

C. **South Shields**.—Mrs. Lothian, 27, Horsley Hill Road, South Shields, and T. Trade Anderson, Esq., June 12, Logan Terrace, South Shields.

O. **South Somerset**.—Pro tem., Mrs. Ingham Baker, Wayford Manor, near Crewkerne.

I. **Southwell**.—Miss Winifred Gascoigne, St. Michael's, Southwell, Nottingham.

M. **Southwold**.—Miss Stella Peskett, St. Helens, The Common, Southwold.

F. **Sowerby Bridge**.—Miss E. Woods, 13, Cleveleys Avenue, Sowerby Bridge.

L. **Stafford**.—Mrs. Brookham, Education Office, Stafford.

C. **Stanley**.—Miss Mullard, Inglewood, Tyne Road, Stanley, Co. Durham.

G. **Stockport**.—Miss Andrew, 2, Victoria Grove, Heaton Road, Stockport.

C. **Stockton-on-Tees**.—Mrs. Bensted, Glenthorne, Norton-on-Tees.

L. **Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyne and District**.—with Leek. Miss Curwen, 5, Rostrevor Terrace, Hart's Hill, Stoke-on-Trent.

J. **Stourbridge**.—Mrs. McDonnell, Clent, near Stour-bridge.

M. **Stowmarket**.—Miss Wallis, Combs, Stowmarket.

L. **Stratford-on-Avon**.—Mrs. Cameron Stuart, The Pines, Stratford-on-Avon.

O. **Stroud**.—Miss Nancie Gorton, London Road, Stroud, Glos.

C. **Sunderland**.—Mrs. Arthur Johnson, 2, Gray Road, Sunderland.

R. **Sussex (Central)**.—Miss E. C. Bevan, Horsgate, Cuckfield.
Branches: Cuckfield, Hayward's Heath, Horsted Keynes, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Burgess Hill.

L. **Sutton Coldfield and District**.—Mrs. Gent, Hillside, Coleshill Hill, Sutton Coldfield.

O. **Swindon and North Wilts**.—Mr. Ainsworth, Summer-ville, Bath Road, Swindon.

O. **Taunton**.—Miss Gresswell, 2, Haines Hill Terrace, Taunton.

G. **Teignmouth**.—Miss Langley, 3, Barnpark, Teignmouth, S. Devon.

Q. **Tiverton**.—Pro tem., Miss Lake, St. Aubyns, Tiverton, Devon.

S. **Tonbridge**.—Miss B. Milner, 26, The Drive, Ton-bridge.

Q. **Topsham**.—Mrs. Wheaton, 4, Clydslands, Topsham.
Branch: Torquay.—Mrs. Colin Harding, "Redvers," Palermo Road, Babbacombe, Torquay.

O. **Trowbridge**.—Mrs. E. H. Pullinger, The Halve, Trowbridge, Wilts.

Q. **Truro**.—Miss M. I. Robinson, Rosslyn House, Truro.

S. **Tunbridge Wells**.—Mrs. Tattershall Dodd, 18, Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.

C. **Tynemouth**.—Miss H. W. Batteny, 5, Northumber-land Square, North Shields.

T. **Ulke Society**.—Miss Stoehr, Down End, Hind-head, Haslemere.

B.—Scotland.

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Aberdeen.—Miss Williamson, Ochil View, Aber-
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Alva.—Miss M. J. Lodge, Strude Cottage, Alva, Clack-
mannanshire.

Alyth.—see under Perth.

Argyle.—see under Tain.

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Auchtermuchty.—Miss Eadie, Zona, Auchtermuchty.
Ayr. Miss A. Loch, 21, Bellona Crescent, Ayr.

Beauy.—see under Highland Societies.

Berwickshire.—Mrs. Hope, Sunwick, Berwick-on-
Tweed.

Blairmore.—Miss J. Mackay, Kintail, Blairmore, Argyleshire.

Bonar Bridge.—see under Tain.

Bonness.—see under Edinburgh.

O. Stroud.—Miss Nancie Gorton, London Road, Stroud, Glos.

C. Sunderland.—Mrs. Arthur Johnson, 2, Gray Road, Sunderland.

R. Sussex (Central).—Miss E. C. Bevan, Horsgate, Cuckfield.
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L. Sutton Coldfield and District.—Mrs. Gent, Hillside, Coleshill Hill, Sutton Coldfield.

O. Swindon and North Wilts.—Mr. Ainsworth, Summer-ville, Bath Road, Swindon.

O. Taunton.—Miss Gresswell, 2, Haines Hill Terrace, Taunton.

G. Teignmouth.—Miss Langley, 3, Barnpark, Teign-
mouth, S. Devon.

Q. Tiverton.—Pro tem., Miss Lake, St. Aubyns, Tiverton, Devon.

S. Tonbridge.—Miss B. Milner, 26, The Drive, Ton-
bridge.

Q. Topsham.—Mrs. Wheaton, 4, Clydslands, Topsham.
Branch: Torquay.—Mrs. Colin Harding, "Redvers," Palermo Road, Babbacombe, Torquay.

O. Trowbridge.—Mrs. E. H. Pullinger, The Halve, Trowbridge, Wilts.

Q. Truro.—Miss M. I. Robinson, Rosslyn House, Truro.

S. Tunbridge Wells.—Mrs. Tattershall Dodd, 18, Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells.

C. Tynemouth.—Miss H. W. Batteny, 5, Northumber-land Square, North Shields.

T. Ulke Society.—Miss Stoehr, Down End, Hind-head, Haslemere.

Glasgow.—Miss Lindsay. Office: 202, Hope Street, Glasgow.

Glenfarg.—Miss Jessie Seaton, Green Bank, Glenfarg, Gleslie, see under Highland Societies.

Branch: Lairg

Gourock.—Miss M. Johnson, 1, Ashburn Gardens, Gourock.

Greenock.—Mrs. Laurie, Red House, 38, Ardgowan Street, Greenock.

Haddington.—Mrs. Kerr, Barney Mains, Haddington.

Hamilton.—Miss A. M. Carmichael, South Park Road, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

Hawick.—Miss Williamson, Wilton Grove, Hawick, Hertsdale, see under Highland Societies.

Highland Societies.—Miss Bury, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.—Beauy, Brora, Dingwall, Dornoch, Elgin and Lossiemouth, Gospie, Helmsdale, Inverness, John o' Groats, Nairn, Orcadian, Shet-land, Tain, Wick.

Inverleithen.—Miss Ada Ballantyne, Beechwood, Inverleithen.

Inverness.—see under Highland Societies.

John o' Groats.—see under Highland Societies.

Kelso.—Mrs. Fleming, Abbey Row Kelso.

Kilmacdoon.—Mrs. Wood, Barclavin, Kilmacdoon, Renfrewshire.

Kilmarnock.—Miss E. B. Cook, 19, McLelland Drive, Kilmarnock.

Kirkcaldy Burghs.—Mrs. G. S. Clark, Union Manse, Kirkcaldy.

Kirkcaldy and District.—Pro tem., Miss Paterson, Ellenbank, Kirkcaldy.

Largs.—see under Gospie.

Largs.—Miss Margaret Paton, Mansfield, Largs, Ayrshire.

Leith.—see under Edinburgh.

Lenzie.—Miss Paton, Netherhall, Lenzie.

Leven.—Mrs. Galloway, Kinellan, Leven.

Melrose.—Mrs. Hiddell, The Olisters, Melrose.

Montrose.—Mrs. Soddy, 14, Albyn Terrace, Aberdeen.

Motherwell.—Mrs. Jackson, Glenferne, Douglas Street, Motherwell.

Nairn.—see under Highland Societies.

Newburgh.—see under St. Andrews.

North Berwick.—Pro tem., Mrs. Reid, Winterfield, North Berwick.

Orcadian.—see under Highland Societies.

Orkney.—Miss Risk, 36, Whitehawk Drive, Paisley.

Peebles.—Mrs. W. E. Thorburn, Hay Lodge, Peebles.

Perth.—Mrs. Slater, West Manse, Scole.
Branches: Bridge of Earn, Scole, Alyth, and Coupar Angus.

Portmahomack.—see under Tain.

St. Andrews.—Mrs. Rowland, 2, Playfair Terrace, St. Andrews.
see under Perth.

Selkirk.—Mrs. Connachie, Park House, Selkirk.

Shetland.—see under Highland Societies.

Stirlingshire.—Mrs. Alec Morrison, Roselea, Bridge of Allan.

Tain.—see under Highland Societies.

Tain.—Branches: Arday, Bonar Bridge, Portmahomack.

Tayda.—Miss Maxwell, Kinbank, Wormit-on-Tay, Fife.

Troon.—Mrs. Muir, St. Monenna, Troon.

Wick.—see under Highland Societies.

Wales.

N. Aberdare and District.—Miss Agnes Jones, Head-mistress, Park Infants' School, Aberdare.

N. Abergavenny.—Miss B. Baker-Gabb, M.A., The Chain, Abergavenny.

N. Aberswyth.—Miss Miles Thomas, Somerville, South Terrace, Aberswyth.

H. Bangor.—Hon. Sec. pro tem.: Mrs. M. A. Hughes, 5, Victoria Park, Bangor; or Miss Lamporn, Hafordon, Menai Bridge, Anglesey.
Branches: Holyhead; Llanfairfechan.

N. Bargoed.—Miss Parry Jones, 44, Park Road, Bargoed.

N. Brecon and District.—Miss Garlick, Pont-ar-hoddu, Brecon.

N. Bridgend.—Mrs. Sloman, Penrhys, 10, Quarrella Road, Bridgend, Glam.

N. Cardiff and District.—Miss Howell, 132, Queen Street, Cardiff.
Branch: Penarth.

N. Carmarthen.—Miss B. A. Holme, Kai-ora, Myrdin Crescent, Carmarthen.

H. Carnarvon.—Mrs. E. P. Evans, Roman Villa, Carnarvon; and Miss Ryie Davies, Cartref, Segontium Road South, Carnarvon.
Branch: Pen-y-groes.

N. Chepstow.—Miss Edith Smith, 28A, High Street, Chepstow, Mon.

H. Colwyn Bay.—Miss M. Spencer, Farlands, Penrhyn Bay, near Llandudno.

H. Criccieth.—Mrs. Walter Jones, Emu, Criccieth.

H. Dolgelly.—Miss Gertrude Lewis, Dr. Williams' School, Dolgelly.

N. Kidwelly and Ferryside.—Miss E. M. Meredith, "Brynyfryd," Kidwelly, S. Wales.

N. Lampeter.—Miss Minnie C. Davies, Velindre House, Lampeter.

H. Llandudno.—Miss Wright, Preswylfa, Abbey Road, Llandudno.

N. Llanelly.—Miss Smith, 9, Mina Street, Llanelly.

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Table listing donations to N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital, including names of donors and amounts.

Table listing further donations to N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital, including names of donors and amounts.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully acknowledge further subscriptions to carry on the work.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Table listing further donations for beds named, including names of donors and amounts.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Leven, Fifeshire. The Leven Branch of the N.U. is a small one as regards numbers, for it does not muster one hundred members, but it is proud to be able to report that it has supported three "Leven and District" Beds in the Scottish Women's Hospitals during the past twelve months, and hopes to continue this support as long as may be needed.

Misses Gray, left as part of the first French Unit for the Abbaye de Royaumont. As a special parting gift to these friends the sum of £11 was collected amongst members and spent in providing hot-water bottles for the Abbaye Hospital.

and otherwise, and entertainments of various kinds, we managed, by November, 1915, to make up our second instalment of £75. In addition to this, on the return of the Misses Gray, in August, for a short holiday, the Society gave them a "Welcome Home," at which Miss Gray told of the work they had been doing in the Abbaye, and a special collection of £7 10s. was taken, which was given to provide an invalid chair for the Hospital at Royaumont.

withdrawal of the Calais Unit we have had two beds in the Abbaye and one in Serbia.

The death of our dear friend, Sister Mary Gray, at the Abbaye de Royaumont in January, has touched all our hearts and has made us determine to work harder than ever for the support of the Hospitals.

Besides our definite work for the Hospitals, we have held two "Members Meetings" this winter, and a Patriotic Thrift Meeting; and this short account of the year's work is sent to THE COMMON CAUSE in the hope that it may be an encouragement to other small Branches in their work for the Scottish Women's Hospitals during this difficult time.

Cambridge.

An interesting meeting was held at Clough Hall, Newham College, on March 8th, in aid of the British Women's Maternity Unit in Russia. There was a fair audience, in spite of atrocious weather, and £21 was collected, including some donations from absentees.

In the absence of Miss Gladys Rinder, who had been announced to speak, Mrs. Oliver Strachey then gave an address on the "Employment of Women as Affected by the War." She pointed out the danger of shifting employment—e.g., 15,000 women had left the textile factories for munition work, tempted by the higher wages.

Miss Allan, Principal of Homerton College, then gave an all-too-brief account of the appalling condition of education and the culpable indifference of local and even central authorities to the needs of school children.

London.

The Secretary of the London Units regrets that no account was sent to THE COMMON CAUSE of the meeting held at Wimbledon on December 21st, when £75 was collected. This Society has altogether collected £250 for the Scottish Hospitals, and has named and is maintaining for six months three "Wimbledon" beds in the London Ward at the Abbaye de Royaumont.

West Riding (Yorks) Federation.

SHEFFIELD.—A meeting was held on Friday, March 10th, at which Mr. W. Sinclair opened a discussion on "Housing and Town Planning." His address was listened to with much interest, and his suggestion that the problems of domestic architecture might be solved by the employment of capable women as architects was unanimously approved.

On Saturday, March 17th, a Flag Day was held on behalf of the Refugee Allies, the result of which we hope to report next week. HUDDERSFIELD.—The monthly meeting was held at 41, Spring Street, on Tuesday afternoon. Miss Siddon presided. It was decided to hold the annual meeting in May, and to ask Dr. Elsie Inglis or another member of the National Union who has been used to speak.

Herne Bay. The Suffrage Society has done good work in making garments and other articles for war hospitals, and is holding a weekly sewing meeting to provide comforts for sailors. To assist in obtaining material, a whist drive, organised by Mrs. A. Cowper Field, the Hon. Secretary, with the assistance of the Committee, took place at the Queen's Hotel on Wednesday evening. Nearly fifty people were present, and the arrangements made by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon for the comfort of the guests were excellent, and they well deserved the vote of thanks proposed to them by Mr. Cowper Field at the end of the proceedings.

The first of these meetings was held at the residence of Mrs. Harley, "The Sheelings," Belting, and was well attended. The weekly working parties in aid of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals are also being continued, and the Society is busy, too, on a batch of garments for the Maternity Unit in Russia.

Forthcoming Meetings.

- List of forthcoming meetings including: Llangollen—Towa Hall—Cake Sale, Tea, Loan Exhibition—Proceeds to Local Belgian Refugee Fund and Scottish Women's Hospitals. Highgate—Study Circle—3, Holly Terrace—Subject, "War and Democracy." Camberley and District—Central Hall—Annual Business Meeting—2.30—Public Meeting—3.0—Speaker, Mrs. Flora Annie Steel on "The Nation's Needs." Birmingham—St. Vincent Street School for Mothers—Miss Bett. Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Speaker Miss Louisa Lumsden, LL.D.—Subject, "The Hague Convention." Birmingham—Salley Women's Labour League—Motherhood—Miss Bett on "The Expectant Mother." Bristol—40, Park Street—Women's Interests Committee—Chair, Mrs. R. Talbot. Southampton—Thrift Campaign—Potswood Mother's Meeting—"Paper Box Cookery" Talk and Demonstration—Miss Ridley. Manchester—Salford Suffrage Club—Monthly Meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Marshall—"How we Can Help to Win the War." Working Parties. Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 49, Sefton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0. Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk. Every Tuesday, 2.0-6.0. Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Monday, 2.30, and every Thursday at 8.0. Bournemouth—At 167, Old Christchurch Road—for the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit. Every Monday, 3.0-6.0. Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Wednesday, 3.0-6.0. Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street—March 29th. 3.0-5.0. Bristol—Working Party at St. Agnes Vicarage—March 30th. Burton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited. Every Thursday, 2.30. Chiswick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Thursday, 3 to 6 p.m. Crofton—Working Party every Monday for Serbian Unit, at Walden, Stanhope Road. This address is the depot for the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation, where all work and appliances can be sent. Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia. Every Monday, 2.30-4.30. Farnham—At Bourne Lodge—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit. On Thursday, at 2.45-4.15 p.m. Guildford and District—Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals and Russian Maternity Unit, at the Office, 1A, Mount Street. Fridays, 3.0-6.0. Hastings—At the Suffrage Club—A Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Tuesday, 2.30-6.0.

- Highgate—At 26, West Hill—Hostess, Mrs. Garnett—Members and friends cordially invited every 3rd Friday. 3.0-5.0. Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street. Every Tuesday, 2.30. Paddington—22, Kildare Terrace, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Mrs. Barstow)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Redhill—At Miss Woodwards', 10, Fenagates Road—Sewing Party. Every Wednesday, 2.15. Reigate—For N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals and Maternity Unit for Polish Refugees—February 28th and alternate Mondays. Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party. Every Tuesday, 2.45. Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour of Salfaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting. Every Thursday, 2.30. Solihull—Church House—Working Party for making comforts for the Italian troops. Every Monday, 3.0. Southampton—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit, at Hazelhurst, Hulse Road—Hostess, Mrs. Farquharson. Every Wednesday, 3.0-6.30. South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Every Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30. Wakefield—St. John's Institute—Sewing Party. Every Wednesday, 2.30-6.0. Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make Sand Bags. Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.30. Hospital Garments. Every Wednesday, 2.30.

Announcements.

The Pioneer Players will give their third performance this season on Sunday, April 2nd, at five o'clock, when they will produce "Ellen Young," a comedy in three acts by Gabrielle Enthoven and Edmund Goulding, and "A Merry Death," described as a harlequinade in one act, by Evreinoff, the Russian dramatist, whose play, "The Theatre of the Soul," was banned at a charity matinee at the Alhambra. An unusually strong cast includes Miss Cicely Debehman, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Pollie Emery, and Miss Agnes Thomas; Mr. Leon Quartermaine, Mr. Martin Lewis, Mr. Percival Clarke, and Mr. Stanley Logan. For "A Merry Death," special costumes have been designed by Mr. George Plank, and the music has been arranged by Mr. Christopher Wilson.

MARSH'S 10, King St. & Ridgeway MANCHESTER. LADIES' HAND BAGS. NURSES' ATTACHE CASES & TRUNKS. ONOTO FOUNTAIN PENS. PRESENTS AND COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS. Phone: 286 Central. Grams: Marsh, King St., Manchester.

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PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS. Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 11, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. HADWICK PUBLIC LECTURES.—A Lecture (illustrated by diagrams and lantern slides) on "Heat and Light," by Dr. Charles Porter (Medical Officer of Health, Marylebone), on Wednesday, March 29th, at 3 p.m., at Household and Social Science Department, King's College for Women, Campden Hill-rd., Kensington, W. Admission free. (Continued on page 672)

Continued from page 671.]

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.
9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W.—Lecture, March 29th, at 8 p.m. "The Art of Reviewing," by Miss Rebecca West.

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