# The Common Cause.

# The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester. The latest time for receiving Advertisements is first post Tuesday for that week's issue.

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Correspondents are Requested to Note that this Paper goes to press on Wednesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Tuesday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Tuesday is only mentioned as the last possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

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#### The News of the Week.

#### Some Suggestions.

We have been frequently asked if we would have a special column entitled "Hints for Speakers," and we have lately had another suggestion, that we do not enough "work up enthusiasm." We think our kind critics have too poor an opinion of the readers of this paper. Every piece of news we print, every article, every report of a meeting contains "hints for speakers," if they will only take them. Speaking is not entirely an art in itself. If you are full of matter and empty of self, if you will study life at first hand and not by hearsay, if you will take the trouble to have convictions and exhibit the courage of them, you will be a better speaker than if you merely

mug up a few facts from a primer and acquire a few tricks of the trade.

As to enthusiasm. We believe in the fervour that is grounded upon knowledge and conviction rather than in that which depends upon infection. The one will endure, because it goes deep; the other is a heady draught which does no lasting good. We would not underrate the sense of comradeship that comes to us in working together for a big thing like liberty; it is one of the best things life has to give and one of the finest things this women's movement has brought to women. But exaggeration and superlatives and the spurring of emotion are repugnant to greatness of feeling. Let us save our breath for converting the unconverted; let us by all means make use of our enthusiasm to do hard, distasteful, necessary, unsensational work, and to deny ourselves the money which women, who are mostly poor, can only scrape together by sacrifices. Our work is crippled on all hands for want of money. In the history of the world it has always been difficult to get enough endowment for pure education. Can we not show the higher value we put upon this—in truth the only way of solid and lasting reform—and pay up handsomely for our convictions? It would be a fine thing to think that women showed the way.

#### Illiberal Liberalism.

The letter which will be found in our correspondence columns, signed by "One of the Old Guard," is a perfect expression of the point of view of party as opposed to principle. It fully bears out our statement that the reason Liberal women do not press for enfranchisement is the thoroughly illiberal and bad reason that their party is in power and that they are willing to postpone doing justice to all women because their particular views are, for the moment, being expressed by the Government of the day. On this principle, the women supporters of any Government would "prefer to wait five or even ten years" and we should never be enfranchised, since it would be left for women in opposition, alone, to work for enfranchisement. Fortunately many Conservatives as well as Liberals are more liberal than that and believe that duly qualified people should be heard, even if they are women and even if no one can possibly know how they will vote.

they will vote.

When those who have worked hardest and sacrificed most of their lives to getting this piece of elementary justice done have accomplished their work, they will be able to smile at the ladies who will "receive it with dignity" because it was "bound to come." It is harder to smile now; yet in the great struggle for freedom one feels that the real exhilaration is with those who are in the struggle, not with those who are content to sit still and take the liberty which others will have got for them.

#### University Honours.

The list of first-class honours attained by women at Cambridge this year contains the following:— CLASSICAL TRIPOS, Part I., Div. 2, M. M. Hardie (Newnham), A. Woodward (Newnham); Div. 3, H. M. Barnard (Girton). Part II., E. Radford (Newnham), Archæology. HISTORICAL TRIPOS, Part I., E. E. Power (Girton), C. M. Ryley (Newnham). MORAL SCIENCES TRIPOS, Part II., Emily M. Smith (Newnham), with special distinction in Psychology. NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS, Part I., V. E. Cooper (Girton).

MEDIÆVAL and MODERN LANGUAGES TRIPOS

Old Regulations), M. E. Seaton (Girton).

At Oxford the Council of Somerville College offered this summer for the third time a Research Fellowship, tenable for three years. This year, for the first time, candidature was open to women students of Cambridge and Trinity College, Dublin, as well as of Oxford. Twenty-six applications were received (considerably more than in either of the two previous cases), and a far larger proportion of the candidates were already well equipped in research, and had published original work. The Fellowship is entirely supported by subscriptions from Somerville students, past and present, and it is felt to be an institution in a very living relation with the College. Far more Fellowships of this kind are needed at Oxford, but it is encouraging to find that an increasing number of women students are in a position to take full advantage of them. The two former Fellows, Miss E. Jamieson and Miss F. Isaac, have done valuable original work, the one in history, the other in physics. The third Fellow, just elected, is Miss B. Freire-Marreco, who won a Diploma in Anthropology, with Distinction, at the University of Oxford last year. She intends to research upon an anthropological subject of great interest, the authority of kings and chiefs in uncivilized society.

### Irresponsible Rulers.

It is good news that the N.U.T. proposes to carry the matter of the dismissal of a Warrington married teacher to the law courts if necessary. It is high time that the whole question of the treatment of married women were thoroughly ventilated, and that women should themselves be aroused to the extraordinary precariousness of their position. By the Married Women's Property Act, a woman has her earnings secured to her, and we have been called upon to admire the amazing generosity of this Act, in which, "by one stroke of the pen," men "deprived themselves" of thousands of pounds. But this beautiful generosity will be somewhat marred, if our irresponsible male rulers decree that a married woman shall be prohibited from earning.

hibited from earning.

We say "male rulers" advisedly, because on every education authority the women are still in a negligible minority, and the greatest opposition is still made to coopting a woman, even when, as in Manchester recently, the woman was incontestably the greater authority in matters of education. It is true there are women now voting for County Councillors, but they also are in a very small minority, and in England, with the exception of London, no married women are allowed this vote. On the Warrington Education Committee, where matters have come to a head, there is no woman, for the lady who was co-opted was known to be leaving the town, and is now gone.

#### The Abuse of Power.

We have received an interesting communication from a married teacher whose independence is threatened; in the course of it she says: "I have not thought much of women's claims to a fair share in the government of things until now, when I realize how very unequal things are and what abuse of power to women's disadvantage is quite possible. . . Note how this 'fervour for the home' has lain in abeyance all the time there was a scarcity of teachers. The very bodies of men whose consciences are now so tender on this point are the very same who encouraged every woman with a teacher's Government certificate to come out of her home and use it. Now, to quote one of the Committee, 'having served the convenience of the Education Committee, they must go.' . . I think I must take your paper and do what I can for the common cause." It seems as if our friends might find some "hints for speakers" here.

#### Warrington Test Case.

The exact situation is this: that in a non-provided school at Warrington (the Fairfield Church of England Girls' School) Mrs. Stansfield has been headmistress for twenty years, and was married before she obtained the

appointment. Her husband is head of another school in the same town. The Warrington Education Committee decided lately that no married women should be eligible for appointment in any of their schools, and that, of those at present serving, only such should be retained as could prove that their husbands were "by reason of bodily or mental infirmity" unable to maintain the family. Because Mr. Stansfield is not incapable of earning, Mrs. Stansfield is to be artificially rendered incapable, and accordingly (the School Managers having declined to part with Mrs. Stansfield, for whom they have a high opinion) the Education Committee have given her notice over the heads of the Managers. But the Committee is only empowered to dismiss "on educational grounds," and no one has been so bold as to say that marriage constitutes an "educational ground." The N.U.T. is taking the matter up as a test case for all married women teachers, and the Town Clerk has received notice of an injunction to be served in a few days, warning the Committee to stop proceedings till the case is decided.

#### The Anti-Suffrage Review.

Really our friends who want "hints" ought to read the Anti-Suffrage Review. It simply bristles with debat-ing points, and challenges contradiction in every line. It is amusing reading, too, as showing what people are pre-pared to swallow as a reason, when their minds are irretrievably sealed. In the leader, for instance, where an obscure and nameless journalist from Australia is pitted against all the men and women of light and leading who have testified in favour of the vote from their own experience of it, we are told that if most women vote "as their husbands and brothers do, it's just doubling the male vote." It is an extraordinary thing, which must be peculiar to Australia, that the husbands and brothers should always be of one mind, and so the lady can comfortably "double" their vote. Further on, the author admits that the lady might differ from her husband, and "What then? Well, we either double the man's vote or disfranchise the household." The horns of this dilemma do not appear so painful to us as the writer would have them. Why should a household be "disfranchised" if the two people in it vote in opposite ways? No one would dream of saying that if two men live in a house, only one must have the vote, because otherwise we should be on the horns of this dilemma. The household is not disfranchised if each adult person in it has a voice in the representation. If, on the whole, husband and wife tend to have similar views, may this not be put down to the very natural selection in marriage of a mate with whose general character one is in sympathy?

The rest of the article is even more difficult to follow; the writer first makes the astounding statement that single women in England have "plenty of time on their hands" (surely she must live in Hampstead or Kensington); then that the woman worker would constitute a "rather unstable revolutionary element," that she most needs State help, and will make use of the vote, and thereby apparently irretrievably damage her best interests, which only men can have at heart.

#### Anti-Suffrage Propaganda.

We welcome the statement that the anti-Suffragists have found the debate "a recognised success," and hope that in future we may not have such extraordinary difficulty, as we have had in the past, in screwing their courage up to the point of meeting us in open debate. The Manchester Society spent many weeks in countering every evasion, but the opponent still fled, and we hear the same tale from Worcester. We are sadly afraid that Mr. Leo Maxse does not read the papers, for having first complained with unconscious humour that Suffragists had given "no word of guidance," no "contribution to thought" on the navy question, he proceeded to say that "neither on behalf of Tariff Reform nor against it had any of these ladies taken the trouble to exert themselves." It almost seems as if Mr. Maxse had never heard of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, or as if he did not know that the Women's Liberal Federation desired the vote.

### Our Point of View.

Ĵune 24, 1909.

#### The Bed of Procrustes.

Once upon a time there lived in Attica a robber whose name was Procrustes. He possessed a bed which was always too long or too short for his unfortunate captives and he proceeded to make them fit the bed either by stretching them by means of a rack or by lopping off their feet. In time Theseus conquered him and made him suffer the tortures which he had inflicted upon others.

So runs the old story and it has run in one's head ever since last Monday's debate on the Home Office vote. Again and again did our reformers in their zeal remind us that they are rapidly arriving at the point where they consider law as a thing beautiful and perfect in itself, not in its relation to human needs and idiosyncrasies; a bed on which individuals must all be stretched or lopped; they would make people to fit the law and not law to fit the people. Of course this is the easiest way about. An inferior dressmaker or tailor will pad you out a figure that shall be easier to fit than the one which nature gave you. It avoids the painful necessity for thought, for sympathy and adaptability. But does it bring about the best results? Is it really for the interests of the nation that every other consideration should be sacrificed to a mechanical uniformity, to a perfection of unimpeded inspection?

unimpeded inspection?

Sir Charles Dilke said that "the interests of all trades must be weakened by every exception that is made . . . because every time you make an exception you dishearten inspection and the inspectors." So this is made the excuse for bringing under the factory acts places that are not factories at all, where the workers suffer no hardship and make no complaint. It has to be admitted that the florists' assistants suffer from no great hardships by being outside the factory acts; no one has ever set out to prove that they are much injured; but they spoil the harmony and symmetry of the system and they must be brought into line. Naturally, where there is a law, exemptions and special classes are troublesome and expensive and so we have Mr. Ramsay MacDonald pleading for "some simpler form of law" relating to laundries and inquiring later whether typewriting offices might not be included under the factory acts "by Order," although he had just been reminded by the Home Secretary that it would be an extremely difficult thing to legislate as if these offices were factories.

What is there in common about all these cases where greater uniformity, simplicity, rigidity are called for? This: that it is in women's industries, in laundries, flower shops, typeing offices, where nearly all the employees are women; and further this: that in all cases it is the desire to have differential treatment as between men and women, to make it more difficult for women to get well-paid work by introducing restrictions peculiar to the women, from which men are to be exempt. It is all done "in the interests of the women" and to prevent their being injured, but an enactment does not always succeed in doing what it sets out to do and it must be remembered that all restrictions which make it more troublesome to employ women than men, tend to throw women out of that employment altogether and therefore to crowd them further into those left open to them.

Mr. Gladstone said, in reference to the inspection of

Mr. Gladstone said, in reference to the inspection of mines: "It does seem to me rather absurd that sensible men and trained men... cannot by organization arrange for the enforcement and carrying out of the law." This is a healthy principle and we would apply it to women as well—train them and organize them, give them liberty and opportunity, make women of them and there will be the less need to "protect" them in ways which keep them in eternal subjection and crush out all originality and initiative. For of course the law, in theory at least, is no respecter of persons and the exception is not and cannot be allowed for; and the matter is aggravated and made infinitely harder to bear when it is one sex which makes and administers the law and the other sex which has only to obey and to pay for the law.

Men are very apt to see the importance of originality in themselves; they quite appreciate the value of liberty

of action, when it is their own liberty; they would not like it at all if a uniform ideal were set up for Man, such as is set up for Woman, and legislative attempts were made to compel him to conform to this ideal. Yet this is what they are still trying to do with women. Take this egregious attempt to dictate to married women the sort of work which they must do. In one case we hear of, a lady who is described as one of the finest head teachers of infants in the country has been thrown out of employment and has had to resort to the very risky venture of starting a private school; in others, women who are admirably fitted to teach and direct children (surely "womanly" work!) are driven to cook and clean and sew, because, being deprived of their paid work, they cannot afford to employ one or more servants. How would a man who had been trained to teaching like to be told in middle life that he must take to blacking boots and cleaning windows?

We are told that there are two reasons: the first is that since women are the mothers of the nation, they must be compelled to give up all their time to motherhood. Those who argue so do not allow for the fact that even a woman who has children does not or should not exhaust the whole of her time and energy in performing this function; that cooking and cleaning are not in any sense part of the function of motherhood; and that some married women have few and some no children. We are told that since in marriage a man supports his wife, marriage is a remunerative career and no woman should be allowed to follow two trades and by so doing take the bread out of the mouths " of those who have no man to support them. To this there are many objections: first that a man does not always support his wife adequately and that to make it impossible for her to earn is to put her absolutely into his power; then it is not true to say a married woman by earning "takes the bread " out of the mouth of unmarried women, for if she works out of the house she cannot work in the house and must employ some woman to do that; if the market is overstocked with teachers, the remedy is not to compel those with experience to fall out on marriage, but to cease artificially fostering the supply; moreover those who desire to prohibit the earning of all married women do not face the fact that they are taking the heart out of the maidens' work and adding greatly to the precariousness and uncertainty which already go for so much in keeping the wages of women low. We are always being told that it is the possibility of marriage which keeps women's wage low.

All this doctrinaire legislation, all this dictation and restriction comes from a want of sympathy and under-standing. Of course it is simpler and easier for officials and inspectors and bureaucrats like Mr. Burns to have everything cut and dried and no tiresome exceptions at all. Of course it is easy for a body of men to say with a wave of the hand that women must come into line. Men are never tired of saying that women are more individualistic, more instinctive than they and yet this does not prevent them from attempting the foolhardy feat of cramming them into this Procrustes' bed of the "ideal woman "-stretching them out to the cracking point of endurance, lopping off or compressing any wild shoot of originality or independence. And they honestly don't see that the process hurts horribly until it has succeeded in stunting and dwarfing the creature. In an old speech made by a law-lord on the Married Women's Property Bill, he is reported to have said he could understand that a woman required maintenance, but why she should want money in her pocket to spend as she liked was more an he could understand." Our legislators are really not much further on yet. They don't see, and we doubt if they ever will see until women have made them see at

Lord Lytton, speaking in London last week, made a curiously frank admission: he said the militant tactics had been "brought too near to him for him to be able to treat them as a joking matter." This is a perfect description of the almost universal condition of men's minds: they do not feel things till they are brought home to them; they do not miss the liberty which they are denying to us; they are prepared to go on reforming our

homes and our lives by Act of Parliament and to dismiss all objectors as "exceptions." Before long it will be an indictable offence to be exceptional—if you are a woman.

are frequently fed upon malt grains in order to increase the amount of milk supply, regardless of its quality which is always inferior.

We have to remember too-the indirect effects of

### Topic of the Day.

#### Infant Mortality.

#### Alcoholism and Heredity.

Every year in England and Wales alone, more than 120,000 infants die before they are 12 months old. It is this terrible waste of human life, and the fact that, although there has been a decline in the death rate from preventible diseases, and in the death rate of the people s a whole, yet there has been no similar decline in the infant mortality rate, which on the contrary remains what it was 70 years ago,—it is this fact that has aroused the women of England to a desire to obtain more knowledge as to how to bring up healthy children, and also has resulted in our more modern ideas as to how such knowledge shall be disseminated. Although we deplore this loss, and although we recognise it as a failure of our modern civilisation that we are not yet able to supply the public with absolutely pure milk, or, what is of even more importance, the knowledge of the laws of cleanliness, and general hygiene, without which no reduction in the infant mortality rate is possible, yet I would venture to say, that this loss of human life is as nothing compared to the evil of bringing into the world children, with perhaps just stamina enough to exist, yet mentally, physically, and morally "deficient" or with that nervous instability and weakness, and inability to think, which makes them a burden to themselves and others

No other poison is responsible for such mental havoc in the offspring, as alcohol, no other vice responsible for so much misery, poverty and immorality as drunkenness, and I suppose no other train of symptoms is so far reaching in its effect upon the future descendants as alcoolism in one or both parents. Therefore in dealing with this question, I propose to consider it under two headings.

- 1. The effect of alcohol on infant mortality.
- 2. The effect of alcohol on infant life.

1. The effect of alcohol on infant mortality. Alcohol is a poison, and therefore, as we should expect, a very large number of the children of alcoholic mothers die before or at birth, or in the first few years of infancy. For instance Sullivan discovered that, whereas 23 per cent. of the children of sober mothers died before they were two years old, 55 per cent. of the children of alcoholic mothers died. The reason of this is that alcoholism in the mother induces a lower vitality in the child, and it causes deficient lactation.

It has been shown that alcohol may pass as such from the mother to the fœtus. This was proved by Nicloux, by animal experiment, and in every case alcohol was found in the fcctal organism. The consequence of this is that alcohol, which acts in much the same way as lead and other well-recognised poisons, in its harmful effect on the fcctus, causes the birth of offspring, more or less, mal-formed, or of extremely weak vitality, or they may be even still-born, or nonviable. In some cases the children appear normal for the first few months or even years of their life, and yet later their general stamina and their power of resisting disease prove to be nothing like so good as that in children of abstaining mothers.

Then with reference to deficient lactation: the milk of an alcoholic mother may be found actually to contain alcohol, so that not only does the child take milk of a poor quality, but also milk containing alcohol, with the result that pathological changes in the child's liver, and other organs very soon take place. There is an old but popular superstition, that stout is good for nursing mothers. Now stout, porter, and other malt liquors do

alcohol in causing infant mortality. Much money is wasted by parents on alcohol, which money is required to buy good food and milk for the mother and child. And, again, alcohol induces an inertness of body and mind, which leads to laziness and neglect on the part of the mother—which in their turn mean dirt, semi-starvation, and later illness and death. Lastly alcoholism in the mother leads to the overlaying of infants, an accident, which as everybody knows, happens most often on Satur-

Children as a whole, represent the life and vitality of their parents, and of their parents' parents before them, and if a child is to be really well born, at least two generations of healthy men and women must have played their part honestly and well. Not only is the maternal influence of alcoholism marked, but also the paternal influence. This is well shown in a case reported by Dr. Norman Ken:—The father and mother started life healthy and consequently had a son and daughter who were both excellent specimens of humanity. Then the father took to drinking, with the result that the next child was mentally defective; and then as the father continued to develop more fective; and then as the father continued to develop more alcoholic symptoms, the next two children born were complete idiots. In fact only a very small percentage of drinkers' children are physically fit and mentally normal. One authority, Professor Demme, says only 6.4 per cent., while Legraine and Dernon give the figures at 17.5 per cent., and 11.7 per cent. respectively. Tuberculosis is also more frequent in the children of heavy drinkers. One authority. Arriva found that 10 per cent. of such children of the contract of th authority, Arrive, found that 10 per cent. of such children suffered from it, whereas only 1.8 per cent of the children of temperate, healthy parents had tuberculosis. Infantile mortality is, as we know, often the result of

artificial rather than breast feeding, and alcoholism in the parents. is sometimes a cause of a woman being unable to suckle her infant.

The Effect of Alcohol on Infant Life. Even babies may be drinkers of alcohol. Many mothers give a little gin or brandy to their babies for flatulence. This, by its frequent repetition acts in-juriously on the different organs of the child; in every children's hospital we find post-mortem "gin drinkers' livers " in even small children, and the effect of alcohol on the nerve cells of the brain and cord is just as disas-Lately, amongst the medical profession, there has been a decided reaction in favour of using other stimulants (such as strychnine in preference to brandy) in pneumonia and other grave illnesses.

Impaired nerve vitality often shows itself in convulsions, meningitis, and other troubles. The child of a who takes even small amounts of alcohol often fretful, cries a great deal, and is inclined to have various nervous disturbances. Later in life the child shows signs of stupidity, mental deficiency, moral instability, and lack of normal control, or in still worse cases

of idiocy, epilepsy, and hysteria.

From the mass of medical and other evidence of the disastrous effects of alcoholism on the race, I will only allude to Professor Delman's famous study in hereditary alcoholism : - Ada Jucke, who died at the beginning of last century, at about 60 years of age, was a drunkard, a thief, and a vagabond. Seventy-five years later, her progeny was found to consist of 834 persons, of whom the history of 700 has been studied. Of this number, there have been 106 illegitimate children, 144 beggars, 64 sustained by charity, 181 prostitutes 76 criminals among whom were 7 assassins. In 75 years this single family has cost, in maintenance, expenses of imprisonment, and interest, £250,000.

Our infant mortality rate is now looked upon as a national disgrace. Surely as great a disgrace is the bringing into the world of these mentally, morally, and physically deficient children. In a large percentage of cases we know this to be preventible. Has the time not stimulate for a time a secretion of extra milk, but this secretion is of a watery nature, and is therefore of inferior nutritive value to the child. As a matter of fact, cows taught? Surely too we can now look forward to the

time when, because of the fuller knowledge which comes as the result of accurate, scientific investigation, we shall no longer have to cater for thousands of unfit and unemployable men and women, but spend our money on easing the lives of the workers of the world, and in the bettering of the environment of all its citizens.

L. MARTINDALE, M.D., B.S. (Lond.).

June 24, 1909.

#### In Parliament.

#### Women and Children.

In Committee of Supply on the Home Office vote, which took place on Monday 14th, a large number of questions were raised, most of them of great complexity and very contentious. Sir Charles Dilke spoke feelingly on dangerous employments for young children. One could wish that he had not seemed to run together two matters requiring such totally different treatment as the further protection of wage-earning children and the further restriction of the employment of adult women. Most of our legislators cannot shake off the habit of classing together "women and children" and we can hardly wonder, while the franchise laws still keep them in tutelage together, with lunatics and criminals for

#### Factory Acts.

Sir Charles challenged the accuracy of a circular issued by Miss Gore-Booth with reference to the classing of florists' shops as workshops under the meaning of the act, and said the women were "totally unaware of how they could work under the present law." Mr. Ramsay could work under the present law." Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. Akers Douglas, as well as the Home Secretary, spoke well of the working of the act as applied to laundries, but seemed to think that greater rigidity and uniformity were required. Mr. MacDonald also suggested that in many ways typewriting offices did work analogous to that done by printing works and competed with them, yet they were exempt from the operation of the factory acts and were not inspected.

#### Female Political Prisoners.

Mr. Swift MacNeill raised the question of the policy and even the legality of the imprisonment, as criminals, of women who had been guilty of a political offence. He pointed out that these women were not proceeded against under the common law, but under a statute of Edward III. and that this was a mere contrivance to avoid the ordinary trial. Mr. Arnold Lupton also protested and Mr. Claude Hay asked whether the Government would adopt measures "more in consonance with public feeling and prevent these persons who, rightly or wrongly, fight for ideals, being treated as ordinary criminals." Mr. Herbert Samuel's reply was extremely disingenuous. He maintained that because the women who disobey a police order (that they shall not go to the House of Commons in deputation) are thrust into the second division, not the third, therefore they are not treated as ordinary criminals; but ordinary criminals are classified into second and third class and only those who are considered depraved are put into the third class. Miss Patricia Woodlock has worn prison clothes and eaten prison food, slept on a plank bed and suffered solitary confinement; male political prisoners are put into the first class, wear their own clothes, see their friends, write letters and eat as they please; it is only women who are imprisoned as criminals and vilified in addition by those who are denying them justice. If Mr. Samuel was right in saying that the general sense of the House was with the Government in this matter, one can only feel that it is so much the worse for the House; in its love of domination it is losing the instinct for fair play which Englishmen plume themselves on possessing. Mr. Samuel indicated that, with regard to the white slave traffic, further legislation was needed and it is understood that the Government intend bringing in amend-

#### The Conditions of Debate.

On the question of allocating time, which was debated on Tuesday, Lord Robert Cecil made a dignified appeal for a better use of the time of Parliament, and suggested an extension of the use of Grand Committees. Outsiders are in perpetual wonderment at the gladness wherewith Parliament suffers its fools, and at the wanton waste of Parliament suffers its fools, and at the wanton waste of time which seems to be specially provided for. The setting down of "blocking motions," which the Speaker said (on Thursday) had been "before the House on and off for the last two or three years," is a crying scandal, and one from which women's interests have been peculiarly liable to suffer. Mr. Asquith, replying to Lord Robert Cecil, did not maintain his high level of public spirit, and made a chear iske shout private members being anyious to be a cheap joke about private members being anxious to be re-elected, even though they should have to remain dumb voting machines; but Lord Robert's contention had been that the present system tended to keep men of fine mind and character from standing.

#### Labour Exchanges.

This much-needed measure is bristling with difficulties, and those concerned will have to work hard and pull together to get it going. Several Labour members pointed out on Wednesday how the decasualisation of labour might result in throwing entirely out of work a certain number of men, and that this difficulty would have to be met. Mr. Clynes also raised knotty points in connection with strikes, and with a minimum rate of wages. Mr. Churchill shewed that Mr. Havelock Wilson's strictures on the Mercantile Marine Offices were not based on correct facts. He also stated that, at present, domestic servants would not be included in his scheme. We have always felt that the whole question of domestic service wanted treating in a large way to meet new conditions and requirements, but we cannot help being heartily glad that women employers and employees are not to be dragooned "for their good" by the irresponsible gentlemen who rule us at present.

### National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

25, Victoria Street, Westminster.

All the Nottingham indoor meetings will be held in the same place, the Circus Street Hall, East Circus

The Special Council Meeting will be held at 10.30 on Tuesday, July 6th (not 7th as in our last issue) and the usual quarterly Council will be held immediately afterwards. That evening at eight the Vice-Presidents and Committee of the Nottingham Society will hold a recep-tion at which Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., and Mrs. Philip Snowden will speak.

On Monday 5th a Secretaries' meeting will be held at 4.30 p.m., when questions of organization can be discussed and an open-air meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Market Place, where Mrs. Fawcett, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Margaret Robertson and others will speak.

#### Treasurer's Note.

We gratefully acknowledge the following new contributions, received during the week.

Miss Louisette Blyth, in forwarding a cheque for £15 from the Cambridge University W.S.S., writes: "Our Society has been somewhat reorganised, and we have decided the bulk of our money shall be used in doing active work by the National Union rather than be stored away doing no one any good.

Our special thanks are due to the Cambridge University W.S.S. for their decision and welcome gift.

Liverpool W.S.S. is making a splendid "special effort" in aid of the Union funds, and we heartily appreciate the generous help of that Society.

#### The Yorkshire Caravan.

The Yorkshire Caravan.

The caravan left Malton on Saturday, June 12, and many and various were the disasters that befell us before we reached Ripon. Two steeds were necessary on account of the hilly country, but they absolutely refused to collar up, so we had to dismiss them, and were stranded upon a triangle of grass in the centre of four cross roads, twelve miles from York, at a late hour in the afternoon. Fortunately a passing cyclist obtained other horses for us, and we arrived at York close on midnight. We travelled through the next day, and finally reached Ripon on Sunday evening. Miss Costelloe left us next morning, and we were very sorry to lose her. Mrs. Overbury joined the van, and the next day we canvassed six villages outside Ripon and held a good meeting in the Market Square at Bedale. The next morning we had a capital meeting in the Market Place of Ripon, and Mrs. Haverfield turned up in the afternoon. The van went straight on to Harrogate, arriving about 9.30 As we entered the town, members of the I.L.P. came up to us and rendered all assistance in their power, telling us where to camp, and arranging as to the getting up of meetings, etc. We held our first upon "The Stray" the following evening, when Miss Pringle spoke, and found the people sympathetic and interested. We had many inquiries about Mary Gawthorpe, who is remembered here by all who heard her last July, when she created a lasting impression. On Saturday our expected speaker failed to put in an appearance, so Miss Fielden took the meeting alone, and very skilfully and well she accomplished her task. There were many more people and intelligent questions. Good collections were taken up, many leaflets distributed, and literature sold. We have made more satisfactory arrangements as to horse hire, which will add greatly to our comfort for the next ten days. One had always heard of the hospitality of Yorkshire people, and no account would be complete without a tribute to the ladies and gentlemen who took us in as perfect strangers and showe

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BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

good bathing. Will not some keen Suffragists combine a pleasant holiday with a useful piece of work for the cause by spending a week or a fortnight in the neighbourhood and holding one or two open-air meetings in the surrounding villages. A party of friends with bicycles could cover the whole Division from Seascale, and could choose their audiences from the iron-workers and colliers in the north of the Division, from the farmers in the agricultural and mountainous district, or from the seaside visitors at the villages along the coast. I would advertise their meetings for them, and make good any reasonable expense incurred out of the Cumberland Organization Fund.

Catherine E. Marshall,
Hon. Organizing Sec. Keswick W.S.A.

Hawse End, Keswick.

### The Compleat Organizer.

VI. CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER.

CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER.

We said in a previous article that it was well the chairman should be someone who can give a good deal of time and thought to the affairs of the society, and who can be a regular attendant at committee meetings. The reasons for this are sufficiently obvious. The chairman is the head and the representative of the society, and nothing is more embarrassing for the members than to find that the chairman is making some public pronouncement which does not show the knowledge of the society's work proper to its chief officer. Moreover, in committee the chairman cannot have due weight and authority with the committee if its members have to be constantly informing or instructing her. Business goes much better if the honorary officers habitually consult with each other and meet to plan out work, and the chairman can take her share in explaining to the committee the reasons for recommending any course of action.

The duties of a chairman differ considerably, according to the nature of the meeting over which she is to preside. A committee meeting, a public meeting for propaganda, an annual business meeting and a debate all require different procedure. To-day we only treat of the chairman in committee. It is the first duty of a chairman to be punctual.

It is not often that in committee there are any complicated questions of procedure; a much more frequent difficulty is the tendency to general conversation and to irrelevance. A great deal can be done by the secretary presenting business in a business-like way, and it is the chairman's duty to see to it that members address the chair and not each other, that they speak only one at a time, and that they speak to the question. By personal knowledge of individuals, the chairman can do excellent service in calling upon those with special knowledge and experience to give their opinion or advice and in preventing the monopolising of attention by a few. When the discussion has ceased to be fruitful, the chairman should put the question to the vote, and where

spoke, and found the people sympathetic and interested. We had many inquiries about Mary Gawthorpe, who is remembered here by all who heard her last July, when she created a lasting impression. On Saturday our expected speaker failed to put in an appearance, so Miss Fielden took the meeting alone, and very skilfully and well she accomplished her task. There were many more people and intelligent questions. Good collections were taken up, many leaflets distributed, and literature sold. We have made more satisfactory arrangements as to horse hire, which will add greatly to our comfort for the next ten days. One had always heard of the hospitality of Yorkshire people, and no account would be complete without a tribute to the ladies and gentlemen who took us in as perfect strangers and showed us the most unfailing sympathy and kindness.

Speakers Wanted in Cumberland.

I wonder whether any of your readers are thinking of spending their summer holidays in Cumberland, and would be willing to help us in our work here, either by collecting information for the Drvisional Secretaries, or by speaking at village meetings? Cumberland is rather a difficult country to organise, owing to geographical conditions. I am particularly anxious to obtain information and to organise meetings in the Egremont Division, and should be most grateful to state of the society. The tendent of the society in the probable cost, and to take steps to raise the amount necessitated by the difference always found to exist between the amount in hand and the amount required. The ultimate functional probable continued to the consent of the committee. It is generally work, without the consent of the committee. It is generally to organise, owing to geographical conditions. I am particularly anxious to obtain information and to organise meetings in the Egremont Division, and should be most grateful to society.

Seascale, or St. Bees. The Egremont Division contains some of the best mountain climbing and the most beautiful scenery in England, and includes the

in a special book. If money is raised for a variety of different funds, it is useful to keep the account books in columns; this will obviate the necessity of keeping a ledger or of sorting out the different funds at the end of the year. The treasurer will find it useful to check over members' subscriptions about two months before the close of the financial year, and send a reminder to all those who have not paid for the current year, otherwise a number are certain to be left out.

Suggestions as to the best means of appealing for money must be left to the ingenuity of individual treasurers, but on general principles there is little doubt that money can be raised if the society is made to feel that it is needed and that it is being well spent.

June 24 1909.

#### Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

48, Dover Street, Piccadilly, London, W.

We are anxious to remind our supporters of the reception which we are giving at the Wharncliffe Rooms on Monday, June 28, 3—6 p.m. Among the speakers will be Mr. Cameron Grant, Miss Gore-Booth, Mr. W. B. Boyd Carpenter, Mr. George Elliott, Miss Rosaline Masson, Mr. Forbes Robertson, the Hon. Mrs. John Bailey, Miss Spurgeon, and Mrs. H. Percy Boulnois, chairman of the Executive Committee, on the aims and objects of the Association.

Executive Committee, on the aims and objects of the Association.

The first of a series of lectures took place on June 16, at 64, Victoria Street (by kind permission of Mrs. Fabian Ware). Mr. W. A. Bailward took as his subject, "Women's Influence in Poor Law Reform," and pointed out that this was a sphere in which women could do much useful work, as it involved questions which could be settled satisfactorily only by the co-operation and mutual aid of men and women. He urged that all candidates for positions under the poor law should endeavour to qualify themselves thoroughly, and quoted many authorities who were all in favour of increasing the scope of women's work in this direction. The lecturer traced the gradual development of State aid from its institution during the reign of Elizabeth to the present day, and drew special attention to the continued recurrence of the assertion that poor law relief tended to benefit the undeserving. He emphasised the distinction between pauperism and poverty, and laid great stress on the injury to the national character which results from any loosening of the family tie. The discipline involved in the struggle to maintain independence was indispensable to a great people, and were it removed we could not continue an Imperial nation. The gain to the country resulting from our vast poor law expenditure was entirely inadequate, the net result being not to relieve the necessitous but to create a demand for charity.

In the animated discussion which followed, attention was demand the Country of the country the Covernment of the country resulting from our vast poor law expenditure was entirely inadequate, the net result being not to relieve the necessitous but to create a demand for charity.

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In the animated discussion which followed, attention was drawn to the German system of compulsory insurance, whereby employers, workmen, and the State all combined to raise a fund for the sick and aged, thus furnishing relief without destroying individual independence.

A crowded meeting of the Association was held at the Oratory Studios, Kensington, on the 17th inst. Lady Betty Balfour dealt with the question of adult suffrage and the arguments of the Anti-Suffragists. She pointed out also the many advantages which would accrue to the industrial classes from the possession of the Parliamentary vote. Lady Strachey showed that the enfranchisement of women was an inevitable result of both Conservative and Liberal principles. The position of women in all classes had undergone great alterations in the latter half of the nineteenth century, but in every pursuit they were hampered in all directions by legislative restrictions, in the making of which they had no hand. Mr. G. A. Touche, Conservative candidate for North Islington, gave a most eloquent address on the general aspects of the suffrage question, and made an urgent appeal to all, both men and women, to give their support to the enfranchisement of women, as until this were obtained it was not possible for Britain to attain her highest development, either in home or Imperial politics.

The Kensington Committee held a meeting at the Oratory Studios, kindly lent for the occasion by Miss Cotton. Miss Chadwick presided in place of Lady Lockyer. The principal speaker was Mr. Touche, Conservative candidate for Islington, who said that in common with all men of his party he felt great gratitude to Conservative women for the services they had rendered in times past, and this was one of the reasons why their demand for the Suffrage should be carefully considered. He found that the best women in the party were in favour of it. The political enfranchisement of women was not a party question, and could not be one, as both parties were too far committed. It could be brought about without being made a test question, for no general election was fought on a single issue, and he pointed out that there was nothing in the demand which was against the traditions of the Conservative party. Great battalions in this country were marshalling themselves on the side of Women's Suffrage. Referring to the Anti-Suffragists, he observed that several of the masculine leaders were retired

Oriental potentates, and he advised them to make Abdul Hamid president of their League.

Lady Betty Balfour said that Women's Suffrage was a cause which did good, even in the fighting and before the end was achieved. It widened the views of the women who took part in it, for they began to study the subject both directly and in all its outlying issues. Lady Strachey said that the enfranchisement of women followed from both Liberal and Conservative principles. Women asked for the vote because they couldn't do what they wanted to do without it, and in all their pursuits they were hampered at every turn by legislative restrictions which they had no hand in making or controlling. The fact that "men are men and women are women" was at the very root of the demand.

Mrs. Boulnois explained the objects of the Association, and appealed for funds to carry on and extend the work. A resolution calling upon Mr. Balfour to grant facilities for the passing of a Women's Enfranchisement Bill at the earliest possible moment was carried unanimously.

On the following evening the Kensington Committee held a debate with the Anti-Suffragists at 57, Bedford Gardens. The room was crowded. Dr. Flora Murray, who was to have represented the Conservative Association, was prevented from coming, and her place was taken by Miss Palliser, of the National Union. Mrs. Somervell represented the Anti-Suffrage League. An animated discussion followed the speeches, and the resolution—that the granting of the Parliamentary vote to duly qualified women would be of advantage to the State—was carried by an overwhelming majority.

#### The National Women's Social and Political Union.

4, Clement's Inn, Strand.

A very successful meeting was held by the Women's Social and Political Union on Tuesday, June 15, in the St. James' Theatre. The Earl of Lytton, whose sister, Lady Constance Lytton, was imprisoned earlier in the year, appeared for the first time on a woman's suffrage platform, and gave the reasons for his belief in votes for women. In his speech, Lord Lytton briefly reviewed the great political issues of the past few years, and pointed out that votes for women was more important than any issue before the country. Turning to the militant methods, Lord Lytton said that these militant tactics had been brought too near to the people of this country to be treated any longer as a joking matter. People were forced to acknowledge that it was serious. The question which had been ignored and ridiculed for more than a generation was in all particulars one of burning seriousness. He went on to say that it was no good trying to belittle or ridicule the militant tactics, and those who wished those tactics to cease must remember that women are denied all constitutional means of bringing their grievances forward and having them righted. The time had come when men and women of the country must take their stand, and show their colours, if they are in favour of votes for women; if they are against it they must fight for their opinion. They must fight for it at the polls, fight for it in Parliament, fight for it wherever they could, but they must do the suffragettes the honour to view it seriously and to face the issue. Striking and eloquent as was the speech delivered by Lord Lytton, by far the most momentous feature of the meeting was the announcement at the end by Mrs. Pankhurst, when she stated that she had come to a decision to take her part in the deputation of the 29th, and lead it herself to the House. Mrs. Pankhurst has already been twice imprisoned during the last fifteen months, and her declaration caused a very deep personal feeling in many of those who listened to her.

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The following day (Wednesday) the members had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Patricia Woodlock on her release from Holloway. Some 300 people gathered at the prison gates early in the morning to give her a welcome, and when she emerged from the large doors a great cheer went up from men and women assembled outside. A breakfast was held in her honour at the Inns of Court Hotel, and in the evening of the same day a mass demonstration was held in Hyde Park. Previous to this demonstration a great procession marched through the streets of London. This procession was one of the largest held by the Union, and contained many interesting features. It was enthusiastically received by the men and women who lined the streets to watch it pass into the park. There were four platforms, and a crowd of many tens of thousands of men and women.

In connection with the great campaign which is being carried on all over the country during the next two weeks, it is calculated that over 1,000 meetings will be held in London alone.

#### Traffic in Women.

To their honour be it recorded that the International Council of Women now sitting in Toronto has determined to work for the abolition of all traffic in women, whether white or coloured. This is not only consonant with abstract notions of morality; it is a practical and far-seeing resolution, since white women and their children's children suffer from the fact that white men can purchase slaves of any colour.

June 24, 1909.

### The International Council of Women.

### Fourth Quinquennial Conference.

Fourth Quinquennial Conference.

On June 16 the Congress was formally opened by Lady Aberdeen in the Convocation Hall of Toronto University. The delegates had already been fêted in Montreal and Ottawa; there are 160 of them, and the Congress is described as a "truly remarkable gathering of remarkable women."

Lady Aberdeen in her address brought into prominence two of the greatest causes for which women are uniting all the world over, and women will feel proud and glad to be enlisted in such causes as those of Peace and Health. "Our International Council," she said, "must indeed be of necessity the strongest peace society that can exist, for if the homes of the different countries of the world are brought in touch with one another and understand and believe in one another, there can be no more war."

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, corresponding secretary, suggested that a concise and popularly expressed statement of the existing social conditions of women and children should be prepared, based on reports from all countries; it was reported that national councils are to be formed in Egypt, Turkey and Russia.

On Saturday, 19th, the following officers were elected: President, the Countess of Aberdeen; honorary corresponding secretary, Dr. Alice Salomon, Germany; recording secretary, Dr. Alexandria Sjögland, Denmark; treasurer, Mrs. Sanford, Canada; honorary president, Mrs. May Wright Sewall, United States. United States.

#### The Voyage Out.

The Voyage Out.

Never, surely, did a vessel leave the shores of England with a more valuable freight on board,—seventy of the picked women of England going out to represent the mother-country in that other Dominion of Canada (our daughter), who is superbly "mistress in her own land," as Kipling tells us. The International Council of Women has not been sufficiently mentioned in our own Press, and now that we are on the eve of holding a great Council and Congress in Toronto, we feel that our own "Common Cause" must give us a column to chronicle our doings across the Atlantic.

We left Liverpool on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., under the most auspicious circumstances; the boat has triple screws and is as steady as a rock. Need we chronicle that we rolled on Friday and pitched on Saturday, and some of the most stalwart brains in Britain were laid low? On Sunday, the 6th, the day was superb, sunshine and warmth reigned, and we were able to have two English and one Mormon service on board, because there are many converts going to Utah.

On Monday and Tuesday for reigned supreme as we crossed the Cart Paple of Nowfoundland the for-horn sounded once

and we were able to have two English and one Mormon service on board, because there are many converts going to Utah.

On Monday and Tuesday fog reigned supreme as we crossed the Great Bank of Newfoundland, the fog-horn sounded once a minute, and once we were just upon an iceberg, and had to reverse our engines quickly in the night. On Tuesday morning we saw icebergs—far enough away to make us quite comfortable in our minds, but the air was icy, like a Swiss winter, but deliciously invigorating. On Wednesday we entered the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and saw with joy the southern coast of Newfoundland, reminding some of us of Norway, others of Scotland. On Thursday, the 10th, we find ourselves in the St. Lawrence River, skirting the southern shore and finding finely wooded, pine-clad hills, brilliant sunshine, and weather to send us all on deck to bless ourselves and the weather, the scenery, and our good ship.

Was there ever a ship so steady as the Laurentic, with so many good officers, such a fine set of stewards and stewardesses, such a spirit of bonhomie amongst us women that we want at least another week on board to know each other better? It has been for most a week of unalloyed happiness, and we want it to go on before the rush of the Congress begins. Our President, Mrs. Edwin Gray, has welded us all together in one delightful whole, and those stalwarts of us who have never missed a meal are sorry in our hearts that these delightful functions are coming to an end. We have grown better and stronger every day, and it has been a joy to see the tired faces of the weary workers grow untired, to see the lines disappearing, to meet smile answering smile, and to see the absolute happiness which the long hours of rest on deck chairs in the open have brought to those who so much needed change of occupation. Long, breezy talks between workers in different lines have kept our brains from getting rusty, many new friendships have been formed, and we all want another week of it.

The Suffrage has not been neglected—how could

greater.

Mrs. Martindale, the noble veteran of our party, spoke most ably on the early days of the movement in the sixties.

Mrs. Martindale's speech was to us an inspiration, and her very personality breathed hope.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Dr. Mary Murdoch and Miss Chrystal Macmillan also spoke. The ship's staff, which has shown us great courtesy throughout, attended in almost full force. On Wednesday evening, June 9, we had a very successful concert, and we arrived at Quebec at midnight the next day. On Friday, the 11th, early in the morning, the ladies of the National Council of Quebec came down to the quay and carried us off in carriages to see the town and begin a series of festivities, which will be reported later. The entire kindness and warm-hearted welcome we have received far exceeded our greatest expectations, and the great Dominion has indeed received us with open arms.

M. C. Мивросн.

S.S. Laurentic, June 10, 1909.

S.S. Laurentic, June 10, 1909.

### The Suffrage Atelier.

192, Marylebone Road, N.W.

A body of artists have been organizing themselves for four months past with the special object of training in the arts and crafts of effective picture propaganda for the Suffrage. Weekly cartoon-meetings are held for illustrations, with practical demonstrations of the methods of drawing required for the various processes of pictorial reproduction, so that members may be properly qualified to turn out work adapted for reproduction as cartoons, posters, etc. Hand-printing is also practised, so that the society can produce some of its own publications. By this latter process fresh cartoons could be got out at very short notice and with very little expense. This should be particularly valuable at election times, when something topical is often needed at once. The Society would be glad to send trained workers to take the pictorial and decorative work off the hands of organizers and speakers during elections, when their time and energy are otherwise fully occupied.

during elections, when their time and energy are fully occupied.

A public meeting will be held at Caxton Hall, in room 18, on Saturday, June 26, at 8.15 p.m. Mr. Lawrence Housman will take the chair; the other speakers will include Mr. John Russell and Miss Edith Craig. The speeches will be of special interest to artists. Tickets for front rows (reserved), 1s., on application to the hon. secretary; other seats free. All interested are invited to attend.

Eva Joseph, Hon. Sec

### Foreign News.

#### FRANCE.

The Women's Conference at Versailles, presided over by Mdlle. Sarah Monod and Madame Jules Siegfried, met on June 10 for the seventeenth time since its foundation. Every year Madame Andrée places at the disposal of feminists her fine estate of "Les Ombrages," and this blending of work and friendly solidarity is a real joy. In the morning reports on feminist work or ideas were read. At 1 o'clock we lunched in the park, and in the afternoon we met again for talk, discussion, organisation, etc. I should like to give a summary of some reports read at this Conference which may interest our English friends.

Mdlle. Bonnet, manager of the home for students founded six months ago, spoke of the success of this venture. French women and foreigners wishing to study in Paris are received there.

there. Miss Gladstone, niece of the late Minister, gave a very interesting report on the women's work at Courbevoie. The ladies have founded a hospital with surgical attendance, nurses, deaconesses, a home for retreat, and a school of

nurses, deaconesses, a home for retreat, and a school of domestic economy.

Miss Harris, the English delegate from the G.F.S., spoke of the fearful condition of the women in the Congo, especially in the Dutch Congo, and she asked for the fulfil-

of the fearful condition of the women in the Congo, especially in the Dutch Congo, and she asked for the fulfilment of the promised reforms.

Madame de Moutaud explained the progress made and the good done by the "Union of Frenchwomen," founded 29 years ago for the help of the wounded. This society is connected with the Red Cross Society; in times of peace the French profit by the hospitals, dispensaries, and infirmaries belonging to it; in times of war the work becomes international and is used by everybody.

Madame Vernes spoke in favour of reforming the conditions of lay nurses, reforms which are sorely needed.

Madame Lederlin has continued her noble campaign against alcohol, especially in the East of France, and she announced that the new deputy of the Vosges, Mr. Schmidt, had been elected anti-alcohol deputy.

Madame Poulet gave a report on sanitary houses for large families (lodgings with several rooms, ranging from 150 francs). Two houses are already built; they lodge 277 families (about 1,700 people), and there has not been one case of an epidemic, and all the rents have been paid excepting 800 francs out of 25,000 francs.

Mdlle, Brunneton has opened a new dwelling for young orphan girls. They pay 7.50 francs a week for lodging and board with the exception of the mid-day meal.

Madame W. Monod spoke of the education of children.

Madame W. Monod spoke of the education of children.

Madame de Réal, manager of the "Feminist" at Nice, has founded an international union of Press women, and hopes that it may be the organ of mutual help between women of

all countries.

Madame Brunschvicg gave a report on the Federation of Registry Offices, founded some months ago and doing much good. She asked that the finding of situations for children should receive serious attention, and that there should be endowments for apprenticing them to manual trades.

Madame de Schlumberger made an appeal to women: they had social and moral duties, and could help on public morality and purity. All should revolt at the State regulation of vice; here, again, praise must be given to England, which has had the courage to suppress regulation; the results obtained had been completely satisfactory in England, and Frenchwomen would know how to appreciate this encouragement.

C. L. Brunschvicg.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

#### A Sketch by G.B.S.

A Sketch by G.B.S.

"Press Cuttings: A Topical Sketch, Compiled from the Editorial and Correspondence Columns of the Daily Papers." Such is the title of the new and original play by Mr. Bernard Shaw, which he has generously placed in the hands of a small committee, to be produced early in July for the benefit of the London Society for Women's Suffrage.

The play deals with the Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage movements, conscription and other affairs of the moment. There are few men or women of any party who will not rush to see themselves as Mr. Shaw sees them, and frankly and wittily says he sees them, in this piece. All particulars will be announced very shortly in "The Common Cause" and in the daily Press.

### Correspondence.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column.

### THE DILEMMA OF LIBERAL WOMEN.

To the Editor "The Common Cause.

Madam,—May I be allowed to thank Mrs. Earp for her very excellent letter, and also say that I think you, in your criticism of her, are quite on the wrong lines? You note that she appears to say: "I want the gold that lies 30 feet below this ground so much that will not ask for the spade wherewith alone I can dig it up." If she said this, under present circumstances, she would be behaving like a practical, sensible woman. Just now the gold that is so hard to get is being dug for. Strong men, who are surrounded by difficulties, are working hard to get it. Their time for getting it is limited. If they are stopped, other workers will come along, who will not merely leave the gold alone but pile more rubbish on top. Surely no woman ought to say "Unless a spade is put into my own hand, the work shall stop for me. I have as much right to use a spade as anyone." So she has, but the thing is to get the work done. Let us follow Mazzini's advice, and think less of our rights than our duties.

duties.

We are bound to get the suffrage, and before very long. Let us so behave that when it is given to us we can receive it with dignity. I agree with Mrs. Earp, I would deliberately prefer to wait five or even ten years for it, if by so doing I could help to give the Liberal Government a chance of carrying great Liberal measures to which the present Cabinet has shown itself thoroughly loyal.—Yours,

"One of the Old Guard."

#### To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Mrs. Earp aptly expresses what many of us feel. I agree with her that your leading article did not come to grips with our difficulty. I, too, believe that the very existence of the greatness of England depends upon her Free Trade policy, and that to safeguard Free Trade is for the moment of greater national importance than Women's Suffrage. If you say that without a vote we have no voice to defend Free Trade, I reply that if, while we are giving our whole attention to procuring the Suffrage, Free Trade

feminist feeling which creates a better understanding and mutual help. She thinks that French women are judged severely and unjustly abroad, and she hopes that the Society and the paper "La Francaise" may contribute a great deal towards effacing this unfortunate impression.

Madame de Lauribar has founded "the League for wives of civil servants" in order to give to the widows whose husband dies before having accomplished 25 years' service, the wife has a right to no share of the money which would otherwise be due to her.

Madame Cheliga hoped that the permanent International Congress of feminists would serve as a link between feminists passing through Paris, and that it would prove an office for information.

Madame de Réal, manager of the "Feminist" at Nice.

Madam,—You were right in your footnote to Miss Eva Gore-Booth's letter in your suggestion that I did not wish women to be compelled to stay in their homes, but that it should be possible for them to do so should they wish.

I am sorry that the suggestion is made that I should be in conspiracy with the upper class women to deprive the working-class woman of her freedom, as my sympathies and interests are entirely with the latter.

Miss Gore-Booth says that what really matters is that the mother should have enough money to look after the physical comfort of her children; I agree, but I do not think "the physical comfort" of the child is possible while the woman is working in a factory away from home. How can she have "influence for good" when she is seldom with her children? and does factory life tend to the formation of "moral fibre, freedom, and kindliness"? Are not these characteristics fostered more by the loving devotion of motherhood? Miss Gore-Booth rightly says "the poor woman's crêche takes the place of the rich woman's nurse," but is the rich woman's nurse the ideal for which we wish to strive?

The child should depend for its life in the first twelve months not upon the State or municipality, or on any milk depôt or crêche, but upon the health, intelligence, devotion, and maternal instinct of the mother. What is needed is a higher standard of physical motherhood, and this can only be obtained by making it possible for the woman to be free to attend to her home. I would ask for greater freedom fror the mother, that is, freedom from the necessity of having to support the family by outside work.—Yours,

MILDRED M. BURGESS.

#### 7. Brixton Hill, S.W.

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—With the main contention of Miss Eva Gore-Booth's letter in your issue of June 17th, the value of freedom in development of character, I am at one. Might not her letter mislead a visitor from Mars? Would he not think life in the home was an affair of dull ease or lethargy, when not one of slavery?

We all respect Miss Gore-Booth's great knowledge of the conditions of life of the individual woman, but she mustn't forget that many women work for the Suffrage because, if it is necessary in a democracy that the opinion of the person who lays bricks for the community should be recorded, it is illogical that the opinion of the person whose "job" is even more important—bearing, rearing, and training of young children—should be considered not worth having.

Again, Miss Gore-Booth says "as regards work and all the essentials of human life, sex restrictions and distinctions are wholly artificial." Is this quite accurate? About the beginning of human life for instance, and I suppose that is among the essentials.—Yours,

A. G.

#### THE SUFFRAGE QUOTATION BOOK. To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—Perhaps you will allow me, through the medium of your columns, to announce to those who contributed to the "Suffrage Quotation Book," that a clear profit of £16 10s. has been realised. And I should like to take this opportunity of thanking most heartily all those who have helped forward the scheme. I have met with most helpful co-operation from Suffragists all over the country; and the trouble taken by contributors to select suitable quotations has materially enhanced the value of the book. A few copies of the book are still available, and can be obtained from the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, the London Society, or from me.—Yours, Society, or from me.—Yours,

Baveno, Broadlands Road, Highgate, N.

#### THE ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY AND WOMEN. To the Editor "The Common Cause."

Madam,—The Royal Microscopical Society, following the example of the Linnean Society, has decided to admit women to the full privileges of membership, or fellowship, as it is usually called. Being a member of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, I was glad to attend the meeting on June 16 to support this change.—Yours,

J. Alfred Hill, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.
St. Bees, Northumberland Road, Leamington,
June 21, 1909.

### Reports of Societies within the National Union.

Secretaries would simplify the work by sending in notices of FORTHCOMING MEETINGS, endorsed with those words, with time, place, and speakers legibly written, on one side of the paper only, and on a sheet of paper separate from other matter.

BIRMINGHAM.

Mrs. Cooper's campaign makes excellent progress. She goes out every dinner hour and evening, accompanied by some of our energetic members, and holds meetings in different parts of the town. By the time that her month is over she will have been to every district, and we shall then, by her advice, fix on some regular pitches to be worked as long as the warm weather lasts. This week she has spoken in the Bull Ring, at Costa Green, Saltley, Ladywood, King's Norton, Lodge Road, the Horse Fair, and Bearwood. Besides converting the unconverted, she has been the means of bringing out several new outdoor speakers. Miss N. H. Wright, Miss Chinneck, Miss Asling, and Mrs. Walsh have all spoken, as well as Miss Taylor and Miss Alder.

"Common Causes" have sold well, and we have several new associate members.

A most successful drawing-room meeting was held in Moseley on June 14 by the kind invitation of Mrs. Martino and Dr. Olive Elgood. The Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell and Lady Isabel Margesson both spoke in a most convincing and inspiring manner, with the result that we obtained many new members and a large collection. Work in Moseley is particularly valuable as it is in Mr. Austen Chamberlain's constituency.

A very successful meeting was held in the grounds of The Friary, Derby, by kind permission of Mrs. Boden, on June 19th. The President, Mrs. Francis Smith, of Wingfield Park, received the guests, who numbered nearly 400, and Mr. Francis Smith kindly took the chair.

the chair.

Miss Abadam spoke with great elequence and persuasiveness, pleading with the "comfortable woman" to remember the "uncomfortable woman," on whose lot in life the vote would have so great an effect. Mr. Baillie-Weaver, of the Men's League, delighted his audience with his humour and his irony, and with something deeper too. As he spoke we realised the force of the new chivalry between man and woman—the chivalry of the future, a nobler and more fitting link than the surface respect of former days.

Literature was sold, and a good collection taken up, and the Derby Branch of the N.U.W.S.S., which has only been in existence eight months, hopes that it will have gained added impetus from the meeting.

Miss Lamond spoke on Friday at an At Home organised by the Inverness Society, lately started by Miss Fraser. The room was crowded, and about twenty-five new members joined. We hope that an Anti-Suffrage meeting will soon be held in Inverness, so that we can arrange a debate.

EDINBURGH.

Miss Lamond and those assisting her had a busy time on Monday and Tuesday arranging the new offices at 40, Shandwick Place. Miss Houldsworth, who has already given china and £5 towards furnishing the rooms, sent a patent carpet-sweeper, towels, dusters, trays, etc; Mrs. Watson gave a japanned screen, Miss Mair a directory, and the Committee and others a roll-top desk. Mrs. Balgarnie gave a large table and an office chair.

On Thursday, Miss Lamond, Miss Gordon and Miss Low held an open-air meeting on the sands at Portobello. They hired a boat platform, handed leaflets to passers-by, and then having collected six people at a distance of twenty yards, mounted the platform and began to speak. The meeting lasted forty-five minutes, and by the end of the first fifteen a goodly crowd stood listening at the edge of the promenade. It swelled to eighty before the meeting was over. Everyone pressed forward to receive free literature and many badges were sold. We hope to go again on Thursday.

Arrangements are in progress for the rousing of the women municipal voters of Edinburgh to a sense of their responsibility as regards agitation for the Parliamentary franchise; and we hope many of them will join the Edinburgh Suffrage Society and work with us.

Meetings are being organised in Perthshire, and other parts, and

Meetings are being organised in Perthshire, and other parts, and we want help of every kind. If anyone who has time to give would come to our office they will be warmly welcomed, and set to work at once.

In connection with the special effort week of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies three drawing-room meetings were held last week in Clifton and the neighbourhood. For all three gatherings Mrs. Rackham, a member of the Cambridge Board of Guardians, was principal speaker. At the Wednesday afternoon meeting, held by kind invitation of the Misses Sturge, Miss Talbot took the chair.

vitally interesting to women as to men, and for women to interest themselves in some larger, wider sphere than the narrow home circle is directly beneficial to the family life. Moreover, the wants, grievances, and disabilities of women in their homes are not understood. Isolated and unorganised, the law presses hardly upon them without their being able to raise a sufficient protest. The laws of maintenance, intestacy, divorce, and parentage of children are not equal between man and wife. As it is paid work only which seems to count in the world all the hard labour done by women in the home is taken for granted. The present unjust state of affairs is causing a feeling of bitterness to grow up in the minds of women, in some instances sufficient to cut at the roots of their patriotism.

The chair at the evening meeting, held at the Misses Tanner's, was taken by Dr. Geraldine Hodgson. In the course of a witty speech, and while referring to the married woman difficulty, the speaker asked, Why should a woman be dammed because of a husband? She suggested that want of property need be no bar. The husband might be looked upon as the wife's property, his value ascertained and capitalised and a vote given to the wife if he reached the necessary valuation.

At the Thursday meeting Miss Theodora Johnson kindly filled the double rôle of hostess and chairman. At the close of each meeting Miss Tanner, Hon. Secretary of the local branch, made an earnest appeal for funds. She referred to the dignified propaganda work carried out by the Society at by-elections, and challenged her hearens to deny themselves a pair of gloves and give the price to help fill the election coffers. She instanced the case of a lady who had given up the rest and comfort of taxi-cabs to be able to swell her donation, and told of some blind girl, who, having nothing else to give, gave time and trouble in making a knitted baby's jacket to be sold for the Cause.

LONDON.

The dance organized by Mrs. Carl Hentschel and Mis Gladys Wright, took place at the Prince's Restaurant on Tuesday the 8th inst., and was an emphatic success. The tickets went very well, and it is expected that a substantial sum will be realized. The floor was not at any time too crowded for enjoyment, and the arrangements met with the entire approval of the men friends of the Suffragists, though some of them seemed surprised to find we could talk, and dress, just like other people.

LONDON.

On Saturday evening, June 5th, Miss Packer gave a very interesting address on the historical side of the question, in the St. Andrew's Institute, Westminster. Speaking of the way the vote has been granted in return for service rendered to the King, Miss Packer told how it is recorded that two women landowners of Sussex were once commanded to furnish a mounted man for the King's service in consideration of their being burgesses, or voters. The name of one of these women, who are mentioned among the "gentlemen" of Sussex, was Elizabeth Pankhurst. Mr. Laurence Housman also spoke, and suggested that one of the peeresses in her own right should be urged to take her seat in the House of Lords. There does not seem to be any ground on which she could be refused.

BATH.

A small meeting, the first ever held in Trowbridge in the cause of Woman's Suffrage, took place on June 17th, when Mrs. Green-Armytage, of Clifton, and the Hon. Secretary of the Bath branch were the speakers. It is hoped that the little band of new members who joined the Society after the meeting will be the nucleus of a local branch; and a larger meeting is looked for in the autumn. In Swindon, a very large and interesting field of work is awaiting development; and here also it is intended to start a branch society from Bath later on.

### NORTH OF ENGLAND.

The deputation to the Manchester Liberal Federation last week has borne good fruit in a promise from their Executive to invite speakers from this Society to address the Liberal Twelve Hundred in the autumn and to take a resolution. They further promise their good offices in securing that we shall be received when a Cabinet Minister comes to the city.

#### Other Societies.

#### WOMEN'S REFORM UNION, BRISTOL.

By the kind invitation of Miss Salmon a "parlour meeting" was held at Cumberland Street on Wednesday, 16th inst. Mrs. W. C. H. Cross and Mrs. Willis gave addresses on "Why Women Want the Vote." Mrs. Willis spoke very clearly on the need of the vote for wage-carning women. Mrs. W. C. H. Cross gave a most impressive address on the way in which politics entered the home and showed, from her experience as a district nurse in London, how vital it is to women that they should have a share in making these social reforms for which the Union she represented was working. This Union finds that after a hard day's work, women are too tired to attend an outdoor meeting, but they are only too glad to come to a friend's house, where they can sit down and listen to "what every woman ought to know," as one woman said; therefore they are having a series of these kitchen meetings in different parts of Bristol. Eight present joined the Union and more promises were given for future meetings: Great interest and enthusiasm were shown.

#### MEN'S LEAGUE—BRISTOL BRANCH.

Guardianis, was principal speaker. At the Wednesday afternoon meeting, held by kind invitation of the Misses Sturge, Miss Talbot took the chair.

Mrs. Rackham, in the course of her able and interesting address, said: It is important to emphasise the close connection between the vote and the ordinary home-life of this country. The argument of the Anti-Suffragists that the normal life of the average woman tends to lead her away from politics can be applied equally to the average man, of whom the anti-suffragists have no clear picture. Such things as sanitary housing, a wholesome food and water supply, the education, medical inspection, vaccination, etc., of children, oldage pensions, regulations of midwives, and small holdings are as

join the league and thus assist in speedily bringing about this great, just, and rational reform. The other speakers included Mr. Edgar Harris, Major Edwards, and Mr. L. Heppel. Questions were invited and a short, and a spirited discussion followed. At the conclusion of the meeting several new members were publicly enrolled.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

#### The National Liberal Federation.

The 31st annual meeting is to be at Southport on July 1st and 2nd. A resolution is to be submitted welcoming the prospect in the present Parliament of a Reform Bill which shall get rid of admitted defects in the present electoral and registration law. We confidently look to our many supporters to see that the greatest and most universally admitted defect shall receive due attention and be impressed upon the Prime Minister.

#### The Magazines.

In the Financial Review of Reviews is a paper by Sir C. McLaren on "Labour Exchanges and Compulsory Insurance," apropos of Mr. Churchill's Labour Exchanges Bill. He considers that if greater regularity of men's work is brought about, there will be less necessity for the labour of married women, and that therefore the price of women's work will tend to rise, because there will be less forced work on the market on the market.

## Forthcoming Meetings.

T 01 00		UL
JUNE 21—26. NORTH OF ENGLAND	Cara Lan Mina Pohortoon	L
NORTH OF ENGLAND SOCIETY, Open-air Meetings,	Speaker, Miss Robertson.	
Hyde. LONDON (Fulham), Invitation	8.30	-
LONDON (Fullam), Invitation	0.50	I
Meeting in preparation for the		
Special Effort Week, at 25,		-
Warwick Gardens, Kensington. EDINBURGH SOCIETY, Gar-	Harton Man Winkland	I
EDINBURGH SOCIETY, Gar-	Hostess, Mrs. Kirkland.	-
den Party, Glenfarg.	Speakers, Miss S. E. S. Mair, Miss Lamond3.30	Ju
		]
Public Meeting, Glenfarg.	Chairman, Charles McKarsie,	
	Eso. 8.0	
· ·	Speakers, Miss S. E. S. Mair,	
	Miss Lamono.	
Open-air Meeting, Portobello	Difference of Bridge	
Sands.		1000
CAMBRIDGE, Garden Meeting,	Speakers, Lady Strachey, Mrs.	6
Newmarket, in the Rectory Garden, by kind permission of	Rackham.	100
Garden, by kind permission of		STATEMENT OF THE PARTY OF THE P
Rev. H. Toung.		Mary and a second
BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY,		-
Motor Campaign.	7.0	2000
Droitwich.	7.0	TOTAL DE
Bromsgrove.	8.0	-
Alvechurch.	9.0	See See
NORTH HERTS. SOCIETY,	Speaker, Hon. Mrs. Bertrand	-
Latchworth, Public Meeting.	Russell.	-
	Chair, Dr. Hector Munro. 8.0	
JUNE 25.		
BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY,		
Motor Campaign.	7.70	1
Shipston.	7.30	3
Kineton.	8.30	-
BIRMINGHAM, Drawing-room	Hostess, Mrs. Hughes.	98
Meeting.	Speaker, Miss Sterling. 3.30	-
BIRMINGHAM, Meeting for	Speaker, Miss Sterling. 7.30	-
Teachers, Westbourne, Edg-		1
baston.	7.70	Es
WOLVERHAMPTON, 52, Queen	Speaker, Miss Hollings. 3.30	-
Street.	01 1 25 0 1	200
DERBY, Orpheus Hall, Stafford	Chairman, Miss Cook.	-
Street.	Speaker, Mrs. Gerard Smith,	8
	"Woman's Suffrage." 7.30	200
LONDON (Willesden), Annual	Chair, Mrs. Jas. Gibb.	-
Meeting, Garden Party.	Speaker, Miss Sheepshanks.	SHE
Meeting, Garden Party. LONDON (Epsom), Drawing-	Speaker, Miss Sheepshanks. Speaker, Miss Watson.	MAN
room Meeting.  LONDON, 58, Victoria Street.  Classes for Canvassers. Free		-
LONDON, 58, Victoria Street.	Speaker, Miss Palliser. 3.0	
Classes for Canvassers. Free		
to members of the London		-
Society. Tickets for non-		
Society. Tickets for non- members, 5/- the course. WORCESTER, Public Meeting,		-
WORCESTER, Public Meeting,	Speaker, Lady Isabel Mar-	N
the Co-operative Hall.	gesson. 8.0	I
JUNE 25-26		
Mrs. Cooper at Smethwick.  June 26.		
JUNE 26.		
BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY,		
Motor Campaign.		
Tamworth.	7.30	
Coleshill.	8.30	
WARWICK AND LEAMING-	Hostess, Miss Blatch Cox.	-
TON Monthly Meeting,	Speaker, Miss F. E. Rendel. 3.0	
Cumnor House, Kenilworth. SCARBOROUGH, Garden Party,		
SCARBOROUGH, Garden Party,	Speakers, Miss Margery Cor-	
Court Green, Cloughton, by	bett, B.A., and Mr. Baillie-	
kind permission of Mrs. H. E.	Weaver, LLB., of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.	"
Donner.	League for Women's Suffrage.	A
	3.0	et
JUNE 28.		-
BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY,		35

JUNE 28-JULY 3.
MANSFIELD, Special Effort JUNE 29.
BIRMINGHAM, Midland Insti- Speaker, Mr. Tillyard. 5.30 tute.
LONDON (Wandsworth), At Hostesses, The Misses Hill and Mrs. Shillington.
Speakers, Miss Jenner, Rev. W. G. Tarrant, B.A. 5.0
Hostess, Mrs. Tillyard.
Speaker, Mrs. Brownlow. 4.30 LONDON (Richmond), Drawing-room Meeting.

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to members of the London
Society. Trickets for nonmembers, 5!- the course.

EASTBOURNE, Drawing-room Meeting at "Greenwood."

Miss Johns.

Chair, Mrs. Urling Whelpton.

Speaker, Mrs. Clare Goslett. July 1.

CARDIFF, Garden Party, at Hostess, Mrs. Lewis.
Greenmendow.

LONDON, 58, Victoria Street.
Classes for Canvassers. Free to members of the London Society. Tickets for nonnembers, 51-the course.
BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY, Wolverhampton, 52, Queen Street.

Speaker, Miss Abadam.

3.0

Speaker, Miss Taylor.

3.30 EDINBURGH, At Home, 40, DINBURGH, At Home, 40, Shandwick Place. Dr 3.

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