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NOTICE.

In the present critical position of affairs, when any reference to political conditions may hurt national susceptibilities, it must be clearly stated that the International Woman Suffrage Alliance maintains a strictly neutral attitude, and is only responsible for its official announcements. Reports from affiliated societies are inserted on the responsibility of the society contributing them. Other articles are published as being of general interest to our readers, and responsibility for them rests solely with their signatories.

"JUS SUFFRAGII."

Please note change of address from 7, Adam Street to 11, Adam Street.

The following numbers of *Jus Suffragii* are very scarce, and will be purchased by the Headquarters Office for 6d. each: September, 1913; December, 1913; October, 1914; January, 1915; April, 1915.

Covers in the Alliance colours, white and gold, are now on sale at Headquarters, price 1s. All subscribers to *Jus Suffragii* should secure one for each year's issue; with the index, a bound volume of *Jus Suffragii* forms an important work of reference.

BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.

SECOND (BIENNIAL) CONFERENCE, JULY 5 TO 7, 1916,
CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

This July, British Women Suffragists from all parts of the world will meet together for their second conference. Some of these women are enfranchised—for New Zealand gave votes to its women in 1893, and Australia in 1902, while three provinces of Canada have followed the example of these countries in the last few months. The majority, however, are still fighting for their recognition as citizens, but all are imbued with a deep sense of responsibility and an urgent desire to reform the crying social evils which are found in all so-called civilised and Christian lands to-day. "This is no fit time for efforts at social reform" is the comment of the thoughtless opportunist, but all thinking women from all parts of the world realise that after this period of destruction there will be a great era of reconstruction, and it behoves us to see that the evils of the old system are not reproduced in the new one. The women from New Zealand will be represented. These have rejoiced in the exercise of the vote for twenty-three years, and the extraordinary reduction of infant mortality during that period from 113 to 50 per 1,000 is mainly due to the fact that the women have a potent voice in the control of legislation. The Maori women have votes in the Dominion as well as those of European descent, and it is greatly to be regretted that a delegate from these, who have

BY-LAW.

"The I.W.S.A., by mutual consent of its auxiliaries, stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

shown great independence in thought and action, could not attend this conference with her British sisters. The wonderful prosperity of New Zealand, which is not in the least like the conventional prosperity of the older lands of the Northern and Western Hemispheres, where a few millionaires and a minority of well-to-do people give the impression of wealth to a country while the labouring classes are sweated and starved, is a standing proof of the advantage of the co-operation of men and women in the Government. No one who has looked down from the hilltops on to the prosperous plains and well-kept farms of N. Zealand, and who has seen the healthy, happy faces of the people, can doubt that this land has arrived near to the solution of the problem of an ideal Government, whose first care is the welfare of all the people, and not the aggrandisement of the few at the expense of the many. The Commonwealth of Australia will be represented at the conference by many delegates, and each of the States has a message for Great Britain. For fourteen years the women of Australia have exercised the franchise, and in the care of infant life they are in no way behind their New Zealand sisters. They have reduced the infant mortality in twelve years from 111 to 67 per 1,000. In both countries child labour is made unprofitable by legislation securing minimum wage and maximum hours of employment. Education, technical and general, is absolutely free and of the first importance, and care is taken to enable the mother to keep the home together if she be a widow or deserted wife, for it is rightly felt that no Government Home can provide for the children that nurture which a natural family life gives. Temperance, too, is making great strides, and there are many "Non-licence" districts in N. Zealand, which are an example to all the world of the triumph of abstinence. Crime is unknown in them, and the standard of comfort is high, while happiness is universal.

Canada is sending representatives, who will be eager to meet their enfranchised sisters, for the Dominion has as yet only given the vote to three of her States. In this new land, where towns have sprung up with such startling rapidity, and where so much wealth has accumulated in so few generations, there are certain to be many difficult problems to solve. The enormous influx of immigrants who arrive yearly from the lands of the old world is as great a source of perplexity

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as of apparent prosperity to Canada as to the United States. Child welfare has not hitherto been a consideration of such importance as it should be, and the infant death rate in Montreal and Toronto has reached the appalling total of 200 and 175 in the thousand. Child labour and child criminality exist side by side, and it is pitiful to hear some of the cases in the Children's Courts and to watch the prematurely aged faces of the tiny delinquents in whom childhood should have been allowed to ripen, but who, with ill-nourished bodies and overstrained nerves, have been driven into offences against a community that should have nurtured and cherished them. Still, the women are doing much in Canada, and in the three prairie States where they are enfranchised they will doubtless work wonders, for the vote is a magic wand in the hands of those who know how to wield it. South Africa will be represented by women who have only in recent years obtained recognition on the municipal register and are still far from obtaining political enfranchisement. It is a land that sorely needs the influence of women, for the presence of a coloured race nearly always tends to the lowering of the moral tone, because the whites regard that race as inferior to themselves. New Zealand is the grand exception to this rule, for Maori and white man mutually respect each other. In South Africa, until lately, the age of consent was thirteen, though it has now, through the untiring efforts of the women, been raised to sixteen. The black peril, of which so much has been heard, is only the natural corollary to the white peril, when every European settler regarded the coloured woman as his natural and lawful prey. The South African Suffragists, Boer and British, are united in their intense appreciation of the need for the vote if a really healthy social condition is to emerge from the bad customs of the past. They are touchingly in earnest in their efforts at reform, and absolutely indefatigable in their exertions to spread their faith in the woman's cause. The welcome they accorded me, when I toured the country in 1912-13 to speak upon the effect of the woman's vote in Australia, I shall never forget.

The subjects to be debated at the meeting of Suffragists of the British Isles with delegates and representatives from overseas are of intense interest to all the nations of the world. Loss of nationality through marriage with an alien, a cruel deprivation which women in every land have to suffer, has been brought into prominence as a crying grievance in the course of this war. This subject will be considered from its legal aspect by Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Miss Nettlefold. Mrs. Ford Smith will cite special cases of hardship which have come under her notice, and Mr. Laurence Housman will point out the absolute injustice of forcing a woman to surrender her country if she mates with a foreigner. As the Premier of Australia said years ago, why should a woman give up her nationality when she marries an alien any more than a man does when he marries a foreign wife?

At the Overseas Suffrage meeting the position of women in the self-governing Dominions will be considered, and an opportunity will be offered to all of discovering how the woman's vote has worked where it has been for years in practical operation.

Sex morality and sex education will be subjects of great interest, especially at this time, for war brings out the tragic and terrible possibilities that lie in a misconception in the meaning and purpose of sex morality. Venereal disease and the future of the race will be spoken upon by Miss Alison Neilans (Association Moral and Social Hygiene), Miss Maude Royden,

Miss Evelyn Sharp, and Mr. Maurice Gregory (Friends' Association for the Promotion of Social Purity). Education of the young in relation to sex, a subject which has received scant attention until recent years, will be treated of by Miss Nora March, B.Sc., Miss Abadam, and various other capable speakers.

Women and children in the industrial world will be another subject that has engaged much attention since the outbreak of the war. The absence of the men at the Front has obliged the women to take men's places in the industrial and professional world, and threatens to sacrifice the children by forcing them too prematurely into the labour market.

Mrs. Pember Reeves, of New Zealand, will preside, as she is *facile princeps* in her knowledge of the conditions of the working woman and the working man's wife in England. Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss Anna Martin, Miss Susan Lawrence, L.C.C., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and Mrs. Despard will speak as worthy and doughty champions of the children.

An evening meeting on India on Thursday, July 6, at which Lady Muir Mackenzie will preside, will be of great interest, as Indian speakers, representing some of the chief religions of India, have kindly consented to speak upon the women of the great Peninsula. The proceedings will close with a public Suffrage meeting, in which a number of the Suffrage Societies of Great Britain and Ireland will co-operate in entertaining the guests from overseas. The keynote of all the meetings is the enfranchisement of women. As the opening meeting will be an Overseas Suffrage meeting, so the closing one will lay stress on the need for this enfranchisement. The vote is only an instrument—we all realise that,—but if it is effectually wielded it can accomplish wonders, and it behoves us all to be skilful in the handling of a weapon which can be made so potent for good.

MARGARET HODGE.

June 24, 1916.

DENMARK.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

As mentioned before, the elections which ought to have taken place after the New Constitution have been postponed on account of the war, so that the New Constitution of the 5th of June, 1916, will not be in force in the nearest future.

However, it is quite natural that in the meantime the different parties should settle their programmes for the first session, which is to come after the elections have taken place.

POLITICAL PARTIES' ATTITUDE TO WOMEN.

While the Socialists don't make any special mention of women in their programme, the Conservatives, the Liberals, and the Radicals do. Perhaps it might interest the readers of *Jus Suffragii* to hear what the different Parties promise the new voters.

The *Conservative Party's* programme as regards women is: The Conservative Party has come to the conclusion that the fact that women are allowed to hold a place in political life will bring social life to a higher standard; and it promises to support women's efforts in developing themselves for the work and the responsibility of free and independent members of society.

The Party has the well-founded hope that the special part women are going to take in Denmark's legislative work will be an effectual step to obtain full juridical equality for man and woman.

The *Moderate Party*, "Venstre," will contrive to obtain the full equality of woman with man in the family, in society, and in State; also in respect to economic rights and rights over the children.

Moreover, the Party will try to obtain the support of the State for women's development for their special vocation in the home.

Finally, the *Radical Programme* in respect to woman is as follows:—

(i.) Women ought to have the right to hold all functions and positions in State and municipality on the same terms and under the same conditions as men.

(ii.) The principle, "Equal wages for equal work," must gradually be realised.

(iii.) Women should have the same right of admittance to the State seminaries as men.

(iv.) The parents' right over their children should be equally shared by husband and wife.

(v.) The disposal over the common property ought as a principle not to be in the hands of the husband only.

ELNA MUNCH,

President of "Dansk Landsforbund for Woman Suffrage," affiliated to the I.W.S.A.

FRANCE.

WOMEN AS GUARDIANS OF WAR ORPHANS: DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

The French Senate has been discussing the adoption by the State of all war orphans. When the first discussion took place in March, M. D'Estournelles de Constant demanded that more women should be included in the administration of the law. After three months' consideration the Bill was brought up for discussion on June 9, and the amended form gave larger representation to women. M. D'Estournelles de Constant, not being satisfied with the provision, moved that at least a third of the seats on the committee should be allocated to women. In supporting this proposal he said he was glad to find that he met with no opposition of principle, the only objection raised being on the score of numbers. He pointed out that in creating a body of national importance which should be an embodiment of national devotion, it was impossible to overlook the mother, the personification of devotion. The collaboration of women was morally and materially indispensable. It was useless to have only a few women who would be in such minority that they would be timid and ineffectual. "Once this forward step is taken, it will be a new point of advance. In a few years we shall be proud of having taken the initiative. We are still too much swayed by tradition. Before the war public opinion did not support the giving to women their due place in public affairs, but since the war eyes have been opened. In a few months woman has performed a miracle; her services to the country have given her a place that we still haggle about in our councils. We are proud to admit this fact, but we must not stop there. Which of us here has not been moved and astounded at the work accomplished by women since the war—and not only in social and philanthropic work? The work for the wounded has mobilised innumerable women and girls; we need them everywhere—at the front, in the interior, in hospitals, ambulances, stations, trains, wherever suffering calls them. They are at work in innumerable occupations in which they seemed unfit to replace men. They are at work in Government Departments, including the War Office. We do not sufficiently realise the significance of women's co-operation. They are working everywhere in the fields. They ought to have, not a third of the seats on the commission, but half. France is adopting the orphans; the mothers are included as well as the fathers." The speaker went on to remind his hearers of the wonderful work of the women munition makers in France and England, and that, owing to the large numbers of women employed, a special committee on women's work had to be formed. Before the war there had been a general tendency to ignore woman. Woman did not have the place she deserved. The speaker, in reply to cries of dissent, gave particulars of important administrative bodies on which women were unrepresented or inadequately represented—*e.g.*, the Council for Public Assistance had only two women, the Committees for Assistance to the Aged had none, the Commission Against Tuberculosis none, the Committee for the Protection of Young Children none, the Hospital Commission none. The Higher Council for Public Instruction had only three women, though there were numbers of women professors suitable for inclusion. One member interjected that it was a question of measure; M. Estournelles de Constant replied that women gave their services without measure, and should have them recognised without measure.

The Higher Council on Labour, which includes only one woman, should have many; the Council on Housing has none, though the question vitally concerns women. All this betrays a spirit which before the war was regrettable but is now inadmissible. In November, 1912, a grand extra Parliamentary Commission was appointed to consider the vital national questions of the depopulation problem. Among the long list of names, 322 in all, not one single woman was included. To-day, men like M. Painlevé and M. Viviani must reject the composition of an important commission on which women are still insufficiently represented. What is still regarded as an innovation in France is customary in other

countries. France lags behind the Scandinavian countries, behind Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States, where women enter freely into all departments of public life. Why should France continue to give women a position less than they deserve?

The immense number of orphans implies an immense number of widows, of mourning mothers and sisters. All these mourners should be united in this national work, so that their mourning may be turned to a blessing.

M. D'Estournelles de Constant's speech was received with great applause. The result will be reported later.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK.

A proposal having been made by the Paris Municipal Council to fix a minimum rate for temporary employés of 7 francs a day for men and 6 francs for women, a campaign was immediately organised by the feminist societies against the sex discrimination. All the societies addressed a letter to the President of the Municipal Council, protesting against the proposal. The Union Française pour le Suffrage des femmes took part in the protest.

—From *La Française*.

THE PRESS AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The *Droit du Peuple*, commenting on M. Brieux's articles on women's work in the *Journal*, says: "It seems to be unanimously conceded that women have in the past been treated unjustly, and that reparation is due to them. Why, then, should they not be given the vote, as in Northern Europe? After the war many homes will be maintained by women, who will perform men's tasks, fulfil men's obligations, and ought to have the same rights. Social laws concern them as much as men, and they should have a share in framing them. The great danger to be avoided is the exploitation of women. This danger existed before the war; it will increase if women, disarmed and weaker, are not given the means to protect themselves. Women must be given the same arms that legislation has given men."

Paul Marguerite, commenting also on M. Brieux's articles, writes in the *Petite Gironde* of the admirable way in which the Frenchwoman has performed national tasks, that in so doing she has emancipated herself, that she has proved that she can do man's work as well as he can, that her patriotism has proved what she can do and what she is worth; that all this constitutes an important social transformation, which will react powerfully on custom and on legislation. "How, after that, can we refuse women their place in the sun? They must be reckoned with, not only out of gratitude, but because their lawful liberty cannot be restrained. The narrow boundaries of law and custom framed by man alone, and keeping woman in servitude, must be enlarged. Justice demands equal rights, in wages, in marriage, in education, in the franchise. Why should women not have the vote and eligibility? . . . As guardian of the race she will be the most valuable worker for progress. Not in vain will she have experienced the tragedy of war, which has brought out her finest qualities."

MME. DIEULAFOY.

France has lost an eminent woman and feminist by the death of Mme. Dieulafoy, the celebrated explorer. Mme. Dieulafoy elaborated a scheme three years ago for replacing men by women in military administration. By special permission of the French Government she always wore masculine dress.

ANATOLE GEORGIN.

After Jean du Breuil de Saint Germain, Anatole Georgin! The war has robbed French feminists of two of their ablest and most devoted men supporters. Anatole Georgin was killed at Douaumont on May 1. He was a journalist, and on the committee of the Union française pour le Suffrage des Femmes. He was severely injured in June, 1915, but after prolonged treatment returned to the Front. He continued in the field to take an interest in Suffrage activities. A letter from him was published in *Jus Suffragii* of February, 1915.

GERMANY.

WOMEN DOING MEN'S WORK.

In Berlin about 1,000 women are acting as postmen, over 100 as mail van drivers, 3,821 as tram conductors, and 242 tram drivers. Many are used by the railways. Everywhere the reports are satisfactory. They show themselves industrious, punctual, and conscientious.

—*Frauenbewegung*, May 15, 1916.

REICHSV ERBAND FÜR FRAUENSTIMMRECHT.

On the 18th and 19th of March, 1916, a meeting took place in Weimar, the classical place of German spiritual life. The result of this meeting is of great importance to the Woman Suffrage movement in Germany: the two largest and oldest Woman Suffrage Societies* were combined into one Union, and took the name of "Reichsverband für Frauenstimmrecht." The "Verband" had 10 State organisations, with 80 local branches. It was formed in 1904 on the basis of the German Society (Verein) f.W.S. of 1908. The "Vereinigung" had 4 State organisations with 38 local branches. It was formed in 1911 by West German and Silesian Suffrage Societies of 1907 and 1908.

A special committee of members of both Unions had been appointed to draft a constitution, which was fully discussed in Weimar and adopted by representatives from all parts of the country, the vote being 98 pro and 10 against within the "Verband," and unanimous within the "Vereinigung."

The most important provisions, and those that have been specially dealt with by the Committee, were §§ 3 and 4. They run as follows:—

§3.—*Object.*—The R.f.F. has as its objects: (a) To secure for German women the same public rights in counties and State as are granted to men, and specially to secure the vote and eligibility for legislative and administrative bodies; (b) to urge women in those German countries, counties, and classes that have granted political or any other vote to women, to use such vote; (c) through political educating work to encourage women to take active part in all branches of the political and social public life.

§4.—*Principles.*—The R.f.F. has no party political standing, nor does it advocate any special view in the woman's cause; on the contrary, apart from all political and religious views, it will unite all those who work for the political equality of women. The R.f.F. does not protect any special class of women; it will work in the interest of all women, and shall not consider its goal as reached till all German women possess full public rights in State and counties.

Frau Marie Stritt was in the chair at the meetings of the "Verband" as well as at the joint meetings. Dr. Li Fischer-Eckert was in the chair of the meetings of the "Vereinigung." After it had been resolved to unite, Frau Marie Stritt was elected President of the "Reichsverband," and Dr. Fischer-Eckert, Vice-President. The other officers elected were: Frau Ida Dehmel, Hamburg (Treasurer); Frau Alma Dzialoszynski, Berlin (Corresponding Secretary); Frau Illa Uth, Düsseldorf (Recording Secretary); Dr. Rosa Kempf, Frankfurt-a-M.; Frau Luise Koch, Bremen; Dr. Christiane Mewaldt v. Wedel, Marburg; Frau Emma Nägeli, Mainz. The "Reichsverband" took over the *Staatsbürgerin*, formerly the paper of the "Verband," and re-elected Adele Schreiber Krieger as editor.

What took place at Weimar may be looked upon as a result of the present hard time, in which also women have realised the necessity for uniting for the benefit of the common cause. The spirit of the meeting expressed itself in the following resolution:—

"This meeting rejoices in the foundation of the 'Deutscher Reichsverband für Frauenstimmrecht' and expresses the conviction that with the adopted principles as a basis a building has been erected which every political thinking German woman should be able to enter."

In closing the meeting the Chairman expressed the hope that this external uniting also might mean an internal, and that the new "Reichsverband" soon would be allowed to start with useful positive work.

MARIE STRITT,

Pres., Deutscher Verband (affiliated to I.W.S.A.).

* "Deutscher Verband für Frauenstimmrecht" and "Deutsche Vereinigung für Frauenstimmrecht."

DEUTSCHER FRAUENSTIMMRECHTSBUND.

A short time before the outbreak of the war the "Deutscher Frauenstimmrechtsbund" was formed. It differs from the "Reichsverband für Frauenstimmrecht" so far as it clearly and distinctly says in its constitution that it claims the universal, equal, direct, and secret vote for all women.

The D.F. has been built on a thoroughly democratic basis. It is not headed by a board. It rests solely on the work of its members, so that any member has the chance of forwarding proposals for new work, and—if carried by three-fourths of the affiliated organisations—carry on such work in the name of the whole Union. The method is a new one, but it seems to be a lasting one also.

The D.F. consists at present of 22 local branches. Among the members a strong feeling of the advantage of international co-operation between all Women Suffrage Unions prevails. The fact that in spite of this strong feeling the D.F. is not affiliated to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance is to be attributed to the provision for number of members in the articles of the Alliance. The D.F. has not yet the number required for affiliation.

The local branches of the D.F. have also during the war as far as possible maintained their political activity, and played their part in political life. D.F. is the only Woman Suffrage Society in Germany that has handed the Parliament a petition in which it claims the granting of the vote to all women after the war.

On the 15th and 16th of April the first Conference of the D.F. was held at Frankfurt-a-M. It was a good Conference. Preparations for work after the war were decided upon, and the following committees were appointed: Petition Committee, Propaganda Committee, Press Committee, and Finance Committee. It was further decided to form young people's groups.

The remarkable feature of this Conference was the unity in all its discussions and votes. Unswerving radical juniors and spiritual seniors—educated and trained by years of struggle—came to the front. It was a Conference that justifies the best of hopes for the future development of the "Deutscher Frauenstimmrechtsbund."

The Conference dealt with the incorrect information given in the German "Herrenhaus" by Professor Neuber about the intended abolition of Woman Suffrage in seven States of U.S.A. and in the Australian Colonies. A protest was forwarded from the Conference to the Chairman of the "Herrenhaus," as well as to Professor Neuber. In his answer the latter admits his want of knowledge as to the grounds of the Suffrage Cause, and he promises to correct the matter before the "Herrenhaus."

In two other resolutions the Conference dealt with the question of "one year of service" for women (the vote was unanimous against this proposal), and with the population problem.

LIDA GUSTAVA HEYMANN,

SUSPENSION OF FACTORY ACTS FOR WOMEN.

On May 19 there was a debate in the Reichstag on the Socialist motion that the Factory Acts which have been suspended since August 4, 1914, should again come into force.

The Under-secretary of State, Dr. Richter, speaking for the Government, announced that not only would the Acts remain suspended during the war, but on the conclusion of peace inquiry would be made as to when and under what conditions they should again come into force.

It must be noted that although excessive overtime takes place, and is sanctioned, there are numbers of women out of work.

POSTWOMEN OVERWORKED AND UNDERPAID.

The Reichstag praised the work of women in the postal service, but, as "Vorwärts" points out, the conditions of their work are unsatisfactory, both as regards payment and overwork. Whereas men who did the same work were paid 3 marks 70 per day, the women only receive 2.75. The women complain that they are given heavy additional work, which was not required of men.

"Vorwärts" comments: "It is a national misfortune when, in consequence of overworking the women, human forces are ruined. Especially to-day every prematurely exhausted person is an irreparable loss," and such exhaustion is obviously taking place in the case of the postwomen, whose wage of 2.75 is not enough to support life, let alone a family, and by far the greater number of women have dependents. Women are called upon to do men's work and their own domestic work as well, and this overwork and underfeeding is ruining the health of the mothers of the race, on whom the future depends. Talk about a "population policy" is empty and meaningless while this ruin of women's health continues.

WOMEN'S PETITION FOR RESTORATION OF FACTORY ACTS.

Frau Luise Zietz, as representative of the social democratic women, and Frau Gertrud Hanna, as representative of the organised trade union women, petitioned the Reichstag to put the Factory Acts for women and young persons again in force, and to introduce the 8 hour day for women, at least in the heavy trades (iron, mining, etc). The petition described the injurious effects already experienced by women in the manufacture of chemicals, explosives, and in the iron industry, and the bad results of overtime, night and Sunday work.

Medical reports are enclosed showing the experience of the insurance offices of serious nerve and heart affections resulting from overwork.

The Hirsch-Duncker Trade Unions have sent in a similar petition, citing the conditions in upper Silesia, where, in 16 works, in the transition from day to night shift, women work 24 hours at a stretch; in one factory they even work 36 hours consecutively; in other works women work only on night shifts, and do their domestic work in the day, leaving little or no time for sleep. In Rhenish Westphalia, conditions are not much better

—From *Frauenbewegung*.

WOMEN STUDENTS OF THEOLOGY.

In Karlsruhe a woman entered for the first time for the theological examination. The President expressed his satisfaction that in Heidelberg, too, women had entered as theological students. They will not be eligible for Church appointments, but can be employed as teachers of religion.

—From *Frauenbewegung*.

"WAR SESSION" OF BUND DEUTSCHER FRAUENVEREINE.

The Bund deutscher Frauenvereine is to hold a "War Session" at Weimar, June 26–29. The chief subjects of discussion are to be: (1) Woman's position with regard to population; (2) the question of professions for women after the war; (3) domestic and economic training as educative factors for girls.

—*Frauenbewegung*, May 15, 1916.

THE PRESS AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Sozialistische Monatshefte (German Socialist, Right Wing), April 13, 1916, p. 399.

"Doubtless the war has given weight in the public mind to the demand for Women's Suffrage. If a wise policy is pursued, more especially if all parties (with the exception of the Extreme Right, which remains presumably opposed to all women's rights) fight together in the first instance for the Local Government vote, a speedy partial success might be attained. Only Social Democracy must not confine itself to repeated expressions of principle, but must join the middle-class parties in initiating a political struggle to gain the Local Government vote for women."

Von Behr, Pinnow, taking the typical view of the Conservative party against Woman Suffrage, writes in the *Kreuzzeitung*: "One must put aside any question of reward for economic help given during the war, and oppose any and every possible demand for the vote. Certainly a few women, and for that matter some of the men who are left at home, will pay with their lives for the help they are giving, and the health of the many will suffer permanently. But can that be compared with the danger and harm suffered by the soldiers? And what reward are they to receive, if we grant the women, who only helped at home, the vote as a reward?"

The *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, commenting on the above, says: "In one point we agree with this article—we have never demanded the Suffrage as a reward."

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

THE PROPOSED REGISTRATION BILL.

There is little change in the political situation since last month. An announcement from the Prime Minister on the subject of the proposed Registration Bill is expected in the near future. If this Bill provides for a wide settlement of the question, the National Union has urged that an agreed clause should be introduced to enfranchise women. If it extends the franchise in any way the Union is prepared for immediate action.

The conversions of prominent politicians formerly opposed to Women's Suffrage continue to be announced, and the attitude of the Press is significant. An article in the Conservative paper, the *Globe*, on May 25, declared that "women have won their battle in the field, and to continue to deny them the vote would be little short of monstrous," while the Liberal *Nation*, in an article called "Women's Service and Women's Vote," sums up the present case for the full citizenship of women in a manner which could hardly be bettered. The writer points out that if the present emergency is used to simplify the franchise itself and to provide for a redistribution of seats to correspond with changes in the population, "it is unthinkable that we should go thus far towards electoral reform, without at the same time meeting the demands of women." Not only have numerous Ministerial pledges never been fulfilled to

Women Suffragists, but a disregard of the claims of women at a moment when the male electorate is being enlarged would enhance the grievance of the former, especially as any postponement now would necessarily mean a long postponement. If women are enfranchised now, they "will enter in a mood of good comradeship and patriotic unity," not after the embitterment of a needlessly protracted struggle. He speaks hopefully of the change of public opinion in favour of Women's Suffrage, and seems to consider that "women need not despair of inducing this Government to introduce the Bill." Mr. Asquith's reply to Mrs. Fawcett may possibly mean that even this rigid opponent of the movement has begun to see the question in a new light. He speaks of the "magnificent contribution" of women to our "country's cause"; but "we," says the *Nation*, "would not speak of the vote as a reward for all this service. We prefer to say that the nation has seen that it impoverishes its own life by a refusal to give full scope to all this ability and public spirit. We cannot afford to face the future with one-half of the nation's brains in shackles, with one of its hands still reaching vainly for its tool." The only theoretical argument which stood in the way was the doctrine that the State is based on physical force. This doctrine lies self-slain to-day on its own altar, and we call it "Prussianism." More than this, the intricate questions of readjustment after the war make the vote more than ever an "urgent domestic question, while to the nation has come the will to solve it generously and promptly."

MILLICENT FAWCETT HOSPITAL UNITS FOR REFUGEES IN RUSSIA.

For some time the N.U.W.S.S. has been considering the advisability of changing the title of its work in Russia. Although the Maternity Hospital in Petrograd is still in full working order, the main interest of the work lies for the moment in the development of fresh activities, and it was necessary to choose a name which would not only convey to the general public the wide character of the work, but also the fact that it was being carried out by the N.U.W.S.S. After much careful consideration it was decided to ask Mrs. Fawcett to allow her name to be used in the new title. She consented to do this, and the title now stands as the "Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia."

During the first few days of June, the Hospital for Infectious Diseases of Children was opened in Kazan, and the following telegram has been received by the Lord Mayor of London from the Mayor of Kazan:—

"Hospital for Refugee Children opened yesterday by Great Britain to Poland Fund and National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in presence of Mayor Kazan, Vice-Chancellor University. Mayor Kazan begs you accept warm greetings, considers action British Relief Workers lasting link (in the chain between friendly allied nations)." The international value of the work of the N.U.W.S.S. in Russia cannot be denied, and it is interesting to see that it is fully recognised by a Russian official who has had every opportunity of studying its character and quality. We shall appreciate the opportunities now given of lending aid to our gallant ally who has for so long borne alone the brunt of the enemy's onslaught in the East.

Dr. May, who from the first has acted as senior medical officer in Russia, has now been appointed Medical Administrator. She will, in consultation with Miss Moberly as Civil Administrator, direct the work of the five doctors and nineteen nurses already engaged. Dr. Stepney, with two nurses, left for Kazan on May 21, and is now in charge of the Children's Hospital there. On June 7, Dr. May, Dr. King-Atkinson, and Dr. Hall, with four nurses, left for Russia. Last Saturday saw the departure of Dr. Alice Benham, of Chelsea (who has generously given her services to the N.U.W.S.S. for three months), a pharmacist, and three more nurses. Within the next fortnight the remaining doctors and nurses will leave for Russia.

Invaluable assistance has been given to Millicent Fawcett Units Committee by the National Union of Trained Nurses in the selection of nurses, and only those who are fully trained and specially suitable for the work have been chosen.

The National Allied Relief Committee of New York has generously contributed £400 to the purchase of a motor ambulance, which has been ordered and will be despatched to Russia packed with clothing for the refugees. Through the good offices of the Russian Government Committee free transport will be arranged to Archangel.

The Countess of Selborne has kindly consented to act as joint hon. treasurer with Miss Sterling, and is doing all in her power to raise funds to carry on the work.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

The offer of a Hospital Unit to the Serbian Army has been very warmly welcomed by the Serbian military authorities, and the Edinburgh Committee are sending out the unit shortly to Salonica. It consists of a personnel of 92 persons (hospital staff and ambulance corps). The Hospital will accommodate 200 persons, and be in charge of Dr. Agnes Bennett.

The London Branch of the Scottish Women's Hospitals (London Society for Women's Suffrage) has undertaken to equip a flying ambulance column, which will be attached to the unit. It will consist of a fleet of six ambulance cars, two motor lorries, one motor kitchen, and one motor van. Mrs. Harley, who has recently returned from Salonica, has been appointed administrator of the column. The personnel will consist of 21 persons, eight chauffeurs, six orderlies (two of whom will be cooks), two doctors, two trained nurses, and one driver of motor van. This flying ambulance will work as closely as possible to the fighting line, and will be named "The London Transport Flying Column of the Scottish Women's Hospitals."

Corsica.—Dr. Mary Blair reports that the main hospital unit (Villa Miot) now consists of thirty men's beds in the two general wards, and maternity, children, and women's wards. There is also accommodation in tents sent out by the Scottish Women's Hospitals for 26 phthisis cases. These tents are very popular with the patients. Dr. Phillips is in charge of these tents.

Dr. Blair's offer to the French authorities to take in any cases of smallpox which may occur into the Lazaret (Isolation Hospital) has been accepted. One case has already been admitted. Hospitals have also been established in four other outlying places.

RETURN OF MISS KATHLEEN BURKE.

On the 19th of June Miss Burke arrived in London after her extraordinarily successful tour in the United States and Canada. Just before her departure from America she received a very kind and appreciative message from the French Ambassador, Mr. Jusserand, who expressed his regret that he was unable to see her owing to his absence. Miss Burke had suggested a scheme for co-ordinating the work for French wounded soldiers in the United States, which met with Mr. Jusserand's appreciation. Miss Burke has brought back £12,000 as the result of her tour. In a week's time Miss Burke goes to France, having received the permission of the French Government to make a tour of the front in order to obtain material for her next lecturing tour in America.

WOMEN MUNITION WORKERS.

An agitation is being carried on by trade unions to raise the minimum wage of women munition workers. The present minimum of £1 a week is now inadequate on account of the rise in food prices. It is understood that the Ministry of Munitions partially recognises this, and is prepared to raise the minimum, but that the rise it proposes is not an adequate one. Many women's organisations have sent in resolutions urging a considerable increase, and also asking that the minimum should apply not only to women who are doing "men's work," but to women who are doing "women's work."

THE ORGANISATION OF WOMEN WORKERS.

At the Biennial Conference of the National Federation of Women Workers on May 6, Mr. Robert Smillie drew attention to the urgent need for the organisation of women workers, above all at the present time, when women are replacing men in industry in such enormous numbers. "This is one thing the women and the men ought not to lose sight of," he said: "that is, where women take the place of men and do the work of men, women ought to get the same wages as men." Unless the women are organised, it is extremely difficult to obtain proper conditions for them.

Mr. Smillie referred to the possibility of employing women on the pit banks "during the national crisis," but added, "If after the war they should still be employed on the pit banks, I should like to see them organised and well paid for the work they do there. They must be organised in the Miners' Unions or in their own organisations."

Mr. Smillie closed his short but significant speech by expressing his hope that the time would come when we shall have not only a large number of working-men, but working-women, representatives in the House.

THE WOMAN WELFARE WORKERS.

A new form of national service for women is welfare work—work not created by the war, but, owing to war conditions, rendered more urgent and more important.

As one manager of an armament factory remarked, "No man can understand the way a girl's mind works," and therefore it falls to the lot of women to supervise the health, food, and housing conditions of the girl workers. The same manager admitted that his girls were "as good as gold," and added, "I'm not saying that because they are cheap, for there isn't a girl here who gets less than 35s. a week; nor because they're submissive, because they are as independent as the devil; but because they are patriotic and turn out the stuff as fast as they can." Nevertheless, as he put it, "they can't help being a lot of trouble." First of all there is the question of choosing suitable workers, then the question of housing and feeding them properly—putting up cloakrooms and lavatories, and getting a charwoman to look after them. The Ministry of Munitions has grasped these difficulties, and has created a Welfare Supervision Department, under the guidance of Mr. Seebohm Rowntree, with a staff of four women inspectors. "These women," says Rebecca West in an article in the *Daily Chronicle* on June 3, "are among the comfortingly significant figures that emerge from the purposeless welter of war. They are assets to England; they introduce reason and sympathy into the snarling colloquy of labour and capital; and they mark that industry has at last recognised that women have brains as well as hands."

THE TRIUMPH OF THE POLICEMAN.

The Home Secretary, in the Police, Etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, is asking Parliament to add new powers to those already possessed by the Home Office. Clause 4 of the Bill proposed that the women police who have been employed for some time in a semi-official capacity in many towns in England shall be treated as constables for purposes of determining the amount to be paid to the police authority out of Exchequer Contribution Account. This is a decided step in the right direction, and we can only hope that when the Bill comes to be discussed in the House, the position of women police will be established on an official basis.

I. O'MALLEY,

N.U.W.S.S., affiliated to I.W.S.A.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

WITNESS FOR GOD IN TIME OF WAR.

If we had felt any doubt as to the need for publicly witnessing for God in time of war the quite wonderful response to the effort made in the simple processions and outdoor services would have speedily reassured us. The whole-hearted support which these have received from so many quarters, the requests for further services of the kind, the reverent and receptive attitude of the people before whom the witness is made, and the help of the Church and daily Press, must be recorded with deep thankfulness.

The Procession of Prayer from St. Martin-in-the-Fields to Hyde Park was successfully carried out, with the Bishop of Stepney at its head.

Companies of Volunteers were marching from all directions to the Park, which was crowded with people, and among them came the procession of Church people with the Cross carried in front, the Intercession Banner after the Clergy, and, behind the contingent of the Church Ambulance Brigade, which had joined up in Trafalgar Square, the League Banner of St. Margaret, the choir and band.

The Bishop and the Cross-bearer mounted the wagon which was standing near some great trees, and, amid the conflicting sounds of military bands and marching and the gathering of men, the short service was conducted.

The hymn, "For all the Saints," was sung after the Bishop had finished speaking, and whilst the people were singing the National Anthem at the conclusion of the service, General French and his staff rode by to inspect the volunteers.

At the next service, on July 8th, the Bishop of Willesden will preach.

E. A. GILCHRIST.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The Women's Freedom League hold meetings in Hyde Park during the fine weather on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

On Florence Nightingale's birthday (May 12) a continuous meeting was held from 4 p.m. till past 7 p.m. Speeches were made by different members of the League, and a large and keenly interested audience surrounded the platform and seemed loth to disperse in spite of a sharp shower of rain.

A very interesting debate on the best basis for the Franchise was held on May 6, and two others have been arranged.

We also had a "Russia in England" day, when distinguished Russian artistes put their talent at our disposal. Besides Russian songs, dances, recitations, we had short lectures (in English) on various phases of Russian life, and on the social and political position of Russian women. The W.F.L. approached the King and the Prime Minister with reference to the inclusion of women in the Honours List. Delegates from the W.F.L. attend all important conferences where women's interests are discussed.

KATHLEEN TANNER.

THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION.

400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

During the past month the chief work of the Federation has been to expose the scandalous proposal of the Government to institute a Service Franchise without reference to the rights of women. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst sent a letter to the Prime Minister, pointing out the need for women as well as men to be represented in the Parliaments of the future, which will have to tackle the questions affecting women and men arising out of the war and out of war conditions, and asking him to introduce a clear and simple Franchise Bill, giving a vote to every woman and man of 21 or over. A copy of this letter was sent to every member of both Houses of Parliament. We have also sent to every munitions centre, and to other parts where women are replacing men, forms for signatures to the following memorial:—

We, the undersigned workers, realising that if a woman can cast a shell she can cast a vote, and that women, whether in industry or as wives and mothers, bear their full share of the world's work, whether in peace or war, call upon the Government to introduce not a Registration Bill, but a Franchise Bill to give a vote to every woman and man of full age.

These forms will be sent to other centres of industry later on. We are all keen to keep up the pressure, so that when the real Suffrage crisis arrives we shall be ready to deal with it. We have urged Trade Unions, Trades Councils, and branches of the I.L.P. and other organisations, to pass a resolution in favour of Human Suffrage, and the following have already done so: Selly Oak Branch I.L.P., West Ham I.L.P., Hove I.L.P., Glasgow I.L.P., Hove Trades Council, Barking Women's Labour League, Southampton Trades Council, Glasgow Postmen's Federation, Cleveland I.L.P. Federation, Glasgow Branch Amalgamated Toolmakers' Union, etc., etc.

A deputation of women was sent to the House of Commons from the Portman Rooms meeting to ask the Government not to enforce the Conscription Acts. The deputation was received by Philip Snowden, Will Thorne, Sir W. P. Byles, and other members.

AUSTRALIA.

The Women's Liberal League of New South Wales at its Council passed a resolution asking that Woman's Suffrage throughout the British Empire be included in the programme of a conference to be held after the war.

The Women's Political Association of Victoria held a convention in Melbourne in May to discuss the Health Bill which the State Government proposes to introduce next session. The resolutions expressed determined opposition to any form of State regulation of vice, and recommended free treatment of venereal disease, and reformatories on enlightened principles for delinquent boys and girls; the final resolution declared prostitution and its attendant evils were due to lack of education, to disrespect for womanhood, to the growth of militarism, and to degraded social conditions.

The Women's Political Association carries on a women's labour bureau, to which the State Government pays a subsidy of £45 per week.

The annual report of the Women's Political Association gives an encouraging account of women voters' activities. They have kept to the fore the demand for equal pay for equal work. With a view to securing better protection for women and young people, they have secured the appointment of four members of the W.P.A. as probation officers. These officers press for certain reforms in the administration—viz., appointment of women judges, jurors, and police; proper hospital accommodation for arrested persons suffering from venereal

disease; more playgrounds for children, who are often in trouble for street offences. These probation officers have rescued many girls and women brought before the courts.

A deputation interviewed Mr. Murray, the Chief Secretary, and asked for various reforms aimed against the white slave traffic—viz., raising the age of protection for boys and girls to 21, special powers against keepers of bad houses, appointment of a commission of men and women to inquire into the white slave traffic, etc.

The W.P.A. secured the closing of an important bad house; it secured the appointment of a woman to the Public Service Midwifery Board; it has carried on a rigorous agitation for cheap food; it demands equal naturalisation laws for men and women; it opposed the introduction of militarist literature in schools; it organised a labour bureau for unemployed women; it has advocated a peace policy and initiated the Peace Army.

CANADA.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.

There is a tendency among those who are opposed to Woman Suffrage to minimise the importance of the vote which was recently granted to the women of Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. Those who are not familiar with the provisions of the British North America Act, which establish the respective jurisdiction of the Dominion and of the Provincial Parliaments, are led to believe that the powers of the latter correspond somewhat to those of a County Council in this country. How far this conception is from the truth is easily shown by enumerating those branches of legislation which fall under the separate and independent jurisdiction of the Provincial legislatures in Canada.

The whole of the civil law in Canada is under the sole control of the Parliaments of each province. Whilst there is but one form of criminal law for the whole Dominion—which is subject to federal legislation by the Dominion Parliament,—each province possesses the power to make, retain, or amend its own civil law. This is strikingly illustrated in the case of Quebec, where all civil law is based on the code Napoleon, whilst in all the other provinces it is modelled on British precedent to a more or less varying extent.

All laws concerning property, inheritance, the guardianship of children, the granting of municipal and of provincial suffrage, and of eligibility to such bodies, all matters of direct taxation, and of franchises granted to industrial, railway, or trade concerns, all factories and workshop legislation, all child labour laws, all matters of education which exceed the powers of the local school boards—the legal school age, religious instruction, and the general curriculum of elementary and of secondary schools, the introduction of compulsory education, mothers' pensions, the control of all the prisons and reformatories in the province are under the control of each province.

The curtailment or the complete prohibition of the liquor traffic is another important matter which is subject to provincial control. A Bill was passed recently in one of the above mentioned provinces to submit the question of prohibition to the voters of the province. Simultaneously, a Bill was passed granting provincial suffrage to women, who thereby became enabled to take their share in deciding this important question.

The adjustment of matters concerning marriage and religious questions proves to be a somewhat delicate matter, as the jurisdiction in such cases does not belong exclusively to either the federal or the provincial Parliaments. According to the British North America Act, "marriage" generally comes under Dominion legislation, whilst the "solemnising of marriage," and all connected therewith, is to be dealt with independently by the provinces. A few years ago two Bills were introduced in the Ontario Parliament of which one was to prohibit marriages between mental defectives and imposing penalties on clergymen who performed such marriages; the other dealt with the question of marriages between Chinamen and very young white girls, the growing frequency of which had become a matter of alarm. The writer is not aware of the ultimate fate of this latter Bill. It is sufficient, however, to quote this instance as an illustration of the powers of jurisdiction of a provincial Parliament. Then, again, the question of the age at which a girl or a boy may legally contract marriage is settled independently by each province, so that in Quebec, for instance, as well as in British Columbia, a girl may be legally married at the age of 12, in Ontario at 14, in Alberta at 16, whilst other provinces have no legal minimum age at all. It is well known that in all countries where women vote, the marriage age as well as the age of consent are promptly raised,

The women of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta have now the power of settling the former through their own provincial Parliaments. The age of consent falls, however, under criminal law, and can only be dealt with by the Dominion Parliament.

A few illustrations will help to demonstrate the great importance of the matters on which the new women voters will now have the power to exercise their direct legislative influence.

Three or four years ago a large number of cases were reported from Manitoba of husbands who had sold their homesteads or ranches without the knowledge of their wives, deserting them and their families so that the first news of their plight came to those women through the new owners who arrived to take possession of their homes. Such a situation was rendered possible because Manitoba possesses no dower law under which no married man may dispose of real estate without his wife's consent and signature. The law of dower existed in Great Britain until it was abolished a year or two after the passing of the first Reform Bill, under which an enlarged exclusively male electorate settled the matter without any reference to the women whom it vitally affected. Now it is for the women of Manitoba to say whether there is to be a law of dower or not in their own province. They will also be able at last to prevail upon their legislators to introduce a measure for compulsory education for their children, of whom, up to the present, a large proportion had perforce to remain illiterate, because, it is said, certain industries were interested in maintaining a supply of child labour.

The Ontario Factories, Shops, and Offices Act, passed as recently as 1913, permits the employment of children of 12 during 60 hours a week. In the canning industry, furthermore, it is legal to employ children of any age during July, August, September, and October in the picking and preparing of vegetables and fruit without any legal limitation of hours, provided, however, that no child between 12 and 14 is to be employed actually *inside* the factory building, except between the hours of 7 a.m. and of 6 p.m., or such other hours of the day as may be permitted by the inspector, as long as the total number of hours does not exceed 10 in any one day. Is it likely that enfranchised women will tolerate such legislation in their own province?

Deputations of women petitioned on various occasions for a system of mothers' pensions such as exists in Australia and New Zealand and in all the enfranchised States in America. Such pensions are granted to mothers of children under 16 years of age, who would otherwise have been obliged to go out to earn their and their families' living, so that they may be enabled to stay at home and to look after their children. It will be a matter of interest to observe whether such legislation will be obtained first in provinces where women have the ballot or in those where "indirect influence" reigns supreme.

It may be desirable, in conclusion, to say a few words concerning the qualifications for the Dominion franchise in Canada.

There exists only one set of rolls of parliamentary electors in the Dominion: the provincial rolls. The person who is qualified to be a provincial elector is thereby also qualified to vote at elections to the Dominion Parliament. No other qualification exists, neither has there hitherto been any exception to this rule. A few years ago a deputation waited on Sir Robert Borden to petition that the Dominion franchise might be extended to women. The Premier replied that though technically the Dominion Parliament had not surrendered its rights to control its own franchise, it had long ago adopted the holding of the provincial franchise as the only qualification, and he therefore advised the women to become qualified through obtaining the provincial franchise. He also added that any alteration in the Dominion franchise in contravention of the present qualification would be a "complicated and difficult matter."

An over-zealous and ill-advised member of the Dominion Parliament introduced a perfectly superfluous resolution recently, asking that the enfranchised women of the three provinces be allowed to vote at Dominion elections. This resolution was defeated. Are we thereupon to take it that an "alteration" which at one stroke eliminates one-half of the now duly qualified electors of three whole provinces is not too "complicated and difficult a matter" to be achieved by the introduction and defeat of a simple resolution brought forward by a private member of the House? The newly enfranchised women of the prairie provinces will doubtless put the matter to a test at the next federal elections.

SONIA LEATHES.

NATIONAL EQUAL FRANCHISE UNION.

The Ontario Equal Franchise Association held its annual meeting on May 10th and 11th, and it was interesting, indeed, to hear of the good work accomplished along definite Suffrage lines amid the number of war activities upon which all societies reported their members to be engaged. The outstanding feature of all reports was the feeling expressed that Suffrage sentiment, even in Conservative Ontario, was just smouldering below the surface, ready at a spark to blaze into a great fire of enthusiasm. This led to the demand from all over the Province that the O.E.F.A. undertake some sort of forward campaign at once, in spite of the war. The Ontario Government (which alone has the right to grant the vote to Ontario women) has twice been approached recently, once with the usual request for a vote, which was turned down on the old plea that the women did not want it; so the second time, the Premier was asked to give some definite challenge to the women, and to say what favourable percentage either of the women or of the male voters he would regard as indicating a "general demand" for Women's Enfranchisement. This request he was not brave enough to grant, but said that "he knew some women did not want it, and he should do nothing at this time when the women were working so splendidly together (etc., etc., how sick one gets of such talk!) to divide them on any question." In spite of this it has been decided to circulate widely some form of petition and to deluge members of Parliament with letters and resolutions, and to refuse to let them comfortably sleep with the idea that we do not want the vote. We mean to force the issue soon, if possible, as the Government itself must recognise that the women's vote would be of great assistance to them if granted before the prohibition referendum, which is fixed for June, 1919. For even Ontario has passed prohibition measures to go into force in September of this year, as a war measure, which will be submitted to a referendum in June, 1919.

The W.C.T.U. Dominion Convention is meeting at Regina, Saskatchewan, this month, and one of its most important sessions will be a discussion on how to get the Dominion Franchise for Women; while there has been arranged—during the week of the convention—a conference of Provincial Suffrage Presidents to consider the same subject.

Many Canadians heard with interest Miss Burke's lecture on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and the Toronto Suffragists War Auxiliary were glad to give her 500 dollars (£100) for the Serbian Hospitals.

EDITH LANG,
Cor. Sec., N.E.F.U.

A SUFFRAGE PIONEER IN CANADA

MRS. NELLIE MCCLUNG.

Mrs. McClung first came before the Canadian public as a novelist in 1908, since which she has written several books. The last of these, "In Times Like These," is an interesting collection of essays on present-day problems. It was not till about two years ago that Mrs. McClung entered the political arena. She had always been a keen supporter of the W.C.T.U. both in Winnipeg, where she formerly lived, and in Edmonton, Alberta, which is now her home. But in 1914 she went on the platform in Manitoba in opposition to the Roblin Government, and for prohibition and equal franchise. During the election campaign she spoke as often as sixty times in two months—sometimes three times a day. Her name was on every lip. People spoke of her as Manitoba's prospective woman Premier. When the Roblin Government was returned, it was reduced from an overwhelming majority to just getting in by the skin of the teeth.

On February 26th, 1916, she headed the largest delegation that has ever assembled on the floor of the Alberta Legislature, and laid before the members of the House the Equal Suffrage Petition. The building was packed from floor to ceiling to hear her address the House, and she was enthusiastically greeted.

The Franchise League was pleased with the reception of the Petition by the Legislature, and Mrs. McClung afterwards remarked: "If the women of England had been allowed to speak as we were on this occasion, if they had been given a hearing, there probably would never have been windows smashed. Our men, I believe, try to be fair, but prejudice is hard to uproot. We are out to win. Woman Suffrage is

inevitable, and it is a wise man who cheerfully accepts the inevitable."

In addition to her public work, Mrs. McClung has five children—four sons and a daughter—to bring up. This is probably the reason why she did not take up public work earlier in life, and furnishes a satisfactory answer to several of the objections made by the Anti-Suffragists to giving women the vote.

The following extracts from a letter from Mrs. Nellie McClung give an interesting account of the beginning of the campaign in the prairie States.

Edmonton, May 25, 1916.

"The big fight for Suffrage was made in Manitoba. The first society was formed about twenty-five years ago, and did good work for three or four years; then, in the stress of other problems, it died out, but the Women's Christian Temperance Union always had a franchise department and kept alive the flame.

"In May, 1913, the Political Equality League was formed in Winnipeg, with few members and no money, but strong in faith. Our first undertaking was to send a delegation to the Government. We were flatly refused. This was January 27, 1914. On the next night, in the largest theatre in the city, we gave a play which was a huge success. In it we burlesqued the Government that had turned us down, showing how absurd were the arguments against Woman Suffrage when turned about to apply to men. We had a full Parliament of women, and conducted a session, discussing Bills to give fathers equal rights with mothers, to protect the property rights of married men, etc., and at last received a delegation of men who asked for the vote. Then our woman Premier gave the exact speech which the real Premier had given us the day before, but applied to men. We repeated the play to an overflowing house, and could have sold the theatre out again. We cleared about 1,100 dollars on it, and it gave us our big start. All at once we knew Woman Suffrage had arrived!

"Just two years from that date, January 27, the Bill got its third reading and became law. But we had a big fight for it. The Conservative Government had refused us. Then we looked to the Liberal Opposition. They put it in their platform, and we realised then that we had to work for the Liberal party. So we just got out and campaigned. Many women made speeches who had never spoken before. I was in almost every riding, and worked for two months before the elections; many other women worked, too. The Conservatives were returned in power, but with a very narrow majority. We had the majority vote, but the ridings were jerry-mandered so skilfully that they got the majority of the members. However, they broke down in ten months, and the Liberals were asked to form a Cabinet. The Liberals decided to go to the country, which resulted in a victory for them. When they held their first session they granted Woman Suffrage according to their promise. Saskatchewan and Alberta granted it during the same session (1916). The Farmers' Societies have been our able allies, and we feel we owe much to them. Each province has a strong Farmers' Association. The Grain Growers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and the United Farmers in Alberta, each of these has a woman's section, and they give full voting rights in the society to the women members. They are a strong body of progressive, splendid men and women, with great political influence, and they were solidly for Woman Suffrage."

NEW ZEALAND

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

The following memorial has just been sent to the Premier and Minister of Finance, New Zealand. It was drawn up by a small private committee, headed by Mrs. K. W. Sheppard, and it was signed by 103 leading women of the Dominion, some in official positions in women's societies, some leaders in social, patriotic, and religious work, some professional experts, and others noted in arts, science, letters, etc.

To the Right Honourable W. F. Massey,
Premier, New Zealand, and
To the Right Honourable Sir Joseph G. Ward, Bart.,
Minister of Finance, New Zealand.

Sirs,—In view of your projected visit to England, we, the undersigned women voters of New Zealand, make this earnest request to you, as the representatives in the heart of that great Empire to which we belong. We ask that, when in Conference with the Ministers of Great Britain and with your fellow-statesmen of the Dominions, you will affirm the need

for the enfranchisement of women in Great Britain and throughout the Empire.

We are aware that in normal times some would consider such a request beyond your province to grant or ours to make. But we live in days when precedents are readily broken and readily laid down; days, in brief, when the honour, well-being, and safety of the Empire must be the first and immediate consideration. It is because we are wholly convinced that the honour, well-being, and safety of the Empire do demand the speedy enfranchisement of its women that we venture thus to address you, after watching with anxiety the history of the British Suffrage Movement during the last ten years. It is not necessary for us to urge upon you the proved results of Woman Suffrage wherever granted. From your own public utterances, we understand that you rightly regard yourselves as the First Ministers of a people with whom the relations of the women and the Administration are happy, natural, trustful, and co-operative.

We, therefore, need ask you only to consider:—

1. That if, at the anticipated great peace settlement, the women of Great Britain are still politically inferior to their sisters in the Dominions, they will be placed in an anomalous and humiliating position, detracting from the dignity and unity of the Empire.
2. That other nations, confronted with great dangers from abroad, or pressing problems at home, have recognised that they must make fullest use of the unhampered powers of their women.
3. That, in the troubled and difficult years immediately succeeding the declaration of peace, Great Britain cannot afford to lose an iota of the conserving, recuperative, upbuilding power which women would pre-eminently exert in a proper sphere of responsibility.
4. That for the true well-being and permanent peace of the earth, the civic co-operation and the softening international influence of women are indispensable. The example of Great Britain at such a crisis would have incalculable weight.

On these grounds, then, we respectfully urge that in your goodness, and according to your discretion, you will speak thus in the name of New Zealand, the first of British States to free its women.

Christchurch, April 26, 1916.

SOUTH AFRICA.

WOMEN AND THE LAW SOCIETY.

On April 5, during the debate on the second reading of the "Bill for the Reconstitution of the Law Society of the Cape," Mr. Macintosh, member for Port Elizabeth, South-West, attempted to introduce the question of the admission of women. He was ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker, but was able to make some effective remarks on the subject before being stopped. Although no practical results have followed, the value of the attempt as a "demonstration" was not inconsiderable.

Before the second reading debate the W.E.L. of the Cape Province had asked for permission to give evidence on the question before the Select Committee. The Secretary has sent us the following extracts from the report of one of the W.E.L. members who appeared before the Committee:—

On Monday, March 6, by the invitation of the Committee of the W.E.L., Cape Province, Mrs. J. E. R. de Villiers and Mrs. Purcell appeared at the House of Assembly before the Select Committee appointed by Parliament to deal with the Bill for the Reconstitution of the Law Society of the Cape, which has recently been introduced by Mr. Schweizer, M.L.A.

They were most courteously received at the door of the Committee Room by the Chairman of the Select Committee, Mr. Garcia, and conducted to seats on his right. Mrs. de Villiers gave an extremely able and well-reasoned address in support of our claims for the inclusion of women in the profession of law, and was severely heckled by Mr. D. M. Brown at the conclusion of her speech.

Advocate H. van Zijl, who was in charge of the Bill, drew from Mrs. de Villiers a reluctant acknowledgment of her brilliant career at College and at Cambridge, and also gained her admission of the accusation that she had recently passed her final LL.B. examination and was therefore fully qualified to express her opinion on the subject in hand.

The Chairman warmly congratulated Mrs. de Villiers on her most interesting address, and alluded gratefully to the new and valuable information she had laid before them.

Shortly afterwards, the League was advised by Sir James Rose-Innes and Mr. Duncan that no private Bill of this nature could secure the provision the W.E.L. was seeking, and that an amendment to the Charter of Justice would be necessary.—*The Woman's Outlook*.

INDIA.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION.

Professor N. N. Godbole, B.Sc., of the Dyal Singh College, Lahore, in an interesting article in the *Tribune* on the "Education of Indian Women," says that its present unsatisfactory condition is due to the ignoring of the ideals of Indian womanhood, and that the best way to proceed is to consult Indian ladies of culture and education. He maintains that the old ideals of the East must be retained. "It is the spirit of devotion of the woman that has sustained Indian Society through all the upheavals to which it has been subjected." He says that marriage should not take place before 16 or 18 years of age, that the girl should continue at school up to that age, and that those who are going to college should do so at 18.

From the Punjab 9 Indian girls went up for the Intermediate examination, and all of them passed. The success is shared by all classes of the community; one girl being a Muhammadan, three Hindus and Sikhs, and five Indian Christians. The Muhammadan was head of the list—Miss Asghari Khanum, who took a first class. It is hoped that these girls will continue their studies and take their degree.

Mrs. Mary Caleb, of Lahore, forwards us a letter from Miss Asghari, written in admirable English, the language in which the examination was taken, and, as must be remembered, a foreign language to the candidates.

Sreemati Satyabola Devi has contributed an interesting article on women's education to the *Sikh Review*, in which she urges that women's education must proceed on its own lines, and not copy men's too closely.

Mrs. A. B. Abdul Indir, writing on the same subject in the *Tribune*, says that "public opinion in India is now united as to the necessity and importance of female education."

Miss R. E. Robinson, writing in the *Bombay Guardian*, complains of the unsatisfactory condition of University education for women in the United Provinces. She says: "The desire for a career is as strong among Indian girls as among English ones." A Muhammadan college girl said that her father's object in educating her was that she should be self-supporting and not obliged to marry. The Indian Press devotes great space to urging the demands of women's education and pressing for the establishment of high schools and colleges free from sectarian prejudices.

The Lady Hardinge Medical College for Women has extended its usefulness by preparing girls for the Intermediate Science examination.

WOMAN AND HOME INDUSTRIES.

"Nari-Silpasram" is the woman's industrial home in Calcutta for teaching suitable industries to Indian women who can carry them on at home.

NETHERLANDS.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

I have not had time to send a report for *Jus Suffragii* of the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht for many months. We have been too busy here with our own Suffrage work, because the Woman Suffrage cause has here reached its crisis. In the beginning of 1917 Parliament has to decide whether or not it will give us a new Constitution, with universal Suffrage for men and women both, or for men only.

The whole winter we have held large public meetings throughout the country to insist that no revision of the Constitution might be accepted without assuring to male and female citizens the same political rights. We are daily gaining ground. The whole advanced Liberal Press is on our side, and the clerical Press, as far as it concerns the

Roman Catholics, after first having discussed our cause very broadly, is now beginning to do propaganda for it. The democratic Roman Catholic papers are in favour, and the more Conservative ones are coming nearer and nearer. Among our ardent women workers some very able Roman Catholic women are in the first ranks.

The leader of the Calvinist party, too, has recently announced that Suffrage ought not to be made universal for men without including all women.

Among the moderate and conservative Liberals we find our strongest opponents.

GREAT SUFFRAGE DEMONSTRATION.

Early this year, because we want to discuss how we best could use the summer for an incessant propaganda, we held our usual annual summer meeting in the middle of May. It was a very crowded and enthusiastic meeting in Zwolle, at which it was decided to hold first a big demonstration as soon as possible in Amsterdam, and afterwards to hold large open-air meetings every Sunday in different parts of the country.

On Sunday, June 18, that demonstration took place, and was a great success. It was the largest demonstration ever held in Holland. And what means more, it was the most beautiful, the most picturesque, procession one can imagine. There were about 18,000 demonstrators. A horseman and two young nice horsewomen, dressed in white horseman's cloaks, carrying our banner decorated with white and yellow flowers, opened the procession. They were followed by three different groups of young women. The first group represented the countries where the women have gained political equality with men; the second group, the countries where they have some political rights; and in the third group drove, upon a grey horse, the Virgin of the Netherlands, dressed in her cuirass and red cloak, the helmet on her head, and surrounded by twelve girls, representing the eleven provinces of Holland and the Dutch East Indies. This third group carried the green colour, the colour of hope, and was preceded by a banner on which was written: "The Netherlands hopeful, waiting what the new Constitution will bring it."

The members of the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht, who followed, were divided into the eleven provinces, each province with its own branches. Each of these was preceded by three young women in their provincial costume. Besides, our women peasant-members of the different branches came all in their picturesque dresses, and gave the brightest aspect to the whole procession. Among the branches of North Holland drove "Martytje with her husband Teun" in an old Dutch two-wheeled gig. Martytje is known throughout Holland as the warmest Suffragist, and as the best speaker in her local dialect on Woman Suffrage. In her simple way of speaking and by her striking arguments she makes large audiences laugh a whole evening, and what is still better, makes more converts by it than anybody else.

Large groups of members of the existing male and female teachers' societies, the nurses' society "Nosokomos," the telephonists' and the telegraphists' society, the midwives, the teachers of the Fröbelschools, and other female or mixed trade unions, some of the anti-alcohol societies, and, of course, the Men's League for Woman Suffrage, all joined us.

The entire board of officers of the Radical political party, with its members of Parliament and several of its branches, were present, and also deputations of different working-men societies. From some other members of Parliament we received telegrams of sympathy.

All the partakers in the first part of the procession were decorated with our yellow and white colours, and banners and flags of that colour only were allowed there.

But behind and following us came the Socialist women, preceded by the board of officers of the Socialist Democratic Party and its members of Parliament. They were also by thousands represented, and with their red banners and flags made a very fine group. It was in our country the first time that Socialist and middle-class women demonstrated together for the same purpose.

After the demonstration through the streets of Amsterdam, which lasted two and a half hours, a large open-air meeting was held, where, from four pulpits, by twelve speakers the large audience was addressed, and a resolution unanimously accepted, in which the Government is informed that male and female citizens of Holland want a new Constitution in which is secured universal Suffrage for men and women both.

We had cordially invited the Bond voor Vrouwenkiesrecht to join us and to send a speaker, but it has shortly refused our invitation.

ALETTA H. JACOBS,
President, "Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht,"
Amsterdam, June 20, 1916. Affiliated to the I.W.S.A.

NOTES FROM SWEDISH SUFFRAGE PAPERS.

FINLAND.

In response to an appeal made by the Law Committee of the Finnish Parliament to local authorities and other qualified bodies for suggestions on the subject of the proposed reform of the marriage laws, seven Women's Associations have made the following pronouncement, which is interesting, as the demands are in principle the same as those of the Swedish women.

1. That the guardianship of the husband shall cease, and the married woman have an equal right of action in all legal matters, even against her husband; that she shall have the right to plead in courts of law and to carry on business independently.

2. That the married couple shall have equal responsibilities and rights as regards the children, and provide for them together.

3. That the husband and wife shall have equal right to represent the family in public matters. If either party uses this right improperly, it can be taken from him or her by the courts on the demand of the other party.

4. If either husband or wife should be a cause of danger to the other, the party who is endangered shall have the right to separate from the other. The courts shall be empowered to decide whether the circumstances are such as to entitle the complaining party to receive maintenance.

5. That if a married couple separates, the party who retains the care of the child shall decide the question of the child's education. If this right be misused, the other party shall have the right to appeal to the courts for rectification.

6. That if any labour contract or business be conducted by one of the parties to the detriment of the family, the other party shall have the right of appeal to the courts with the object of annulling the contract or forbidding the business.

7. That in regard to the property of married couples there shall be three possible alternative methods of arrangement:

(a) Joint possession in the case of earned income.
(b) Joint possession of every description of property.
(c) Separation of property.

8. Several points must be taken into consideration in regard to the working of these different methods of arrangement:

(a) That the distinction between real and other descriptions of property shall cease.
(b) That each party shall have control over his or her separate property, and the income derived from it, and over all earned income.

(c) That each party shall be bound to contribute to the maintenance of the family in proportion to his or her means, either in work or in financial resources.

(d) That in the case of joint possession, the whole income, earned or unearned, of each party shall belong to the common family fund.

(e) That in the case of joint possession both parties shall have equal rights of disposition. These rights shall be used by them jointly in such a manner that neither party shall be able to dispose of the property without the consent of the other, and no transaction can take place without the consent of both parties.

(f) That the party which gives the chief labour and attention to the home shall have a due share of the common property and of the earned income, with full power to defray his or her personal expenses and those of the home.

9. Before marriage, the contracting parties shall agree on which of the three systems the property shall be arranged. This agreement shall be capable of alteration after marriage, with due legal formalities and safeguards.

10. Husband and wife shall inherit from each other on the same footing as the children.

This memorial is signed by seven Finnish Women's Associations.—*Rostratt for Kvinnor*.

A special Scandinavian number of "Jus Suffragii" will be published in August; many interesting articles are promised for it.

SWITZERLAND.

On May 28, at St. Gall, the General Assembly of the "Association nationale pour le suffrage féminin" was held. Mlle. Gourd, who presided, devoted her address to an account of the activity of the sections and of the committee. This activity consisted above all in propaganda, either by meetings, of which 27 were held in Geneva alone during the winter, or by publications—*e.g.*, the feminist year book and calendar, etc.—or, again, by placards in the trams. "Is it fair that women who work and pay taxes should not have the vote?" Various steps have been taken by the branches with reference to the political parties, and individual deputies have been approached. They have only resulted in verbal encouragement and promises of a not very binding nature. An important section has been formed at Bâle, affiliated to our Association, which now has fifteen branches—eight French-speaking, seven German-speaking. The question of Woman Suffrage must not be allowed to rest during the war, which in certain respects may advance our cause.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

After adopting the financial report, and deciding the revision of the statutes, the assembly listened to an interesting report on the question of the nationality of the married woman, and especially of that of mixed marriages, during the war. The object of National Suffrage Associations should be to obtain in their respective countries that: (1) A woman of the nationality of a certain State, and by her marriage belonging to an enemy State, may not be treated as an enemy in the country of her origin, but should enjoy favoured treatment; (2) that a married woman may be naturalised on her own account, even in States which at present only allow the simultaneous naturalisation of a married couple; (3) that when a man and wife have different nationalities the law of the country may be applied always. The assembly decided to recommend the study of this question to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, in order that it may inform the national associations.

In the evening a public meeting attracted a large audience, which seemed keenly interested in the question of *civic service* dealt with by two speakers. Their exposition, as well as the discussion which followed, showed the extreme complexity of the problem and the difficulty of finding a practical solution. It seems, indeed, that the organisation of this service—if it should prove advisable—could only be undertaken by women when they possess political rights. It would be dangerous to consider this service as the price to be paid for our rights. This question is worth the attention and interest of all women's associations—this was the opinion of the assembly expressed in this resolution. This meeting at St. Gall, by interesting a large audience in a part of its work, has certainly served the cause of Suffrage in this town.

E. CHENEVARD,
Member of Committee of the Neuchâtel Branch of the
Swiss Association.
(Affiliated to the International Alliance.)

UNITED STATES.

Two of the most picturesque suffrage demonstrations ever planned in the United States will be staged at Chicago and St. Louis on June 7 and 14 during the Republican and Democratic National Conventions. The Chicago demonstration will be a parade, but it will differ from the former suffrage parades that have been held in this country, because in addition to visualising the nation-wide growth of the suffrage movement, it will also visualise a nation-wide demand on the part of American women—the demand for an equal suffrage plank in the Republican National platform.

In St. Louis the suffrage demonstration will take the form of a "walkless parade," the first of its kind ever held in the country. From ten o'clock in the morning until noon on June 14, thousands of women representing every section of the United States will stand in silent lines between the Jefferson Hotel, which is to be the headquarters of the Democratic delegates, and the Coliseum, where the Democratic Convention is to be held. The women will be dressed in white, and will stand as close together as the yellow parasols that they are to carry will permit. They will form a golden lane through which the delegates will pass on their way to the Coliseum, and by their presence will indicate to the delegates that the women of this country not only want the vote, but want the Democratic party to help them to get it by placing a suffrage plank in the Democratic National platform.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association is standing sponsor for both the Chicago and the St. Louis Parades, and through this strictly non-partisan programme the leaders hope to convince the delegates to both the big political conventions that the women suffragists of the United States are entitled to the support of both the big political parties. That this non-partisan policy has the support of suffragists in all parts of the country is evidenced by the splendid response to the call for parades from all corners of the United States. The 12 suffrage States will be well represented at both Chicago and St. Louis, as well as virtually all of the other States in which the women have not yet secured the ballot. At the time these lines are being written it is impossible to forecast with any degree of accuracy just how many women will attend either of the two demonstrations. It is perfectly safe to assert, however, that the Chicago parade will be the biggest ever held in the Middle West, and that the "walkless parade" in St. Louis will be the most picturesque and representative women's demonstration ever staged in that section of the country.

A unique feature of the Chicago parade will be the mobilisation of the thousands of women who are to take part in it along the Lake Shore in Grand Park. In no other Cities have the paraders ever been able to take advantage of so vast an open space in which to mobilise. Usually the procedure has been for the various groups to form along the side streets leading to the main parading thoroughfare, and to form in line from these street entrances. In Chicago, however, Grand Park affords acres of open space adjacent to Michigan Boulevard, and when the women assemble there on the afternoon of June 7 this acreage will be converted into a veritable suffrage garden, for the dull brown earth will be blotted out by the white gowns of thousands of women. These gowns, garnished with sashes of suffrage gold and set off at intervals by the gleaming banners of the paraders, promise to furnish one of the most wonderful and splendid suffrage pictures ever seen.

Then at 4 o'clock that afternoon, with yellow banners flying and bands playing, the women will advance across the viaduct leading to Michigan Boulevard and parade to the Coliseum, where the men who are to choose the Republican candidate for the National Presidency will be in session. In the white and gold lines that will sweep down Michigan Boulevard there will be working girls, marching beside women who have been born to fortune; women who have toiled all their lives in sweat-shop, mill, and factory; and in this picture will be embodied the whole democracy of the suffrage movement. But whether working girl or society woman; each marcher in line will be keeping step to the beat of a single thought—that of impressing upon the masculine voters of this country the necessity of having the National Republican Convention insert an equal suffrage plank in its National party platform.

The women in line will not depend upon their presence alone to convey this thought to the Republican delegates; marching in the ranks with them will be two "gentle hints," weighing a ton apiece and carrying a suffrage plank between them. The "gentle hints" in question will be perfectly good "G.O.P." (Grand Old Party—as the Republican Party is called) elephants, and the plank which they are to carry will symbolise the suffrage plank which the National American Woman Suffrage Association wants incorporated in the Republican Party's National Platform.

Many thousands of women will be in line, the City delegates marching by wards and precincts, and the State delegations in brigades. More than two hundred and fifty groups of women will march under the Illinois State banner alone. Every suffrage State will have a delegation in line, and virtually all of the non-suffrage States will have some representation.

New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and New Jersey will all send large delegations, especially the first three, whose delegations will travel to Chicago in special Pullmans.

All the members of the Executive Board of the National American Woman Suffrage Association will be in line headed by their President, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt. There will be women carrying banners, who have marched in most of the great suffrage parades of this generation—in the New York parades, those at Washington, Chicago, London, and in that of the Ohio campaign.

To accommodate this huge army of women is going to tax the resources of the Chicago suffragists to the limit, as a great deal of the hotel space was engaged in advance last year by representatives of the Republican Party for the big army of delegates which it too will have on hand in Chicago on June 7. More than mere accommodations, however, will be provided

for the out-of-town suffrage visitors. Preparations for their entertainment have been made as well. Mrs. Harold McCormick has turned over her magnificent Lake-side estate to the cause for a huge suffrage ball on the night of June 6. This ball, which will precede the parade on the 7th, will probably be one of the biggest society events of the season in Chicago, for in addition to the prominence of the hostess and the other Chicago women who will help her receive, practically every suffragist of social prominence in the country will attend.

As suffragists have the happy knack of being able to combine business with pleasure without falling down on the serious and important phases of their activities, plans for both the ball and parade are progressing both smoothly and rapidly, and both events promise to be carried out without slip or flaw.

To assure a uniform, trim, and attractive appearance, all the paraders will wear the same kind of costumes. These costumes will be simple and pretty. They will comprise a white waist and skirt, black shoes a white sailor hat with a yellow band, and a yellow sash.

The Chicago women, who are shouldering the responsibilities for the success of the parade, include Mrs. Harrison Munro Brown, Mrs. Judith W. Loewenthal, Mrs. Harriet Stokes Thompson, Mrs. Medill McCormick, Mrs. George Bass, Mrs. Katherine Knowles Robbins, Mrs. Kellogg Fairbank, Mrs. James W. Morrisson, Mrs. Helen Stewart, and Mrs. Jacob Baur.

In the St. Louis "walkless parade" the women from States where men alone can vote will all wear the conventional suffrage yellow, but the women from the suffrage States will be dressed in red, white, and blue costumes, and will carry banners or pennants bearing the words "I am a Voter."

In order to keep unbroken the golden line of parasols which the women will carry, all banners, mottoes, etc., will be attached to runners and held in front of the women at a height waist-high. Although this picturesque pageant will last only until noon on the 14th, the breaking up of the "walkless" ranks will not by any means mark the close of the suffrage demonstration. There is to be a night programme as well.

From Press Bureau, N.A.W.S.A., 171, Madison Avenue.
(Affiliated to the I.W.S.A.)

SHE MADE A GRAMMAR AND QUELLED A REVOLUTION.

Miss Kate A. Cory, an adopted member of the Hopi Indian tribe, has just sold twenty-five of her Indian pictures to the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, D.C. From an Illinois farm to a Pueblo village, and from a farmhouse to a third-floor one-room flat in a Hopi communal house, is an experience not given to every woman. Miss Cory travelled seventy miles across the deserts of Arizona to find subjects for mural decorations. When she reached the Pueblo village of Hopi she lived for six years amongst these Indian people, and found them so interesting that she almost forgot why she came. She compiled a Hopi grammar while she was getting acquainted with the tribe of her adoption, and she helped to quiet a Hopi revolution. She is the only woman of another race who was ever taken into the secret clans of this pagan tribe.

ELECTED IN JOKE, SERVES IN EARNEST.

In Alliance, Ohio, Mrs. John Graber was elected by a joking male electorate as constable. Mrs. Graber, who was an enthusiastic Suffrage worker, had said that "if a majority of the people want a woman to hold a certain office, they should be allowed to elect her." Men of the township wrote her name on their ballots "for fun," and now she is constable of Smith township.

A New York City paper has recently remarked that she may prove as valuable an officer as though she had acquired her position by the help of a ward "boss."

RIGHT, EXPEDIENT, AND PRACTICABLE.

It was the Inter-Parliamentary Union at London which said Colorado "has the sanest, most humane, most progressive, most scientific laws relating to the child to be found on any statute book in the world." Every moral law or movement in Colorado is declared by Senator Shafroth to have had the support of a large majority of the women of the State. To maintain his statement that Equal Suffrage in practice is "right, expedient, and practicable," the Colorado Senator, speaking in the Federal Senate, said: "Woman's presence in Colorado politics has introduced an independent element which compels better nominations and better officials. It has not caused the neglect by women of their home duties. It has not been the cause for domestic dissension or divorce."

TREASURERS' RECEIPTS.

AFFILIATION FEES.

		£ s. d.	
Women's Enfranchisement Association	1916	South Africa	1 0 0
SUBSCRIPTIONS OF HON. ASSOCIATES.			
Guertler, Miss E.	1915-16	U.S.A.	2 0 0
Hallowes, Mrs. Frances	1916	India	1 0 0
Steel, Lady	1916	Natal	1 0 0
Muntz, Miss J. E.	1916	Great Britain	1 0 0
*Crompton, Mrs. Harriet	1916	Natal	1 0 0
Solly, Mrs. J. F.	1916	Cape Province	1 0 0
Hacker, Miss A.	1916	Great Britain	1 0 0
Wilkinson, The Hon. Mrs.	1916	"	1 0 0
Lawrence, Miss D.	1916	"	1 0 0
Crompton, Miss	1915-16	"	2 0 0
Scott, Miss Rose	1916	Australia	1 0 0
Shaw, The Rev. Anna	1916	U.S.A.	1 0 0
Willard, Mrs. M. C.	1915-16	"	2 0 0
Litt, Mrs. Ruth	1916	"	1 0 0
Howland, Mrs. T.	1916	"	1 0 0
Brown, Mrs. J. Tilton	1916	"	1 0 0
McCormick, Mrs. S.	1916	"	1 0 0
Watson, Miss G.	1916	"	1 0 0
Villard, Mrs. Henry	1916	"	1 0 0
Ruutz-Rees, Miss C.	1916	"	1 0 0
Aldis, Mrs. Mary	1915-16	"	2 0 0
Addams, Miss Jane	1916	"	1 0 0
*Landsberg, Miss C.	1916	"	1 0 0
Hotchkiss, Mrs. A. Parker	1916	"	1 0 0
Blankenburg, Mrs. L.	1916	"	1 0 0
Rumsey, Mrs. P. Dexter	1916	"	1 0 0
Wills, Miss M. F.	1916	"	1 0 0
Lewis, Mrs. G. Howard	1916	"	1 0 0
Helmuth, Mrs. W. Tod	1916	"	1 0 0
Bakewell, Mrs. E.	1916	"	1 0 0
Park, Mrs. Alice	1915-16	"	2 0 0
White, Mrs. John Jay	1916	"	1 0 0
Sweet, Mrs. E. B.	1915-16	"	2 0 0
White, Miss N. L.	1915-16	"	2 0 0
Ward, Mrs. Coonley	1916	"	1 0 0
Catt, Mrs. Chapman	1916	"	1 0 0
Hay, Miss Mary G.	1916	"	1 0 0
Schlingheyde, Miss C. M.	1916	"	1 0 0
*Garrison, Miss E.	1916	"	1 0 0
*Fitzgerald, Miss Irene	1916	"	1 0 0
*Livermore, Mrs. A. L.	1916	"	1 0 0
Wilks, Mrs. Elizabeth	1916	Great Britain	1 1 0

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	130 2 0
Total	£180 3 0

* New Members since February, 1916.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Madam,—May I draw the attention of your readers to the war plight of this shop, now situated at 5, Duke-street, Adelphi? It is in urgent need of £150 if it is to continue the very real service it renders the nation just now by dissemination of knowledge on every aspect of the Woman's Movement—infants' maternal welfare, the education of the young, training for parenthood, employment of children and women, etc., etc.

If only every Suffragist would make a point of ordering all her books, no matter on what subject, through the shop, the profits on sales would be diverted into a most useful channel.

Will not those who realise the urgent call of education just now come forward with their practical sympathy before it is too late? One sympathiser in sending £1 suggests that others may do likewise to help in raising this emergency sum.

I will gladly acknowledge any gifts sent to me at Langham House, Harrow.—Yours, etc.,
BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY, M.D.

MOTHER'S PARENTAL RIGHT IN NEW YORK.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—The case cited in your issue of April 1 of the Rev. Burton Lee claiming "a paramount right as father" to have control of his children, reminds us that, when the Americans claimed their independence, they deposed the King, and as a consequence automatically disestablished the Church of which he claimed to be the head, and repealed his law. The leaders of this movement—Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton, Franklin, etc.—were very advanced democrats for the age in which they lived. They established adult male citizenship for the first time in the world's history. Unfortunately, however, the mass of the people belonging to the docile class allowed the political agitators to grasp the power, and no further advance in democratic rule has been made since. America is still governed, like the countries of Europe, by the people who have a powerful ambition to govern others but a limited capacity for governing themselves. The great difference is that in Europe the governing classes generally inherit the "right to govern" and are educated for the position, while in America the rulers educate themselves for the work, and, as a rule, succeed in inducing the dociles to elect them to responsible positions. I do not think that any argument is necessary to prove that a so-called democratic republic, governed under autocratic laws as the United States

and France are at the present time, can not be regarded seriously by a real democrat. Neither in the United States nor in France is there an organised system of home rule as is provided by the British system of local self-government which makes the residents responsible for the good government of any locality—whether in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, etc., or in London, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Glasgow, Birmingham, or other town or city. It has been said that the corrupt American political parties obtain the greater part of their plunder from the cities, and if this is so, it is improbable that these parties will move in this direction until they are compelled by public opinion. As you say: "The woman's rights movement is no isolated phenomenon, but a world-wide upheaval of a sex long satisfied with an inferior political and social status." Within the past ten years it has made enormous advances, and it is only a question of time when it will sweep over the whole world from pole to pole. It is the injustice of the man-made laws in all lands which has roused the women to action, and the repeal of the arbitrary anti-feminine laws must be effected. I have endeavoured to explain the position in Chapters XI, and XII, of my book "Les Trois Ages de l'Homme," but we are simply at present only at the beginning of the inquiry, and I have therefore merely stated this question and several others for discussion. I have heard it said that democratic government has been tried and has failed. There is not as yet, and never has been, a country governed under democratic laws, and as it is the women who suffer most by these man-made laws and who are in revolt against these laws, it is for them to discuss these questions fairly and honestly for themselves, and thus prepare themselves to exercise the powers they are fighting for judicially. It seems to me that we are just at the beginning of an entirely new system of government or organisation, and therefore it is impossible to say precisely what course should be followed. I have merely posed the questions as far as I could for discussion, and have not consciously endeavoured to influence anyone to accept what I have said without discussion. This is a time when anyone who attempts to dogmatise should be regarded with some suspicion.—Yours faithfully,
GEORGE EEDS BOXALL.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—I should have been only too pleased to have received only one copy during the time when *Jus Suffragii* was used for so-called peace propoganda. It was very trying to see a paper meant for Suffrage propoganda turned to such purpose. For I hold that the so-called peace movement means nothing but war and disloyalty to our ideals of right. The cry for peace, peace, where there is no basis for peace only leads to future trouble. But whether those are my personal views, and another individual holds others, the point is that a journal which has been started for one purpose ought not to be used for another, except by the full consent of all the readers, and a change of name, so as not to mislead the public. The last number was full of Suffrage news, and I should indeed be sorry not to have my complete number of copies.—Yours truly,
DUBLIN. J. G. WRIGHT.

To the Editor, *Jus Suffragii*.

Dear Madam,—I should like to join with many others of your readers in the hope that *Jus Suffragii* will always display the fine, progressive, truly international spirit which has made it the fitting organ of the world-wide women's movement.

As time goes on the baneful influence of the war shows itself more and more widely and deeply. Militarist sentiment is eating like a canker into the life of the nations, hardening our hearts, and stultifying our thoughts. The long casualty lists have ceased to move us as they did at first, and there is a danger lest any sense we once possessed of the horror of war as war should give place entirely to a fixed and bitter hatred of our enemies. This is indeed a time for testing for women who claim to be awake and sensitive to great issues. It is for us to persist in facing the purely human side of this vast tragedy, allowing no barrier to separate us from the women of other countries, but rather feeling that we are drawn closer to them by common loss and pain. It is for us to look beyond the present conflict, and in the midst of all this destruction to build up, stone upon stone, a solid structure of international understanding and the will for peace.—Yours faithfully,
DUBLIN. H. S. CHENEVIX.

Is This Your Town?

In the city of Pinnacle, two to one Anti-Suffrage at the polls last fall, there has been a Town Improvement Association of women for twenty-five years. This Association worked seven years to get the town's waste paper cared for; eight, to install a painless gas tank for vagrant animals; fifteen, without success, to induce the city to accept covered rubbish carts to be paid for by the Association; twenty-five, without results, to establish a first-aid kit in the railway station, where several people have fallen ill, and five have died of sudden heart attacks during this time. The Mayor of Phoenix, Arizona, where women vote, boasted last September that Arizona women have installed drinking fountains, rest rooms, and comfort stations in every city and town of the State. Says Dr. William Evans, Ex-Commissioner of Health in Chicago: "The main influence of Chicago women has been in making public health officials take up questions which they had not heretofore, in making the Council change their views towards questions of public morals." Women of Chicago and Arizona have a vote, the women of Pinnacle have none.

"The Bond of Their Common Nonsense."

There are those who think women can be taught logic; this is a mistake. They can never by any power of education arrive at the same mental status as that enjoyed by men. Wifehood is the crowning glory of a woman. To her husband she owes the duty of unqualified obedience. It is her duty to subject herself to him always, and no crime that he can commit can justify her lack of obedience."—Rev. Knox Little, 1880.

"Man's moral duty to woman is to prevent her destroying herself by jumping her track." "Womanhood is an infirmity from which women rarely, if ever, wholly recover." "Women's minds seem to move rather in curves and circles, following lines more beautiful perhaps, but more irregular and more disconcerting. And thus it arises that when one woman's mind comes in contact with other women's minds, all equally erratic in their orbits, there results a certain mutual bewilderment."—Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, 1916.

It is the *New Republic* for April 22 that links these writers together with a quotation from Bernard Shaw: "They are everywhere united by their bond of common nonsense, their invincible determination to tell and be told lies about everything, and their power of dealing acquisitively and successfully with facts whilst keeping them, like disaffected slaves, rigidly in their proper place; that is, outside the moral consciousness."

The Women's Freedom League RECEPTION Mrs. Despard's Birthday

(Fifth Year), will be held at

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On **THURSDAY, JULY 6th, 1916, at 7 p.m.**

Presentation of **BIRTHDAY GIFT** to the League, **SONGS, DANCES, &c.**, and short Speeches at 8 p.m., by
Mrs. **DESPARD** Miss **NINA BOYLE** Miss **MUNRO**
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THURSDAY, JULY 6th, at 8 p.m.—

AN EVENING ON INDIA.

Lady Muir Mackenzie, **Sir K. G. Gupta**, K.C.S.I., **Sir M. M. Bhowmaggree**, K.C.E.I., **A. Yusuf Ali**, Esq., **Syud Hossain**, Esq.

FRIDAY, JULY 7th, at 7.50 p.m.—

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Jus Suffragii said:—"Les Trois Ages de l'Homme" is an excellent book; it can hardly be read without interest even by those who have not thought much about such things. It cannot fail to make them think."—See *Jus Suffragii*, September, 1915.

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(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).

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