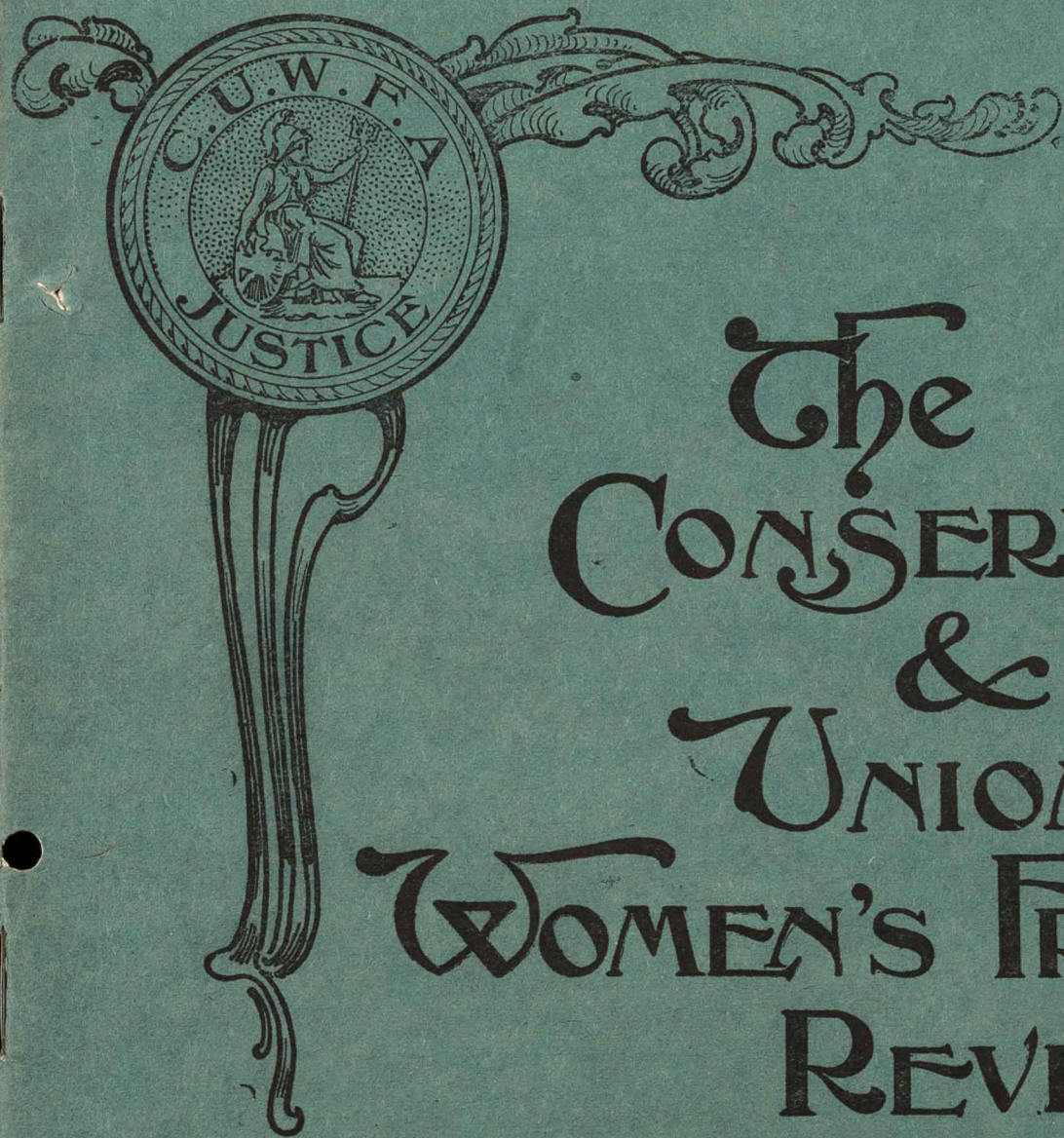


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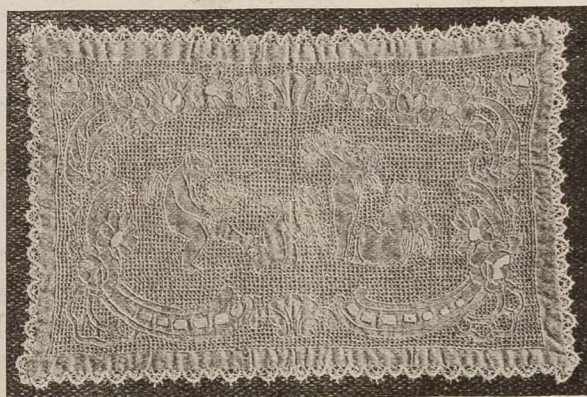
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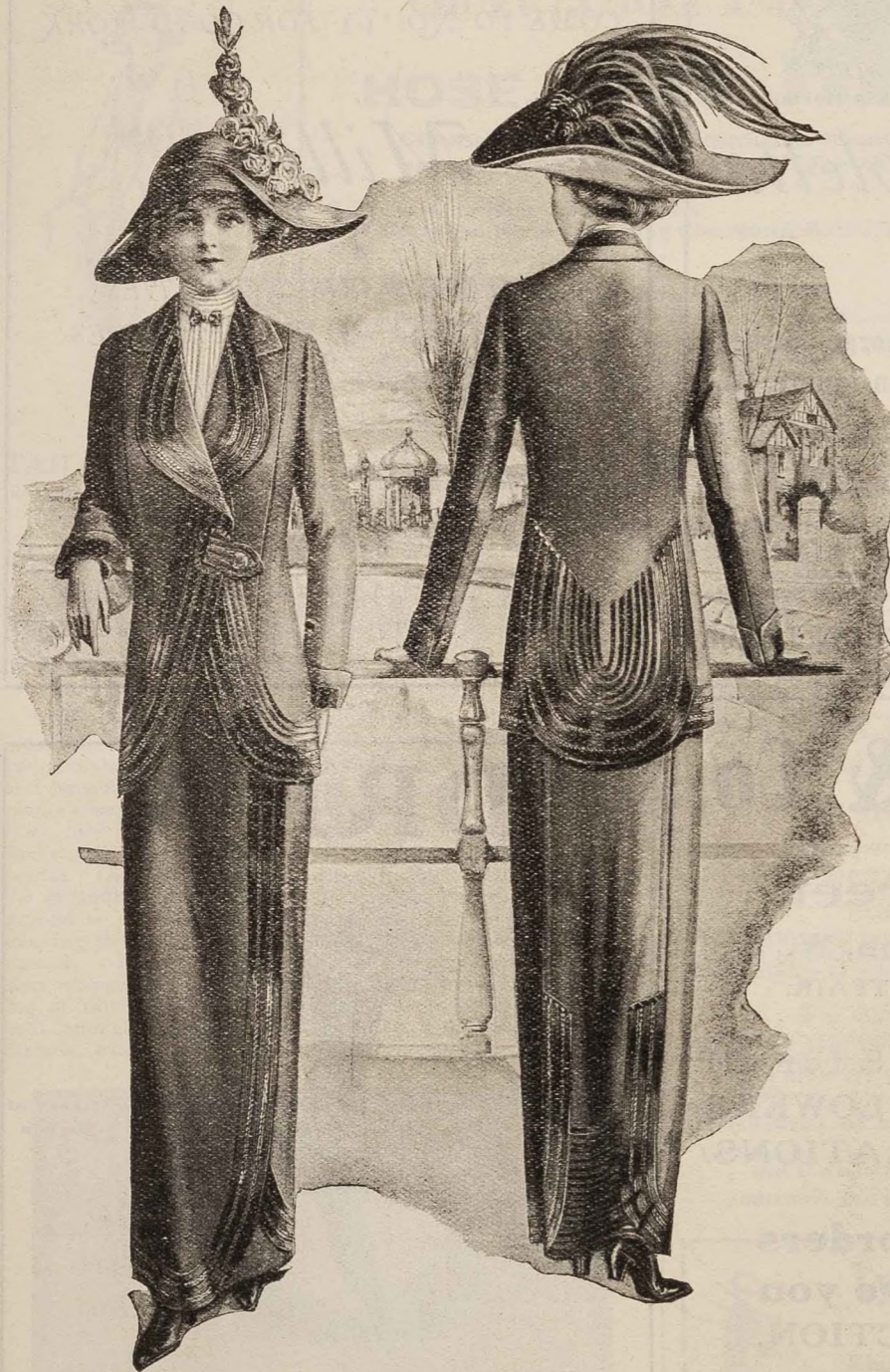
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Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

President - THE COUNTESS OF SELBORNE.

I desire to become a Member of this Association, and herewith

enclose Registration Fee of 1/- and a Subscription of _____

Name _____

Address _____

Hon. Secretary,
Mrs. GILBERT SAMUEL,
48, Dover Street, Piccadilly, London, W.

OBJECTS.

(1) To form a bond of union between all Conservative and Unionist women who are in favour of the removal of the sex disfranchisement and the extension of the Franchise to all duly-qualified women.

(2) To convince members of the Conservative and Unionist party of the desirability of this policy, and as far as is possible to give active support to official candidates at elections when they are in favour of the Enfranchisement of Women.†

(3) To work for Women's Enfranchisement by Educational and Constitutional methods consistent with Unionist principles.

(4) To hold meetings and to arrange for lectures in furtherance of the above aims, and to provide literature on the subject.

(5) To maintain the principles of the Conservative and

regard to the basis on which the Franchise oppose Manhood Suffrage in any form. and Unionist Women's Franchise Association should cease to be a disqualification, and fulfil the same conditions as men should political rights and privileges. Under the existing law a man is qualified to exercise the parliamentary vote under the following conditions:—

(1) An owner of freehold estate valued at not less than £5 per annum.

(2) An occupier of a house or tenement. (The occupier is the person in whose name the house is taken, and he can obtain a vote, however small his rental. But the law allows two or more persons to claim as "joint occupiers" where each pays a rental of not less than £10 a year.)

(3) A lodger, provided he occupies apartments of the value of not less than 3s. 10d. a week. (The apartments may be furnished or unfurnished, but in either case the minimum rental of 3s. 10d. a week—i.e., £10 a year—is reckoned on the unfurnished value.)

(4) A University graduate.

(5) A man whose living rooms are provided as part of his salary, provided his employer does not live on the premises (the service franchise).

† This Association, though pledging itself not to oppose any official Unionist Candidate, yet will not work as an Association for any Candidate who is opposed to Women's Franchise.

Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

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 THE LADY CATHERINE PROTHERO.
 THE LADY CATHERINE PROTHERO.
 ELLEN.
 THE LADY CATHERINE PROTHERO.
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 MRS. HOLLINGS.
 MISS HILDA HOLLINGS.
 MRS. RAYMOND MAUDE.

MRS. OSWALD NETTLEFOLD.
 MRS. OLIVER.
 MISS CATHERINE OULESS.
 MRS. ARMAR SAUNDERSON.

MRS. MARTIN SMITH.
 MRS. ARTHUR STIEBEL.
 MRS. BOURNE WHEELER.

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THE HON. MRS. JOHN BAILEY.
 *MISS HUNTER-BAILLIE.
 THE LADY BETTY BALFOUR.
 MRS. JOHN P. BOYD CARPENTER.
 *MISS BEATRICE CARTWRIGHT.
 THE VISCOUNTESS CASTLEREAGH.
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*MRS. TRISTRAM EVE.
 *MISS GILSTRAP.
 *MISS AMELIA GURNEY.
 MRS. LEVERTON HARRIS.
 THE VISCOUNTESS MIDDLETON.
 MISS EVELINE MITFORD.
 MISS RIVINGTON.

LADY ROLLESTON.
 THE HON. MRS. ABEL SMITH.
 *MRS. RIDLEY SMITH.
 MISS CHADWICK, *ex-officio*.
 MISS MINNA RATHBONE, *ex-officio*.
 MRS. LINDSAY WATSON, *ex-officio*.
 MISS WOODS, *ex-officio*.

Hon. Treasurers—WINIFRED, COUNTESS OF ARRAN.
 MRS. FABIAN WARE.

Honorary Secretary—MRS. GILBERT SAMUEL.
 Secretary and Offices—48, DOVER STREET, PICCADILLY, W.

The Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association consists of men and women who have qualified for membership by payment of a Registration Fee of one shilling. It is earnestly hoped that members will also subscribe annually towards the expenses of the Association.

Subscribers of five shillings or more shall receive notices of public meetings.

Members who subscribe not less than one guinea will be eligible for election on the Women's Council.

Badges of Membership one shilling each.
 Cheques to be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, and crossed National Provincial Bank of England, Oxford Street Branch.

OBJECTS.

- (1) To form a bond of union between all Conservatives and Unionists who are in favour of the removal of the sex disqualification and the extension of the Franchise to all duly-qualified women.
- (2) To convince members of the Conservative and Unionist party of the desirability of this policy, and as far as is possible to give active support to official candidates at elections when they are in favour of the Enfranchisement of Women.†
- (3) To work for Women's Enfranchisement by Educative and Constitutional methods consistent with Unionist principles.
- (4) To hold meetings and to arrange for lectures in furtherance of the above aims, and to provide literature on the subject.
- (5) To maintain the principles of the Conservative and

Unionist party with regard to the basis on which the Franchise should rest and to oppose Manhood Suffrage in any form.

The Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association only asks that sex should cease to be a disqualification, and that women who fulfil the same conditions as men should enjoy the same political rights and privileges. Under the existing law a man is qualified to exercise the parliamentary vote under following conditions:—

- (1) An owner of freehold estate valued at not less than £5 per annum.
- (2) An occupier of a house or tenement. (The occupier is the person in whose name the house is taken, and he can obtain a vote, however small his rental. But the law allows two or more persons to claim as "joint occupiers" where each pays a rental of not less than £10 a year.)
- (3) A lodger, provided he occupies apartments of the value of not less than 3s. 6d. a week. (The apartments may be furnished or unfurnished, but in either case the minimum rental of 3s. 6d. a week—*i.e.*, £10 a year—is reckoned on the unfurnished value.)
- (4) A University graduate.
- (5) A man whose living rooms are provided as part of his salary, provided his employer does not live on the premises (the service franchise).

† This Association, though pledging itself not to oppose any official Unionist Candidate, yet will not work as an Association for any Candidate who is opposed to Women's Franchise.

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NOTICE TO READERS.

All Editorial Communications should be sent to the Editor, at the Offices of the Association, and requests for Copies of this paper to the Press Secretary. Letters requiring answers should be accompanied by a stamped envelope. All enquiries respecting Advertisement and Trade Distribution, to be made to the Business Manager, 20, Brook Street, Bond Street, W.

OUR WORK.

CENTRAL OFFICE REPORT.

Since the publication of the last number of the Review, the Staff of the Central Office have been away for holidays and are now preparing for a strenuous autumn campaign.

In the early part of July a large contingent from the Association attended the meeting organised by the "Pass the Bill" Committee, to urge the passing into law of the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill. This Bill will come up for the Report stage early in the ensuing Autumn Session, when it is hoped that pressure will be brought to bear to obtain the re-instatement of the first clause in its original effective form and to prevent it passing into law with the amendments made to that clause in the Committee stage.

In order to obtain the active help of members who may not be attached to any Branch of the Association, the Committee decided that a letter should be addressed to every member with the request that they would induce a Parliamentary voter to sign the card which was enclosed and then forward it to the local Member of Parliament. Printed on the card was an urgent request for the Member to give his promise to support an amendment to the Government Reform Bill which would enfranchise a limited number of women. A splendid response to this appeal was made by the members of the Association, many thousands of cards were sent out and signatures of voters obtained.

The Organising Secretaries were busily engaged throughout the whole of July. Miss Martin was in Lancashire, organising the new Lancashire and Cheshire Circle; and Miss Mercer was working in Surrey, Devonshire and the suburbs of London.

The last of the summer series of At-Homes was held at the Knightsbridge Palace Hotel on Tuesday, July 9th, when the President of the Association, the Countess of Selborne, received the guests, and the speakers, in addition to the President, were the

Countess of Fingall, President for Ireland, who was most warmly welcomed, and Miss Abadam, whose inspiring speech was followed with deep attention by the audience, a large majority of whom expressed the wish that these successful meetings might be continued during the Autumn.

The Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers has been arranged for the first week in October, and is to be held in Oxford. In view of the fact that numbers of Conservative women will be gathered together there from all parts of the country, the Executive Committee of the Association decided that it would be most desirable to organise a meeting during the week of the Conference. This meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 1st, at 5.45. p.m. at the Corn Exchange in Oxford. Lord Lytton and Dr. Florence Willey have most kindly consented to address the meeting, at which it is anticipated there will be a record attendance.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13th, at 3.30. p.m. at the Westminster Palace Hotel, the rooms having been placed at the disposal of the Committee for the fifth time by the kindness of Mrs. Frederick Robinson.

The Hon. Secretary would be very glad if the Hon. Secretaries of Branches of the Association would keep her posted with regard to arrangements for meetings organised by them in their district, in order that she may tabulate them and send them to the "Standard" for insertion under the heading "To-day." She also requests that a short, concise report of every meeting held may be sent direct to the "Standard," as it is by these means that the activities of the Conservative and Unionist Association are brought to the notice of the public.

TREASURERS' REPORT.

The Hon. Treasurers are glad to be able to report a satisfactory balance at the close of the Financial year. They wish, however, to impress most earnestly upon readers of the "C. & U.W.F. Review," that the balance is not from subscriptions, but from donations collected by very individual effort on the part of Lady Selborne and a few others. It should be continually borne in mind that what this Association requires is more regular subscribers. Individual effort will, however, still continue to be necessary, and we hope that members will come forward at the Annual Meeting prepared with schemes for raising funds. Organisation work is always a pressing need and is a very heavy drain on our uncertain income.

CAFÉ CHANTANT AND FÊTE.

The Kensington Branch is arranging to hold a Café Chantant and Fête in the Kensington Town Hall on the afternoon and evening of November 20th. As this entertainment will take the place of the annual Christmas Sale to raise funds for the secretarial and organising work of the Branch, the Committee earnestly hope that all members will make a note of the date and bring parties of friends, as its success will depend on a large attendance. Details have not yet been decided, but they will be published

later, and all information will be gladly supplied by the honorary secretary of the Kensington Branch, Miss L. J. Allen, 19, Penywern Road, Earl's Court.

The article on "Why Men should support Women's Suffrage," by the Hon. Robert Palmer, which appears in this number of the "Review," is published as a leaflet and may be obtained from the Head Office of the Association; price 3d. per dozen copies.

THE LANTERN LECTURES.

Now that the long winter evenings are coming on, we hope our lantern lectures will be in great demand, and we ask our branch secretaries and members to use them themselves, and also to mention them to their friends. The information given in our lectures is both instructive and interesting, and the pictures fix the various points in the memory. We have already described the two lectures which were prepared by Mrs. Scoresby Routledge and Miss Gurney: 'Women at Work' and 'Lands where Women have the Vote.'

A third lecture is now being prepared on 'Women's Work in the Empire,' and we hope it will be as successful as the others. Opponents of women's suffrage are constantly asserting that women play but little direct and visible part in the making of Empire, and that "as they have not the Imperial spirit in the same degree as men have it they are unfitted to vote on wide Imperial issues." We have always maintained that women's pride in the Empire, as well as the share they have had, and still have, in making it, is as great and important as men's, if in a different way. The large and active part women do take in Empire-building is little known and rarely acknowledged, and we think this lecture will prove a revelation to many people. Women's work in our Dominions is vividly portrayed by excellent slides, obtained with great difficulty. We see women at work on Canadian farms, picking and packing fruit, boiling sugar for maple syrup in the great Canadian forests. The large increase of women in Australian industry is portrayed, and their lives in the factories are shown as well as the part they play in agriculture and education. From Australia we pass on to India. The magnificent work of English women in doctoring and teaching the native women is exhibited in a series of beautiful slides; and deeply interesting too are the representations of Bhopal's three great women rulers.

The excellent work women are doing in New Zealand and South Africa is also explained and illustrated. Especially interesting is the picture of women voting in the Parliamentary elections of New Zealand. A short account of the general work of women is given before the slides of each Dominion are shewn; the statistics are from Government reports, and every care has been taken to have the information accurate.

We would point out that these lectures are educational, apart from the suffrage. They would interest village audiences and mother's meetings, and the subjects are little known. We ask our friends specially to mention them to the clergy and social

workers. All further information can be obtained from the Head Office at 48, Dover Street, Piccadilly.

THE REVIEW.
ANNUAL REPORT.

Our paper has now been in existence three years, and it is with pleasure that we still report its great success and prosperity. Our financial position is good and our list of subscribers increases steadily with every number. The flattering remarks from the English press are also a great encouragement to us. This success would have been impossible if we had not received such kind, spontaneous help. Our branches, as well as individual members, have done their utmost to make the Review widely known. Two London branches (Marylebone and Chelsea) asked us to explain the history and working of the paper at their respective annual meetings, and the result was a still further increase in the interest already taken. We shall always be glad to do this when required. This year we have a list of contributors of which any paper would be proud, and we are grateful to the ladies and gentlemen—experts in their own lines—who have given us such splendid articles. Lord Robert Cecil, K.C., M.P., Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D., Mrs. Scoresby Routledge, M.A., Miss Rose Graham, Sir Warren Crooke Lawless, M.D., C.I.E., Mrs. Hylton Dale and Mr. Cameron Grant contributed to last October's number; Lord Lytton, Lady Robert Cecil, Miss Rosaline Masson, Miss Vida Goldstein and Miss F. Johnstone, M.A., to the January issue; Lady Robert Cecil, Lady Selborne, Miss Rose Graham and Miss Ruth Young to the spring number, and the contributors to the last issue were Lady Selborne, Lady Willoughby de Broke, Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D., M.S., Mrs. Slater, L.R.C.P. and Miss Ethel Naish. We are also glad to hear our book reviews have been much appreciated, and for these our thanks are due to Mrs. Spens, Miss Rose Graham, Lady Betty Balfour, Lady Robert Cecil, Miss Chadwick and Mrs. Schofield. Our front page illustrations this year have been of Lady Ancaster in the October number; Lady Willoughby de Broke, which appeared in January; Lady Selborne, in our April issue, and the Duchess of Bedford last July. Mrs. Gilbert Samuel and the staff at the Head Office have helped us in every possible way, and the office work in connection with the paper is now no light matter when the new numbers are being sent out. Miss F. L. Fuller's success with the advertisements has been well maintained.

We feel, however, that we must not relax our efforts in getting the Review more widely known, and we ask all our members to help us during the coming year. Our Association is increasing so rapidly that we are always in need of workers, as organisers, speakers, writers and in many other directions, and it is by spreading the knowledge of our work, obtained through the paper, that offers of help often come. Especially valuable is the help of women with a wide intellectual background, firm convictions, great courage and a broad grasp of essential principles. These are the qualities which forward our cause, and with them we can look hopefully to the future, for we know that we shall be victorious in the end.

EVELINE MITFORD.

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

BY LADY BETTY BALFOUR.

The last number of this Review recorded the defeat of the 2nd Reading of the Conciliation Bill by a very small majority. Since then the campaign for the Enfranchisement of Women has been pursued as energetically as ever. To judge by the announcements in the "Woman's Platform" of the *Standard*, for every anti-suffrage meeting held in the country there are some twenty suffrage meetings, and it must be comforting to those who fear that the violent methods of one Society has injured the growth of the movement to read in the organ of the National Union that their membership is increasing still at the rate of a thousand per month. It is also satisfactory to realize that, on the whole, the recent by-elections have been won by Suffragists, and not by anti-Suffragists. It added to our rejoicing in the victory of N.W. Manchester to know that Sir John Randles was a Conciliation Bill man.

The Reform Bill which, despite the Suffrage majority in the Liberal Cabinet and in the Liberal Party, is to enfranchise two million more men and no women, has been carried through a second reading by the smallest majority voted for any of the three chief Government measures. The actual majority of the Coalition Government in the House of Commons at the date of the division on the Reform Bill was 114; but the second reading was only carried by a majority of 72—in itself an indication that it is not backed by any great popular enthusiasm.

The Committee stage may come on this year, next year—or never. But if ever it comes, the first thing that all Suffragists, of every shade of opinion, will be called upon to do is to support Sir Edward Grey's Amendment to delete the word "male." This amendment is also down in the name of Mr. Alfred Lyttelton. It is not in itself a Suffrage amendment, but if it is defeated, presumably no other Suffrage Amendment could be moved. If it is carried we hope Sir Edward Grey will take a further step. We have been given to understand that neither he nor any member of the Cabinet will bring forward an Adult Suffrage Amendment, and if such an Amendment is brought forward by a private member and receives no support from any front bench man of either party, it is not likely to be carried by a majority of the House. We trust Sir Edward Grey will then not disappoint his Suffrage supporters, but will bring forward the Amendment which would enfranchise the women householders (Conciliation Bill) plus the wives of householders (Norwegian Franchise). As Lady Selborne says in her article in the August number of the *Englishwoman*, "I see no reason why Conservatives should be alarmed at the enfranchisement of the wives of householders. No one who is well acquainted with the working class mother of a family can look upon her as a revolutionary person." But if, despite the advocacy of Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey, an amendment of this nature is not carried in a non-party division of the House, there will again be a chance of carrying an amendment on the lines of the Conciliation Bill. The Adult Suffragists, having failed to carry their broader measure,

should then accept this, and we have the promise of Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey that they would do so. No genuine Suffragist should oppose this Amendment, if it is proved to be the only one which can ensure a non-party majority in this House of Commons. To be sure, the proportion of one million women voters to nine million men voters would appear to be uselessly small, but compared to the present state of things I believe that it would prove a step in advance of the greatest value.

It is interesting to ask oneself, had the sex disability been removed in this Parliament, what would have been the effect on this session. The fates of the Welsh Disestablishment Bill and the Home Rule Bill would probably have been unaffected. Women—on such measures—would most likely have voted on party lines, as men have done. But it would be safe to prophecy that the White Slave Traffic Bill, in a form that would be effective, would have been carried into law; that the Insurance Bill would have had better provisions for women; that the measure for dealing with the problem of the feeble-minded on the lines of the Report of the Commission, would also have been carried.

Had these things been done, we should have been told that women voters had had nothing to do with it; that men had for long favoured these very changes; that there was no sex opposition to them. All the better; it would then be realised how little there was to be afraid of in women's votes, and how unconscious the community as a whole would be of their influence: but the Acts which so vitally concern the childhood, girlhood, and womanhood of the country would be passed.

We should be glad to hear of members who would undertake to contribute accurate articles on the Suffrage movement in England, and the work of our Association in particular, to foreign newspapers. This has already been done most satisfactorily in Germany, where an article by Miss Chadwick has appeared in one of the leading papers and has corrected many false impressions of the Suffrage movement in this country. Miss Chadwick specially referred to the work of the C. & U. W.F.A. If the existence of our Association could be made more widely known in foreign lands it would encourage the Conservative women to come forward in countries where they have not yet done so. Many people abroad think that the Women's Suffrage movement is purely Socialistic in its tendencies, and they are surprised and much impressed when they learn that there exists in England a large and active association of Conservative women who are energetically working for the cause.

It would be helpful to suffragists in other parts of our Empire, especially in Canada and South Africa, if the REVIEW, and through it our Association, were more widely known. Most people have friends and relations in our Dominions who would probably be glad to help in getting the REVIEW taken in the clubs and reading rooms in other parts of the world. Foreign Suffrage Societies might be glad to co-operate with us in the matter.

THE POLITICAL CLAIMS OF WOMEN.

BY GEORGE M. FREEMAN. K.C. †

I do not suppose anyone would seriously contend at the present moment that there is any innate disadvantage in a woman, and that she is not as capable as a man of carrying out the duties of a citizen, not merely in the executive part which she carries out at the present time, but also in the legislative part to which she aspires. It certainly cannot be said that intellectually she is inferior. You have only to look at the Honour lists of our schools and colleges; at our publishers' lists, and at our speakers names upon the platforms, and there can be no shadow of a doubt that she has now attained a position in which she can claim, as is her right, an intellectual equality with men. Neither can you say that morally she is inferior. Of course when I say morally, I do not refer to the domestic virtues, inasmuch as we men can hardly hope even to compete with women. What I mean is that I think women have that passionate love of truth and justice, which if we had a greater admixture of in our public councils, we should find it a very good thing for the nation.

There is, I think, in most great bodies of people, a desire to do the right thing, if they only know what the right thing is, and women having a keener sense of justice, possess a great advantage over the other sex. I think also, that women have a more real regard in their hearts for the truth. No one has a greater desire to see truth triumph, even if the roof falls in, than woman, and therefore I think her presence in public life would be a great advantage. It can hardly be said that physically women are nowadays much inferior to men. If you take the average measurement, you will find that they are rapidly approaching that of men. I do not think there is the slightest reason why women should not be able to bear the strain of political life just as well as men do.

Therefore, one does not see, on the negative ground, that there is any objection which can be seriously urged against giving women the right, which, *prima facie*, they seem by nature intended to possess. But there are two or three reasons why that right should be given. In the first place, there is a very great alteration in the occupations and status of women. These I want to divide into two parts, according to the position in life which women occupy. There are a large number of women who in varying degrees, are owners of property. I happen to be the owner of a certain number of houses in London, and I am very much struck with the fact that a very high percentage of the tenants whom I find come to take my houses, are either widows or single ladies. They are the most praise-worthy tenants, and the most business-like people I have ever had to do with. They always pay their rent regularly, never grumble, and never expect to vary their contract. Now all these people are possessed of property. Is it not a ridiculous thing that a person who, whether in a small or in a large degree, is the owner of property, employing other people, most of whom have a vote, should not herself have a vote? The matter is so

†From a Speech.

absurd that it does not bear argument, and there has never been a single argument raised against it in any of the debates in Parliament.

There is another very strong reason, and that is, the enormously increasing number of women who at the present time are earning their own living, and not merely their own living, but earning a living for a good many other people as well. It is a most extraordinary scene to be present in the early hours of the morning at one or other of the two ends of London; either the Great Eastern Railway on the east, or Shepherd's Bush tube on the west, and to see thousands of women pouring out of the train on their way to their daily employment. It is also one of the most pathetic sights I know to go to the Great Eastern station at half-past six or seven o'clock in the morning and see the crowds of women seated in the waiting rooms, reading their papers until the shops are open to receive them. These people have a stake in the country, whether as property owners or as earners of daily bread, and therefore, in common justice, I say the time has come when, circumstances having altered, a remedy must be found, and the political organism must be enlarged so as to receive these new members. It is a monstrous thing that, given the same conditions and the same responsibilities, a woman contributing equally to the upkeep of a home, and working equal with a man, should not have equal rights. But it does not end there. Time after time the case is this:—that the woman earns the living; the woman pays the rent; the woman clothes the children; sends them to school, and if necessary, pays the small fee for them, and yet the house is registered in the name of the man; who, very likely does nothing all day but hang about, consuming such money as his wife is foolish enough to give him, at the public house, and he has a vote. Yet that woman, with all the responsibility, with all the duties she does to the State, with all the important elements she gives to the State in bringing up children and seeing that they become future citizens, has no voice in the management of the smallest affairs that relate to the welfare of herself and her family.

Now what is the most likely way by which we can achieve the objects which we want—namely, to see a reasonable amount of power given to women in order that they may protect themselves and do good to the State? There are two classes to whom this definition may apply. There are the women who would be entitled to representation because they are owners of property, and there are women who are the earners of wage. It seems to me that the only reasonable basis we can go on is to stick to some sort of property qualification. In any legislation that is passed, women should take care to see that they are entered on the register for houses, and that they do not allow a man, merely because a man, to be the registered owner of a house for which he has not paid anything, but for which she has paid. Also, where both wife and husband contribute to the upkeep of a house, both should be entitled to a vote. That being the principle upon which we have to go, how are we to enforce it? The opportunity often arises when all women who have the cause at heart, can exercise a very considerable amount of influence. What I

should like to see is women, either by themselves, or accompanied by a man if they should prefer it, attending public election meetings and asking a quiet, dignified question whether the candidate has considered the question of the political claims of women and their right to be represented in Parliament, and whether he is prepared to give them support. If he says "No," then the woman should ask him in one or two sentences to state his reasons. Even if the candidate agrees, it is as well to have somebody ready to get up and explain very shortly, by way of amendment, if necessary, what her views are. The real influence in this and other questions has been the intellectual lever applied, and slowly working until it has lifted the stone of prejudice. That can be done by individual effort, by individual speech, by individual example and by individual argument. It can be done by a mother speaking to her child, the sister to the brother, the wife to the husband. That is the method of slow progression which has marked the advance of England in her political past; we are at an important juncture now, and women should be present with their moderating, guiding and elevating influence. Now is the time that they should work heart and soul, and exercise every effort to impregnate the minds of those who come within their influence with the enormous importance of securing for them a recognition of those just rights which ought long ago to have been theirs, and for which they have so patiently waited.

PROGRESS IN AMERICA.

Suffragists in the United States have every reason to be satisfied with the progress of the movement. It is true the Suffragist amendment has been defeated in Ohio, partly owing to the subterranean opposition of the least meritorious political elements in the State, partly owing to the tactical mistake of the Suffragists in backing the Presidential candidate who happens to be unpopular in Ohio, but such temporary and local defeats are but incidents on the Suffrage journey and have nothing to do with the ultimate destination. The real significant facts are that in California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, Washington and Wyoming women have the right of voting at all elections, and that the women's votes in these six States will have considerable bearing in the result of the Presidential election. All three Presidential candidates, President Taft, Mr. Roosevelt and Dr. Woodrow Wilson—have realised the importance of the women's votes, and have all appointed women managers on their campaign committees.

An active campaign is being conducted by suffragists all over the United States and further victories are merely a question of time. It is instructive to observe in America as elsewhere, how the anti-suffragist has "swiftly and silently vanished away," where woman suffrage is an accomplished fact. The energy anti-suffragists formerly spent in trying to prove the undesirability of bestowing votes on women is now devoted to urging the extreme desirability of women bestowing their votes on the candidate the converted politician particularly favours.

A FABLE—AFTER ÆSOP.

BY LADY CHANCE.
THE BUILDER.

A certain Builder was noticed by a Passer-by to be using only stones of a particular oblong shape for his building, while rejecting all those that were square.

"Why are you doing this?" asked the Passer-by.

"Because it has always been the custom of my trade," answered the Builder.

"But," said the Passer-by, "what is the reason for this curious custom?"

"Reason!" said the Builder, "No reason is needed for what has always been the custom."

The Passer-by was not satisfied, and he asked, "Do not the stones all come out of the same quarry, and although, as I can see, they vary somewhat in colour and texture, surely their difference of shape alone is not a sufficient bar to the square stones being used for some parts of the building?"

"I can only tell you," answered the Builder, "that in my trade they never have been used."

"But," said the Passer-by (who was a very persistent person) "in certain other countries where I have travelled, square stones are used in building."

"I daresay they are," answered the builder indifferently, "other Builders in other countries may please themselves. I do not need to learn from them."

"No doubt," said the Passer-by, "you have heard that the buildings in which square stones are used are insecure, and perhaps have tumbled about the builders' ears; or possibly they are very inconvenient and bad in other ways, owing to use of these stones?"

"No," said the Builder, "I cannot pretend that any of these results have followed on the use of the square stones, but my buildings are much larger and more important than the ones in those countries you speak of, and I cannot try experiments in my work."

"Still I do not think you have explained in what way the rejection of all stones that happen to be square and not oblong makes your building better, though it certainly must make it more expensive and wasteful," said the Passer-by.

The Builder, who prided himself on being a man of practical commonsense, if not of brilliant intellect, dismissed the Passer-by with the words, "It is a fact, which no one can deny, that square stones are square stones, and oblong ones are oblong, and that is my reason for not using the square ones, and a very good reason too."

One reason is as good as another to an unreasonable man.

Madame Orka, the founder and secretary of the Congrès Permanent du Féminisme International, is collecting materials concerning women's organisations in all countries; such as Suffrage societies, professional unions, co-operative societies and organisations for the protection of girls. All persons interested, are invited to send particulars of their organisations, copies of the latest annual report, rules, and any pamphlets published to:—Secretariat du Congrès Permanent du Féminisme International, 76, Rue de Penthièvre, Paris.

WHY MEN SHOULD SUPPORT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

BY THE HON. ROBERT PALMER.

Because "Women's sphere is the Home."

Every man knows that on all strictly domestic questions women are more expert than men. Such questions are the management of children, their health and education, nursing, sanitation, domestic economy and so on. Every sensible man consults his wife on these matters, and generally leaves her to manage them altogether. Now Parliament has begun to make laws regulating these things, and every year deals more and more with the affairs of the home. So men must naturally wish that Parliament should consult the women on such subjects. But this will only be possible when women have votes, because without the vote women cannot make their opinions heard. Politicians are too busy to attend to anybody but voters, consequently our social legislation is often either unfair to women, or full of defects which would have been obviated if women's opinions had been consulted.

Because men want women to be their partners and helpers in life.

The old barbarous idea of women as inferior creatures, only useful as drudges and for bearing men children, has happily given place (among civilized peoples) to a nobler and truer conception of woman as man's partner and helper, his inspiration and his comfort. Men wish to shield women from all that is hurtful and ugly, but also wish to make them sharers in all that is good and lovely and beneficial. Now our social life as fellow-citizens is the field in which our noblest and most beneficent activities have freest play and widest possibilities. That is why men are glad to see women playing their high part in public life, in hospitals, on educational bodies, on charities, among the poor, on municipal corporations. But if men are glad that women share in these acts of citizenship, still more must they wish to see women share in that simplest (but most effective) art of citizenship that of helping to choose the makers of the laws we live under and the administrators of the taxes we pay.

The vote is a very small thing in itself, but it is the keystone of citizenship. Only voters are fully free citizens in a democracy. Men cannot wish to deny women this full partnership in the State: there can be no justification for denying it.

Because men should be just.

It is not just that women who pay taxes should have no representation. It is not just that women, who have shown themselves capable in municipal government, should be excluded from all voice in national government. It is, above all, not just that women should have no direct means of influencing Parliament when it deals with questions closely affecting them, especially on points where men are less closely affected. Such a question is that dealt with by the White Slave Traffic Bill. It is not just that women cannot directly influence the character of this Bill, which deals with woman's most vital interest, her

honour. Men are stronger than women: it is therefore only just that women should have every means of making themselves heard, and every security for fair treatment. The franchise is the most elementary of such means and securities. Men should grant women the vote, not as a favour, but as a matter of simple justice.

Because men should be sensible.

If men wish women to be their partners and helpers it is only sensible to give them the simplest means of realising more fully that ideal. If Parliament has to deal with many matters about which women know more than men, it is only sensible to make them electors to Parliament. It would not be sensible to be deterred from doing what is just by the vague fear of "unsexing" women. If the innumerable public activities of women have not harmed them, they will not be "unsexed" by the small, though important, act of marking a ballot paper once in five years.

Finally, it is only sensible to be guided by the experience of other countries, rather than by the imagination of prejudiced opponents. And the plain fact is that wherever Woman Suffrage has been tried it has been a success. In America, in Australia, in New Zealand, the women have used the vote to lower the infant death-rate, to improve education, to protect girls, to secure better industrial conditions for women, to provide maternity homes, to deal with the feeble-minded, and so on. There has been no "sex war," no friction. A study of these facts will convince every sensible man that there is no danger in granting the vote to women. And where justice and interest alike demand a reform, and no danger need be apprehended from it, it is only honourable and sensible to effect that reform with the least possible delay.

The Common Cause of August 15th published an interesting account of the wonderful growth of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. At the end of 1909, the Union included 140 Societies; last July the number had reached 370, besides 65 lesser branches. The increase of membership is also remarkable. It is estimated that the Union is receiving new members at the rate of a thousand a month. When the existence and growth of other suffrage societies is taken into account, the assertion of the Anti-suffragists, that interest in the question of Women's Suffrage is dying out in the country seems to be a diagnosis based upon a studious ignorance of symptoms. Some suffrage societies do not publish more than their flourishing balance sheets, but as our Annual Report shows, our Association is multiplying its branches all over the country; and other societies report an equally gratifying progress. The New Constitutional has doubled its membership in the last six months; and the Church League is multiplying its branches all over the country. It has now forty-eight local branches affiliated with the Central Branch. The Bishop of Lincoln is the President of the League, and its membership runs into thousands. One of the League's most useful activities is the publication of a penny monthly paper.

THE PROBLEM OF FATHERLESS CHILDREN.

By ETHEL M. NAISH.

II. HOW THE LAW MAY HELP THEM TO-MORROW.

In an earlier article upon this subject a statement was made as to the existing condition of the Law with regard to unmarried mothers: in the present paper it is proposed to suggest some reforms by which it may be rendered possible that the Law shall help rather than hinder the deserted mother in obtaining the paternal contribution due for the support of her child.

In considering the following proposals it must be borne in mind that, with the exception of the first, all have reference to procedure *after* paternity has been established, and that, therefore, the danger of inflicting hardship upon a possibly innocent man is beside the question. The necessity of safeguarding his interests has been as carefully kept in view as that of securing from the defaulting father the necessary payments.

1. The sole absolutely essential reform *before* the hearing of the case appears to be one which shall secure the appearance of the defendant in court. Measures already suggested in "Whose Children are These?" are (a) the minimizing of the period (now six days, frequently considerably extended) between the Service of the Summons and the hearing of the case; or (b) in places where there is not a daily session of the Magistrates' Court, the exercise of sufficient police surveillance to ensure the appearance of the defendant.

Objections have been raised on the one hand upon the ground that an innocent man has not thus time in which to prepare his defence, on the other hand, that the difficulties in the way of police surveillance would be serious. In answer to the first criticism we would point to the fact that the Summons is not lightly granted upon the application of the woman. She is obliged to produce sufficient evidence to justify, in the opinion of the Justices, the issue of a Summons. Also it must be remembered that the instances are exceptional in which the man is not aware of the approaching action on the part of the woman: her appeal to him will have been made and rejected before legal steps are taken. In answer to the second criticism the difficulties of surveillance have not been proved insuperable.

2. The most important measures, without which indeed all other reforms are *practically* useless, are those which should enforce the regular payment of the paternal contributions, *after* the Order has been made by the Magistrates. In order to ensure this, the payment must be made, not (as is the legal arrangement at present) to the mother, but to an official whose duty it shall be to receive the weekly sum payable by the father and to remit it to the mother.

One of the provisions of a Bill rejected on the Second reading, February 20th, 1912, was that these moneys should be payable to a third person, if so desired by the mother. But such regulation is, from a practical point of view, insufficient to safeguard the interests of the children. The evils resulting from a renewed intercourse between the man and the woman might indeed be avoided, but as a means of enforcing

payment it would prove inadequate. The men for whom these regulations are made, are not it must be remembered, of the class of well-meaning, but careless people who only need to be reminded of their duties in order to fulfil them. They are men who have realized that they have incurred the responsibility of supporting these helpless and homeless children, and have, therefore, already employed every means in their power by which to avoid the payment of their debts. But for this deliberate attempt at evasion the case would never have been brought into court, difficulties as to payment would never have arisen. These men have a certain awe of the law which would lead them to meet their debts when payment was demanded by a legally appointed official. It is because they know well that the law is in their favour that they are emboldened to adopt the attitude they occupy to-day. Academic plans may look extremely satisfactory in theory, but those workers alone, whose knowledge has been acquired by actual experience, are capable of judging of the practical effects of these theories. A case goes against a man, an Order is granted, he complies with its regulations, or he will actually pay on demand to a Rescue-worker through whose instrumentality the case has been taken to court. He pays until he has learned (probably from his more experienced comrades) that there is no means of enforcing the payment: that he is only bound to pay to the girl herself. At once he assumes a fresh position and makes his payments conditional (e.g., on the mother's meeting him at a public-house), or refuses them entirely.

The order to pay into court or to a court official would alter the face of things. The Maintenance Officer must hold the list of addresses of the men against whom these orders have been made, and all change of address must be notified to him, when he may communicate with the Maintenance Officer of the district into which the man has removed.

With regard to the salary of this officer, from whatever source it may be met, the relief afforded the rates would before long provide compensation for the amount so expended. The work would be greatly simplified could the co-operation of employers be secured, as in the Insurance Act. This might be obtained by "orders of attachment" against the employer for the deduction of the weekly amount due for the support of the child.

3. The removal of the 5/- maximum, although of incomparably less importance than the appointment of the Maintenance Officer, is a change which should be effected in the interests of justice. The objections to the removal are based upon fear of the danger of blackmail on the part of unscrupulous women. Experience goes to show that such danger would be best avoided were the maximum merely removed without the substitution of a higher figure; further, that the discretion of the Magistrates may be trusted to make no award which shall prove a too great tax upon the father's income. Similar reforms are already at work in New Zealand with highly satisfactory results. We are hoping that a Bill embodying these proposals will be introduced into Parliament during the approaching session. It will greatly strengthen our hands if readers will make these facts known.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, with the ingenuous intention of checkmating the suffrage movement, is taking an interest in the election of women to local governing bodies—apparently on the theory that "one nail knocks out another." There is a picturesque mediaeval touch about the new "Local Government Advancement Committee," candidates tainted with the suffrage heresy are anathema, whatever may be their qualifications for municipal work. In pointing out that this new society is endeavouring to introduce an irrelevant complication into the question, we do not desire to discourage any laudable efforts to promote a cause suffragists have keenly at heart, especially as we can imagine no more effective way of converting anti-suffragist ladies than to elect them to local governing bodies. If Mrs. Humphry Ward really believes she is embarking on an anti-suffrage crusade we would recommend her to study the progress of the suffragists abroad and in America. Knowing that the suffrage movement has the happy digestive faculty of thriving on the nails knocked into its coffin, we wish Mrs. Humphry Ward and her colleagues all success.

The new circular *re* Rural Housing that the Local Government Board has issued this autumn to district councils, considered in conjunction with the Government's treatment of the Housing of the Working Classes Bill, is one more interesting example of the way urgent questions of social reform are sacrificed on the altar of party exigencies. The Bill, which embodied practical proposals—much needed reforms on the confession of the Circular—was successfully shelved by discreditable manoeuvres simply because it came from Unionist benches. We do not know whether "woman's place is the home—be it ever so insanitary" would find favour as an Anti-suffragist obiter dicta; but by denying women the driving-power necessary to ensure proper consideration for legislation that affects them more vitally than it can affect men, the unorthodox corollary is implied.

The following resolution and statement were sent to the "Times" in answer to a letter by Lady Glasgow criticising the result of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand. It was not published in the "Times."

"We, the members of the New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union in Annual Convention assembled, emphatically protest against the insinuations and unsupported assertions concerning the operation of Women's Suffrage in this country, contained in a letter written by Lady Glasgow, and published in the "Times" of January 20th, 1912.

"We especially draw Lady Glasgow's attention to the following paragraph of her letter: 'I have been in fairly frequent communication and correspondence with some of the ablest and most capable men and women in that Colony—men who worked for many years and voted for the enfranchisement of women and who would now gladly give the same work if they

could repeal that Act, knowing and seeing as they do that not only has it not helped to solve the social and other questions, but on the contrary the enfranchisement of women has been in many ways that I cannot go into in this letter, most harmful.'

"We consider it only due to the women of this Dominion that Lady Glasgow should substantiate the foregoing statements and make public the names of those she describes as "some of the ablest and most capable men and women in that Colony," and upon whose authority she bases her insinuations.

"We express our surprise and regret that any one in Lady Glasgow's position should have rendered such a request necessary, by publishing such misleading and indefinite statements which are absolutely unjust to the womanhood of this country, without at the same time making known the names of those men and women said to be responsible for them.

"That the influence of the women's vote has been most beneficial is amply evidenced by the leading position New Zealand occupies for the moral, social, and humanitarian legislation passed in recent years, and that such is the case is borne witness to by the following extracts from published statements made by men who occupy or have occupied prominent positions in this Dominion. The statements were made by these gentlemen to refute equally baseless assertions in other parts of the world, against the result of womanhood suffrage in New Zealand, and such testimony could be multiplied greatly."

Then follows statements from Sir Joseph Ward, K.C.M.G. (then Prime Minister of New Zealand); G. W. Russell, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Governors, Canterbury College, and now Minister of Education; Sir John Findlay, Attorney General and Colonial Secretary; George Fowlds, Esq., then Minister of Education and Public Health; and from the editors of the leading New Zealand newspapers.

The inaccuracies expounded by Anti-suffragist speakers are many and varied, but when alleged facts are invoked, flagrant misstatements are easy to refute. A favourite 'argument' was recently made by a speaker at an Anti-Suffrage meeting at Wimbledon, who is reported to have said that, "In those countries where women's suffrage already obtains, there is greater resort to repressive legislation than elsewhere, and, as official statistics already demonstrate (the italics are our own) this has the effect of increasing crime, drink and gambling." We refer him to a recent address of the Chief Justice of New Zealand, whose remarks on the decrease of crime in that country were quoted in the last number of our *Review*, together with the statistics upon which his assertion was based. With regard to the "increase" of drunkenness and crime in Australia, the Official Year Book of the Commonwealth (page 922) gives the convictions for drunkenness per ten thousand inhabitants in 1901 as 133.4, and in 1906 as 119.1. Crime has also decreased. We read on page 920 that the convictions for serious crime in the Commonwealth per ten thousand persons in 1881 was 69.3, and in 1906 the numbers had fallen to 29.5.

UNDER THE FLAG.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION IN NEW ZEALAND.

By LADY STOUT.

After having been vanquished by incontrovertible facts in their attacks on the loyalty, morality and womanliness of the women in New Zealand, the Anti-Suffragists are again on the warpath with an accusation that the women's vote has increased the Drink Bill of the Dominion. Figures from the Year Book have been quoted to show that there has been a greater amount of alcohol consumed "since the introduction of Woman Suffrage." On the one hand, we have "chivalrous" gentlemen blaming women for this increase, and on the other we have the "Trade" denouncing the Suffrage as a menace to their profits. A pamphlet on "Woman Suffrage and the Licensing Trade," by Mr. Nixon-Smith, which is being secretly circulated, actually contains warnings against the Suffrage because of the reduction in business in the No-License areas in New Zealand.

Strange that the Liquor Party and the opponents of all social and moral reforms, should be the only persons who express any dissatisfaction with woman suffrage; and that the leaders of all educational, moral and social movements should be perfectly agreed that woman suffrage has been of inestimable benefit to our country. The Temperance reformers would surely oppose the Suffrage if it had been so disastrous as some people would like to make us believe. The revenue, trade, commerce, and general prosperity of the Dominion have increased by leaps and bounds since 1893; consequently the spending capacity of the people has increased also. In comparing 1893 with 1900 the critics seem to ignore the fact, which is well known and commented upon at Brewers' Conferences, that the amount spent on alcohol (which is a luxury) depends upon the prosperity of the people. The Drink Bill was no doubt very low in 1893, as that was a year of great depression, but the amount of alcohol consumed in New Zealand in 1910 was less than in any other country, excepting Tasmania and South Australia, which also have equal suffrage. The amount of beer consumed in New Zealand is only 9 gallons per head, compared with 29 gallons per head in Britain. The amount of wine and spirits is also very much less. The total net increase in 1911 was £55,933, but the population had increased 22,604 during the year which reduced the expenditure 6½d. per head.

The number of convictions for drunkenness recorded were, against New Zealanders 291, and 637 against British persons; and although the native-born population over 15 years of age is 55.75 per cent., the convictions against New Zealanders were only 24 per cent. of the whole in 1911; evidence enough to any intelligent person that it is the new arrivals from the country where women are voteless who are responsible for any increase in the Drink Bill and convictions for drunkenness.

Public opinion in New Zealand demands the strict enforcement of the law and the observance of decent sobriety. I have no hesitation in affirming that 50 per cent. of the persons arrested would never have

been arrested, and certainly never convicted in this country.

The amount per head spent on alcohol in the Dominion in 1909 was £3 13s. 1d.; in the Licensed areas £4 3s. 6d., and in the No-License areas only 16s. 3d. The decrease in crime under "No-License" is shown in the following table

	Under License.	Under No-License.
Clutha	292 132
Part of Clutha	257 81
Clinton (7 yrs.)	157 41
Ashburton (1 yr.)	188 68
Oamaru (1 yr.)	352 134
Mataura (2 yrs.)	202 67
Chalmers (2 yrs.)	546 189
Masterton (1 yr.)	472 43

No resident has been convicted of drunkenness in Clutha for five years, nor has the gaol been occupied for 17 years. Serious crime and sexual offences are almost unknown in these twelve districts. The Dorcas Society in Masterton was obliged to send their materials to another town as there was no need to continue working. Business men (excepting pawn-brokers and second-hand dealers), lawyers, clergy, doctors, mayors and councillors, all bear testimony to the beneficial results of No-License.

It is necessary to emphasise again the fact that we have equal suffrage in New Zealand; that "men are men and women are women," and that neither claims the monopoly of either wisdom, knowledge or perfection. There are men, and women too, who have become victims to a craving for drink, but statistics prove that there are 20 convictions for drunkenness against men to one against women. There is ample proof, in spite of statements to the contrary, that there is less drunkenness among women than formerly. In 1901 there were 2.71, and in 1909 there was only 1.68 convictions against women. There is no lack of testimony, even amongst opponents of woman suffrage in New Zealand, that women have always used their votes in the interest of temperance and social reform, and all facts prove that the latest cry of the anti-suffragists must have been uttered in despair as the waves of reason and common sense were overwhelming their sinking ship.

INDIA.

The Census returns of the Indian peoples give much interesting information about the women of our great Dependency. A preliminary analysis of the figures shows that of the 43 million inhabitants under five years of age, girls were in a majority by about 639,000; but between the ages of five and ten, boys are in a majority of a million, and between the ages of ten and fifteen, there are 18½ million boys, and only 15¼ million girls. As the *Times* points out, these statistics afford sad testimony of the comparative neglect of girl children, and the havoc wrought by early marriage and premature motherhood. In March 1911, there were 9,412,642 girls under 16 who were either wives or widows, 2½ million of them being under ten years of age, and 302,425 being under five, while 17,700 children under five were widows, and according to the Hindu custom, widows for life under

harsh conditions. That the evils of the child marriage system mainly effects girls is proved by the fact that altogether only about 3½ million boys under 16 are returned as married; and between the ages of 15 and 20, only 4½ million out of 13½ million males are married, while 10½ million out of 12½ million girls of the same age are either married or widowed. The average of literacy is still low,—only 580 per 10,000 persons being able to read in their own vernacular—but it has risen in the last ten years from 98 males and 7 females per thousand, to 106 and 11 respectively. Allowing 7 per cent. for the increase of the population, the increase of literate persons is 15.3 per cent. of males, and no less than 60.7 per cent. of females. The *Times* remarks that "it is gratifying to observe that this increased female literacy is well distributed between both the great communities, the Hindu variation per cent. being 69.2 and the Mussulman 51.3." These are significant figures that endorse the reports of Zenana missionaries and others, that there is a growing demand in the East for female education; and in the demand lies the hope of the successful solution of many of the gravest problems that beset the Indian Empire.

EGYPT.

The report which was recently issued by Lord Kitchener contains information which will be read with interest and pleasure by all who are interested in the progress women are making in other lands. He says:—"There is probably nothing more remarkable in the social history of Egypt during the last dozen years than the growth of opinion among all classes of Egyptians in favour of the education of their daughters," and he goes on to tell us that the girls' schools are crowded and new ones are being built to meet the growing demand, while the number of girls attending them is more than twenty-five thousand, being an increase of over eight per cent. of the number in 1910. The demand for teachers is also greatly in excess of the supply, in spite of the fact that teachers' training colleges have been enlarged. Lord Kitchener considers that a normal school for teachers should be opened in every province. He tells us that the number of girls' schools under the authority of the Minister of Education is 271.

The results of this education is surprising, and women are coming to the fore in many directions. One of the latest proofs of the progress they are making occurred at a Moslem Congress, held last year, when a paper by a Moslem lady, well known for her learning and broad ideas, was read by one of the members. In it she pleaded for important and urgently needed reforms—for the better education of girls, and for a medical school, where native women could be trained as doctors and midwives, who would instruct young mothers in matters of hygiene and so lessen the terribly high infant mortality. She also asked permission for women to attend religious services in the mosques and urged the abolition of polygamy. Another lady has passed all law examinations with honours, and has applied to the Egyptian Tribunals for leave to plead. The Mixed Court of Appeal has decided in her favour. It is also announced that an

Egyptian Women's League has recently been started to defend women's interests in all directions.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The need for the presence of women on commissions to enquire into matters which directly affect their own sex has been recognised by the Government of South Africa who have nominated three ladies to serve on the Commission appointed to enquire into the cause of what is commonly known as "the Black Peril." This is the first time women have sat on a South African Government Commission and their appointment is due to a strong appeal made by a deputation of women to the Prime Minister. The Commission consists of eight members, and the three ladies are Mrs. Woods of Pietermaritzburg, Mrs. Fuller of Cape Town and Mrs. Faure of Pretoria.

Prejudices against women's work are also being broken down in other directions, and women have recently scored a triumph in the admission of a lady to practise as an attorney at the South African Bar. Her application was opposed by the Law Society, on the ground of sex, but this was overruled by the Judge, who, however, refused her application for enrolment as a public notary, but left the matter open.

A new Reform Club has recently been started in Johannesburg. Its objects are to extend women's municipal rights and to urge them to exercise those they have; to alter unsatisfactory laws through influencing members by petitions; to circulate literature and to question candidates on their attitude to women's questions, and thus to help on Parliamentary reform. The Club has two branches—one suburban and one in the poorest district in Johannesburg, while others are in contemplation. Its Information and Entertainment Committees do good work, and its members are hoping to widen its sphere still further. The President is Mrs. Esson.

AUSTRALIA.

WEST AUSTRALIA.—Splendid work is being done by the various women's associations in Australia. The chief women's social and political organisation in West Australia is the Women's Service Guild, whose annual report shows how systematically the members are working. Before the last elections a list of questions was submitted to every candidate for the Legislature. These gentlemen were asked whether they would support amendments to the Municipal Act, permitting women to sit on City Councils; to the Barristers Act, admitting women to practise at the Bar; and to the State Children's Act, creating a State Children's Council, composed of an equal number of men and women. Candidates were also asked to support measures dealing with the appointment of women as Sanitary Inspectors in every institution where there are women and children. The Guild recently held a most successful conference, at which fifteen societies from other states of the Commonwealth were represented and where subjects of vital importance to women were discussed, including the health and protection of children, prison-reform, immigration and the treatment of inebriates.

WOMEN'S WORK.

"Woman's Sphere lies wherever she can live nobly and do noble work." *Bishop Spalding.*

I. THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

The New Hospital for Women is forty years old. It was founded in 1872, soon after the first English women doctors had won their long fight for their right to qualify for, and take, medical degrees. The battle had been long and unequal. The pioneers were few and their foes were many, "pig-headed beyond belief," as Charles Reade wrote, and singularly lacking in nobility and imagination. That women should want to be doctors seemed humorous to the mid-Victorian 'antis'; if they also happened to think the demand immoral they did not hesitate to say so in most offensive language. The fact that some women might prefer to consult women physicians was an idea that does not seem to have dawned on their limited imaginations; the movement was popularly regarded as the tiresome idiosyncrasy of a few headstrong individuals, although, like the suffrage movement, it had the support of the best men as well as the wisest women of the time.

As soon as women were admitted to the medical profession a women's hospital became necessary, in order that they could obtain experience for their work (for the ordinary hospital appointments were only given to men), and where poor women could be treated by doctors of their own sex. A Dispensary for Women and Children was opened in 1866 near Bryanston Square by Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D. (then Miss Garrett), and it gradually grew into a hospital. The need of women doctors for India was an important consideration with those who raised the funds for building and equipping the new institution, but it was evident from the very beginning that a hospital officered entirely by medical women met a growing demand at home. Although the patients pay a small fee (except necessitous and urgent cases which are admitted free), the beds are always full, and there is a list of applicants waiting for admission,—applicants from all over the country. Even the out-patients come long distances, and last year the in-patients were drawn from 16 counties; from Norfolk and Suffolk, Devonshire and Wiltshire, Derbyshire and Wales, as well as from London and the home counties.

The out-patients department, the large waiting room and doctors' consulting rooms, are on the ground floor. Next to it is the dispensary, where the prescriptions are made up by the staff of women dispensers. Also on the ground floor is the mechanotherapeutic department and the Röntgen-ray apparatus, and a dark room where the mysterious X-ray photographs are taken and developed. The wards, both medical and surgical, are upstairs; cheerful, airy, restful rooms, painted pale green, gay with flowers and plants and pretty chintz screens, with Donatello's adorable Bambino in white bas-relief on the walls, and perhaps a frail little human bambino in a cot—for though the 'New' has many children out-patients, it has no children's ward and can only take in an occasional stray baby. In the very heart of

the hospital is the operating theatre and the tiled sterilizing room. The white theatre with its curved corners, glass cupboards and tables is not a terrifying place, but the patients are anaesthetized in a little room across the passage and wheeled in unconscious of the rows of surgical instruments, the glass tanks of dressings, and the steam-heated table which remind the casual, unscientific visitor that it is not quite so much like a nice innocent bathroom as it seems to be at the first glance. When women first qualified as doctors it was freely prophesied that they could not be surgeons; but at the New Hospital about 270 major operations are performed during the year and as many minor ones. In comparison to its size the New Hospital has a larger proportion of serious cases than most other hospitals. It is a general hospital, and takes all but infectious cases. And here it may be observed that it needs a lift: when it was built a hydraulic lift was found to be impossible on the site, now that electric lifts are safe and practical, one could easily be installed in the well of the staircase, if anybody wishes to give the hospital a useful present.

The charming rooms of the resident doctors are in a separate wing; its flat roof is railed in so that patients can be carried up there for sunshine and breezes. Separated from the main building and each other by a yard are the nurses' house, the tiny mortuary chapel which was the gift of the builder of the hospital, and the new building of the pathological laboratory and museum. The 'New' is very proud of its pathological department, but does not insist on showing it if the reluctant visitor is firm.

If the hospital is a model hospital, the nurses' home is a model building too. It was erected by the help of a bequest of the late Mrs. Pfeiffer, one of the hospital's earliest friends, and has accommodation for the whole of the nursing staff, for the servants, and for the maternity pupils. Each inmate has a separate bedroom, and there are two bathrooms on every floor. The maternity pupils have their meals in this building and do not enter the hospital, for their work lies outside in the poor neighbourhood, and is another beneficent activity of the 'New.' The hospital kitchen is on the top floor of the main building, and the nurses' dining room has been conjured out of an attic where the cisterns used to live: for not an inch of space is wasted in the hospital, and the continual problem is how to cope with the ever increasing demand for admission. The Committee hope to establish a Home of Recovery a short distance from London, where patients could be taken by ambulance as soon as they could be moved from the wards, and visited as often as necessary by the doctors. Their convalescence would be accelerated in the purer air, and the hospital beds would be set free sooner for the cases that are always waiting for admission. But for this money is needed; money that would be forthcoming at once were the work of the hospital more widely known; for the 'New' stands for even more than the honourable desire of women to do good work in a noble profession—for more than the courage and perseverance that founded and built it; it stands for women's faith in their own sex, and for the truth modern suffragists find expressed for them by Euripides: "Woman is woman's natural ally." *OLGA HARTLEY.*

ECHOES.

If the Conservative party shut their eyes to the teaching of reason and experience, and persist in refusing their assistance to the law-abiding women, who have so long and patiently asked to have a share in the government of the country, on them will fall some of the responsibility for the troubles and dangers that may follow. They refuse to assist the responsible and experienced women, mothers of families, heads of households, and leave the championship of women's rights to the Labour Party. They are throwing away the naturally Conservative part of the nation in deference to irrational prejudice and adherence to ancient formulæ which experience has proved to be untrue.

Lady Selborne in The Standard.

Nothing can excuse outrages; but if anything could excuse them it would be action of the kind taken of late by the Radical Party. . . . Mr. Asquith has recourse to a trick by bringing in the Franchise Bill, one of whose objects, as has been clear to everybody since its introduction, is to render the female franchise impossible. No more contemptible political game has ever been played. That, combined with Mr. Hobhouse's taunt that the Suffragists had not yet resorted to violence, is a direct incentive to violence. It is a means of manufacturing militants out of non-militants; an unchivalrous, unstatesmanlike and ungentlemanlike procedure.

The Globe.

Life is lived by both men and women, not by men alone, and there are few horrors in life or in our Courts that have not been met by some woman. And if it is true that women are so sheltered that they do not know of some of these things, it is because they are willing to shirk their responsibility. Such innocence is not a virtue; it is undesirable and unfortunate. When "good" women really understand some of the terrible things that other women must endure, and the way these things are treated in our laws, they will arouse themselves, and in a united wrathful army will sweep to the rescue of the unprivileged women of the earth. And then these things will cease.

Jessie Ashley.

Wealth, Comfort and Ease say, "I have rights enough." Nobody doubted it, Madam! But the question is not of you; the question is of some homeless wife of a drunkard; the question is of some ground-down daughter of toil.

Wendell Phillips.

The banner which we unfurl to-day is not new: it is the standard of the old, free, monogamous labouring woman, which twenty hundred years ago, floated over the forests of Europe. We shall bear it on, each generation as it falls, passing it into the hands of those which follow, till we plant it so high that all nations of the world shall see it; till the women of the humblest races shall be gathered beneath its folds.

Olive Schreiner.

SUFFRAGE IN FOREIGN LANDS.

France.—An interesting debate on woman's political position took place recently in the French Chamber. It arose on the question as to whether the electoral basis should be the voters on the lists or the whole population. Mr. Poincaré said the members did not represent electors only, but the whole nation, women as well as men. To this remark, Mr. Louis Andrieux, ex-Prefect of Police, replied: "I do not think it is possible for women to be represented sincerely and loyally without giving them the right to vote. . . . If you want universal suffrage to be honest you ought not to exclude from the suffrage the half, and the better half, of human kind." The Paris correspondent of *The Sunday Times*, on commenting on the debate says:—"These are quite remarkable statements, and point, I think, to the growth of a current of thoughtful opinion in France, in favour of women's suffrage."

Galicia.—The Polish Women's Suffrage Society in Galicia has become affiliated with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, making the twenty-seventh national association represented in the Alliance. A petition has been sent to the Galician Parliament urging the necessity for an amendment to the proposed electoral reform bill, in order to make it apply to women as well as to men. An interesting exhibition organised by the Czechish women was held at Prague in the summer; it was called the Polish Women's Exhibition, and all the women's societies in Galicia united in working for it. It gave striking proof of the prominent part played by Polish women of all classes in civic and national life.

Servia.—The Servian Council of Women,—the national society whose ultimate aim is the political enfranchisement of women,—has been extremely active lately. The Executive Committee have completely re-organised the council, which has been divided into three sections in order to cope more effectually with its various activities,—philanthropic, educational and political. Each section has undertaken a series of lectures with a view to increasing the membership of the Council and interesting the general public in its work and objects. Various petitions have been sent to the Servian Parliament begging for alterations in the laws which are unjust to women. Although many professions and employments are open to women in Servia, their position in the matter of salaries, pensions and various privileges is unsatisfactory, and the Servian Women's Council is working hard to remove some of the most flagrant grievances. The Council is carefully studying laws in other countries before drawing up a model code for their demands.

Switzerland.—The question of the political enfranchisement of women is making great progress in Switzerland. The Woman Suffrage Association was started three years ago, and there are now ten groups which constitute the Federation. Headquarters are established at Lausanne, Berne and Geneva; many meetings have been held, and among the speakers have been deputies, university professors, lawyers and doctors. A weekly paper is shortly to be started, edited by Dr. Brustlein, a well-known medical woman at Zurich.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

LA VOTE DES FEMMES. By Ferdinand Buisson. Député de la Seine. President de la Commission des Suffrage Universel. (Dunod., 2/6 net).

This book is interesting and comprehensive. It should be read by all who care to know the facts, historical and actual, about the women's movement, not only in this country but all over the world. Judge Madden from the bench in Dublin the other day, referred to the question of the political enfranchisement of women as perhaps "the most important political question of the day." It is time this acknowledgement of the seriousness of the question should be made by a public man, and this seriousness is fully realised in M. Buisson's book. He gives the history of the movement towards Woman Suffrage in the European countries where it is not yet an accomplished fact, and analyses its results in the Dominions and States of America where votes for women have been granted. He does not attempt to adorn his subject with any purple patches of oratory, nor to enforce his arguments by any appeal to emotion. The impression left by the book is all the greater for this restraint. Impressive it certainly is, and the continued refusal of our Government to grant this reform appears all the more blind and stupid, when we read in these pages how in no case has it been followed by any loss of "virility" to the community; how in every case it has been followed by a class of social legislation indisputably advantageous to women and children, and therefore to the State as a whole.

No need to refer in this paper to the long story of the fight for the vote in this country; it is familiar to us all. Yet even to Suffragists it may come as a surprise to be reminded that no less than 32 times since 1871 has the question of Woman Suffrage been brought before the House of Commons; and the majority of that Assembly have professed to be in favour of it since 1886!

"Can one be surprised," writes M. Buisson, "That a section of the feminist army, tired of having recourse, always in vain, to constitutional methods, should have risked to try other tactics for carrying this reform?" He quotes from John Bright: "If meetings have no effect, if the clear expression of an almost universal opinion has no influence on the Administration or in Parliament, then inevitably, the people will seek other methods to acquire those rights which are so arbitrarily withheld."

The success of the enfranchisement of women in our Dominions, and in the American States is well known to Suffragists. Therefore it is more interesting to us to read in this book of the disabilities which still exist in the great European nations, and of the growing demand for their removal. The chapter on Russia is especially interesting. Women there have some electoral privileges. Women of property can vote for the Duma, but only indirectly through their male relatives, husband, son or father. Russian women were not admitted to the Universities till 1906, and then solely against the will of the Ex-Minister of Education. In spite of his attempts to exclude them they are now able to take University courses; but Jewesses are excluded in the most cruel

manner. According to Russian law they are not allowed to reside in any big towns, (where the Universities are situated), unless they are recognised prostitutes. Such however is their thirst for knowledge that they have been known to buy the yellow ticket which brands them as such in order to carry on their education. A tragic story is told of a young Jew who, hearing that his sister, aged 18, had registered herself at St. Petersburg as an outcast, committed suicide after writing to tell her the cause. In despair at his misunderstanding, she drowned herself in the Neva. "Thus," writes M. Buisson, "in spite of circumstances unfavourable to progress, the higher education of women spreads through the country. Political emancipation will follow after."

There is a quiet conviction throughout this book, implied rather than expressed, that, as the demand for the political representation of women is reasonable wise and just, so it is bound to come. Public opinion all over the world is veering towards it, the forces against it are reactionary and prejudiced, and the interests of civilisation and social progress will best be consulted by speedily bringing it about.

BETTY BALFOUR.

THE WHITE SLAVE MARKET. By Mrs. Archibald MacKirdy (Olive Christian Malvery) and W. N. Willis. (Stanley Paul & Co., London, 5/-.)

This book describes the wretched plight of European and American women who have been decoyed for evil purposes to Singapore and other great commercial centres of the Far East: a chapter entitled "Whitechapel" shows some of the methods by which the victims are secured. We get what we have learned to expect from Mrs. MacKirdy, a candid and graphic account without any unnecessary horrors.

In the chapter on "Remedies" there are some valuable suggestions for checking the traffic and the recruiting for it, such as raising the age of consent, the employment of police women, the provision of lodging houses, and plans to enlist the help of steamship companies and captains against the utilization of their vessels by the traffickers. It is staggering to find in the same pages a proposal to return to the pernicious and discredited system of Government licenses for houses of ill fame. The authors appear to be unaware that after a century's trial this system is being abandoned by all European nations; not only is it tyrannical and immoral, but it has been a failure as regards its avowed objects—the preservation of public order and public health. It has been found to be an actual obstacle to the suppression of the traffic in women, for where slavery is an institution of the State, suppression of the slave traffic is impossible.

This serious blemish in a book so sincere and well-intentioned arises from the fact that the authors accept the common, but deadly, belief that prostitution is a necessary evil, an institution as permanent as Society itself. The awakened womanhood of the new era will never accept that belief, but will set itself to uproot this, the oldest and worst form of slavery.

HELEN WILSON, M.D.

WOMEN'S POSITION IN THE LAWS OF THE NATIONS. (The National Union of Women Workers, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, 2/4, including postage; 1/3 to members of the N.U.W.W.)

This most valuable publication has been issued by the International Council of Women, the Federation of National Councils or Unions of Women, which is represented in Great Britain and Ireland by the National Union of Women Workers. The book consists of a series of reports, written and revised by experts, on laws concerning women in the home, the family, the municipality, and the State in fourteen European countries, in the United States of America, the several states of Australia, New Zealand, and the Argentine Republic. There is no single report which does not give instances of laws which are unjust in some respects to women. Laws concerning married women and their property show great variations; in the last fifty years in the United States, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand the possession of their property and earnings has been secured to married women, but in most of the countries of Europe progress has been slower, and much still remains to be altered. On the other hand, the English laws of inheritance and intestacy and of divorce are more unfair to women than those of several other countries.

The local variation in the laws of Great Britain and Ireland is very interesting; while Scotch women are in some respects more favourably treated than English women, Irish women are in a worse position. In Ireland unmarried mothers have no legal claim for the maintenance of their children on the fathers, who are only liable if the Boards of Guardians choose to make a claim on behalf of the ratepayers. The International Council are pledged to the support of Woman Suffrage, and in this book they have focussed attention on the question whether women ought or ought not to have a direct influence upon the making of laws.

ROSE GRAHAM.

THE MODERN WOMAN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT. By Dr. Kaethe Schirmacher. Translated from the second German edition by Carl Eckhardt, Ph.D. (The Macmillan Company, 6/6 net).

Although the author writes with great sympathy for her subject, this book is, unfortunately, so full of the most serious and flagrant inaccuracies that it is quite useless as a work of reference. The majority of the mistakes need never have been made had Dr. Schirmacher taken the precaution of submitting her work on each country to an expert in that country. The description of the suffrage movement in England is almost grotesque; in fact, the whole part dealing with the women's movement in our country shews a profound ignorance of the subject, and we regret that a book which might have been of such use to the workers in our cause is only a source of danger.

E.M.

The July issue of the Women's Industrial News contains most useful Tables relating to the earnings of women and girls working on the premises of their

employers. They state the paid wages in each industry in one representative week of 1906, when working full time. The Tables, which are compiled from the Reports of the Enquiry with the Earnings and Hours of Labour of workpeople in the United Kingdom, should be in the hands of all speakers and writers on the difficult and intricate question of the position of women in industry. The article on The Number of Women Wage Earners, by Miss D. Zimmern, in the same number, is a most valuable contribution to the subject. The paper can be obtained from the Womens' Industrial Council, 7, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., price 6d.

"Jus Suffragii," the monthly organ of the International Women Suffrage Alliance, recently published a list of the existing woman suffrage papers in different countries. It is interesting to find that twenty-one different countries have one or more suffrage papers. Austria, France, Germany and the United States produce four apiece; Bulgaria, Denmark, Italy and Sweden have each three; Finland, Hungary, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia and Switzerland have one or two in each country, while the British Empire can boast of nine suffrage journals.

New suffrage papers are continually appearing in every country. A new daily paper, *Journal de la Femme*, devoted to women's interests, will be started in France this month. It will give information regarding the women's movement in France and other countries. The publishing offices are at 2, Place du Cane, Paris, and the annual subscription for readers in England is 24/- (30 francs).

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT (232, Evering Road, Clapton, London, 7d.) Addresses delivered by the Bishop of Oxford and others at the Queen's Hall, on June 10th, 1912.

WOMAN AND THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND (Macniven and Wallace, Edinburgh, 3d.) Addresses delivered to the women of the Church of Scotland and of the United Free Church in May, 1912, at Edinburgh.

WHY MEN SHOULD WORK FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. (Men's League for Women's Suffrage, 136, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, 2d.) A pamphlet dealing with the economic aspect of the movement.

JOHN HAMPDEN. By Mrs. Darent Harrison (Women's Tax Resistance League, 98, St. Martin's Lane, 2d.) A brief history of the career of John Hampden.

THE SOCIAL EVIL. Edited by Edwin Seligman, LL.D. (G. P. Putman and Sons, 6d. net). A general enquiry, with special reference to conditions existing in New York.

PROSTITUTION: ITS NATURE AND CURE. (Penal Reform League, 1, Harrington Square, N.W., 2d.)

HINTS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS ON LEGAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE WORKING CLASSES. By Frank Tillyard, M. Com., M.A. (National Union of Women Workers, Parliament Mansions, Westminster, 2d.)

THE ENGLISHWOMAN (3, Adam Street, Adelphi, 1/- net.) A monthly review devoted to the interests of women.

THE COMMON CAUSE (2, Robert Street, Adelphi, 1d.) Weekly organ of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies.

- WOMEN AND THE REFORM BILL. By H. N. Brailsford, reprinted from the "Manchester Guardian." (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. 6d. per dozen).
- THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE—Monthly Paper. (13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane. rd., by post 1½d.)
- THE WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL NEWS (7, John Street, Adelphi, 6d.) Quarterly organ of the Women's Industrial Council.
- TIME AND TALENTS. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 4d.) A quarterly review for girls.
- THE QUARTERLY OF THE WORLD'S YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION (26, George Street, Hanover Square, W.)

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The Medical women of America are every year rising higher in the confidence of the people. Some time ago, a lady was appointed to the chair of anatomy in the Johns Hopkins University. The *New York Times*, in commenting on the subject said: "This recognition of a capable woman by a great university is a step calculated to make the layman open his eyes and wonder." Now comes the news that, for the first time in the history of the American Medical Association, a woman has this year been elected an officer of one of its sections at its recent meetings in Atlantic City. She presided at a number of the meetings in place of the Surgeon General of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service of the United States.

Sir Edward Poynter, speaking recently on art in relation to women, congratulated the women students of the Royal Academy schools on their notable successes. It is remarkable that, out of eleven gold medals awarded recently in national competition, nine have been awarded to women in Great Britain. In the Beaux Arts competition held in Paris for the Prix Talrich, and the examination in perspective and archaeology, many of the prizes were secured by women.

President Taft has given a further proof of his appreciation of women's work in public life by appointing Miss Louise Lester to be a member of the committee to witness the destruction of paper currency. She is the first woman ever named for that service. The committee, composed of three persons, supervises the destruction of millions of dollars of old paper money sent to the Treasury for redemption.

Women delegates attended the First Presidential Elections in the United States for the first time in the history of America. Two from California at the Republican convention for Roosevelt; one from Washington and one from Colorado at the Democratic convention. Their presence created great interest; they were treated with the utmost courtesy and were cheered every time they entered the hall or rose to vote.

The Woman's Platform in the Standard, publishes the interesting information that a lady was recently admitted to practise as a barrister and solicitor by the Victoria Supreme Court. She made her first appearance in Court as instructing solicitor in a case connected with the application of trust for educational benefits. The will concerned had been found unworkable and the scheme she submitted was adopted by the Chief Justice.

Chinese women are organising a Congress to discuss the various social evils that result from the subjection of women in China. A National Council of Chinese Women is being formed which is to be divided into six councils each under its own President.

WOMEN AND THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

In the last issue of our paper we published a paragraph shewing when women can vote, and we hope all our readers who are qualified to do so will have registered, and will record their votes in the municipal elections will take place on November 1st, even though it be at great personal inconvenience. We are told that few women interest themselves in local matters. Our opponents taunt us with this assertion, and say that if we do not value our municipal vote, we are not fit for the parliamentary vote. Do not let this charge be levelled against us again.

It is essential that both electors and candidates for election should realise that the interest of women and girls—especially in the industrial life of the community—are fully as important as those of men and boys. Many women municipal voters overlook this fact, and have allowed other and less important local issues to influence them; or have neglected their opportunities through ignorance or lack of interest. If candidates can be brought to realise that women voters think and feel deeply on subjects which concern the welfare of their own sex, and that their votes depend on the attitude of candidates towards these questions, there is no doubt that we shall have a better chance of removing some of the many and grievous evils about which we have been complaining unavailingly for years.

Moreover, now that women are coming forward to contest municipal elections, it behoves us to give them our support whenever we can conscientiously do so. We want all that the best men and women can give to the service of the country, the city and the county. The services of good citizens should not be rejected merely because they are women; for women can understand and can deal with certain matters—matters of vital importance to the welfare of the community in general and of women in particular—much better than men can. In a short article, it is only possible to mention a few of the most important matters in which women councillors can benefit their sex. They will be able to keep a watchful eye on the wages that are given by Borough Councils to the women and girls in their employ. This is particularly necessary, as women workers have rarely any organisations to help them in time of need. Many women are directly employed by the Councils as sanitary inspectors, attendants in public places, teachers and clerks, and their requirements respecting hours and conditions of labour, rate of pay, etc., are apt to be overlooked. It is bad enough when a private firm underpays and disregards the comfort of the women whom it employs, but it is infinitely worse when a public body lays itself open to this accusation. At present the wages given to women are considerably lower than those paid to men. Many women, also, work indirectly for the Councils, in that the firms to whom orders are given employ female labour, and though there are generally clauses in the contracts stipulating for fair wages to the workers, the share done by women is often underpaid unless there be someone whose business it is to see that this part of the undertaking is carried out. The presence of women

on the Councils ought to improve matters considerably in these directions.

Many women have qualified themselves for the post of sanitary inspectors; and as the work, in many cases, concerns the intimate home life of thousands of women and girls, it is most important that the appointments of women to these posts should be increased; that they should be appointed with full powers and in many cases their salaries should be augmented.

The Municipal Councils are responsible, among other things, for the carrying out of the provisions of the Public Health; for the registration and inspection of home workers, and the supervision of sleeping accommodation in business houses. These matters concern the welfare of thousands of women, and the presence of women on the Councils will be of great assistance in seeing that the laws are carried out.

A heavy responsibility rests with the Councils in dealing with educational work, and every facility should be given to women and girls with regard to technical training; for in this respect they fall short of men, and their lack of training is the chief reason advanced for paying them so badly. A great deal of improvement can be effected by women Councillors with regard to the trade classes in the various towns, respecting the efficiency of teachers, the hours of work, etc.

It is every woman voter's bounden duty to see that the needs of her less fortunately placed sisters are adequately considered; and where possible, provided for. Experience has taught us that this can only be done by the presence of a large number of capable women on the governing bodies. We deny that civic work has a hardening influence on women, and we consider that it should be put at least as high as the philanthropic work in connection with which women render such whole-hearted service.

All information about women candidates at the forthcoming elections may be obtained from the Women's Local Government Society, at 21, Tothill Street, Westminster. EVELINE MITFORD.

We would remind the Hon. Secretaries and members of our branches that as it is evident that Women's Suffrage will be made one of the questions at the municipal elections it is of the greatest importance that this opportunity should not be lost of making our influence felt. The Anti-Suffrage League has sent a letter to each woman candidate, asking her whether she is in favour of women's suffrage, and if so, whether she will pledge herself not to work for the cause while serving on any municipal council if elected, as a condition on which she may receive support—financial and other, from the Anti-Suffrage League. Such action being taken by our opponents, we must not be caught napping, but make every effort that Councillors shall be elected who are favourable to Women's Suffrage.

We would point out that loyalty to the party does not compel our members to vote for the whole list of Municipal Reform candidates which will be sent to them, but that they need only vote for those candidates who have declared themselves in favour of Women's Suffrage, in answer to the questions which should be sent to each candidate.

BRANCH NEWS.

Bath.—Our membership increases. In July we joined the N.U.W.S.S. in a deputation to our members. Lord Alexander Thynne is opposed to woman suffrage, but Sir Charles Hunter is a firm supporter.—(MRS.) MARY WALLER (*Hon. Sec.*), 29, *Sion Hill, Bath.*

Bedfordshire (North).—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. TRUSTRAM EVE, *Rushmoor, Bedford.*

Birmingham.—The work in this Branch is greatly handicapped by the fact of all our Members of Parliament being against the cause of Women's Suffrage, with the exception of Mr. Amery. But the members of the Committee and others are doing their best to make converts, and we are adding considerably to our roll.—(MISS) IDA C. ADAMS (*Hon. Sec.*), 56, *Carlyle Road, Edgbaston.*

Bishops Waltham.—We are organising various social gatherings for the autumn and winter, to widen the interest in our movement and increase our membership. Mrs. Archer-Shepherd has kindly consented to be Treasurer of our branch.—(MISS) EVELYN BASHFORD (*Hon. Sec.*), *Soberton Towers, Hants.*

Boston.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS PAYNE, *The Laurels, Sleaford Road.*

Bristol.—*Hon. Secs.*, MRS. MARDON, MISS E. H. SMITH, *Richmond House, Clifton Hill.*

Brondesbury.—This new branch was started in June as the result of a drawing-room meeting held by Mrs. Felkin, at Winkworth Hall, when Miss Mercer spoke. A Committee was formed, with Mrs. and Miss Felkin, Miss K. M. Clarke, and Mrs. W. H. Humphries, *Hon. Secretary*. Since its inauguration many members have joined. On July 9th circular notes were sent to voters in the parish, with a view to requesting our member, Mr. Mallaby Dealey, to support a woman suffrage amendment to the Government Reform Bill.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. HUMPHRIES, 3, *College Mansions, Brondesbury Park.*

Cambridge.—At our annual meeting which took place at Downing College Lodge, the Committee was elected, and Miss Bertha Mason read a paper on 'Women in Local Government.' The branch has taken part in two deputations to Mr. Almeric Paget, member for the Borough, and to Mr. Rawlinson, member for the University.—(MRS.) MAY KENNEDY (*Hon. Sec.*), *St. Andrew's, Chesterion Lane.*

Cheltenham.—On the 20th June, the N.U.W.S.S., W.F.L., and W.S.P.U., and the C. & U.W.F.A. united in a meeting at the Town Hall on "The White Slave Traffic." Rev. Herbert Seabrook, M.A., Vicar of Brockworth, took the chair, and Miss Bertha Mason, of the Ladies' National Association, gave an able address. She moved a resolution urging the Government to proceed with the Criminal Law Amendment Bill so that it became law this session. Mr. Margetson, President of the local Trades and Labour Council, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Copies of the resolution were sent to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd-George, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Arthur Lee, and Mr. Agg-Gardner. The *Hon. Secretary* urges all the members to try and induce friends to join the Association, and also to take the REVIEW, which can now be ordered at Banks, in the Promenade, for 8d. a year, published quarterly. The badges of the Association are to be had from the *Hon. Secretary*, enamelled brooches, 1/- each, plain ones 1d. If every member would always wear a badge so much good would be done. The Annual Members' Meeting will be held during the autumn.—(MISS) FLORA KELLEY (*Hon. Sec.*), *Ireton House, The Park.*

Chester.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS DICKSON, *Abbots Hayes, Chester.*

Christchurch.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS IRENE VIPAN, *Tucton.*

Cirencester.—On July 4th, a large meeting was held in the Corn Hall under the joint auspices of the C. & U.W.F.A. and the N.U.W.S.S. Mr. Cameron Grant took the chair, and the speakers were Lord Lytton and Miss Rose Sidgwick. The speakers created great interest. The work done by the organisers of both societies has been invaluable, and we cannot thank Miss Walford too warmly for giving up the greater part of her holiday to help us. The Association is growing steadily.—(MRS.) L. BRUCE SWANWICK (*Hon. Sec.*), *Coates, Cirencester.*

Croydon.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS HUMPHREY, 3, *Dingwell Avenue.*

Devizes.—We are having a meeting in the Corn Exchange on October 23rd, when Miss Abadam has kindly promised to speak.—(MISS) ALICE STEPHENS (*Hon. Sec.*), *Rosemunday, Devizes.*

Dorset (East).—During the last year we have held four public meetings, at Wareham, Wimbourne, Parkstone, and Swanage. At Weymouth, Mrs. Bogle kindly gave us her drawing-room for a meeting and has since started a most successful branch there.—(MISS) L. PATERSON (*Hon. Sec.*), *Corje Lodge, Parkstone.*

Weymouth.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. BOGLE, *Wellington Lodge.*

Droitwich.—It is proposed to hold a large meeting in Droitwich this autumn.—(MISS) AMY F. HALL (*Hon. Sec.*), *Doddhill Court, Droitwich.*

Edinburgh.—A very successful public meeting was held at North Berwick on July 8th in conjunction with the N.U.W.S.S. The Provost took the chair, and the speakers were Miss Alice Low, of the N.U.W.S.S., and Miss Rosaline Masson. The suffrage resolution was carried unanimously. Mr. C. D. Murray, K.C., Prospective Conservative Candidate for South Edinburgh, met a Deputation from the Edinburgh Committee at the office of the Association in July. The Deputation consisted of Mrs. Melville, Mrs. Spens, and Miss Masson. Although in several respects Mr. Murray's views were favourable to the enfranchisement of women, they were not fully so, and the Association will not be able to work in support of his candidature. Mr. Radcliffe, Prospective Conservative Candidate for Central Edinburgh, has kindly consented to receive a deputation when he is next in Edinburgh. A sale of hats, blouses, handiwork, cookery, and "White Elephants" will be held in aid of our funds in November.—(MISS) ROSALINE MASSON and (MISS) ETHEL DAVIDSON (*Hon. Secs.*), *Office, Windsor Buildings, 100, Princes Street.*

Frimley and Dist ict.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. HERBERT HOLLINGS, *The Watchetts, Frimley.*

Glasgow.—Our membership has more than doubled during the last few months. We begin our autumn work in October, and we are having three meetings—one in Bute, another in Largs, and a third at Burnside.—(MRS.) K. ROBERTSON-MACKAY (*Hon. Sec.*), 36, *Queen Mary Avenue, Queen's Park, Glasgow.*

Hampshire (East).—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. FRANK SUMMERS, *Froyle Place, Alton.*

Hampshire (North-West).—*Hon. Sec.*, LADY ROSEMARY PORTAL, *Kingsclere House, Newbury.*

Harrow.—Our first meeting was held at Dudley Lodge by invitation of Mrs. Macandrew, who presided. It was considered inadvisable to hold meetings during the mid-summer months, but we hope to hold several during the autumn.—(MRS.) M. HOWARD (*Hon. Sec.*), 1, *The Woodlands, Harrow-on-the-Hill.*

Hayling Island.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. HAROLD FOOTE, *Bunbury, South Hayling.*

Hertfordshire (North).—*Hitchin.*—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS EVERILDA TINDALL LUCAS, *Foxholes, Hitchin.*

Knebworth.—*Hon. Sec.*, THE LADY LYVEDEN, *Bardolfes, Knebworth.*

Stevenage.—Lord and Lady Robert Cecil have kindly consented to be Vice-Presidents of the North Herts. Branch. Although we have not held very many meetings, our members have increased nearly 100 per cent., and we hope to extend the work of the branch in the immediate future.—(MRS.) EDITH LOCK (*Hon. Sec.*), *Redcoats Green.*

Hertfordshire (West).—*Bushey.*—Work in this district has mainly been confined to propaganda work lately. But it is hoped that we shall hold a large meeting in Watford or Bushey this autumn, as we did at Berkhamstead last year.—(MRS.) A. ERSKINE-MURRAY (*Hon. Sec.*), *The Corner, Bushey.*

Berkhamstead.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. TEMPLE FISCHER, *Blandworth.*

Hull.—By the kindness of Mrs. Walter Wade, Mrs. Pierce Tucker and Mrs. Wilkinson, three drawing-room meetings were held in June, at North Ferriby, Beverley, and North Cave respectively, the speaker in each case being Miss von Donop, of Bath. At the first two meetings, which were quite informal,

the speaker was introduced by the Secretary; Mrs. Walter Wade presided at the third. Our hostesses were fortunate in attracting to their drawing-rooms ladies who had never attended a suffrage meeting before, and Miss von Donop's earnest and thoughtful addresses made a considerable impression. A substantial addition to our membership resulted.

Miss von Donop also spoke, in place of Mrs. Walter Wade, at an afternoon meeting of the East Hull Women Unionists on July 9th, her subject being "Bills now before Parliament specially affecting women." She dealt principally with the Reform Bill and the Criminal Law Amendment Act,—White Slave Traffic, but pointed out that women were affected equally with men by practically all legislation.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. Walter H. Grace, our new prospective candidate for the West Hull division, has declared himself in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women. He addressed a meeting, held by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Stirling, in the garden of Malvern House, The Park, at 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, September 10th, at which the principal speaker was Sir John Cockburn, our staunch friend, Mr. T. H. Batten, presiding.

Our third Annual Meeting will be held in the Oddfellow's Hall on October 24th, when we hope to have an address from Mrs. Grace, who has kindly consented to be a Vice-President of our Branch. We are sorry that Mrs. Batten will be unable to be present as she will be in Italy.

On November 21st, a Lantern Lecture entitled "Lands in which the Vote has been won," will be delivered by Miss Batten at the Royal Institution, Albion Street, at 8 p.m.—(MISS) HELEN THELMANN (*Hon. Sec.*), *The Park, Hull.*

Ireland.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS E. C. PERRY, *Office, 24, Nassau Street, Room 23, Dublin.*

Lancashire and Cheshire.—*Blackpool.*—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS VIENER, *White House, Poulton-le-Fylde.*
Ashton-under-Lyne.—*Hon. Sec.*, MRS. HERBERT HEGINDOTTOM, *Brookside, Stalybridge.*

Limpfield and Osted.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS FENWICK, *Wind Shaw, Limpfield.*

Liverpool.—The Annual Meeting of the Branch took place on June 10th, when Miss Minna Rathbone and Miss Ivens, M.S., kindly spoke for us. Mrs. Caroe, in her speech from the chair, referred to the gratifying growth of the number of members, and the very satisfactory balance sheet which shewed a great increase of income and expenditure over that of last year. This autumn we have a Lancashire and Cheshire Circle. Miss Martin, with this object in view, started work in June in Blackpool, Preston, and Ashton-under-Lyne. The result of her work during the short time she was able to give in each town was most successful.

Two drawing-room meetings are being arranged for October the 7th and 8th, when Miss Maude Royden will speak for us. The Committee will hold three At Homes during the winter, and several deputations will take place when Parliament meets again. Lord Wolmer will speak at a meeting in Blackpool on November 29th.—(MISS) EVELYN DEAKIN (*Hon. Sec.*), 9, *Alexandra Drive.*

London.—*Belgravia and Chelsea.*—Our Committee much regrets the resignation of our *Hon. Secretary*, Miss Dowding, who for over two years has carried on the difficult pioneer work of the branch with great success. The meetings of our Debating Society will be continued fortnightly during the autumn, and many other meetings are being arranged.—(MISS) M. R. GLOAG (*Hon. Sec.*), 54, *Elm Park Gardens, S.W.*
Crystal Palace.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS N. DE SEVIN, 68, *Central Hill, Upper Norwood.*

Hampstead.—This branch has been doing good work. An unusually large number of new members have joined since our last meeting at the end of June. The Committee much regrets that Mrs. Rees, who has done so much work as *Hon. Secretary* since the formation of the branch, is leaving Hampstead. Meetings will be held during the autumn.—(MISS) ETHEL PAUL (*Hon. Sec.*), 7, *Hampstead Hill Mansions, Downshire Hill.*

Kensington.—This Branch is organising a Café Chantant to raise funds, which will take place at the Kensington Town Hall, on November 20th. We are arranging meetings for the autumn; several new members have kindly promised us the use of their drawing-rooms. Members will be circularized in

due course with regard to the Kensington Borough Council elections.—(MISS) L. J. ALLEN (*Hon. Sec.*), 19, *Penywyn Road, S.W.*

Marylebone and Paddington.—*Hon. Sec.*, MISS MURE, 7, *Craven Hill Gardens, W.*

Streatham, Brixton, Clapham and Wandsworth.—The Wandsworth Conservative and Unionist Association most kindly allowed us to hold a meeting in their rooms in July. A very large number of invitations was sent out and bills were distributed by Mrs. Blackmore and her friends; Mrs. Edwards worked hard and we were most grateful for the help of Miss Mercer, one of the Organising Secretaries who was able to spare us two days just before the meeting. The audience was much interested in the address of Mrs. Sackville Calbeck and Miss Muriel Thompson, who kindly came and spoke for us. It was the first meeting in this district and with two Wandsworth representatives on the committee, we hope the work there may be increased and lead to the formation of a separate branch. Our thanks are due to Miss Alice Dawson for the clerical help she has so often given.—(MISS) G. A. WILSON, (*Hon. Sec.*), 190, *High Road, Streatham, S.W.*

St. George's, Hanover Square, and Westminster.—A scheme for canvassing the Women Municipal Voters in the district has been successfully started, funds being raised locally for this purpose. The result so far has been a considerable increase of members and subscriptions.—(MRS.) M. K. ADKIN, (*Hon. Sec.*), 9, *Ashley Gardens, S.W.*

New Forest.—Our member has promised to receive a deputation of the N.U.W.S.S. and C.U.W.F.A. early in the autumn session. It is hoped that meetings will be held at Lyndhurst and at Milford-on-Sea in October or November.—(MRS.) MARGARET FOLEY (*Hon. Sec.*), *Tiptoe Lodge, Hordle, Hants.*

Plymouth.—A meeting has been held at St. Michael's Lodge, Devonport, by kind invitation of our Vice-President, Miss Raymond. Mrs. Knight Bruce, of Newton Abbot, was our speaker, and the chair was taken by the Very Rev. Michael Burns, D.D., who spoke very sympathetically. Captain Morris seconded the Chairman's vote of thanks to the speaker for her interesting address. Many new members joined. It is hoped to have more meetings during the autumn.—MISS ROGERS, (*Hon. Sec.*), *Hartley House, Plymouth.*

Portsmouth.—On 23rd July, the branch gave a garden party in the Queen's Hotel grounds, which was well attended considering the lateness of the season, many supporters having left for the holidays. The meeting was opened by an amusing Suffrage Play, extremely well performed by members of the "Actresses Franchise League," after which Mrs. Dolphin said a few words and then introduced the Speaker, Mr. Mirrlees, from Cambridge, who gave a most interesting and lucid address on Women's Suffrage. Another suffrage play followed.—(MISS) ROBERTHA GRIEVE, (*Hon. Sec.*), 24, *Western Parade.*

Purley.—During the summer we have held several suffrage teas which have been well attended, and have resulted in an increased membership. We are looking forward to further activities this autumn and winter.—(MRS.) EDITH MARY MOORE, (*Hon. Sec.*), *Glan Aber, Foxley Lane.*

Reigate.—The *Hon. Secretary* of our new branch here is MRS. PETER STEPHENS, *Merstham, Reigate.*

Stamford.—The membership of this branch continues to increase most satisfactorily. A series of debates which have been held in various private houses during the summer have been well attended; these are to be continued in the autumn. We arranged a garden meeting and tea, on September 18th, at Mrs. Atter's, Barn Hill House. The speakers were Miss K. Kellett and Mr. Charles Gray. We are also having a large Public Meeting at the Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, November 21st. Lady Castlereagh will take the chair, and the speakers will be Lord Lytton and Mrs. Cooper.—(MISS) CONSTANCE WILLIAMS (*Hon. Sec.*), *The Bede House, Stamford.*

Suffolk (East).—An impromptu suffrage campaign was carried on by some members of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association who were spending August in the wilds on the Suffolk coast; and as a result many people were interested in the Suffrage movement who had never before been brought into direct contact with suffragists. Suffrage literature and copies of the REVIEW were distributed, and informal meetings and suffrage teas and discussions were held.

The weather made it impossible to organise a large public meeting, as the floods for some time cut off direct communication with London and the main line, so it was not considered feasible for speakers to be invited down. Many of the audience at the various small meetings were also visitors who will probably join branches of the Association in their own neighbourhoods. As the temporary Honorary Secretary for the district has gone abroad, Suffolk members should address all communications for the present to the Head Office at Dover Street.

Taunton—Hon. Sec., Miss McNEILE, Lyngford.
Warwickshire—The membership of all the Warwickshire branches is increasing rapidly. Various meetings will be held during the autumn.—(Miss) DONISTHORPE, (Hon. Sec.), The Lowe, Wellesbourne.

Coventry—Hon. Sec., Miss HALES, 9, The Quadrant.
Kenilworth—Hon. Sec., Miss FAYERMAN, Hillside.
Leamington—Hon. Sec., Miss HULBERT, 12, The Parade.
Rugby and District—Hon. Sec., Mrs. WEST, Billon, Rugby.
Stratford-on-Avon—Since Mr. P. S. Foster the member for South West Warwickshire withdrew his support from the Conciliation Bill, this branch has been working with the N.U.W.S.S. to obtain signatures to a memorial urging him to re-consider his attitude on the suffrage question; hundreds of signatures have been obtained.—Miss FLOWERDEW LOWSON, Hon. Sec.

Tredington Parish—Mrs. Gordon Woodhouse, President of the Tredington Branch kindly gave a large meeting at Armscote House, on August 17th, when Lady Willoughby de Broke gave a delightful address which was much appreciated.—(Mr.) GEORGE QUINTON, (Hon. Sec.), Newbold-on-Stour.

Warwick Town—Hon. Sec., pro. tem., Mrs. INGRAM BROOKE, Barford Rectory.

Weston-Super-Mare—Hon. Sec., Miss ROSE TUCKER, 7, Royal Terrace.

Woking—Hon. Sec., Miss DOROTHY STABLES, Deerstead House, St. John's Hill.

Worcester—Hon. Sec., Mrs. ALLAN, Lower Wick House, and Miss CHERRY, Henwick Hall.

Worthing—Mrs. Millbank-Smith has become vice-chairman of our Committee. Our branch is growing and a programme of work and meetings is being planned for the autumn and winter.—(Mrs.) E. PARKER, (Hon. Sec.), Vohar, West Worthing.

Yeovil—Hon. Sec., Miss S. B. TRASK, Courtfield, Norton-sub-Hamdon.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

OCTOBER 1st, Oxford. Public Meeting, Corn Exchange, 5-30 p.m. *Speakers*, The Earl of Lytton, Dr. Florence Willey.

7th, Liverpool. Drawing-room meeting. *Speaker*, Miss Maude Royden.

8th, Liverpool. Drawing-room meeting. *Speaker*, Miss Maude Royden.

23rd, Devizes. Public Meeting at Corn Exchange. *Speaker*, Miss Abadam.

24th, Hull. Annual Meeting of Branch. Oddfellow's Hall, 3-30. *Speaker*, Mrs. Walter H. Grace.

NOVEMBER 12th. Council Meeting, 11-30 a.m.

13th, ANNUAL MEETING, Westminster Palace Hotel, 3-30 p.m.

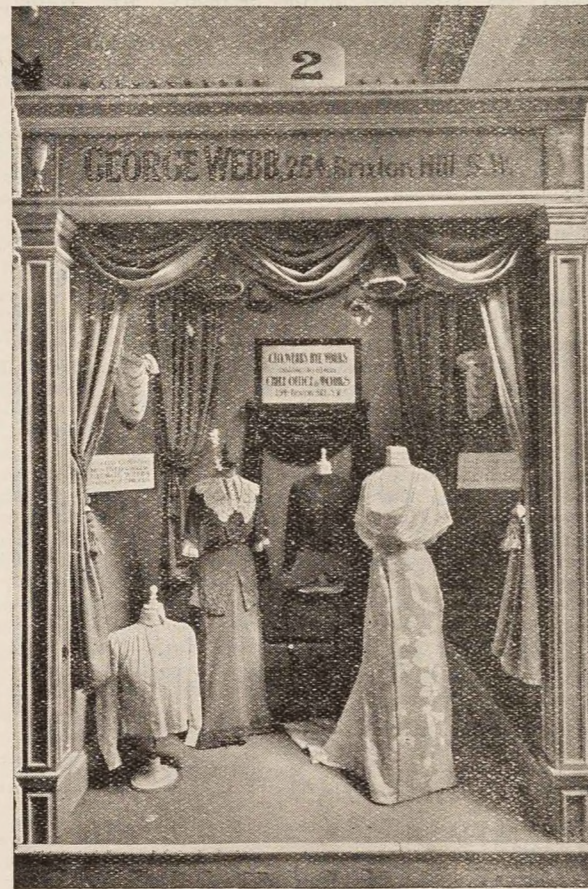
20th, Kensington. Café Chantant, Kensington Town Hall.

21st, Hull. Lantern Lecture, "Lands in which the Vote has been won." Miss Batten, Royal Institution, Albion Street, 8 p.m.

Stamford. Public Meeting. *Chair*: The Viscountess Castlereagh. *Speakers*: The Earl of Lytton and Mrs. Cooper.

29th, Blackpool. Public Meeting. *Speaker*, Viscount Wolmer.

For further reports of Branches see Annual Report of the Association. Further meetings will be announced in the daily press.



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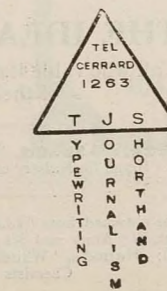
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(See special map on page XII.)



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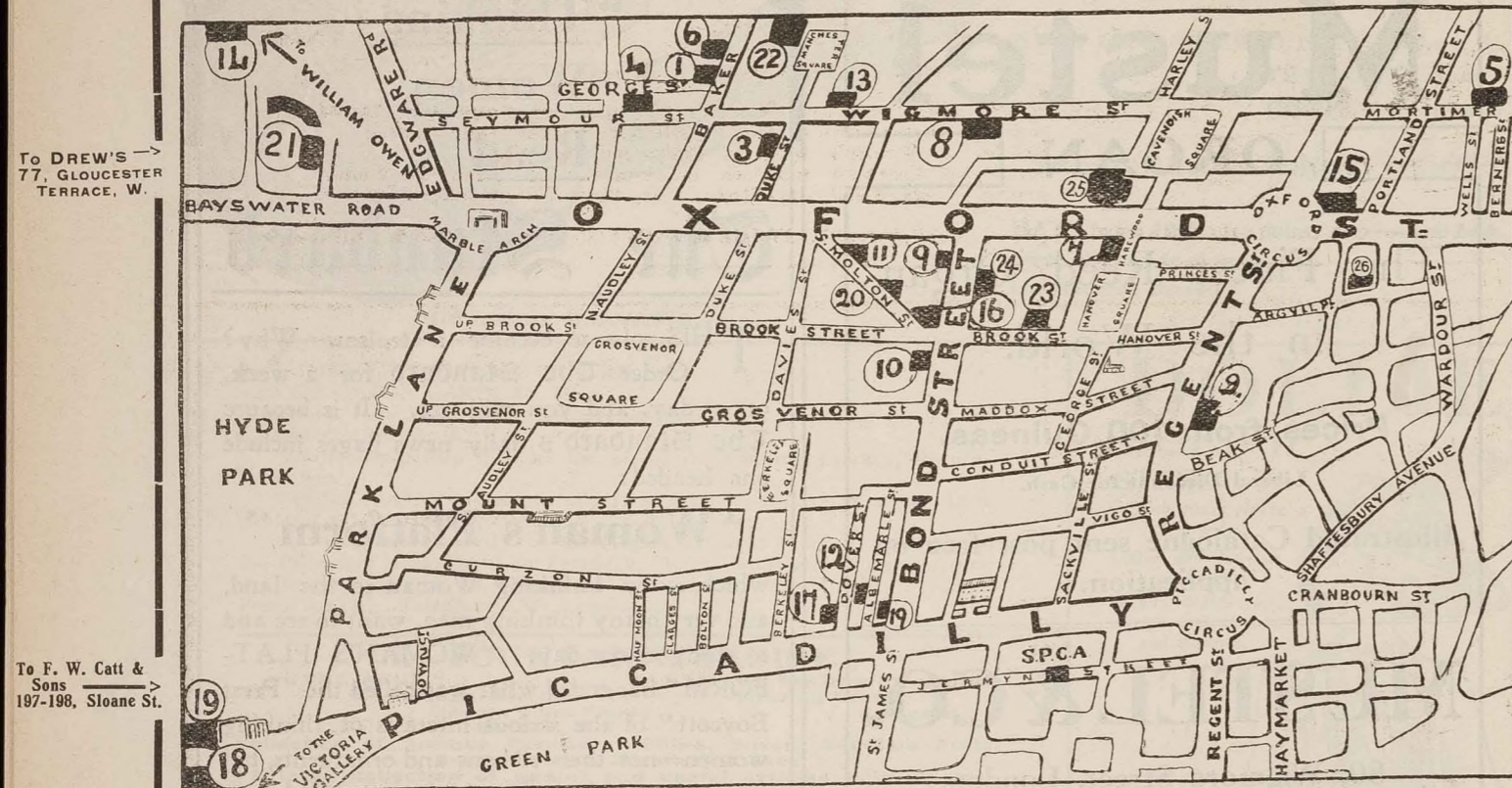
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