

# THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

MONTHLY



PAPER

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## OUR CHARTER

Christianity is the proclamation of the Divine entry into History; of the Divine submission to the historical conditions of human experience; of the Divine sanction given to the things of time and the affairs of earth, to the body, the home, the city, the nation. A kingdom of God come down here, visibly, audibly, tangibly, evidently, manifested on earth—this is its first and last message. — . . . HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND.



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**Our Forward Movement.**

WE are full of gratitude for the response which has been made to our appeal for £1,000 to enable us to go forward. Towards that sum £697 1s. 1d. has been already given or promised. It is made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Purses . . . . .	210	9	1
Donations . . . . .	432	16	5
Collections . . . . .	32	3	1
Jumble Sale . . . . .	15	16	0
New Members . . . . .	5	16	6
	£697	1	1

We still need, however, £302 18s. 11d. before January 15th to enable us to undertake the full programme of work upon which we have set our hearts, and we earnestly appeal for this additional sum. It cannot be too clearly understood that the request of the Executive for £1,000 for the contemplated extension of the League's activities is based upon an exceedingly optimistic estimate of income and expenditure for the coming year. Unless the whole sum asked for is provided, the full programme of extension cannot be attempted. The Committee has already engaged the services of an additional typist, and is advertising for an organizer for the northern district, which has its centre at Leeds; but it waits to learn the final outcome of the appeal before taking any steps towards the appointment of organizers for Wales and for the South Coast.

The issue of our February number, particulars of which will be found elsewhere, is practically certain to bring us many fresh opportunities for advance. It will be something of a tragedy if we are not in a position to avail ourselves of these opportunities as they arise.

The outcome of this appeal should not really be for a moment doubtful. The sum of £210 9s. 1d. has been contributed by forty-eight Branches, and there are over one hundred Branches in the League. Donations amounting to £432 16s. 5d. have been given or promised by 210 individual members, many of whom belong to Branches which have sent in purses, and there are over 5,500 members in the League of whom over 800 are enrolled in the Central Branch. A proportionate response from those who have not yet helped us would not merely mean the completion of the sum required, but the provision in advance of the entire income needed for 1914.

If ever anywhere, then here the King's business has need of haste. With our country convulsed by a struggle which must fill with profound sorrow and misgiving the heart of every sober and thoughtful citizen; with the immediate prospect of legislation on such questions as divorce and venereal disease by a legislature in which women have no direct representation; with the Church daily losing the confidence of many devoted women by reason of its reputed apathy, we have no excuse for delay. True, the vote will not be won till all things are ready, and faith in the over-ruling providence of God bids us affirm that His "due season" is not yet fully come; but that "due season" is postponed only by our coldness and lack of service. It is high time to awake out of sleep. The Advent message still rings in our ears: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

**Church House Meeting.**

WE wish we could convey to those of our readers who were not present some idea of the magnitude and enthusiasm of our meeting on December 9th. The Large Hall of the Church House was well filled, both the floor space and the galleries being utilized. The display of banners and bannerets had been very happily effected, and in itself witnessed to the development of the League since a year ago. The meeting opened at 8 P.M. with the singing of a verse of the National Anthem, and after prayers had been said by the Rev. C. Hinscliff, the Bishop of Kensington, who presided, rose to address the meeting. He received a very hearty welcome, London church folk fully appreciating the courage evinced by his strong advocacy of the

Women's Movement. We have the pleasure of reporting his speech in full on another page.

Mrs. Creighton followed with an impressive speech which emphasized the importance of allowing women to develop their gifts naturally and openly for the service of the community. The use of what is often known as "womanly influence" she characterized as bad for both sexes alike. She was not so much concerned to demand "rights" for women as liberty to serve. The demand must be made with moderation, with sincerity, with understanding. Patience was needed, but patience must not be allowed to lapse into apathy. It must be combined with enthusiasm. Their cause was so great that it was worthy only of the highest and best means which they could employ.

At the close of Mrs. Creighton's speech the Rev. F. M. Green briefly addressed the meeting on the urgency of the situation, and appealed for funds for extending the work of the League. Representatives of forty-eight Branches presented purses to the Bishop of Kensington, containing in all £210 9s. 1d., and donations from individuals and other gifts were received or promised to the amount of £486 12s, including the collection which yielded over £20, so that the total sum raised prior to or at the meeting for the £1,000 Development Fund amounted to £697 1s. 1d.

The last speaker was the Rev. C. O. Baumgarten, who spoke of suffering as the way of service, and urged his hearers not to shrink from the cost, whatever it might be, of following steadily in the path of truth and justice.

The Benediction, pronounced by the Bishop, brought a memorable meeting to a close.

**Thanksgiving and Intercession.**

LET US GIVE THANKS

For the message of the Incarnation.

For the inspiration which comes to us from all who have patiently suffered for the truth's sake.

For the unexampled growth of our League in numbers and influence during the past year.

For many generous gifts in furtherance of our work.

WE PRAISE THEE, O LORD.

LET US PRAY

That in all our deliberations we may be granted a right judgment in all things.

That there may be no divisions amongst us.

That in our General Council all things may be done in truth and charity.

That our plans for advance may be guided and prospered by God.

That the bitter quarrel between the Government and those women who have rebelled against its authority may be composed on the basis of justice, mercy, and truth.

That all who are working for the enfranchisement of women may be led constantly to pray for divine guidance, and may be readily obedient to the wisdom which is from above.

That further generous gifts may enable the League to go forward without delay.

WE BESECH THEE TO HEAR US, GOOD LORD.

N.B.—Copies of the above in small type for interleaving in Prayer Books may be obtained from the office: 4 copies, 1½d.; 12 copies, 3d.; 25 copies, 4d.; 50 copies, 6d., post free.

The following prayer, approved by the Bishop of Southwark, is sent to us by the Rev. A. E. Green, Vicar of All Saints', Sydenham, as in use at his Church:—

"Almighty God who art the Author of righteousness and Lover of justice, and art full of compassion and mercy, we beseech Thee of Thy great goodness that the Woman's Question may be righteously and justly settled by the operation of Thy Holy Spirit on the hearts and minds of both men and women, to the glory of Thy great Name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."



## Spread the Light.

NEXT month we shall publish a Special Edition of our paper, of which we shall print 50,000 copies. A copy will be sent to every clergyman whose name is to be found in the Clergy List, whether he is resident at home or abroad.

The paper will contain the terms of the Petition of the Bishops and Clergy to the House of Commons, together with seven articles dealing with the main points raised by the statements therein contained. It is also hoped to find space to re-publish the article contributed to our Congress number by the Bishop of Kensington.

We ask for volunteers who will undertake to address wrappers to the Clergy from lists which will be supplied to them, and to insert papers and despatch them in due course. Volunteers may undertake 150 wrappers, or any multiple of that number, 300, 450, 600, &c. There will, of course, be no payment for service rendered, but all expenses will be borne by the League.

The wrappers must be addressed ready for use by January 28th, and the papers must be posted within forty-eight hours of their receipt from the publishers. We specially ask for volunteers from London and the adjacent districts.

All you are asked to do at the moment is to send a CARD TO THE SECRETARY, saying how many you can undertake. Please do not make your offer of service in the course of a communication dealing with other matters. Send a postcard on this subject only. Do it now. Later on you will receive full instructions as to the way in which your service is to be carried out.

It will be apparent that the paper will contain a full statement on the main points at issue in the Suffrage controversy. It will therefore be of exceptional value for propaganda purposes, and will be supplied carriage free on the following terms: 25 copies, 1s. 6d.; 50 copies, 2s. 6d.; 100 copies, 5s. We cannot promise to accept orders unless they reach us by January 20th.

**This undertaking will cost £150. We shall be very grateful for donations towards this heavy outlay**

Now is the psychological moment for this effort. The clergy, as never before, are ready to think seriously, and with a sense of personal responsibility, respecting this question. The Church Congress, the letter of the Bishop of Winchester, the recent vehement Protest of the Clergy against forcible feeding, the large number of signatures to the Petition already secured—these are but some of many tokens that our past efforts, together with the efforts of others, are at last bearing fruit. A general appeal now should result in hundreds of new members for the League, and in thousands of additional signatures to the Petition.

## The Status of the Woman Missionary.

By MARY WESTON, M.D.

WORKERS in the mission field are constantly being asked by those interested in the work what they consider to be the greatest hindrance to the progress of Christianity. When this question refers to India, the reply most commonly given is "The Caste System." That the caste system is a great and obvious evil, which by its rigid laws too often makes havoc of the lives of its helpless victims, and constitutes a real and terrible barrier to the acceptance, not only of Christianity itself, but even of the simplest laws of hygiene and common sense, no one who has even a superficial knowledge of India will deny. But it is a matter for surprise that those whose work lies in the Mission Stations, and who may justly claim to have more than a superficial knowledge of the question, do not more often recognize another barrier to their work, a barrier more intangible and less well-defined, but none the less real, and because of its very intangibility difficult to combat. I mean the failure of Englishmen generally, and, alas! English clergy in particular, to live up to their professed ideal of the equality of man and woman. It is hard to say it, but in truth it is the low opinion in which our countrymen and fellow-Christians hold Englishwomen which hinders the work and breaks the workers' spirit. We English pride ourselves on being very far ahead of Orientals in our regard for women, and we often hear the subject referred to at missionary meetings, accompanied by hopeful prognostications about the effect of Christianity in raising the women of the East. Certainly no one who is a Christian, in the full sense of the word, can doubt the power of Christianity to raise the whole of the human race equally and impartially, but how can this faith be built up by those who themselves make an ally of such an un-Christian principle as sex-prejudice, which has ever been the enemy of truth. It is manifest that the actual words we preach are of lesser import than the lives we live, the standards of truth and righteousness which we, by our acts, uphold in the face of non-Christians; and it is therefore disheartening, indeed, to the workers to find our missionary societies differentiating continually along the line of sex in the matter of the treatment accorded to their various workers, and so demonstrating, in spite of their words, their real opinion that women's work has less value than men's. For the moment let us see how their real conception of womanhood shows itself in the organization of mission labour.

It is patent to all who attend our great missionary meetings—or the services where the collection is on behalf of foreign missions, not to mention the numerous guilds and working parties in our parishes—that the great mass of home contributors are women. Yet when we come to look at the outgoing funds we are immediately brought face to face with the iniquitous system of differentiated scales of pay, entirely to the disadvantage of the woman worker. In one of the most prominent and oldest societies of the Church of England, where it is the general rule for the man and the woman, the professional and the unprofessional, to receive equal salaries at the outset, the man's pay rises by regular instalments till it reaches almost double that of the woman, who at the end of a life's service receives precisely the same as she did at the time of her appointment. To act thus partially, in face of their often-repeated contention that a living wage—and that only—is paid to every worker, regardless of commercial value of the work done, is simply to add insincerity to injustice.

The important point is this, that whereas a man receives, as by right, that margin which allows of little extras—such as subscriptions to a paper or two from home, tobacco, tennis, and games at the club at least on his hill-leave, in fact just those small things which count for so much in a life of nervous strain, monotony, and often great loneliness—the woman is held to be entitled to the "necessaries" of life and no more.

May not this be, in the case of missionaries, an explanation of the commonly accepted opinion that women do not stand the Tropics as well as men? Yet it is never taken into account, the generalizers preferring easily to assume that this is another of woman's "natural disabilities" about which we hear so much.

Thus do these men go about teaching that man and woman are equal in the sight of God, while daily demonstrating that it is far from their intentions to regard them as equal in the sight of man.

And so the Hindu finds some satisfaction for the attack which Christianity makes on the caste system in the support which the preachers of the new religion give to his native prejudice against doing equal justice to man and woman.

But let it be clearly understood, for it is most important, that the real question at stake is not a question of high or low salary, but the far more important one of just recognition of the individuality of the worker and the due status of the work. An insufficient salary may tell on the health and ability of the worker, but that which does real and serious harm to the cause of religion is the open denial in the face of non-Christians of the right of men and women alike to equal consideration and equal scales of maintenance at the hands of the advocates of our religion.

When we turn to the marriage question matters are even worse. It is the rule of at least four well-known societies in this country, two of which are Church of England, that when a man and woman missionary marry the woman shall from that date forward receive no payment whatsoever for her work, but her means of support, so far as the society is concerned, shall be drawn entirely from her husband—and this in a country where the economic dependence of women is an even greater and more widespread evil than it is in England. Not that marriage disqualifies the woman for service under the society, for it is abundantly clear from the regulations that any woman who marries a missionary is expected to become one herself, whether previously attached to the society or not, and as a matter of fact there are many cases of doctors, nurses, teachers, and others holding arduous and responsible posts, and in some cases actually the same appointment as before marriage. In the face of this latter fact, it cannot even be maintained that a married woman necessarily gives only a limited part of her time to mission work. Surely the supporters of such a system must be blind to the inevitable effects of these fundamentally unsound and faulty economic conditions upon the workers as well as the work. Yet we know them to be well-intentioned and earnest men who have absolutely nothing personal to gain from placing women at this disadvantage, and we can only stand amazed that they have allowed the wrong to go on so long without even seeing its detrimental effects on the work itself. It appears to be a general rule amongst missionary societies that a man shall, by virtue of marriage, have an increase of pay in the shape of a marriage allowance, while the woman (by the same act) loses her whole livelihood, and becomes absolutely dependent on her husband. What could be more in accordance with the Oriental ideas of the marriage relation? Or to what purpose is it to speak of marriage as the highest possible end of a woman's life, and demand from her, on the attainment of that state, the sacrifice not only of her actual wage, but all that it represents of independence and self-respect, and the proper respect of others for the work in her charge. Such a rule is indefensible from even the social and economic point of view, while its adoption by professed exponents of Christianity is simply deplorable. That the rule is arbitrary and based—unconsciously, of course—on the retrograde idea that it is dangerous and wrong for a woman to be economically independent of her husband is clear from the fact that the marriage allowance is in every case paid direct to the husband—irrespective of any work the wife may undertake. The plea that their joint income is reduced by one-third to meet the reduction of expenditure effected by two persons living together cannot be maintained in the face of the fact that no reduction is made when two single missionaries share a bungalow. If such a deduction were justified, it could be made equitably by reducing the salary of both in cases where the woman continues in full work for the mission; but this is never done, the authorities apparently considering that "Give her of the fruit of her hand and let her own works praise her in the Gate" is an Oriental idea—unworthy of an English society in the twentieth century. From the attitude taken up by these bodies on the matter we must conclude that they regard economic dependence as a fundamental con-

dition of marriage, as a virtue to be forced upon a woman at all costs, and that she learns from her catechism that her duty to her neighbour is to learn and labour truly to get her own living, only to find later that that living is denied to her on her marriage, unless she leaves mission service and seeks employment elsewhere. How often do the managers of industrial schools urge the usefulness of these institutions as a means of teaching the dignity of labour and the virtues of independence to a race by nature averse to these doctrines, and all too prone to rely on others for support? But by what right is this part of their Christian teaching reserved for the male sex alone?

There is another striking example of the way a young and growing Church is taught the rightful position of its women members, viz., the share allowed to the latter in the responsibilities and privileges pertaining to membership. In forming the constitution of the Indian Church, missionaries have wisely organized various councils and committees on which Indians shall serve together with Europeans, and so learn gradually to manage their own affairs and shoulder their own responsibilities—financial and otherwise.

But this scheme is too often marred by the same partiality and injustice. To be an adult communicant, to pay a certain sum annually in church dues, to live a respectable and respected life—all these fail to qualify a woman for a voice in church matters. Thus it happens that in certain councils, of which all European male missionaries are *ex-officio* members, the women missionaries may neither attend the meetings nor even vote for the native representatives, who (in actual fact) often include their own subordinates.

It is obvious to any thinking person that such a state of things must be a tremendous and unnecessary handicap to the women's work, which is thus totally unrepresented in the councils, as well as a direct discouragement to all the Christian women to take an intelligent interest in their Church. Where is the use of bemoaning the backwardness of Indian women while we are setting them such examples as this in our own community, and contradicting our spoken doctrines by our actions at every turn.

Until our Church societies remedy these gross internal errors the Church of India can never be soundly constituted on the One Foundation laid by Him Who is no respecter of persons

## Paper Selling.

VOLUNTEERS came forward readily for the special poster parade on December 8th to advertise the Church House meeting, and the parade was a long one. It is hoped to have parades regularly after the New Year to advertise our Caxton Hall "At Homes," starting from the offices at 11.30. Will any one willing to take part in future please send in their names.

We still want many more street sellers. Will not more members come forward and give some of their spare time in order to relieve those who are standing on the pitches for hours at a stretch.

Volunteers for paper selling should send in their names to Miss K. Ellison, 26, Grange Avenue, North Finchley, N. (Oxford Street pitch), or to Miss Strachan, 11, Bedford Avenue, High Barnet (Charing Cross pitch). It has been decided to hold special meetings for paper sellers at the office every month. Every one willing to undertake the work is cordially invited.

The next meeting will be at the office on Wednesday, January 23th, at 6.30 P.M.

## The General Council.

BRANCH SECRETARIES are urged to refer to the instructions given in last month's Paper so as to avoid confusion in arrangements. Any members—but members of the League only—can attend the sessions. They will, of course, have no vote, and can only be guaranteed seats if application is made at once to head-quarters for tickets, which must bear the members' names and are not transferable. Applications for hospitality required by delegates for January 23rd and 24th must be made as soon as possible to Miss Corben, who will be thankful to hear from London friends who can entertain our representatives from a distance.

See *Stop Press Note*, page 15.



# THE CHURCH and the WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

A Speech by  
The Right Rev. THE BISHOP OF KENSINGTON.  
At the Church House, December 9th, 1913.

IN spite of the assertion that there ought not to be a Church League for Women's Suffrage, I am here to take the chair to-night because I believe that the Church cannot in honour decline to take her place in any great movement for the raising of the life of the community and of the race. To stand apart from this one would be as harmful for the community as it would be false to our Christian calling. The Church has, or ought to have, a clear message to give at all times of movement. God speaks to men in all ages through the movements of the times, and we claim to be the interpreter of those visions by which God gives a revelation of His will to man.

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOVEMENT.

Here is a movement to the significance of which it is impossible to be insensible—a movement which is simply world-wide, and is stirring with resistless energy among all women. It owes its force to the spiritual awakening, which has come through education, to the wondrous mission of womanhood in the world. Women are awake to-day to the tremendous responsibility which attaches to those who are the mothers of all human beings. It is increasingly realized that woman's mission is not discharged by merely bringing children into the world; it is likewise to bring them into possession of the full inheritance of the best life attainable, under those conditions which shall be most favourable to healthy, pure, and noble living. Until this generation it had sufficed for woman that she accepted the position of leaving to her menfolk the task of ordering what those conditions of life should be for her offspring. But to-day woman is claiming to share with men that responsibility, and to make a contribution towards the solution of those pressing social problems which most nearly touch that sphere of home which has ever been regarded as peculiarly her own.

When both great political parties are asserting that social reforms are long overdue; when they are proposing far-reaching measures which shall deal effectively with such matters as the housing, feeding, clothing, educating of the children; when they are by Royal Commissions gaining information in order to grapple with such matters as divorce and the arresting of the grim ravages of a disease which involves innocent women and children in unspeakable sufferings, continued to the third and fourth generation of those who are made the victims of them that hate God and break His Commandments; when it is becoming imperative to grapple at their source with those evils which are sapping the vital powers of the nation—evils perpetuated by the white slaver, the child exploiter, and the sweater; when, I say, these things which go to the very root of the home and of women's relations to men are being faced, it becomes imperative that women should be allowed to have a voice and contribute out of the experience which is peculiarly their own something which may go to solve the greatest of life's problems. It is because the home and everything that touches it is so dear to women that it is her bare right to be granted a voice which can be as effectively expressed by her as by men in dealing with life's conditions. In a democratic state that voice can only be expressed by its enfranchised citizens.

Just because this is a movement which has as its goal the improvement or the alteration of the conditions which so largely determine the lives of the whole community, and in particular those of helpless women and children, we claim for it that the issues are essentially and primarily moral and spiritual. Because the will of the community can only find its expression practically and effectively by the vote, the movement as inevitably conducts to "Votes for Women."

That must remain a sufficient answer to those who so constantly and petulantly ask, "What possible connexion can there be between a great moral and spiritual movement among women and the vote?"

## OUR OBJECTS AND METHODS.

In the next place it is important for us as a Church League to remind ourselves and our fellow-Churchmen and Churchwomen of our objects and methods. These are "to band together, on a non-party basis, Suffragists of every shade of opinion to

1. Secure for women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men.
2. Use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes.
3. Promote the moral, social, and industrial well-being of the community.

The methods are and shall be:—

1. Corporate devotions, both public and private.
2. Conferences, meetings, and the distribution of literature.

The Church's work in this movement is to exert influence by teaching and by the power of prayer. Of the need to teach and instruct public opinion we have constant proof. The bias of the people of our race, and in our Church, indisposing them to see or to welcome any new truth is well known. In this instance the obstacles to knowledge, and therefore to forming a right judgment, are past believing. For example, we had the initial difficulty about this meeting in gaining consent for such a League as this to meet in this Church House. We were told that it was "merely a political meeting." Fortunately, by the ruling of the Archbishop of Canterbury, consent was given. Again, it is with the utmost difficulty that we can gain notice even in the Church Press, and of this I have had recently lamentable proof. A letter which I wrote to the leading Church papers\* merely drawing the attention of the clergy to a meeting of protest against forcible feeding, was not granted a place, and even the advertisement was only given space in an obscure position. We Suffragists have come to despair of gaining a hearing in the secular press; either no report of our proceedings appears or such a report as is a misrepresentation of our cause. To report only those things which present our case either in its regrettable or ridiculous aspects is surely not English. Certainly the public cannot be blamed when the really important facts and statements never reach them. It can, however, be no compliment to the intelligence of a free people that they are content to pay either  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  or  $1d.$  per diem for a ready-made caricature of an opinion on a serious matter. When I tell you that the important medical testimony given by Sir Victor Horsley and Dr. Mansell Moullin on forcible feeding as practised on suffragist prisoners was never given in any press reports of our meeting, you will readily understand why the public is still in ignorance that such a practice (in the words of those medical men) "is distinctly not medical treatment at all, but torture." If there is a persistent refusal to give a fair hearing to the other side in any controversy, such as has been the case in this question, it is not surprising that there should be a demand for a Church League which is determined to disseminate the truth. It is marvellous that with all our boasted freedom and love of fair play we should as a people be content to allow ourselves to be the victims of "catch phrases," and decline even to understand what they mean. Far more lamentable is the readiness with which we allow the fetters upon intelligence and conscience to be riveted by an acquiescence in the continued existence of conditions which we are too apathetic to note or too slothful to attack.

## IGNORANCE LEADS TO INJUSTICE.

As a result the country at the present moment is guilty of that injustice which wilfully confounds the great movement of

\* The Church Family Newspaper provides a notable and welcome exception to the attitude of the Church Press as a whole. It reports impartially and contains articles from time to time in which the case for Women's Suffrage is fairly stated for the enlightenment of its readers.

countless law-abiding and non-party Suffragists with the methods which have been adopted by a certain section. If I grant, as I am always prepared to do, that violent actions to advance any cause are obviously wrong, I am bound to ask, "Is it right, can it possibly ever be right, to refuse to face the ugly facts in life of which others have a vision?" Is it just and fair to postpone indefinitely the consideration of a great question because some of its advocates have resorted to questionable methods? For example, is it right in one breath to say, as hundreds are doing to-day, "I cannot see how a voice can be refused to women in the Government of the community of which they are so large and intelligent a part," and in the next "I will not consider the matter seriously so long as some people behave as they do"? I ask you as Church people, would you think it fair to judge the Church's cause in this land by the violent behaviour of Kensitites on the one hand, or by the lawlessness of clergy in certain other developments of which we strongly disapprove? If that is so, then I ask ought you to complain if you make the position unbearable for those to whom this cause is sacred by such flagrant intolerance? Can you be surprised if by such display of parental tyranny you provoke your children to wrath and rebellion? We, at any rate, as the representatives of our Blessed Lord upon earth, claim that we are responsible to educate His people to a just and sympathetic understanding of the cause of those whose hearts are so deeply stirred. The history of the treatment of the whole movement by both political parties, by the amalgamated and controlled press, and by the body of Church people who are pitiful reading for those who come after us.

## THE NEED OF PRAYER.

But, further, we are banded together to be a *spiritual force*. We are those who insist that guidance in times of difficulty can only be gained by seeking it in unwearied prayer. In 1912 it was represented by this League that "the dignitaries of the Church be urged to realize the growing discontent among Churchwomen, and without delay to seek the root cause of the righteous unrest among the large and ever-growing portion of its members." It also approached the Archbishops of Canterbury and York "as to setting forth a prayer for optional use in Church for the righteous settlement of the Women's question." At least we might have taken it for granted that the gravity of the situation and the issues involved constituted a reasonable demand for resort by the Church to this method of working. Surely we are not wrong in asserting that one reason why we are now involved in such a horrible tangle is that we have not asked guidance. "Ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss." A grave responsibility indeed must rest upon us as Christian men and women if we allow ourselves to drift upon the current of an indifferent public opinion, and make that the pretext that in a grave crisis we declined to call upon God, and by effectual fervent prayer to avail much to help in a time of great need.

## AN ANCIENT ANALOGUE.

As those who stand to assert the claims of spiritual weapons, we of this League of the Church come out to proclaim *Peace*. The Church is ever to be the reconciler, the mediator, the peace-

maker in the name of her Lord and King. We may not decline the office, even though it involves us in all the contumely which befell Him in striving to guide men's feet in the way of Peace. We take the risks of being misunderstood, and of being, if need be, hated of all men. But we may not be silent and inert. Assume that it is right for the Church to be dissociated from methods which are unspiritual and of the world worldly; at any rate, we are responsible to find out, and when found, to point to "the more excellent way." That way we know, *the way of Love*. At this crisis we point to it and plead for its acceptance by all who are concerned. Let it have its perfect working among us, and we shall find it still possible to find a way through this apparently impassable defile. The way can never be found *until our eyes are really opened to the facts which are the cause of the trouble*. The possibility is being overlooked that there may be something amiss with the vision of those who can see nothing but stubbornness and evil in those whom they so unsparingly condemn. You will forgive me if I remind you of the truth told in an old story. A man who was bent on going the way upon which he had wilfully determined once set forth on his journey. He came to a narrow passage between rocks. The animal he bestrode came to a standstill because it beheld that which the rider did not see, a something which would destroy both of them. The man set to belabouring the animal, whose only movement was to crush his foot against the wall. In his frenzy he longed for a sword to kill the beast which lay down under him. Then in a moment his eyes were open, and he "saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way with his sword drawn in his hand: who said to him 'I am come forth for an adversary, because thy way is perverse before me: and the ass saw me and turned aside: unless she had... surely now I had even slain thee, and saved her alive.'" What if the faithful beast of burden has seen a vision to which her masterful lord is blind! May there not be greater things in view to which a self-confident society is blind? I tell you that vision of the destroying angel is no unreal thing to the women who, in horror at what they see, have swerved in the path and caused by so doing smarting pain to society. That angel in the way speaks to them of the pass to which we have come by a persistent refusal to look ugly facts in the face. They see in it the horrors of the White Slave Traffic, which only exists because men demand victims for their lust. They see the spectre of the sweater who condemns English girls and women to work at starvation wages. They see the destroying angel in the horrible toll demanded by that grim disease which annually claims more victims in England than ever the destroyer demanded in Jerusalem centuries ago. They see the mystery at last unveiled of that heritage of suffering endured by married women, and the unspeakable horrors inherited by children from tainted fathers. You may heap your scorn upon the despised beast of burden; you may draw your sword to slay her as she lies helpless in the dust, but some of us can discern what her vision is. "Where there is no vision the people perish." God grant that our eyes may be opened, and that we may have courage to follow where He leads, Who came that they might not perish, and Who longs for our only true good. As He says "Follow me," He adds: "Little children, see that ye love one another."

## MEMBERSHIP FORM.

I am a Member of the Church of England.\* I approve the objects and methods of the C.L.W.S., and desire to be enrolled as a Member of the.....Branch†

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\* If not a member of the Church of England substitute the title of the Church to which you belong. It must be in full communion with the Church of England.

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## POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

To Secretary, C.L.W.S.

6, York Buildings, Adelphi, London, W.C.

I enclose herewith an Annual Postal Subscription of 1s. 6d. for the Monthly Paper of the League.

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The Lectures will be held on alternate Thursdays at 5.30, beginning Jan. 22nd, at the Kingsway Hall (Lecture Hall).

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The Treasury.

(Money Received November 16—December 15; together with certain sums received between October 15 and November 15 credited to the £1,000 Fund, but not hitherto acknowledged).

Table with columns: ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS (Central Branch), £ s. d. Includes names like Ingram, Miss M., Catlin, Mrs., Shipham, Mr. and Mrs., etc.

DONATIONS.

Table with columns: DONATIONS, £ s. d. Includes names like Storey, Mr. A., Bullock, Miss E. V., Knox, Mrs. C. Beresford, etc.

NEW MEMBERS.

Table with columns: NEW MEMBERS (Central Branch), £ s. d. Includes names like Macpherson, Miss, Symons, Miss M. J., Fairweather, Mrs. E., etc.

Table with columns: Names, £ s. d. Includes names like Day, Miss Mabel, Snow, Mr. W. R., Bell, Miss J. F., etc.

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Table with columns: HOLIDAY GIFTS, £ s. d. Includes names like Broome, Miss W., Kensington Branch, Ruddle, Mrs., etc.

BRANCH PURSES.

Table with columns: BRANCH PURSES, £ s. d. Includes names like Bath, Wandsworth, Parkstone, Cambridge, etc.

Correspondence.

DEAR EDITOR,—Pray allow me space to make a grateful acknowledgment for a Christmas Box of the most perfect character.

Sincerely yours, CLAUDE HINSCLIFF.

DEAR EDITOR,—Thank you for the space allowed me in our last number to ask for orders of soap, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the £1,000 Fund.

Yours, GERTRUDE HINSCLIFF.



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### OBJECTS, METHODS, AND MEMBERSHIP.

The objects are to band together, on a non-party basis, Suffragists of every shade of opinion who are Churchpeople in order to

1. Secure for women the Parliamentary Vote as it is or may be granted to men.

2. Use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes.

3. Promote the moral, social, and industrial well-being of the community.

The methods used are

(a) Corporate Devotions, both public and private.

(b) Conferences, Meetings, and the distribution of Literature.

Men and women are eligible for membership who

(a) are members of the Church of England, or of Churches in full communion therewith; (b) approve of the Rules of the League; (c) pay an annual subscription as fixed by the Branch to which the member belongs.

The minimum Annual Subscription to the Central Branch is 1s.

### MONTHLY PAPER.

All communications respecting Advertisements should be addressed to the Advt. Manager, Miss F. L. Fuller, 52, New Bond Street, W. Telephone: No. 2421 MAYFAIR.

All other communications should be sent to the Editor, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

The insertion of Letters or of Signed Articles in this paper implies that their contents are thought likely to prove of interest; but the League is not responsible for the opinions thus expressed.

For Subscription Rates see Front Cover.

## The Decay of Freedom.

STUDENTS of the political history of the present decade find in it much food for anxious thought as to the future destinies of our race; and nothing in it is more worthy of wonder, or of more dismal augury, than the dull acquiescence of the mass of the community in the loss of those safeguards of liberty which our forefathers were glad to purchase for their descendants at the price of life itself. If any one had ventured to suggest ten years ago that Englishmen would ever tolerate the virtual repeal of the Magna Charta, he would have been regarded as a fanatical pessimist; yet to all intents and purposes it has been repealed so far as one section of the community is concerned, and the Crown-to-day, in the person of its ministers, is exercising a despotic power over the liberties and lives of its subjects.

We refer, of course, to the iniquitous system now in vogue in accordance with the provisions of what is known as the "Cat

and Mouse" Act. That Act was passed through Parliament by a shortsighted legislature in the honest belief that it would do away with the barbarity of forcible feeding, and in the very foolish hope that its application would deter militant Suffragists from the course which they had marked out for themselves. In the hands of the Home Secretary it has become a means whereby he is enabled to imprison those who come within the scope of its provisions, for offences for which they have never been brought to trial, still less condemned and sentenced according to due process of law.

For consider how the Act works. A prisoner is found guilty in due course of some offence and sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The prisoner hunger-strikes and is released on licence. So far well. What happens next? That depends on many things. If the prisoner is so broken down in health as to be incapacitated from any activity of any kind, she may ignore the terms of her licence with impunity whilst her total prostration continues. If she recovers her health and abstains from any further action distasteful to the Home Secretary, she may anticipate immunity from further arrest. If, however, in the judgment of the Home Secretary she is guilty of repeating or attempting to repeat her offence, she will be arrested and committed to prison afresh. Her rearrest and imprisonment will in theory be in expiation of the original offence of which she was convicted; but in fact they will be the result of her conduct during the period for which she was released on licence, of which conduct the Home Secretary constitutes himself the sole judge, his judgment being based on evidence which cannot be examined or challenged by the person thereby affected.

Take, for example, the case of Mr. George Lansbury. He was released from prison on licence some months ago, after serving a few days of a three months' sentence, and has since remained at large. If he is ever rearrested, it will be the merest hypocrisy to pretend that his rearrest has anything to do with the offence for which he was sentenced. But he may be rearrested at any time if he makes a speech which, in the judgment of the Home Secretary, is an incitement to criminal action. Should such an event occur, he will be punished, not for his original refusal to find sureties to be of good behaviour, but for making a speech which, on the *ipse dixit* of the Home Secretary, he ought not to have made. Personal liberty is gone where such things are possible.

But that is not all. Mr. Lansbury may be rearrested if at any time he pursues a perfectly lawful course of action which is embarrassing to the Government. We do not say that Mr. McKenna is at all likely to arrest and imprison Mr. Lansbury should he venture to contest a Liberal seat at the next General Election, but the law permits even this gross violation of freedom. If Mr. Lansbury lives for the next fifty years he may be imprisoned at any moment, without warning or reason given, by the Home Secretary for the time being, unless and until the original sentence of three months' imprisonment has been completely served. He is under the control of the Home Secretary in the same way that a child in the nursery is under the control of his parent. If he is naughty he may be punished, and the Home Secretary is sole judge as to wherein naughtiness consists.

If anything were needed to enhance our detestation of such legislation, it would be its partial and cruel application. Why are some prisoners rearrested and others allowed to remain at large? Why is release under licence postponed in some cases until the prisoner is literally at the point of death? A plain man considering all the circumstances of the case might be forgiven for asserting that the Government desired to bring about the death of certain women, without having to face the condemnation which would be their lot if such women were suffered to starve themselves to death in prison. We wish, for our part, to ask the Government some plain questions. Do they desire the death of Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, and others, or do they not? If they do not, can they say that they have any reasonable hope that death can be averted by this Act, administered as it is now administered? If they cannot say so, what possible justification can they offer for the course which they are now pursuing?

When a traveller in the course of his journey reaches a point

## The Case for Women's Suffrage.

By HELEN B. HANSON, M.D.

UNJUST ADMINISTRATION OF EQUAL LAWS.

at which he is surrounded on the right hand and on the left by sheer cliffs which he cannot climb, whilst ahead a torrent rushes which he cannot hope to cross, the one thing certain is that he has lost his way and must retrace his steps. Which things are an allegory. The Government has reached a point at which it must make its choice. It must either suffer arson to go unpunished (which is unthinkable), or it must suffer women to die as the outcome of offences prompted by no other motive than the desire for the primary rights of citizenship, denied to them solely on the score of sex (which is intolerable), or it must retrace its steps. It must abandon its present course, and go back to the path which is indicated by the signpost of justice, which alone can lead to that social order, that respect for law, which is the purposed goal of every government worthy of the name.

### A Clergyman's Protest.

THE following letter, addressed to the Secretary of the National Liberal Club, has been sent to us for publication:—

St. George's Rectory,  
Bloomsbury, W.C.  
December, 1913.

DEAR SIR,—Please note that I now definitely send in my resignation as a member of the National Liberal Club, with which I have been associated for the past thirty years. I entirely agree with your contention as to the difficulty of carrying out a progressive policy or even of maintaining the existence of a Liberal party if members are to be perpetually resigning on account of minor differences of opinion. It was in consideration of this that I retained my membership when the Disendowment clauses of the Welsh Church Bill (clauses which I considered not only ungenerous but ignoble) passed the House of Commons. But one has to draw the line somewhere, and I draw it at the point where Mr. McKenna—with, I presume, the approval of his colleagues—indulges in a line of action which a later generation and a calmer judgment will have no difficulty in identifying with useless torture and brutal cruelty. Even the most degraded bargee would cease flogging his horse when once it had dawned upon his limited intelligence that the infliction of no amount of punishment could secure the desired result. I, anyhow, find myself entirely unable to stand placidly on one side while such a policy (enforced as against women and ignored as against men) is being carried out by a Liberal Minister with apparently no better consequences than enlarging his stock of experiences; while, if rumour speaks truly, it is imposing an almost intolerable strain upon those subordinates whom he compels to carry out his orders.

I do not anticipate ever joining any other party than that with which I have always been associated, but I find myself unable either to vote or to use what little influence I have on its behalf so long as the administration of law remains so entirely inconsistent, not only with liberal and democratic principles, but also with the administration of even-handed justice.

To the Secretary, National Liberal Club. Yours faithfully,  
C. BAUMGARTEN.

### Lectures for Women only.

WE are glad to draw attention to a series of six fortnightly lectures, to be given under the auspices of the Criminal Law Amendment Committee, which seems likely to be of more than ordinary interest to women.

The first lecture will be given on January 22nd by Miss Cicely Hamilton on 'The Civic Responsibility of Women'; it is intended to serve as an introductory address to the course which follows. Each lecture will deal with problems which women must of necessity examine in order to determine what must be their attitude towards them.

Women find many practical difficulties in their way when they attempt to educate themselves for social service, and these lectures are intended to help them in their endeavour. The C.L.A. Committee has thought it desirable to exclude the press and to limit the audience to adult women only, and this, it is hoped, will facilitate freedom of expression on the part of the lecturers, who are all experts on their particular subjects.

Full details will be found in our advertisement pages, and a syllabus and tickets can be obtained from the Secretary of the Criminal Law Amendment Committee, 19, Tothill Street, S.W.

WE have already seen how legislation in many respects discriminates unfairly against women, and how apparent exceptions in women's favour spring from the degrading conception that a man is responsible for his wife's conduct in the same way that he is responsible for the conduct of his dog or horse. We have now to note that even when the law is equal its administration is frequently most unjust, so that woman's inferior legal status exposes her to severer penalties than those inflicted on men for like offences, and renders offences against her person by men less heinous in the eyes of the law than similar offences against the enfranchised sex. The following illustrations are a few of many noted in press reports during the past few years. The newspaper cuttings have been preserved, and can be submitted to any who would call in question the accuracy of the statements here made.

Cases where a Man and Woman were both Guilty of the same offence.

(1) At Dumbarton a woman and her husband were charged with causing the death of their infant boy by overlaying. Both were drunk, both slept in the bed with the baby. "The woman was found guilty, but the fiscal did not press the charge against the man." Sentence of six months was passed on the mother.

(2) At Epping Mr. and Mrs. Lambourne were summoned for neglect of children. The cottage and children were dirty, but the latter healthy. The woman was in ill-health, and without a water supply, with several children. The man was discharged, the woman sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

(3) John George Crozier, a Justice of the Peace and ex-High Sheriff, and Jessie, his second wife, were convicted of starving to death a 16-year-old son of Crozier by his first wife. In sentencing the Justice of the Peace the Judge, we are told, "wiped a tear from his eye"; he was "less moved in sentencing the woman." He considered that she was the master mind, that the male prisoner had been under dominance, and, despite the facts that the woman had been a farm-servant before marriage, that the man was father, and not stepfather to the boy, and that it was the man's house, and not the woman's, in which the ill-treatment was carried out, that she deserved greater blame. The Judge concluded: "You, Jessie Crozier, in my mind are the principal offender in these transactions, and I sentence you to 12 years' penal servitude. John George Crozier, you, the father of the boy, have also been found guilty of manslaughter. It is hard to distinguish any degree of criminality between you and your wife, but you were the father of the boy and a man, and you should have behaved like a man." After which he pronounced sentence of penal servitude for 5 years only.

A Comparison of the respective Sentences passed on Men and Women for Theft.

John Hill, at the London Sessions, pleaded guilty to stealing a crate of bananas, but said that one child was dying, and another kept begging for bread and butter. If he was given one more chance, he would never be there again. Mr. Wallace bound the prisoner over.

Lizzie Penfold, at Enfield, was charged with stealing articles from laundries where she worked. Her son, 22, was dying of consumption, and not expected to live a week. It was to provide for him that she stole. Both vicar and inspector spoke in her favour. Fined £5, or a month's imprisonment.

Daniel Simmons, for stealing £3 5s. from Edward Allsopp, at Cowpen, and breaking and entering the shop of Edward Cohen, at Tynemouth, and stealing goods value £107 13s. 11d.: 8 months' imprisonment.

Jennie Peacock sent to goal for 12 months, with 3 years' police supervision, for obtaining 2s. by false pretences from Emily M. Barker, at Newburn, in January, 1912.

Albert Simmonds, before the Recorder of Southsea, charged with theft of coat and gloves from the hall of Gladstone House.



Previous conviction of penal servitude. Bound over for two years.

Elizabeth Chilton, Chorley, convicted at Preston Sessions of stealing a shawl. Six months' hard labour.

*Assaults by Husbands on Wives and by Wives on Husbands.*

After six months of marriage a young woman applied for a separation order. It was alleged that her husband had called her foul names, threatened to kill her, locked her out so that she had one night to sleep in the cowhouse, threatened her with a gun, horsewhipped her, and thrown her down the steps. The husband's counsel submitted that the alleged acts were very trivial, and, though they were not denied, the Bench dismissed the case.\*

Isaac Hunt, charged at Bath with violently assaulting his wife on Whit-Monday, pleaded that he was drunk. Woman in court in dreadful condition. Magistrate had never seen a woman so knocked about. Sentence, 6 weeks' hard labour, and bound over in £5 for 6 following weeks.

At Aberdeen Sheriff's Court Frances Anderson, 61, pleaded guilty to a charge of culpable homicide. He had pulled his wife downstairs, fracturing skull. She died in the Royal Infirmary. Two months' imprisonment.

Contrast the sentences in these cases with the sentence in the rare case of a wife's assaulting her husband.

Westminster. Before Mr. Horace Smith. Mrs. Mary Ann Cheriton, 20, of Chadwick Street, Westminster, was charged with wounding her husband, Alfred, aged 19, at Tothill Street, Westminster. They were living apart, after quarrelling. Meeting in the street, the woman told her husband she wanted to speak to him. He went towards her, and she struck him in the cheek with a piece of jagged glass. The accused made general accusations of cruel treatment. Two months' hard labour.

Two months for a man for killing his wife! two months for a woman for cutting her husband's cheek! The old one-sided Eastern custom of suttee does not seem so amazingly atrocious when one contemplates these Western expressions of justice.

*Again, compare sentences when a man has caused death in defending his wife's honour, and when a woman has done the same in defending her own.*

At Bristol Assize Court, before Mr. Justice Bray, Gulliver was indicted for manslaughter of Hatton. Gulliver and Hatton were in Hatton's house, possibly both had been drinking. Gulliver went to sleep, and Hatton went upstairs and found Mrs. Gulliver dressing in the bathroom. The woman called to her husband. There was a scuffle between the two men, and they fell downstairs. Hatton then went out, pursued by Gulliver, who, according to one witness, knocked him down. He died next morning. The jury threw out the bill, a man having the right to deal a blow in self-defence or in defence of his wife's honour.

An Italian, Napolitano of Sault Sté Marie, Ontario, assaulted and wounded his wife Angelina so savagely that she was for weeks in hospital from her injuries. He had sold the furniture, left his family to shift for themselves, and demanded that the wife should earn money from other men to support him. Her refusal to do this had caused the violence. He was sentenced to three years in a penitentiary, but for reasons still unknown was let out after a week. On Sunday, April 16th, 1911, he told his wife that if she again refused to practice prostitution for his benefit he would kill her. He had half killed her before; there was no doubt he meant what he said, and legal protection had already failed her. In self-protection she therefore killed him.

She was tried within a month, and on May 9th, 1911, was sentenced to be hanged. On the same day the jury recommended to mercy a man who had killed another by stealth at night, who said he had killed the wrong man by mistake. The execution of Angelina was to be deferred till after the birth of her child; her reprieve from death and the commutation of her sentence to penal servitude for life was due to the agitation carried on in various countries (due largely to the work of Suffragists). Her baby was taken away from her at 6 weeks, and died from lack of suitable food. Her other children were found neatly clothed, bright, and

docile. Twice has the Minister of Justice been asked to release her, but he refuses all further clemency.\*

*Now compare the value, as seen at law, of property and the lives of women and children.*

At the Potteries Quarter Sessions a woman of 49 was sentenced by the Recorder of Hanley to 4 years' penal servitude for stealing a doormat from a backyard at Stoke. She sold it for 3d., telling the purchaser she needed food.

A girl of 22 was caught walking out of a house—the door of which she had found open—with a stolen watch and chain. She received three years' penal servitude.

A husband at Glasgow threw some tongs at his wife and killed the sick child in her arms. Excuse—he had come in and found no supper ready. Four months' hard labour.

John Rowlands, at Luton, for assaulting infant of 6 months. Had already been sentenced to 1 month for assaulting his wife, a girl of 20. Blacked one of her eyes when she had the baby in her arms. He took it from her, striking it violently and bruising it badly. Case brought by N.S.P.C.C. Three months.

*Finally—most serious of all—are the light sentences passed on men for assaulting (indecently) women, girls, and children.*

George Laws, Aberdeen. Violent assault on another man's wife and attempted rape. Woman severely bruised and beaten. Four months.

Albert Davies. Charged at Aberdare with indecent behaviour to two little girls. Fined £20.

Edward Rickman, 17, of Sway, convicted of assaulting Dorothy Pressy, aged 6, on March 19th. P.C. Jackson said he had already had occasion to speak to prisoner about his conduct to another little girl. Fined £1, or 14 days.†

*The Child's Guardian*, May, 1911, reports a case of indecent assault by her father on a girl of 16 years. The father had driven the mother from home by violent behaviour; the girl now acted as housekeeper. She complained of indecent assault on three occasions. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, but thought the father had been guilty of very foolish conduct.

In another case reported in the same paper—where the assault was interrupted—the case was dismissed, despite the solicitor's protest, because no damage had been done to the child.

Laurence Housman states that about 30 per cent of these cases which come before our magistrates are cases of incest, of wrong done, that is, in the home by fathers and brothers. Yet even this horror, as the above case shows, is dealt with leniently.

*Now compare these sentences—passed by men on other men for immoral assaults on girls—with the sentences passed by men on men for immoral attacks on members of their own sex.*

At Leeds Assizes Mr. Justice Avey sentenced Father Daine, priest, aged 59, of Scotton Grange, Knaresborough, for an offence against a page-boy, to 10 years' penal servitude.

Walter Richard Jenner and Walter Thomas Legh Stone, convicted at Sussex Assizes, March, 1913, of behaving improperly with boys. Five years' penal servitude each.

A comparison of this kind forces one to realize that many men believe there is nothing degrading in the practice of immorality by men on women. This was practically admitted by the Recorder of Sandwich (a prospective M.P.) when he said, in trying a case, that offences of this sort are not like stealing and forgery, but are liable to be committed by the best conducted people.

The horror with which this kind of crime is regarded by women is well known. They have before now chosen death in preference to submitting themselves to it, and one cannot, as a Christian, believe that their repugnance to it is hysterically exaggerated or foolishly unnecessary. Moreover, we have no warrant for considering that what is heinous in a woman is to be condoned in a man. Indeed, the generality of men admit the enormity of the crime when it touches themselves nearly, as in the person of a wife, and are held guiltless, as in the above quoted case, if, in order to prevent it, they chance to commit manslaughter. There is, therefore, no excuse for the line taken in this matter by many magistrates. But the fact that it is taken is not surprising when we remember

\* Further information, see *Votes for Women*, January 10th, 1913.

† *Lyminster, Daily Chronicle*, April 4th.

\* *Western Daily Mercury*, September 2nd, 1911.

how the world in general is taught to believe that woman's whole life and value centre round, not her humanity, but her sex.

It would seem that exploitation of her sex, after all, is but a use—though a bad one—of the original purpose for which she was put into the world, and cannot, therefore, be regarded as unequivocally criminal. The fact that woman's entry into public life has already raised the standard of public morals shows the good achieved by permitting her to develop, not only on sex, but on human lines. Facts similar to those recorded above have led some anti-Suffragists to the conviction that woman is the infinite superior of man, and they hesitate (*vide* letters to *The Times* and the Press generally) to let her vote because they consider such a material weapon as the Franchise degrading and suited only to an inferior male sex. But Suffragists are not shortsighted and faithless enough to believe that man is more congenitally depraved than woman; so far he has been handicapped by his position as an irresponsible sex tyrant. When the disadvantages and temptations of this rôle have been removed, he may well embrace chastity with as much ardour as women now do.

Before leaving this section, there are one or two other points to mention. Reference has already been made to the inadequate manner in which the law provides maintenance for a separated wife. If the husband does not pay she can, provided she can afford it, take him into court and get him imprisoned. The money lost is not repayable to her, and she gets nothing while he is in prison. But in Washington, where women are enfranchised, a much happier solution of this problem has been found. Here, according to *The Daily Chronicle* of June 19th, 1913, there is a "lazy husband's law" in operation in Seattle. Those who desert their wives and families are set to work clearing a neighbouring suburb, and the wages—6s. 3d. a day—are paid to the wives. This is common sense: it supports the family, and so far from being more brutal to the husband than the English system, it is better also than imprisonment for the moral and physical health of the man.

Then comes the question of being tried by one's peers. It is reported from San Francisco, where again women vote, that a woman being tried on a criminal charge, so far from distrusting her sex demanded a jury of women. The judge took the view that the granting of woman's Suffrage meant equal rights all round, and so granted her request.\*

Again, what has happened during the march of the constitutional Suffragists from every quarter of England to London in July, 1913? Men intoxicated with drink, and youths intoxicated with a false pride of sex, have been found on occasion to throw eggs, mud, stones, &c., at the speakers; to buffet them, knock them down, and trample on them. The authorities may be exonerated the first time this occurred; but later, what excuse was there for not supplying an adequate police force to arrest these militant anti-Suffragist disturbers of the peace? For years England has had to pay an enormous bill—the size of which the Home Secretary said he deemed it wiser not to divulge when asked in the House—in order to protect Cabinet Ministers from inconvenient questions, or at the most technical assaults. But when it is a question of protecting law-abiding Suffragists—in the prosecution of a campaign which magistrates and judges have repeatedly said they were absolutely entitled to carry on—then they are left to the tender mercies of the dregs of Society.

Where women are enfranchised these various inequalities tend to disappear. In New Zealand Lady Stout (wife of the Chief Justice) has stated that in the moral realm things are on a higher plane since the Suffrage was given. In San Francisco the women obtained the removal of an unprincipled judge who had favoured men who trafficked in the honour of young women.

The influence of women tends also to set a higher value on human life. It is natural that it should be so, since they suffer more at its genesis, and are intimately concerned in its earlier care and development. An indirect result of women being granted the vote—a testimony to their acknowledged ability to take a part in public affairs—will be increased attention to their views and opinions. It may be that full justice will not be done till

\* *Daily Chronicle*, July 11th, 1913.

women are appointed police, jurors, and judges; if that is so then their enfranchisement will hasten their appointment to those posts. Since, therefore, the serious question of just administration of the law is at stake, and since Woman's Suffrage will help to promote it, we again need no apology for a Church League for Women's Suffrage. It is a high charge that Jehoshaphat gives to the judges, and one worthy of being brought to remembrance: "Take heed what ye do, for ye judge not for man, but for the Lord. . . . wherefore now let the fear of the Lord be upon you. Take heed and do it, for there is no iniquity with the Lord our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts." Surely no effort on the part of Christian people to ensure our present administrators conforming to that high standard can be misplaced or displeasing to God, who is "of purer eyes than to behold iniquity."

### From the Branches.

For Addresses of Branch Secretaries see List on Page 19.

**New Branches:** Canterbury, Coventry, Knebworth, Sutton Coldfield . . . . . 4

**New Members** . . . . . 189

CORRESPONDENTS are requested (1) to put the names of new Members before the Branch news; (2) to give Name, with Initials and Title, below such news; (3) to write on one side of the paper only; (4) to condense reports as much as possible; (5) to send them to reach the office not later than the first post on the 18th of each month. Much time and labour at head-quarters will thus be saved.

#### Anerley and District.

New Members: Miss Ancombe, Mrs. Septimus Brown, Miss E. James, Mrs. Stubbs.

Members and Associates are asked to make a special effort to attend the Meeting on January 15th, when the Annual Report and Balance Sheet will be presented, and the resolutions voted on for Conference.

We held a successful Drawing-room Meeting on November 26th, which resulted in new Members.

Our thanks are due to the following, who contributed to the purse towards the £1,000 Fund: Mrs. Emberson, Miss A. Fenning, Mrs. Gay, Miss James, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Leekey, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Medd Hall, Miss Menzies, Mrs. Potts, Mrs. Rarp, and Miss Walrond. Also to those who took collecting cards: Miss J. Fenning (four cards), Miss M. Fenning (four cards), Miss E. Fenning, Mrs. French, Miss Spence, Miss Murphy, and Sister Bertha.

As we are anxious to send a further donation, we hope that Members who have not already given will send in before January 10th to the Hon. Secretary, who will also be glad to receive all annual subscriptions which are due this month.

(MISS) ETHEL M. FENNING.

#### Barnes.

New Members: Mrs. Ten, Miss Dorothy Ten. A well-attended Meeting was held on December 2nd, at 7A, St. Ann's Terrace, by kind permission of Miss Burke, when a very interesting and original address was given by the Rev. A. H. Haigh on "The Fundamental Truths underlying the Demand for Woman's Suffrage." Miss Sennett, of Bedford Park, took the chair, and a collection was made towards the Forward Movement.

A special Corporate Communion was held at St. Michael's Church by the Rev. J. A. Grant on November 12th.

The Branch is uniting with other local Women's Societies in a Meeting, to be held at Dunmow Hall, on January 15th, when Miss Adler will speak on "Child Labour."

(MRS.) MARIAN H. HILLS.

#### Barnet.

New Members: G. A. Whitten, Esq., and Mrs. Whitten. It has been decided to form a Study Circle in connexion with a course of monthly lectures. Details will be announced to Members shortly.

Help is much needed in connexion with the Clergy Petition and other matters; names of volunteers will be welcome.

The Branch gives grateful thanks to the Vicar of St. Mark's, Barnet Vale, for the use of his church for Silent Intercession on three Fridays when Barnet Church was closed for repairs.

(MISS) CLARA E. STRACHAN.

#### Bedford Park.

The Monthly Meetings are proving very interesting. Members are asked to make a good New Year's resolution to bring at least two unconverted friends to the Meetings. This month the Rev. J. A. Grant gave a delightful address, which was followed by a lively



discussion. Before the close of the Meeting Miss Louise Perceval recited 'The Conservative,' by Mrs. Perkins Gilman, to an appreciative audience.

On Tuesday, January 13th, Dr. Letitia Fairfield will address the meeting, and the chair will be taken by Miss Hudson. Notices of time and place will be sent to all Members.

The Branch has promised a purse towards the £1,000 Fund. Any Members who have not already sent in their donations are asked to do so by January 13th.

(Miss) H. C. MARTINDALE.

#### Bloomsbury.

The next lecture will be given at St. George's Vestry Hall on the last Tuesday in the month (January 27th, at 8.15), by the Rev. J. C. Todd, on 'The Practical Value of Women's Suffrage.' The lecture will be followed by a Social Gathering, and it is hoped all Members will attend.

Kindly note change of address of Branch Secretary.

(Miss) KATHARINE BAYERSTOCK.

#### Bootle and District.

On December 11th a very well-attended Meeting was held in Stanley Hall, presided over by Councillor Eleanor F. Rathbone, M.A.

Mr. B. Bernard, Churchwarden of St. Mary's, gave a most inspiring address on 'The Meaning of the Women's Movement,' and made it clear that the demand of Votes for Women is not to be reduced to a question of party politics, but is a world-wide and a righteous Cause; he showed emphatically that the struggle for Women's Emancipation is a movement towards the realization of the ideal given in the words "Be ye perfect."

A vote of thanks, proposed by Mrs. Pratt, and seconded by Miss Gourley, was heartily accorded to Mr. Bernard, and to Mr. H. Meakin (who took the chair during the latter part of the meeting). A good collection was made, and a fair amount of literature was sold. The Rev. G. Jackson, M.A., sent a note of apology for his unavoidable absence. Mr. Davies again kindly came to our aid by acting as steward.

Marked copies of the December C.L.W.S. Magazine have been sent to the local clergy.

Will all Members endeavour to be present at the Business Meeting, to be held in St. John's School (St. John's Road entrance), at 8 o'clock, on Monday evening, January 5th, 1914?

(Miss) E. E. APPLETON.

#### Boscombe.

Members of the Branch: Mrs. Clench, Miss Cheales, Mrs. H. Chamen, Miss L'Estrange, Miss L. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Hetty F. Field, Miss Fleming, Mrs. Goldenberg, Miss Genge, Miss C. M. Johnston, Miss M. Knapp, Mrs. Kirmse, Mrs. Kerr, Miss E. F. Morris, Miss Pearce, Miss Townsend, Mrs. Tucker, Miss Tomkins, Mrs. Ward, Miss Wingrove. Transferred: Mrs. Peek, Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. H. G. Chapman.

Our President, the Rev. E. J. Kennedy, has kindly consented to hold a Public Meeting in the near future in his Parish Room. As a new Branch we hope to have everything in order by the New Year, and to do some good work towards supporting for the £1,000 Fund.

(Miss) IDA FONBLANQUE.

#### Bow, E.

New Members: Miss Grace Clarke, B.A., and Miss Edith Mead. On November 24th we held our first Annual Meeting, and on December 11th a Meeting of Members to consider resolutions to send to the Council.

We made up a small party—some Bow "mothers" joining us—to attend the Bishop of Kensington's Meeting at the Church House on the 9th.

(Miss) A. E. SPARKS.

#### Brighton and Hove.

New Members: Miss I. French, Miss F. Cox, Miss Bunting, Miss Campbell.

On November 27th a Members' Meeting was held at the Office to form and discuss Branch resolutions. On December 1st an Entertainment was very kindly given by the Patriotic Poms in costume at the Assembly Rooms, Hove, for the benefit of the Branch. Music, songs, recitations, and conjuring were delightfully rendered, and enjoyed by all. Mrs. Browning made an excellent speech on the Suffrage Cause.

On December 4th an At Home was held at the Office, and Miss Evelyn Close gave a lecture on 'Infant Mortality.'

Miss Abbott was chosen to present the Branch purse, containing £12, at the Church House Meeting on December 9th.

Miss Whitlow, owing to stress of work, has been obliged to resign her post of Paper Organizer, which she has so ably filled, that from 100 the Branch now takes in 200 papers a month. Will some member offer to be Paper Organizer?

Will Members please bring or send on or before January 8th their Subscriptions to the Branch for 1914, and also their quarterly Subscriptions to the Office rent?

(Miss) KATE CLOSE.

#### Bromley (Kent).

New Members: Mrs. Baker, Miss Hilda Vincent. A Public Evening Meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Bromley, on November 21st. The Rev. F. M. Green, from the chair, gave a most interesting address, explaining objects and aims of the League, and dwelling principally on the religious aspects of the Women's Movement. Miss Abadam then spoke, her subject being 'False Gods.' Both speeches were greatly appreciated by the audience.

At the Church House Meeting, on December 9th, Miss Crewe Beynon, as delegate, presented our Branch purse, which contained £2 10s. 6d.

A General Meeting of the Branch will be held early in January.

(Miss) ETHEL M. WILLIAMS.

#### Cambridge.

Under the auspices of the N.U.W.S.S., the Church League, and the University Men's League, a most successful Exhibition of Sweated Industries was held in the Cambridge Guildhall, on Friday, December 5th. We were fortunate in securing several able speakers at both our afternoon and evening Meetings, and much interest was taken in the ocular demonstrations of sweated labour by actual workers from East London.

(REV.) FRANK BUTTLE.

#### Canterbury.

At a Meeting held at Tower House, Canterbury, on Friday, November 28th, a newly formed Branch of the C.L.W.S. was inaugurated, and subsequently at a Business Meeting of Members a Committee and officials were elected. The Rev. P. A. L. Clarke consented to act as Chairman, Mrs. Williamson as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Miss Burch as Literature Secretary. The Branch started with forty Members.

Mr. Clarke will hold Intercession Services at St. Alphege's Church, and has offered the use of the Hall at East Bridge Hospital for future Meetings.

(Mrs.) H. A. COLLINGTON.

#### Cardiff.

New Members: Miss Hebert, Miss Edith Jones, Mrs. King, Mrs. Longdon, Miss Kitty Noel, Miss Ovenden.

A Members' Meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A. on December 17th. Several of those present volunteered to act as magazine distributors and to canvass all Members to take the magazine regularly. It was announced that one Member had paid 15s. to have the Poster displayed at the G.W.R. station for six months. Will any one do the same for the T.V.R. and Rhymney stations—that it may be seen by the thousands who come in weekly from the country districts?

It was proposed to hold an American Tea in February, full particulars of which will appear in next month's issue.

Three Drawing-room Meetings have been promised for the Spring. Will any Members or sympathizers promise more? We want to extend our work, and get Meetings in Llandaff, Llanishen, Penarth, and Barry.

(Miss) LUCY E. L. RUSSELL.

#### Chelmsford.

New Members: Mrs. H. B. George, Mr. Mark, Dr. Arnold Wallinger, Miss E. Willis.

On November 20th a Meeting was held in the Board Room of the Corn Exchange. The Rev. A. C. Taylor presided, and the Rev. Claude Hinscliff gave an address on 'Our Imperial Responsibilities.' Mrs. Lucy Henderson spoke on 'The Social Disabilities of Women.' A vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Vaughan, seconded by Mr. Sheers. The attendance showed appreciation of the interesting and inspiring speeches. The Branch is greatly indebted to the Rev. A. C. Taylor for taking the chair, and for his words of cheer and encouragement. Our two banners were used for the first time: the large one worked by Mrs. Cardozo, the small one by Miss Cardozo.

During November twenty signatures have been obtained for the Petition, and a new form put in circulation. The sum collected for the "Forward Movement" is £3 4s. to date.

During December and till the middle of January send all communications to Miss M. Hay, 70, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford.

(Mrs.) A. L. HATCHEE.

#### Clifton and Bristol.

New Members: Miss E. M. Norton; Mrs. Satchell (transferred). This Branch, in response to the appeal for the Forward Movement Fund, sent a purse containing £4 17s. 6d., £3 of which was generously sent by Miss Elizabeth Sturge, and the charming purse was kindly worked by Miss M. S. Talbot.

(Miss) F. L. CRAMPTON.

#### Croydon.

New Members: Miss Hall, Miss A. Lambert, Miss L. Lambert, Mrs. Silcott, Miss Shipton, Mrs. Olivier, Rev. H. E. Olivier, Miss A. Miller, Miss C. Bird, Rev. W. H. N. Secker, Rev. M. T. Dodds,

### STOP PRESS NOTE.

For the convenience of Members the Executive will print and circulate all Amendments which Branches or their Representatives desire to introduce into the Draft Constitution, recently submitted for consideration, provided that they are received at the Office not later than January 3rd, 1914.

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**THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.** By the COUNTESS OF SELBORNE.  
**THE EVOLUTION OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.**

By EVELINE MITFORD.

**PROGRESS IN 1913.** By A. B.

**YOUNG OXFORD AND THE SUFFRAGE.** By the Hon. LEWIS PALMER.

**THE POSITION OF MEDICAL WOMEN IN INDIA.**

By MAY THORNE, M.D. BRUX., F.R.C.S.I.

**WOMEN'S WORK (VI.)—The Women's Local Government Society.** By M. S. KILGOUR.

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Wednesday 21 Jan., 8.30 p.m. Mr. Frank R. Cane.

"The Press on the Suffrage Movement."

28 Jan., 3.30 to 6 p.m. Club Tea (Lecture, 4.30).

"Account of Tour in Australia, New Zealand, and S. Africa."

(Hon. Sec. Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association; Hon. Sec. (pro tem.) Women Suffrage Union British Dominions Overseas).

Miss Harriet C. Newcomb

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A revival of this Branch was begun during the National Week of Prayer, when Services and Meetings were organized by a Local Committee of those interested in the Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement. A very inspiring United Public Meeting was held, and literature of the League was distributed. Later in the week a Day of Devotion, kindly arranged by the Rev. H. E. Olivier, took place in St. James's Church, which was very much appreciated.

A Meeting to reorganize the Branch was held in the Church Institute on December 12th. The Rev. H. E. Olivier presided, and there was a very good attendance. The Chairman gave an admirable opening address. He was followed by Miss Ethel Fennings (Hon. Secretary, Anerley Branch), who gave some account of the work and influence of the Church League, and appealed very forcibly for keen Members to join. The Rev. H. E. Olivier was unanimously elected Chairman of the Branch, and a Committee was formed. Mrs. Udy was elected Branch Secretary, and she consented to act for the present.

It is hoped that all Members will subscribe regularly to the Monthly Paper. (MRS.) L. UDNY.

#### Darlington.

Members and Subscribers to the Magazine are reminded that their Subscriptions are due in January, and should be sent to the Secretary. (MISS) E. LUCK.

#### Ealing and Acton.

New Member: Mrs. Skinner.  
Our first Public Meeting was held on December 3rd. Speakers, Rev. Lewis Donaldson and Mrs. Nevinson. Mrs. Clare Goslett was in the chair. A Members' Meeting was held at 43, Hamilton Road, to choose delegates for January, and decide on our programme for the next three or four months. (MISS) S. A. BONNERJEE.

#### Fakenham.

New Member: Miss A. F. Harker. (MISS) M. TINGLEY.

#### Fulham and West Kensington.

New Members: Miss E. Bateman, Mrs. Halliday.  
The Meeting on November 24th was very successful. Excellent speeches from the Rev. C. Hinscliff, Mrs. Cather, and Lieut. J. L. Cather. There was a good collection and sale of papers and literature; also a good notice in the local paper. There will be a Meeting of Members only on January 13th, at 8.15 P.M., at 3, Perham Crescent, to discuss the Agenda of the Council and to give any desired instructions to the delegates. (MISS) JANE LOMAX.

#### Greenwich and Lewisham.

New Members: Miss Caffyn and Miss V. Maxted.  
On November 25th a most successful Social Evening was held jointly with the local Branch F.C.L.W.S. About sixty were present, and the time was pleasantly spent with music, &c. Miss Fennings kindly came and gave a short speech, which was much appreciated. Two new Members joined.

We were successful in raising £5 for a purse presented at Church House on December 9th. The Secretary wishes to thank all those who so generously contributed.

Next Meeting will be held on Friday, January 16th, 8 P.M., at 43, Clarendon Road, Lewisham, to discuss Council Agenda. Members, please note. (MISS) MARGARET R. CHANDLER.

#### Glasgow.

Since the Spring of this year two Drawing-room Meetings were held, with a view to forming a Branch of the League in Glasgow. On November 27th the first General Meeting took place in St. Mary's Synod Hall, when the following office-bearers were elected: President, Mrs. John Blackburn; Committee: Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. T. M. Stewart, Miss Williams, Miss G. Cunningham Smith; Hon. Secretary, Miss Octavia Tucker. The Meeting was opened by the Very Rev. Provost Deane, and the Rev. W. Brews, Rector of St. Augustine's, Dumbarton, delivered a most eloquent and impressive address. The total membership now is thirty-eight. (MISS) OCTAVIA TUCKER.

#### Hampstead.

New Members: Miss A. Wood, Miss P. Taylor; Mr. and Mrs. Shewell Cooper (transferred).

In answer to our appeal for contributions to the Branch purse £12 6s. were received, and presented at the Church House on December 9th. There is still time for those Members who have not yet subscribed to do so. Mrs. Gordon has most kindly sent an additional gift of 14s. Will all Members do what they can to help to make up £1,000 before January 15th? (MRS.) LUCY HENDERSON.

#### Harrow, Hatch End, and Pinner.

New Member: Mrs. Annie Dean.  
Our Public Meeting in conjunction with the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, on December 1st, was a success from the point of view of audience, speeches, &c. Financially we could have hoped for a better result. Our Chairman, Rev. C. O. Baumgarten, in his opening speech dwelt upon the spiritual side of the movement, and of the need of this ideal in the social reform of to-day. Many points of interest to Suffragists and others were made by Mr. Cameron Grant, who is an authority on the question of wages and women in industry. Dr. Fairfield proved how urgent is the need of women's political voice in all questions of State and Empire. We were glad on this occasion to be able to publicly thank Prebendary Joyce for holding our weekly Intercession Service at St. Mary's. Members, please note this—Fridays, at noon—and urge friends and supporters to join us weekly in this Intercession for the Honour of Womanhood. (MRS.) GERTRUDE HINSLIFF.

#### Hendon and Golder's Green.

New Members: Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. Haw, Miss Rainey, Mrs. Deane; Mrs. and Miss Cartwright (transferred).  
The Golder's Green and Garden Suburb membership is increasing steadily, but at present the Branch remains one with Hendon. At the Drawing-room Meeting announced for November 27th those present had the unexpected pleasure of an address from the Rev. C. Hinscliff; also from Mrs. Cooke, who has lived long in Australia, and had many proofs to give of the beneficial results of the Woman's Vote.

On December 4th Mrs. Henderson, of the Hampstead Branch, addressed a Women's Meeting at Hendon.

The Branch was well represented at the Church House, Westminster, and Members were also present on December 5th at the Clergy Protest Meeting against Forcible Feeding. (MISS) EMILY C. GROWSE.

#### Ilford.

New Members: Miss Davis, Miss K. Isherwood.  
Our Monthly Meeting was held on December 1st, when Mr. Ludlow Crofts very kindly presided. The speaker was to have been the Rev. C. A. Wills, who was unfortunately prevented by illness from coming. His place was taken by Mrs. Whitten, and her eloquent and earnest speech was very greatly appreciated. We very much need volunteers for Paper Selling in the street. Will any one who can spare an hour or two each month for this valuable work kindly communicate with the Secretary?  
Will all Members keep the evening of Monday, January 5th, free, and bring as many friends as possible to our Musical Evening at the Cecil Hall, at 8 P.M.? (MISS) M. HAWLEY.

#### Islington.

Many thanks to Members who contributed to the purse, beautifully worked by Miss O'Brien and presented by Miss Challen, which contained £7 10s. Please note important engagements in Calendar for January 13th and 29th. We are specially anxious for a complete and early muster of our Members on January 13th. In addition to the opportunity for social intercourse very important business will come forward for consideration. (MRS.) A. D. GREEN.

#### Kensington.

New Members: Mrs. Lovell Canning, Mrs. W. Fisher, Miss Alice A. Fairbairn.

A very successful Meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, November 26th, at 8, Victoria Road, Kensington (by kind permission of Mrs. Corbould). The Rev. C. Hinscliff and Mrs. Henderson gave very interesting addresses, and two new Members joined the League.

On the evening of November 26th Mr. Hinscliff addressed a Meeting at which working people were present, at 21, Lexham Gardens.

The Kensington Purse was presented to the Bishop of Kensington on December 9th, by Miss Gladys Head; its contents amounted to £10 1s. The Secretary, begs to remind all Members who did not contribute towards the Kensington Purse that she will be pleased to receive their contributions before January 15th.

Some Kensington Members gladly subscribed for a Christmas present to Mr. Hinscliff, as a token of gratitude for his invaluable services to the League in general, and of his kindness to the Kensington Branch in particular. The present was a portable altar. (MISS) LINA ROSS.

#### Knebworth.

A Meeting was held at Ashford, Knebworth, on Saturday, December 13th, to discuss the formation of the local Branch of the C.L.W.S. Officers were elected subject to their approval and acceptance of office. A full list of officials and Members will be given later. (MRS.) E. LOUIE ACRES.

#### Lewes.

New Members: Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Sinnock, Mrs. Verral, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. White.

A Study Circle is being formed, and will hold fortnightly Meetings in the Pelham Rooms, commencing on Friday, January 9th, at 5.30 P.M. The textbook selected is 'The Feminist Movement,' by Ethel Snowden. Members wishing to join are asked to send their names to the Secretary early in the month. (MISS) E. F. CAMPKIN.

#### Mid-Sussex.

New Members: Miss Spooner, Rev. W. A. Dengate.  
Two of the Members were present at the Meeting in Church House, on December 9th, and a purse containing £2 3s. 6d.—the result of an appeal to the Members for contributions towards the Forward Movement—was presented by the Hon. Secretary. Further sums will be gratefully acknowledged and forwarded, as the Fund is open until January 15th. (MISS) M. C. HARRIS.

#### Norwich.

New Member: Mrs. Rose.  
Our delegate, who presented the Branch purse to the Bishop of Kensington on December 9th, was Dr. Margaret Boileau. A very pretty little purse was worked for us by Miss Saxby. Owing to the Sheringham Branch having combined with us, we were able to send up the sum of £10—£3 from the Sheringham Branch and £7 from our own. (MISS) CATHERINE E. STILL.

#### Oxford.

A Meeting for Members was held on October 31st, at which both the resolutions under discussion were passed *nem. con.* Dr. Skrine very kindly lent his church for a Special Evensong for all Suffragists on November 4th.

There will be a Meeting for Members at 8.15 P.M., on Tuesday, January 20th, at the Old Oak Tea House, Ship Street, to discuss resolutions from Branches to General Council.

Miss Young, a co-opted Member of Committee, has had to resign, owing to her leaving Oxford. (MISS) H. A. W. STARK.

#### Parkstone.

A small Sale of Work, which was held at Loughtonhurst, West Cliff Gardens, Bournemouth, by kind permission of Mrs. Hume, on December 5th, was a great success. It was opened by the President, the Rev. Hon. R. E. Adderley, who gave a short but sympathetic and earnest address. The Committee wish to thank the musicians who played and sang; also Mrs. Patricia Shaw, who kindly contributed hand-reading for health and character. We also take this opportunity of thanking those Members who sent cakes, sweets, or money.

Our thanks are due to the following Members who contributed to the Branch purse: Miss Cheales, Miss Turle, Miss Fidler, Miss Darke, Mrs. Gohlke, Miss Désallouid, Mrs. Gaman, and Miss A. Gaman. A sum of £1 4s. was contributed, making a total, with the donation of £2 2s. from Branch funds, of £3 6s.

The Monthly Paper was sold this month outside two public meetings in Bournemouth, and the paper-seller was well received.

Our Annual Business Meeting will be held on January 13th, in the Church House, preceded by a Public Meeting at 3 P.M., at which the Rev. Claude Hinscliff will be the speaker. The collection at that Meeting will be given to Mr. Hinscliff as a further offering to the £1,000 Fund.

The Public Debate arranged by our Branch of the C.L.W.S., the Bournemouth Branch of the N.U.W.S.S., and the local Branch of the Anti-Suffrage League will be held in St. Peter's Hall, Bournemouth, on February 20th, at 8 P.M., between Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Gladys Pott. Prices of seats and other details will be announced in next month's Paper. (MRS.) A. R. GAMAN.

#### Portsmouth.

New Member: Mrs. Desmond Robinson.  
Will all Members of our Branch kindly forward their subscriptions for membership and magazine to the Treasurer, Miss Whillier, 52, Cottage Grove, during the first week in January. Notices will be sent to Members of a Day of Prayer it is proposed to hold on January 23rd to pray for the Annual General Council. We also hope to have a Corporate Communion, with special intention for the same purpose, on the 24th.

Our Members' Annual Meeting will be held on January 5th, at 7.30 P.M. Notices of this Meeting and another Members' Meeting, to be held in January, will be sent to Members. Will all attend who possibly can, as both Meetings are important?

The President kindly proposes to give a lecture on 'Florence Nightingale,' on February 5th, in aid of the funds of our local Branch. Will all Members kindly unite to promote the success of this lecture? (MRS.) M. F. LONG.

#### Redhill.

New Member: Miss Weller.  
The total amount collected for the purse, which was presented by Miss Pym, was £3 9s. (MISS) MABEL DAY.

#### Regent's Park.

New Member: Mr. Bullock.  
The Regent's Park Branch presented a purse to the Bishop of Kensington, at the Church House Meeting, on December 9th. The purse contained £5 10s., and this sum, together with 16s. sent up a short time beforehand, makes 6 guineas contributed by the Branch to the £1,000 Fund.

A Meeting of the Branch was held on Monday, December 8th, at 3.30, at 11, St. George's Terrace, to appoint delegates to the General Council, and to consider any resolutions to be forwarded from the Branch. Miss Agnes Ravenscroft and Miss Gertrude Williams were chosen as delegates.

The next Meeting will be held in January, to consider the resolutions before the General Council. (MRS.) MARGARET A. SEYMOUR SEAL.

#### Richmond and Kew.

New Members: Miss Francis, Miss Cripps, Mrs. Ewing.  
Some successful Members' Meetings were held, and it was arranged that every first Tuesday in the month a Members' Meeting should take place in the house of the Hon. Secretary, but, owing to the absence of the Hon. Treasurer in January, the first of these—which will be the annual one—was fixed for the first Tuesday in February.

Members communicated in St. Luke's, Kew Gardens, on Sunday, December 14th. (MISS) A. L. HARTLEY.

#### Rugby.

New Member: Mrs. Smith.  
We are glad to say that, in response to the appeal from Headquarters for help, we were able, despite the youth of the Branch, to contribute £5 8s. 6d. to the Central Fund.

At a Meeting held at The Laurels, December 16th, it was decided to join with the N.U.W.S.S. and hold a Meeting in the Spring to emphasize the spiritual side of the Woman's Movement. (MISS) E. H. DEWAR.

#### Southport and Birkdale.

Our Annual Meeting was held on November 25th; the Rev. G. Z. Edwards presided. Our Members were very enthusiastic about the new method of working proposed by the Rev. G. Z. Edwards, which was to divide the district parochially, for two Secretaries for each parish to be responsible for organizing Meetings in their respective parishes. The Secretaries appointed were as follows: Christ Church, Miss Marshall and Miss Worswick; Emmanuel, Miss Thomson and Miss Wigram; St. Luke's, Mrs. Halsall and Miss Crompton; St. Andrew's, Miss Gent and Miss Glennie; St. Paul's, the Misses Rimmer; Holy Trinity, Mrs. Lees; at Ainsdale, Mrs. Green. At the Meeting it was announced Mrs. Bliss had kindly undertaken to act as Organizing Secretary.

We intend sending at least £5 to the £1,000 Fund, but are very sorry not to be able to do so until the New Year. We shall be glad to receive donations from Members and friends, to be sent to Miss Gent, Treasurer, 26, Oak Street, before January 12th.

Our new Office is now opened at 15, Houghton Street. We have had two very successful teas there on the last two Wednesdays, and it is hoped that Members will call in every Wednesday. The Office is open from 3 to 5; tea, 3d.

On January 12th, 1914, there will be a Surprise Tea. It is hoped it will be well supported by Members and friends. All letters and inquiries to be sent to Mrs. Bliss, C.L.W.S. Office, 15, Houghton Street, Southport. (MISS) MARGARET S. THOMSON.

#### St. Albans.

Transferred Members: Mrs. Elworthy, Miss M. Ford.  
It has been decided to hold the first Public Meeting of our Branch on Thursday, January 29th, at the County Hall. It will be a White Slave Traffic Meeting, and we have been most fortunate in securing the Rev. G. Herbert Davis, of Hereford, with the Rev. Claude Hinscliff, as speakers. We also hope to arrange for a Meeting of Members and sympathizers on the evening of January 20th, when the Rev. Claude Hinscliff has promised to come and speak to us.

Will Members note these two dates, and by their individual efforts make both these Meetings a great success? (MRS.) E. G. ELWORTHY.

#### Sunderland.

New Member: Miss Ironside.  
During the National Week of Prayer we were able to arrange a Service on November 3rd, in the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. J. McKitterick, who conducted the Service and gave a most inspiring address. The collection paid printing expenses.

The Annual Meeting of Sunderland and District Branch was held in Miss Mitchell's rooms, Holmeside, on Tuesday evening, December 16th. The Rev. T. J. McKitterick presided over an appreciative audience.

Thanks to Miss Mitchell's untiring energies, ten new Members—of whom a list will be given next month—have been added. (MISS) S. M. JAQUES.



**Sutton Coldfield.**

A Meeting to inaugurate a Branch of the Church League in Sutton Coldfield was held in the Town Hall on Thursday, December 11th. Mr. Jos. Ansell, J.P., presided, and was supported on the platform by his Worship the Mayor, the Rev. Robert and Mrs. Pemberton, Councillor and Mrs. Rathbone, Miss Anstey (Principal of the Physical Training College), Miss Earl, and Mrs. Burman (Hon. Secretary).

The Dean of Worcester gave an excellent address, and was followed by Mrs. Osler, President of the Birmingham N.U.W.S.S., who spoke on 'Women's Service to the State.' Incidental music, arranged by Miss Burman, was rendered by a small string band. The requisite number of promises of membership for the starting of the Branch was obtained, and the resolution urging the Prime Minister to bring in a Government measure for the enfranchisement of Women during the coming Session was carried unanimously. (Mrs.) M. S. BURMAN.

**Swansea.**

Members are asked not to forget to send articles for the Jumble Sale on Friday, January 16th, to the Ragged School. We are badly in need of funds to carry on the work here. (MISS) JEAN MACLURE.

**Wandsworth.**

New Members: Mrs. Bachelor, Mr. H. S. Freeman, Mrs. Redfern, Miss Urand; Miss C. Silkstone (transferred).

By the kindness of the Rural Dean a Service was held on Thursday, November 20th. For the first time in their history the bells of Wandsworth Parish Church rang for a Suffrage Service. Even-song and special Suffrage Prayers were said by the Rural Dean. The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. W. Weston from Ps. lxxviii. 11 (R.V.). The singing was led by the Ladies' Choir. The collection (£1) was given to "The British Federation for the Emancipation of Sweated Women and Girls." Several of the local clergy kindly distributed handbills in their churches announcing the Service.

On December 1st a very successful Conversation was held in the Wandsworth Town Hall by the Wandsworth Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. The Rural Dean was on the platform, and several of our Members attended. (MISS) CATHERINE A. YATES.

**Warwick and Leamington.**

Owing to the Secretary's illness of last winter and six months' absence from home no work has been done in this Branch in the way of Meetings, &c. It is hoped now that things will look up.

Miss Axford spent a week amongst us, and did valuable work for the Petition, which many of the local clergy have signed.

Miss Axford spoke at two very small gatherings of Members. A purse of £5 was sent, nine Members giving to it.

**W. Holloway.**

New Member: Mrs. Olive Louth. There will be a Members' Meeting on January 21st, at 13, Stock Orchard Crescent, Holloway. (Mrs.) M. LUCAS.

**Wimbledon.**

New Members: Miss Evans, Mrs. Whitley. A well-attended Drawing-room Meeting was held on November 18th, by kind permission of Mrs. Cotton Minchin. Mrs. Francis presided, and made an interesting speech. The Vicar of Merrow, the Rev. A. H. Fletcher, gave an impressive address. Questions were asked, and literature was sold, and £1 3s. 6d. collected.

Members are reminded that the Corporate Communion is on the first Sunday of the month. Some of us attend St. John's 8 A.M. service on that day, and we hope all Members will do their best to attend. (Mrs.) B. COSENS.

**Windsor and Eton.**

New Members: Miss Walton, Mrs. Canning, Miss Frame, Miss Howe, Miss Nottley, Miss Sarchet, Miss Leach, Miss S. O. Allsworth, Mrs. Oldham, Mrs. Battcock, Mrs. Adaway, Miss French, Mrs. Constable, Mrs. Sampson.

Two Meetings were held at the house of the Rev. Bernard and Mrs. Everett on October 29th at both of which the Rev. F. M. Green kindly spoke.

On November 14th a Meeting was held at Slough, by kind permission of Mrs. Cyril Battcock, and the room was full. Mrs. Francis kindly addressed the Meeting, and Mrs. Bernard Everett also spoke.

Several new Members were added, and it is hoped that very shortly a Branch may be formed at Slough. (MISS) E. STREET.

**York.**

New Members: Rev. B. G. Clarke, Miss M. Langhorne, Miss E. Masser, Miss Welch. Nine people have signed the Associate cards.

On the evening of November 21st the York Branch joined with the N.U.W.S.S., the Co-operative Guild, and the British Women's Temperance Association in a Suffrage Demonstration held in the Exhibition Buildings. Miss Muriel Matters was the chief speaker, and for a full hour spoke with beauty and eloquence on the Women's Movement. The chair was taken by Alderman S. Meyer.

The resolution, "That this Meeting demands a Government Bill for the Enfranchisement of Women," was carried unanimously. The local Press gave an excellent account of the Meeting.

On Monday, December 8th, at 7.30 p.m., the monthly Intercession Service of the Branch was held, thanks to the kindness of the Rev. P. J. Shaw, President of the Branch and Rector of the parish, at All Saints', North Street.

During the month both the clergy and doctors of the towns have been circularized in connexion with the Forcible Feeding Protest.

We have now obtained fifty-seven signatures to the Clerical Petition. Sincere thanks are due to Mrs. Tindall Harris, the Rev. Fr. Paul Bull, and the Rev. R. G. Pyne for helping to obtain the signatures. (MISS) DOROTHY PULLEYN.

**IRELAND.****Dublin.**

New Members: Rev. J. G. F. Day, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Higgenbotham, Rev. G. H. Lewis-Crosby, Miss Morony.

We gratefully acknowledge donations, amounting to £2 12s. 6d., from Mrs. Carey, Miss Faris, Mrs. Fisher, Miss Manning, and an anonymous friend. We hope that more will follow to help us to continue our work of education by holding Meetings and distributing literature. Should we have missed any other donor's name, please write to the Treasurer at once.

Our Corporate Communion Service in Federation Week took place on Friday, December 12th, in St. Ann's Church, Dublin.

The first Suffrage Meeting ever held in Castledermot took place on Monday, November 24th, on the "open" night of the Y.M.C.A. The Rev. H. A. D. Barbor took the chair, and introduced the speaker, Miss M. L. I. Stack, with a few well-chosen words, which made every one realize he was a keen Suffragist. The Meeting, as usual, began with prayers, including some of those of our Church League. Miss Stack spoke on the Religious Side of the Women's Movement and on the White Slave Traffic, and the audience were most attentive and interested. Mr. Jackson (Parochial Treasurer) then took the side of the anti-Suffragist, but more, we think, with the idea of having a discussion than from serious conviction. Mrs. Barbor proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, which Miss Jackson seconded, and the Meeting closed with the Benediction.

A Meeting was held on Friday, November 28th, at 8 p.m., in the Board Room of the Gregg Memorial Hall, Dawson Street, to which the clergy were invited. Dr. Kathleen Lynn, F.R.S.I., was in the chair. The speaker was the Rev. G. H. Davis, Minor Canon of Hereford Cathedral. In a short speech on 'The Moral Question' he brought forward women's claims in Church and State. He pointed out with great force and clearness how bad an effect on morality and all social questions, particularly those affecting women and children, the refusal of the Vote to Women has. Dr. Lynn spoke briefly on the torture of forcible feeding from the medical standpoint, and related what she herself had seen, as the result of it, in the patients she had attended after they had been released from prison. A very good discussion on the lecture followed, and some of the cards against forcible feeding were signed. A vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close. (MISS) M. L. I. STACK.

**Belfast.**

New Members: Rev. H. D. Murphy, D.D., Rev. Richard Seaver, Mrs. Seaver, Rev. W. S. Kerr, Mr. Madden, Mrs. Madden, Mr. H. W. Roper, Miss Kelsie Ewart, Miss Eliza Garrett, Miss Arbuthnot. (Mrs) MARGARET J. ROPER.

**SCOTLAND.****Edinburgh.**

New Member: Miss E. Newnham. An informal Meeting of Members was held in the Office to discuss the Purse Scheme. The following contributions were made: Mrs. D. Mackenzie, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Pringle, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Nisbet, 2s.; Miss Moffat, 1s.; Mrs. Purves, 2s. 6d.; Rev. M., Mrs., and Miss Herford, 3s.; Mrs. Keith, 1s.; Miss Keith, 1s.; Miss Playfair, 10s.; Mrs. Rowland, 10s.; Mrs. Eccles, £1; from General Fund (to be collected and refunded from Members), £1; total, £3 15s. The Edinburgh Purse was presented by Miss Playfair at the Church House Meeting, Westminster, on December 9th, but Members are reminded that contributions may still be made.

A Petition was sent to the Episcopal Synod asking that a prayer for the Right Settlement of the Cause be sanctioned by the Bishops for use in the Scottish Church. The Bishops carefully considered the Petition, but in reply referred us to prayers already in the Scottish and English Prayer Books.

Members are particularly requested to make an effort to attend the Annual Business Meeting of the Branch on January 6th, when the Committee for 1914 will be elected and other business transacted. (MISS) C. PLAYFAIR.

**The Calendar.**

Jan. 2,	Fri.	Harrow Branch: Service of Intercession in Parish Church at 12, after the Litany.
" 4,	Sun.	CORPORATE COMMUNION DAY.
" 5,	Mon.	Finance Committee, 6, Executive, 7 p.m., at Central Offices.
" 2,		Barnet Branch: Silent Intercession, Parish Church, 6.30-7 p.m.
" 9,		Barnet Branch: Reading and Working Party, 3-5 p.m., at Rotherham, Station Road.
" 16,		Barnet Branch: Monthly Service, Parish Church, 6.30 p.m., Address by Rev. L. Raimes.
" 22,		Bootle Branch: Members' Business Meeting, 8 p.m., in St. John's School.
" 23,		Ilford Branch: Musical Evening, 8 p.m., at Cecil Hall.
" 5,	Mon.	Anerley Branch: Women's Meeting, 3 p.m., in Co-Operative Hall, Penge. Speaker: Hon. Mrs. Henley.
" 6,	Tues.	Organization Committee, 11 a.m., at Central Offices.
" 7,	Wed.	Brighton and Hove Branch: Members' Meeting at the Office at 5.30 p.m., to choose delegates and discuss resolutions to the Annual General Council. Chair: Mrs. Francis.
" 8,	Thurs.	Harrow Branch: Service of Intercession in Parish Church at 12, after the Litany.
" 9,	Fri.	Islington Branch: Conversation for Members only at 7.30 p.m., in St. Mark's Church Room, Tollington Park, to be followed at 8.30 p.m. by the Annual Meeting of the Branch.
" 13,	Tues.	Ealing Branch: Business Meeting, 3 p.m., at 43, Hamilton Road, Ealing.
" 13,	Tues.	Organization Committee, 11 a.m., at Central Offices.
" 14,	Wed.	Central Branch Meeting, 3 p.m., at Central Offices, to discuss Resolutions for General Council.
" 15,	Thurs.	Anerley Branch: Annual Business Meeting, 8 p.m., in Co-Operative Hall, Penge.
" 15,	"	Bloomsbury Branch: Holy Communion, St. George's, Hart Street, 8 a.m.
" 15,	"	Greenwich and Lewisham Branch: Members' Meeting, 8 p.m., at 43, Clarendon Road, Lewisham, to discuss Agenda for General Council.
" 16,	"	Harrow Branch: Service of Intercession in Parish Church at 12, after the Litany.
" 19,	Mon.	Finance Committee, 6, Executive, 7 p.m., at Central Offices.
" 20,	Tues.	Swansea Branch: Public Meeting, 8 p.m., in Y.M.C.A. Hall. Rev. G. Herbert Davis on "White Slave Traffic and State Regulation of Vice." Chairman: Rev. D. Akkrill-Jones.
" 21,	Wed.	Organization Committee, 11 a.m., at Central Offices.
" 21,	"	West Holloway Branch: Members' Meeting, at 13, Stock Orchard Crescent, Holloway.
" 23,	Fri.	Harrow Branch: Service of Intercession in Parish Church at 12, after the Litany.
" 24,	Sat.	GENERAL COUNCIL at Church House, Westminster (Hoare Memorial Hall). Sessions—10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.; 2.30 to 5.30 p.m.
" 27,	Tues.	Bloomsbury Branch. Lecture in St. George's Vestry Hall, 8.15 p.m., by Rev. J. C. Todd on "The Practical Value of Women's Suffrage," followed by Social Gathering.
" 28,	Wed.	Organization Committee, 11 a.m., at Central Offices.
" 29,	Thurs.	Islington Branch. At Home at 8 p.m., St. Mary's Vicarage, Sunnyside Road, Hornsey Rise, by kind permission of the Rev. J. C. Elliott. Chair: Rev. J. C. Elliott. Speakers: Mrs. Cather, Lieut. Cather, R.N., and Rev. F. M. Green.
" "	"	Kensington Branch. Meeting at 21, Lexham Gardens, 8.15 p.m. Mrs. Lucy Henderson on "The Responsibility of Churchpeople towards the Suffrage Agitation"; and Miss Morrison on "Women's Urgent Need of the Vote."
" "	"	St. Albans Branch: Ticket Meeting, 8.15 p.m., at County Hall. Subject: "The White Slave Traffic." Speakers: Rev. G. Herbert Davis, Rev. C. Hinscliff, and others.
" 30,	Fri.	Harrow Branch: Service of Intercession in Parish Church at 12, after the Litany.
FEB. 1,	Sun.	CORPORATE COMMUNION DAY.

**Branch Secretaries.**

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