

JUS SUFFRAGII,

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EDITOR: MARTINA G. KRAMERS, 92 KRUISKADE, ROTTERDAM.

THIRD YEAR No. 8.

APRIL 15, 1909.

Wie anders würden unsere Wünsche vorgetragen und verteidigt werden können, wenn auch wir das köstliche Gut der Einbringung von Anträgen, der Vertretung von Petitionen und das Interpellationsrecht hätten, anstatt auf die „tender mercies“, eines männlichen Abgeordneten angewiesen zu sein!

ELIZA ICHENHÄUSER.



The opposition to Women's Suffrage does not really spring from the right or wrong or the expediency or in expediency of the question.

The idea is new, and English people are naturally conservative.

Mr. HART DAVIES M. P.

PRICE 2 DUTCH FLORINS PER YEAR.

Announcements on the London Convention.

Registration. Important. There has been a change in the plan of registration, and it will now be conducted at the Headquarters of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria street, Westminster, S.W. on Sunday afternoon, April 25th. from 3 to 6. All delegates, alternates, honorary associates, fraternal delegates, visitors from foreign countries and foreign press representatives are urgently requested to present themselves for registration during these hours. A corps of workers will be in charge and the business will be promptly despatched. Those registering will receive the hand-book containing the program, tickets of admission to the meeting, invitations and tickets for some of the social functions, the convention badge, the rules of business procedure for the Convention, etc. It is absolutely necessary to secure a correct registration of attendants upon the Convention in order that invitations to social functions, the seating of delegations, etc. may be intelligently adjusted. One delegate may register for absent ones if necessary. A card which, when filled will contain complete information, has been prepared for the registration. It will be possible to secure these cards by mail and to return the registration by letter, when that plan is necessary. Those desiring to register by this method may address Mrs. Edward Gulick, 25, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. The program etc. for those registered by mail will be found in the post office of the Information Bureau at St. James' Hall, on Monday morning. As this involves extra work delegates are urged to register in person if possible.

* * *

Program. Those appearing upon the program will be notified by letter of time and place. It will be impossible to issue a correct program in advance of the convention, owing to the great number of items which remain in doubt until the last moment. A few points should be remembered,

however, and are contained in the following skeleton:

Monday, April 26th, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Meeting opens St. James' Hall — Business.
- 2.30 p.m. Greetings by Mme. Sarah Grand of the Writers' League, Miss Emily Ford of the Artists' League, Miss Cicily Hamilton of the Actresses' League, Mrs. Edwin Grey of the International Council of Women. President's Address.
- 8 p.m. Public meeting in St. James' Hall. Speakers: ~~Rev. R. J. Campbell~~ *Presidential address* and representatives of countries where women vote.

Tuesday, April 27th, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Business meeting in St. James' Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. Business meeting.
- 8 p.m. Meeting in the Great Albert Hall.

Wednesday, April 28th, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Business Meeting in St. James' Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. Business Meeting in St. James' Hall.
- 8 p.m. Official Reception and dinner at Princes' Restaurant.

Thursday, April 29th, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Business Meeting in St. James' Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. Official excursion.
- 8 p.m. Meeting in Albert Hall tendered by the Social and Political Union.

Friday, April 30th, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Business Session in St. James' Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. Business Session.
- 8 p.m. Program Meeting in St. James' Hall.

Saturday, May 1st, 1909.

- 9.30 a.m. Business Meeting in St. James' Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. Official Excursion.
- 8 p.m. Reception tendered by the Men's League for Woman Suffrage at the Galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists.

On Sunday April 25th. Rev. Anna H. Shaw will speak at a Men's Meeting at the Rev. Silvester Horne's Church. A reception will probably be arranged for the evening.

13.30

On the Sunday following the Convention, May 2nd, two hundred seats will be reserved for members of the Congress, at St. Paul's Cathedral and Canon Scott Holland will preach. In the evening Rev. Anna H. Shaw will preach in the King's Weigh House Chapel.

On Monday, May 3rd., a reception will be tendered the Congress by the Women's Freedom League, from 3 to 6. In the evening the Shakespeare League will invite the delegates to a discussion upon "What Shakespeare thought of Women" at King's College.

Social Functions. In addition to the Social Functions announced in the program, there have been many invitations extended to the delegates for luncheons. Some ladies will entertain 10 delegates at luncheon every day, others will entertain that number for one day, others for two or three days. These luncheons are generally in the vicinity of St. James' Hall and it is proposed that the delegates shall apply to the Information Bureau on Monday, if possible, to secure information concerning these invitations. Every delegate will have at least one invitation for luncheon. Excursions have been arranged for every day in the week. These are for the benefit of those visitors and alternates who may not care to remain in the Convention the whole time. Every afternoon there will be tea for those who go to the excursions. For information concerning these afternoon entertainments, the delegates must apply to the Information Bureau. It is absolutely necessary that the registration for these entertainments shall be made in advance, otherwise hostesses will have no knowledge of the numbers to expect.

On Thursday the delegates may have a choice of an excursion to Wycombe Abbey School where the delegates will be received by the Principal, Miss Dove; or to Hampton Court where the delegates will be received by Mrs. Creighton, widow of the late Bishop of London; or to Windsor where the delegates will be received by Lady Edwin Churchill.

On Saturday there will be a choice of excursions to Oxford; to Cambridge; to Roedean School.

Discussion on Constitution. In order to facilitate the adoption of the Constitution by the Convention, I wish to ask the Presidents of all the countries, or a delegate who shall be appointed by the President as her proxy, to meet me at the Rooms of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58 Victoria Street, Westminster S.W., at 2 o'clock sharp, on Saturday afternoon. We shall there discuss the chief points of the Constitution. The object is to save the time of the Convention as the revision of a Constitution is always a tiresome undertaking.

At home. Last year a number of delegates attempted to call upon me concerning matters of business on the day previous to the Convention, but I was occupied with a meeting of the officers and consequently was unable to see them. This year I shall be free to receive any and all delegates who wish to call upon me at my Hotel between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday April 25.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

Please send BACK NUMBERS if you can spare them!

LIST OF HOTELS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

Hotel Bentinck, 17, Margaret Street, W.

Small Hotel, (Very good). En Pension (not less than one week) 3 P.St. 13s. 6d. Single bedroom, attendance and table d'hote breakfast from 5/6 a day.

Five minutes walk from St. James' Hall.

Dysart Hotel, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, W.

En Pension from 3 P.St. 11 s. 6 d. Special catering for Americans (American Manager).

Great Central Railway Hotel, Marylebone Road, W.

Fine, new, large Hotel. Ten minutes cab ride from St. James' Hall. Single rooms from 4/6. Double rooms from 7/-. Breakfast 2/-. 3/6. Luncheon 3/6. Dinner 6/-. Baths and fires extra. Easy omnibus communication.

The Ivanhoe Hotel, Bloomsbury St. W. C.

Single room, bath and breakfast 5/-. Lunch 1/6, 2/-. Dinner 2/6. Fifteen minutes walk from St. James' Hall. Easy omnibus communication.

Imperial Hotel, Russell Square W.

New, Large Hotel. Ten minutes cab ride from St. James' Hall. Easy omnibus communication. Bedroom, breakfast and attendance from 5/-. Bedroom with two beds, two wardrobes, two breakfasts and attendance, from 12/-. Baths and fires extra.

Langham Hotel, Portland Place, W.

Single rooms, from 4/6 to 8/-. attendance 1/6 extra. Baths, fires and lights extra. An old-established first class hotel. Seven minutes walk from St. James' Hall.

Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, W.

Bedroom, lights, attendance and breakfast, from 5/- per day. Baths extra. En Pension, from 3 P.St. 3 s. per week. Next door to St. James' Hall.

Thackeray Hotel, Great Russell Street, opposite British Museum.

Temperance Hotel. Meals at stated times. Bedroom including attendance, from 3/6 to 6/-. Ditto, for two persons, 6/6 to 11/-. Ditto, attendance, breakfast and dinner, 8/6 to 10/6 per day. Fifteen minutes walk from St. James' Hall. Easy omnibus communication.

Welbeck Palace Hotel, Welbeck Street, W.

New Hotel, highly recommended. Single bedrooms, light, attendance, bath, from 6/- a day. Double ditto from 7/6. Inclusive terms from 12/6 p. day. About 10 minutes walk from St. James' Hall.

White Hall Hotel, 22 Montague St., W. C. (near British Museum).

Single rooms breakfast, bath, light, attendance, 5/- inc. By the week from 2 P.St. 2 s. Fifteen minutes walk from St. James' Hall. Easy omnibus communication.

LIST OF BOARDING HOUSES.

37, Cleveland Square, Hyde Park, W. — Apply Miss Hyam.

3 minutes from Tube Station. Terms, from 30/- a week or from 6/- a day. Would probably make special terms for delegates.

Sussex House, 15a Kensington Park Road, W. — Apply Miss Day.

Specially recommended.

Cambridge House, 16 Montague Street, W. C.

Terms, from 2 p.St. 2 s. Specially recommended.

76, Prince's Square, Bayswater. — Apply Mrs. Clarke.

Specially recommended.

Osnaburgh House, Opposite Portland Road Station.

Terms, from 2 Guineas a week. Meals at stated times. Exceptionally nice.

Beauchamp Lodge, Warwick Crescent, W.

Terms, 2/6 for bedroom and breakfast no other meals can be had. Delegates received during the Vacation.

33, Cheniston Gardens, Kensington, W.

Terms, 3/- per day or 17/- per week for bedroom and breakfast. Bedroom Breakfast and Dinner 4/- per day or 25/- per week. Full board 26/- per week, 31/- according to room.

Great Britain.

During the past month the **National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies** has been actively engaged at the by-elections in Taunton, Edinburgh, Forfar and Croydon. In the latter constituency all energies were devoted to getting signatures to the Electors' Petition. The number secured was 1200. The Croydon members, London members, and the representative of the Men's League Mr. Riddoch helping in the work. New members have been gained by the Local Society and the election has undoubtedly done good work educationally and politically. A new organizer, Miss Fielden, has been appointed for Yorkshire. She will start work at Beverley on April 19th and from there will go to Driffild, Goole and Selby. A caravan tour has been arranged for the month of June.

With regard to the Parliamentary Position a Representation of the People Bill has been introduced by Mr. Howard for Universal Adult Suffrage, but the National Union is fully satisfied with the Bill introduced by Mr. Stanger last Session—giving the suffrage to women on the same terms as it is granted to men—and every other organization working for Women's Suffrage has cordially accepted that Bill. On the motion for the Second Reading of Mr. Howard's Bill there voted including the tellers 159 for the Bill 124 against it. The majority consisted of 108 Liberal, 32 Labour and 19 Nationalist members. Members of the Government who voted for the Bill were Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Macnamara and Mr. Masterman. Those who voted against it were Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Birrell, Mr. Pease and Mr. Fules. All the others abstained. On the Second Reading of Mr. Stanger's Bill last year 273, including tellers, voted for the Bill and 94 against it. It will therefore be seen that the effect of Mr. Howard's Bill has been to reduce those voting for Women's Suffrage by 114 and to increase those voting against it by 32.

A declaration in support of Women's Suffrage has been signed by many influential men, among them the Rt. Hon. Gerald U. Balfour, Lord Robert Cecil, the Hon. Sir John Cockburn K.C.M.G., Ex-premier of South Australia, Rt. Hon. Lord Courtney of Penrith, Rt. Hon. Herbert J. Gladstone, Walter Crane, the Earl of Lytton, Hon. H. B. J. Strangways, Ex-premier of S. Australia, Sir Frederick Polluck, LL.D., L. Oppenheim, LL.D., Whewell Prof. of International law at Cambridge and Professor Westlake, K.C. LL.D., late Professor of International law at Cambridge. Four Bishops of the Church of England, and several leading clergy, the bestknown preachers of the Free churches, Major General W. E. Wamond P.D.L. and Major General Sir Alfred Turner K.C.B. R.A. The Universities are too strongly represented for a selection of names to be given.

The Executive Committee in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretaries of Societies in the Union has decided to make the week May 9th to May 16th one of *Special Effort* for the Enfranchisement of Women.

London, April 1909. MARGERY I. CORBETT.

On March 23rd, the **National Women's Social & Political Union** held their annual meeting in the Queen's Hall. Rapid as has been the growth

of the militant movement during the first two years of its existence, the expansion during the year which closed on February 28th, 1909, has been little short of miraculous. The subscription lists show a total of over £ 20,000, (400,000 marks). The report also states that the circulation of the paper "Votes for Women", (the special organ of the Union) has risen from 1500 to 20000 per week. Some 10,000 meetings have been held in all parts of the United Kingdom.

During the year just closed a very great many women have suffered imprisonment for the sake of "Votes for Women". Their sentences reach a total of 8 years, which if added to the sentences served since the beginning of the militant movement makes an aggregate of over 20 years served in prison.

On March 30th, the Union held a Women's Parliament in Caxton Hall. From this parliament a deputation of women appointed by the people of Lancashire and London, attempted to interview the Prime Minister. As is the custom of the Union, notice of this deputation was sent to the Prime Minister several days before the parliament, but Mr. Asquith, as is also his custom, wrote curtly refusing to receive the deputation. Not to be beaten, the women wrote again announcing their intention of going to the House of Commons, and trusting that Mr. Asquith would receive them. When the deputation reached the House of Commons, they found it closely guarded by some 2000 police. For two hours the women attempted to gain entrance, and in the end 11 were arrested. The following day those members of the deputation who still remained at liberty made a fresh attempt, and 9 were arrested, and brought before the magistrate. With one exception, they were sentenced to one month's imprisonment; one of the number Miss Patricia Woodlock, being a "fourth offender", received a sentence of three months.

On April 16th, we hope to welcome our beloved Treasurer, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. A great welcome has been arranged for her to extend over two days.

For the **Women's Freedom League** the chief events of the past month have been the release of our prisoners, and the Glasgow and Croydon by-elections. Mrs. Despard was soon released, on the ground that her health was suffering, but really because of the storm of indignation at her arrest. Mrs. Duval who really was in poor health and whose arrest was absolutely without justification, was kept in prison for the full term of six weeks.

We had a strong body of speakers and workers at Glasgow up to the polling day, and our Scotch friends have since written to tell us that all classes and parties are agreed as to the wonderful impression we made. This was proved by the fact that about 1200 postcards were sent by the voters to Mr. Asquith to inform him they had voted against his candidate at the request of the Women's Freedom League, to show their disapproval of his attitude on the urgent question of votes for women.

We are now preparing a Green White and Gold Fair for the 15th, 16th and 17th April, it will be a most delightful entertainment and will we hope provide us with the sinews of war. We hope too

that some of our international friends may have arrived in England in time to take part in it.
London, April 1909. SARAH BENETT.

In connexion with the London congress the Officers and Committee of the **Men's League for Women's Suffrage** have arranged to give a reception in honour of the delegates in the Royal Society of British Artists on May 1st.

Greetings and responses in all languages of the world will be heard there.

A very large number of ladies and gentlemen attended an "At Home" in the Leinster Lecture Hall in Dublin on April 5 for the purpose of paying a public compliment to **Mrs. Anna Maria Haslam** in connection with her 80th birthday. The proceedings were of a unique and most interesting character, and everybody connected with the event is to be congratulated upon complete success.

M. G. K.

Austria.

The **Vienna** Suffragists gave a reception to Mrs. Chapman Catt on her passage through their city, which it is hoped may result in their being represented at the London Congress. Many of them came to attend the conference Miss Kramers gave on March 15 for the National Council of Women, in which there was much mention made of the Dutch women's efforts to get the franchise.

In Graz and in Prague too § 30 did not hinder the German-speaking women from showing an interest in the action of the suffragists in Holland.

Among the propositions of law, reintroduced at the beginning of the new Parliamentary Session on March 10th, there is one from the Social-democrats for extension of the suffrage to women and for fixing the limit of age at 21. Another S. D. deputy proposed the abolition of § 30 which excludes women from political meetings.

M. G. K.

GALLICIAN WOMEN.

Since two years the so-called "universal suffrage" has been introduced in Austria for the National Parliament. Now there are plans afoot to introduce universal suffrage for the Diets of the Crown Domains which constitute the Austrian Empire, as well as for sundry Municipal Councils.

At Cracow, in the ancient capital of Poland, a commission was appointed to draft a new municipal constitution regulating the right of suffrage. Since 1864 the women qualified by a certain amount of tax or education had the vote. Yet they were obliged to vote by proxy. The above-named commission wants to abolish the proxies by permitting women to vote in person. The Cracovian women are not satisfied with this reform and employ every effort that the draft of the commission shall confer suffrage as well as eligibility upon women in the category of common voters (*curie générale*), which comprises all adult citizens without any tax-qualification.

PAULINE KUCZALSKA REINSCHMIT.
Warsaw, March 30, 1909.

CZECHISH WOMEN.

In answer to an invitation by the "Women's Suffrage Committee" Mrs. Chapman Catt, president of the I. W. S. A., addressed a large public meeting arranged by the Bohemian women in the large

council chamber of the famous old Town Hall of Prague. People from all classes of Bohemian society attended the meeting and made the occasion a very festive one.

Besides representatives of the Bohemian National Council of the city of Prague, and delegates of all progressive political parties, there was present the American consul Mr. Brittain and his wife, a representative of the British consulate and Miss Martina G. Kramers, secretary of the I. W. S. A. There were delegates of leading women's organisations from all parts of Bohemia, also from the sister countries of Moravia and Silesia.

The meeting was opened by Miss S. Plaminkova of the W. S. Committee.

This was the first political meeting held in this memorable old Town Hall, which had been the scene of many historical events of Bohemia.

She pointed out the importance of the moment, for the coming election in May will give evidence whether women will preserve or lose the equal rights with men which they have heretofore had; she also explained the significance of the I. W. S. A. and "our" relation to it. Mrs. A. Kuklova, president of the Czechish Women's Club then introduced Mrs. Chapman Catt who came to encourage and strengthen the Bohemian women in their efforts to preserve their ancient rights and to acquire equal rights for all. Facing a painting of Huss, who five hundred years ago said: "Lift up thy head, o daughter and perceive that thou art a human being", Mrs. Chapman Catt spoke convincingly about the two great ideals of our times: the emancipation of women and international peace. She is sure, that they will become facts as soon as they are well understood, when the world will see that money is better spent for schools than for war, and that woman's place is beside man, and not three steps behind. The Austrian parliament made one step forward when it gave universal suffrage to men in 1907. But while it stepped forward with one foot, it stepped backward with the other in taking suffrage from the women. It is hoped this will not happen in Bohemia where the women have had equal rights with men since 1861. May Bohemia's future be as splendid as the past was!

Miss M. Tumová, who interpreted Mrs. Chapman Catt's speech for the Bohemians, quoted the results achieved where women have co-operated in legislation, and mentioned some of the laws of an ideal state which would protect women and children and would raise the morals of the citizens and make them happier. She concluded with the hope that "the nearest future will show that we are still true followers of our righteous queen Libuse, who stood for equality of rights".

After that a motion was made by Miss H. Macha, that a telegram be sent to the Emperor Franz Joseph asking him to preserve peace, which was unanimously adopted.

The meeting closed after a speech by Miss Plaminkova, in which the proclaimed Miss Tuma a candidate for the Bohemian Diet and urged all political parties to support her.

On her way from the meeting Mrs. Chapman Catt received great ovations from the people who were gathered in front of the Town Hall. While in Prague she was the guest of the Committee for Women's Suffrage and the Czechish Women's Club which gave a reception in her honour March 24th. She also called on the Ladies of the American Women's Club, who hold their meetings in the house of Náprstek, whose Museum contains many fine specimens of Bohemian industry; in

the evening of March 25th she attended the Bohemian Opera.

She was deeply moved by the opera given, which happened to be a scene from Bohemian history—an uprising of the peasants against the tyranny of a German Lord.

The next morning she visited the Ethnological Museum with Mrs. Brittain.

She left Prague at noon accompanied by Miss Kramers. Many members of the Women's Suffrage Committee came to the train to bid her "Adieu" and "Au Revoir"!

Prague, April 1909. M. TUMOVÁ PLAMINKOVÁ.

Denmark.

On April 1st at half past seven the new Municipal Council of Copenhagen assembled in the Town Hall for the first time. Seven women had been elected. Miss Crone and Mrs. Johansen (Socialist party), Mrs. Thora Knudsen and Mrs. Vibeke Salicath (Conservative and Liberal party), Mrs. Dr. Med. Alvilde Hoff and Mrs. Arenholt (Radical party) and Miss Johanne Blom (Clerical party) made their first entry.

The Socialist Party occupying almost half of the seats had the right to give the welcome. The party entrusted the address to Mr. Borgbjerg. He gave a welcome to the 24 re-elected Representatives, as well as to the 16 newcomers and a special welcome to the seven Women Citizen-Representatives. We will quote his own words:

"It is a historical event, it is a revolution, accomplished under the most peaceable aspects, that women for the first time have a seat in this hall, elected by the votes of men and women of their own party. The eager participation in the election on the part of women and the fact that they boldly immediately divided themselves into groups after their political opinions, bear witness that women are sufficiently ripe for direct participation in municipal work—at all events they are riper than men were when they for the first time got suffrage and eligibility in Denmark. I have never fancied that the participation of women in the government would impede our progress in culture, for 50 or 100 years, as has been hinted from other parts; on the contrary, it will inaugurate an ever increasing progress in humanity, liberality and that love of mankind, which has its deepest roots in the mother-feeling.

"It is my most intimate conviction that the eager participation of women in the elections both in Copenhagen and all over the country, as well as the activity that the elected women will show in the Municipal Councils, will further and advance political equality between men and women.

"Welcome in the Municipal Council of Copenhagen! May this new Council, by the joint labour of men and women, work for the prosperity of our beautiful capital at a still quicker rate than hitherto under the bright standard of humanity and liberality!"

We women have nothing to complain of, when we are received in this way, on making our entry in the Municipal Council of our capital. We had not expected such politeness at the hands of a socialist leader. This shows perhaps, that the nervous fear the party has felt for the influence of women electors on their supremacy in the Council has disappeared—and now they bid the women welcome!

Copenhagen, April 1908. JOHANNE MÜNTER.

In the beginning of March elections for the Municipal Councils have taken place all over the country, and for the first time the women have taken part in this performance.

We have every reason to be satisfied with the participation of the women in the elections, though naturally inferior to that of the men.

The women representatives elected are not so numerous as we might have wished, for the men have not been, as a rule, too eager to have women candidates on their lists. The "Landsforbund" through its various branches has been very much instrumental in making women vote; through its little paper "Kvindevalgret", 20000 copies of which were on that occasion distributed, it urged the women to use their privilege of voting.

The "Landsforbund" now comprises 120 branches with more than 10000 members.

We are going to accept the invitation of the I. W. S. A. for two fraternal delegates to go to the Congress in London.

Copenhagen, April 3rd 1909. CLARA TYBJERG.

Sweden.

Last month we had to report from Sweden, that the Universal Suffrage Bill for men was passed by the Swedish Riksdag. The most important objection to votes for women in our country has been, that the question of men's suffrage in itself was so very difficult to pass on account of the different opinions in the Houses, that it was impossible to aggravate it by introducing at the same time that of women's enfranchisement. So now we may hope, that the Riksdag will take up our cause with greater interest.

A bill proposing suffrage and eligibility for women on the same conditions as for men has now been introduced by Mr. Staaff, the leader of the Liberal party and is also supported by the whole Executive Committee of the same party. After an historical review of the treatment of this subject in the Riksdag Mr. Staaff also states, that the chief argument against it has now fallen down. The old objections, that the task of women is to take care of the home and the growing generation and not meddle with politics have long ago been refuted, and the men themselves have already called women to their help in many departments of municipal work. The fact that eligibility may call the wives and mothers from their homes cannot be accounted a danger, at it is proposed that women shall always have the right to refuse any political charge. As the Riksdag has this very year allowed the women municipal eligibility and also in principle acknowledged that they may be admitted to some important public offices, Mr. Staaff takes this to be a statement that some civic rights have already been granted to Swedish women. He ends his argumentation by saying: "If we judge the women capable of being town councillors, professors at a university, physicians in the service of the state etc., there is no sense in pretending, that they should be too 'immature' to take part in elections of members of Parliament or even to be elected either."

The Socialist party has also introduced a bill for women's enfranchisement, but this question, is connected with proposals of certain alterations in the general qualifications for men's suffrage and in the position of the Upper House towards the Lower House, and the bill cannot possibly pass.

Finally this week a bill about women's suffrage has been introduced even in the Conservative Upper House by Mr. Alb. Bergström.

The chances for our cause in this session of the Riksdag are not easy to foretell. We ought to have a majority in the Lower House, if we may trust in the promises made at the election-meetings, but the Upper House is not likely to give up its resistance so soon.

In the meantime the women are going on with their courses of lectures on citizenship in the local associations, and with their agitation. Mrs. Augusta Tonning has during a fortnight's journey founded four new associations and addressed several meetings.

In this very moment I get the news that „Konstitutionsutskottet”—the Committee that has to prepare all constitutional laws—has proposed both suffrage and eligibility for women, a fact which is to be regarded as a great success for our cause and which will considerably increase our chances.

GULLI PETRINI.

Växiö, April 1909.

Norway.

At the coming election there will act five independent political parties: the Conservatives („die Rechte”), the Liberals („die freisinnige Linke”), the Radicals („die Linke”), the National Democrats („die Arbejderdemokrater”) and the Socialdemocrats („die Arbejderpartei”).

Except one, all these parties have now fixed their programmes and the Socialdemocrats propose to make universal suffrage for women their first point. The Radicals and the National Democrats, which are the parties that have formed the present Government have both universal political suffrage for women on their platform. The point was unanimously carried at the national convention of the National Democrats, and with very few opponents in that of the Radicals. At the latter meeting it was warmly and eloquently defended by *Mrs. Cecilie Krog*, one of the foremost representatives of the women's movement. At the meeting of the Liberals it was proposed to put universal suffrage for women on the programme, but the motion got very few votes. At the Conservative meeting the question of woman suffrage was not even mentioned.

Some time ago the Government has put a proposition before the Storting about some important amendments in the municipal law. The chief point in the bill is that it will give women universal suffrage on the same terms as men have it. At present the municipal vote of women is still limited by the same qualification as the political suffrage.

WILHELM KEILHAU.

Kristiania, April 1909.

At the proposition of the Justice Department the State Council resolved to introduce a bill on revision of the Local Government of town and country. Among other amendments the bill contains extension of the municipal vote to universal adult suffrage for men and women. Probably the bill will not be dealt with by the Constitutional Committee soon enough to be passed by the Odelsting and the Lagting of this year. If the chances are good, the women of Norway will have universal suffrage at the municipal elections of 1910. With regard to political suffrage the prospect has not changed. A new political party has been formed which has taken the name of „the Progressive Left” („det frisindede venstre”).

Woman suffrage was discussed in its national convention, but they resolved *not* to make it a plank in their platform. So the situation has remained the same as before. Only the Left, the Democratic Labour Party and the Socialists have taken universal woman suffrage up into their elections-program.

(Nylaende, March 15, 1909.)

The Annual Meeting of the N. W. S. A., held on March 18, adopted a change of Constitution. Accordingly the annual assembly is to take place in April, the Local Branches are to send delegates and an Executive of 7 members will be elected. As under the new law single members have no vote, they resolved to constitute themselves into a Local Branch Kristiania.

In Drammen Mr. Jacobsen L.L.D., terminated his course of lectures on citizenship and politics by a sham election. Program, speeches, questions addressed to candidates, polling, counting of votes etc. everything was represented as in real elections. The lecturer had the greatest possible success and it was evident that his audience had profited by his lessons and understood his teaching. Fru Qvam, who presided, gave hearty thanks to Mr. Jacobsen and to the organizers of the lectures, especially Miss Mörck.

M. G. K.

France.

On March 20 the N. W. S. A. (Union française pour le Suffrage des Femmes) held its second meeting. The Chairman, Mme. J. E. Schmahl made a beautiful introductory address which carried conviction and enthusiasm. Several of the assistants gave money or subscriptions towards raising a fund for the young Association's first expenses. The Duchess d'Uzès and Mme Léon Philippe were proposed as additional members of the Executive. It was decided that Mme Schmahl should go to the London congress to represent the N. W. S. A. there, accompanied by some other delegates to be elected at a future occasion. Dr. Käthe Schirmacher gave some excellent advice concerning propaganda. Finally every member took the engagement to try and interest some friends in the cause and to bring them to the next meeting.

M. G. K.

The second session of the **Permanent International Women's Congress** took place on Friday March 26 in the premises of „La Française, 49 rue Lafitte, Paris. Mme. Marya Chéliga was in the chair. This meeting was particularly interesting. The subjects were: Conference on Arabian women by Cheikh Abou-Maddara, editor of „l'Univers Musulman”; Report of Mr. Ferridonn Bey on the evolution of Ottoman women; and Communications from Mr. Fabri L. L. D. on the part taken by women in the Turkish revolution.

Miss Karin Raun presented to the audience a quite different picture of women's progress, when she spoke of the women's movement in Denmark. Seven women have just been elected for the Town Council of Copenhagen, and no fault is found with this innovation, as the women have given ample proof of their capacity in administrative, intellectual and other respects, so that they may safely be trusted to play an active part in social life. Mme. I. Orka communicated a letter from Mrs.

Bujwid, a Polish suffragist at Cracow, which said that a big meeting for electoral reform had been held at Cracow. Some Town Councillors are not adverse to the idea of having women as their colleagues; it would therefore be desirable to communicate to the Polish suffragists the text of the law which gives to Danish women eligibility to the Municipal Council, that they might present this law as an example to the Polish legislators. Miss Karin Raun promised Mrs. Orka soon to send her the desired text.

Mme. Marie Cahen, Vice-President of a Peace League (Alliance Universelle des Femmes pour la Paix par l'Education) presented an interesting report on the work of its Antwerp section, which numbers nearly 2000 members and has just given a magnificent annual festival for propaganda, which on March 10th was the topic of the day and the triumph of pacifism in Antwerp. At Mme Cahen's request a resolution on the desirability of international arbitration was unanimously carried.

Miss Ida Markovich then read a circular from the International Woman Suffrage Alliance on the Convention to be held in London on April 26. The Chairman, Mrs. Marya Chéliga, asked the meeting to ratify by their vote the appointment of Mme. I. Orka, chosen by the Executive as Fraternal Delegate from the P. I. W. C. This was carried unanimously.

The President then communicated tidings from Russia concerning a recent law which permits married women to get their passports without their husbands' consent. She stated that this was a great step towards enfranchisement.

The session ended with a most interesting report from Mr. Lecoconnier, member of the Appeals Court, on the evolution of the women's movement in France. The author showed remarkable knowledge and talent, worthy of the applause he received from the audience.

The next session will take place in May after Mrs. Orka, the General Secretary, will have returned from London.

Paris, March 30, 1909.

I. ORKA.

The Netherlands.

As the last link in the series of good results of the Amsterdam Congress, the N.W.S.A. now publishes the translation of some of the reports and speeches together with the Alliance's leaflets on Australia and New Zealand. This volume and the book issued in 1907 give a compendium of information on woman suffrage which will prove useful in the approaching election campaign. Besides we are increasing our stock of handbills and manifestoes for distribution, and our monthly organ has its place on the tables in the waiting-rooms of railway stations. The „Bond for W. S.” imitates this sort of propaganda.

The various political parties are deliberating on their attitude towards the revision of the Constitution and the extension of the suffrage. The N.W.S.A. intends by vigorous action to take care that the enfranchisement of women be not forgot. There are indications that reminders will not be superfluous.

A full delegation of six accredited representatives and six alternates, among whom is the President, Dr. Aletta Jacobs, will go to the London congress; moreover some forty members of the N.W.S.A. and nine of the Dutch Hon. Associates of the Alliance will attend the congress. The „Dutch Bond for Woman Suffrage” sends six of its mem-

bers, of whom the President, Mrs. Wynaendts Francken-Dyserinck, and the Secretary are the two Fraternal Delegates. The Men's League will be represented by its President, Mr. E. W. van Straaten L.L.D. and another of its Officers.

MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

Rotterdam, April 10, 1909.

Germany.

The Democratic Union (Demokratische Vereinigung) has not only endorsed the claim of universal, equal, direct and secret elections *without sex-disqualification* in its program, but it also energetically advocates this demand in speaking and writing. A series of Sections in and outside of Berlin have made woman suffrage the theme of their meetings at which both men and women were the speakers. So for instance in Berlin Mr Freund, Mrs v. Kurowski, Mrs Cauer, Mrs Deutsch and Mrs Breitscheid; at Dessau Mrs Cauer and recently at Cologne Mrs Breitscheid spoke. Everywhere the demand of votes for women was most warmly supported by the members of the Democratic Union. In the different Sections all over Berlin a considerable number of women have become devoted members, and nearly everywhere one or two women have been elected on the Executive.

The Municipal Council (Stadverordnetenkollegium) of Schöneberg having addressed to the Prussian Government a petition for revision of some municipal regulations, the Liberal fraction of the said Council added a clause claiming universal, equal, direct suffrage for all inhabitants (men and women) who have lived in the place over one year.

The Saxon W. S. A. held a public meeting on March 26 at Dresden, where Mrs. Chapman Catt and Miss Kramers addressed a large audience. There was a debate with an anti-suffragist that gave Mrs. Catt an opportunity of convincing even more hearers than she had already done by her speech.

For the Prussian W. S. A., our President had a still greater success at a meeting in Berlin on March 30.

The Württemberg W. S. A. sent a petition to the Government and to the Diet, claiming not only votes but also eligibility for women in the Agrarian Boards (Landwirtschaftskammern) that are going to be formed. In the explanatory remarks they give a telling statistic on the growing number of women in the agricultural professions and the importance of their work for the produce of the Kingdom.

The March-number of the organ of the German W. S. A. contains a supplement that speaks of great activity in the Local Sections of Constance, Freiburg, Mannheim, Munich, Bremen, Naheim, Mecklemburg, Berlin, Bielefeld, Danzig, Dortmund, Frankfurt a/M and Königsberg. In the April number Miss Heymann continues her review of the electoral qualifications for voting for National Diets and Municipal Councils in the different states of the German Empire, dealing this time with Hesse, Hamburg, Brunswick and Bremen. M. G. K.

On May 6th at the General Meeting of the Silesian Local Council of Women (Schlesischer Frauenverband) Miss Elsa Hielscher-Panten will

give an address on municipal, and Mrs. Marie Wegner-Breslau on political suffrage for women.

The National Council of Women (Bund deutscher Frauenvereine) sent a petition concerning the Bill on Boards of Trade (Arbeitskammern), which demands 1) territorial sections of those Boards, 2) equal, direct and secret suffrage for men and women employers and employees, particularly the right to vote at the age of 21 and eligibility at the age of 25.

The N. C. decided to take women's municipal franchise as one of the subjects of the public meetings to be held in connection with the Biennial Meeting in the autumn of 1910 at Heidelberg. (Die Frauenbewegung).

Italy.

The Turin Woman Suffrage Committee has organised a big meeting the day before the opening of the Italian Parliament. During the recent election campaign the Committee had adopted the following resolution:

—“Whereas representative governments should, in due consideration of their dignity, be based on the consent of all the tax-paying citizens;

the Committee „Pro voto alle donne” protests against the injustice of our laws, which deny Italian women participation in public life and oblige them in these days of conflicting national interests to remain inert spectators;

and, intending to give the reasons for this protest in a public meeting to be held on the day before the opening of Parliament;

expresses its confident hope that our 23rd National Parliament be composed of men who may be able to understand the necessity of granting women the legal status which is due to them and their enfranchisement by the municipal and political vote.”—

The Committee fulfilled its promise and called a monster meeting on Sunday March 21st, the day before the re-opening of the Chamber. An unusual and imposing crowd filled the big hall of the Associazione Operaia, which holds 2000 persons; and there were numerous women of all classes and conditions. Many greetings had come, among which there was one from Robert Mirabelli M. P., the pioneer of Woman Suffrage in the Italian Parliament, who regretted to be absent. There were letters of sympathy from the N.W.S.A. (Comitato Nazionale „Pro Suffragio di Donna”), the Teachers' League, the Socialist Party, the Republican Party, the Christian Democrat Union, the Peace Society, and from a great number of Mutual and Friendly Societies.

Town Councillor Anocato Cagno was in the chair. Much applauded speeches were made by *Linda Malnati* from Milan, a well-known suffrage worker, Prof. Miss *Carmela Baricelli*, editor of the paper *l'Alleanza*, *Teresa Moglia*, secretary of the Turin Comm. for W. S. The following resolution was unanimously carried:

—“The assembled women of Turin, desiring to remind to the partisans and to show to the slow-minded the importance of the right withheld from their sex;

this day, 21 March, at the approach of the opening of the 23rd National Legislature;

point out how women, by their important asset to the community's welfare, brought about through their various activities in commerce, trade, art, politics and social work, have nowadays by degrees come to acquire civil personality and to feel a greater sense of individual responsibility;

claim therefore at the hands of the newly elected legislators the fulfilment of their duty to make the electoral regulations more conform to modern ideas by legally conferring upon women the right of political and municipal suffrage on the same terms as the law gives it to men,—recognising thereby not only the rights enjoyed by women in sundry parts of the country before Italy became a national unity, but also recognising the character of a representative government and the claims of justice;

call upon the citizens of both sexes and of all classes and parties to show an active interest in the introduction of the desired reform, which is sure to further moral and political progress, both nationally and internationally.”

TERESA MOGLIA.

Turin, April 1909.

Australia.

Miss Goldstein writes from Melbourne:

„There is nothing very tangible to report since our bill was passed. The Royal assent necessary for all bills amending the constitution will not arrive till about April, and in a few weeks the State Parliament will adjourn for two or three months. Meanwhile we are discussing the best methods of organising the women. To secure organization that will operate effectively in both State and National politics is a big proposition. I should like to thank through „Jus Suffragii” all those who sent me congratulatory letters on the passing of the woman suffrage bill. I appreciated them to the full, and shall answer all in due course, but my ordinary correspondence is heavy and it takes me some time to meet an extra rush of letters.

I hope Australia will have a large delegation at the International meeting in London. The situation there is of such consuming interest that I cannot conceive of any whole-hearted suffragist staying at home if she is free to attend the conference. All who can should go with the determination of showing the English Government that the women of all nations are in complete sympathy with those splendid English women who are making such heroic sacrifices in the cause of freedom.”

VIDA GOLDSTEIN.

Melbourne, Febr. 10, 1909.

United States.

A despatch in the morning papers of Febr. 25 said that an equal suffrage bill had passed the South Dakota House, 68 to 28. Now a similar bill has already passed the Senate by 34 to 9 votes. All these large votes, coming within a short time of each other, show that the question is no longer academic. It has become practical.

(from „The Woman's Journal”).

Spain.

Our fellow-worker Miss Mercedes Sarda gave a much admired conference at Madrid on women's part in the education of the children and thereby of the whole nation. The rooms of the Circulo Mercantil were not big enough to contain the crowd of listeners, and there was great enthusiasm, when the speaker showed the interest men had in the education of women so as to make them more efficient in the service of the community.

M. G. K.