

29th NOVEMBER, 1912.

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE Societies.

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Notes and Comments.

Women Councillors and Suffrage.

A member of the National Union of Suffrage Societies has made a canvass of 45 past and present women municipal councillors in England and Scotland. Five did not reply to her. Thirty-eight declared themselves suffragists and two anti-suffragists. Fifteen out of the 45 stated that they were in favour of the enfranchisement of women but opposed to militant methods. The same lady adds that there are also 12 women on Urban District Councils, 189 on Rural District Councils, 44 women on Scottish Parish Councils, 1,386 women Poor Law Guardians, and six women who are Chairmen of Boards of Guardians; four Insurance Commissioners, paid (at the same rate as men) £1,000 a year, five Medical or Assistant Medical Officers, and one woman Town Clerk (in Limerick). She reminds us that the Liverpool Suffrage Society two years ago drew up a memorial, which was signed by 585 women who were members of local Government bodies.

Conflagration and the Proprieties.

At the inquest last week upon the young women who lost their lives in the fire at Messrs. John Barker's the head fireman, after explaining that there was a rope ladder by means of which, "if it had been out," some of the victims could have escaped, was asked whether the girls had been drilled in the use of the ladder. He replied, according to the report in the *Daily Citizen* of the 22nd inst.:

"No; it is not desirable to drill young ladies up and down a rope ladder."

But, if "young ladies" are likely to have to descend a rope ladder at the risk of their lives, with a burning house behind them, it is imperative that no false delicacy shall debar them from frequent previous practice upon such a ladder. It is surely possible to carry on the requisite drill in some place sufficiently private to allay the scruples of any fireman, so that when real danger comes they may know how instantly to let down their ladder and may be familiar with all its peculiarities. Life or death in a fire is a matter of minutes, and the saving or losing of minutes is a matter of drill.

The Training of Colonists.

A word of timely warning was spoken by Mr. E. C. Sparrow at the sitting of the Dominions Royal Commission in London. He pointed out that emigration of girls to Canada could only be

successful when the would-be colonists were previously trained, but that the huge stream of unsatisfactory or inefficient young women to the Dominion which was at present flowing from the old country to the new could only result in disappointment to all concerned. He made the sensible plea for more practical instruction in mother-craft and in household science before emigration was attempted. We think that the work of the existing admirable training colleges for the Colonies is too little known in the country and suggest that the whole subject should find its place in lecture-lists devoted to women's interests.

Rest Rooms for Domestic Helpers.

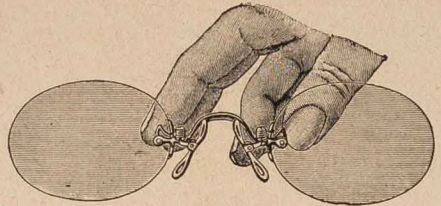
A correspondent in the *Standard* makes a timely suggestion that aimless wanderings in the streets by many lonely young domestics between church service and the hour of their return to their mistresses' homes might be obviated by the provision of a rest-room in various neighbourhoods. These places of welcome, it is proposed, should be opened from 8 to 9.30 p.m. on Sunday evenings, and should provide "reading matter and a warm welcome to any girl or woman who cares to come." Such a scheme, we imagine, has only to be tried on a few occasions to afford ample proof of the great need in the community for some form of organised recreation for a specially isolated class of women. The one obvious comment seems to be an enquiry why such a recreation-room should be for use on only one evening in the week.

Cultivation of Self-Expression.

A novel plan was adopted at the November "At Home," at Uxbridge, evidently with the idea of popularising debate and of cultivating self-expression among the visitors. The device adopted was the following: Chairs were arranged in separate circles, each circle being labelled with the subject to be discussed in it. When the company had chosen their places each circle elected its own chairman and discussion commenced. A bell rang after the lapse of a sufficient period, when the company were desired to change places, and to discuss a new subject in a different circle. There was no set speaker and no resolution. Provided that there is a sufficiently large room for the purpose, so that the discussion does not degenerate into clamour, the idea seems worthy of imitation, as a counteraction to the general tendency at meetings to allow the debate to be carried on almost entirely by a few practised speakers.

A Suspicious Incident.

A correspondent calls attention to an incident described in *Truth* of October 30 as having occurred at Victoria Station on the previous Thursday—that is, October 24th. Just before the departure of the second part of the boat train two men, apparently foreigners, and a woman, who seemed to be English, arrived. The woman cried out that they were taking her to the boat train and that she would not go, and threw herself on the ground. One of the men called a porter, and told him his wife was out of her mind, whereupon the porter picked up the woman and carried her to a first-class compartment that had been reserved. A small crowd assembled; the informant of *Truth* called the attention of the railway officials to the affair, but they took no steps to interfere. The woman still struggled and appealed for help, and as the train moved off was lying on the seat of the compartment, held down by the knee of one of the



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A SOCIAL & POLITICAL CLUB FOR MEN AND WOMEN
interested in the Suffrage Movement has been formed. Premises have been taken at
3, YORK STREET, ST. JAMES', S.W.
The Club premises are now being open for the use of members, and
A MEETING
in connection with the
SWEATED WOMEN HOLLOW WARE WORKERS
of Staffordshire, will be held on
DECEMBER 3rd, at 3.30 p.m.
SPEAKERS:
Miss SUSAN LAWRENCE (National Federation of Women Workers).
Lord HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK, M.P.
Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., F.R.C.S.
J. J. MALLON, Esq. (Sec. National Anti-Sweating League).
Chair - MRS. LOUIS FAGAN.
Members are notified that Bedrooms are ready for use, and application may now be made. There are a few vacancies only for members at £1 10 and no entrance fee. Early Application advisable.

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Speakers:—DECEMBER 4th,
MR. H. BAILLIE WEAVER,
MISS ANNA MUNRO
The Chair will be taken promptly at 3.30 by Mrs. TANNER.

Women and the Divorce Law.

The reports of the Divorce Commission may fairly be said to owe much to the agitation for the enfranchisement of women. As it stands, the English marriage law is so manifestly unfair to wives as to furnish a most effective illustration of the injustices that befall an unrepresented class. While women remained, on the whole, silent, it was possible for the unfairness to continue, but when they began to protest loudly and repeatedly, it became impossible for public opinion to preserve its aloofness, and both reports mark a long step forwards. In both, equal treatment for the two sexes is expressly advised. The Majority Report says:—

"Apart from abstract justice the strongest reason for placing the sexes on an equality is that where two standards exist there is a tendency to accept the lower for both parties. The social and economic position of women has greatly changed in the last hundred or even in the last fifty years. The Married Woman's Property Act, 1882, has given them a new status in regard to property; they engage freely in business and in the professions, and in municipal, educational and Poor Law administration, and claim equality of treatment with men. In our opinion, it is impossible to maintain a different standard of morality in the marriage relation without creating the impression that justice is denied to women, an impression that must tend to lower the respect in which the marriage law is held by women."

The replies of Lord Salvesen which set forth the state of the Scotch law are quoted at some length. In that portion of our island husbands and wives have always had "exactly the same rights before the law." Moreover, if a decree of divorce is pronounced against a husband, it "operates exactly as his death, and the wife is at once entitled to the same share of his estate as she would be entitled to when he died"—that is to say, to a "life-rent of a third of his heritable estate" and to one third or one-half of his "movable estate," according to whether there are or are not children of the marriage. Lord Salvesen added:

"I think that our law conduces very much to the morality of husbands and to the peace of families, because it is much better that an offence against the conjugal tie on the part of the husband should be a matter for forgiveness on the part of the woman than that she should have no remedy for it."

—a point upon which the Commissioners, at least three of whom belong by birth or family to Scotland, seem to have agreed with him. If, therefore, the unanimous opinion of the Commission is allowed to prevail, Englishwomen will, in a comparatively short time, be allowed the same rights under the marriage law as Englishmen.

The general principle upon which the Majority Report is framed is that when, by the conduct of either partner, or by circumstances, a marriage practically ceases to be, the law shall recognise the fact and permit the pair to part completely and to remarry if they choose. But the Commissioners do not, as does the law of some other Protestant countries, carry this principle to its utmost logical conclusion, since they do not admit incompatibility (by which union may be no less completely destroyed than by infidelity or insanity) as a ground for divorce. In this limitation they are probably in accord with the general public opinion of the country; although it is worth noting that the Women's Co-operative Guild, composed mainly of married women belonging to the upper working class, expressly asked, through its honorary secretary, that divorce should be obtainable on the demand of either partner. No person who has at all an intimate knowledge either of the Guild or of the class which it represents, will deny weight to this opinion. It is, however, true that easy divorce demands a high level of real civilisation, and possibly many even of the people who look forward to an ultimate state of affairs similar to that in Norway, may consider it wiser, in England, to proceed by degrees.

It is recommended, then, that for wives, as for husbands, adultery shall be a sufficient ground for divorce, and that the following grounds shall be added:—Bigamy; wilful desertion for three years or more; cruelty; incurable insanity; habitual drunkenness; imprisonment under a commuted death sentence. The introduction of bigamy as a sufficient cause will remove the necessity of also proving adultery on the part of the bigamist, as is at present necessary. Cruelty is defined as:—

"Such conduct by one married person to the other party to the marriage as makes it unsafe, having regard to the risk of life, limb, or health, bodily or mental, for the latter to continue to live with the former."

While advising that the partner of an incurably insane spouse shall be able to obtain relief from the bond of marriage, the Commissioners suggest conditions; the patient must not only be certified as incurable but must have been continuously confined as a lunatic for not less than five years. The accounts appearing in the Appendices of some husbands and wives at present bound to hopelessly insane partners are heartrending.

men on her chest. The lady who reported the case to *Truth* enquired and found that none of the party were known. She justly observes that more than the assertion of an unknown man ought to be required before a woman is allowed to be carried out of the country in spite of her protests and struggles; and that there was nothing to show that the case was not one of kidnapping.

The White Slave Traffic.

It is stated in *The Times* that, in view of the increased power of arrest proposed to be conferred on the police by the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which has now passed through the House of Commons, the police authorities have constituted a special staff to carry out the detective work which will be thrown on Scotland Yard when the measure becomes law. The officers have been selected from among those who have had experience of the kind required, and who have, in addition, knowledge of foreign languages.

University Men's League.

Mr. A. E. Felkin, of King's College, Cambridge, writes to ask that attention may be called to the existence of the University Men's League for Women's Suffrage; the object of which is "to unite all those members of the University who are in favour of extending the Parliamentary franchise to women," and of which he is honorary secretary. There must be many readers of the COMMON CAUSE who have relatives and friends either in residence at Cambridge or likely to go up in the near future. It would be an assistance to the University Men's League (and therefore to the women's suffrage movement in general) if any such undergraduates who are Suffragists were put in touch with Mr. Felkin.

A Judge and the Age of Consent.

Our attention has been called to a case heard before Mr. Justice Scrutton at the last Northampton Assizes. A young man of 23 was, in the words of the newspaper report, "indicted for an offence" against a girl of 14. The jury, after twenty minutes' consideration, said, through their foreman, that they considered the fact to be proved, but gave the prisoner the benefit of the doubt as regarded her age. (The Act, of course, by the insertion of the word "knowingly," leaves a loophole through which a number of offenders escape in the case of girls who are not visibly young children.) The verdict being equivalent to one of not guilty, the prisoner was discharged, and the Judge is reported to have addressed to him the following words: "I advise you to remember in the future to let girls under 16 alone." We understand that bitter indignation at the Judge's tone was felt by the women of the neighbourhood. The mother of the girl was heartbroken, and apprehensive that it would not even be possible to secure any payment towards the keep of the expected child from its father. In this she is probably mistaken. We hope that suffragists of the neighbourhood will look after the interests of this injured girl, and will send the necessary particulars to any member of any of the societies who may apply to us for them.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

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Literary Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, **The Common Cause**, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. The Editor, however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter, and no manuscripts will be returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are Requested to Note that the latest time for receiving news, notices and reports for the week's issue is the first post on Tuesday. News should be sent in as long beforehand as possible.

NOTICE.—This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally please write to the Manager, **The Common Cause**, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi W.C., giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

Safeguards and precautions are advised also in the case of drunken spouses, so that divorce shall in no case be obtainable within three years from the date at which a separation order was first obtained.

As to separation orders in general, under which so many men and women are at present divided from one partner and forbidden legally to take another, the Majority Report notes the reception of a great body of evidence showing that,

"Unless the union formed by marriages which have already ceased in fact can be dissolved by law, lives become hopelessly miserable, illegal unions are formed, immorality results, and illegitimate children are born."

This evil will, of course, be remedied if the law is so altered as to admit the recommended grounds for divorce; but it is advised that temporary orders shall be retained for the protection of wives or husbands who are not entitled to relief until after the passage of a certain time. Various slight alterations in the law and several useful amendments in relation to domicile (or as the Report invariably spells the word "domicil") are recommended which will, if adopted, remedy certain cases of unmerited hardship. These reforms, however, pale in importance before the alterations in procedure which would bring divorce within the range of the ordinary wage-earner, to whom such costs as £40 or £50 are prohibitive. In the words of the Minority Report "it is, of course, incontestable that no one ought to be deprived of his legal rights merely by poverty," and the two Reports agree in recommending the establishment of local divorce courts, though they differ as to the number of these which should at once be established. At present, when there is but one court for all England and Wales which can grant divorce, all but moderately prosperous couples are debarred from obtaining it; although, as is justly pointed out, the housing conditions of poor people greatly aggravate the sufferings inevitable in any unhappy marriage.

The recommendations of the Majority Report will, if put into force, unquestionably ameliorate, to a degree that defies estimation, the almost intolerable lot of many men and women, especially among the poorer classes of the community. How far the liberality of its views are due to the presence upon the Commission of two women can only be surmised.

National Union of Women Workers.

Special Council Meeting.

By MRS. HENRY FAWCETT.

An important special Council meeting of the National Union of Women Workers was called on Wednesday, November 20th, and has already been noticed in the daily Press. The object of this meeting was not to define the attitude of the Union on the subject of women's enfranchisement; this attitude was already defined by the Suffrage resolutions adopted at the ordinary Council meetings in 1902 and 1909, and by the action of the Executive Committee in memorialising the Prime Minister on behalf of Mr. Shackleton's W.S. Bill in the summer of 1910.

The object for which the special Council was called on November 20th arose out of the crisis on the Suffrage question caused by the introduction by the Government of a Franchise Bill giving virtually manhood suffrage to men, while still maintaining the absolute exclusion of all women. The objects of the special Council, as set forth in the memorial asking for it, were "to consider the Franchise and Registration Bill now before Parliament and the necessity for the inclusion of women in any scheme of Franchise Reform, and the safeguarding of the powers they already possess in Local Government, and to pass such resolutions on the above subjects as the Council may determine." The result of the special Council meeting is well known. A two-thirds majority of those present was required before practical action could be taken. This was more than obtained, for the voting revealed 59 voting against and 199 voting for action being taken in support of the inclusion of some form of suffrage for women in the Government Bill. A copy of the resolutions adopted was accordingly forwarded the same afternoon to the Prime Minister and the leaders of the three other Parliamentary parties.

The debate in the Council meeting was conducted throughout with absolute decorum and good feeling. Mrs. Allan Bright presided with dignity and strict impartiality. I believe her intention was to call upon an equal number of speakers on each side, but, unless my notes are erroneous, she actually called in all

upon ten speakers in support of taking action for Women's Suffrage, and thirteen speakers on the other side. I am very far indeed from complaining of this; but I mention it to show how little cause the minority had to complain. Yet in *The Times* of November 21st a letter appeared from Mrs. Humphry Ward speaking of the Council of the previous day as a "disastrous scene," stating that "the action of 1910 had been reversed," and threatening to do her utmost to break up the Union.

Now, let us look absolutely dispassionately on this action of November, 1910. A special Council meeting was then held, also on the Suffrage question. Mrs. Humphry Ward and her friends moved and supported a resolution forbidding the Executive Committee from taking part officially in public meetings and demonstrations on subjects in which differences of opinion were known to exist in the Union. This was handsomely beaten by 139 to 35. A resolution was then proposed leaving complete freedom of action to the Executive Committee, but enjoining on them that they should only take action after due notice was given, and if such action was approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting. To this a Rider was proposed by the present President, Mrs. Allan Bright: "Provided that no action be taken contrary to the resolutions already passed by the Council."

The importance of this Rider was at once appreciated, because the resolutions passed by the Council in 1902 and 1909 were a strong endorsement of women's suffrage. Mrs. Humphry Ward opposed the Rider; the official report of her remarks runs as follows—(see Handbook 1910-11): "Mrs. H. Ward said she regarded the Rider as an extremely important matter—too important to be put as a Rider, for it settled the whole question. If it were carried, it would mean that the matter she might not allude to [W.S.], but which was in their minds, would be excluded from the operation of the resolution altogether." It was pointed out to her that what the Rider really would do was to prevent the Executive Committee taking any action against suffrage. Some ardent suffragists present wanted to substitute another Rider to enforce action upon the Executive in support of suffrage; but this was not adopted. Another motion brought forward by the Countess of Dufferin enjoining on the Executive to take action only in matters upon which there was practical unanimity was by leave withdrawn. Mrs. Allan Bright's Rider was adopted, and the whole resolution was passed with very few dissentients, leaving complete freedom to the Executive Committee to take action, even on subjects in which the Union was divided, on condition that such action was approved by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, and that no action be taken contrary to the resolutions already passed by the Council. This is the meeting to which Mrs. Humphry Ward often refers as "the compromise of 1910." Where the compromise comes in it is difficult to perceive.

Mrs. Humphry Ward's 59 supporters consisted in part of suffragists whose views were ably presented to the Council by the Hon. Mrs. Alington, Mrs. Kitson Clark and others. They based their objection to the Executive Committee taking action in support of the suffrage resolutions adopted in 1902 and 1909 on the opening words setting forth the constitution of the Union, which are: "This Union is organised in the interests of no one policy, and has no power over the organisations which constitute it." Now it was obvious that Mrs. Alington and Mrs. Kitson Clark interpreted these words to mean that the Union was prohibited from taking any definite line, either for or against suffrage. But a definite line had been taken ten years earlier, and again in 1909 and 1910, and no objection on constitutional grounds had been taken. In the discussion at the special Council meeting in November, 1910, the Hon. Mrs. Franklin had pointed out that the meaning of the words "in the interests of no one policy" was to say the least ambiguous. They might be taken to mean that the Union were not to take action on behalf of or against any particular measure or movement, or they might mean that the Union was constituted to promote the social, civil, moral, and religious welfare of women, not in one but in every direction.

It may be pointed out that similar words are constantly used in this comprehensive sense. For instance, an article in *The Times* of November 22, from the special correspondent in U.S.A., describing the Progressive (Roosevelt) Party campaign in the recent Presidential election, begins a paragraph with the sentence: "But the Progressives appeal to the country on no great single issue," meaning that the Progressives were appealing to the country on a number of issues—opposition to trusts, recall of judges, women's suffrage, purity in politics, and in commerce. In an earlier part of the article it is pointed out that the Progressive platform in Illinois comprehended no

less than 43 distinct and separate legislative recommendations. It is in a similar sense, in my judgment, that the N.U.W.W. stands for "no one policy," but for a wide range of activities and reforms bearing upon the civic, educational and moral welfare of women. A glance at the admirable activities of the Sectional Committees of the N.U.W.W. confirms this view, and is, incidentally, completely destructive of Mrs. H. Ward's contention that the vote on November 20th changed the Union into simply another Suffrage Society. The best work of the N.U.W.W. is due to its Sectional Committees, and the activities of these are best indicated by their titles:

1. Legislation Committee, which has recently dealt with the Coal Mines Bill, the White Slave Traffic Bill, the Mental Deficiency Bill, and the Insurance Bill.
2. International Committee, which deals with laws in all countries relating to women, women's suffrage in various countries, etc. (For many years past I have been asked by the Secretary of the N.U.W.W. to write a report on the progress of W.S. in this country.)
3. Industrial Committee, which deals with factory laws, wages boards, Labour Exchanges, etc.
4. Public Service Committee.
5. Public Health Committee.
6. Preventive and Rescue Committee.

There are, I believe, in all, more than twelve such committees, many of them dealing with difficult and controversial subjects. The resolution adopted on Wednesday, November 20th, was sent up to the Executive Committee by the Legislation Committee, and if the decision of the special Council had been to forbid the Executive Committee to take action on so vital a matter as the inclusion of some form of representation for women in the Government Bill, it would indeed have been an act of *felo de se* on the part of the Union.

It may be confidently anticipated from their past record that the Executive Committee will act with tact and moderation in regard to their future action on women's suffrage, and that Anti-Suffragists who are members of the Union may still with honour and advantage to themselves remain members of it, although there is one very important subject on which they are out of sympathy with the great majority of their colleagues. No really new situation has been created by the vote of November 20th. The N.U.W.W. remains on the lines laid down by the resolutions of 1902 and 1909, and by the Memorial to the Prime Minister of 1910.

National Delegates' Meeting.

[Organised by the Women's Suffrage Campaign Joint Committee for securing the enfranchisement of women on broad and democratic lines.]

The meeting arranged for Wednesday, December 4th, will take place in the London Opera House, instead of in the King's Hall, Covent Garden, as at first announced. Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P. (Secretary of the Labour Party), will take the chair at the morning session, 11 a.m.—1 p.m., and the speakers will include Sir John Simon, K.C.V.O., K.C., M.P. (Solicitor-General), Miss Margaret Bondfield, and Miss I. O. Ford. At the afternoon session, 2.30—4.30 p.m., the chair will be taken by Mr. F. D. Acland, M.P. (Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs), and the speakers will include Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P. (Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party), Miss Florence Balgarnie, and the Rev. C. Silvester Horne. The meeting will represent a large body of opinion inside and outside the House of Commons.

The Federations and Societies of the National Union are each entitled to send three delegates, and proxies are allowed, if duly appointed and their names sent in by November 30th. A portion of the building will be set aside for visitors. Anyone who is willing to act as a proxy-delegate, or who would like a visitor's ticket, should apply at once to Miss Geraldine Cooke, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. Those who are intending to come up to London to do their Christmas shopping at the Society's Bazaar, should make a point of being in town a day earlier to attend this meeting.

The Actresses' Franchise League.

The cast for the play "The First Actress," by Christopher St. John, to be given at the Lyceum Theatre at the Actresses' Franchise League matinee on November 29th, is full of attractions. The names of many well-known friends appear in the title-rôle, and it is hoped that our readers will not fail to see this performance.

Dr. Tchaykovsky asks us to state that all communications concerning the purchase of books at the International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam Street, Strand, should be addressed to Miss Seruya and not to herself. Dr. Tchaykovsky has no share in the enterprise and delay is occasioned by communications intended for the Suffrage Shop being addressed to her.

Empire Building.

An Interlude.

The by-election had been raging many days when three congenial spirits met on the outskirts of the market square. My friends were old antagonists, who differed, or appeared to differ, on every public question, but I had long been of the opinion that their aims in essence were the same, and the difference lay rather in their sense of proportion. As we were all wearied with the incessant clamour, we quickly agreed to a truce on public topics while we took our tea together in an adjacent shady garden.

Having selected the pleasantest spot, the appearance of tea was the signal for our appreciation of peace and quiet to express itself by something more than sighs of contentment.

My friend whose chief delight it was to exalt Imperialism burst out, "What a sight it is for those who have been at the frontiers, and have risked something for our Empire, to come home and see our rulers massed in the market places listening to oratory so hollow that a child should not be misled. Think of those Dervish-like arms waving in the market place as competing tub-thumpers tried to shout each other down! Think of the vulgarity, the exaggeration, the stupidity of it all! There are the gaping crowds too ignorant to ask intelligent questions, apparently taking all in. . . . No appeal is made to anything but immediate and tangible self interest. For those of us who have suffered and risked something to carry British law and order to the ends of the earth this would be pathos if it were not so entirely ridiculous and childish!"

"I suppose we do soon forget, if we ever know, the romance of Empire building," I said. "Tell us something of that famous first ride to Buluwayo. Was there danger?"

"Danger, forsooth! Why every man of that handful carried his life in his hand every hour. We could only pass single file through the scrub. Horse pressed on horse; to lag behind even a few yards was to court death at the hands of the natives lurking on each side of that small column. But the British flag was planted in Buluwayo, and where we found a kraal I dined in an electric-lighted modern dining room."

Adventure always catches me by the throat, and I said, excitedly, "Oh, for the manhood to do these things!" Reflection followed, and I inquired of this whole-hearted Imperialist, "But what, beyond love of adventure and high spirits, could prompt to such daring. Is not this sort of thing merely the prelude to the entrance of your financier and a sordid society?"

I was regarded for a moment with pity. "Can you not conceive the joy of carrying British love of order and justice to the furthest races? The Anglo-Saxon tradition is the finest in the world, and it must permeate the races of the world."

This woke up my other friend. "And what," she inquired, "do the men who extend the frontier and start the mining-camp as a rule do to permeate the society around them with our best traditions?"

"Yes," admitted the Imperialist, "the mining camps as a rule are not a model. The dregs of the earth accumulate there, and where there is contact with a native race hell is let loose."

"Exactly! That is just what I was going to tell you. You will admit that men have so small a sense of responsibility as to become parents of a race of outcasts, despised by white and coloured alike. You must admit that not only do you owe your race to women, the women who go with their men, but also that you owe your civilisation to the women, too. Without them you are nothing. Where are your ideals, where the sense of justice, and the civilisation which is to permeate the races of the world? Look," she said, getting warmer, "at South Africa. There you owe all that is worth having, all the best British tradition, to the presence of a comparatively few women. How do you treat them? They have no right to be consulted, no voice in the making of those laws whose object it is to preserve the best elements of society. Nay, the Cape native, possessing but a veneer of your vaunted civilisation, the blanket voter, has the right to control legislation affecting the white woman and her children. . . . Do not talk to me of patience. We women have not yet won adequate protection for womanhood, black and white, from our own men, and now our South African sisters have to win it from the men of a race alien in every point of view to our own. Call yourself egotist, not Imperialist." She broke off and hurried away to the market place.

The Imperialist looked a little disturbed. "She knows too much. . . . She has no sense of proportion," he mused.

E. W.

Some New Books.

FRANCES WILLARD: HER LIFE AND WORK. By Ray Strachey, with an introduction by Lady Henry Somerset. Illustrated. (Fisher Unwin, 5s. net.)

This story of the life-work of Frances Willard has the double charm of giving a glimpse of a strong personality first through the eyes of one who has worked shoulder to shoulder with her and then through the medium of critical study by one who has no personal memories of her, who lives and works in another generation. It is interesting to find that from these differing standpoints both Lady Henry Somerset and Mrs. Strachey arrive at the same conclusion, that Frances Willard was great not so much by the deeds of her active and full life but by her character and the strength and the purity of her soul.

The details of the life-story here set forth show a picture of a girlhood spent in the backwoods of the Western United States in the early years of the nineteenth century when learning and moral standards there were at a low ebb. She seems to have come very soon upon the problem of woman's place in the world, partly owing to the home atmosphere created by her mother—a woman of independent thought and a confessed Suffragist—and partly because of her own preference for the outdoor life considered suitable for a boy rather than for the domesticities, to some of which she refers in her copious diary as "my awful needlework" and "the scourge of mankind" (i.e., spring-cleaning). Nevertheless, Frances Willard had to fight from her youth up for a woman's right to share in the human heritage, since at that time it was still considered unseemly for a maiden to demand education. Luckily her enterprising spirit ensured success, from the days when she trained a cow to the saddle as a protest against the paternal prohibition to ride a horse as her brother did, until in the period of budding womanhood she secured the fuller life as a student of the North-West Female College, passing thence to the career of a teacher and ultimately to the brilliant position of Dean of the College in which she herself had been trained.

How she deliberately cut short this career and came out penniless to uphold the unpopular cause of Temperance is revealed with sympathetic understanding by her biographer, and we are made to realise in the subsequent pages the powerful religious and social influences which impelled this strong soul "to fight the fight" of humanity. The huge organisations of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the World's Women's Christian Temperance Association are the records of her success.

It was during this intimate contact with the poor that the second great conviction of Miss Willard's life seized her, "her belief in the woman's ballot as a weapon of protection for her home," which determined the direction of her future energies. "Somebody's got to be shot at and it might as well be me," she remarked in answer to a friend's objections, and this theory carried her through. Her biographer has saved for us a typical story of her propaganda in the description of the scene when after one of her Suffrage meetings a quiet grey-haired woman in the audience was discovered sobbing, because, she said, "Frances Willard has just convinced me I ought to want to vote and I don't want to."

The remainder of Miss Willard's life, as portrayed in this volume, seems to have been an extended campaign for the spread of her beliefs, an enterprise which brought her eventually to our own country. Many pioneers of progress here will long remember the eloquent American woman-orator with her dry humour, her Western accent, her quaint idiom of speech and her surpassing courage, but this volume will extend to a new generation the knowledge of one who fought in the early days of the woman's movement for one of the supreme causes of humanity—the freedom of the individual.

THE BABY; A MOTHER'S BOOK BY A MOTHER. By a University Woman. (Jack, the People's Books, 6d. net.)

This is an excellent little handbook, the only portion about the wisdom of which any doubt can possibly be felt being that which describes some of the more serious diseases of childhood, and which might perhaps induce some rash mothers to suppose themselves capable of recognising forms of illness which ought

to be dealt with only by a qualified medical practitioner. The suggestion as to the use of a "Japanese portmanteau" or "pilgrim basket" for a cradle is illustrated by a tiny picture calculated to set every young mother fitting one up without a moment's delay. An additional advantage of this arrangement is the absence of rockers, for of course no self-respecting modern infant allows itself to be tossed to and fro in a cradle that rocks. The hints upon the choice of a nurse are particularly sensible and useful.

We observe with regret and surprise that some degree of toleration is extended to that useless and generally dangerous object, the "comforter."

ADNAM'S ORCHARD. By Sarah Grand. (Heinemann, 6s.)

Madame Sarah Grand's new volume is immoderately too long. Its six hundred and forty pages are but the earlier portion of a story which seems as though it might, quite probably, occupy another couple of instalments equally lengthy. Yet, in the interests of form, style and matter, this first portion cries out to be cut down by more than half; and no person accustomed to appraise literary work can read it without longing to have had the "copy" in hand and have been allowed to make it, by sheer excision and compression, into the fairly readable beginning of an ordinary one-volume novel. As it stands, it is simply smothered in its own prolixity and its own didactic irrelevancies. What strength it has lies in situation and in the foreshadowing of tragic entanglements to come, and this strength is wilfully dissipated by the division of the book into separate volumes. The characterisation is disappointingly commonplace, and the author's habit of pausing to point out the qualities of her personages is thoroughly irritating. In short, the book is poor, but through its poorness shines a self-baffled talent which stern and skilful editing might have set free. The right atmosphere and setting are already caught—except, indeed, that one wonders how any sensible parent could have permitted one son to be named Seraph and another to be named Adnam.

COLOUR IN DRESS. By George Ashdown Audsley, LL.D. (Sampson Low, 1s. net.)

Dr. Audsley's tract is well meant and may be useful in drawing the attention of women who have not hitherto considered the point and the desirability of dressing in colours that harmonise with those of their own skin, hair and eyes. As a definite guide it is useless, because the infinitely various gradations of the complexion quite transcend the possibilities of verbal description; so that his explanations fail entirely to elucidate, for instance, the case of a dark-haired, bright-coloured girl, to whom the defiance of his every rule apple-green proves to be the most becoming of hues; or that of a middle-aged lady whom black serge, velvet, or satin vulgarises, while black silk or brocade is particularly advantageous to her. The continual repetition of the word "lady" becomes wearisome, while such expressions as "our fair friends," "the lady world," excite a shudder.

Books Received.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE ON THE PROGRESS OF KNOWLEDGE. H. T. Buckle. (The Woman's Rights Library, 6d.)

THE POLITICAL STATUS OF WOMEN (reprint). Annie Besant. (The Women's Rights Library, 3d.)

WOMEN'S POLITICAL RIGHTS (reprint). Condorcet. (The Women's Rights Library, 1d.)

THE EUGENICS REVIEW. (Eugenics Education Society, 1s.)

THE DAILY NEWS YEAR BOOK, 1913. (6d.)

THE DIAL (specimen number). (3d.)

A STRATEGICAL OUTPOST FOR WOMEN SUFFRAGE. Hatty Baker. (From the Author, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove, 1d.)

COLOUR IN DRESS. George Ashdown Audsley. (Sampson Low, 1s. net.)

OUR ARMY IN INDIA AND REGULATION OF VICE. (British Committee of the International Abolitionist Federation, 6d. net.)

THE LIGHT BEARERS. M. Sylvestre. (John Long, 6s.)

HOUSECRAFT. Marguerite Fedden. (Gill, 10d. net.)

By accident, the titles of the three books considered last week under the heading "Some Men's Views about Women," were omitted. They were: THE NATURE OF WOMAN, by J. Lionel Taylor (Fifield), 3s. 6d. net; WOMAN AND MODERN SOCIETY, by Professor Earl Barnes (Cassell's), 3s. 6d.; and TO-MORROW, by W. L. George (Jenkins), 2s. 6d. net.

Bow and Bromley By-Election.

An official statement from headquarters of the N.U. policy in this election was inadvertently omitted last week.

When the members of the Parliamentary Labour Party were urged to vote against the Government on all occasions until some measure of Women's Suffrage had been passed, the National Union could not support that policy, because it would have involved the Labour Members in a wholesale breaking of pledges made to their constituents at the last election. But when Mr. Lansbury, recognising that a special mandate from his electors was necessary to justify such a policy, resigned his seat and appealed to his constituency for a free hand to put Women's Suffrage before every other issue, the course of the National Union was clear. There could be no doubt that of the two candidates Mr. Lansbury was "the best friend of Women's Suffrage," and the National Union decided to give him all possible support. The Election Fighting Fund was not available for this purpose, as this was not a 3-cornered contest; but it was unanimously agreed to fight the campaign on the same scale as if it were an E.F.F. campaign, and £200 was subscribed to Mr. Lansbury's election expenses out of the Transferable Fund created at the Albert Hall meeting and placed at the discretion of Mrs. Fawcett and the Executive Committee.

The result of the election—already known to all readers—is as follows:—

Mr. Blair (Conservative)	4,042
Mr. Lansbury (Independent)	3,291
Majority.....	751

The organiser for the London Society and the National Union was Miss Helen Ward, who was assisted by Mrs. Ffoulkes (London Society's East End organiser), Mrs. Streeter (in charge of the Central Committee Room), and other members of the Society and the Union.

Miss Ward sent to the COMMON CAUSE some days ago the following account, which, since it contains many particulars not to be found in the daily papers, is still of interest:—

"As I write, this historic fight is drawing to a close. Both sides are arraying themselves for the final struggle.

"Mr. Blair has, we are informed, the assistance of seventy dames of the Primrose League, together with that of the National League for Opposing Women's Suffrage, an ally by which, we feel, he can hardly fail to be embarrassed when we recall the fact that the last four leaders of the Conservative party have been Woman Suffragists, and that Lord Selborne, Lord Robert Cecil, and other distinguished members of the party are among the staunchest defenders of our cause. Indeed, it is understood that Mr. Blair has had to bear severe criticism from some of his supporters for placing them, as followers of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Bonar Law, in this matter in an invidious position.

"The Anti-Suffrage League is relying for its chief 'effects' (apart from the three grocers' cars crawling sadly about labelled with our two old friends, 'Women do not want the vote' and 'The Suffragist's Home') upon creating all possible prejudice on the question of methods; and, though Mrs. Pankhurst has evidently influenced many of the women and girls for good, to say nothing of the men, and though much admirable work is being done by the W.S.P.U., I greatly fear that the active propaganda of militancy, as apart from the broad principles common to both sections of Suffragists, is having an unfortunate effect on the broad principles, there seems little difference of opinion.

"Mr. Lansbury's meetings continue to be magnificent. He stands alone, he has secured the support of all official parties, he defies convention and precedent, and he refuses to conciliate. I want to go back to the House of Commons, but I would rather never return there than return under false pretences. I fight for the womanhood of the country, and on that I take my stand. This is the burden of his speeches, and, indeed, a roar of approval meets him every time. But of the apostolic doctrine of being all things to all men he knows nothing. 'The Liberal Vote,' 'The Labour Vote,' 'The X Y Z interest'—it is as a tinkling of a bell to him. To them

all he says: 'Here I am; take me or leave me,' and the wonderful thing is his agent and his committee seem to like him all the better for it. It is Athanasius against the world—if he falls, he falls with honour; and if he wins, he will have won something worth winning.

"The big field day was on Friday. 'Mr. Philip Snowden with Mr. Lansbury at the Bow Palace, Bow Road,' had only to be announced, and the place, far and away the biggest in the neighbourhood, was packed and many could not get in. The resolution: 'That this meeting demands equal suffrage for men and women, and, being convinced that Geo. Lansbury is the true friend of the people in Bow and Bromley, pledges itself to support him at the poll,' proposed by Mr. Gillespie, seconded by Mrs. Snowden, and, later, supported by Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, was put by me from the chair by 'Aye' and 'No.' And the Ayes had it without doubt. Again a loud shout followed by three cheers, which Mr. Gillespie led for 'Lansbury, Mrs. Snowden and the National Union.' And the 'Noes,' if they were there, silently stole away. All the speeches were fine, and were followed with eager attention, in spite of the exciting interlude of Mr. Lansbury's arrival and departure.

"We have had a splendid body of workers, and to many of these who have shown true military discipline, canvassing street after street, out of the limelight but in the line of battle, will be due the main credit, so far as the N.U.W.S.S. is concerned, for any measure of success that may fall to our champion on Tuesday. It is hoped to publish next week a list of all who have given in their names at the Committee Room, together with those of the speakers, at our many meetings. Mrs. Ffoulkes has done most effective work among the influential local supporters with which the previous campaigns of the London Society have brought us into touch, and Mrs. Streeter has made the wheels go round to some purpose by her indefatigable and efficient method of dealing with the multifarious affairs which have centred round the Committee Room. And our light has been hidden by no bushel. The place has been thronged, and outside a free show for all and sundry has been provided with our gay two-horse brakes, our motor-cars, our posters, our lanterns, our flags, our press cuttings, stuck upon the railings, list and list every day, and the press men with their cameras and all the fun of the fair.

"We have had several members of the N.U. and L.S. Committees to speak, and Miss Mackey managed to come down one evening in spite of the heavy work that is keeping the London office open almost night and day in connection with the Oriental Fête and Bazaar. Miss Marshall and Miss Leaf have also visited us two or three times, and Miss Marshall's red, white and green cadet corps have made quite a show marching round each evening. Miss Courtney has kept in close touch throughout, and her presence during part of nearly every day has been a real help and encouragement to all.

"On Monday evening we have Mrs. Fawcett and a 'Final Call to Free Churchmen,' who are an important influence in the constituency, in which we join with the Free Church League and the Men's League, who have made a special point of getting into touch with the members of the various Nonconformist bodies likely to accord their support to Mr. Lansbury and to help to send him back into the House on Tuesday with a mandate for the women." A. HELEN WARD.

Since this article was written we have received the following message from Mr. Lansbury:—

"I very much appreciate the manner in which the National Union helped me during the election, more especially because I know that they do not approve of the policy, so far as methods are concerned, for which I stood, but I recognise that they, as well as I, were actuated in the fight by one motive only, and that was to put before the electors the true meaning of the Women's Movement, and although we have not succeeded in holding the seat on that issue, the fact that over 3,000 men, in face of great opposition, registered their vote in support of the cause was well worth the fight. Anyhow, neither my wife nor myself have the least feeling of regret that we did it, and we should certainly do it over again under the same circumstances. Hoping that, despite all present-day difficulties, the cause of Justice to Womanhood may soon be triumphant, and again thanking all the members who gave us help, GEORGE LANSBURY.

LONDON SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

58, Victoria Street, S.W.

PUBLIC RECEPTION on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 3.30 to 6.15.

WESTMINSTER PALACE HOTEL, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.

Chair: Miss HELEN WARD (Ex. Com. L.S.W.S.).

Speakers: The Lady Frances Balfour (engagement permitting); Miss Clementina Black; Miss K. D. Courtney (Hon. Sec. N.U.W.S.S.); Dr. Florence Willey. Discussion Invited. Tea.

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In Parliament.

POLITICAL PROPAGANDA IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.—Mr. King, on Tuesday of last week (November 19th), asked a question which indicated that the mistress of a Church school in Surrey had, at the end of religious instruction, distributed to the children present the bills of a Conservative meeting and told them to make it known to their parents. The President of the Board of Education, while neither admitting nor denying the fact, into which he will enquire, agreed that it was of course not allowable to spend the time of a public elementary school in political activity. Should the facts be proved, it is to be hoped that Mr. Pease will carry his enquiry far enough to discover under what pressure, if any, the schoolmistress acted.

SLEEPING ON THE EMBANKMENT.—A good deal of indignation will probably be aroused by Mr. McKenna's replies (and still more, perhaps, by the manner of them) to the enquiries made by Mr. Wedgwood and Sir William Byles into the prosecution before Mr. Curtis Bennett of six persons for wandering or sleeping on the Embankment at night. Mr. McKenna quoted the Act of 1824 as the authority under which the police had acted; said he had no reason to suppose that the law had been enforced in a harsh or unreasonable manner; and remarked that in 1910 there were 534 such prosecutions. As to the enquiry where these people were to sleep, he considered it enough to retort: "It is not for my department to answer that question." It is, however, for Mr. McKenna's department seriously to consider that question if it is to do its duty to the nation. It is for the Home Secretary to ascertain why the police have lately shown a disposition to harass harmless persons in the streets—bill distributors, collectors of pennies for various struggling funds, etc. Conduct of this kind tends to arouse among poorer citizens a spirit of distrust and resentment against the police, which is always undesirable, and in times of disturbance may easily become dangerous.

CONDITIONS IN A WORKHOUSE.—Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck asked whether, since the removal of children of school age from Bromsgrove Workhouse the provision of proper accommodation for infants and of adequate fire exits had been under consideration as long ago as last April, these improvements had yet taken place, and what was the date at which the Local Government Board first asked the Bromsgrove Guardians to attend to these matters. Mr. Lewis said that the representations made to the Guardians by the Local Government Board had extended over a period of some years, that a letter had been addressed to the Guardians on the 24th of September, and that in the absence of a definite scheme to make provision for the children, he proposed to take further steps at an early date. It would be interesting to know whether the inhabitants of Bromsgrove, of whom the Guardians are representatives, have, in the course of these years, taken any steps.

AN "OBSCENE" PAMPHLET.—On November 21st the Marquess of Tullibardine asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to an obscene pamphlet publicly sold at 14, Great Smith Street, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and whether he would take steps to have the sale thereof prohibited, and will also forbid the further distribution of the pamphlet, especially among young girls, in supposed furtherance of woman suffrage. Mr. McKenna said his attention had not previously been called to the pamphlet in question, but that Lord Tullibardine having sent him a copy, he would have the book examined by the proper authorities.

The question was therefore postponed till Tuesday, the 26th. In the meantime enquiries had been made on behalf of the National Union. The result may be best expressed in the words of a letter written by Mrs. Fawcett:—

"I am informed that Lord Tullibardine's question, which is to be repeated on Tuesday, refers to Dr. Louisa Martindale's book, *Under the Surface*, which was published several years ago, and is stocked by the National Union Literature Department and supplied when asked for. The whole purpose of this book is to set forth the physical risks involved in sexual immorality and the utility of what is generally known as 'regulation.' It is obviously not a book for general circulation, but is of the highest use in special cases. Those engaged in preventive work have found it of great value. I believe it is stocked by the Ladies' National Association and other similar societies, and for the same purpose. It is a good many years since I read the book, but I did so when it was first published, and I own it never for an instant occurred to me that any human being in his senses could call it 'obscene.' It approaches its subject with high seriousness, and treats it both from the scientific and moral points of view. The name of its author, Dr. Louisa Martindale, of Brighton, is to most people a sufficient guarantee of its deep earnestness and essential purity. If she could be the author of an obscene book, so could Josephine Butler or Jane Addams."

When Tuesday, November 26th, arrived the question was

passed over. Mr. Philip Snowden asked the Speaker the reason and was told that the answer was postponed at the request of the Home Office. Mr. Snowden then said that the original question contained a foul slander, and that the delay was giving time for the slander to get a good start.

The fact that the pamphlet is so brief as to be easily read in less than an hour, and that it has admittedly been in the hands of the Home Office since last Friday at latest, make the delay more the Home Office since last Friday at latest, make the delay more remarkable.

"A Hidden Danger."

Mr. Laurence Housman calls attention to the question whether amendments to the Franchise Bill, subsequent to the amendment "to omit the word 'male,'" will be accepted in order by the Speaker. He points out that the gist of the Speaker's ruling in disposing of Mr. Lansbury's Bill went to show that "any proposal capable of amendment into conformity with another proposal was 'substantially the same.'" The question of order to be decided on this interpretation of the Speaker's ruling is this: Are those amendments to the Franchise Bill subsequent to the amendment to omit the word "male" substantially the same as the Conciliation Bill? There is little difficulty in interpreting them as different. The question which arises on the amendments to the Franchise Bill is not: Shall we extend the franchise to some women? but, Shall we, in view of the fact that we are dealing with the removal of anomalies in the Registration Acts and the further extension of the franchise to men, at the same time extend the franchise to women?

The Speaker, in ruling Mr. Lansbury's Bill out of order, did so after he had given every opportunity to Mr. Lansbury to show that the Bill was in order, and this notwithstanding that the title of the Bill was the same as that of the Conciliation Bill. Not till Mr. Lansbury let slip the expression that his Bill was the same "in principle" as the Conciliation Bill did the Speaker give his ruling against, pointing out that Mr. Lansbury in using that description had given his case away. On that occasion the Speaker asked Mr. Lansbury "Does this Bill contain any fresh proposal?" Obviously the Franchise and Registration Bill does contain fresh proposals. Two points brought out by the Speaker in connection with Mr. Asquith's rescinding resolution would also seem to bear on this question. He said it was unnecessary to vote separately on the part of the resolution dealing with the Standing Orders. It is the ground of his decision which is important—because he could not conceive of any member voting for that part of the resolution and against the part rescinding the original resolution.

It is quite conceivable that members might vote against the Conciliation Bill and for certain franchise amendments to the Reform Bill, or vice versa. Many have said they would not vote for the Conciliation Bill, but would vote when the question was raised on the Reform Bill.

These points will have to be decided not by the Speaker, but by the Chairman of Committee. Perhaps, too, it should be remembered that the House of Commons did not vote against the Conciliation Bill. The resolution carried was: "That the Bill be read a second time upon this day six months." So apparently the Bill has been read a second time on September 28th.

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN.

The London Society's Bazaar.

The Oriental Bazaar organised by the London Society will be opened by a Fête next Thursday evening in the Empress Rooms, Kensington. The flower stall is managed by the patronesses, under the presidency of the Viscountess Dillon; there will also be an old curiosity stall, a Chinese stall, with special importations of rich silks, embroideries, and curios from China; a lavender stall, country produce stall, and a stall of invalid comforts organised by women medical students.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF PRESENTS.

To fit the gift to the recipient is not always easy. It is therefore wise to select some article that you will feel practically certain will give pleasure and be appreciated. Of this nature are the goods to be found at Wilsons', of Bond Street—No. 68. To a young couple, what would be of more value than a table-cloth and half-a-dozen serviettes of their "Heirloom" linen? Or an afternoon tea cloth for a lady, even if she be a bachelor girl? Wilsons' have these from 6s., and the embroidery, veining, and lace trimming constitute these veritable works of art. A little time spent in their shop, looking at the exquisite handkerchiefs, real lace, sachets, etc., is spent delightfully. If you can only spare a very little, it does not matter; but, if you have money in your purse, there are ample opportunities for indulgence. Their little illustrated brochure, "Gratifying Gifts," is full of suggestions.—ADVT.

Notes from Headquarters.

President: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. D. COURTNEY, MISS EDITH PALLISER, MISS CATHERINE MARSHALL, MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
Miss I. B. O'MALLEY (Literature).
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. AUERBACH.
Secretary: Miss GERALDINE COOKE.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, W.C.

Press Department.

The following papers, amongst others, will shortly print some of the excellent articles in the series given below:—

North Wales Chronicle. Dulwich Post.
N. London Guardian. Rochdale Times.
Yorkshire Herald. Oldham Chronicle.
Southport Guardian. Cornish Echo.

The series is as follows:—

THE ELECTION POLICY OF THE NATIONAL UNION. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND THE SLUMS. Mr. Cecil Chapman.
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE FROM A WORKING WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW. Mrs. Ada Neild Chew.
THOUGHTS ON INSOLENT—DEMOCRACY AND THE LIMITS OF THE SEX WAR. Mr. Leonard Inkster, M.A.
LIFE INSIDE A FARM LABOURER'S COTTAGE. Miss Eva Ward.
*There is still time for other papers to obtain these articles from the National Press Agency. EMILY M. LEAF.

Literature Department.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN WORKERS.
The National Union has issued a new leaflet stating briefly the reasons why we think that the vote will help women workers to improve the conditions of their work. It answers some of the curious statements made recently by anti-suffragists, or rather it calls attention to the answers that anti-suffragists are good enough to give to each other. The price of the leaflet is 6d. per 100. I. B. O'MALLEY.

Treasurer's Notes.

Although it is only a short while since over £5,400 was collected for our funds at the Albert Hall on November 5th, this magnificent response to our appeal has by no means exhausted the generosity of the public, as is shown by the donations and subscriptions which we continue to receive every week. One subscriber writes: "I am increasing my subscription this year," and another encloses her donation "on the same good principle of three times as much as I can afford," while we receive unsolicited letters almost daily from every part of the kingdom from persons who are desirous of joining our Union. Nothing is more convincing of the spread of our movement in all corners of the country, than these spontaneous proofs of the growing desire on the part of the women, not alone to express their sympathy with our aspirations, but also to show their willingness to become active helpers for the attainment of our object.

Whatever the result of the Bow and Bromley election, it will at all events have served to demonstrate that in that constituency there is a clear majority for women's suffrage. One must remember that besides all the votes given for Mr. Lansbury, many who are supporting the Unionist candidate, have also declared themselves to be in favour of women's suffrage, although not willing to vote against their party on that account. No doubt many of our members will wish to help us in the expenses of the splendid work done in support of Mr. Lansbury's candidature, and we shall be very glad to receive donations from any suffragists desirous of showing their gratitude for his devotion to our cause. I have already received one such donation from a lifelong supporter of the Liberal Party, who is also a well-known social worker, and who for many years has rendered valuable services to the cause of women's suffrage. She writes: "I am glad to do anything in my power to help forward the return to Parliament of a candidate who puts principle before party, and is prepared to risk the loss of £400 a year for the sake of justice to women."

HELENA AUERBACH.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Already acknowledged since Nov. 1st, 1912	Received from Nov. 18 to 25	Subscriptions	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Roger Clark...			5	0	0
Mrs. Meyerstein...			1	1	0
Miss M. F. Awdry...			1	1	0
The Hon. Mrs. A. Lyttleton			1	0	0
Mr. R. F. Cholmeley...			3	3	0
Mrs. H. Enfield Dowson...			5	0	0
Mrs. A. Luff...			0	2	6
Mrs. E. M. Hinchley...			1	0	0
Mrs. W. H. Evans...			3	3	0
Mrs. Waker Wigram...			1	0	0
Miss A. Meade-King...			0	10	0
Miss N. Dircks...			0	2	6
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Donations.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes Mrs. F. Dunn, North Eastern Federation, Anonynous (transferable), Mrs. M. Graham.

Affiliation Fees.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes Ripon W.S.S. entrance fee, Liphook W.S.S. entrance fee, Cambridge University Old Students' W.S.S.

Election Fighting Fund.

The space usually devoted to E.F.F. news has been taken again this week for news of the Bow and Bromley By-election. For the reason why that campaign is not being conducted by the E.F.F. Committee see page 587.

Appeal for Funds.

As this campaign has been conducted on a larger scale than usual, the drain on our funds has been unusually heavy. Contributions towards expenses will be very welcome, especially any donations sent to make good the £200 taken from our Transferable Fund.

Albert Hall, November 5th

DONATIONS.—THIRD LIST.

Table with 4 columns: Donor Name, Amount (£ s. d.), Donor Name, Amount (£ s. d.). Includes Mr. H. Turner, Miss S. A. Villiers, Mrs. Mackenzie Bell, etc.

Foreign News.

[This article was received last week, but had to be held over owing to pressure on our space.]

United States.

Our first duty, and in this case not an uncongenial one, is to correct a mistake which appeared in this column on November 14. The victory for Women's Suffrage there recorded was not merely the preliminary one which permitted the question to be brought before the electors. It was the final appeal to the male elector in the shape of the referendum, and the favourable result is a momentous one to the cause in America. It means that four new States, Michigan, Kansas, Arizona and Oregon, have now enfranchised their women, and that the Suffrage States now number ten, as against four a year or two ago. An amazing result which shows how fast things are moving on the other side of the Atlantic. It is difficult to realise the amount of labour it has involved. With six campaigns proceeding at once, few of the workers have enjoyed a day's rest, and, although almost all gave their services gratuitously, it has been difficult to raise the money actually needed for all these campaigns. This fourfold victory must hearten all and prepare them for fresh campaigns. We read in Jus Suffragii that the Ohio leaders from twenty-three counties have already met and arranged to spend one year in thorough educational and organising work; and in 1914 they will again bring the question before the electors.

The same paper states a great night-parade had been arranged for November 6th in New York City, under the auspices of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, and that Mrs. Chapman Catt was to be welcomed home from her nineteen months' trip round the world at a mass meeting at Carnegie Hall on the 16th. Of the National Convention now proceeding in Philadelphia Mrs. Harper says: "Matters of deep concern will come up and the policy of the Association must be mapped out. Woman Suffrage has now become one of the political issues of the United States, and henceforth it will be a fight to the finish. Never was there need of such wisdom, strength, courage and harmony among both leaders and followers, for therein lies the hope of the future."

Denmark.

Fra Johanna Minter, of Copenhagen, writes, that a section of the National Danish Women's Suffrage Associations attended the Danish House of Commons, to petition the Government that the projected reform of the electoral laws may be taken in two "stages." The matter is somewhat involved. There are two points over which reform is contemplated—(1) The abolishing of certain privileges of the Upper House and the democratisation of the manner of its election, and (2) the widening of the franchise or the House of Commons. It is this second point with which the Danish women are especially concerned. Recently, the Government announced its intention of amalgamating these two reforms in one measure instead of taking them separately as had previously been contemplated, so that the chances for the extension to women of the franchise for the Lower House will be bound up with the question of the abolition of the privileges of the Upper House. It will be readily seen that the women stand to lose by any such junction.

The National Danish Women's Suffrage Associations consist of four groups, each of which works for women's political franchise. (1) The "Trade Union" Group. (2) The "Union of Suffrage Clubs."

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- (3) The "Danish Women's Society." (4) The Christian Women's Suffrage League.

The last three of these groups are presenting the petition to the Government.

It will be remembered that Herr Berntsen the Danish Premier, is reported as a staunch friend to women's enfranchisement. At the opening of the Danish Parliament on the 7th inst., a noteworthy feature of the King's speech was the mention of a number of Bills for economic and social reform dealing especially with women and children.

Jus Suffragii gives some interesting details of the Danish Bill. It was introduced into the Lower House on October 23rd (the sixty-fourth anniversary of the day when the first Danish Parliament met to discuss a free constitution), by the Prime Minister, Mr. Klaus Berntsen in the form of an amendment to the Constitution. Its main points are: Universal Suffrage for the Lower House for men and women over 25, and indirect suffrage for the Upper House through the Municipal Boards, for which women are electors and eligible. After three days' debate, during which all the Liberal parties, i.e., the Liberals, Radicals, and Social Democrats, promised their support, it was sent to a special committee. The fate of the Bill is by no means certain, because some of its provisions are unpopular with one or other party, and this may lead to delay. It will certainly be passed by the Lower House, and possibly by the Upper, which is much more Liberal since the recent elections. In that case Parliament would be dissolved in the spring and new elections held. If the new Parliament adopted it again unaltered it would become law and new elections would be held again in the autumn, at which the women would vote. Even if any delay should occur, or it should prove impossible to pass the whole Bill, it seems certain now, that when an amendment is finally adopted, the women will be enfranchised. It is curious and interesting to read that one great difficulty in Denmark is to keep alive the interest in a question as to which almost everyone seems agreed. Danish women are looking forward to the time when they can educate the members of their societies by means of the vote.

Women's Wages.

The history of women's wages is the narration of a continuity of practical serfdom. The household, without direct pay, is still considered to be the place of woman; and when she steps into the industrial arena it is convenient for the employer to assume that she is still within the circle of domestic support.

The Tragedy of the Woman Worker. (Rev. H. D. Roberts, Liverpool.)

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING

will be held in the HAMPSTEAD TOWN HALL, Haverstock Hill, N.W. (opposite Belsize Park Tube Station) on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th, at 8 p.m. Chair - Mr. JOSEPH CLAYTON. Speakers: Miss Abadam, Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, Mrs. Walter Rock. ADMISSION FREE. A few reserved seats 1/-.

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News from the Societies and Federations.

London Society.

BARNES, MORTLAKE AND EAST SHEEN.—A drawing-room meeting was held on November 12th, by permission of Mrs. Fawcett, at the Cedars, Barnes. Mrs. Corbett Ashby took the chair to introduce Mrs. Abbott, who gave an inspiring address to an interested, but alas small audience.

CANNING TOWN.—On November 13th, at the Mission Hall, Custom House (Miss Clifford in the chair), Miss Hay Cooper addressed a gathering of 300 working women on the White Slave Traffic. The women were much interested and impressed.

NORTH HACKNEY.—A successful drawing-room meeting was held on November 19th, at 117, Mount Pleasant Lane, Clapton, N., by permission of Mrs. Bishop. The chair was taken by Mrs. E. Hicks, a late candidate in the Hackney Municipal Election. The speaker was Miss J. Thomson, M.A. At the close of the speeches questions were asked, and one new member and four "Friends" were gained. The following resolution to Mr. Raymond Greene, M.P. for N. Hackney, was carried unanimously at the close of the meeting, and forwarded to him:— "That this meeting of the North Hackney Branch of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, urges Mr. Raymond Greene, M.P. to do all in his power to press forward Women's Suffrage."

HACKNEY, CENTRAL AND SOUTH.—A meeting was held on November 14th, at Hainault House, Meynell Road, South Hackney. Mrs. Bugge was hostess, and Mrs. Fisher took the chair. After an interesting speech by Miss Sheepshanks, seven "Friends of Women's Suffrage" were gained. A resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was unanimously carried.

EPSOM AND DISTRICT.—At the Ewell Debating Society, on November 4th, which had for the occasion turned itself into a "Local Parliament," a resolution dealing with the raising of elementary education, technical instruction, and military and social service, was under discussion. Mrs. Homan moved and Mrs. Garrido seconded the following amendment, which was carried by 34 to 11: "That the resolution before the House be adjourned until women were admitted to citizenship, the subject being of serious importance to women and their sons."

EPSOM.—The sum of £8 was realised at a Suffrage Jumble Sale held in Ewell on November 16th. The committee's grateful thanks are due to all helpers and contributors, and especially to the gentlemen who gave up their Saturday afternoon to our assistance.

FULHAM.—A very successful drawing-room meeting was held by permission of Mrs. Henry, B.A., D.Sc., at 70, Donerale Street, on November 12th, when Mrs. Savory gave an admirable address on Women's Suffrage.

There was a good attendance and seven or eight new members were added to the London Society. A successful "At Home" was given on November 19th, at 23, Talgarth Road, by permission of the Misses Smith, when there was a large attendance. Addresses were given by Mr. Cholmeley (who presided), and by Miss Frances Sterling. Mrs. Bertram proposed and Mr. Stead seconded a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was heartily carried. About 26s. was realised.

HIGHGATE.—A very largely attended public debate was held on November 11th, under the auspices of the Highgate Congregational Church Reading Circle. The Rev. Dugald Macfadyen, M.A., presided. Lady Frances Balfour opened the debate, and moved: "That the time has now come when the enfranchisement of women should have a place in the next Reform Bill of the Government." The Rev. B. G. Bourchier, Vicar of St. Jude's, Hampstead Garden Suburb, opposed, and there were several speeches both for and against the resolution, which at the close of the meeting was carried by an overwhelming majority. The Hampstead and Highgate Express and the North Middlesex Chronicle had good reports of this debate. A meeting for working women was held at the Spears Memorial Hall on November 20th. The chair was taken by Miss Violet Withall; addresses were given by Mrs. Gassidy and Mrs. Holyoake Marsh, and Mrs. Hadrill arranged a short programme of music and recitations. The audience was small, but attentive. Specimen copies of the Common Cause were distributed.

ISLINGTON NORTH.—The sixth of the series of debates arranged by this branch, was held at the Crouch Hill Presbyterian Literary Society, Holly Park, N., on November 19th. The hall was crowded, and Miss Cicely Dean Corbett moved the following resolution:—"That it is desirable to extend the scope of the Parliamentary Franchise to include women." This was carried by fully two-thirds of the audience. Miss Mabel Smith (of the N.L.O.W.S.) opposed; Mr. C. J. Lawrence presided; and the ex-president, Mrs. David White, was present. The meeting was very encouraging to the promoters, as this debating society is well known and numbers many thoughtful and good speakers.

ISLINGTON (SOUTH).—The fourth of the series of debates arranged for this branch was held on November 7th at the "Onward" Girls' Club, Britannia Row. The President of the Club, Mrs. Birch, was in the chair. The debate was opened by Miss Cockle of the London Society, and the opposer was Mrs. Austin, from the Anti-Suffrage Society. The vote was against the resolution, which, although it is expedient and just to grant the Parliamentary Franchise to women. Only one speaker was in favour of this.

On November 18th Miss Wallace Chapman addressed a meeting of working mothers at Unity Church School, Upper Street, and was listened to with the greatest interest. Miss E. J. Hall, who conducted this meeting, obtained signatures to many "Friends of Women's Suffrage" cards.

ISLINGTON (WEST).—On November 20th, the seventh debate was held in the Hall of the Holloway Congregational Church. By the wish of the Chairman, the resolution proposed was one against granting the suffrage to women. Miss Mabel Smith (N.L.O.W.S.) opened the debate, and Mrs. Rackham replied. There was a good attendance and three or four members of the Islington Branch of the L.S.W.S. were present. A vote was taken,

first of members of the Debating Society, and next of visitors and members, with the same result—all were unanimous against the resolution.

ISLINGTON.—A "members' meeting" was held in the evening at 11, Loraine Road, Holloway, on November 25th, when Miss Helen Ward gave an address on the policy of the London Society, and the need for work and hope for the future. Mrs. John Essex (newly elected Borough Councillor) presided. The other speakers were Miss Jessie Clarke, P.L.G., Mrs. Bartram and Miss McGrigor. A resolution was carried of regret that three of the Islington Members had voted against Mr. Snowden's amendment, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Touche (N. Islington), for his vote was passed.

NORTHWOOD.—The second drawing-room meeting of the Northwood Branch of the London Society was held by kind invitation of Miss Ramic, at Ronceville, on November 12th. The speaker was Miss H. D. Cockle. Mrs. Street was in the chair. About 36 were present, and among other speakers were Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Haythornthwaite, Miss Phillips and Mrs. Gibbs. At the close of the meeting a resolution was passed with one dissentient, "That this meeting, believing that the enfranchisement of duly qualified women is a measure of justice long overdue, calls upon the Member for Uxbridge to do his utmost to secure some measure of Women's Suffrage in the Reform Bill, and declares that no further extension of the franchise to men will be acceptable which leaves women unrepresented." This was forwarded to the Hon. C. T. Mills, member for Uxbridge. An account of the meeting appeared in the Rushdie and Northwood Courier.

POPULAR.—Mrs. Rackham addressed a women's meeting at the Presbyterians Settlement, 56, East India Dock Road, on November 7th. The women were keenly interested in Mrs. Rackham's speech, and after the meeting 35 names were given in as "Friends of Women's Suffrage."

ROEHAMPTON.—On November 22nd there was a well-attended audience to hear Mrs. Corbett Ashby speak on the enfranchisement of women. The interest of the audience was illustrated by the subsequent signing of "Friends" cards by all present with one exception.

ST. GEORGE'S IN THE EAST.—On October 28th Miss Royden addressed a mothers' meeting at the Wesleyan Mission.

STEPNEY.—On November 4th Miss Royden addressed a Women's meeting at Central Hall, Stepney. Leaflets were distributed afterwards and many tickets taken by the women for the Albert Hall meeting.

WEST LONDON.—The London Society's reception on November 12th was very well attended. Mrs. Theodore Williams was in the chair, and the speakers were the Countess of Selborne, Mrs. Auerbach, Miss Hill and Mr. Cholmeley.

WHITEHAPPEL.—On October 31st a debate was held at Toybee Hall, when Mrs. Swanwick spoke for the London Society and Miss Mabel Smith, of the N.L.O.W.S., was her opponent. Captain Innes was in the chair. No vote was taken.

WIMBLEDON.—A rummage sale was held on October 24th, under the management of Mrs. Castell, when £4-6s. 1d. was raised. Mrs. Castell hopes to raise another 15s. from goods left from the sale. The money will be devoted to furnishing the Wimbledon Stall at the Suffrage Bazaar.

On November 20th a drawing-room meeting was held at 3, Crescent Road, Wimbledon, by invitation of Mrs. Dibley. Mrs. Ford Smith spoke of the pioneers of the suffrage movement, who had learned the need of the vote through their social work. She also dealt with some of the reasons given by men for withholding the vote. Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., who was in the chair, said that suffragists were working for the cause of humanity, and she concluded by urging all those present to help the movement forward by giving their best work to it.

The Federations.

Eastern Counties.

A series of meetings are being held in East and West Cambs. Parliamentary Division. The speakers, usually from Cambridge or the neighbourhood, find attentive and enthusiastic audiences.

The Lady Frances Balfour was the principal speaker at a meeting held at the Town Hall, Thetford, on October 17th, under the auspices of the local branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. The Mayor of Thetford (Mr. J. G. Brown) presided, and expressed his sympathy with the movement. Lady Frances claimed the right of women to the franchise on two grounds: first, to improve the conditions under which they lived and worked; secondly, because they began to realise that they were all free citizens of a free country, living under representative institutions.

Miss Eva Ward, in a vigorous speech, dwelt on the unfair economic conditions of women workers. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. T. U. Millington, J.P., C.C., Miss Hardy, and Miss Phillips, President of the Thetford Society.

At the close of the meeting several new members were enrolled.

BIGGLESWADE.—Owing to the efforts of Miss E. M. Moffat, a meeting was held here at the Small Town Hall, Biggleswade, on November 15th, in an interesting address explained what Women's Suffrage meant to her and gave her reasons for appealing to all women to work for this cause. It is very satisfactory to record that a new Society was formed. Mrs. K. Agis was appointed Secretary and Mr. R. O. Fordham, Treasurer.

EAST CAMBS.—November 15th, a small meeting was held at Cherryhinton village; speakers, Mrs. Ramsey and Mrs. Stevenson, P.L.G. November 4th, a well attended meeting at Ten Ditton; speakers, Mrs. Ramsey and Miss Clough, of Newham; chair, Mrs. Lucas, November 6th, an enthusiastic audience at Burwell; speakers, Mrs. Stevenson and Mr. Mirrlees.

FELIXSTOWE.—October 25th the Committee gave an "At Home" to members and friends at Oordy's Restaurant. Miss Creek gave a very interesting account

of "The Friends of Women's Suffrage" scheme. The audience, though small, was very keen and it is hoped that this work will shortly start here.

The Felixstowe Society, with some valuable work from Miss Creek, worked hard to send a memorial to Capt. R. F. Peel, M.P., on the Snowden Amendment. Woodbridge was visited and more valuable signatures collected to add to those from Felixstowe. The memorial was posted to Capt. Peel, who promised his support. It is hoped that the sympathy Miss Creek and Miss Place met with in Woodbridge will be the means of starting a Society there.

HUNTINGDON.—On October 17th a large and influential gathering was held at the Corn Exchange at 8 p.m. The Rev. W. B. Gardner, Rector of Huntingdon, took the chair. Lady Frances Balfour in an interesting speech moved the resolution, "that this meeting calls upon Parliament to give some measure of franchise to women this session." The resolution, seconded by Miss Eva Ward, was passed without dissent. A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed and seconded by Mr. J. P. Peacock and Mr. Mirrlees.

LEITCHWORTH.—October 30th, by kind invitation of Miss Beckett, a meeting for members and friends was held at "Howgills." Mrs. Hartley gave an address on "The Friends of Women's Suffrage" scheme, Mrs. E. E. Kellitt, M.A., took the chair. Eight members volunteered help for the scheme, so a start will shortly be made here.

LOWESTOFT.—October 22nd, a successful drawing-room meeting was held by the kind invitation of Mrs. Leach. Miss Creek gave an interesting address on the origin and work of the National Union and explained its present election policy. A resolution calling on the Government to concede the vote to the just demands of women and specially urging the support of the Snowden Amendment to the Home Rule Bill" was passed with enthusiasm. Copies of the resolution were sent to the Prime Minister, Sir E. Beauchamp, M.P., Mr. Redmond and the Conservative candidate for the division.

NORWICH.—October 31st, Mrs. Pillow very kindly gave an "At Home," especially inviting those who worked in shops. Dr. Mary Bell gave a fine address which converted all present to Women's Suffrage. Twelve names were given in as members. On November 14th Miss Helen Colman gave a most interesting lantern lecture on G. F. Watts. The proceeds of the lecture, which were for the funds of the Eastern Counties Federation, suffered somewhat from the weather. However, seven pounds were collected. The applause which greeted a slide showing John Stuart Mill, testified to the warm suffrage sympathy of those present.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—October 31st, this Society held a good meeting at Brier Cottage by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. M. St. John Welch. The chair was taken by Mrs. Coleman, and the audience listened with interest to a hopeful address from Mrs. Rackham. The members decided to hold a large meeting in November. Mrs. St. John Welch was elected hon. sec. vice Miss P. Stockings, resigned.

WEST CAMBS.—November 11th, at Willingham, an appreciative audience listened to Mrs. Rackham for an hour. The chair was taken by Mrs. Rootham.

Surrey, Sussex, Hants.

The Federation Committee met on November 5th at the headquarters, Westminster. There were twenty-nine present, Miss Merrifield being in the chair. A resolution was passed calling on the members in the Federation "to see that the enfranchisement of some women was included in the Reform Bill." Representatives as well as the chairman signed the copies intended to be sent to their Member of Parliament.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Executive Committee for the grant of £50 for an additional organiser. It was proposed to divide the Press work among three hon. secretaries.

The financial report showed that more money was still wanted to carry on the organisers' work, and that societies were providing for this necessity in various ways. Worthing had held a rummage sale and presented £5 to the Federation; Guildford was to hold a sale of plants, etc.; Brighton was organising a white elephant auction and giving two-thirds of the profits to the S.S.H. Federation; a "Federation Basket" was being filled, and if possible Miss Powell meant to hold a sale of its contents in January. National Union members in our area are earnestly requested to contribute articles to the basket. The report of activities showed that the organisers had worked to strengthen six societies, and that new ground had been broken at Andover, Bishop Waltham and Sandown. Hampshire societies, it was reported, were forming a County Committee for carrying out Co-operation in suffrage work. The first committee met at Southampton on November 15th.

Eighteen societies and one suffrage group had adopted "Friends of Woman's Suffrage" scheme. The Haslemere Society is arranging correspondence classes for education on questions affecting the women's demand for the vote. Miss Hay Cooper is taking charge of the local organisers in the district. Miss Constance Smith is presiding over the class. The subject to be taken is "The Position of Women in Industry." Special sums of money having been presented for the purpose, the committee decided to apply for ten shares in the Common Cause Company. Future work for the organiser and the tour for the year were discussed, the organising of a Sweated Industry Exhibition by the Redhill and Reigate Society was explained. It was decided to fix the next meeting provisionally for January 31st, 1913.

The first meeting of the Hampshire Committee was held at Southampton on November 15th. This committee is formed of a representative from every N.U.W.S.S. and group in Hampshire, with power to add to their number persons resident in villages and districts where no society or group exists. Its work will be to strengthen our organisations in Hampshire, arrange joint meetings and generally promote suffrage propaganda and press our cause on the attention of the electors and M.P.'s. It was attended by nine representatives, the hon. secretary of the Federation and Mrs. Dempster. A simple constitution was drawn up, and the question of speakers for meetings in January, February and March was under consideration.

M. O'SHEA (Hon. Sec. S.S.H.F.)

West Midland.

FORMATION OF A NEW SOCIETY AT ROSS.—A new Society has just been formed at Ross, when Miss Wright (hon. secretary W.M. Federation) spoke upon work, more especially as regards the political work, and also urging the young society to start the "Friends of Women's Suffrage" scheme. A strong committee was elected, also the hon. officers, and with a membership of 43 the society has every prospect of success. Mrs. Curtis has most kindly consented to be president.

West of England.

On October 26th, a joint deputation, Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association (Cheltenham branch) and the Tewkesbury Division branch of the N.U.W.S.S. waited upon Mr. Hicks-Beach, Conservative Member for Tewkesbury Division, at Sudeley Castle, to ask his support for the inclusion of women in the Home Rule Bill and the Reform Bill. The deputation, consisting of Dr. Eazrangey, Mrs. Jerome Mercer, Mrs. Saxby, Mr. J. Bagrall Oakley, Mr. Lives, Mr. Woodward, was introduced by Miss Kelley (hon. sec. Cheltenham C.U.W.F.A.).

Mr. Hicks-Beach expressed pleasure at receiving the deputation, and said he was very grateful for the moderate way the speakers had put their case. In reference to the Home Rule Bill, he said that he held the question as to who should elect the Irish Parliament should be decided by the Irish themselves. Coming to the general question of Women's Suffrage, he used the thin-end-of-the-wedge argument as an excuse for his intention to oppose all amendments to the Reform Bill—but promised to remember that there were many Suffragists in his constituency.

Manchester and District.

The second annual meeting of the Manchester and District Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies was held November 2nd in the Minor Hall, Y.M.C.A., Manchester, under the chairmanship of Miss Margaret Ashton. The report and balance sheet were read and confirmed, both reports showing most satisfactory progress for the year. Five new societies had been formed, and Sale, which had worked hitherto independently, had decided to affiliate to the National Union and the Manchester and District Federation. The bazaar, in which nearly all the Societies took part, was a great success, both financially and as a means of inducing closer co-operation between members of the Federation. The Hon. Secretary commented on the political work, which had been well kept up throughout the year. The report from the Hon. Press Secretary was very encouraging, and showed an increase of friendliness on the part of many papers. One of the most pleasant events of the year was the presentation made by Miss Ashton to Mrs. F. Stanton Barnes and Miss Margaret Robertson. Miss Robertson gave an address on the Fighting Fund Policy at recent by-elections. Owing to the resignation of the Hon. Secretaryship by Mrs. Barnes on account of ill-health, Miss Robertson has become special organiser for the election fighting fund of the National Union.

MANCHESTER SOCIETY.—The Manchester Society has organised a series of lectures to be held fortnightly in the Manchester offices throughout the winter. The first lecture was on October 31st, at which Mr. G. G. Armstrong spoke on "The Political Situation"; and on November 12th, Mr. J. H. Hudson, M.A., spoke on "The Independent Labour Party and Women's Suffrage," both of these subjects proving of great interest to the audience. A successful drawing-room meeting was held at Miss Woolley's, Fairhill Kewal, on November 16th, at which Mrs. Swanwick and Mr. G. G. Armstrong spoke under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Neville Smith. In spite of bad weather there was a good attendance and several new members joined the Society. A meeting was arranged by the Manchester Central Branch of the I.L.P., and held in the Coal Exchange, Market Place, Manchester, on November 17th, at which Mrs. Swanwick and Mrs. Annot Robinson spoke, the chair being taken by Mrs. Mitchell. The subject was, "Should Women Support the Suffragist Policy of the Labour Party?" No resolution was put to the meeting, but an interesting debate took place. These meetings will be continued. A public meeting was held in the Cavendish School, All Saints, Manchester, on November 15th, at which Mrs. Swanwick and Miss Alison Garland spoke, Professor Hickson presiding. Owing to bad weather the audience was small but it was sympathetic and the resolution was carried unanimously. Dr. Catherine Chisholm kindly gave a drawing-room meeting at 339, Oxford Rd., Manchester. Mrs. Swanwick was the speaker and Professor Alexander the chairman. Mrs. Swanwick's speech was exceptionally interesting and several new members were made. The usual fortnightly meetings have been held at the Salford Suffrage Club and at the Hulme Suffrage Club. Addresses have been given by Mrs. Norbury at Salford, and by Mrs. Hillier at Hulme.

ALTRINCHAM.—A public meeting was held at Broadheath on November 14th, the chair being taken by Miss Dorothy Darlington. The resolution: "That this meeting urges the House of Commons to pass no Bill extending the franchise that does not include some measure of enfranchisement for women," was proposed by Miss Alison Garland, seconded by Mr. Tomlinson, and carried with one dissentient.

BOLTON.—The campaign at Bolton was carried on very successfully all last week. We held a great number of meetings in the open air. Mrs. Aldersley, Mrs. Chew, Mr. Kenneth Bryer, Mrs. Mace Wilson, Rev. Mr. Rees, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Jordan and Mr. Moss and myself being amongst the speakers. The audience were fine. Every evening in the shop we held a meeting, where short addresses were given by Mr. Derbyshire, of the Progressive League, and Mr. Gildart, of the I.L.P., and other speakers. On the eve of the poll, we had a very good meeting in the Spinners' Hall, with Miss Ashton, Mrs. Chew and myself as speakers, and Councillor Ainsworth in the chair. The hall was packed, thirty-four new members were made and the stock of the COMMON CAUSE sold out. A great number of "Friends" cards were signed, and large quantities of leaflets distributed. Miss Bridson, the secretary, Mrs. Taylor, who was shopkeeper-in-chief, and Miss Kitchin, as stewards, and many other assistants were indefatigable. The suffrage shop is going to be kept open for another fortnight and will be a centre of suffrage activity.

ANNOT E. ROBINSON.

BRAMHALL.—The first meeting of the Bramhall Society since its affiliation with the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, took place on November 16th in the Council Schoolroom, Bramhall. The meeting had been organised by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Alice Bell, assisted by the committee and friends. The chair was taken by Mr. Pilkington Turner, of Victoria University, who dealt in his opening speech with the great advance of suffrage principles in the United States.

Mrs. Swanwick, who was most cordially received, said that the Women's Suffrage movement could not possibly be regarded as a mere local outbreak of insanity, as a handful of anti-suffragists would have us believe. The feminist movement extended from east to west right round the world. She pointed out that the object and aim of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was purely educational.

Mrs. Phythian moved and Miss Sarah Reynolds seconded a resolution, which was carried unanimously, urging the Member for their division to support the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women during the present session. Miss Jackson, Vice-Principal of the Manchester Municipal Day Training College, Mr. Reynolds, late Principal of the Manchester School of Technology, and Mr. Withers were among the other speakers.

BUXTON.—The Buxton Society has started the winter's work by holding two meetings. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Vickery kindly lent their drawing-room on November 7th for the first, when Rev. W. E. Ireland, M.A. (Macclesfield) gave an interesting paper on "Some Heroines of Modern Drama." He foreshadowed the coming of another type of woman as suggested by "The Doll's House," "Candida," "The Shadow of the Glen," and "Madras House"; and with her the advent of a new man. On November 13th, Miss Lucy Cox (Manchester), gave an address at a meeting of the Young Liberal League held in the Liberal Club. There was a good attendance of men members, and a discussion ensued. A memorial to St. Hill Wood, Esq., M.P., is being organised, and a more recently needed for the Friends of Women's Suffrage Scheme.

ECOLEES.—The Eccles Division Society held a meeting in the Primitive Methodist Schools, Swinton, on November 12th. The Vicar of Swinton, the Rev. B. O. F. Heywood, M.A., was in the chair. Mrs. Miss Threlkeld, Potts, M.A., was the speaker. The following resolution, proposed by Miss Potts, and seconded by Mrs. James Pollitt, was forwarded to Sir George Pollard and the Chief Liberal Whip, Mr. Hillingworth.—"This meeting demands the same term of Women's Suffrage be included in the Reform Bill."

MARPLE.—A deputation waited on the Hyde member, Mr. Neilson, on October 30th, and obtained from him a promise that he would vote for all four amendments to the Reform Bill, but a satisfactory reply was not obtained. The third reading of the Reform Bill if women were not included in the Bill. A thousand letters were sent to the electors of Marple and Hyde Division in October asking them to write to Mr. Neilson, to urge him to support the amendments to the Reform Bill and several hundreds of electors complied with the request. Romily and Hyde have followed Marple's example and sent letters to the electors. The winter session opened on November 14th with a public meeting at the Institute. The speakers were Miss Alison Garland and Mrs. Annot Robinson. Mr. F. S. Rhodes was in the chair. Miss Garland moved, and Mrs. Annot Robinson seconded, a resolution that the meeting should urge the House of Commons to pass no Reform Bill that does not include some measure of enfranchisement for women. This was carried almost unanimously.

WIGAN AND DISTRICT.—A public meeting of the Wigan and District Branch was held in the I.L.P. Rooms, Wigan, on November 15th. Mrs. Fairhurst, of Pemberton, presiding. Mrs. Swanwick gave an excellent address to a good audience. The following resolution was proposed by Dr. Rees, seconded by Mr. George Knox, and carried with three dissentients: "We believe, in believing that the exclusion of women from the Parliamentary franchise is contrary to every principle of democracy, calls upon the member for Wigan to do all in his power to secure the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill, and that the Government are not to propose any further extension of the franchise for men which leaves women unrepresented." This is the second excellent meeting held in Wigan during the last fortnight.

WILMSLOW, SYDAL AND ALDERLEY EDGE.—A meeting was held on November 14th in the Drill Hall, Wilmslow. The chair was taken by Mr. Forrest Hewitt, and Miss Alison Garland and the Rev. W. E. Ireland, M.A., were the speakers. The meeting was entirely sympathetic and the resolution was passed unanimously. A Liberal meeting the same night unfortunately thinned the audience.

South Wales and Monmouth.

ORGANISER'S REPORT.—During the past week Miss Davies and I have worked in East Glamorganshire. On Monday we had a meeting, arranged very hurriedly, for Mrs. Corbett-Asby at Pontypridd. Although we advertised it much more carefully than we usually do our meetings the attendance was small. Several divisions of Derbyshire to obtain their support for the women's franchise amendments to the Reform Bill and to Mr. Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill. Mrs. Cowmesdow is the only work in the district.

A DERBY.—A drawing-room meeting was held on October 24th, at the residence of Mrs. Worthington, to hear addresses by Miss Cicely D. Corbett, of the N.U.W.S.S., and Miss Horniman, of the Gaiety Theatre.

GRANTHAM.—Great interest was evinced in the arrival of the "Women's March" in Grantham on November 23rd. The "Marchers" were met on the outskirts of the town by local suffragists, who escorted them to the "Angel" and "Red Lion" Hotels, where they were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and other local sympathisers. A meeting was held at the West-gate Hall, under the chairmanship of Mrs. W. E. Dowson, of Nottingham. The "Marchers" who spoke were Mrs. Amy Sanderson, Miss Bennett, and Mrs. De Bonhaghe (leader of the "March"). Several hundreds of signatures were obtained to the petition. A joint meeting of the W.S.A., the Co-operative Guild, and the Suffrage Societies was held at 15, Watergate, on November 16th. A resolution was passed asking the local M.P., Sir Arthur Chesterly, to vote for the women's suffrage amendments to the Reform Bill.

L. F. WARING.

South Western.

The annual meeting of the South-Western Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies was held at Clarence Chambers, Plymouth. Miss Tanner (Bristol) represented the executive of the National Union. The chair was taken by Dr. Mabel Ramsay. All the officers were re-elected. The Hon. Secretary reported that new branches had been formed at Tiverton, Wadebridge, St. Ives and Truro. Tours had been arranged for three speakers—Mrs. Rack-

ham, Miss Helen Fraser, and Miss Frances Stealing—and in few weeks Mrs. Madam would address meetings at Exeter, Plymouth, Wadebridge and Falmouth. Lady Courtney of Penwith had consented to become president of the Federation, and Mrs. F. D. Aokland, Lady Rosalind Northcote, and Sir Robert Newman would be vice-presidents. In future Miss Walford would make Exeter her headquarters.

Miss Walford, organiser to the Federation, described the work done at St. Ives, Truro where a branch formed with 21 members had increased to 80, Looe, Looe, Torquay and Paignton, where branches will shortly be formed. In consequence of the work done at Truro, the Women's Liberal Association had sent a deputation to be sent to the member, Sir G. Croydon Marks, by a number of influential voters.

The Treasurer's report showed that £90 had been collected in the year, leaving a balance of £17 in hand. Dr. Mabel Ramsay proposed, and Mrs. Fletcher seconded, a resolution, which was carried unanimously, that in the opinion of this Federation a Labour candidate should not be adopted by the Election Fighting Fund Committee unless he first answered in the affirmative all the questions asked by the N.U. The resolution was carried unanimously.

EXETER.—On October 31st, Lady Selborne visited Exeter, and addressed a large gathering at the house of the President of the Exeter Branch, Mrs. Walter Pring. Advantage was taken of the meeting to collect signatures for a memorial to Mr. Duke, K.C., M.P., asking him to vote for Mr. Philip Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill and for Mr. Dickinson's amendment to the Government Reform Bill.

The Rev. Hatty Baker addressed the Women Co-operators on the White Slave Traffic. The chair was taken by Mrs. W. A. Webb. On November 1st Miss Hatty Baker spoke on the same subject in the Small King's Hall, St. Thomas. The City Coroner, Mr. W. Linford Brown, was in the chair, supported by Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Wilkes. The suffrage resolution was unanimously passed, and many new members joined the society.

MATLOCK.—A new society has been started at Matlock through the exertions of Mrs. Stones and Miss Sewell. A successful meeting was held in the Town Hall on October 28th. Miss Margaret Robertson, the principal speaker, was unfortunately prevented from attending. Mrs. F. Broome, the treasurer of the new Branch, took the chair, and put the resolution, which was seconded by Mrs. Cowmesdow, and was carried with one dissentient.

NOTTINGHAM.—Much work in connection with the forthcoming bazaar falls to the Nottingham Society. Most of the 375 ordinary members have been personally called upon by members of the Bazaar Committee, and promises of help are coming in well. At the weekly "At Homes," which have now become working parties for the bazaar, a series of interesting papers on "Famous Women" have been read.

PETERBOROUGH.—Miss Ballantine (N.U.W.S.S. Organiser) has spent some time here, obtaining the signatures of representative citizens to a suffrage petition to the local M.P. She has also addressed meetings of the Railway Women's Guild and the Men and Women's Adult School.

SOUTHWELL.—The Southwell W.S.S. held its annual meeting on October 14th at the residence of the Hon. Mrs. Handford, who took the chair. The officers and committee were re-elected, and the financial report was passed, showing a balance in hand of £3. A resolution was unanimously passed, that the Southwell Branch should abstain from working in the interests of any Parliamentary candidate who has declared himself opposed to women's suffrage.

PLYMOUTH.—A good ward meeting was held at Laira, with Mrs. Fering in the chair and Miss Phillips as speaker. The meeting at Hyde Park Schools, however, on November 20th, was very poorly attended. Miss Keys took the chair and Dr. Ramsay spoke. Delegates from the N.U.W.S.S. attended. The War Against Poverty conference on November 16th, to point out the danger of pressing for legislation on a minimum of child nurture" until women could directly guide such legislation. The conference carried our amendment unanimously. An animated debate took place at the Plymouth Mock Parliament, in which Mrs. Ramsay and Miss Phillips took part. The Western Daily Mercury gave an excellent account of the debate, and they also reported the Federation meeting, the meeting at Wadebridge, etc.

WADDEBRIDGE.—This newly-formed society organised a splendid meeting on November 19th, when Lady Frances Balfour was the principal speaker, and Dr. Ramsay was in the chair. Mrs. Lady Frances Balfour spoke on the reasons why women want votes. The Divorce Commission found that in the case of unhappy marriages the law was always slightly unfair to women. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, Smith's wallet sideboard (110), stand out even among so much good work. Miss Lola Franpton's embroidered panel (476), the sampler of the Misses Archer (478) and Miss Ellen Wright's zodiac table centre (431) should be noticed, as should Miss Hornblower's striking design for a fire-screen (490). Of the pottery displayed in the entrance corridor the most interesting examples are those of Mr. and Mrs. Powell, the Pilkington Co.'s lustre wares and Mr. Cowlishaw's dignified and inexpensive productions. The catalogue badly needs the promised revision.

East Midland.

Before the debate on Mr. Philip Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill, a small deputation representing the East Midland Federation and the Notts W.S.S. waited upon Mr. J. G. Hancock, M.P., and obtained his support to Mr. Snowden's amendment, and also his promise to do all he could to secure the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill.

All the societies are busy with preparations for the bazaar, which is to take place at Nottingham on November 29th and 30th. Weekly or fortnightly working parties are being held in many places.

CHESTERFIELD.—The Chesterfield Society was launched at a meeting held on November 13th, and has already done good work in approaching the members of Parliament in the North-East and South-East Divisions of Derbyshire to obtain their support for the women's franchise amendments to the Reform Bill and to Mr. Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill. Mrs. Cowmesdow is the only work in the district.

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L. F. WARING.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Correspondents are requested to write on ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY.

THE MENTAL DEFICIENCY BILL. I am anxious to add my protest to that of your correspondent on the attitude taken up by THE COMMON CAUSE towards the Mental Deficiency Bill. It appears to me to be founded on superficial knowledge, probably mostly gleaned from the articles in the Nation. I see you promise us an article dealing with the Bill at large. I hope its author will be thoroughly acquainted with the Report of the Royal Commission, and have some knowledge of the work and composition of the committees which have promoted legislation.

The Mental Deficiency Bill owes much to the work of women. Two names stand out pre-eminently, but I could give many besides. A woman has been the pioneer of the Colony system for the permanent care and protection of the feeble-minded, and I think many suffragists will resent any partial or ill-informed criticism of the Bill. I feel keenly on this subject, being the Hon. Sec. of the Cambridge Association for the Care of the Feeble-Minded and a member of the Executive Committee of the Cambridge W.S.S.

LUCY KENNEDY. [This letter—unfortunately crowded out last week—referred to on page 591, in note "Our Superficial Knowledge."]

THE "QUI VIVE CORPS." All those who accompanied the "Edinburgh to London Marchers" came to the conclusion that this idea had proved such a remarkably good one as to be worth developing on slightly different lines. The feeling of the country towards the brown and green strangers with their "message," was so absolutely friendly, and the general desire to see Englishwomen enfranchised so genuine, that in many large towns the inhabitants said that they never remembered any political candidates having such huge audiences assembled to listen, motionless, for over an hour, to those few unknown women. Indeed, the only opposition they ever encountered came from thoughtless boys, and even these frequently checked their noise and remained to hear all that could be said.

Two main impressions were derived by the Marchers from talking to all and sundry on the way. First, that the "Mind in the street" both male and female, is sick of "Party Politics," and misrepresentations. Secondly, that had the Marchers carried a petition in favour of Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, or any of those other measures—on the merits of which every one has no opinion—when our legislators are pushing through, they would most certainly never have obtained the percentage of signatures from those they met on the road which this petition for "Votes for Women this Session" elicited.

It has, therefore, been decided that, since members of every suffrage society took part in the march and found a common meeting ground in this scheme, the work can be continued in the same manner by inviting members of all the societies to belong as well to an organised band of women called the "Qui Vive Corps," which will have detachments all over the United Kingdom. No one need give up their own society because they join the "Qui Vive," who will make it their business to interest the country in all those larger questions which concern our common humanity and the efficiency of our race quite apart from party politics. They will encourage an ever-increasing army of women to study things for themselves to form independent opinions, by working together to acquire a more intimate knowledge of one another in the different social strata, and to develop self-confidence and strength of purpose. As the raising of the status of women is the most important matter at present before the country, the "Qui Vive Corps" will, till the Vote is won, concentrate on that measure only; but an organised body of energetic and capable women will be equally useful if ready to put in good work the moment this vote is theirs.

It is not necessary here to enter into the various ways by which the "Qui Vives" will set about its arduous task. It is sufficient to say that it means business. That every woman whilst wearing the "Qui Vive" uniform (of brown with a green cockade in the hat) is pledged to abstain from any "militant" action, and that its Executive will consist of delegates elected locally in the various districts where detachments are formed.

RUTH C. BENTINCK, 78, Harley Street, London, W., from whom all further details may be obtained.

ABSURD REASONING. As a Suffragist who believes that her cause is weakened by false argument, may I remonstrate with the absurd position taken up in the note published in THE COMMON CAUSE to the effect that Miss Gladys Pott, by quoting Mr. Coope's opinion upon a certain point suggested or implied that he held anti-suffrage views? I heard her speech, and if such a position be taken up by Suffragists then any one who mentioned an opinion held by Lord Cromer or Mr. Gladstone would be guilty of implying that these gentlemen are Suffragists. Such reasoning is absurd. L. JOHNSON. [Our observation was founded upon Mr. Coope's own letter to the "Woman's Platform" of the "Standard." We are much obliged to Miss Johnson for correcting the mistake. Nothing is farther from our desire than to misrepresent Miss Pott.—Ed. C.C.]

Correction.

In last week's issue, by a printer's error, the Fund of the International Suffrage Shop was announced as £200. This should read £900.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. D. A. Courtney ... 1 0 0, Frances M. Kirby ... 1 0 0, D. M. Martin ... 0 1 6, E. A. Sherrard ... 0 1 0, Elsie Henshaw ... 0 5 0, A Common Cause Reader ... 0 5 0, Anonymous ... 0 5 0, Gertrude W. Seymour ... 1 0 0, L. Youngman ... 0 11 6, M. L. ... 1 0 0.

MARRIED WOMEN AND THE INCOME TAX. Dr. Maud C. Stopes, in commenting on an article in a recent issue of THE COMMON CAUSE, in which the writer calls attention to the present unjust and dishonest treatment of married women by the Inland Revenue Department, gives particulars of her own case:

"I am a specialist employed by the British Museum, and when they came to pay me last March the draft was made out with Income tax deducted. As the Museum is a Government Department, the Paymaster and the income tax official are the same man. I protested that the income tax was wrongly deducted, and demanded to be paid in full—they replied that they would only repay my husband—thus deducting money from my earnings and handing it over to my husband! I had three months of interviews and correspondence, and then threatened to sue them in the County Court for the sum owing me. They capitulated, and repaid the amount to me—myself. I believe this is the first case when a married woman has been personally refunded money deducted as income tax, and it should prove useful for other wives to know they can successfully protest against the injustice with which they are usually treated."

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

In a paragraph of your issue of November 22nd, and in an article in another issue, you have given currency to Mrs. Humphry Ward's statement that there was a compromise on the Suffrage question in 1910. There was no such compromise. At the special meeting of the Council on November 20th, Mrs. Creighton quoted the facts from the records of the Union. In November, 1910, Mrs. Humphry Ward moved a resolution to the effect that the Executive Committee shall have power to take action only on those subjects on which there is practical unanimity in the National Union of Women Workers. The resolution was lost by 35 to 139. A resolution was carried to the effect that the Executive Committee should be left free as heretofore, but that in dealing with subjects in which opinion was strongly divided no definite step should be taken on less than a two-thirds majority, "provided that no action be taken contrary to the resolutions already passed by the Council."

After hearing these facts, Mrs. Humphry Ward reiterated her opinion that there had been a compromise in 1910. Mrs. Humphry Ward has now written to the press complaining that the "compromise" has been undone, and announcing a protest meeting which, she says, will result in wholesale resignations from the National Union of Women Workers. At the Council meeting a letter was read from Miss Soulsby, a strong Anti-Suffragist, who has been a member of the Executive of the Women Workers for many years, stating that if the Suffrage resolution should be carried there would be no more ground for a secession of the Anti-Suffragists than in 1902 or in 1909.

ROSE GRAHAM.

(We have received a number of letters which space absolutely forbids us to publish. Several deal with the position of women in ancient Babylonia, some with the mental Deficiency Bill, and with logging, one with the religious beliefs of George Medelith.)

Irish Notes.

A meeting was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, by the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association. Miss C. S. Harrison, T.C., presided, and the Supper Room, in which the meeting was held, was crowded. Councillor Eleanor M. Rathbone, M.A., T.C.D., Liverpool, who spoke on "The Present Position of the Woman's Movement," was the principal speaker. Amongst the letters of apology was one from Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P.

Miss Rathbone, in the course of her address, said that the national question in Ireland had to some extent dwarfed the feminist movement; but in England the women's suffrage movement was the largest and most active agitation that had taken place in that country within the last ten years. She dealt mainly with the progress of the suffragist propaganda in England and referred to the attitude of the Irish Party in connection with the Conciliation Bill last February.

Miss M. Strangman, M.D., T.C., Waterford, proposed that no Reform Bill will be satisfactory to the women of the United Kingdom which does not confer upon them an adequate measure of Parliamentary enfranchisement." The proposition was seconded by Miss Mary Hayden, M.A., and carried unanimously.

Miss Buchanan, P.L.C., proposed—"That the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association, being non-party and non-militant, is entitled to the support of our fellow-countrymen of all shades of political opinion." She mentioned that their Society was the oldest suffragist organisation in the country and had behind it the greatest record of work done. The resolution was seconded by Mrs. C. Richardson, B.A., and carried with two dissentients. Amongst other speakers were Mrs. Wyse Power and Mrs. Sanderson.

[Owing to pressure on our space further "Irish Notes" are held over.—Ed. C.C.]

Free Church League for Woman Suffrage.

The Church League and the Free Church League will hold a meeting at the Masonic Hall, Bromley, on Friday, 29th inst., at 8.15. Chair, Mrs. J. S. Mann, B.A., speakers, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Rev. Fleming Williams, Rev. Hugh B. Chapman.

The Awakener.
Coincident with the debates in Parliament upon the Criminal Law Amendment Bill has appeared the publication of "The Awakener," which has for its chief aim the suppression of the White Slave Traffic. We congratulate the pioneers on the courageous attack made in its first number at the roots of the evil—the problem of the young man and the question of a living wage for women and girls—and on the vigour and frankness of the declaration of its future policy. Mr. G. B. Shaw adds emphasis by his article, "The Root of the White Slave Traffic," to the purposeful utterance of the "leader," and it is intended week by week to repeat this feature of "a signed article by men and women whose names are household words in religious, political and literary work." We trust "The Awakener" is the prelude to the dawn of a general civic consciousness in the nation which will render impossible the existence of this canker in our midst.

"THE MEN'S LEAGUE HANDBOOK."
In your kind and appreciative review of the "Men's League Handbook on Women's Suffrage" in your last issue the credit of its production is given to me instead of to my colleague, Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell, to whom most of the energies of the Men's League have been due, and whose devotion and sacrifice for the Women's Suffrage cause cannot be recognised too highly.
CHARLES V. DRYSDALE, Hon. Sec.

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The Week's Meetings.

(ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.)

- NOVEMBER 29.
Leeds—9, Park Lane—Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A. 7.30
Nottingham—Mechanics Large Hall, "Forest of Christmas Trees" opened by Her Highness Duleep Singh, Chair, Sir J. Rolleston, M.P., supported by Lord Henry Bentick, M.P. 3.0-10.30
Tiverton—Drawing-room meeting—Miss Abadam 2.45
Bristol—Victoria Rooms—Miss Helen Fraser, Professor Leonard, Sir John Gorst (chair) 8.0
Exeter—Barnfield Hall—Sir Victor Horsley—Miss Abadam 8.0
Holyhead—Public Hall—Miss Cherry, B.W.T.A., on White Slave Traffic 8.0
Cambridge—Co-operative Hall, Burleigh Street—"Women's Suffrage and the Labour Party"—Mrs. Annot Robinson 8.0
Gateshead—Outside Kelvingrove Schools—Miss Sheard 7.0
Ashington—Miner's Hall—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss C. M. Gordon 7.30
- NOVEMBER 30.
Nottingham—Mechanics Large Hall, "Forest of Christmas Trees" opened by Lady Markham, Chair, Alderman Manning 3.0-10.30
Exmouth—King's Hall—Miss Abadam
Bristol—Drawing-room meeting—Dr. Marion Linton, 7, Tyndalls Park—Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Mullock, M.Sc. (chair) 3.30
Oxford—Y.M.C.A. Hall, George St.—variety entertainment—"How the Vote was Won"—two performances 2.30 and 8.0
Chesterfield—Gas Workers Union—Mrs. Cowmeadow 9.0
Barrow-in-Furness—Queen's Hall—Miss Margaret Robertson 8.0
- DECEMBER 2.
Tunbridge Wells—"At Home" at the Studio—The Misses Scott—To meet Miss Gardner
Manchester—Reception at Parker's Restaurant, 8, St. Ann's Square—Miss Margaret Ashton 4.0-5.30
"—Mrs. Arthur Schuster—"At Home" to South Manchester members, at Kent House, Kent Road, Victoria Park 8.0
Duxford—Schoolroom—The Rector (chair). Miss Mein, Mrs. Rackham 7.30
Croydon—34, The Arcade, High Street—Dr. C. M. Fegan—"Public Health" 3.30
Bishop Auckland—Temperance Hall—Councillor Spoor, Mr. Mirrieles, Miss C. M. Gordon
Llandegfan—Parish Hall—Miss Cherry, B.W.T.A., on "The White Slave Traffic" 8.0
Gateshead—Poplar Crescent—Miss I. S. A. Beaver
Birmingham—Mrs. Scarsbrick's drawing-room meeting (Yoredale, Erdington)—Mrs. Ring, chair, and Councillor Margaret Pugh 3.30
South Salford—Suffrage Club, Oldfield Hall—Mrs. Alder 8.0
Colwyn Bay—Cafe Royal—Public debate. Subject: "That the exclusion of women from the Parliamentary franchise blocks the way of social reform." Proposer, Miss Crossfield; opposer, Mr. R. Thomson 8.0
- DECEMBER 3.
King's Sutton—Drawing-room meeting—Miss Hook 4.15-6.0
Canterbury—St. George's Hall—Miss Ford, Miss Helga Gill and others 8.0
Grimsby—Town Hall—Lord Lytton, Miss Abadam, Lady Doughty (chair) 8.0
East Bristol—1, Barrow Road—Meeting for men and women 8.0
Chesterfield—Shop Assistants' Union—Mrs. Cowmeadow 7.30
Cheltenham—Town Hall—Debate between Mrs. Swinney and Miss Gladys Pott—Admission free by ticket 8.15
Menai Bridge—New Hall—Miss Cherry (B.W.T.A.) on the "White Slave Traffic" 8.0
Oldham—King Street Co-operative Hall—Miss Helen Fraser and Miss C. Moir
Tynemouth—St. Oswin's Hall—Miss Fenwick, Mr. Mirrieles—Rev. W. E. Moll 7.30
Gateshead—Open-air meeting—Askew Road—Miss I. S. A. Beaver 7.0
"—W.S. Shop, 115, High West Street—Open-air meeting for men and women—Each week 7.30
Hastings—Suffrage Club—Mrs. C. M. Francis—Subject: "Some Recent Books on Women."
- DECEMBER 4.
Leeds—9, Park Lane—Social Evening
Dorking—Public Hall—Mrs. Gordon Clarke (Mickleham Hall) Entertainment—Miss Aston, Miss Page Henderson 3.0
Darlington—Mechanics Institute—Lady Frances Balfour, Mr. Mirrieles 7.30
Bedford—Miss Abadam 8.0
Berkhamsted—Town Hall—Dr. Saleeby (F.R.S.Edin.), "Women's Suffrage and Eugenics" 8.0
Beaumaris—Town Hall—Miss Cherry, B.W.T.A., on the "White Slave Traffic" 8.0
Gateshead—James Street, Sunderland Road—Miss Temperley, Miss C. M. Gordon
"—W.S. Shop, 115, High West Street—Social meeting for women—speaker, Mrs. Bittcliffe—Each week 3.0
Whitehaven—Odeon's Hall—Miss Margaret Robertson 8.0
Whaley Bridge—Sale of Work—Mrs. Edward Hall—"The Dingle." 3 and 7
- DECEMBER 5.
Bradford—5, Eldon Place (Suffrage Rooms)—"Christmas Fair" in aid of the funds of the Society.

Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

All London members are asked to unite in a special effort to make the meeting at the Hampstead Town Hall, on Saturday, December 7, a great success, and it is suggested that every member should make herself responsible for bringing at least three friends. The speakers will be Miss Abadam, Miss K. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Walter Roche, and Mr. Joseph Clayton. A few 1s. tickets can be obtained from the office, 55, Berners Street, Oxford Street, W., or from the Catholic Repository, 36, Southampton Road, Haverstock Hill, N.W.
A jumble sale will be held on the same day at St. Philip's Hall, 262, Fulham Road, S.W. Miss Whately will be grateful for parcels of goods and offers of help sent to this address.

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- Manchester—Didsbury Co-operative Hall—F. Stanton Barnes, Esq.—Miss Darlington (chair)
Wakelod—Stratford Arms Hotel—"At Home"—Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Lucan Davies, M.A. 3.30
Leamington—Biroh's music rooms—Parade meeting
Rottingdean—School House—Miss Abadam—White Slave Traffic—Women only 8.0
Wallasey and Wirral—The Institute—Hoyle—Miss Muriel Matters
West Camb.—Comberton—Drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Souper's—Mrs. Ramsey, the Rev. Souper.
Hitchin—Workman's Hall—Mrs. Bonwick 3.15
Leominster—Town Hall—Mr. Theodore Neild (chair), the Earl of Lytton, Mrs. Corbett Ashby 8.0
Brighton—York Place Hall—"Why we Support Women's Franchise"—Nine speakers—all well-known local men 8.0
Gateshead—Town Hall—Mrs. Spence Watson (chair), The Lady Frances Balfour, Mr. Mirrieles, Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A. 7.30
Bridlington—Annual general meeting 3.0
Hereford—Town Hall—Public meeting—Speakers: The Earl of Lytton, Mrs. Corbett Ashby (chair), Mr. J. C. Mackay 3.0
Manchester—Bijou Theatre, Elm Grove, Didsbury—Meeting—Mr. F. Stanton Barnes, Miss Dorothy Darlington—Chair: Mrs. T. M. Young. 7.45

- [LONDON.]
NOVEMBER 29.
Hackney, N.—Women's Suffrage meeting—Girls' Realm Guild, 14, Osbaldeston Road—Speaker, Mrs. Ford Smith—chair, Mrs. Frank Bishop—Hostess, Mrs. Nevett 3.15
Westminster—Caxton Hall—London Society's annual meeting for members—Chair, The Lady Frances Balfour—Speaker, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, I.L.D. 8.0
DECEMBER 1.
Clerkenwell—Women's Section, National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks—Speaker, Miss M. Sheepshanks 3.0
DECEMBER 2.
Wembley—St. Andrew's Hall—Rev. I. W. Silvester (chair), Mrs. E. F. Abbott and 20 others 8.30
N. Kensington—B.W.T.A.—Bosworth Hall—Chair, Sister Ruth—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford—Musical entertainment 8.30
Harlesden—Tubbs Road—Adult School—Mrs. Abbott 2.30

- DECEMBER 3.
Peckham—Junior Imperial League—Women's Suffrage Debate—Unionist Club, Commercial Road, Peckham—Speakers, Miss Helen Ward and Mr. H. B. Samuels (N.L.O.W.S.) 8.0
Barnes—Public meeting—Little Byfield Hall, Barnes—Speaker, Lady Willoughby de Broke 8.15
Stepney—Mission Hall, Ernest Street—Girls' Club—Speaker, Miss J. H. Thomson 8.30
West London Reception—Westminster Palace Hotel—Chair, Miss Helen Ward—Speakers, The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Clementina Black, Miss K. D. Courtney, Dr. Florence Willey 3.30-6.15
- DECEMBER 4.
Wandsworth—Women's Own, Queen's Mission Hall, Wandsworth Road 8.0
Islington, E.—Branch, L.L.P.—Barnsbury Hall, Barnsbury Street, Upper Street—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 8.30

- SCOTLAND.
NOVEMBER 29.
Largs—Artillery Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden. Provost Boyd (chair) 8.0
Glasgow—Christmas Bazaar Sale, 202, Hope Street 3.0
NOVEMBER 30.
Oban—Hotel—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0
Glasgow—Open-air meeting, Wellington Street 3.0
DECEMBER 2.
Greenock—Temperance Institute—Miss Royden 8.0
Glasgow—Scottish Girls' Friendly Society—Y.W.C.A., 36, Muslin Street, Bridgeton—Miss Craigie 8.0
DECEMBER 3.
Paisley—Y.M.C.A. Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0
Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Speakers' Class—Miss A. Maude Royden 11.45
Glasgow—35, East Campbell Street—Mothers' meeting—Miss M. Watson 3.0
DECEMBER 4.
Lenzie—Public meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden 8.0
Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Speakers' Class—Miss A. Maude Royden 11.45
DECEMBER 5.
Edinburgh—St. Cathberts Co-operative Association Women's Guild (Northern Branch) Miss Cotterill, "Parliament and the Home"

- MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.
DECEMBER 1.
Bristol—Kingsley Hall, Old Market Street—Sunday Society—Miss Helen Fraser 3.0
DECEMBER 2.
Birmingham—Saltley Women's Labour League—Mrs. Ring 8.0
DECEMBER 3.
Bristol—St. Luke's Mission Hall—Y.M.D.S.—Miss Clough 8.0

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Under the Auspices of

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Glasgow & West of Scotland Association
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