

The Autumn Campaign.

The Common Cause.

The Organ of the Women's Movement for Reform.

VOL. II. No. 76. Registered as a Newspaper.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

The News of the Week.

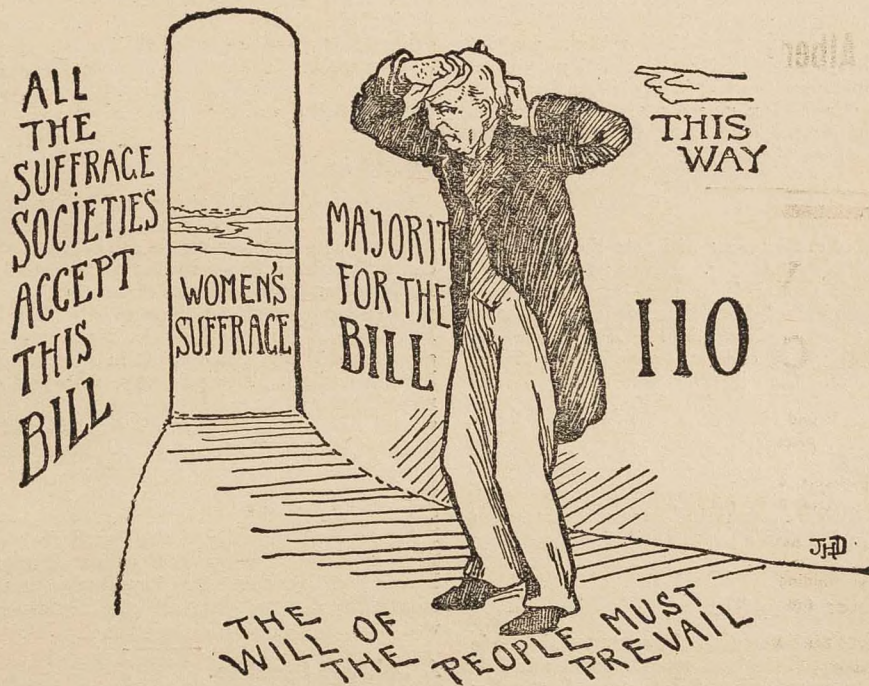
The Osborne Judgment.

In the careful reading of the reports of the Trade Unions Congress and in the study of the admissions, aspirations, mistakes, and accomplishments of the Labour representatives, there is infinite profit to Suffragists. One lesson cannot fail to come home to them all, and to give pause even to the crudest Anti-Suffragist, and that is the absolutely unanimous realization of the far-reaching importance of the Osborne judgment. Whether you think that it is fair or unfair, desirable or not, that associations for trade purposes should be permitted to spend a portion of their funds on running candidates and

special Labour Members; it is only *women* workers who, for some mysterious reason (a part, we suppose, of the general inscrutability of woman) can do very well without representation.

The Shoe Pinches Only Its Wearer.

Everyone concerned is at once busy casting about for a remedy. Some ask for a simple reversal of the decision; some ask for a change of the law of association; some jump to a much more far-reaching and complex solution, the payment of election expenses by the State and even of Members of Parliament. Nobody thinks of sitting quietly under it, and we may expect to find the autumn speeches of Members of Parliament and candidates full of the question and its possible answers. The Taff Vale



THE ROMAN ROAD.

The Prime Minister: "What possessed me to start on this road? I don't want to go forward, but I can't go back!"

paying salaries to Labour Members, it is not possible to regard as unimportant the judgment which declared these proceedings to be illegal. The Labour men regard the Osborne judgment as a disaster which must be retrieved at all hazards; the more extreme of them even talk of defying the law and continuing to make the illegal levy. And even these who are glad of the judgment do not say it was of small moment. There is no nonsense about combination being all that *men* need to improve their industrial position; it is admitted on all hands that men workers need representation, even to the extent of having

decision resulted in no long time in the Trade Disputes Act, which even the Lords dared not throw out, because they knew it would make them unpopular at an election. Many men did not like that Bill, but they liked losing votes less. It will be the same with the Osborne decision. Liberals and Conservatives will vie with one another in proposing remedies; the "Morning Post" has actually plunged for payment of Members. Need we point the moral?

When the House of Lords decided that a woman was not a person, men were not much concerned. The best

of them were inclined to think it was queer. But then—it seems it was "the law," and the "law is a lass,"—and therewith an end! Men rage when they are denied the right to run a Member, even though they are left the vote, but the very same men are found to say women "exaggerate," and women are "in too great a hurry," because they are sick of existing only when they are to be exploited.

The Law and Its Interpretation.

Our attention has been called by Mrs. P. H. Mellor, hon. secretary of the Burton Society, to the following paragraph in the "Derby Daily Telegraph":—"Mr. R. Ringwood, Revising Barrister of the Sheffield district, on Thursday declined to accept the view that in consequence of disabilities being removed by the Act of 1907, married women householders may be appointed magistrates or become members of town councils. While admitting that the law had removed certain disqualifications, it had not, he held, removed that which prevented married women being placed on the municipal list of electors. The important point of the decision is that unless a married woman can be placed upon the municipal list of electors she cannot be elected on any municipal body, the Act of 1907 being therefore inoperative."

It is a pity that revising barristers do not more frequently act upon the general common-sense assumption that something was *intended* when the Act of 1907 stated that marriage should not be a disqualification. In 1909 the Revising Barristers of Birmingham and Staverton did so act, and we are sorry so few men have the sense to follow their example. Since, however, our legislators did not succeed in making clear their intentions, they ought in fairness to make good their mistake without delay, so that no revising barrister with reactionary views of his own can interpret the law in contravention of its intent. Any of our readers who are canvassing women municipal voters should endeavour to get test cases brought, and ventilate the subject.

Petition Work.

We hope some of our workers will note the suggestion in Mr. Brailsford's letter to-day. It was never intended that petition work should form any large part of a national campaign; in fact, the Council definitely rejected suggestions for a national petition. But where any Society sees advantage in conducting a methodical and exhaustive canvass, the information obtained and imparted cannot fail to be useful, and Mr. Brailsford has indicated how this usefulness may be increased. But we hope most sincerely that nothing will be allowed to interfere with our chief work, which is in preparation for running Suffrage candidates. In order to proceed with this, all possible should be done to increase the branches and membership of the Men's League and to make money.

The "Manchester Guardian."

We feel sure that all Suffragists of every possible shade of politics will echo our heartiest congratulations to this great paper on having published (Wednesday, September 14th) its 20,000th number. We are proud to think that a paper with so high a record as an organ of educated and informed opinion, impregnable by the most subtle and specious bribery, should also be the one which women Suffragists can acclaim as their best and most loyal friend in the daily press.

The General Election.

It has been generally supposed that, since no party wanted a General Election yet, all parties would agree to postpone it till after the coronation. Last week, however, speaking in Manchester, Mr. Howell stated that Sir Alexander Acland-Hood (Chief Conservative Whip) had sent a message "that the Unionist party in the House of Commons will spare no effort to turn out the Government during the autumn session. If we can get a General

Election in January, we shall have a Unionist majority." Of course it is always the policy of Whips to bluff, and doubtless the Liberals will tell us they, too, are spoiling for the fight. Anyhow, we Suffragists must keep our powder dry and be prepared.

Mr. Shackleton, speaking in Sheffield, also seemed to think this Parliament was very near its end. He held that there was only one obstacle to the passing of the Conciliation Bill. They were told by the Prime Minister that he had not a majority of the Cabinet, or at any rate he had not a united Cabinet, on the matter; but apart from the women's question this was a serious issue. Such a position of affairs might affect any subject. The votes of the people could be thwarted on any question. Cabinets would have to be governed, like other organizations, by majorities of the people. Otherwise the Cabinet must end, and representative government must take its place. He was not prepared to wait indefinitely for the solidarity of the Government on this or on any other question.

Woman's Place is the Home.

One hopes that the report on Infant Mortality, with its hideous revelations of the conditions under which women have to rear their babies,—the lack of drainage, water supply, milk supply, breathable air, and the rest,—will give a stimulus to the reform of housing for poor people. At a conference held in Sheffield on the 10th September, Mr. Marsland, general secretary of the Operative Cotton Spinners, said that it seemed to him that "some workmen had very much better conditions to work under during the day than they had to live under during the night." That is so; and under these conditions women are expected to live both day and night, and are scolded because they do not produce better results in their great work of maternity. Skilled workmen must be first taught, and then provided with adequate tools.

Money in It.

On September 12th, at the Old Bailey, Aldo Antonius Callis, aged 29, a clerk, and Alexander Berard, aged 25, a fitter, pleaded guilty to one count of an indictment charging them with conspiring to procure four girls for immoral purposes. It was stated in the course of the prosecution that the prisoners enticed a girl over to England on false pretences from New Zealand, and when she wished to abandon the life in London she could not, being penniless. The prisoners, who had an infamous record, were sentenced to *six months' imprisonment*. We should like to draw the attention of our readers to this penalty compared with what is commonly inflicted for petty theft under great temptation. Also to the fact that *drafts for £1,137 are stated to have been found on Callis*. We should like to know whether any attempt is being made to trace those who issued the drafts. Also we should like to point out that financiers in this line of business will no doubt find it profitable to subsidize any movement directed against the enfranchisement of women.

A Sublime Sacrifice.

We publish in another column a manifesto from Polish women students, protesting against the action of Russian women (only eleven of the total 509 appear to be Poles) in flocking into the Warsaw University to get the education hitherto denied them. It would be a magnificent piece of sacrifice, not only self-sacrifice, but self-sacrifice, this refusal to acquire even knowledge, which is power and light and life, if thereby men's struggle for freedom be made harder. When did men ever forego power that women might have it?

A Flattering Error.

A kind friend writes:—"Straws show which way the wind blows. When my bill for newspapers was sent in the other day, your paper was entered as 'Common Sense.'"

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the office by first post on Tuesday.

LONDON AGENT.—Communications referring to advertisements may now be addressed to our London agent, Mrs. H. A. Evans, 10, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C. Friends in London desirous of helping to get advertisements will kindly communicate with her.

THE PAPER WILL BE POSTED to any address in England or abroad for the following prepaid payments:—

3 MONTHS	...	1	9
6 MONTHS	...	3	3
12 MONTHS	...	6	6

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED to Note that this paper goes to press on Tuesday. The latest news, notices, and reports should, therefore, reach the Editor by first post on Monday. The Editor reminds correspondents, however, that the work is made much easier if news is sent in as long beforehand as possible. Monday is only mentioned as the last possible day, not as the one upon which all news should arrive.

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, 64, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester, giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

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The Unanswered Question.

*Why didst thou promise such a beautiful day,
And make me travel forth without my cloak?*

Our columns were beginning to show last week that Suffragists were returning to their activities, and by the end of the month the autumn campaign will be in full swing. A great deal of work has, of course, been done even during August: open-air meetings have been held and interest has been aroused in country districts which had been indifferent. But the great mass of work was preparation, and those secretaries who have been beforehand in booking halls and speakers must be feeling glad now when they realize the tremendous pressure of claims on all who can and will speak for the cause. Many, many more speakers are wanted before our cause will be articulate enough to penetrate the sluggish, the selfish, or the purely pre-occupied, and it is not the time for any woman to hang back because another woman "would do it so much better." Some do it better than others, but all are wanted, and the best speakers did not begin by being best.

What is it we must work for so hard this autumn? When Parliament rose we said the Conciliation Bill was not dead. It is not dead yet. It is still before the country, and it is still perfectly easy for the Government to give time for the remaining stages. It is admitted on all hands that the postponement of the party struggle

between Lords and Commons created an atmosphere peculiarly suited to the peaceful settlement of a question which the Prime Minister himself said must remain non-party. The circumstances and the time were so propitious that only the most perverse and fantastic arguments against a settlement could be brought by any who professed to approve the principle. It was left to the demagogue Lloyd George to discover that a Bill brought in by a Labour member, and supported with the full strength of the Labour vote, was not "democratic" enough, and that in granting the franchise to women he must throw overboard all the lessons of experience not only of his own party in past extensions of the franchise, but of himself in getting in the thin end of the old-age pension wedge. It is only where women are concerned that Mr. Lloyd George abandons the wise policy of taking what he can get.

On August 11th, at Bodnant, Lady McLaren asked Mr. Lloyd George to suggest "how the Suffrage might be passed into law," and although the Chancellor made a long speech, in which he attacked virulently many people who have really worked for the Suffrage, and although his reiterations of his belief in the necessity, the justice, and the greatness of our cause seem to have met with applause from his hearers, we were left at the end with no more helpful suggestion than that, if we dropped a Bill which had passed its second reading by a majority of 110, and brought forward a Bill which would not command a majority in the House, we should have the inestimable privilege of securing Mr. Lloyd George's vote,—probably also, therefore, Mr. Churchill's. But we have had Mr. George's vote before (did he not say he had never voted against a Suffrage Bill until 1910?), and it did not bring us very far. An occasional vote in the House is nothing from a Minister in Mr. George's position, and he must make us a much better bid than that before we can believe that his rhetoric has any intention other than that of keeping the women Liberals from becoming restive.

One is struck by the fact that Mr. George used the conditional all through that speech,—“I have voted for a Bill enfranchising working women. I would do so again, and not only that, but I would use the whole of my influence, whether publicly or privately, to get a Bill of that sort through.” Now what does he mean by that conditional? Until we know why it is not a frank future, with a date attached, we have no use for it.

And further, a man who can so insult the intelligence of his hearers as to suppose they will take his caricature of the Bill he is attacking as a fair description, is not going the way to inspire much confidence. To mention only three of his most misleading statements: he said the Conciliation Bill would give the vote to every lady of property, if she chose to take the trouble, throughout the country; whereas only one-tenth, or one-fifteenth, of the working women could get it. But the Bill is expressly drafted so as to give the vote *not to ownership, but to occupation*, and the percentage of working women among occupiers is from 80 to 90. He said he did not want to "double the plural-property voters," and he must have known that the Bill as it stands allows only very remote chances of adding a few plural votes, and even these could be stopped by amendment. Lastly he implied that it would be possible to import 500, or even 1,000, voters who did not live in the constituencies to outvote the inhabitants! Has Mr. George, after all, not read the Bill, or does he not know what an "occupier" is? Has he heard of the municipal register? Does he find this manufacture of "plural-property votes" on this register?

These things are bad enough, but there is a further statement of Mr. George's which we hope will be thoroughly well studied and understood by the electors, for it leads far, and should make them ponder what can be the meaning attached by Cabinet Ministers to their election cry of the "Will of the People." We know that the whole agitation against the House of Lords

professes to be a determination that the will of the people (by which is meant the male electors), "as expressed by their representatives in the House of Commons," shall prevail. Now the "people's representatives" in the House have expressed themselves in favour of this Bill by a majority of 110; but sundry members of the Cabinet voted against it, and Mr. George says that, if the House of Lords threw it out, the Government would have to say it did right, because certain individual members of the Cabinet don't like this Bill. But Mr. Asquith and Mr. Harcourt will never like any Suffrage Bill, and Mr. George and Mr. Churchill seem inclined to like only Suffrage Bills which have no chance of passing the House. A pretty dilemma! A fine commentary on the will of the people as expressed by the majority in the House! The tyranny of the Cabinet has steadily been growing heavier and heavier. Is the elector now to be told that, no matter what majority there is in the House and the country for a reform, it can be blocked by one man in the Cabinet?

And the women themselves, after all! Our "friends" wax very eloquent on the subject of how willing they would be to give women the vote if they thought they wanted it. But when women express themselves, the politicians reply that they know better than the women what the women want. True, this Bill would not enfranchise women who are too poor to be occupiers; yet the working women wish it to pass! True, very few married women living with their husbands would be enfranchised by it; yet the married women wish it to pass! It is left to Mr. Churchill (who thinks women are privileged by law), to Mr. George (whose support is all in the "dim and speculative future"), to Mr. Asquith (who is frankly opposed to the enfranchisement of any women at all) to champion the cause of the wife and the worker! Well, the wife and the worker don't thank these gentlemen.

When Mr. George's criticism is other than destructive, it may help us. When he answers Lady McLaren's question, "how the Suffrage may be passed into law," we shall begin to believe he really cares about the will of the people. The best way to make him care is to rouse the will of the people to unmistakable expression, and that is our work.

The Position of Women in the Free Churches.

It is commonly understood that in England and Wales the "free" churches include all Nonconformist bodies except the Roman Catholics. Although possessing many common characteristics and frequently co-operating for certain aims, still the Free Churches exhibit considerable degrees of difference both in principle and practice. As "J. A. P." has already shown in his article on "Women in Church Matters," the question of the status of women is bound up with other issues of radical significance, and in discussing it one is within sight of controversies bitter and age-long.

The Free Churches may be divided into two great groups—first, those of Puritan origin; second, those which sprang from the Methodist movement of the eighteenth century. It may be said of the Wesleyan Methodists that they are dissenters rather by force of circumstances than of conviction, and they retain a theory of ecclesiastical orders and a distinction of "clerical" and "lay" more closely resembling those of the Church of England than any Nonconformist body. No woman could be ordained a Wesleyan minister. There is, moreover, an old law which prevents a woman becoming even a "local preacher," though this office is, of course, open to laymen; and it follows that no woman may administer the sacraments. On the other hand, women may, and do, preach, and are eligible as delegates to conference. In many village churches, I am told, they hold office as Society, Poor, and Chapel Stewards.

The Presbyterian Churches also hold a high doctrine of "orders," and unordained persons may not administer the sacraments. I understand that women would not be ordained as "elders," much less as ministers.

The English Churches, which are of Puritan origin, held that "the decision in spiritual matters belongs to the group of spiritual persons who compose the church, and who have the leading of the spirit." This took, as is well known, its extreme form in the Society of Friends, among whom the distinction of clerical and lay entirely disappears, and "liberty of prophesying" is observed in public worship. Though there is no paid ministry, persons of recognised ability, both men and women, may be "recorded" ministers; and all members—men and women—may take part in the proceedings of the synods known as Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly Meeting. Among Baptists, Congregationalists, and Unitarians the distinction between clerical and lay is one of function rather than of authority. A layman may preach, and may hold office as chairman or president of the Denominational Union. In the individual church, also, the layman may administer the sacraments of Baptism and Communion, and conduct the Marriage Service. It follows, in theory, that the lay woman may do any of these things. There is no law, only tradition, to prevent her. By the Marriage Act, 1898, marriages may take place in Nonconformist chapels without the presence of the Registrar, an "authorised person" being appointed by the governing body of each church to officiate. The Act does not forbid the appointment of a woman, so that it appears that she may be responsible for the legal as well as for the religious portion of the ceremony. Women may, and do, act on the diaconate, or whatever the governing body of the church may be called. Union Congregational Chapel, Brighton, where the Rev. R. J. Campbell formerly ministered, is a notable instance; but probably cases are more numerous among Unitarians than Congregationalists. The writer has known several rural churches where cultured gentlewomen have ably fulfilled the rather exacting duties of church secretary; and women are appointed delegates to the representative assemblies of all these denominations. In the ministry, Congregationalists have one or two "ordained assistants" in this country. Among Unitarians, several women have been set apart to the full ministry, and women are admitted as students at Manchester College, Oxford.

As teachers and officers in Sunday schools women, of course, have an honoured place in all the churches; and it would require a separate article to describe their work as teachers, preachers, and healers in the sphere of missions abroad. In this connection, as in some others, it is proving impossible to re-erect in the foreign field the barriers of tradition which it is so hard to overthrow at home.

To sum up, while there is a very marked difference of principle among the Free Churches, in practice they resemble one another pretty closely on the whole, always reserving a place of unique honour for the Quakers. Those of us who are quite liberal in theory are often in reality controlled by the narrowest prejudices and the most rigid precedents. These, however, are yielding in every direction, and the original spiritual impulse is even yet the mightiest liberating force. Twice in the course of his article "J. A. P." speaks of the stress laid upon Old Testament and Pauline teaching as having injured the status of women at the time of the Reformation. On the contrary, the freedom enjoyed by women in the early communities of Baptists, Independents, and Friends was justified in those dark days of misunderstanding and persecution by two great utterances. The first of their favourite texts was from Joel, and was quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost: "And it shall be in the last days, saith God, I will pour of My spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; yea, and on My servants and My handmaidens in those days will I pour forth of My spirit, and they shall prophesy." And the second is one of the noblest utterances of the Apostle to the Gentiles: "There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female: for ye all are one in Christ Jesus."

W. E. IRELAND.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries: Miss EDITH DIMOCK, Miss BERTHA MASON (Parliamentary).
President: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
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Secretary: Miss T. G. WHITEHEAD, M.A.
Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." *Offices:* Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telephone: 1900 Victoria.

Treasurer's Notes.

CONTRIBUTIONS.	
September 10th to September 17th, 1910.	
	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged	2,055 12 5½
Miss Margaret Ashton (promised at Queen's Hall Demonstration)	100 0 0
Miss Sylvia Drew (don.)	1 0 0
Collection Newtonmore Meeting	7 0 0
Miss G. G. Mudd (sub.)	0 2 6
Glasgow W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0 6 0
Hull W.S.S. (for copy of Minutes)	0 6 0
G. P. G. Patterson, Esq. (don.)	0 10 0
Miss A. G. Irvine (sub.)	0 2 0
Rochdale W.S.S. (Affiliation Fee)	1 16 6
Proceeds of Meeting at Denbigh	1 13 0
Mrs. Falconer (sub.)	0 1 0
	£2,168 9 5½
MILLION SHILLING FUND.	
	s. d.
Already acknowledged	1,573 9
"Tennis Prize"	1 6
Miss Lindsell (halves of two subscriptions of £1 each)	20 0
	1,595 3

We also acknowledge gratefully a parcel of books sent by Miss Jane Patterson, for sale in aid of the funds of the Union. A list of the books, which we hope will find a ready sale, will appear in due course in "Common Cause."

Will Societies do their utmost to send another 2,000 shillings to the Million Shilling Fund before October 31, on which date the financial year ends?

BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

Bristol Demonstration in Support of the Conciliation Bill.

"To demonstrate—to show the thing itself, to prove the truth to the eye, to reveal it in open day, so that in future no scoffer shall deride, and no sceptic question—that is the true instinct of all who have a cause to fight, especially of all who are fighting for freedom."—*The Nation*, July 30, 1910.

The Bristol demonstration on Saturday went off well, thanks to the devoted efforts of the workers, to the visitors who came from far and near, to the Men's League, who furnished one platform and gave splendid help besides, and last, not least, to the speakers, Miss Abadam, Mrs. Cooper, and Miss Royden, who, in their eloquent addresses, represented such different aspects of the Suffrage movement. The shop was a lively scene between 2 and 3 o'clock, as the stewards, collectors, and banner-holders assembled, and the procession was gradually formed. It started at 3, headed by a band which played good marching tunes, and led by the two hon. secretaries, carrying a banner bearing the words, "Non-party and Constitutional," followed by a Conservative Franchise and a Women's Liberal banner. These, with some others, were grouped round Platform I, where Mrs. Randall Vickers presided, and Miss Abadam was the chief speaker, followed by Rev. P. Montague Watken, from Hertfordshire, and Mrs. Martin, Bristol.

To Platform II, a large white-and-gold banner was carried, which was made twenty-five years ago by the Bristol Suffrage Society, under the late Miss Helen Blackburn's superintendence; also one from Cheltenham, richly worked in silk; and another from Street, with the words "Hearth and Home." Miss Tanner presided, and Miss Royden was the principal speaker. Miss G. H. Smith, Miss Blackstone, of Bath, and Mr. Arthur Daniell also spoke. Mrs. W. C. H. Cross presided at Platform III, which was draped with a large decorative banner from Street, and another of beautiful brocade, designed by the Artists' League, with the inscription, "Women's Reform Union." Mrs. Cooper gave the principal address, supported by Miss Vickers and Mr. W. C. H. Cross.

The fourth platform, which was organized by the Men's League, was decorated with the Bristol and Bath

petition banners, a large green one representing the Bristol Suffrage Society, and the Bath banner, which bears a beautiful translation of Garibaldi's interpretation of our colours. Canon Talbot was chairman, and the speakers were Mr. W. C. H. Cross, Mr. Arthur Daniell, and the Rev. B. J. Morday.

In all 19 banners were carried, besides innumerable bannerettes and decorated wands, the latter most kindly sent from Bath.

The procession was made up of a large number of members and friends, including visitors from Bath, Cheltenham, Clevedon, Street, Winscombe, and other places. A small group of women graduates marched in caps and gowns, and one man had the courage to join them, the lecturer on logic and economics at the University of Bristol, in his London M.A. gown and hood; to him warm gratitude is due. A decorated tricycle also took part, and a handcart prettily draped in the colours was used as a literature stall on the Down, under the charge of Miss J. M. Baretti and Miss Agnes Tanner. A brisk trade was done in "Common Causes," and a good collection was taken by Mrs. Duckham and the other indefatigable collectors. Altogether the demonstration was a very pretty pageant, but the large audiences which collected evidently realised the serious purpose which lay behind the gay scene and the festive decorations.

At the bugle-call the resolution urging the Government to give facilities for passing Mr. Shackleton's Bill into law was carried simultaneously at every platform, with very few dissentients. There was no disturbance, no opposition, only courteous attention and much sympathy. Among the many new recruits it was delightful to have the presence and support of some of the earliest Suffragists—the Misses Priestman, Mrs. Ashworth Hallett, Mrs. Spencer, and others. It drew the bonds of comradeship, if possible, closer than before in the common cause, and undoubtedly quickened the interest of the citizens.

Among the preliminary labours for the demonstration not the least were those of the Banner Committee, organized by Miss Duncan and Mrs. Barrell.

Work in East Cornwall.

We began work here on September 1. It is entirely new ground, and there is a great deal of pioneer work to be done. This large country district is so far away from the centre of things that the people do not realise what life in our large cities means. The women know very little of the social and economic problems that other women are trying to solve. We are endeavouring to take our message into every village in the district, and so far the Cornish people have responded with an encouraging sympathy when the real meaning of the women's movement has been explained to them.

On Monday last (by kind permission of the Mayor of Liskeard) I was able to hold a meeting in Fair Park. It was the annual horse sale and cattle market, which brought in a large number of farmers from all the district round. Our meeting was quite a novelty to them, and I soon had a crowd of between 200 and 300 men round my wagonette. They listened with great interest for nearly an hour. Then several questions were asked. A spontaneous vote of thanks was proposed and seconded, and one man said that with meetings like that we should convert all Cornwall. We sold out all our "Common Causes," and could have sold more.

In the evening three members of the committee and myself went out to Dubwalls and held a village meeting, which for the size of the place was well attended.

Miss Williams (the hon. secretary) and I went over to Looe last week and held a meeting on the sands. Although there were evidently a number of Anti-Suffragists in the audience, they stayed to listen until the end. Several to whom the subject was quite new seemed interested, and we hope some good seed has been sown that possibly may bear fruit later.

On Wednesday Mrs. Blight—an indefatigable worker—and I drove out to Tremar Coombe early in the afternoon. We decorated our wagonette with flags of the N.U. colours and canvassed the village from one end to the other advertising our evening meeting. Although the evening was damp and chilly, an audience of nearly a hundred assembled on the village green, and stood cheerily for an hour.

Owing to the interest of one or two Conservative men in our cause I was invited to address the members of the Constitutional Club in Liskeard on Thursday evening. The chair

In every day. Those who can only do a little perhaps do not always realize how very much the little they can do is appreciated by the Committee, and how greatly it helps to encourage the other workers.

We have done much this week to arrange meetings for the autumn, and we are fortunate in having Mrs. Fawcett for our meeting in the People's Hall, West Calder, next Wednesday, the 21st. The hall holds 1,500, and we depend mainly on the shale miners and oil workers to form an audience, as the meeting is an evening one, and many of the women are busy at home.

Mr. Brailsford is coming on the 24th October, and tickets will be on sale at the office as soon as the Committee has met to finally decide the details. This will probably be on Tuesday next, the 20th. Mr. Brailsford speaks for Suffragists on condition that all the Suffrage Societies combine, and we have been glad to make this arrangement with the W.S.P.U. and W.F.L. We hope that members will do all they can to sell tickets (1s. and 6d.), as Mr. Brailsford is one of the best friends of the cause, and his address is sure to be of interest.

We are trying to arrange with other speakers for meetings at Dalkeith and Portobello. The first of the weekly meetings of the Society will take place on Friday, October 7th.

Canvassing in Leith goes on steadily, but we are badly in need of more workers. Will anyone willing to give help communicate with Miss Lisa Gordon, 40, Shandwick Place?

On Saturday evening a fairly well attended open-air meeting was held at Godalming in support of the Conciliation Bill. Mr. Pilcher took the chair, and Miss Milton very kindly came from Farnham in order to speak, and gave a most lucid explanation of the Bill.

Two members of this Society being in Wendover last week, an impromptu meeting was arranged for Great Missenden. Large and alluring mottoes and announcements were chalked on the roadway in the morning, and bills were handed in to most of the shops. More than 100 people assembled on the "village green." A kind lady lent us a box and some chairs, and Miss Herford got for us two bright stable lanterns. Many working men were present, who asked, "Does the Bill benefit the working class?" and by that test it had to stand or fall. Curiously enough, only a few weeks ago it was put to "the question" in an inverse sense, "Does it benefit the educated class and leisured women?" Well, we can truthfully say it is framed to benefit every woman, not only those on whom it will bestow a vote, but the others, to whom it will give the possibility of qualifying for a vote.

The speakers were Miss Gertrude Lees (W.S.P.U.), Miss Caroline Herford (N.U.), and Miss K. Raleigh, who took the chair. Representatives of the W.F.L., Church League, Conservative and Unionist League, and Artists' League lent the support of their presence.

Our annual general meeting has been fixed for Tuesday evening, November 1st. It will take place at the Prince's Room, Municipal Buildings, and we hope to make it a record one, for a great treat is in store for members and the public, as Miss Bertha Mason has very kindly promised to give her well-known lantern lecture on the history of the Women's Suffrage movement.

The first of the monthly At Homes will take place on October 18th, when Miss Mary Lowndes has promised us a talk on the Conciliation Bill. Miss Debae, now Treasurer of the branch, will be hostess at these At Homes, as before, and the branch is greatly indebted to her for her kind hospitality.

At a meeting held at the Guildhall, Saltash, Cornwall, T. Lean, Esq., the Mayor, in the chair, the following resolution was moved by Miss Alison Garland and seconded by Dr. Mabel L. Ramsay: "That this meeting calls upon the Government to give the necessary facilities for the passage of the Representation of the People Bill, 1910, believing it to be a solution of the question of the enfranchisement of women which meets the views of all parties."

In a very able speech Miss Alison Garland moved the resolution and explained how really democratic this measure is, and showed that 87 per cent. of the women who would be enfranchised would be working women. She also showed how those members of Parliament and the Cabinet who had called this measure a "propertyed vote" had not read the Bill, and those in authority who should have known better thus misled the House as to the true facts. The Mayor, our chairman, expressed himself as glad to have had this opportunity of hearing about this Bill, as he too was under the impression that it was not a democratic measure. Dr. Mabel L. Ramsay, in seconding, showed clearly from the results of present-day legislation and its tendency to invade the home life why women want a vote; she also pointed out that the great evil of the White Slave Traffic will never be dealt with until women are themselves no longer outside the constitution.

A collection was taken, and "Common Causes" were sold. A very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Miss Laura Jenkin and seconded by Miss Slater, to the chairman and the speakers concluded the proceedings. For the first time in our local history a meeting of ours was honoured by the Mayor, wearing his chain of office. We think it augurs well for the future of the local Society.

DENBIGH'S FIRST WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MEETING.

On the evening of Monday, September 12th, the Memorial Hall, Denbigh, was packed to overflowing with an audience of four hundred. The meeting was arranged by Mrs. Gimmingham, who is spending her holidays in the neighbourhood. The possibility of having a meeting was not mooted till ten o'clock on Saturday, and by three o'clock of the same day the hall was taken, the town chafed, the shops were billed, and all Denbigh was talking of Votes for Women. The audience was of the best type—the intelligent people of the place, who were all apparently anxious to hear about the subject. Mrs. Gimmingham took the chair, and in a maiden speech gave an account of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies. She is an acquisition to the ranks of speakers, for, in spite of the musical accompaniment from the gallery, she succeeded in making all the points of her speech. Following her were Miss Macmillan, who outlined the general arguments for Women's Suffrage, and Miss Lamond, who gave an account of the Conciliation Bill. There was fairly continuous interruption from the gallery, but the speakers were able to make themselves heard in the body of the hall. Seven members joined, 78 "Common Causes" were sold, and 30s. was taken for seats and collection. As Mr. Lamond kindly defrayed the expenses of the meeting, we shall be able to hand over this sum to the Union. Valuable help was given by Miss Gimmingham, Miss Rebecca and Mr. Dickson. Mrs. Gimmingham is following up this public meeting by calling on those who are likely to be interested. She has also arranged a drawing-room meeting in her own house, and hopes to have a Denbigh Society established before she leaves. Sympathisers near Denbigh who are able to help in forming this Society, or anyone who has any information as to sympathisers in the district, should communicate with Mrs. Gimmingham, Park Postyn, near Denbigh.

Other Societies.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL.

Two members of this Society being in Wendover last week, an impromptu meeting was arranged for Great Missenden. Large and alluring mottoes and announcements were chalked on the roadway in the morning, and bills were handed in to most of the shops. More than 100 people assembled on the "village green." A kind lady lent us a box and some chairs, and Miss Herford got for us two bright stable lanterns. Many working men were present, who asked, "Does the Bill benefit the working class?" and by that test it had to stand or fall. Curiously enough, only a few weeks ago it was put to "the question" in an inverse sense, "Does it benefit the educated class and leisured women?" Well, we can truthfully say it is framed to benefit every woman, not only those on whom it will bestow a vote, but the others, to whom it will give the possibility of qualifying for a vote.

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Forthcoming Meetings.

- SEPTEMBER 22. North of England—St. Philip's Mission Hall, Salford—Women's Meeting—Miss Robertson. 3.0 North of England—South Salford Suffrage Club—Social. 8.0 North of England—East Manchester and District—Lecture Hall, United Methodist Church (opposite Tram Shed), Hyde Road, Ardwick—Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Miss K. D. Courtney. 8.0 London—Camberwell—Collyer Place, Peckham—Open-air Meeting—Miss Thomson, Miss Dawson. 7.30 Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting. Wells—Town Hall—Miss Royden. 3.0 Reigate—The Green, S. Park—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury. 8.0 Bermondsey—Galleywall Road—Young Women's Society of S.—Bermondsey Mission—Miss Margery Corbett. 8.30 Corbridge—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 23. North of England—85, Deansgate Arcade—Special Meeting of Members. 7.30 Coldstream—Berwickshire—Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., Dr. Inglis, Sir Francis Blake (Chairman). Hexham—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 24. London—Highgate—Tally Ho Corner, Finchley—Open-air Meeting. 8.0 Woking—Duke Street—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury, Mr. Reginald H. Pott. 7.0 SEPTEMBER 25. North of England—Salford Suffrage Club—Men Only. 8.0 SEPTEMBER 26. London—Highgate—Annual Meeting—Lantern Lecture—Miss Bertha Mason. 8.0 Leeds—Lady Lane Schoolroom—Women's Meeting—Miss Fielden. 2.45 Rothbury—The Cross—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Mein. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 27. Haltwhistle—Mechanics' Hall—Rev. A. S. Campbell (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 28. Nottingham—Monthly At Home and Opening of New Offices—Mrs. W. B. Thorpe (hostess), Miss Le Clerc Phillips. Tea. 4-5 London—Ealing—Open-air Meetings—Miss C. Corbett, Mrs. Biddings. 6.15 Rothbury—Jubilee Hall—Miss Mein (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 29. London—Camberwell—Collyer Place, Peckham—Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Bowden Smith (Chairman). Hexham—Town Hall—J. T. Dunn, Esq., D.Sc. (Chairman), Mrs. Fawcett. SEPTEMBER 30. Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Miss M. B. Todd on "The Duties of Servants and Mistresses." 8.0 New Forest—St. Catherine's, Barton-on-Sea—Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Duncan. 3.0 Stocksfield—The Red House—Mrs. Adams (Hostess), Mrs. Fawcett. 3.0 OCTOBER 1. London—Highgate—High Road, East Finchley—Open-air Meeting. 8.0 OCTOBER 2. Leeds—Adult School, Mill Hill—Debate—Miss Fielden. OCTOBER 3. Carnforth—Co-operative Hall—Miss Royden, Rev. J. Whiteside (Chairman). 8.0 OCTOBER 4. Cirencester—Debate—Miss Mildred Ransom, Miss Mabel Smith (A.S. League). Farnworth—Moor Hall—Miss Robertson. Leeds—Leeds Parliament—Debate—Miss Fielden. Norwood—N.L. of Young Liberals—Debate, Women's Suffrage—Miss Emily Hill. 8.0 OCTOBER 5. London—Enfield—Constitutional Club—Debate—Miss Rinder. Chirnside, Berwickshire—Grand Variety Sale—Lady Low, Lady Frances Balfour. Radcliffe—Co-operative Hall—Miss Robertson. 8.0 Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Dr. Mary Phillips, Miss Fielden. 3.30 Knutsford—Ruskin Recreation Room—Women's Meeting—Rev. Kirk Mackenzie. 7.30 OCTOBER 6. Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting. North Herts.—Letchworth—Drawing-room Meeting—Mr. Laurence Housman. 3.30

- North Herts.—Letchworth—Pixmore Institute—Suffrage Entertainment. 8.0 Leeds—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Hart, Miss Fielden. 3.30 London—Highgate—Drawing-room Meeting—Mrs. Seekings, Mrs. Arthur Gillett. 3.30 Liphook—Vicarage Hall—Mrs. Stanbury. 8.0 OCTOBER 7. Haslemere—Educational Hall—Meeting for Rate-paying Women—Mrs. Stanbury. 3.0 Edinburgh—First Weekly Meeting. OCTOBER 8. Haslemere—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Stanbury. Evening. OCTOBER 11. London—E. Finchley—Baptist Church Debating Society—Miss J. Hamilton Thomson, B.A. 8.0 OCTOBER 13. London—Enfield—Co-operative Society—Miss Ward. OCTOBER 14. Gateshead—Bewick Hall—Mrs. H. Fawcett, LL.D., Mrs. Spence Watson. Knutsford Society—Meeting in Disley—Miss Abadam. OCTOBER 15. Stockport—Meeting—[Offers of help to Mrs. Wild, 23, Warwick Road, Romiley.] OCTOBER 17. Stockport—Meeting. OCTOBER 18. London—Ealing—At Home—Miss Lowndes. 8.15 London—Enfield—St. Paul's Presbyterian Lit. Society—Miss E. A. Bompas. 8.0 OCTOBER 19. York—Exhibition—Miss Margaret Ashton. Grayshott—Meeting for Rate-paying Women—Mrs. Marshall. 3.0 OCTOBER 20. Dublin—Irish W.S. and Local Government Association—Committee Meeting. London—Islington—Salter's Hall Church Lit. Society, Canonbury—Debate—Miss C. Corbett, B.A., Miss Stuart (A.S.L.). 8.15

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