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Correction.

We greatly regret that in Mrs. Fawcett's message on the front page of the September number a serious misprint was overlooked. The sentence, "In our country in particular the suffering has already been overwhelming," should read, "In one country," etc.

"Jus Suffragii" and the Crisis.

Jus Suffragii, like other international organs, finds its present position difficult. The editorial office being in a belligerent country, all news from other countries is subject to censorship, and it has not been possible up to the present to obtain news except of a very meagre nature.

It appears almost inevitable under the circumstances that news from England, America, and neutral countries should predominate, and though, of course, the policy and sympathy of the paper is and must be entirely international and untainted by national or partisan bias, it will be difficult to maintain its all-round character. We appeal earnestly to readers in neutral countries to furnish news and articles, especially news of women's doings in Germany and Austria, and if the paper reaches our German and Austrian subscribers, we appeal to them not to attribute the dearth of news from their countries to anything but its true cause, the impossibility of obtaining news.

Iceland Victory.

The following telegram has been received:—"Women's Franchise Bill passed unanimously by Althing, August 12th. Expect King's sanction.—Briet, Asmundsson."

The I.W.S.A. and Peace.

The International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, who early issued a manifesto on behalf of peace to various Governments, sent the following message to Queen Wilhelmina of Holland on August 1st:—

As representing the women of twenty-six countries, we appeal to your Majesty, as the woman ruler in whose country is the centre of peace movements, to take steps to enable the Powers, now on the brink of a terrible war, to settle their differences by peaceful methods.

As guardians of the race whose homes must suffer, whose children will be taken from us, we appeal to your Majesty, as a queen and a mother, to give us your help in averting this terrible war.

Will your Majesty graciously be pleased to receive a deputation to lay our case before you?

Interview with President Wilson.

Miss Rosika Schwimmer left England for the United States soon after the outbreak of war, and armed with a mandate from many societies, of which we have not yet full particulars, she obtained an interview with President Wilson with regard to peace overtures. She has sent the following cable to the

Alliance: "President received 18th; long audience; accepted suggestions of manifesto as valuable help; assured petition will carry great weight in his further considerations." The women of all countries in the Alliance will look anxiously to America for the results of President Wilson's consideration.

Neutral Countries and Peace.

Dr. Aletta Jacobs is joining with others in the Netherlands for an active movement for peace, and a meeting has been held. Prof. Anita Dobetti-Zampetti, from Italy, urges that some international women's movement should support the peace propaganda.

Cannot all neutral countries co-operate and support intervention?

A Woman as Emergency Mayor in France.

The *Times* relates a pleasing story of Mme. Macherez, of Soissons, who constituted herself the chief civil authority. All the officials had left the town before its occupation by the enemy, and on the entry of the troops Mme. Macherez presented herself to the commanding officer and said: "You may consider me as Mayor of Soissons; ask me for anything you want."

When peace reigns once more will she and her fellow-women who have borne themselves so nobly be relegated to the drawing-room or wash-tub, and told that women must have no place in public life?

German Women and Prisoners of War.

The English papers report that German women are showing kindness to French and Russian prisoners of war, giving them small gifts of tobacco and chocolate. It is said that they have been rebuked by their countrymen for want of patriotism, but women of all countries can do much by such kindness to other women's sons to soften international bitterness.

English Women in Germany.

A large party of Englishwomen returned to England from Germany in September, and all those questioned were unanimous in praise of the kindness and courtesy they received, and not a single complaint was made.

The subscription list of the International Women's Relief Committee shows that Englishwomen are not backward in helping German women, very many subscriptions being specially earmarked for that purpose.

A Russian Woman Warrior.

Every great war has had its woman soldiers, and the present conflict has already brought several to light. One young Frenchwoman acted as a military aviator until discovered and dismissed. A wounded Russian officer relates that one of the soldiers in his regiment performed an act of great bravery in rescuing a wounded comrade, going out and bringing the man back on horseback under the enemy's fire. This daring soldier was afterwards wounded and sent to hospital, and found to be a young woman.

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Indians and Woman Suffrage.

Chippewa Indians of the Bad River tribe have voted in favour of Woman Suffrage.

The primary object of the Council was to elect a committee of five to assist the Secretary of the Interior in preparing a roll of the unallotted Indians on the reservation, there being 500 or 600 in this class who still are entitled to their share of the tribal wealth. "No Indian should oppose the right of our women to vote," said Wm. Obern, one of the Indians. "The hardest part of the home falls on them. They own property, too, and know how to take care of it. They are more likely to vote for the real welfare of our people than the men."

Women Doctors in the Field.

A party of six English women doctors, twelve nurses, seven orderlies, three cooks, and an interpreter, all women, have gone to Antwerp; several well-known Suffragists were included among the doctors.

Another women's hospital corps, led by the well-known Suffragettes, Dr. Flora Murray and Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson, are working a base hospital in the Champs Elysées, Paris. Millicent Duchess of Sutherland and a staff of nurses were shut up in Namur, then transferred to Brussels, and have now been sent back to England.

Another party of women doctors is preparing to take a hospital to France to minister to non-combatants, who are likely to be in sore need owing to every doctor being needed for the wounded.

A party of British women nurses is working in Serbia, where women doctors are in great demand, their valuable work in the Balkans having been greatly appreciated.

Government Recognition of Women's Work.

In Great Britain Relief Committees were appointed by the Government directly war was declared. On the General Relief Committee, composed almost entirely of ministers, Mrs. H. J. Tennant has a seat. Mrs. Tennant was for many years an inspector of factories, and recently conducted an inquiry into the conditions of soldiers' wives; her report embodied many important recommendations for improving these conditions, and especially the recognition of wives married "off the strength."

A Special Relief Committee is appointed for London, and on it are Mrs. Sidney Webb and Miss Adler. Mrs. Sidney Webb, the well-known Socialist, and joint author with her husband of many books on social and industrial conditions, was a member of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law. Miss Adler, the daughter of the late Chief Rabbi, is a member of the London County Council and an authority on women's technical training. But perhaps the most striking recognition of women's work is the appointment of a Women's Committee, including Miss Margaret Bondfield, of the Women's Co-operative Guild, and late secretary of the Shop Assistants' Union; Dr. Marion Phillips, secretary of the Women's Labour League; Miss Mary MacArthur, secretary of the Women's Trade Union League; all names well known in the industrial world. The secretary of the sub-committee for schemes of employment is Miss Catherine Marshall, Parliamentary secretary to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Equal Pay for Men and Women.

On July 23rd an interesting debate took place in the Australian Legislative Assembly on "Equal Pay Under the Factories Act." Mr. Solby again moved an amendment providing for equal pay. (He had moved a similar amendment in

November, 1913.) He said that just as they had fought for equal constitutional rights for women, they would fight for equal economic rights.

The Premier, Sir Alexander Peacock, opposed the amendment, saying they should leave the Trade Boards untrammelled, and that female labour should not be encouraged; women were wanted as mothers, not in the State service or factories.

The amendment was lost by 31 to 20.

Women of World to Unite Against War.

The committee of 200 in charge of the recent peace parade in New York City will at once effect a permanent organisation to oppose war. The organisation plans to appeal to the enfranchised women throughout the world to pledge themselves to use their political influence against war. A similar appeal will be made to all women organised to secure the ballot in the United States and abroad. The co-operation of other groups of women will, of course, be asked. The Women's Trade Union League, with a membership of 10,000, issued a call for a mass meeting in Chicago on September 13th, in protest against the European war. The Women's Trade Union League, as well as the International Council of Women and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, is on record in favour of Woman Suffrage.

The idea of the organisation will be different from that of the peace societies of the past, in that the futility of armed peace will be recognised. The many Suffragists in the parade have, of course, laid emphasis on the fact that women, in order to make their opposition to war effective, must have political power. It is believed that many women who have not heretofore been Suffragists will become so because of the war.

The Hen and the Puppy.

The Japanese paper, *The New, True Women*, quotes an ancient Buddhist parable of a hen who pitied the sad plight of a starving puppy and offered it a worm to satisfy its hunger, but, to the amazement of the hen, the ungrateful puppy had no use for the worm. The Japanese feminist applies this fable to the present movement—the hen is the Government and the puppy is woman. Each country will be able to apply this to itself.

The British Minister for the Colonies and Women's Nationality.

We learn from one of the deputation to Mr. Harcourt that he listened attentively to the arguments put before him by the deputation of women, and promised to remedy two of the grievances mentioned; and (1) to allow British-born women who married aliens to resume their nationality on the husband's death, and also (2) in the case of a British woman marrying a British man who subsequently became a citizen of another country to allow the woman by a declaration to retain her own nationality. In accordance with this promise, Mr. Harcourt proposed these two amendments in the House of Commons.

Women and Divorce.

The British divorce law, as is well known, is shamefully unjust to married women; whereas a man can divorce his wife for unfaithfulness, a wife must prove in addition either cruelty or desertion. There are many other things in the law which need alteration, and the recent Royal Commission published two reports recommending amendments. Lord Gorell has introduced a Bill embodying the main reforms on which the Majority and Minority Reports were agreed, but the House of Lords has shelved a measure which is chiefly needed by women unhappily married. Lord Halifax said that those who respected women most would most wish to preserve them from what could only be a drawback to them (viz., the possibility of freedom from a vicious husband). Heredity is the great quality of England's Upper House, so it is interesting to note that Lord Halifax is but echoing the "Advice to a Daughter" published by a Marquis of Halifax in 1700: "You live in a time which hath rendered some kind of frailties so habitual, that they lay claim to large grains of allowance. That is in the utmost degree criminal in the woman which in a man passeth under a much gentler censure. This being so, remember that next to the danger of committing the fault yourself, the greatest is that of seeing it in your husband." And so the cynics in the 18th and the 20th centuries exhort the wife to meekly acquiesce in marital vice!

WOMEN AND WAR.

Of all those who suffer from the war that has broken loose upon old Europe, and is destroying life and health and wealth, it is woman—she who has to await passively the fate befalling the persons near to her heart—whose sufferings are deepest and most irremediable. No one who knows what love is will deny it. That no protest, however eloquent or desperate, will be able to stop this war is a truth we have to acknowledge, be it with bitterness. But, although we are stricken with impotence concerning the present, can we do nothing to promote the cause of peace for the generations to come? I think we can. I think we can take the initiative to a measure, which probably might reduce the chance of future war to its utmost minimum:

The taking of the right of war and peace out of the hands of the Governments, and putting it into the hands of the Parliaments, whilst at the same time all diplomatic negotiations cease to be secret, and are brought into the sphere of public discussion.

For many years the peace movement has tried in every way imaginable to propagate its ideal. But what is the use of making men prefer peace to war if they lack the power of translating their thoughts and feelings into deeds? Several of the war-waging nations are publishing "white books" on purpose that the populations may judge of the fairness of their intentions and the wisdom of their actions. But what is the use of the populations approving or disapproving *afterwards*, when the decision has become irrevocable?

Who knows how large a part of the present calamity would have been prevented, how narrow the limits of the battlefield would have remained, if the populations had had the chance of judging *beforehand*, and putting in their word of advice? And if the right to declare war were committed to the representatives of the people instead of to the sovereigns and their few but mighty counsellors, I am sure that the cases in which the world's peace is broken would be greatly diminished.

Firmer-cemented peace will come when the modern ideas of true "national honour" and wise economic insight are getting stronger and stronger in the minds of the electors; so strong at last that the promise *never to vote for declaring war* is made a condition for candidatureship. And surely the cause of peace will enormously win by Woman Suffrage. Not because woman and peaceableness are absolutely synonymous—I am convinced that there are countries where a part of the female population is quite as warlike as their male relations,—but because probably the female disposition is more inclined to preserve than to destroy, and the percentage of war-haters is infinitely higher among women than among men. This peculiar quality of the female character is a strong argument in favour of Woman Suffrage, which will be thoroughly understood by all those who suffer from the present misery. The taking away of the right of peace and war from the Governments to give it to the Parliaments, perhaps also the changing of the nature of diplomatic negotiations so that it becomes a matter of public discussion, cannot be accomplished without a change either in the Constitution or in some other political law. And it will be felt desirable that such important decisions be taken in the different countries *simultaneously*—as is the case, in quite another province, with the Labour Bills, proposed by the International Alliance for the Protection of Labourers.

The proper body to act as an intermediary is, I think, the Interparliamentary Union. So I hope all readers of *Jus Suffragii* will think the matter over, that at our next Congress we may be able to take these two resolutions:

1. "That our Alliance will suggest to the Interparliamentary Union to take the steps necessary for a change in the fundamental or other political law in all constitutionally governed countries, whereby the right of declaring war is given absolutely to the Parliament, and all diplomatic negotiation is made a matter of public discussion in the House or Houses of Representatives."

2. "That the National Unions for Woman Suffrage affiliated to the Alliance are requested to propagate these ideas each in its own country."

This, it seems to me, is what the women of to-day can do to spare the woes of war to future generations of women—as far as peace is compatible with the nature of mankind.

ANNA POLAK.

The Hague, Holland, September, 1914.

THE WAR.

WOMEN'S PART.

"Women, bethink yourselves."

So wrote Leo Tolstoy, not to women, but to nations. Another Teacher said: "He that smiteth thee on the one cheek, turn to him the other cheek also." But after two thousand years of the teachings of the Nazarene we know better than that; we say, if one nation flouts the sacredness of human life, then let us all murder. And while we are engaged in murdering those who would murder us, let our children sneak in and steal the possessions our enemies hold miles away from the conflict. True, our children will have to kill and be killed, but that is of little moment. We shall have greater possessions, and property is of more value than the lives of men.

Away with the commandments, "Thou shalt do no murder" and "Thou shalt not steal"; we want them not. We will murder in battalions, and all we want is national and private wealth and territory, so we will steal. Thieves and murderers both, then, say "The Lord of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge." Curiously enough, they all call God to witness the righteousness of their deeds.

Oh! the irony of it all. Women, will ye also join in this hideous mockery of Christianity? Women, do ye also ask the blessing of God should rest upon the works of the devil? Women, will ye also feel the lust of blood rise in your hearts, and call "My country, right or wrong"?

Women, ere it is too late, "bethink yourselves," and save the nations that men would destroy; save them, not for national glorification and pride, but, women, save the people.

Von Moltke once said: "War is sacred, a Divine institution. It is one of the sacred laws of the world. It upholds all great and noble sentiments amongst men; honour, disinterestedness, virtue, courage, and, in a word, prevents them from falling into dreadful materialism." Guy de Maupassant answered thus: "Therefore, to collect in herds 400,000 men, to march day and night, without rest, to think of nothing, nor study anything, nor learn anything, nor read anything, to be useful to nobody, to rot in dirt, to lie in mire, to live like brutes in a continual stupefaction, to loot towns, burn villages, ruin nations, finally to meet another agglomeration of human flesh, to throw oneself upon it, to produce lakes of blood, plains of flesh, piled up, bits of corpses mixed with earth, muddy and gory, to have one's arms or one's legs torn away, one's brain crushed—without profit to anyone, whilst one's old parents, one's wife, and one's children perish from hunger,—this is what is called not to fall into the most dreadful materialism."

Such is war—or, shall we say, legalised murder,—and will the mothers of the race send their sons, the children they have gone down to the gates of death to bring into life; will they send their sons to kill and be killed, and say "My country, right or wrong"? Will they send their children to slaughter and be slaughtered, for no other reason than that of greed and lust for power of the few rulers who ask for this sacrifice of human life to gratify their lust? The victors, even be they of our own country, will have no share in the spoils. The spoils go to the few who make the wars, but do not fight themselves. They are careful to stay at home, so to better enjoy the news of success; and if the news comes of carnage and death, to be safely out of reach of it.

Women! the success of one nation means the defeat of another. And success means that one or the other nation has murdered more men than the other.

Women! does the news that the Germans have lost thousands of men mean nothing to you? Are you delirious with joy when you hear that thousands are slain? Do you not know that German mothers are torn with grief and anguish that the sons of their wombs are slain? Do not let us blaspheme by calling for God's blessing on those who bring such agony to helpless women and children. Will not the women be the saviours of the nations by refusing to give their flesh and blood to make targets for shot and shell, and by seeing in that action the true sense of honour and patriotism, making for the good of mankind, the brotherhood of man and the sisterhood of woman? So let the cry from every heart be "My country must be right," not by might, but by loving her neighbour as herself.

(From the *Woman Voter*.)

To All Men, Women, and Organisations Who Want to Stop the International Massacre at the Earliest Possible Moment.

I.—THE SITUATION.

The war has anyway to be terminated by mediation, therefore do not let us wait, but let us urge it now. President Wilson hastened to offer mediation at once, at the outbreak of war, and added to his offer, "but if you do not wish it now, do let me know when you are ready for it." This means that one or other of the combating nations is expected to call President Wilson to begin mediation. In the terms of the passing world's war-codex, this would mean that the nation asking for mediation confesses that it has reached the very end of its resources.

As all the combating nations are resolved "to conquer or be killed to the last man," waiting for the call for mediation is equal to waiting until the absolute destruction of one or other of the belligerent nations is accomplished.

There are those who are saying that we must wait for the *psychological* moment, others call it the *right* moment. This is the time-honoured plan used in ordinary wars between two or a few more nations. But what is going on to-day is not merely a war, but the breakdown of a world—the earthquake of civilisation.

In face of this débâcle, we cannot be bound by traditional formula which were shaped for events of utmost insignificance compared to the present tragedy. In this crisis it is not sufficient to wait for the "right moment" to come automatically. It is for all those who deplore the waste of life to hasten with united strength the coming of the right moment for mediation. We must save as many lives as possible from slaughter.

The following line of action is therefore proposed:—

That President Wilson, without waiting to be invited to mediate, should come at once to Europe, or send a representative like Mr. Bryan, Secretary of State, or ex-President Taft.

Let him call together the Government representatives of such countries whose neutrality is undoubtedly disinterested. Among these are Switzerland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Spain.

No conventional diplomacy should be allowed to interfere with what is the best, shortest, quickest, and surest way to hasten mediation. We cannot afford to complicate the situation by national sensitiveness or jealousy.

This Committee of the selected Government ought to assemble in Norway. The conventional suggestion would be to meet in the Hague. But Norway has many advantages over the Dutch capital. The Watching Committee ought to sit in the country which, even if other now neutral countries should be dragged into the war, would probably be the last to be drawn into the fight. This secures physical and moral safety for the Committee. Then we have the invaluable object-lesson given to the world by Norway in her separation from Sweden, which shows the world that if a nation *really* does not want to fight, it can settle the most difficult questions by non-military agreement. Norway has also avoided sex war by giving its women equal share in the civil responsibilities. The King, the Government, and the people of Norway are known and have showed themselves to be absolutely for peace and freedom.

Norway celebrates this year the Centenary of Peace by an Exhibition. The Nobel Institute for peace and arbitration is in Norway. Whatever we consider we cannot find a nobler platform for the action of the destiny-making Committee than the country of this little but admirable nation.

The Hague is too near to the battlefield. The neutrality of the Netherlands may be violated any moment by a mere incident caused by the carelessness of a sentry on the frontier.

The International Watching Committee ought to send every single day a renewed offer for immediate mediation to the belligerent Governments, no matter whether a decisive battle has already been fought or not, or whether decisive things are just going on or not.

The Committee must not be offended if the combatant Governments refuse their offer in a rude or purposely offensive tone, or if they don't answer at all.

The incessant renewal of this offer is the only means of hastening "the right moment" for mediation, because it allows any of the combatant nations to climb down any moment before they are absolutely exhausted, whether they are victorious or defeated.

I repeat, the call for mediation has until now been regarded as a confession of hopeless defeat. Therefore this call would

now, when all fighting Governments have resolved to fight the battle "until the very end," surely not come earlier than at the end of everything.

The repeated offers would make it possible to accept, instead of to ask for mediation.

This would take away the stigma of humiliation which is dreaded more than anything else by the nations. They prefer to sacrifice any further number of their people because of false pride.

II.—ORGANISING THE WORLD.

While this Watching Committee—which should meet within a few days of being called together—would wait for acceptance of its offers, it should be joined by representatives of unofficial and national organisations—individual men and women who are working or planning for the future organisation of the world. These non-officials should bring their plans for such re-organisation of Europe as would exclude every possibility of any further wars. These plans ought to be assorted and groups formed of those whose proposals are of a similar character.

The groups should discuss the details of their different schemes, and the whole assembly should afterwards consider the various schemes and try to agree on the best for securing not only a "pause between two wars," but a guarantee for the definite elimination of any future slaughter.

It would be fatal if we were not prepared to start organising with a strong and determined will to alter Europe entirely, at the time when the truce is called at the beginning of mediation. If all those who want a new upbuilding do not use their joint forces to get hold of the imagination of humanity, poisoned until now by artificial enmities, we shall lose the opportunity of bringing the world out of its old orbit into the new, and of moulding it a little "nearer to our hearts' desire."

We shall not be able to get hold of the imagination of society if we ourselves cannot concentrate on one broad outline. If we ourselves do not believe in one scheme, we shall not be able to make all the others believe; and we have to make them believe in the possibility of avoiding further slaughter of human society. The military powers opposed each other—they had different aims and objects; but they were unanimous in preaching that the world can only rest on physical force, that international differences have to be settled by violence. They believed it, and therefore they succeeded in making the rest of the world believe it too.

We who have but one aim, one object, had formed hundreds of big or little schemes; we even worked against each other, and therefore we failed to catch and to rule the imagination of the masses. We are paying now with human lives and sufferings for the lack of organisation on our side. This terrible lesson must have taught us to understand the necessity of uniting the preserving and upbuilding forces and with irresistible power of opposing our plan to the force of militarism.

But first of all let us find the solution of our problem. There is nothing better than to discuss it in Norway, while the Official Committee awaits the acceptance of its proposal. The unofficial part of the Committee should not be restricted to the neutral countries. Participation should be open to the world.

III.—EFFECT OF THE ACTION.

Besides making an earlier cessation of hostilities possible, the effect on the people of the belligerent nations would be of incalculable value.

In the hostile countries on the Continent neither word nor print can spread hope amongst those people who in darkness and artificial ignorance believe that they are sentenced to death. They cannot communicate with each other about the question of peace and war, and we cannot reach them.

To create public opinion in countries like Great Britain, where public expression at the moment is still possible, is certainly most necessary, but this alone will not suffice. The very existence of this Watching Committee repeating daily its mediatory offer, and a National Organising Commission discussing a scheme of building up a new Europe, would create involuntarily the international public opinion which we at the present moment, owing to the reign of martial law, are unable to create ourselves.

The action of the Watching and Organising Committees would force the Governments and military authorities who control the press in the belligerent countries to take notice of our action. In whatever form they may publish news about our action, they will spread the knowledge amongst their people, who will so be saved from the hopelessness which is ruining their lives.

As soon as a truce is called for the time of mediation, the severest form of martial law will be abolished. At this moment

we must be ready to start our international propaganda to create public opinion in favour of our scheme which is to be the basis of the settlement.

Every man, woman, or organisation believing in the necessity of this action is urged to send at once a telegram or letter of approval addressed to Rosika Schwimmer, c/o Mrs. Catt, New York, 2, West 86th Street. We must not postpone anything connected with this action for a single moment. Every delay means a further sacrifice of lives. Speedy work means the saving of lives and the prevention of suffering and destitution. Do not allow yourself to think about this matter in the old traditional lines. Remember that we are in the midst of unparalleled events which demand new ways of thought and action.

These are the rough outlines of a proposal made by Rosika B. Schwimmer, and supported by the Women's Suffrage Organisations of Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Sweden, the National Council of Women in Norway, the Civil Union for the Right Understanding of International Interests, Great Britain, and of individuals, a list of whom is going to be published.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Suffragists, like all the rest of the world, are daily making difficult readjustments. Those to whom the Suffrage agitation has been merely a political agitation are found to declare that we can do no Suffrage work at all while the war lasts, and that we ought not to try. Others, who are Suffragists because they hold certain fundamental principles of right and wrong as the basis of governmental interference, feel on the contrary that war is the supreme test of the value and truth of those principles, and that the way in which the war is conducted, and still more, the way in which peace is to be made, will largely determine whether women are to be more degraded in the future or are to have wider opportunities for free development and responsibility.

The National Union has always believed and preached that by showing the good work women do already, and the still better work they could do under more favourable and generous conditions, the further emancipation of women will be won, and won in a steady and permanent way. The war has been going on now for eight weeks, and the experience of our members in relief work will have been teaching them facts of incalculable benefit to them for the future, and will also have been breaking down the prejudice which still exists in the minds of many men concerning the value of women's public work.

There is not yet any shortage of food, and the principal economic suffering arises from the inevitable dislocation of industry. Our societies are represented on innumerable local committees for finding employment and for giving relief where no employment can be found. The well-known Labour leader, Miss Mary MacArthur, is the hon. secretary of the Central Committee for Women's Employment, and this body is formulating schemes for the employment of women. It has several sub-committees, and the work it is doing is quite without precedent. Never before has there been in England a Government Committee composed of women only.

Four workshops have been opened in London by the National Union, and in other towns this is also being done either by our societies or with their help. By keeping our large staff in being, we are able to offer the services of trained salaried women, and they are invaluable. The confidence of the public is shown by the fact that Mrs. Auerbach, the National Union treasurer, has received over £1,400 for relief work, and, in addition to this, our 602 societies and branches are raising funds for local work all over the country.

There is scarcely a family in the land which has not some dear man gone to the front or training to go. This war has hit us in the home as no war within our memory has done. We know a little bit of what other countries are enduring; we can feel with the French or Belgian or German mother whose dearest may never come back. But still we know that our sufferings, in our inviolate island, are as nothing compared with those of the women who lose not only their fighting men, but their babes and their homes, even the sacred soil of their motherland, and who in some cases are themselves outraged and murdered. We have refugees here now whose tales of horror stun the mind. These horrors are not all in Belgium

and France—Germany and Austria know them, too. We have pathetic prisoners of war. We read something of the filthy business which war is and must be, and we hope that even though women do not speak with one voice, yet they may be more sensible than men have proved themselves in the past of what Mrs. Fawcett has called "the insensate devilry of war."

H. M. SWANWICK.

SWEDEN.

In Sweden, as well as in other countries, there has been a general feeling that in the present situation all private and special interests must be put aside for the interests of the country. This also must be the case with the work for Woman's Suffrage; at present the Suffrage women must take their part in every possible form of work for the good of the country and show themselves as good citizens well worthy of the citizenship.

Though our country as yet has been spared the terrors of a war, and hopes to be so in future by keeping up a strict and firm neutrality, still the consequences of the world-war do not leave our country untouched. There is no need to go into details about these consequences; it is enough to say that they are deep and far-reaching for our social as well as for our economic life.

In our country the question of defence has, especially in the last year, been of an all-absorbing interest. This question has now got its solution in Parliament, principally in accordance with the Government Bill. In order to obtain unity the Liberals have given up their former attitude to the question of our national defence, and thereby made a solution possible. The women also have had a strong feeling of the necessity of leaving party and class differences, and uniting themselves in efforts to help the country through present and coming difficulties.

To that end a large amount of work is done not only by already existing organisations such as the Red Cross, with branches all over the country, but also by a new organisation called to life by the present situation. The idea of uniting women of different classes and opinions awakened simultaneously among the leaders of different organisations in Stockholm, such as the National Women Suffrage Alliance, the White Ribbon, the International Council of Women, and the Christian Union of Young Women. The first aim of this new organisation, which has called itself Women's Call, was to start different forms of help-work immediately, and before the more heavy machinery of State and community could be set going, and, further, to aid the authorities in their work. The work of the Women's Call has been carried out by a Central Committee and different sub-committees. Besides a temporary help bureau and a bureau for providing clothes, etc., to the general levy, it has organised depôts of provisions to which the municipal help bureaux can send people with vouchers of differing value, for which they can get provisions. In connection with this depôt are arranged demonstrations of cheap cooking, etc. Further are arranged free courses in cooking and other forms of domestic work for women out of work, in connection with a serving of cheap meals to women who work on half-pay or are out of work. Free courses in sewing, with free meals, are also arranged to help the unemployed. These are some examples of the different kinds of help-work practised by the Women's Call, but new fields of activity will certainly open day after day.

A proclamation has been issued to the different women organisations in all parts of the country, recommending them to take up the work after their own methods, or to organise branches of the Women's Call. This work is now going on everywhere.

As I said in the beginning of my article, all special interests must be put aside; but still they cannot be so totally, and as the Liberal Bill on Woman's Suffrage has been debated in Parliament, I must in a few words tell the readers of *Jus Suffragii* the result. This result is anything but encouraging, but it must be borne in mind that our question was taken up at a most unfavourable moment, when all interests were centred on the world-war and on the solution of our national defence. The debates in both chambers were shorter and less interesting than they have been for many years. In the First Chamber the opponents—the Conservatives—did not send one of their leading men into the debate. There were only two speakers against Woman's Suffrage, and one of them treated the question in a most unworthy way. The chief speaker for the Liberal Bill was Mr. Hellberg, who finished his speech by

saying that he would have appealed to the Conservatives to grant Women Suffrage if he had not known that it would be in vain. The Minister of Justice, who declared himself to be non-partisan, thought better of the Conservatives, and made a warm and touching appeal to them to give Women Suffrage for the sake of righteousness. But though the speech of the Minister made a deep impression—it is most unusual that a Minister who is not an M.P. speaks for a private Bill on which the members of Government are of different opinion,—the Conservatives did not move an inch from their old position. The Bill fell in the First Chamber with 76 votes against 46, and was accepted by the Second Chamber with 107 votes against 84.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

Stockholm, September, 1914.

SOUTH AFRICA.

BILL FOR THE ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN.

Great regret and disappointment were felt by Suffragists throughout South Africa at the shelving of the adjourned debate on the Hon. Hugh Wyndham's Bill for the enfranchisement of the women of the Union. A protest was forwarded at once to the Prime Minister from the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa expressing the regret and concern of the women, and asking that facilities might be granted for the passage of this Bill, so necessary to the welfare of the country. This was followed by similar protests from individual Leagues. These various protests received only a formal acknowledgment from the Prime Minister's secretary. A question asked in the House of Assembly elicited the reply from the Prime Minister that in view of the important questions which still required the consideration of the House, he regretted it would not be possible to grant special facilities for the consideration of this motion. Nothing further, therefore, could be done this session.

MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE.

We have much pleasure in recording the extension of the Municipal Franchise to women nearly all over South Africa. The fullest measure of the franchise has been accorded to the women of the Transvaal by the new Municipal Ordinance passed by a Labour majority in the Provincial Council, the only qualification for voting and for the office of Town Councillor being a three months' residence in the municipality. In the other provinces the franchise is more restricted, and, generally speaking, applies only to women of property, owners or registered occupiers.

The Women's Reform Club, Graaff Reinet, taking advantage of the fact that the Annual Conference of the South African Teachers' Association was to be held in their town, organised a Suffrage meeting during its session. By the courtesy of the President and Committee the S.A.T.A. adjourned its business to enable its members to attend the meeting, which was held in the Conference Hall in the Girls' High School.

The President of the W.R.C., Mrs. Haldane Murray, took the chair, and members of the Club and several teachers, including the President and Secretary of the S.A.T.A., supported her on the platform. The room was well filled with teachers and townspeople.

Miss Elton, Principal of Riebeck College, Uitenhage, was the chief speaker, winning the sympathy and enthusiasm of her audience by the eloquent way in which she traced woman's development through all the phases of civilisation. She claimed that woman had passed through the stage of minor under legal and social tutelage, and had shown her fitness in professions, on School Boards, and as a social worker, and therefore claimed for her the privilege of legislating. She pleaded for the need of women's point of view being considered in the face of grave social evils which were not stamped out while women remained voteless.

Miss Jenner, President-elect of the S.A.T.A., emphasised women's duties in municipal matters, pointing out the extended privileges of voting they held under the new Municipal Ordinance of the Cape Province, and of voting and sitting on Town Councils in the Transvaal and Natal. She urged women to take more interest in sanitation and public health, infant mortality, and the housing problem for both white and coloured people. Finally, she said that once women began to do some public work they would feel the need for the Parliamentary franchise, and appealed to the teachers to read and educate public opinion on the question.

Miss Glendinning, of the Girls' High School, Queenstown, read a paper dealing with the great dangers from the social

evil problems already present in South Africa, showing how reforms were carried out in countries where women vote.

Mr. Organ, President of the S.A.T.A., in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers, said that men's skulls must be very thick and their hearts very hard if they were not moved by the speeches to which they had just listened.

WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE UNION OF S. AFRICA.

SWITZERLAND.

Miss Gourd writes from Pregny, Geneva, that she will be glad to forward *Jus Suffragii* to belligerent countries and to act as intermediary for letters and papers. She continues: "I think it indispensable that *Jus Suffragii* should act as a link between us all. It is so hard to see the international connection so dear to us now severed, so I shall do all in my power to send you news. But my only direct news is Swiss, and here there is less to be said than in other countries. We suffer chiefly economically as a result of the war. Our complete mobilisation has greatly disorganised industrial activity; certain special local industries, such as watchmaking, with its innumerable cognate branches, jewellery, etc., are completely at a standstill, not for want of hands, but for want of capital and of raw material. In the Jura, near Neuchâtel and Berne, a mountainous country with a severe climate, the situation is very difficult. Women's work in particular—not to mention Red Cross work, which is much the same in all countries—is chiefly a fight against poverty. Efforts are made to increase the use of self-cookers (auto-cuiseurs) to economise fuel; people are taught jam-making, preserving, and drying of fruit; economical soup kitchens are run, and labour exchanges opened. In Geneva particularly we have opened a workroom where unemployed women learn to sew and knit, either for the Red Cross or for State orders or private orders. The authorities have supported us with grants and free workrooms, and we hope that the methodical, well-organised work we have accomplished will be useful to the cause. But the Suffrage Associations are more or less like those outside the movement, and their best-known members working as individuals show what we Suffragists can do. In some towns and villages the municipality has appealed to the women's societies. Where soldiers are assembled, temperance societies open recreation rooms where the soldiers can read and write, and in many towns special committees are formed to look after the numerous foreign women students. In conclusion, I must now tell you that we were defeated in our attempt on July 26 to get women on the councils of Prud'hommes. But as the majority against us was 150 out of 3,000, we are not discouraged."

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES NOT AFFILIATED TO THE ALLIANCE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The C.L.W.S. is taking its share of patriotic work both at home and abroad during the war. Lieutenant Cather, honorary treasurer of the League, is with the Fleet, and Dr. Helen Hanson, another member of the Executive Committee, is working at Antwerp. One member has been nursing with the Second Foreign Unit of the Red Cross Society almost since the beginning of the war, the treasurer and several members of the Fulham and W. Kensington Branch have enlisted, another member of the same branch is stationed at Malta, while one of the clerical members of the League in Scotland is ministering to the troops in France. Miss Maud Bell, another of the Executive Committee, has been working with the Women's Emergency Corps since its inception. The organisers in Birmingham, Manchester, and Swansea are giving their whole time to relief work under the municipal authorities of their towns. Two of the branches—one in Bromley and one in Dublin—have opened workrooms for women and girls out of employment, and all over the United Kingdom members are joining with their branches or as individuals in Red Cross work, serving on Relief Committees, the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Association, War Emergency Committees, and giving aid to Belgian refugees.

One member has prepared her house for the reception of thirty wounded; another is acting as voluntary secretary to her rector, who is organising the administration of the National Relief Fund in his district; and the members of one branch, besides bearing their part in the work of various relief societies, are taking Sunday-school classes for men who have joined the colours.

American Notes.

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE PARISIENNE IN WAR TIME.

Many of us have been apt to take our impressions of the character of Frenchwomen by what we have seen in the dazzling whirl of Parisian life. While it has always been granted that in no other country do women play so important a part as they do in France, we Anglo-Saxons have been inclined to think that this was due rather more to the gallantry (if not the weakness) of the men than to the superior competence of the women. We have heard always of the thrift of the French housewife, but we have generally thought that this and other practical qualities belonged to the peasant classes, while the woman who seemed to us to be the most typically French, and especially the most typically *Parisienne*, was chiefly noted for her chic, her wit, and an abundant ability to enjoy herself without much serious thought.

Anyone who has been in their midst during this horrible war will always remember the way these world-renowned leaders of Fashion have shown themselves to be as truly leaders in courage, self-sacrifice, and service to humanity. In one instance I knew an entire family, except the youngest member—she being too young,—who went to the front. The father was a colonel, and of the best type of French aristocracy. His four sons were all officers, and the youngest was married quietly four days before he left. The mother and two daughters all went as Red Cross nurses. In the early days of mobilisation in Paris it was one of the amazing sights to see women drive to the Place Les Invalides in their motors, step out and turn them over to the military authorities, and proceed to walk back to their homes. For in those first days there were no cabs, omnibuses, nor other means of transport in Paris. Some of these motors seemed too dainty in their appointments for the sternness of war, and yet in many cases they had not been shorn of their equipments—card cases, mirrors, vanity boxes, etc.—before their shield-glasses bore the white mark, "Service Militaire," with a number. A more pathetic sight was a beautiful French girl, dressed as only a real chic *Parisienne* knows how to dress for her morning walk, leading her two favourite riding horses to give them up for the use of the army. With head held high she showed more courage than her groom, who walked behind with bowed head, and whose face could not disguise the tragedy of the scene. The same nobility of character was displayed on all sides by women of all classes, and one fact was very evident: expressions of sympathy were out of place. The daughter of my concierge, daily expecting to be a mother for the first time, was one of the many whom I saw smiling as her husband left her, and the cheering words she called after him were choked with sobs only when he was beyond hearing. But all this courage did not lift the pall from Paris or the tragic look from the faces of those brave people whose nature it is to be light-hearted. This was especially noticeable in the shops, where groups of sales girls sat sewing and knitting, making garments for the soldiers—garments of the most practical sort,—instead of interesting themselves in the feminine furbelows at which they have always been so adept.

I expect that no one who has been in Paris during these last sad weeks can ever forget the truly noble nature which the Frenchwomen have shown to be theirs.

LEILA C. FREEMAN.

WOMEN AND CITY ECONOMICS.

"Women never get the right angle on the city funds," said the newly enfranchised Illinois woman. "Take Ella Flagg Young, for example, our Superintendent of Public Schools. The money was given to her to go abroad to investigate schools, but the war came and she couldn't investigate. So when she got back she returned the cheque to the Finance Committee of the Board of Education. Everyone got a shock, and the Commissioners claimed it put everyone in the wrong for her to do a thing like that. The newspapers laughed, and said, 'The official junket hereabouts has received a startling and perilous shock.'"

FACTS ABOUT GEORGIA.

In Georgia, where anti-Suffrage flourishes, 35 per cent. of children between the ages of 10 and 15 work for a living. School is kept 132 days each year. Working hours of minors are from sunrise to sunset. The age of consent is 10 years. And the new anti-Suffrage Society is jubilant over the fact that the Suffrage Bill was killed in committee.

PRESS BUREAU, EMPIRE STATE CAMPAIGN.

AN ARMY OF PEACE.

The first two weeks of October on every good motor road of the State will be seen automobiles with "Votes for Women" banners flying on their way to the forty-sixth New York State Woman Suffrage Convention in Rochester.

"On to Rochester" has become the slogan of a large army. These regiments of soldiers are not engaged in a campaign of destruction, but they represent the greatest potential force for peace that the world has to-day.

The first resolution invariably passed at a Suffrage Convention is one standing for world peace.

No one doubts that if all the women of Europe and America were allowed an equal voice in government, if their opinions were counted equally with those of men, such a war as is devastating Europe to-day would be impossible.

If this army of peace wins a victory in November, 1915, a big step will be taken in maintaining national peace.

This army going "on to Rochester" will stop in many towns and villages, but it will not leave death, desolate homes, despairing hearts, burned villages, and trampled harvests behind it, but a belief in humanity, in real democracy, in the command "Love thy neighbour as thyself." It will preach protection for the weak, more representation for the home, conservation of child life; it wants to add to the brotherhood of man the sisterhood of woman.

The anti-Suffragists have lost their last argument. Many times they have assented that the one unanswerable argument against Suffrage was the right of the ballot rested on force.

The world sees now that just because of war, woman's voice must be heard, that she has a right to protect the life that she gives. More than that, she has a solemn duty to demand that her care of her children shall not cease when they leave her arms. We know now that the fighting instinct of the male must be tempered by the protective instinct of the female.

Suffragists from all over the State, of every persuasion, are being called to gather at Rochester for a last Conference before the Suffrage amendment goes to the voters. From Montauk Point, from the Canadian border, from the Adirondack and the Catskill Counties, from the southern tier, and from Buffalo, they are converging on Rochester.

Banners flying, bugles blowing (for we have women cornetists engaged), cars full of eager workers will stop in every town to wage their campaign. Open-air meetings will be held in every business centre, stops for luncheons and dinners will be made occasions for banquets to which city dignitaries and their wives will be invited and toasts to Suffrage made. In every town the local Suffragists are planning to go out to greet the pilgrims, and to celebrate their coming in some way.

In Rochester on Tuesday, the 13th, at the noon hour, the formal procession of pilgrim cars will enter the city and parade over a 12-mile route. It is expected that every county in the State will be represented and have its banner in the parade.

WOMEN DEBARRED FROM HIGH EDUCATIONAL OFFICE.

The Suffragists of Rochester are opposing the recent action of the Board of Education of that city in deciding against women principals in any of the higher grade schools.

Mrs. Alice C. Clement, Chairman of the 7th Assembly District of the Suffrage Campaign Committee, in speaking for Suffragists, says: "This decision of the Board of Education is likely to arouse comment and controversy all over the United States, since 87 per cent. of all the teachers are women. More than that, it strikes at the foundation of the whole woman movement in every avenue of industry. This discrimination does not seem to show a twentieth century realisation that men and women equally inherit the racial characteristics of human beings. This is considered by all thoughtful persons to be a backward movement."

Kate Devereux Blake, President of the New York City Principals' Association, said this action in Rochester was one which many other cities merely lacked the courage to take.

"The trouble with all our schools," said Miss Blake, "is that they are masculinised. While the 87 per cent. of teachers are women, the vital 13 per cent. are men, and they are the ones in power. The 87 per cent. of teachers have little or nothing to say. Out West where the women vote, most of the schools are officered by women, and the superintendents and county superintendents frequently are women. The schools there are greatly superior to Eastern schools. Here in New York, with 45 members of the Board of Education, only five are women. As soon as the women wake up and realise that it is the masculinisation of the schools and not the feminisation that is the matter, we shall have better schools."

PRESS BUREAU, EMPIRE STATE CAMPAIGN.

American Notes.

Woman Suffrage as a decent, moral force was patently illustrated during the August registration. Chicago, since it gave the ballot to the women, has the largest registration of any city of the world. New York steps back to a secondary place on the record. About 750,000 voters registered in Chicago. Husbands escorted their wives to the polls, and sons accompanied their mothers. The river wards had the quietest time in their existence. Instead of the rear of a basement pool-hall in the First District, the Assembly Room of the City Hall was used. In the Second District, in place of the accustomed barber-shop or bucket-shop, the polling place was transferred to the Art Institute. All told, the registration conditions are summed up as a great civic reform due to the presence of women voters.

The *Chicago Journal* editorially comments on the probable effect of the European war on Woman Suffrage. The *Journal* says: "The loss and suffering which this war is bound to entail will be a powerful argument for peace, and for the entry into politics of the sex which can be depended upon to use its influence for peace. If England emerges from this war victorious, it would seem almost certain that Englishwomen will gain the ballot. Frenchwomen are reaping the nation's harvest, doing as much of its factory work as possible, keeping the wheel of industry turning somehow, while their husbands, brothers, and sons are at the front. Win or lose, it seems probable that the cause of political equality is bound to gain in France from the war."

The Massachusetts Association Opposed to the Further Extension of Suffrage to Women paid two men \$1,300 to fight the Woman Suffrage Bill in the Legislature. It was wasted money, for the Massachusetts Legislature was composed of men who believe that "equal rights to all" includes women, and the Bill passed by a good majority.

INJUSTICE TO FARM WOMEN.

Organisations of rural women are multiplying with surprising rapidity. Texas has a Farmer Women Club which has for its object improvement of the farm women in environment and opportunity. The United Farm Women of the South is the name of another new organisation. Kansas has a large number of women in its Agricultural Colleges, who are studying various phases of home economics and rural problems. The Wisconsin Dairy School reports many women students. The United States Department of Agriculture is planning home classes or groups of ten women, who may receive text-books, lantern slides, and other means for short courses in poultry-raising, fruit-growing, soils, cheese and butter making, and farm book-keeping. At a farmer's meeting held in Springfield, Mo., more women than men were in attendance, and silos, alfalfa, and dry-farming were the chief topics discussed. The President of the International Congress of Farm Women has been decorated with the Order of Agriculture of Belgium. These are but a few instances of the interests and activities of farm women, and illustrate forcibly the injustice of depriving this important and intelligent class of women of the vote to protect their investments and express their opinions.

FARM WOMAN ON CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

The Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America has placed on its committee to appeal to Congress, Miss Minnie Carrou, of Louisiana. This committee will ask Federal aid for the farmer in moving the present cotton crop. The census of 1910 reports over 1,800,000 women engaged in the agricultural industry.

WOMAN GETS IN FIRST BALE.

Mrs. Annie Kinkead Dent, head of the Woman Suffrage movement in Mississippi, postmistress of the House of Representatives, and one of the most extensive and progressive farmers in Mississippi, sent the first bale of cotton of the year 1914 to the Yazoo City market, same weighing 54 pounds. The bale was of the Simpson variety of short staple, and was not produced under Government supervision.

Mrs. Gertrude A. Lee, of Denver, is chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee of Colorado.

By a vote of three to three the Rules Committee of the House postponed until the next session of Congress consideration of the proposed Woman Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Some of the officials of the New York Anti-suffragists objected to the Peace Parade in that city, where thousands of

black-robed women silently protested against the inhumanity of war. Anti-suffragists are strangely inconsistent in objecting to the marvellous effect of that long, slow-moving procession of earnest, anxious mothers, wives, and daughters following the fluttering white banner inscribed with the single word "Peace." Only those women whose hearts are weighted with dread can know how full of meaning was the sombre line that moved along New York's thoroughfare. It might have been more acceptable to the Antis to dance for charity, or tango against war, but many of the black-attired women in that peace procession find no festivity to fit the horror now engulfing so large a portion of Europe, and in which there is no certainty that the United States may not eventually be compromised.

SOUTHERN STATES WOMAN SUFFRAGE CONFERENCE.
[PRESS BULLETIN.]

NATIONAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION ISSUE CONVENTION CALL.

In Nashville, Tennessee, November 12th-17th, the Suffragists of the United States will assemble by invitation of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League. The following call has just been issued:—

CALL TO THE FORTY-SIXTH NATIONAL SUFFRAGE CONVENTION.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association issues this year the call for its forty-sixth Annual Convention. It summons the delegates of its sixty member-associations to meet together for inspiration and for counsel.

Being met, they are to hear from each other of victories won, of progress rapid and ever more rapid towards our mighty goal, of the nation's constantly widening sympathy with our high aim. Our task will be to formulate judgment on those great issues of the day which nearly concern women; to choose the leaders who, during the coming year, are to guide the fortunes of our cause; and finally, to deliberate how the whole national body may, on the one hand, best give aid and succour to the States working for their own enfranchisement, and, on the other, press for federal action in behalf of the women of the nation at large. May our resolutions and conclusions be born of wisdom and power, be inspired by that deep sense of kinship and sympathy, potent to warm the heart and fire the will to further effort, which springs from intercourse with fellow-workers gathered together from far and wide.

Since the last Convention met, all the horror of a great war has fallen upon the civilised world. The hearts of thousands of women have been torn for the death and wounds of those they bore, of those they love. Yet never has their will and power to help been greater, never man's need of such help been more clearly seen. We, who are spared the anguish of war, well understand that, as weight is given in the world's affairs to the voice of women, moved as men are not by all the tragic waste of battles, the chances of such slaughter must perpetually diminish. Now is the time, when all things point to the violence that rules the world, now is the very time to press our claim to a share in the guidance of our country's fortunes, to urge that woman's vision must second and rectify that of man.

Let us, then, in Convention assembled kindle with the thought that, as we consider methods for the political enfranchisement of our sex, our wider purpose is to free women and to enable woman's conception of life in all its aspects to find expression. Then woman's horror of war and of all needless misery, woman's indignation at the exploitation of her sister-woman, woman's care for and wise stress upon the needs of the child, will become operative. Let us set a fresh seal upon the great new loyalty of women to women; let our response be felt in the deep tide of fellowship and understanding between all women which to-day is rising round the world.

ANNA HOWARD SHAW,
JANE ADDAMS,
MADELINE BRECKINRIDGE,
CAROLINE RUUTZ-REES,
SUSAN WALKER FITZGERALD,
KATHERINE DEXTER McCORMICK,
HARRIET BURTON LAIDLAW,
LOUISE DE KOVEN BOWEN,
General Officers of the
National American Woman
Suffrage Association

Headquarters: 505, Fifth Avenue, New York City.

WOMAN AS PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE IN AUSTRALIA.

Miss Vida Goldstein is again standing as candidate for the Australian Federal Parliament, for the constituency of Kooyong. The chief objections that she has to meet are: (1) *That though all the reforms advocated by Miss Goldstein are urgently needed, one woman alone could not do anything to secure them.*

To this, the reply is that if elected Miss Goldstein could introduce any Bill she chose. If, *e.g.*, she introduced a Bill to equalise marriage and divorce law, the men would have to vote either for or against. If they voted against it, the women voters in their constituencies would be able to defeat them at the next election. Therefore, there is no doubt that such a Bill would be carried almost unanimously. Besides promoting Bills to place women on an equality with men, Miss Goldstein would do invaluable work by educating our legislators as to women's conditions and to women's point of view. Most of the injustice done to women by Parliament is not due to a wilful neglect of women's special needs, but to ignorance, which is natural, when women cannot speak for themselves.

(2) Another objection raised is: *Women can do more for morality by stopping at home and training their children properly.* But the law has stepped in and taken the children's training out of the hands of their mothers. It is practically impossible, nowadays, for mothers to counteract outside influences, when they believe them to be bad influences. As long as laws remain on the Statute Book which recognise the right of men to be less moral than women, boys will grow up to consider that the law sets the proper standard. People do not generally think actions are wrong so long as the law allows them.

We see in Europe to-day how blundering in foreign politics has brought a terrible war upon us. More than ever do we see the need of women's influence in the councils of the nations. Not one question in dispute between the countries at war was impossible to arbitrate upon, if there had been a sufficiently strong body of people in each nation to insist upon it. The fact that the people can be compelled to fight, whether they want to or not, even in countries with representative Parliaments, shows that party government is almost as bad as despotic rule, and emphasises the need of a control of Parliament by the people, most of all by women, who suffer most in war.

WOMEN OF ALL PARTIES SUPPORT MISS GOLDSTEIN.

One great difference between this electoral campaign and the last is, that this time the women, irrespective of party, are supporting Miss Goldstein; members of the Women's National League, the Commonwealth Labour Party, and the Labour Party are supporting her. A notable Liberal woman, after explaining that she has hitherto opposed Miss Goldstein on various points, in sending a donation, wrote: "As far as I can see, women and children have nothing to hope for from man-made legislation, and there are evils which shriek to high heaven for redress, and it is increasingly clear that only women will deal with them."

(From the *Woman Voter*, Australia.)

NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

In New Zealand there are four women factory inspectors, one for each large centre. They are employed by the State, and deal with sanitation, hygiene, and all matters immediately concerning the welfare of female workers, legislation on behalf of which is very strict. These inspectors also have charge of the Women's Branch of the Employment Bureau, an important State Department. The first of these inspectors was appointed by Mr. Seddon's Government about 15 years ago. The other three were also appointed by Mr. Seddon about eight years ago, and great good has been done by them in the country.

SUFFRAGE IN SWEDEN.

Mrs. Velma Swanson Howard, the Swedish translator, says that the Suffrage Bill reported to be defeated in the Upper House of the Riksdag merely met the fate of all Bills introduced for technical reasons.

"In the emergency of an impending war," said Mrs. Howard, "nothing else was thought of, and the Bills that were presented, among them Suffrage, were merely brought up to be disposed of in the official manner, so that they would be ready for the next session. Otherwise, a Bill must wait three years. It was not considered a defeat."

THE ATROCITIES OF WAR.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and Madam Rosika Schwimmer carried to Washington a petition from the representatives of twelve nations, imploring President Wilson to take active steps to bring the present European war to an end by mediation.

When interviewed on her return to New York Mrs. Catt said: "The petition which Mrs. Schwimmer and I carried to Washington was, I believe, the first official international petition to be presented to our President asking him to offer mediation to the warring European nations."

"The messages which have come to us by cable from the different countries were variously worded, but in most of them the utmost faith was expressed in the results of a direct interview with the President. Among the petitioners were Fru Munch, the wife of the Danish War Minister; Mme. Randi Blehr, the wife of a Norwegian Cabinet Minister; and a distinguished Russian woman who signed for 'many sorrowing Russian women.'"

When asked to account for the striking lead taken by women to end the war, Mrs. Catt recalled the fact that during the late Balkan war, Greek women petitioned all women's international organisations to intervene to prevent the recurrence of the atrocities perpetrated on Greek women by Bulgarian soldiers.

"The charges made were horrible," said Mrs. Catt; "indeed, they were indescribable. When the Bulgarian women heard of these petitions, they sent similar complaints against Greek soldiers. As the charges made had the impress of truth, inquiries were instituted, and recently Dr. David Starr Jordan visited the Balkans to investigate."

"The result of this and other similar investigations has established the fact that in warfare the loss of their men and homes is not the worst women have to fear. The conditions of war subvert the natural instincts of many men of all races, who temporarily return to the brutal practices of the most savage primitive races. This is a pathological fact well known to medical science, but hard for those to realise who have not been brought into actual contact with warfare."

"It is not only the loss of home and material welfare, it is not only the suffering of women and children by the loss of father and husband which is drawing women of all nations together, it is the awful results of the subversion of the moral nature of men. This is being borne home to millions of European women to-day in what must surely be the last war of the civilised world."

CORRECTIONS.

REPORT OF THE LONDON WOMEN'S MEETING.

Dear Madam,—I regret that your report of the London Women's Meeting which was held on the eve of the war to declare women's horror of war should have repeated the incorrect version of my speech published in *Votes for Women*. I never said: "All organised women were against the war." This would have been a manifest falsehood. What I did say was that although individual women in large numbers were bellicose, the *organised bodies of women were against war*. One may be against war, one may regard it as a form of criminal madness, and yet, at a given moment, when obligations have been incurred, it may appear necessary to go into the war and carry it through with vigour. Right or wrong, this is the view held by thousands of organised women, who are yet prepared to say that obligations should not be incurred which make war a necessity, and who are prepared to do all they can, in their voteless condition, to prevent the incurring of such obligations in future.—Yours faithfully,

H. M. SWANWICK.

26, Lawn Crescent, Kew Gardens, Surrey.
24th September, 1914.

My Dear Miss Sheepshanks,—I am rather perturbed by a bad blunder in my message to the I.W.S.A. in this month's *Jus Suffragii*. On line 22 from the top is printed, "In our country in particular." This, of course, should be, "In one country in particular." As it stands, the statement is manifestly untrue. Of all countries involved in the war, our country has suffered least; the one country I referred to was, of course, Belgium. Kindly print this in your next issue.—Yours sincerely,

M. G. FAWCETT.

East Anglian Sanatorium, Nayland, Suffolk.
September 11th, 1914.

FRANCE.

Whilst the women of all countries are waiting to obtain the vote and make the wars impossible in which their sons are massacred, they continue in all countries to play their part as the menders of humanity. They try as far as is possible to remedy the evils, poverty, and sufferings that war brings in its train, sufferings that ought to fall in curses like molten lead not on the nations, but on those who in their mad and criminal arrogance dare to declare war and hurl the nations one against the other.

By the sufferings and cruel anguish of the mothers of France we judge the anguish of German mothers, and we suffer with them; but however heavy their hearts, Frenchwomen will know how to speak words of encouragement to their men. Even as far as Normandy and Brittany, Belgian women and children have fled, and French women and children from the North are fleeing from the devastation of war. The roads are thronged with them. A lodging has to be hastily improvised and beds made where already everything had been given for the wounded. Everyone has given gladly. Many large families fled in terror in the middle of the night, hardly dressed, and taking nothing with them, the mayor having decided to evacuate the town at an hour's notice. Many of these women show a keen sense of justice. One of them telling me of her burnt-down house, said: "The German soldiers are not to blame, madame; they only obey orders." Not only the Red Cross organisations are active everywhere, but individuals arrange at home for convalescents who after being wounded and in hospital need building up before returning to the front. They leave gaily for their regiment, with a happy memory of their hosts, who were so pleased to serve their country by receiving them. The mothers—but I cannot speak of Frenchwomen and mothers; the only way to survive the anxiety for our soldiers and the lack of news is to work unceasingly. Unfortunately, one cannot work all night, and the anguish of waking perpetually is awful. Where is he? Is he out in the rain? Is he wounded?

Oh, the wretches who cause all this useless agony! May they be cursed! We do not wish to boast of all the service which women are rendering; we confine ourselves to reporting an instance of exceptional devotion shown by Mme. Macherez, whose opportunity found her equal to her task. This account, taken from M. Ménabréa's report in the *Matin*, is accurate, and confirmed by refugees from Soissons.

DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER,
President of the Union Française
pour le Suffrage des Femmes.

A WOMAN FACES A HOSTILE ARMY.

Mme. Macherez is to-day Mayor of Soissons. On the approach of the German army, the mayor, who was ill, resigned. Then Mme. Macherez, wife of a former senator of the Aisne, took up the power and responsibilities thus abandoned. She thus saved the honour of the town, and gave it such just cause for pride that it is almost grateful to the mayor for resigning. We found Mme. Macherez at the mayor's office, giving orders to the police, to the firemen, and to the ambulance corps, just as if she were giving orders in her own house. She was easily recognised by her calm and resolute air; her broad forehead, strong mouth, and white hair, which beneath her nurse's cap frames a lion-like face. Her whole personality breathes activity, and naturally inspires it. In place of the municipal council she has constituted a committee. Round this committee social life was reorganised.

Soissons had to endure the passage of the German army twice, on their way to and from the battle of the Marne, and bombardment. For a month and a half there was an uninterrupted stream of troops. Requisitions rained upon the town: as regiment followed regiment, requisition succeeded requisition. When the intendant demanded 70,000 kilos. of oats, 70,000 kilos. of provisions, 20,000 kilos. of tobacco, he added, "Or we burn the town down." Mme. Macherez was not to be intimidated. She saw through the pretext for bombardment, and told them that they were not asking enough, and might as well add the sun and moon, which were just as attainable. At last the Germans left, and the town was occupied by the French. Soissons breathed again; but, alas! its sufferings were not at an end—the Germans bombarded it. Municipal life, never more necessary, continued. The committee undertook to provide bread, meat, and milk to the population, shut up in the cellars. It requisitioned troops of cattle, fed or

killed them according to need, or milked them for the children. The horror was equalled by the sublime courage and devotion of the citizens and their determination to repair the ruins.

[This Report was received whilst the Paper was in the press.]

"THE EMANCIPATION OF ENGLISH WOMEN," by Walter Lyon Blease. National Political League, London. 1s.

In a sane, if partial, historical survey of the women's movement from the Restoration down to the present time the writer seems to have exhausted every source of information, friendly or hostile. From Lord Chesterfield, who, as "a man of sense," scorns women as "trifles, playthings, to be humoured and flattered"; from Lord Halifax, who—in the words of the author—"instructs his daughter to acquiesce in her husband's immorality"; down to the present-day Chesterfields and Halifaxes, in the persons of Lord Cromer, Professor Dicey, etc., and even Marie Corelli, Mr. Blease takes full account of the trend of anti-feminist thought. Such thought Mr. Blease either leaves to o'erleap itself in its vaulting egoism, or he strips the puffed-up "chivalry" of all its artificial sentimentality and reveals it in all its naked unchivalry. Quoting Lord Curzon: "If women have equal rights with men they will be in a worse condition than at present, because all the generous concessions which men make to their weakness will be refused as soon as they have the power to secure benefits for themselves," Mr. Blease places a steady finger on this inflamed spot of sentimentality. What does this "chivalry" towards the defenceless mean? he asks; and he thus interprets it: "So strong has been the good in the majority of men, that it has fixed them in a habit of generosity. So long as they are left to themselves they will persist in this habit. But no sooner is their virtue recognised by law than all the achievements of civilisation . . . will be destroyed, and vast numbers of men . . . will relapse into barbarism." "Human nature," Mr. Blease maintains, "has never yet acted upon such principles as these. As reasonably might a husband contend that his wife is worse treated after the passing of the Married Women's Property Acts than before. . . . As reasonably might an assembly of churchwardens protest that they are ready to abstain from burglary so long as it is simply a matter of conscience; but if burglary is to be prohibited by law, even the communion plate itself will not be safe in their custody."

This historical review of the struggle for freedom shows the gradual awakening of women to the knowledge of their humiliating position (a very gradual awakening, for "knowledge of the physical consequences of vice was not attained by women, except in rare instances, until less than fifty years ago"), a gradual change in masculine opinion, and incidentally introduces sketches of the lives and work of some of those who have, directly or indirectly, taken a lead in the emancipation of Englishwomen; thus—e.g., we get a vivid and vivifying account of Mary Wollstonecraft, Josephine Butler, Sophia Jex-Blake, and others. Of the Government's dealings with the militants he utters a justly severe censure. "Hostility and apathy were the least of their blunders. When discontent had broken into acts of trivial disorder, they repressed it with a severity which could only have been justified by the commission of serious crimes." "Of the guilt of provoking excesses which it was within their power to avoid, or at least to mitigate, the Government must partake in full measure. He who refuses everything is not to protest that the demands made upon him are extravagant." "In their dealings with Woman Suffrage, in their ignorance of facts, in their inability to understand the discontent with which they were faced, and in the levity with which they contemplated the immediate consequences of their neglect, they could not have been surpassed by the most profligate assembly that ever sat at Westminster."

The history interweaves a clear train of argument which it would be interesting to follow in detail did space permit. There are two well-marked sign-posts: 1. The evil—to all concerned—of dependence. "The first essential of a strong character is independence." "No man having the regulation of the lives of others in his power will fail, sooner or later, to abuse them." A proof of this evil lies (1) in "bi-moralism"; "such beings (i.e., "the fair sex") it was the duty of strong and courageous men to protect and cherish. Meanwhile, the tawdry army of prostitutes tramped its weary round beneath the lamps"; (2) in the neglected education of women,

2. Signs of the benefits to be gained from Woman Suffrage. "What grievances have been abolished have been abolished by the exertions of women." "Male egoism has done the reverse and so made chivalry a bitter mockery." This may seem an ungrateful utterance in view of the many noble men who have been our friends (and to whom, indeed, Mr. Blease pays many a grateful tribute), and of the shoals of men's societies for advocating Woman Suffrage at the present day; but Mr. Blease's vindication of his statement is authoritative. He speaks, not of individual men, but of the State, as composed of male units. "To say that women can safely rely upon the generosity of men to redress their grievances, and to adduce past performances in support of present professions, is to deny historical evidence more clear and more overwhelming than was ever before employed to support a political argument." "Bad men have been interested in maintaining the old conditions. Good men, conscious of their own benevolence, have been unable to understand that those conditions could be irksome." "The history of three separate controversies shows . . . that women have been forced to rely on their own efforts to procure their own freedom." A full and interesting account is given of each controversy. The first involves the struggle of Miss Jex-Blake and her companions to be admitted to the medical school at Edinburgh; the second the struggle of women to obtain a share in University education at Cambridge; and the last a brave struggle for the abolition of the Contagious Diseases Act.

In one forcible sentence Mr. Blease disposes of the now time-worn Anti-Suffrage argument that such outstanding women as the leaders of these movements are exceptional, but that women on the whole have not so much natural genius as men. "The qualities of an elector are not the qualities of genius, not even of genius for government. The qualities of an elector are the ordinary qualities of plain sense and good behaviour." "The qualities are to be found in women in precisely the same degree as men, whenever they have had equal opportunities of developing them."

Enumerating the grievances women have still to bear, the needs of women as persons: "Economic independence is the first condition of spiritual independence—and disposing, on the lines indicated, of further Anti-Suffrage arguments, Mr. Blease avers that the vote, "contemplated by itself, may seem no great thing; studied in connection with all that has gone before, and with all that accompanies its achievement, it is as vast a transformation as the coming of Christianity upon the earth."

But to quote the best were to quote the whole—one can only recommend the book itself to both camps. The Anti-Suffragist can but learn the humanity of women: for the Suffragist, sick with the hopes deferred, it is a *sursum corda*.

SECRETARY BRYAN FOR SUFFRAGE.

The well-known Democratic politician, Mr. W. J. Bryan, has pronounced in favour of Suffrage, and pledged himself to support the amendment in his own State (Nebraska) next November. He gives the following reasons for his attitude: "I ask no political rights for myself that I am not willing to grant to my wife. The objections raised to Woman Suffrage appear to me to be invalid, while the arguments advanced in support of the proposition are, in my judgment, convincing. "The mother can justly claim the right to employ every weapon which can be made effective for the protection of those whose interests she guards, and the ballot will put within her reach all of the instrumentalities of Government, including the police power."

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