# INTERNATIONAL DMAN SVFFRAGE NI



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### HEADQUARTERS NOTES.

HE Board of Officers will meet in London from November 29th to December 3rd. Mrs. Catt arrives in the "Imperator" about the 26th Nov., and leaves for the United States again on Dec. 6th. Madame de Witt Schlumberger will certainly be here, as will Madame Girardet Vieille. Frau Lindemann and Frau Schreiber-Krieger both hope to attend. Dr. Ancona is still uncertain if it will be possible for her to leave Italy, but there is still a hope that she may be able to do so. We regret immensely that Mrs. Wicksell will not be here, but we rejoice at the reason for her absenceher appointment as one of the three Swedish alternates to the Assembly of the League of Nations in Geneva.

Mrs. Catt's address will be the Savoy Hotel,

Strand, London, W.C. 2.
Mrs. McCormick is already in London. We quote a few words from a stirring appeal she has just sent out to Honorary Associate Members: "A meeting of the Executive Board of this Association will be held at Headquarters in London about November 22. For this meeting the President, Mrs. Chapman Catt, is making a special trip from New York, which means a fortnight of ocean travel for an eight-days' stay in London. Your Treasurer has postponed returning to America in order to be present at this the first Executive Board meeting at Headquarters since the war. It will give courage and zest to the President, as well as to the other members of the Board, to know that the Honorary Associate Members are standing solidly behind them in their efforts to take up again actively the constructive work of the Alliance."

On the occasion of the Board meeting in London, the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society (the two national associations affiliated to the Alliance), in co-operation with other women's societies, are organising a demonstration to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on November 29, in order to celebrate the full enfranchisement of American women, and to demand that the British Government shall remove the ridiculous age disqualification and give British women the vote on the same terms as men. Among countries which have given Woman Suffrage, Britain is alone in giving it on an unequal basis, i.e., to women who are over 30, while men over 21 years of age are enfranchised. There is nothing to be said for the distinction, and everything against it. It is as thoroughly silly and illogical as it is unjust, and there is a growing tide of feeling that Britain must come into line with other countries in this respect.

Among the speakers will be Mrs. Chapman Catt, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., LL.D., Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., and other members of the Board.

One of the criticisms made by several members of the Congress—a criticism with which the Editor cordially agreed—was that Jus Suffragii is sometimes too full of British news and views. Headquarters has no bias towards Britain; on the contrary, it hungers for fresh and interesting news from other countries. Unfortunately, British news is at hand in a publishable form when, very often, news from other countries is lacking. But the paper is not meant to be-is not-a London Headquarters paper; it is *your* paper—Subscribers, Affiliated Societies and Honorary Associate Members. On you the responsibility rests of sending fresh news on feminist topics in your country. Will you send it?

A new enterprise for collecting such news had just been entered upon, in the form of Press cuttings from an International Press Bureau. But the first experiment has proved a failure—out of 100 cuttings, 70 were from American papers; and we are already abundantly and excellently supplied with American news from Mrs. Husted Harper. Every word she sends us is to the point. Twenty cuttings were trivial and useless. There remained a possible ten. But five of these were in Czecho-Slovakian! Your Headquarters is prepared to grapple with French, German, Italian and Spanish, but when it comes to languages outside those four, both time and translators are lacking. Will affiliated Societies or Members write to Headquarters and give the names and addresses of possible translators resident in London? Mdme. Boschetti has kindly consented to scan the Italian papers for us, and among the many residents from other countries in London there must surely be others who will render a like service to the International Feminist Movement.

Will subscribers please note that the price of Jus Suffragii is now 6s. per annum; single copies, 6d.

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Treasurer and Editor are equally eager to make a big push for an increased circulation of Jus Suffragii this autumn. Will every Member and Subscriber introduce one other? And will affiliated Societies make a special appeal for Jus Suffragii subscribers among their members?

Finance will be very specially considered by the Board of Officers Meeting in November. Finance is made in two qualities—the flannel kind, which is always on the shrink, and the elastic variety, which invariably stretches out to cover new and necessary undertakings. The flannel kind of finance is owned by people who are afraid of new work, who are for ever counting the cost and discussing their bank balances—and the balances shrink while they talk! The International Woman Suffrage Association has never suffered from that timid spirit. The carrying on of Headquarters and the editing of Jus Suffragii by Miss Sheepshanks during the war, when money and almost every other helpful thing lacked, was not a seven days' but a four years' miracle. The International Woman Suffrage Association has always known-knows now that there is work for the furtherance of the feminist cause throughout the world that must be done. Two new and necessary departments were mentioned at Geneva-a Press Bureau for the dissemination of information, and an Information Bureau for the collecting and recording of important facts and statistics. Our finances must be stretched somehow to cover the upkeep of these new departments.

A correspondent writes from Kioto, Japan: "I have worked for Japan since 1891, and have lived among the Japanese of all ranks for nearly eighteen years. I think, with St. Francis Xavier, that no people on earth are comparable to them, and I think also-and therefore—that it would be the direst calamity to introduce all these modern enfranchisement ideas among the women of Japan and Korea." Our correspondent writes as if a desire for personal or political liberty were a "foreign import." The desire for freedom, like the power to hope, "springs eternal." The desire for one little part of freedom, political enfranchisement, grows with education, and-partially at any rate—in such countries as Japan and China, from the "foreign imports" of factory system, underpayment, bad industrial conditions generally. Many, such as our correspondent, may long to keep the Japan of their dreams; but they cannot do it. The new Japan is there. For there are factories,

and women and children in them; there is underpayment, sweating, insanitary conditions—so bad that many of the women become consumptive.

We know that wherever, through big social and economic upheavals, woman is forced into the labour market, she is at a terrible disadvantage compared with organised and enfranchised men. That is why we who have suffered in a like way want, before their struggle becomes too acute, to help the women of the East to protect themselves.

The Women's Christian Reform Society is working strenuously for Suffrage in Japan. This Society was formed more than thirty years ago to break the power of the liquor traffic and licensed prostitu-Its members feel that nothing can be done until the vote is secured. When women such as Mrs. Nitobe, Mrs. Gauntlett and Miss Kawai, who have done magnificent social work in Japan, realise the need of the vote, we may well consider the time is ripe for a Japanese Woman Suffrage Movement.

In China the entry of women into industry is more recent than in Japan. But already bad conditions are beginning to tell. We refer our readers to the extraordinarily interesting article on Chinese women by Miss Ernestine Friedmann, reprinted from our American contemporary, Life and Labour.

Unfortunately, no Chinese delegate reached the Congress, though two were appointed. We know that there is a new Chinese Woman's Suffrage Society in Canton, of which Miss Li Lien is President, and that there is also a Society in Shanghai, though we have received no answers to letters addressed there to the former Secretary of our Auxiliary. A Press report from Canton says that Chinese women are at this moment actively engaged in demanding a representative in Parliament, and that three groups of women are agitating for the right to be elected M.P.s and are also asking that the new Constitution shall include Woman Suffrage.

From October 11 to 13 the Fight the Famine Council held a three-days International Conference in London, on the restoration of Europe. The Conference dealt with the problems of unemployment and trade depression, and eminent economists and commercial experts attended from nearly every country in Europe. Among those attending the Conference were Frau Schreiber-Krieger, M.P., a member of our Board of Officers; Dr. Van Gijn (Netherlands); M. Lambert (Belgium); Dr. Josef Redlich (Austria); Miss Van Dorp (Netherlands) Countess Lisa Scopoli (Italy); Mr. James Macdonald (United States of America).

### CHINA'S WOMAN BEHIND THE MACHINE.

By ERNESTINE FRIEDMANN.

By the courtery of "Life and Labour

W OMEN and children have already been drawn into the folders translations. into the fields of modern industry in China. Although there is still a large unexhausted supply of men labourers, here as elsewhere, the women and children have been preferred because they are cheap labour and because they are more skilled and patient on such minute, monotonous processes as that of silk cocoon spinning, cotton spinning, etc.

Since machine power is comparatively new, it is confined mostly to the larger centres, such as Shanghai, Hankow and Wuchang, Hangchow, Hongkong, and a few others of the larger cities. The oldest factories in Shanghai are only thirty years old, and the large up-to-date plants date only five to eight years back.

Those industries employing women are mostly cotton spinning and weaving silk filatures, cigarette, macaroni and watch factories. In Shanghai, the largest industrial centre, there are about twenty cotton mills, employing from five hundred to two thousand women and children each and as many silk filatures, employing from one to four hundred women and children each. In this city there are easily twenty-five thousand women and children in the spinning industries alone.

One cannot get the full significance of modern industry and its effects upon the lives of workers of China without first considering the background out of which these workers have come. China has had for thousands of years highly developed domestic industries, and the people are a nation of skilled handworkers. In addition to agriculture, each little village has its home and shop industries. In the region of cotton growing, the village folk, old and young, can be found to-day doing by hand the cotton ginning, spinning and weaving. The work is as vet entirely unstandardised—as to loom, quality and thread, etc. Families carry through the whole process. The raising of the silkworm, cocoon spinning and silk weaving may also be found in the homes of vast farming regions in Szechuan and other provinces. Other native industries are to be seen along the main village or city streets where Guild Master and apprentices are busy cutting fine ivory and jade, shaping brass, pewter and silverware, decorating china; in fact plying almost every possible industry. Even at night, long after the shutters are put up, one can often hear them at their

There are distinctly valuable elements prevailing in these home industries that should be recognised. They are elements entirely disregarded and destroyed in the newly arrived machine-power plants. There is, first of all, the element of variety. In almost all the above-mentioned trades the worker starts with the raw material and ends with the finished product. This demands a high degree of skill and gives zest and satisfaction in the work. Nor is the day uneventful. The house or shop is directly off the very narrow, busy, crowded street. A drum beats and an approaching funeral calls the workers out to watch and discuss the evident wealth or poverty of the deceased's family. Or the cry of the rickshaw men announces an official being pulled by his

'yamen.'' Or the bark of the ever-present neighbourhood dogs tells of a fight over a bone stolen from the open-front butcher's shop. Thus the day's work keeps the workers' interest in community life active and does not remove him or her from its main currents

There is also the element of natural rhythm of movement, which does away with the rush against time. Nowhere in the world do workers ply their trades more steadily, but their speed is gauged to a rhythm suited to the muscle and the strength of the workers, rather than by the relentless motion of the power-driven machine. If the work must be taken into the evening hours, then you may be sure that there has been at least a rest period at tiffin time, and another at evening rice time. Sometimes it is spent sleeping, other times in taking recreation at the neighbourhood tea-house. In this way the Chinese worker has kept steady nerves and has wonderful powers of relaxation. Already these valuable assets are being ruthlessly destroyed. The modern factory owner fails to see this important difference and explains away his long hours by saying: "The Chinese always have worked all the time. They prefer it." The worse speeding at the present time is that of the children from eight to 14 years of age in silk filatures, who stand 12 to 14 hours at their work and have to stir fast enough to supply two women with cocoons. In cotton mills the workers are slower than in western plants, but more and more speeding is being urged, with no commensurate effort to shorten the hours

The Chinese worker does not take easily to modern industry, for he has these slower, more natural rhythmic habits of generations upon generations to overcome. One foreign manager of a large cotton mill, who had given little thought to the environment from which the Chinese worker came, said in an interview: "The Chinese will never become slaves of work!" Of course, he meant his work. He had never observed the relentless work in the homes and shops, nor did he realise that economic pressure had already made wage slaves of thousands in the Shanghai mills. It is to be hoped that the Chinese people will refuse to destroy ruthlessly their skill and strength by the speed system, but unless they are awakened as a group to understand what is happening, the individual will be powerless. It is in the awakening of China's masses that hope lies.

Then there is the element of human adjustment and avoidance of unnecessary strain and fatigue. In the old system 'the worker is master of the tool. The loom in the home, for instance, is carefully adjusted to the weaver. The seat is exactly the right height and of bamboo, which moves with an elasticity that obeys the sway of the body as the weaver moves the shuttle to and fro. The reach is made just right. This is only one illustration of many. The amount of experimental knowledge concerning the conservation of human life, demonstrated by the average worker in China, would, if put into effect in the modern factories of America to-day, save many thousands of lives. Although men and women do the work of beasts of burden in China, they have learned to get the greatest results with the least possible expenditure of human energy. Therefore, to impose the reckless system of modern industry upon these people without careful study of overstrain due to unnatural adjustment and monotony, will be to produce race suicide, especially as it is practised against women and children.

We immediately think of a living wage, a working day of eight hours, a clean shop, or some other such definite connotation when the term "industrial standards" is mentioned. These standards may by no means be attained in all trades, but they are the goal towards which laws, efforts of labour unions, etc., are headed. But in China, who shall be the pioneer to begin to attain such standards, or even define such terms? From north to south, one searches in vain for any individual or group who has established for a given community or trade a minimum amount upon which a worker can decently live, for they have not even decided what constitutes decent living.

Wages for women range from 10 to 45 cents a day. Men receive from 30 cents to one dollar a day. These wages all represent a general rise of 25 per cent. in the last couple of years, and have been gained largely by strikes and demonstrations on the part of the workers. Everyone concedes that this does not represent a living wage or promise a rise in the standard of living so necessary to the future welfare of the nation. Standards are so low that a family of five in any village, under the domestic system of industry, is said to begin to save when the yearly income reaches \$100. The owners and stockholders of industry are making from 40 to 200 per cent. profit a year in the industries where women and children are employed, and they, like the unthinking masses, are dismissing the subject by pointing out that "never have the workers been so well off." It is too early in the day to prove the advantage of machine-driven industry run on these low standards, but one knows, when watching palefaced children on 12-hour night shifts or standing for a 14-hour day stirring cocoons in water kept boiling at 180 degrees, that such methods will not enable China to be the same energetic, hard-working nation at the end of the second generation of modern industrial workers that she is to-day after three thousand years of skilled hand-industry.

The Christian Church in China has been busy, day and night, putting in schools to bring modern education and scientific training to these people, and the Chinese Government is now waking up to its responsibility for education. The Church has also put in hospitals and Chinese doctors are now giving China her first scientific help against diseases. The Church is now seeing the economic problems and seeking to secure men and women trained along these lines. This work will probably take the form of social service.

As one wanders through those vast Chinese cities one looks for some evidence of the internationalism of labour—and there is no answer, especially among the women. In Shanghai there is one group of men workers, many of them old revolutionists, who are now calling themselves the China Labour Union. They include haulers of freight in the steamers, street car conductors, a few cotton mill men, but of course no women. It is one big union, of possibly ten thousand workers, but they have no platform or plans for organising trades. It is antiforeign and anti-government in spirit, and has no definite programme. It simply expresses discontentment.

In Canton, where women carry loads on the streets alongside the men, I found a "Guild Union" in which the women declared that now they earned 18 cents a day they were economically independent and would no longer submit to forced marriage and mother-in-law rule. The old Guild system is strong in every trade in China, except where modern industry is beginning to break it up.

Strikes are frequent, but never result in permanent organisation. Possibly the student movement, which includes the women students, will be instrumental in awakening the workers to the value of collective action and responsibility. The following story gives the attitude among women workers of China at present:—

I was talking with a group of cotton mill workers, mostly mothers with babies in their arms. They said they worked 12 hours, that it was hard and uninteresting, and left no time for home or babies. I told them about 8-hour day and the 44-hour week. "But your people are kind," they quickly responded. They are wholly unaware of the English and American money, interest in their mills. I hastened to tell them how these things had been won almost entirely through the efforts of the workers themselves. Their answer to that was a helpless passivity and "Chinese women can never do that." But I saw too much of the spirit of the Chinese women to believe that. They are marvellous people and will soon begin to understand the changes taking place, and they will rise together and face, as other workers have done, their responsibility for their own conditions of work.

Our great responsibility is to let these workers know what has been accomplished, what are our international standards, what other workers are thinking about.

## THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN DANISH INDUSTRY.

By Louise Neergaard

A LTHOUGH Denmark is, above all, an agricultural land, and does not seem fit for developing a considerable industry—producing no coal, no minerals or other important raw materials, nor having any water-power for production of electricity—it is, however, a fact that out of a total population of 2,750,000 (according to a census from 1914) 350,000 men and women earned their living through industrial undertakings. Out of this number 78,000 were women, and as the census was taken before the war and under normal working conditions, this figure may be taken as normal.

The conditions of labour for women in factories and workshops in Denmark may be characterised as favourable. No restrictions for women regarding night-work or short hours were introduced in the Danish Law regarding work in factories and workshops, which was passed in 1913, but it is a fact that the prohibition of women's night-work was only avoided through the energetic protest of the women. As a rule, only a few hundred women have regular night-work, but the prohibition would have excluded women from certain work, because they could not freely be occupied for after-hours during busy seasons. Adult Danish women havewith the exception of four weeks' rest after childbirth, during which time they are entitled to an allowance—exactly the same facilities for obtaining work as men have, and as a general rule they meet no difficulties from the side of their men fellowworkers. Their admission to work is consequently only regulated through their fitness for any special

According to what may be international rule, most skilled work is done by men. Most women going in for industrial work in their young years do it in the idea of leaving the industry again in

some few years, when they marry, and many actually do it. Thirty per cent. of the women occupied in industrial labour in 1914 were between 14 and 22 years old. Women have, however, fulfilled apprenticeship in different crafts, and we have some women typographers, painters, joiners, gold and silver-smiths, etc.

Out of the 78,000 women employed in industrial undertakings in Denmark, only 57,000 are ordinary industrial workers, whilst 21,000 are managers, "foremen," or occupied in offices or shops belonging to industrial establishments. Over half of the women industrial workers—32,000—are to be found in Copenhagen, where they represent about fifty-six per cent. of the total of industrial workers; 17,000 live in the provincial towns, and 8,000 in the country districts.

Women are particularly employed in the clothing industry (23,000), in the alimentary industry (12,000) and in the textile factories (10,000). A considerable number of the women working in the clothing industry are home-workers (9,500), and many of these are married women. Happily we can say that we have practically no sweated industry in Denmark, most of the home-workers work directly for the establishments, who give out the work, and the home-workers are now well organised and consequently well paid.

It is a regrettable fact that in the alimentary industry the skilled work has passed from the women to men, when dairy-work and brewing turned from home-work to industrial establishments. Women are now particularly employed in cleansing the bottles and tapping the milk and beer, or in packing the butter, whilst men are doing the skilled work.

In the tobacco industry a considerable number of women are occupied, and many of these roll cigars at home, which is remunerative work.

In the textile industry women are more numerous than men (about 10,000 women compared with 4.500 men).

The working class in Denmark has for years had a highly developed organisation, and practically all the men workers are trade unionists. Although the women have been somewhat slower in affiliating to the trade unions, they have turned up particularly during the last few years, and they may now be said to be well organised. Forty-four thousand women were counted in 1918 as members of a trade union. Out of these 10,000 were members of the Women's Labour Union, an organisation comprising mostly unskilled working women of different kinds. In such trades where women work together with men they are organised in trade unions with the men, sometimes having particular women sections, and consequently they are affiliated to the huge central organisation of the Co-operative Trade Unions. The Danish Tailors' Union counts 4,600 men and 8,200 women members (many of whom are home-workers); the Textile Trade Union, 3,400 men and 5,300 women; and the Tobacco Trade Union, 2,700 men and 5,300 women.

Women workers are represented in the Folketing (Lower House of Parliament), through Mrs. Helga Larsen, president of the trade union of women working in the brewing trade (2,000 members), and also in the Landsting (Upper House), through Miss Henriette Crone, who has been working in the typographical trade, but who is now manager of the Women Typographers' Union.

With regard to wages, as a rule, "equal pay for equal work," is given to skilled and, generally, also to semi-skilled workers of both sexes, for instance, in the textile industry, whilst the average pay per hour differs for men and women. In 1914, unskilled men workers in Denmark obtained an average pay of 45.5 oere,\* which in January, 1920, had been raised to 171 oere per hour. Women were paid in 1914, 29.6 oere; and in 1920, 111 oere per hour. Between 1914 and 1920 the eight-hour day was introduced in Denmark, whilst ten hours were normal in many trades before the war. Of course, the augmented cost of living has caused the raising of the wages, but taking everything into consideration, especially the shortened hours, it can certainly be said that the standard of living has been raised for the working class in Denmark during the war, and it is often said that Danish industrial workers are the best paid in the world. Alas, they will have to face a bad time now after the war for raw materials, such as coal, cotton, tobacco, etc., through the depreciation of the Danish Crown have gone up to such high prices that many industries are becoming unremunerative to such a degree as to necessitate the closing of certain factories. Before leaving the chapter of wages it might perhaps be of interest to cite in which trades women have obtained the highest average pay per hour (January, 1920), viz.: leather industry, 146.5 oere; shoe factories, 130.6 oere; textile industry, 123.3 oere; and tobacco industry, 121.8 oere; Unemployment benefit is administered through the trade unions. The workers pay a certain subscription against unemployment, to which large subsidies from the Treasury and Municipalities are added. The employers do not contribute directly, only through taxation. Subscription against unemployment is not compulsory.

October 8, 1920.

## SWEDEN SENDS WOMAN ALTERNATE TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS ASSEMBLY.



ANNA WICKSELL

[The Swedish Government is sending to the first Assembly of the League of Nations, which is to meet in Geneva on November 15, three delegates and as many alternates. One of these latter is Mrs. Ama Wicksell, fourth Vice-President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.]

<sup>\*</sup> In ordinary times about 6d. At par value £i=18 kr. 18 oere, consequently 1 sh. = cr. 90 oere. According to the depreciation of the Danish crown £i is actually worth about 25 crowns.

### THE ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE SWEDISH CIVIL SERVICE.

By GULLI PETRINI.

MHILE the Geneva Congress of the International Women's Suffrage Association was in session the Swedish Riksdag passed a Bill of vital importance to women. It was an amendment to the constitution, giving to women a much wider right of entry to the Civil Service. In Sweden the Government has the right of nomination to all the higher branches of the Civil Service, and the old law runs that to such services the King in Council must nominate Swedish men. As far back as 1909 an amendment had been passed which made it possible for the King to nominate Swedish women to appointments at Universities, State Schools, scientific and medical institutes. At that time, however, the Riksdag was of opinion that in the event of women being nominated to such posts, special conditions governing their service therein should be laid down, and a stipulation to this effect was introduced into the amendment. As a result women have so far only been eligible for State School and seminary posts as in these cases only have the "special conditions been laid down.

The Liberal-Socialist Government which was in power in Sweden from the autumn of 1917 until the spring of this year, was very favourable to all questions concerning women's rights, and in May, 1919, appointed a special Committee to consider and report upon the admission of women to the Civil Service

The Chairman of this Committee was Mrs. Emilia Broomé. The first report of this Committee, presented to the Government in February, 1920, recommended the adoption of such amendments to the constitution as would make women eligible to the higher branches of the Civil Service, from which the existing law excluded them. It was important that these amendments should be passed this year, as all amendments to the constitution have to be adopted twice by the Riksdag, the second time after new elections to the Second Chamber. These elections were due in September this year. The proposal therefore was that such appointments as were considered unsuitable for women, and any special conditions governing their admission or service, should be incorporated in a new civil law, which could then be adopted by the Riksdag on the same occasion as it passed the amendments to the constitution for the second

In order to obtain for the proposed amendments the favourable consideration of the Riksdag, the Committee made a special investigation of the various services, and reported on which services they considered suitable, and which unsuitable, for women. The opinion of the Committee was that women should have the right of entry into practically every branch of the Civil Service—as cabinet ministers, judges, to administrative posts, etc.—with the exception of the army, and such administrative posts as might, on certain occasions, entail military command. Such, for example, might be the case in certain administrative appointments in times of revolution or riots.

With regard to the priesthood, the Committee were in favour of women entering this profession, with the proviso that it would be most injudicious to force a woman minister on an unwilling parish.

They were of opinion that a special enabling Bill was needed, which should be laid before the Swedish Church Congress.

On the whole the Government received the Committee's report very favourably, and laid a Bill before the Riksdag, making the necessary amendments to the constitution which would permit the entry of women to the higher branches of the Civil Service.

The Bill was debated on June 5. Mr. Lindhagen, supported by Mr. Hellberg and others, proposed an amendment to the effect that the King in Council should have the right to nominate men and women to any post in the Civil Service. He desired the principle of absolute equality embodied in the constitution, and was opposed to the making of exceptions or the laying down of "special conditions" for women. The Government Bill, however, was passed in both Chambers.

Though it is not an ideal Bill, and does not give absolute equality it marks a big advance for women, and we hope that it will be dealt with finally and definitely by the new Riksdag.

#### UNIVERSITY WOMEN IN GERMANY.

By Dr. Elisabeth Altmann-Gottheiner.

THE old problem whether special Universities for women would be preferable to the present state of University co-education is cropping up anew, and in connection with this the question is being discussed whether the female intellect and soul require the same or a different nourishment from the male intellect and soul, that is to say, whether female character and nature would not attain greater perfection if the conditions of higher education for women were adapted to their sex instead of being simply a reproduction of the higher education

Germany is now looking back upon a twenty years' experience, and it may be worth while to take a look at the position of the women students of a country of so old a University tradition as Germany. All the more so as neither Germany nor Austria was represented at the International Congress of University Women held at Bedford College, London, a few weeks ago.

German women are generally supposed to be nothing but good housewives who consider their only natural place to be the home, and whose intellectual horizon is extremely limited. It is hardly necessary to mention names in order to disprove this idea, which is as wrong as it is widespread. If we go as far back as the times of Goethe and Schiller we find a considerable number of highly intellectual women in the inner circle of Weimar and Jena. In the age of romanticism their influence was even greater, and ever since a widening and deepening of the female mind has been going on in Germany, which became evident to the world outside only after the German Universities had first opened their doors to women students.

The pioneers of the higher education for women in Germany were not able to pursue their studies in their own country. Most of them were coached by private tutors and passed the entrance examination to the University in Switzerland, where as early as the seventies of the nineteenth century women were permitted to attend lectures and to get the University degrees. Others studied in Italy and the U.S.A. Later on, towards the end of the nineteenth century, most German Universities opened their lecture halls to specially qualified women, but if they wanted to get a degree they still had to go to Zurich and Berne for it. This was particularly hard on the students of medicine, as with a Swiss degree they were refused registration as practitioners in Germany and were treated like quack doctors by the local authorities.

The academic life of these women was a continuously hard struggle, for they had to fight not only against the difficulties laid in their way by the University authorities, but against the deeplyrooted prejudices of their own families as well. Every inch of ground had to be fought for, every right to be stood up for. Of course, only the very fittest were able to survive this struggle for an academic existence. Thus it becomes evident why the pioneers in Germany, perhaps even more than in other countries, belonged to the "heroic type"

All this was changed when the German Universities one by one began to admit women upon the same terms as men. The Grand Duchy of Baden was the first German State to do this. In the summer term of 1900 the first five women students matriculated at the Baden Universities (Heidelberg and Freiburg). In 1903 Bavaria followed suit, in 1904 Wurtemberg, in 1906 Saxony, in 1908 Prussia and Hesse. In the summer of 1920 the number of women undergraduates at the German Universities had risen to 8,122, that is to II per cent. of the whole body of undergraduates.

It is interesting to note which are the branches of study preferred by women in Germany. About 3,200 women are studying philosophy, philology and history, 2,192 medicine, about 1,200 mathematics and natural science, 1,152 law and political economy, 182 dental surgery, and 130 pharmacy. Philosophy philology and history or mathematics and natural science are the branches of study which have to be gone through by those who want to take up school teaching. As teaching was one of the first professions open to women, it is not to be wondered at that these branches are rather overcrowded. Since 1918, however, the number of women working for the degree of a school teacher (exam. pro facultate docendi) has not gone up, as there is very little chance for all these women to get the desired posts. Instead of that a predilection for political economy and law is distinctly to be noticed. Of the 1,152 women who have taken up these branches of study only 200 go in for law, as the chances of professional success in that line are still very small. All the more is hoped from the study of political economy. A thorough knowledge of the theory and practice of political science is supposed to be the best foundation for social and economic work, be it in the interest of Civil Service, Local Government, or of private organisations. Still, it is to be feared that this berth will not prove wide enough for the many thousands of men and women now crowding into it, especially as neither the State nor local bodies nor private societies can afford to spend as much money as in former times on social and welfare work.

Of late, several men of science have tried to follow up the careers of University women in order to see what became of them after they left the University. The first to take up this line of investigation was Prof. Bumm, of Berlin University, a gynecologist of renown. He sent out query sheets to all the women

who had studied at Berlin University during the years 1908 to 1912; 1,078 of these sheets were sent back to him filled up by the former students. The result of the investigation was that 649 (60 per cent.) of the University women had entered a profession, while 429 (40 per cent.) had had to give up their career, 225 because they had got married, 204 because their health had given way or other reasons had made them change their minds; 732 of the 1,078 women had remained unmarried (68 per cent.) and 528 (72 per cent.) had taken up a profession. Among the 346 who had got married, only 121 (35 per cent.) had gone on with their work. Among the 649 women who pursued their professional career 528 (81 per cent.) had remained unmarried, or, as Bumm says, had been "cheated of their natural destiny.'

After Bumm another scientist, Dr. Max Hirsch, tried to throw light upon the same conditions by another method of investigation. He sent out query sheets to the women members of various professional unions, such as the Union of Women Lawyers and others of a similar kind, as well as to girls who had matriculated at certain colleges. In this way he got his material from different parts of Germany, and from women at very different stages of their career. It is noteworthy that in spite of this the numerical results he found were very similar to those arrived at by Bumm. But while Bumm neglected to look at the differences of age between the University women whose careers he investigated, Hirsch rightly suggests that a great many of the women whom Bumm considers to be unmarried 'for good' were still at a marriageable age.

Hirsch also investigates the influence of University life on the health of women students. Whereas former investigators asked the opinion of doctors and tutors, Hirsch asked the University women themselves. The answers to this question are very interesting. Altogether he has had answers from 704 University women, 504 of whom deny any injury to their health by a life of study, while 51 admit it. Among those who deny the injurious influence, over a hundred state that they know of "no injury whatever," or that they felt "all the better for it" 28 go even farther, and give exact reasons why their health has improved since they took up University studies. Some ascribe this to the life in a particular University town, some to "games," some to regular and positive work. The last-named reason is of immense importance. There is a deep truth in the words a woman graduate wrote to Dr. Hirsch: Women much oftener get ill and hysterical in consequence of a complete want of occupation in life than they do by going in for a profession.

The fact that among the young women who are at a marriageable age at the present moment a great many cannot get married because those who might have become their husbands were killed in action, makes it an imperative duty to find new aims for their lives. They can only be found if all trades and professions are opened to women. A University career is, of course, only to be recommended to women of a strong intellect. For the others, arts and crafts, social work, nursing, kindergarten work, etc., are much more suitable professions. But in all the countries which have admitted women to their Universities under the same conditions as men, there now exists a considerable number of University women who bear testimony to the fact that in the higher ranges of education there are no real intellectual differences between men and women.

(Reprinted by the courtesy of "The Woman's Leader.")

### NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

#### DERNIÈRES NOUVELLES.

Le bureau exécutif du I.W.S.A. se réunira à Londres le 22 novembre.

Des articles très intéressants paraissent dans ce numéro sur la position des femmes dans l'industrie en Chine et sur celle des femmes dans l'industrie au

Mrs. Wicksell, quatrième vice présidente du I.W.S.A., a été nommée par le Gouvernement suédois comme un de leur représentant suppléant à l'assemblée de la Société des Nations qui aura lieu à Genève en novembre.

#### A NOS ABONNÉES.

Nous serions reconnaissantes à nos abonnées françaises, la souscription étant déjà due, pour un mandatposte de 7 francs. Prière d'envoyer le mandat à Madame E. Loppé, 34, rue Raynouard, Paris.

#### BELGIOUE.

Madame Brigode nous écrit qu'en Belgique on donne une série de conférences sur le concours et les devoirs de la femme dans la municipalité, et elle nous a promis un article à ce sujet.

#### LE BRÉSIL.

Les femmes candidats sont admises à concourir pour la "cour des comptes" à Rio-Janeiro. Cette décision donne aux femmes l'entrée complète aux emplois civils du Brésil.

### . \* \* \* LE DANEMARK.

Mlle Louise Neergaard nous donne un article des plus intéressants sur la position des femmes dans l'indus-

D'après le recensement de 1914, sur un total de 350,000 personnes employées dans les entreprises industrielles 78,000 sont des femmes. Les conditions pour les femmes dans les fabriques et dans les ateliers sont favorables. Il n'y a aucune restriction pour les femmes en ce qui concerne le travail de nuit ou les heures de travail dans la loi adoptée en 1913. C'est par l'intervention énergique des femmes elles-mêmes que cette prohibition ne passa pas.

Il n'y a qu'un petit nombre de femmes employées pour le travail de nuit, mais si ce travail avait été défendu beaucoup de femmes auraient été exclues de certaines industries exigeant un travail supplémentaire à certaines saisons.

La femme est tenue d'avoir quatre semaines de congé après la naissance d'un enfant et une proportion de son salaire doit lui être payée pendant ces quatre semaines.

A part de ceci, les conditions de travail sont exactement les mêmes pour les femmes et les hommes, et les femmes sont bien accueillies par les hommes. Il est vrai que le travail le plus habile est généralement fait par les hommes, mais il y a des femmes typographes, peintres, menuisiers et bijoutiers.

Parmi les 78,000 femmes employées dans l'industrie il y en a 57,000 qui sont ouvrières, et les autres 21,000 sont chefs d'ateliers, gérantes ou employées dans les bureaux et les magasins de ses établissements. Il n'y a pour ainsi dire pas de travail aux pièces mal payé, omme le travail à domicile est bien organisé. Dans la fabrication des tissus, les femmes sont plus nombreuses que les hommes. La femme reçoit habituellement le même paiement que l'homme pour le même travail, quoique le paiement à l'heure ne soit pas le même pour la femme que pour l'homme-les femmes obtiennent les plus gros salaires dans les industries du cuir, les souliers, le tabac et la fabrication des tissus.

Comme résultat des dernières élections nous avons onze femmes membres au Parlement danois, dont trois sont dans le Folksting (Chambre inférieure) et huit dans

Mme Anna Sveistrup vient de recevoir une des positions les plus importantes comme emploi civil : celui de Chef de bureau dans le département de la Dette Nationale.

#### GRANDE-BRETAGNE.

\* \* \*

L'association N.U.S.E.C. a organisé une série de conférences qui se donneront à Londres sur les sujets suivants : paiement égal pour le même travail ; éducation technique et bourses d'études pour les filles; la police féminine; les pensions pour veuves.

Une nouvelle société d'ingénieurs, composée de femmes, vient de s'établir sous le nom de "Atlanta Ltd." Cette fabrique sera entièrement travaillée et

Un grand nombre de femmes ont été reçues comme magistrats et juges; parmi ces dernières se trouve Mrs. Henry Fawcett.

### ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE.

Mrs. Husted Harper, dans sa lettre de ce mois-ci, nous donne un compte rendu de la ratification, par le Connecticut, de l'amendement suffrage féminin. Le Gouverneur Holcomb, de Connecticut, qui s'était jusqu'à présent obstiné à ne pas avoir une session spéciale de la législature, s'aperçut qu'il y avait une incertitude légale sur la validité de la ratification de la Tennessee et vit l'occasion de rendre le parti républicain plus populaire si le Connecticut, un état républicain, donnait à la dernière heure une ratification incontestable qui rendrait l'amendement certain.

Cette raison le décida à convoquer immédiatement une session spéciale de la législature du Connecticut, et quoique les anti-suffragistes de la Tennessee se précipitèrent au Connecticut pour tâcher d'empêcher la ratification, le Sénat ratifia à l'unanimité et la Chambre par 215 voix contre II.

Des doutes s'élevèrent alors sur la légalité de la ratification rapide du Connecticut! Le Gouverneur Holcomb convoqua une seconde session spéciale le 21 septembre et les deux chambres ratifièrent de nouveau par la même majorité. Alors, pour qu'il ne puisse pas y avoir la moindre lacune, les deux chambres se réunirent et ensemble ratifièrent l'amendement, et il est à espérer qu'ayant pour la troisième fois mis les scellés sur la ratification elle se trouve maintenant en sûreté parmi les archives de la Constitution nationale.

Dans tous les États on s'occupe maintenant de l'enregistrement pour les élections de novembre. Les deux grandes questions sont la Société des Nations et l'abolition

Avant que nos lectrices ne lisent ceci, on aura décidé ces deux questions, et pour la première fois dans l'histoire des États-Unis une élection aura été décidée par le suffrage universel, la voix du peuple.

#### AUX INDES.

Le rer septembre une réunion publique fut organisée par les femmes de Bombay pour offrir une pétition au conseil municipal demandant que l'acte municipal de 1888 soit changé et que les femmes puissent faire partie du conseil municipal. Il y avait dix-huit sociétés représentées à cette réunion. A la fin de septembre municipalité de Bombay décida, par une majorité de 12, que dorénavant les femmes seraient éligibles comme conseillers municipaux.

#### L'ITALIE.

Nous avons peu d'espoir de voir passer une loi qui donnerait le vote aux femmes en Italie. La Chambre des députés se réunit d'ici à quelques semaines, et avait promis de présenter une loi à cet effet. Malheureusement la crise industrielle est intervenue et nous avons bien peu d'espoir que cette promesse soit tenue.

Il se pourrait que le Gouvernement soit dissolu, et dans ce cas le vote féminin serait de nouveau remis. Nous avons déjà appris que là où la femme n'a pas le vote, la question est remise aussi longtemps que possible.

\* \* \*

#### LA SUÈDE.

Le Riksdag suédois passa une résolution très importante pour les femmes. Le congrès du I. W. S. A. était alors en session à Genève. C'était un amendement à la loi constitutionnelle qui permettait aux femmes d'entreprendre des emplois civils qui jusqu'alors leur étaient défendus. Ensuite le Gouvernement a le droit de faire les nominations pour tous les emplois civils d'importance, et l'ancienne loi dit que pour ces emplois le Roi et son Conseil doivent nommer des hommes. En 1909 un amendement passa disant que le Roi et son Conseil pouvaient nommer des femmes aux universités, aux écoles normales et aux institutions scientifiques et médicales; mais le Riksdag en même temps jugeait que pour que les femmes puissent tenir de tels emplois il fallait que des conditions spéciales de service pour les femmes soient arrangées par le Riksdag et le Gouvernement. Cette stipulation fut introduite dans la loi de 1909 et, en conséquence, les femmes sont éligibles dans les écoles de l'État et dans les séminaires.

Le Gouvernement libéral socialiste qui fut au pouvoir en Suède de 1917 jusqu'au printemps de 1920 s'intéressait à toutes les questions concernant le droit des femmes, et en mai 1919 un comité fut organisé pour s'occuper de la question de l'admission des femmes à toutes les branches des emplois civils. Comme président du comité, on nomma Mme Emilia Broomé. La première demande du comité fut mise devant le Gouvernement en 1920, demandant l'amendement de l'ancienne loi et l'admission des femmes aux branches supérieures des emplois civils.

Il était urgent que ces amendements soient passés cette année (1920), comme tous les amendements touchant les lois constitutionnelles doivent être adoptés deux fois par le Riksdag, la seconde fois après une nouvelle élection de la seconde Chambre. Les nouvelles élections auraient dû avoir lieu en septembre dernier. L'intention était alors que tous les emplois qui n'étaient pas considérés comme pratiques pour la femme seraient réunis dans une loi civile qui pourrait être adoptée plus tard, en même temps que le nouveau Riksdag passerait pour la seconde fois l'amendement de la loi constituPour obtenir le support plus certain du Riksdag pour les amendements constitutionnels, le comité se chargea d'un rapport spécial sur les emplois convenables pour la femme. L'avis du comité était que tous les emplois civils soient ouverts aux femmes, sauf le service militaire et tout emploi civil qui exigerait un commandement et une connaissance militaire. Le comité se trouva aussi en faveur de femmes entrant dans la profession cléricale. Ici le comité exprima la nécessité de faire une loi spéciale qui serait d'abord approuvée par le congrès ecclésias-

Le Gouvernement reçut assez favorablement le rapport du comité et rédigea une loi avec les amendements nécessaires pour le Riksdag. Cette loi fut discutée le 5 juin 1920. Monsieur Lindhagen, appuyé par Monsieur Hillberg, proposait un amendement qui donnerait au Roi, en Conseil, le pouvoir de donner les emplois civils aux hommes et aux femmes en juste égalité, sans exceptions spéciales pour les femmes. La loi du Gouvernement fut adoptée par les deux Chambres.

Malgré cette défaite, le fait que la résolution avait été acceptée est un grand pas en avant, et nous espérons que cette question sera définitivement adoptée par le nouveau Riksdag.

### \* \* \* LA SUISSE ROMANDE.

Mademoiselle Emma Porret nous envoie un compte rendu très intéressant sur l'effort fait par le parti fémi-

Quoique le vote électoral n'a pas été encore obtenu par la femme, elle a cependant le droit de voter en matières ecclésiastiques, elle est éligible aux positions scolaires et, à Neuchâtel seulement, elle est en plus éligible pour les tribunaux prud'hommes.

Il est à espérer que la femme, par ses efforts continus, arrivera bientôt à obtenir le vote électoral en Suisse.

#### L'URUGUAY.

Dans l'Uruguay, la grand problème de la nationalité de la femme mariée et des enfants a été résolu d'une façon pratique et simple. La femme, quel que soit son état civil, a droit à sa nationalité.

La recherche de la paternité, la reconnaissance des enfants illégitimes et leurs droits à l'héritage paternel aux mêmes conditions que les enfants légitimes sont des principes reconnus par les lois.

L'enseignement est le même pour les femmes que pour les hommes, et celles-ci sont admises au profes-sorat supérieur de l'université.

La première femme avocat de l'Uruguay n'a eu aucune difficulté de rentrer au barreau. Elle a été juge et ensuite a fait partie, en 1910, de notre ambassade à Bruxelles — la première femme diplomate.

L'égalité est établie dans le traitement des fonctionnaires publics et l'accès des femmes à toutes les professions ne souffre aucune difficulté, sauf les trois professions exigeant les droits de citoyen, qui ne sont pas encore dans le domaine des femmes.

En 1916, à l'occasion de la réforme de la Charte constitutionnelle du pays, il a été question du suffrage universel, mais la délégation socialiste se trouva trop faible pour pousser l'amendement en faveur du suffrage

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### Finland the First Constitutional Country to Enfranchise Women.

To the Editor of Jus Suffragii.

MADAM,—I was greatly astonished to read in the August issue of your paper Miss Margit Sahl-gaard Borresen's article on "Norway, Outlines of its History and Constitution," in which she claims Norway to be the first constitutional country to enfranchise its women.

Surely Finland has the right to the claim of being a constitutional country, as the Czars of Russia, in their capacity of Grand Dukes of Finland, at the accession to the throne swore to uphold the constitution of Finland. Finland had its own representation, the Diet (of four Chambers), when women's suffrage was passed, included in the Bill of Universal Suffrage. Finland had its own constitution, its own money and finances, in fact it was a constitutional country, and for about twenty years it fought for its constitutional rights by passive resistance to the unlawful measures of Czaristic Russia.

Finland was the first constitutional country of Europe to enfranchise its women in 1906, and Norway the first independent State to enfranchise part of its women in 1907.

Yours faithfully,

ANNIE FURUHIELM, M.P. Helsingfors, Finland, October 5, 1920.

#### Nationality of Married Women.

To the Editor of Jus Suffragii.

MADAM,—The question of the nationality of married women is one of those problems which the war has placed on the order of the day. It is being discussed in various women's papers, and resolutions on this matter have been passed both at the meeting of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance in Geneva and at the meeting of the International Council of Women in Christiania, all demanding the right for women who marry foreigners to retain their nationality if they wish to do so.

Admitting fully the desirability of such a reform, it still appears to me the women suffragists of the world do not seem to realise the great difficulties involved. Most certainly this reform cannot be carried through unless by mutual agreement of the different countries concerned, or, better still, by international legislation.

There are many problems arising from this at first sight simple claim. So far as I have been able to judge, these difficulties have not been entered upon when the question of married women's nationality has been discussed. I venture to point out some of them:

(I) In case of death or divorce, which law is to be followed, the husband's or the wife's, as regards property? .(As we all know, property and divorce laws differ very much in different countries.)

(2) Which is to be the nationality of the children in such a marriage? (Suppose war breaks out, the husband has to leave the country of his wife and there are sons, let us say, of 15 or under, surely the country to which the husband belongs will claim the sons.)

(3) If the husband goes to live in his own country and the wife retains her nationality, what about her property rights? Can she, as a foreigner, become the guardian of her own children, if her husband dies? How is she to be taxed in her capacity of foreigner? Will she have any political rights in the country of her husband?

These are some of the difficulties which have come to my mind. There may be many more.

As I pointed out in the beginning of my letter it is no use for any one country to pass such a law unless there is reciprocity in another country.

This is most certainly a matter for international legislation. It appears to me that the International Women's Suffrage Alliance ought to appoint a Committee on which jurists, experts on international law, should be members and make up a draft proposal to be discussed at the next meeting of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance.

Yours faithfully,

ANNIE FURUHJELM, M.P. Helsingfors, Finland, October 5, 1920.

#### AUSTRALIA.

WE have received a very interesting annual report from the Women's Non-Party Association of South Australia. The activities of this society are many and useful. Late in 1919 it circularised the members of both Houses of Parliament, protesting against the very inadequate pay given to teachers in public schools— a matter which has since been considerably improved. Before the last Federal Elections questions were sent to all South Australian candidates on (i) retention of nationality by married women; (ii) equality of opportunity for men and women in the Federal Service (iii) deserting husbands and fathers; and (iv) proportional representation. The question of destitute mothers also received the attention of the association, and last March one of the Vice-Presidents of the association, Mrs. B. S. Christophers, J.P., was appointed as the second woman member of the Destitute Board. The Parliamentary Committee also met regularly, each member in turn reporting on the debates in the House. Government Bills were scrutinised. The members of the Women's Non-Party Association are apparently well aware of the possibility of the introduction of unhygienic and unjust methods in the warfare with venereal disease, and have asked the Premier of South Australia to supply them with advance copies on any Bill dealing with venereal diseases. No Bill so far has been introduced.

#### A Ministry of Motherhood.

The Labour Government of New South Wales is making provision for a Ministry of Motherhood, whose duty it shall be to arrange scientific instruction for girls, to prepare them for the duties and responsibilities of motherhood. Maternity hospitals are to be established all over the State, and pre-natal and after-care of mothers will be especially arranged for, as well as help and protection for the unmarried mother. Widows and deserted wives with children are to be provided with adequate allowances. All health activities are to be nationalised, and the State is to provide maintainence for all public hospitals, while the pay and working conditions of nurses are to be improved. October, 1920.

### BELGIUM.

DURING the so-called holiday months we have been D busy organising, under the patronage of the Union Patriotique des Femmes Belges, a course of lectures on civics for women. Our lecturers will visit

the 2,000 communes of the country, and in the large majority of cases the communal administrations are supporting this educational course.

Dur aim is to interest women in all things which come within the range of local government, particularly the new women municipal voters, who will use their vote for the first time in January, 1921. Our programme is a wide one, and covers such subjects as the Belgian Constitution; the Task of Women in Municipal Administration, both as Electors and as Councillors: Duties of Local Government—Education, Health, Housing, Sanitation, Finance, and many others. JANE BRIGODE. October 2. 1920.

#### DENMARK.

#### Result of the Elections. Two more Women Members of the Landsting (Upper House).

S a result of the recent elections there are now As a result of the recent distribution of the Danish Parliament, three in the Folketing (Lower House) and eight in the Landsting (Upper House). Mrs. Elna Munch, M.P. and her two colleagues in the Folketing have now been re-elected for the third time. The two new members of the Landsting are Miss Crone (Socialist) and Mrs. Marie Lassen. Mrs. Lassen is the first successful candidate of the Left Party. She is well known in political circles as publisher of one of the most influential country papers of her party, and as a member is likely to wield much influence.

Copenhagen, September 30. SARA ORTH.

#### High Civil Service Appointment for a Woman.

Mrs. Anna Sveistrup has been appointed chief clerk in the National Debt Department. She is the first woman to occupy a high Civil Service appointment in the Danish Central Administration.

Kvinden Og Samfundet, September 15.

#### GREAT BRITAIN. NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP. Work of the N.U.S.E.C.

I'HE National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, finding a keen interest in the question of the econom basis of the Women's Movement, is repeating with some additions a few of the interesting series of lectures given at their Summer School. Mrs. Fawcett will take given at their Summer School. Mrs. Fawcett will take the chair at the opening, and the series will close with a lecture on the "Ethical Aspects of the Movement for Economic Independence," to be given by the President, Miss Eleanor F. Rathbone, C.C., J.P. Two of the lectures are to be devoted to various schemes for National Family

A series of questions to be put by the branches to candidates at the forthcoming Municipal Elections has been drawn up, and deals with such questions as Equal Pay for Equal Work, Compulsory Retirement on Marriage of Women, Technical Education and Scholarships for Girls, Women Police, Widows' Pensions, and Proportional Representation for use in Municipal Elections.

#### Tribute from our American Colleagues.

The American Society in London has decided to entertain some distinguished women at a dinner on Thanksgiving Day "in order to signalise the magnificent work that British women have accomplished during the war, and which they are still doing in every sphere and station of life, and as a mark of the high appreciation which is felt by all American women for their untiring devotion to duty and brilliant achievements." One of the guests at this representative gathering will be Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

#### Women Engineers.

A new engineering firm has been started by twelve women engineers, and will be called Atalanta, Ltd. The factory is to be staffed and managed by women alone, and will give an opportunity to many women who have become qualified as engineers and have no opportunity of using their experience under ordinary conditions. It is stated that the Society has already in prospect two contracts for engineering work.

#### The Two-shift System.

A Departmental Committee on the two-shift system as it affects women and young persons is at present sitting. It will probably be agreed that there is much to be said against any system which will entail a very early start or a against any system which will entail a very early start or a very late journey home for young persons, and which leaves them with considerable leisure on their hands during part of the day which they may find it difficult to use with advantage to themselves. But the proposal to debar women from working on the two-shift system is more debatable. The system itself is finding widespread support among manufacturers, and has at least the great advantages of enabling shorter hours to be worked without any diminution in production. It is also claimed that it prevents unemployment. "The temporary abrogation of the Factory Laws in this direction has led to the employment of women on processes from which they would otherwise of women on processes from which they would otherwise have been debarred," says the Report of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops. There are undoubtedly drawbacks to the system which must be taken into consideration, but it is impossible to contemplate any further restrictions on the employment of women without the fear of overcrowding in so-called women's trades, combined with a wholesale depression of women's wages.

#### After=War Industry.

The Annual Report of Miss Anderson, His Majesty's Principal Lady Inspector of Factories, has just been issued. One of the outstanding features of the present position is stated to be the "strikingly unselfish readiness of the women to yield place, even in work where they had already made good, to the returning men." There appears to be an acute shortage of skilled women workers, especially in the textile areas, though in some districts there has been such a surplus of unemployed women as to lead employers to set up new factories for women's trades. Perhaps the most interesting new tendency of the present time is the recognition that there must be a well-balanced distribution of industry in any district if family needs are to be met.
"It is obvious that successive generations of young girls

so necessary in the textile trades cannot possibly be forth-coming if there is not employment for the fathers of

We may hope that in time the converse may be recognised and employment for women members of families catered for in districts where the prevailing industries are for

October 18, 1920.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THE National Council of Women met at Bristol on October 15. The Countess of Selborne was elected President, on the retirement of Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., Ph.D., J.P. Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon occupied the chair during the meetings of the Council.

Among the resolutions passed were the following

(a) That the responsibility of the father to maintain his illegitimate child should receive increased recognition, that the process of obtaining an affiliation order should be facilitated; and that there should be statutory recognition of equal responsibility of both parents for illegitimate children;

That the Government should give equal opportunities to men and women as regards pay, status, and promotion in the Civil Service;

Urging all responsible Governments and Municipalities within the Empire, and also the Governments of India and the Crown Colonies to suppress brothels

and put them out of bounds for the troops;
(d) That the Government should, without delay, introduce a measure for extending the franchise to women on the same terms as men.

(e) That the Council do all in its power to secure the return of more women to the House of Commons;

(f) Affirming the great importance of extending the membership of the League of Nations to all selfgoverning States, and urging all States Members of the League to send forward a woman as one of the three delegates to the first Assembly of the League.

#### GREECE.

THE Congress of Greek Women, which is being organised by the Greek Lyceum Club, is postponed on account of the elections which are to take place in October, and which, naturally, will absorb the interest of all Greek circles, in consequence that of feminist members of Parliament, without whom the Congress would be deprived of great and important influence.

The future date of the Congress will be fixed upon after the elections and advertised in due time September, 1920. C. PARREN

### INDIA.

### Women Eligible as Municipal Councillors

on September 1, a public meeting was convened by the women of Bombay in order to petition the Bombay Corporation to remove the disqualification of women from becoming Municipal Councillors, a disqualification set up by the Bombay Municipal Act of 1888. At the end of

September, the Corporation of Bombay, after a two-hours' debate, decided by a majority of twelve that women should henceforth be eligible as Municipal Councillors.

Eighteen women's societies were represented at the public meeting on September 1, including the Association of the British University Women of India, the Young Women's Christian Association and other Societies represented. Women's Christian Association, and other Societies, representing all castes and creeds. The resolution was sent to the Government as well as to the Municipal Corporations, and we trust that the action of the latter is an earnest of the attitude that will be adopted by the Provincial Council of Bombay when it is asked to give a decision on Woman's Suffrage. October 25, 1920.

#### ITALY.

[Dr. Ancona sends a most interesting article, giving a vivid description of the recenstrikes in Italy, but unfortunately we are able to give only a short extract from it.—Ed].

T is difficult under the present circumstances in I Italy to write anything as being definitely "the women's point of view." The questions which have been disturbing us—the strikes and lock-outs, the disagreements between employers and employedthese all have a political significance, and women attached to the various political parties naturally look at them from their particular party point of view. For the moment we have reached a period of truce—the Bill passed by M. Giolitti's Government is not a final solution—and there are still stormy days ahead. And where do women come in? From the suffrage point of view they have no reason to rejoice. Parliament the Press, and the public are entirely preoccupied with these economic and political questions, and woman suffrage and women's rights generally are absolutely forgotten-indeed, women scarcely dare to refer to them. It is practically certain that when the Chamber of Deputies reassembles some weeks hence, the question of woman suffrage will not be brought forward, even though as far back as July a discussion of this subject had been put in the orders for the day for the very beginning of the autumn session. But the discussion of the industrial crisis will drive orders of the day and pledges out of the heads of our deputies!

It is also quite possible that the present Ministry will fall. It is current gossip that M. Giolitti is prepared for such an event, and has the decree for the dissolution of the Chamber in his pocket! That would mean new elections—and another delay for woman's suffrage!

For the rest, it is difficult to say whether women, that is, the majority of women, have been advantaged or not by the recent new laws, which gave a large control in industry to the employees. Only one thing is certain, that any industrial chaos, any national financial calamity must always press more heavily in the long run on women than on men. Quod deus avertat omen.

M. ANCONA.

#### The Woman's National Union.

THE Annual Report of the Woman's National Union is worthy of notice. Their activities are many and varied, and we regret that we are able to mention only the most important branches which the Union has started and carried out so successfully.

The "Fraterna," one of the Union's oldest activities, is

still doing invaluable work on educational and recreational lines by means of Study Circles, Singing and Swedish Drill.

The Employment Bureau has lead on to an eminently successful Girls' Club. The syllabus includes classes in Italian, French, drawing, domestic jobbing, and choral singing. A circulating library has recently been opened.

The Union has taken time by the forelock, and, in view of the Woman's Franchise, is holding a course of lectures on Municipal Administration, and has started a Bureau for information on political and social questions.

The Maternity Fund had opened several dispensaries in

In the devastated area the work of the Union has been invaluable, and has established a branch at Rovereto.

The Hostel has accommodated 562 domestic servants, teachers and working girls; it is hoped that more accommodation will soon be available.

The Headquarters of the Union are situated in one of the best localities of Milan, a fine building erected by the Union. We congratulate the members on this splendid achievement, and we rejected that it steads there there there is the second of the secon achievement, and we rejoice that it stands there to refute the still unfortunately popular idea that women lack the perseverance to carry out even their dearest wishes, and as a lasting memorial to twenty years of unwearied effort.

#### THE NETHERLANDS. PRESENT POSITION AND WORK OF THE DUTCH AUXILIARY. THE SOCIETY'S NEW PROGRAMME.

A LTHOUGH the women of Holland have now exactly the same political rights as men, that is to say, universal suffrage and eligibility for men and women for all representative bodies, there still exists this differ-ence, that these rights for men are stated in the Constitution itself, while those for women are granted by an ordinary law. There is, however, no danger that these rights will not be permanent, and that at the first revision of the Constitution they will not become a part of it.

On September 27, 1919, the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht was able to celebrate the twenty-fifth year of its existence, together with the victory of our cause.

But even before that date, when we were already sure that within a short time Woman Suffrage in Holland would be a reality, the Vereeniging voor Vrouwenkiesrecht brought before its members the following ques-

(1) Shall we continue our society after we have gained the vote? and if so-

(2) In which direction shall we continue the work? A large majority was convinced that there was a lot of work to do in our country for socially and politically educated women, as most of our members are, and that we were not justified in stopping our social work at a time when there was so much to be done by a large and well-organised society such as ours.

The second question was answered by changing the name of our Society to Nederlandsche Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen (Netherlands Society of Women Citizens), with a membership of about 17,000, and by adopting the following objects:

(a) To further the legal, social and economic equality of men and women.

(b) To promote the interests of women as workers, wives, and mothers.

(c) To enlighten women politically.

(d) To proclaim women's insight into social and political questions, and make it known in representative bodies.

We must add that, on acceptance of the change in the aims of the Society after our victory several members of the board resigned, among them the President. Dr. Aletta H. Jacobs, in whose place was elected as President the first Vice-President, Mrs. van Balen-Klaar. Dr. Aletta Jacobs was unanimously elected Honorary

That the reformed Society will remain a member of the I.W.S.A., and will try to help the women of the backward countries to gain the vote is a matter of course.

#### NEDERLANDSCHE BOND VOOR VROUWENKIESRECHT.

WE have received from Mrs. James Brandes an extremely We have received from Mrs. James Brandes an extremely interesting report of the activities of the above Society, and it is greatly to our regret that our reduced space—owing to the insertion of two pages in French—does not permit us to give it in full. The Bond, at its last meeting in January 1900, or with according to the control of the second state of the second state. permit us to give it in full. The Bond, at its last meeting in January, 1920, as such ceased to exist, and on March 14 of this year it united with a small but highly intellectual Union, the League for Improving the Social and Legal Position of Women. This League has been in existence for more than twenty-five years, and has always counted among its members both men and women of outstanding intellect and beautiful.

intellect and knowledge.

In 1907 the Bond started with a membership of 300, men as well as women being eligible as members. The aims of the Bond were to unite men and women of all parties who believed in Woman's Suffrage, to maintain a strict neutrality in politics, and by means of educational propaganda among all sections and classes, to hasten the day when the women of the Netherlands should be enfranchised. Petitions were sent to the Government and to Members of Parliament, open-air meetings were organised. to Members of Parliament, open-air meetings were organised In 1916 a deputation was received by the Prime Minister. During its most active years the Bond published a periodical called *The Plougher*, and its great activity may be gauged by the fact that in 1917 the Bond had eighty-four sections and 10,000 members.

The main victory is won, and the women of the Netherlands are enfranchised, but those who founded the original Bond voor Vrouwenkiesrecht know that many reforms are still needed. Hence the new Unie voor Vrowenbelangen, in which men and women are co-operating to obtain the

(1) Better education for girls—for the professions and

for domestic life.
(2) Better conditions for the working-class mother.

(3) The legal equality of men and women.
(4) Equal pay for equal work.
(5) Influencing public opinion towards a better and sounder moral standard.

Mrs. Boissevain Pynappel is President of the Association and both men and women are on the Executive Committee We wish them God-speed in their task

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

MY letter of September 10 was sent with the absolute certainty that I had written for the INTER-NATIONAL NEWS the last word about the Suffrage Amendment to the National Constitution of the United States, to which it had given generous space not only for months, but for years. I felt that the readers would be as glad to see the word "finis" as I was to write it, and now a month later I take up my pen for another letter on this same subject, which already begins to seem like ancient history. The story of last month was so unpardonably long that I did not say what was in the minds of all of us—that the happiness in our victory was dimmed by the manner in which it had come, and by a slight anxiety over the numerous lawsuits so persistently and vindictively pressed by the opposition. We were deeply hurt by the bitterness of the fight made against it in the Tennessee Legislature, and we regretted that the ratification barely got through by the skin of its teeth, and by taking advantage of every technicality, thus leaving room for future question. Even the splendid support received from the most distinguished men in the nation and the unswerving loyalty of the majority of the Tennessee legislators did not quite compensate for the disappointment. It was not the end which our imagination had pictured for our half-century's heroic contest, but any other seemed impossible, and we tried to accept it with thankfulness. The ratification of Connecticut, a few weeks later, came, therefore, with the suddenness of a bolt from the blue and cleared the entire atmosphere.

Readers of the NEWS are quite familiar by this time with the stubborn refusal of Governor Holcomb to call the Legislature of Connecticut in special session to ratify the amendment, and the deception practised on the suffragists by the Republican "bosses" of that State. When the Tennessee Legislature achieved the 36th and last ratification necessary it gave a tremendous advantage to the Democratic Party, which assumed the full credit, although it could not have been carried without the help of the Republican members. Every day put the other party in a worse position for asking the votes of women in the general election and something had to be done. Grand, gloomy and peculiar, Governor Clement sat upon his throne in the Green Mountains of Vermont, having declared himself superior to the national and State committees of his party, to the most eminent lawyers in the country, to the Constitution of the United States, and he had rendered himself unable to assist in this crisis. There was only one State in the entire Union which could throw itself into the breach and that was Connecticut. Governor Holcomb was vanquished, but he died hard. As there was a cloud on the title of the ratification in Tennessee, and the prospect of extended litigation, the national Republican aders saw a chance for this rock-ribbed Republican State to give a ratification that would be unimpeachable, and the party could thus claim a large share in the victory of the Federal Amendment, so they demanded a special session of the Connecticut Legislature.

In order to save his face Governor Holcomb made the

excuse that the Legislature would have to meet in order to change the election laws so that the women of the State could vote. The Attorney-General of Connecticut assured him that this was unnecessary, as the United States Supreme Court had rendered a decision that a Federal Amendment nullified any provision of a State constitution which conflicted with it, and no special legislation was necessary. He had to have some excuse, however, and in calling the session he gave this one and did not mention ratification. When the legislators assembled on September 14, the Governor addressed them in person and practically ordered them not to take action on any matter except the one named in his call. He said that he had decided to call another session the next week for ratification, as he feared that there might be an adverse court decision on the one of Tennessee, and this might invalidate the election in November, including that of a United States Senator from Connecticut! Here the cat jumped out of the bag. It was well known that the principal reason why he had refused all the time to call the session, which could have made the Amendment effective last March, after the 35th State had ratified, was because he and the Republican "machine" did not want the women to vote on the re-election of Senator Brandegee who had fought the Amendment to the last ditch in the Senate, and parts of whose speech against it were offensive they had to be expunged from the Congressional Record before it was printed.

A delegation of prominent men from Tennessee, headed by the Speaker of the House, was rushing to Connecticut to prevent its ratification, and the legislators believed Governor Holcomb was sparring for time. They flouted and defied him, and as soon as he had finished his address the Senate ratified unanimously, and the House by 216 to 11! The revolt against the "machine, which for years had held the State in an iron grip and prevented all progressive measures, had begun the preceding week at the State Convention when the insurgents" rose up and threw out the "bosses, root and branch. A dispatch to the New York Times "The organisation had overplayed the old game, notably in the blockage of the Federal Suffrage Amendment." The platform adopted did not even mention Holcomb's name. Brandegee, who had been nominated, sent, in a desperate hope of saving himself, an open letter to the Republican manager of the Suffrage forces urging that the Legislature should "promptly ratify the Amendment, as the country has decided that women shall have the right to vote."

After the Legislature had acted the question arose as to the legality. In its haste to defy the Governor it had overlooked the fact that he had not transmitted to it the certificate of Secretary of State Colby that Congress had sent the Amendment to the Legislatures, and therefore it had nothing before it on which to vote We have had enough legal battles over this suffrage matter, the good Lord knows," said Governor Holcomb, and we want Connecticut free from any complications So he called another session for September 21, and both Houses again ratified by the same large majority. Then in order that there might not be even a loophole of error they met together and jointly ratified the

Amendment, and it is believed that, having put their

seal on it for the third time, it is now securely intrenched in the National Constitution for evermore.

The suffragists are much pleased at this sweeping victory by a large body of men who only awaited the opportunity. Over 6,000 legislators have voted for this Amendment, which was submitted by two-thirds of both Houses of Congress, and accepted by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States, and this should end permanently the charge of the opponents that "a small minority forced it on the people." Vermont is the only State which failed to ratify except the row of ten along the south-eastern coast, which are hopelessly reactionary in all respects. The Men's Anti-Suffrage Association are still proceeding with their lawsuits and had another adverse decision this week but even if they should get their case into the United States Supreme Court it would avail nothing, as Connecticut has given the 36th ratification without a flaw.

In all the States registration is now taking place for the November election. In some of them the Legislatures have met and changed the election laws so that there can be no question of women's right to register, but in most of them it is accepted that the Amendment itself has conferred this right. Thus far Georgia is the only one that has refused to register them, which simply makes its record on Woman Suffrage a little blacker, Reports come from some of the Southern States of the refusal to register negro women, which was expected. All of these matters will have to be threshed out, but in most States there will be no difficulty. As there has been no census since 1910, it is not possible to know how many women there are 21 years old, but an estimate made from the census now in progress places the number at over 28,000,000, with probably 26,500,000 eligible to vote. It is also estimated that 31,500,000 men will be entitled to vote. Naturally, a much larger proportion of the men will go to the polls, so there is no danger that the men will be outvoted by the women.

There are five national parties in the field, but the contest this year, as always, except in 1912, when Roosevelt headed the Progressive Party, is between the

Republican and Democratic Parties. There is no choice between their candidates so far as personal character is concerned. That of the two nominees for President and the two for Vice-President is beyond reproach, both in its public and private nature. Harding, the Republican candidate for President, is a United States Senator from Ohio; Coolidge, the candidate for Vice-President, is Governor of Massachusetts. On the Democratic side, Cox is Governor of Ohio and Roosevelt is Assistant Secretary of the Navy. All are men of education, refinement and excellent business and social standing. Women voters, therefore, unless they wish to act from a merely partisan stand point, must base their selection wholly on the issues at stake. There are two of these which dominate all others—the League of Nations and Prohibition. Aside from these, there is not enough difference in the platforms of the parties to warrant a choice. The Democratic platform is outspoken for the League in its present form with slight modifications, and Governor Cox has taken his stand on it and maintained it without variation. The Republican platform is evasive and indefinite, and Senator Harding, influenced by its strongest enemies in his party, has weakened its plank still further, even

to the extent of favouring a separate peace with Germany. It is generally accepted that the success of the Republican ticket will hold out no hope for League and Treaty without many vital changes

Neither platform dared to touch the question of Prohibition. At the Republican National Convention it was not even considered in public, whatever might have been the private conferences. At the Democratic Convention an open fight was made on the floor for a weakening of the Amendment to the farthest possible extent, backed by the all-powerful forces of Tammany Hall, New York, which were in control of the Convention. William Jennings Bryan, the great apostle of Prohibition, made what many thought to be the strongest speech of his life in favour of a plank endorsing the Federal Prohibition Amendment, and the Convention was wild with enthusiasm. The ablest of the Tammany orators demanded just as eloquently a declaration for wine and beer. After they had finished, the platform was absolutely silent on the subject, but the party had shown its hand, which was all that was intended. They wanted the country to know that if the Democratic ticket was elected the liquor interests would have a friend at court.

During his long political career in Ohio, Governor Cox has always been considered favourable to these interests, although he has stood for enforcement of the law, whatever it might be. Now, when pushed to the wall by the Prohibitionists, he still declares that he will enforce the law, but he insists that "Prohibition is a dead issue." On the contrary, it never was more alive. The Federal Amendment cannot be touched, but it is useless unless it is enforced. It prohibits the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, but does not define the word "intoxicating." Very soon after its ratification a Bill was introduced in Congress, called by the name of its author, Volstead, which fixed one and one half per cent. of alcohol as the limit for a nonintoxicating drink, and provided the machinery for a rigid enforcement of the Amendment and the Law. It passed both Houses by immense majorities. From that time the liquor interests have never wavered in their determination to have that Volstead law repealed and one enacted in its place that would restore beer and socalled light wines. To dothis would require the election of a favourable Congress and a President who would sign such a law, and there is a general belief that the chances would be better under a Democratic Administration. It must be admitted, however, that it would not be without Republican support. Under the Volstead law hundreds of thousands of saloons, or public houses, have been closed, and the bars of hotels and clubs, all of which would be re-opened if the sale of wine and beer should be permitted. While there is much violation of the law, the good effects of Prohibition of the liquor traffic have exceeded even the extremest hopes of its advocates. It is not the people who are asking for its weakening or repeal, but the manufacturers and dealers, who make fortunes, great and small, through the sale of intoxicating

Here, then, most inadequately set forth, is the situation which confronts the millions of voters, men as well as women. If they are in favour of both League of Nations and Prohibition, which ticket shall they There is this comforting thought—that no matter which party wins, the results will not be so bad as are anticipated. Neither will dare defy to any great extent the sentiment of the country in favour of the League of Nations and of Prohibition. There may be modification, but there cannot be defeat. Before this is read the decision will have been made, and for the first time in the history of the United States an election will have been determined by Universal Suffrage, the will of the people.

IDA HUSTED HARPER.

New York City, October 9, 1920.

### INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Cash Statement for Six Months ended 30th June, 1920.

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I have compared the above Statements of Receipts and Payments with the books, accounts and vouchers, and find the same in accordance therewith, save that amounts in foreign currencies received in Geneva and deposited in the Banque Geneve are not included in the above. (Signed) E. AYRES PURDIE (Auditor), HAMPDEN HOUSE, KINGSWAY, W.C. 2. Fellow of the London Association of Accountants

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I have compared the foregoing Statement of Receipts and Payments with the books, accounts and vouchers, and find the same in accordance

HAMPDEN HOUSE, KINGSWAY, W.C. 2.

18th October, 1920,

18th October, 1920.

(Signed) E. AYRES PURDIE (Auditor), Fellow of the London Association of Accountants. sere

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LECTURES, WEDNESDAYS, 8.15 p.m.

LECTURES, WEDNESDAYS, 8.15 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 3rd, 8.15 p.m.—"The Injustice of the Laws dealing with Sexual Crime, and their Administration" (Scotland) Mrs. HAMILTON MORE NISBETT.

Wed., Nov. 10th, 8.15 p.m.—"Some Aspects of Modern Surgery and Radio-Therapy at Home and Abroad".

Chairman: Mrs. T. Dente.

Wed., Nov. 17th, 8.15 p.m.—"Capitalisation of Wages and Salaries"

Mr. FREDERICK THORESBY.

Chairman: Mr. Austin Harrison.

Wed., Nov. 24th, 8.15 p.m.—"The Economic Consequences of Peace" (By Mr. J. M. Keynes)

Chairman: Mr. Norman Morrison.

Wed., Dec. 1st, 8.15 p.m.—"Claptrap".

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Wed., Nov. 3rd, 3 p.m.—Councillor MARGARET HODGE Subject: "Popular Fallacies." Chair: Miss E. W. Kirby. Wed., Nov. roth, 3 p.m.—Miss K. RALEIGH. Subject: "What St. Paul really said to Women." Chair: Mrs. Northсroff. Wed., Nov. 17th, 3 p.m.—Sub-Inspector MORE-NISBETT, W.P.S. Subject: "Why and How we need Policewomen." Chair: Dr. Knight.
Wed., Nov. 24th, 3 p.m.—Miss MARGARET RUSSELL. Subject: "Education amongst High Caste Women and

Chair: Dr. KNIGHT.

1., Nov. 24th, 3 p.m.—Miss MARGARET RUSSELL.

Subject: "Education amongst High Caste Women and Girls in India." Chair: Miss Reeves.

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