

The Common Cause

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Women's Suffrage

CONTENTS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|
| Notes and Comments | 166 |
| The Fighting Fund and the New Policy | 167 |
| Women Work and Men Profit | 168 |
| A Proposed College for Working Women | 168 |
| The Question of the Hour | 169 |
| The Melancholy Antis | 170 |
| In Parliament | 170 |
| White Slave Traffic Bill | 171 |

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies:— | |
| Literature Department | 172 |
| Press Department | 172 |
| By-Elections | 173 |
| London Society | 174 |
| A Summer Camp | 175 |
| Federation Notes | 176 |
| Letters to the Editor | 177 |
| Other Societies | 178 |
| Forthcoming Meetings | 178 |

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SOCIETIES

A NEWSPAPER

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Notes and Comments.

The Government Reform Bill.

The introduction of the Government Reform Bill on Monday brings us to a crucial stage. That Bill must not become an Act without women in it. It is now possible to draft amendments and to find which amendment would command most support in the House. The women in the country will, of course, work with all their might. It is for the men in the House who have for so long dangled the Reform Bill before them, to do their share of the work. The women have always been united in asking for the vote on the same terms; if the suffragists in the House cannot command a majority for this let them combine to concentrate on an amendment which will command a majority. We ask them now to work and redeem their promises.

Holmfirth.

The *Labour Leader* of June 13th has an interview with Mr. Lunn, which alludes in very friendly terms to the co-operation between him and the suffragists. Mr. Lunn will vote against the third reading of any Reform Bill which does not include women, but he is not the all-or-nothing type of friend. With regard to the statements in the Liberal press that the miners are going to vote Liberal, Mr. Lunn says that hundreds of men who previously worked for the Liberal Party are now working for him; "the officials and committees of practically every miners' branch are in this contest rendering us all the help they can, although in most cases their sympathies and activities have hitherto been given to the Liberal Party."

The *Manchester Guardian* of June 13th points out that the weak spot is the local organisation of the Labour Party. All possible is being done to remedy this but we hope suffragists will remember the lesson they should have learned by now, that the most tremendous enthusiasm at the time is not a substitute for the steady cultivation of the ground beforehand.

We are much entertained by the statement in the *Standard* that the National League for opposing woman suffrage informs them that "the women of all classes are unanimous" (nothing less will do!) in declaring that they do not want to be troubled with the vote." This is truly magnificent. Not only has their organiser got hold of every woman in the Holmfirth Division, but he has got them all to say the same thing. He must be a genius of the first water.

Important Points.

We call attention to the Speaker's decision on the Referendum (see p. 170). It will be remembered that individual members of the Government, Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Lloyd George, declared that they would personally vote against the proposal to make the coming into operation of a women's suffrage clause contingent upon a referendum; but no authoritative statement had been made that such an amendment would be opposed; now clearly it will be out of order. The introduction of the referendum is, in the Speaker's phrase, a matter of "transcendent importance" and could only be made as part and parcel of a Bill. Now the Government Bill, as introduced, does not contain women nor any suggestion of a referendum and the Government is, in point of fact, precluded by Mr. Asquith's own pledges, from introducing the referendum for women's suffrage. This turnip-headed ghost with which the Antis tried to scare us is, therefore, shown up for what it is and Mr. Churchill will have to find another. It would be monstrous indeed, and make one despair of the British Constitution if it allowed so vast a change as the overriding of the representatives of the electors to be introduced casually, by private member's amendment to an amendment, in the hope of dishing a particular measure.

Another agreeable statement is Mr. Lloyd George's, on Friday last, that the Government had "no interest" in Mr. Harold Baker's Plural Voting Bill. To a mere woman it does indeed seem fantastic to waste precious time over a Bill which represents merely one clause in a great measure which the Government intend to carry this year.

Insurance for Domestic Workers and Others.

Several correspondents have written asking for the address of the Domestic Workers' Union. We have given it more than once but give it again: Miss Grace Neal, 211, Belsize Road, Hampstead, London, N.W. We are constantly being asked also to recommend Insurance Societies. This we cannot do. We publish from time to time any particulars of interest for which we can find space, but our readers must understand that they must make their own enquiries and that we do not recommend individual societies.

White Slave Traffic Bill.

We give to-day a short summary of the debate last week and also of the text of the Bill, but we recommend those particularly interested to get the full report of the debate and the full text of the Bill from Messrs. Wyman, Fetter Lane, E.C. We can quite understand the criticism of the Bill which says it aims at two separate things. Clause I. and part of Clause IV. do really deal with the white slave traffic, because the impunity with which "bullies" can operate really helps to keep enslaved the women who have got into their toils. But Clauses II. and III., which deal with disorderly houses need very careful examination lest they should merely lead to further harrying and blackmailing of the unfortunate women. It would, we think, surprise some of the kind people who want to help these women if they could get into intimate conversation with them and hear how they think these clauses will work. We think it is never any excuse whatever for not doing the small thing in your power, that you see a much larger thing which is not in your power, but there is always the danger, when an agitation results in the passing of a small measure, that this may delay more fundamental reforms. We urge with all possible earnestness that prostitution will not be abolished and will even be but slightly checked by this Bill. The causes are deep and many: Poverty and the prevailing dreariness of life for the many, late marriages and the double standard, unmated women and the relative wealth of men, the longing for life and colour and the temptation of easy gain, overcrowding and drink and the lure of the streets and the halls. Negative remedies are no remedies; we must find positive ones: a life worth living, human ties and clean mating, pride in work, decent housing and knowledge and reverence of the body. Anything which raises the personal pride of a woman will help; anything which lowers her conception of what she may become will hinder. Who knows how much responsibility for all this corruption should be borne by the pernicious doctrine that woman was made for man's pleasure, is "auxiliary" to man, has never done anything worth doing and exists at all by the goodwill and condescension of man? Yet this is the view elaborated in hundreds of tedious pages by anti-suffrage writers.

In Support of the White Slave Traffic Bill.

We draw the attention of our readers to the Mass Meeting, in memory of the late W. T. Stead, to be held at the Queen's Hall on Wednesday, June 26th, at 8 p.m. A resolution, with regard to the White Slave Traffic Bill, will be submitted, and among the speakers are Mr. Herbert Stead and Mr. Noel Buxton. For particulars see advertisement.

Mr. Roosevelt and Women's Suffrage.

Reuter says:—"Mr. Roosevelt has announced, through Judge Lindsay, of Denver, that he is in favour of woman suffrage in this country, and that the platform which he will submit to the Chicago Convention will contain an unequivocal declaration to that effect. Judge Lindsay, in communicating the above statement, added that Mr. Roosevelt had been induced to take this definite stand by what the women voters had done in opposition to the "bosses" in Colorado, Washington, California, and other Western States. He was convinced from this record that an advantage to the country would be gained by placing the ballot in the hands of women." If this is true of America it is probably true of women everywhere. The universal experience has been that women are not so apt to be machine-ridden as men.

Ladies' Dinner at the Fishmongers' Hall.

The London City Companies have long honourably distinguished themselves by their generous help to women's education and at a time when the higher education of women was by no means as popular as it is now, many of the companies gave scholarships to Newnham, Girton and the Oxford Colleges for women. But there is a lighter side to the sympathy they give to the women's movement. The Fishmongers' Company among their various hospitalities give an annual Ladies' Dinner. That held on June 13th was of a rather unusual character, for it was expressly designed to celebrate the advance which women have made during recent times in science, art, medicine, literature and other activities. The toast of the evening was proposed by Sir Edward Busk, the Prime Warden, who humorously discovered in the arms of the company the whole theory of the women's movement; for as he pointed out the supporters were a merman and a mermaid, and the latter was quite as essential to the stability of the coat of arms as the former. Mrs. Scharlieb, the distinguished surgeon, responded, and it was the first occasion on which a lady had been asked to make a speech in the Fishmongers' Hall. Every lady guest had a charming silver box presented to her by the company.

THE FIGHTING FUND AND THE NEW POLICY.**AT WORK IN HOLMFIRTH.**

The week that brings with it the Reform Bill finds the forces of the suffrage movement already in line of battle. The New Policy is at work in Holmfirth and the Election Fighting Fund for Women's Suffrage has been definitely formed. The Government's Franchise Bill is an unfinished project. It is one of two things. It starts on its career a scheme for bestowing on men a boon which they have not demanded. It must end its career a charter of enfranchisement for women. Between mid-June and mid-November our fate will be decided. We have opposed to us a party machine which acts to-day on the assumption that women's suffrage is a danger which threatens its unity and its prospects. We have five months in which to convince it that by ignoring the claims of women it risks a still graver danger. Week by week and month by month we must show it by the advance of our fund through the thousands to the tens of thousands, that we shall not lack the sinews of war, when the chance arrives to confront our opponents at the polls. We must seize on every by-election that offers an opportunity to prove that voteless women can be formidable electioneers. We must set going in the constituencies of every hostile and every unreliable Liberal a campaign which will warn him of our ability to resent a denial of justice. There will come a moment some weeks or days before the vote is taken on the amendments to enfranchise women, when the party managers will balance the pro's and con's. If our Fighting Fund has reached by that date an impressive total, if siege has been laid already to thirty seats held by reactionary Liberals, above all if luck and hard work has enabled the Labour Party with the women's aid to win a by-election or two, the balance of advantage will tilt in our favour. The Party machine cannot afford to risk the loss of twenty or thirty seats at the next general election. When that danger looms visible ahead of it, the word will be passed round that the amendment must somehow be carried. All that is wanted is an intimation from the Liberal Whips to the Irish Whips, that it would be expedient for them to undo in November what they did in March. Every guinea sent to the Fund, every stroke of spade-work in an anti-suffragist's constituency, every volunteer who journeys to a by-election is helping to put pressure on the machine.

AT HOLMFIRTH.

It was a happy stroke of luck that made for us at Holmfirth a by-election which enables us to put the new policy in motion. The retiring member, Mr. H. J. Wilson, had been consistently neutral on our question. Mr. Arnold, his would-be successor, clearly belongs to the school of thought which always happens to prefer that form of women's suffrage which has for the moment the least chance of success. The Conciliation Bill has been defeated, a fact which apparently recommends it to Mr. Arnold. But he will not support the "democratic" amendment to the Reform Bill favoured by Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Lloyd George, and the Women's Liberal Federation. This refusal, by the way, in spite of its recent decisions, has in no way deterred the Federation from sending its organisers to work for him. Mr. Ellis, the Conservative, has apparently no decided views beyond an objection to militant tactics. Mr. Lunn, the Labour Candidate, whose manly and courageous personality is not the least of the factors in his favour, devoted a long paragraph of his Election Address to women's suffrage, and answered all our questions in the affirmative. He is the candidate of the only party which has adopted women's suffrage as an item of its official policy; he is also the only man of the three whose personal attitude is satisfactory. The new policy makes him our candidate, but in this instance even the old policy would have led us to the same conclusion.

The grateful recognition of the *Labour Leader*, the frank admissions of the *Manchester Guardian*, and the detached comments of the *Times* all recognise the fact that the intervention of the suffragist forces is destined to play an appreciable part in the result. Our policy is readily understood. The plainest man-in-the-street can grasp the fact that with three parties to choose from, we must support the candidate of the one party which actively and officially works for women's suffrage. Everywhere our speakers have gathered friendly crowds, and they have lost no chance of handing over a crowd already favourable to a spokesman of Labour. The Labour Party never lacks workers, but its volunteers can rarely give time during the day. Suffragists of all parties are doing their share of clerical work. Suffragists who are personally inclined to the Labour view are peculiarly valuable as canvassers and speakers. Our workers have shown that the new policy calls for their utmost zeal. Miss Ashton, with a party from Manchester, came over to reinforce us on Saturday. Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Chew, and Miss Helen Ward, have been welcome as speakers throughout the constituency. Party meetings have been completely deserted when the suffragists appeared, and in one instance Mrs. Annot Robinson held a crowd of over a thousand in the village of Skelmanthorpe, despite the arrival of the Liberal candidate. Two motor cars at our disposal have been invaluable in this scattered constituency. The result will be known soon after these lines have passed through the press. There is good ground for hope, and whatever the result may be, this at least we know, that some appreciable part of the Labour vote will be due to the expert and enthusiastic efforts of our workers.

THE FIGHTING FUND.

The Committee whose task it will be to fill the war-chest of the new policy, held its first meeting on Friday. The Election Fighting Fund for Women's Suffrage (a good and inspiring name) will be used to assist the candidature of recognised candidates of the Labour Party who are opposing Liberals with an unsatisfactory record—"wobblers," neutrals, deserters, and anti-suffragists. No sitting member will be opposed, whether Liberal or Unionist, whose suffrage record is satisfactory. Mrs. Fawcett is its chairman, Miss Catherine Marshall its Honorary Secretary, and Mrs. Auerbach and Mrs. Anstruther its Treasurers. The Committee, whose composition already shows that the new policy has adherents outside the ranks of the National Union, consists of Miss Courtney, Miss Palliser, Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Miss Reckitt, Miss Marjorie Lees, Miss Margaret Macmillan, Mrs. Stanton Coit, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, Lady de la Warr, Lord Lytton, Mr. Brailsford and Mr. Streetfield. A long list has been compiled of constituencies suitable for a contest, in which there is an industrial population and a Labour organisation. Already it is practically certain that three decided anti-suffragists will have to face a triangular contest at the next election—Mr. Hobhouse, in Bristol, Sir Arthur Priestley at Grantham, and Sir D. Goddard at Ipswich. Month by month that list will expand until our three is thirty, with more than one minister to adorn it. It is good news that the Women's Freedom League, after consulting its branches, has now decided to adopt a policy substantially identical with our own.

The Fund starts with a nucleus of £1,991, which has come in spontaneously and without any special appeal. Every active worker must henceforward be a collector for the Fund, and every meeting should be used to make it known. The Committee is framing plans for raising money. But when a living

movement is resolute in a fighting policy it does its own organisation. Every worker must be busy with her own plans, until the money comes, as indeed it is coming already, by the sheer determination of our members that the Fund shall succeed.

TREASURER'S NOTES.

We print on next column in alphabetical order the first instalment of the names of those who have already sent donations. The amounts received up to date, together with promises, bring the new fund very nearly up to £2,000. It is not surprising that our splendid election work should rouse the enthusiasm of all suffragists. There is no doubt that all parties are taking our policy into serious consideration and this is because we are now in a position to strike an effective blow at our enemies, while at the same time we are able to demonstrate the value of the support we give to our friends.

We urge all suffragists to do their utmost to make the Election Fighting Fund as widely known as possible. Subscriptions large or small should be sent to one of the Treasurers of the Election Fighting Fund at the National Union Offices, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to The Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office by first post on Tuesday.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

British Isles: 6s. 6d., Abroad: 8s. 8d. per annum. Copies of back numbers 1d. (post free), or 2d. when more than three months old. A few numbers of Vol. I. to be had at 3d. per copy, post free.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., accompanied by a stamped envelope addressed if it is desired that they should be returned. The Editor accepts no responsibility, however, for matter which is offered unsolicited.

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

NOTICE.—This paper should be obtainable at newsagents and book-stalls by mid-day on Thursday. If people have any difficulty in getting it locally they should write to the Manager, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., giving the name and address of the newsagent or bookstall from which they wish to be supplied.

Women Work and Men Profit.

The Government which refuses the vote to women "because they do not want it," or "because they are not unanimous in wanting it," is offering the vote to two and a half million more men who, by any test applicable to the women also, have most emphatically not asked for it. It must not be forgotten that Mr. Asquith's first mention of the Reform Bill in 1908 was to a deputation of Liberal Members who came to him to talk about Women's not Men's Suffrage. The Reform Bill was mentioned in 1908 because of the women's demand; it is brought forward in 1912 because of the women's demand. Let no man forget this when he reads the newspapers edited by men, and notes even those which are theoretically suffragist placidly contemplating the possible defeat of women's suffrage amendments. As women read on the placards the headline, "A vote for every man," there is not a suffragist among them to whom the declaration is not a stinging reminder that to those who have shall be given and that men can get without work or sacrifice what women are giving their lives for. There is not one among them but feels that this year is indeed the crucial year and that every possible and impossible effort must be made to wipe out the insult to the womanhood of England by turning the occasion into one of victory for the women.

It is hopeless to ask Anti-Suffragists to be consistent, otherwise we would press that odd creature, the Liberal Anti, to answer the question why, if voting is to go by person and not property and if local government is so peculiarly women's province, they have concocted a Bill in which the £10 occupation franchise is maintained for local government electors; why, if it is "penalising marriage" and "disfranchising the best of her sex, the married woman," they perpetuate a franchise which has always done this?

The answer is that a politician's sense of "electoral anomalies" is as nothing compared with his terror of women and the mere notion of our numbers always overrides all reason or argument.

ELECTION FIGHTING FUND, MAY, 1912.

| 1ST LIST. | | £ | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------|-----|------|----|----|
| A. A. | ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Anonymous (per R. B.) | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Anonymous | ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Anonymous | ... | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Anonymous | ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Anonymous | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Anonymous | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Adair... | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Adair... | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. J. R. Aldworth | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss A. M. Allen | ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Margaret Ashton | ... | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Atkinson | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Miss Evelyn Atkinson | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mrs. A. Bartram | ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. R. H. Berney | ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. H. N. Brailsford | ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss D. Brailsford | ... | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss E. Charlesworth | ... | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Miss Caroline Churchill | ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Dora B. Clark | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mrs. Roger Clark | ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss C. Cochrane | ... | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Collection at door of Council Room | ... | 10 | 8 | 2 |
| | | £570 | 15 | 2 |

The retaining of the £10 occupation franchise opens up a bewildering vista of amendments and anomalies. If the municipal register is different from the parliamentary register it will be possible to introduce several variants in the Women's Suffrage Amendments. It will be possible to propose the parliamentary enfranchisement of all women on the present local government register plus the wives of all men on that register; there would then be three registers: parliamentary for men on a residential basis; municipal for men on an occupation basis; parliamentary and municipal for women on the basis of being themselves occupiers or wives of occupiers. Now that the text of the Bill is published it will be the duty of politicians who have advocated proceeding by amendment to find one which will command a majority in the House. Upon Mr. Lloyd George rests the main responsibility, for it was he who destroyed the majority for the Conciliation Bill.

A Proposed College for Working Women.

I must thank you most warmly for allowing me to bring before your readers the question of the Working Women's College, which, in the near future, it is intended to found in connection with the Central Labour College for Men now established at Earl's Court.

From the time of the destruction of the late London School Board, of which I was a member, I have devoted myself largely to a systematic advocacy, among the rank and file of Trade Union and Socialist organisations, of the constructive education proposals of the Trades Union Congress. This work has brought me much into contact with working women in various parts of the country, especially as, when lecturing in the provinces, I am frequently entertained in the homes of members of working-class organisations. Thus I have learnt as no doubt many of your readers have learnt, how much more effective as a driving force in the cause of woman and that of education, organised labour might be, if the many working women, who have the necessary social consciousness and ability, had within their reach the education and training to fit them to take their places beside the men whose mental ability and administrative capacity have built up the organised working-class movement.

Even in the Trade Unions in which women are organised together with the men, few of the official positions are held by women. At the last Trades Union Congress, while the textile workers, cotton operatives and weavers combined, had 83 delegates representing 203,901 members (of whom the majority are women), not more than three of those delegates were women.

When I ask women trade unionists why so few working women are to be found on the management committees of trade unions, as public speakers in the working-class movement, and as elected members of public bodies, I am told, and often with bitterness, that working women lack education, training, and confidence in themselves. Frequently, too, when lecturing on behalf of the Central Labour College for Men, I have been asked: "Why is there no college for working women?"

Hence the steps which I have taken to promote a women's side to the Central Labour College for men.

I have discussed the question with working men and women, in conversation and in discussion lectures in many industrial

centres, and on the following proposals I find a general consensus of opinion:—

1. That a house for residence for, say, fifteen to twenty women students be taken within easy reach of the Men's College.

2. That the curriculum for men and women be the same and that while the women shall reside in their own hostel, they shall attend the lectures at the Men's College, where the fine lecture halls are sufficiently large to permit of the increased attendance.

3. That the course of study be for two years where possible, and in other cases for one year; and also that day courses be arranged to meet the case of working women residing in London, providing not only instruction in history and economics, but also in the duties of members of Boards of Guardians and of Care Committees of the L.C.C. Schools.

4. That the control of the Women's College be for the first few years in the hands of a small provisional committee of persons who will bring experience and time to the work of placing the College on a satisfactory footing, before handing it over to be controlled jointly with the Central Labour College for Men, by a board of management consisting (as does the present governing body of the Men's College) of the elected representatives of the trade unions maintaining students at the College.

5. That the charge for board and tuition be as at the Men's College, £52 per annum.

6. That a Rent Fund be formed and also a Scholarship Fund; that trade unions and sympathisers be appealed to for financial assistance; and that women's trade unions and other working women's organisations be asked to provide the scholarships to enable members to become students.

Here it may be mentioned that the textile factory workers, of whom the majority are women, out of trade union funds send six students to Ruskin College. These unions will now be asked to send as many students to the Working Women's College.

Indeed, personally, I am not without a strong hope that other great unions—even the men's unions—will not withhold sympathy and support from this important education movement, and your readers will probably be interested to learn that the first article advocating a Working Women's College was published in the official journal of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

A Rent Guarantee Fund has already been formed, and part of the £150 per annum necessary to enable a house to be taken on an agreement has been promised for five years. A still more satisfactory plan would be to buy outright the long lease of a suitable house which is available. This can be done for £1,000.

Your readers will note that this movement for promoting a Working Women's College has the great advantage of being linked up with the Men's College, already established, and supported by such powerful organisations as the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and the Northumberland and South Wales Miners' Unions.

The trade unionists, who have been elected by the members of their organisations to serve on the management board of the Central Labour College, are in full sympathy with this effort to take the Labour College movement to the next necessary step in its development, where working men and women can together receive the training for service in the working-class movement in which later they will be called upon to work together.

In conclusion, a not unimportant detail. The Working Women's College will not be a Labour barracks, but, though simple, as beautiful as the co-operation of artist friends can make it.

MARY BRIDGES ADAMS.

[For further particulars apply to Mrs. Bridges Adams, 64, Prince of Wales Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.]

The Question of the Hour.*

"I am more concerned for the industrial and social rights of women than I am for their political rights; votes they may have if you please. But by all that is merciful let us give them justice! For the oppression of women, whether by women or men, means a perpetuation of the underworld with all its sorrows and horrors; and the underpayment of women has a curse that smites us all the way round." Indifferent to the political aspect of the women's movement though Mr. Holmes professes himself, his book will be to every Suffragist a trumpet-call to battle. For it is a terrible indictment of the failure of the State to cope with the circumstances which daily, hourly, drive

*"London Underworld." By Thomas Holmes (J. M. Dent and Sons, 7s. 6d. net).

men, women and children down into the underworld and chain them there, past hope of redemption. No system of philanthropy, however well organised, will meet the case. Again and again Mr. Holmes impresses on us in impassioned sentences that the State must do it. The State must house the poor, must segregate the unfit, must reform the youthful criminal, must support the widow. "Give us these things," he cries—and we women, shuddering at the stories of wrong and suffering which he tells, reply—"How long must we endure before you give us the power to help to mould the laws through which these things may come?"

Burning pictures of life in the underworld Mr. Holmes paints for us, sometimes in an exclamatory style which we might criticise, were it not always redeemed by its passionate sincerity. He shows us the widow in the light of a dim and evil-smelling lamp talking to her visitors yet never ceasing for one moment deftly to fashion the dainty card-board boxes which she throws alternately over left and right shoulder on to the beds in which the children—three in one, two in the other—lie sleeping. And we feel with him in his restless desire that she should make some slip, some bungle, to prove herself human and no machine. But she never does. And in the daytime the child of four will be sitting opposite to her working as mechanically as his mother, if less quickly.

This for a picture—whilst on the other hand, more full of terrifying imaginations than any picture, is the bald statement that in London over 50,000 women are working for less than 1½d. an hour.

One of the most awful things in the book is the description of the almost inevitable fate of the widow with children—"promptly kicked" into the underworld. "Because she is a widow, and poor and helpless, she becomes the prey of the sweeter. Henceforth she must work interminable hours for a starvation wage. Because she is a mother, poor and helpless, she becomes the prey of the house farmer. Henceforward half her earning must go in rent, though her house and its concomitants are detestable beyond words."

Yet these women, widows and wives of workingmen, are to Mr. Holmes "the salt of the underworld." He tells tales almost unendurable in their pathos of the heroism of his women-friends, and it is for them that he has built the holiday home, Singholm, worthy of its name. Amongst these women there are many of education and refinement and of an intense almost sublime pride; who never ask for help but "hide themselves away till the river or canal gives up its dead," or are found starved—a death which, to our shame be it spoken, is too often designated "death from natural causes." Of such was the old trouser-finisher, earning less than a penny an hour, writing to her friend—"Often I do not expend a sixpence on food in a week when I pay my way"; and uttering this stinging haunting cry—"Oh! that it should take so long to kill some of us."

But all cannot keep these heights, "for once in the underworld the difficulty of personal cleanliness confronts them, and dirt kills self-respect. Poverty makes them acquainted with both physical and moral dirt, and the effect of one night in a shelter or lodging-house is often sufficient to destroy self-respect and personal cleanliness for life." So Mr. Holmes pleads for well-managed municipal lodging-houses for women as an absolute necessity if they are not to be driven to the depths.

To the poor man's wife, on the verge of the underworld, Mr. Holmes pays tribute—to her capacity and her heroism. "It is the wife who finds the brains and exercises the self-denial Undergoing constant sufferings and ceaseless anxieties it stands to the poor man's wife's credit that their children fight our battles, people our Colonies, uphold the credit of our nation, and perpetuate the greatness of the greatest empire the world has ever known."

But it is not alone amongst the heroic and struggling that Mr. Holmes has lived. He gives us plenty of the other side—something of the humours and the dangers of the clever rascal but, infinitely sadder and infinitely more common, the toll the nation pays to the "unfit" whom it ignores or persecutes. They fill our workhouses, they fill our prisons, they increase and multiply and corrupt the nation at its source. And what steps do we take to defend ourselves? How do we train or restrain the "unfit" children? This appalling charge Mr. Holmes reiterates again—"No boy from eight years of age up to sixteen, unless sound in mind and body, can find entrance into any reformatory or industrial school! No matter how often he falls into the hands of the police, or what charges are brought against him, nor even if he is friendless and homeless." What is done with him? If under 14 he is dismissed; if over 14 he is sent to prison. And to prison he returns again, and year by year the list of those "unfit for prison discipline" grows longer.

At Parkhurst Convict Prison alone there were at one time 117 convicts classified as "weak-minded" and 34 more under mental observation. The average sentence of these poor creatures was seven years penal servitude.

And so the indictment continues; and we see lads made gaol-birds for pranks many times less offensive and more venial than the common "rags" of undergraduates. A stolen bath—kicking about a football on forbidden ground—a game of pitch and toss—or the roughness and horse-play due to instincts denied the legitimate outlet of games and sport.

Mr. Holmes is living amongst it all—seeing and feeling it—and it is incredible that his plea for more rational and humane legislation should fall upon deaf ears. Yet he tells us of years of vain appeal. Many reforms he demands, but of all social problems the housing problem seems to him supreme, and few who read his book are likely to disagree. "This," he says, "is the question of the day and the hour. Drink, foreign invasion, the House of Lords or the House of Commons, Tariff Reform or Free Trade, none of these questions, no, nor the whole lot of them combined, compare for one moment in importance with this one awful question."

But "The Woman's place is the Home"! Might not, then, the solution of this problem of problems be more quickly found if her heart and mind were brought to bear upon it?

MARGARET ROBERTSON.

The Melancholy Antis.*

A second edition of this melancholy little book has just appeared; and though the quality of Mr. Hart's particular brand of dependency does not appear to have anything new to recommend it, he deserves a few words of sympathy. The new edition is dignified but not enlivened by a few words from Mr. Lewis Harcourt, the gentleman who once distinguished himself by telling a deputation of Suffragists that if all women were as sensible as Mrs. Lewis Harcourt he would be in favour of their enfranchisement. This is probably the most offensive survivor of the humerous retorts with which male—I should say virile—anti-suffragists used to demonstrate the superiority of their case; and I have often wondered why none of them has suggested, as a means of suppressing our tiresome movement, that although it would be ridiculous to enfranchise women as such, the vote might be conceded to those whose husbands, fathers, brothers, or sons would undertake to convey them to the poll in a proper state of political sensibility. Mr. Harcourt's seriousness may be doubted; none who has read or listened to Mr. Hart can doubt that for him at any rate Woman Suffrage is nothing less than a "holy terror." He wrings his hands through 123 pages, including the index, which is a most conscientious piece of work full of delicately suggested arguments. Indeed, the suggestiveness of the index is carried so far that when I read the last item upon it—"Work of women indispensable," I feared for a moment that Mr. Hart would be getting into trouble with Mr. Harold Owen; but on looking up the references—which is no doubt what I was intended to do—I found that it was all right, and that none of the passages indicated betrayed the smallest understanding that any woman could be trusted to choose her work for herself. "No assumption of the superiority of the functions of man" is involved; let us make no mistake about that, even though one of the functions of man be to decide which are the functions of woman. A very odd state of mind; and the oddest thing about it is its transparent, its child-like sincerity. Mr. Hart really does believe that he and Mr. Owen and Sir Almroth Wright and Mr. George Calderon, and Mr. Maconachie and the rest of that crowd are out to prevent the obscuring "by the shadow of a shade" of "the full dignity and honour of womanhood." He deserves much sympathy for being able to think so. Apart, however, from his conception of the nature of superiority and dignity and honour and things of that kind, and their essential difference according as men or women are under consideration, the chief interest of Mr. Hart's attitude lies in his genuine fear of change. He is convinced that everything that matters has been made by man; he believes that if women voted human affairs would sooner or later be managed by women—except when men revolted, which they would do whenever it occurred to them to be dissatisfied, because "the value of the vote depends upon the voter" and the value of the voter depends upon his good strong fists. He ransacks history to justify his fears, and oddly enough considers that Greece and Rome are better examples of the horrid results of enfranchising women than New

*"Woman Suffrage a National Danger." By Heber Hart (P. S. King and Son, 1s.).

Zealand or Colorado. He has perpetually before his eyes the bugbear of women voting solid against men, even though he declares on p. 59 that the normal man is more closely associated in sympathy and interest "with one or more women than with any other man." He proves that votes are unnecessary to women as taxpayers because they get their share of the general benefits upon which taxes are expended; and it does not occur to him that if this is an argument at all it is equally destructive of the claims of men. He offers us the alternative of recognising that men are unjust and therefore will not enfranchise women, or that they are just and therefore women cannot possibly want the vote. He is in fact precisely in the position of the fabled destroyer of the library of Alexandria, who justified himself by saying "Either these books agree with the Koran, in which case they are superfluous, or they do not agree, in which case they are impious; let them burn." That according to Mr. Hart is the proper attitude of man to woman. "If you agree with me, of course you are right; but what is the use of your opinion? If you do not, you must be wrong; and your opinion must not count." Only thus can we manage to "persevere in a strictly masculine way of dealing with"—India, of course, and Germany, and the rest; and a lapse from the strictly masculine means disaster. Not since George Meredith wrote "The Egoist" has there been a more ingenious display of a mind out of touch with anything but itself; and he has our very respectful sympathy.

R. F. CHOLMELEY.

Important Decision.

GATESHEAD LIBERAL WOMEN AND THE REFORM BILL.

A meeting of the Gateshead Women's Liberal Association was held on Tuesday, June 11th, in the Gateshead Liberal Club to consider the Suffrage situation and to receive the delegates' report of the Women's Liberal Federation Council. The chair was taken by Mrs. J. T. Dunn.

The following resolution, proposed by the chairman and seconded by Mrs. Warden, was carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting of Liberal women pledges itself to do all in its power to forward a Women's Suffrage amendment to the Government Reform Bill."

Dr. Ethel Williams then proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Miss Kate Nevison:—

"That this meeting of Liberal women, accustomed to work for the Liberal party at elections, pledges itself not to work for the Liberal party at the next General Election if a Government Reform Bill has passed through the House of Commons without the inclusion of some form of Women's Suffrage."

An amendment to Dr. Williams' resolution was then proposed by Mrs. Nevison, seconded by Mrs. Marshall, supported by Miss Temperley and Mrs. Harding and carried unanimously. The amended resolution was as follows:—

"That this meeting of Liberal women, accustomed to work for the Liberal party at elections, pledges itself, unless before the next General Election some measure of Women's Suffrage has become law, never again to support at elections a party which has not Women's Suffrage on its programme."

The meeting thus substituted for Dr. Ethel Williams' resolution a better one, which had her full approval.

It is significant that this was a meeting of the Gateshead W.L.A., organised by its own officers and committee; it was not, like the Elswick meeting reported in the COMMON CAUSE for April 25th, a meeting of Liberal women in various associations convened by one of the associations.

In Parliament.

THE REFERENDUM.

On June 11th, in connection with the Home Rule Bill, the Speaker gave an extremely important ruling. With reference to instructions standing in the names of Mr. James Hope and Major Morrison-Bell, providing that there should be a poll of the Parliamentary electors before an Irish Parliament could be established, the Speaker said that practically the same instruction stood on the paper in 1893 and he would give the same ruling as Mr. Speaker Peel then gave:—

"The second deals with the *ad referendum* principle, and this, I need not say is the instruction which has given me most anxiety; but I have come to the conclusion that an *ad referendum* is a matter of such transcendent importance that it could not be brought within the scope of the Bill by an instruction to the Committee. I know that the *ad referendum* has been included in the provisions of some Private Bills enabling the ratepayers to decide by a vote whether or not they should adopt a particular Act which imposed a charge upon them. But this

instruction is a proposal to enable the electors to override the decision of this House; to go over the heads of the elected representatives of the people and to submit to the electors generally whether a Bill of this great magnitude should come into force or not. That, I think, is quite beyond the scope of the Bill and could not be brought within the scope of the Bill by an instruction."

OBSTRUCTION.

On June 14th, by a variety of devices, further progress with the Municipal Corporations Bill was obstructed with the object of preventing Mr. Harold Baker's Plural Voting Bill (which came second) being reached. It was curious to note that arch-obstructor, Mr. Handel Booth waxing pathetic in his desire to clear the way. Mr. Lloyd George, who intervened late in the proceedings, declared that the Government had no interest whatever in Mr. Baker's Bill and that members would find this out on Monday, when the Government Reform Bill was introduced.

UNIONIST WOMEN'S PETITION.

On June 11th, Sir John Lonsdale presented a petition against Home Rule for Ireland signed by 104,261 women.

THE CASE OF MISS MALECKA.

Sir Edward Grey stated that with the consent of the House, he proposed not to lay the papers relating to this case before the House. "As her conduct in some instances was undoubtedly such as no British subject has a right to pursue in a foreign country, I think that the action of the Emperor and of the Russian Government should receive the fullest possible recognition and will, I am sure, be appreciated as a generous and friendly act by the House."

VOTE OF CENSURE.

Mr. A. Chamberlain on June 12th moved a vote of censure on the Government for its conduct of affairs during the Port of London strike; the resolution was defeated by 337 to 260.

INSURANCE OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

In reply to a question on June 13th, Mr. Masterman said that a domestic servant who temporarily relinquished her employment in order to nurse a sick relative would suffer no reduction in benefit at all, unless her arrears amounted to four weeks a year on the average since her entry into insurance, and would not lose all benefits even temporarily, unless they amounted to more than six months on the average. Even in this latter case, she would not necessarily fall out of insurance and would be able on re-entering employment to come back into benefit gradually without losing the value of her previous contributions and her original reserve value. He further stated that he did not anticipate there would be any part of the United Kingdom in which no approved society would be operating.

THE REFORM BILL.

On Monday, June 18th, Mr. Pease introduced the Government Reform Bill which Mr. Aquith has been promising ever since 1908.

The provisions of the Bill may be thus summarised:—

Every man (by which, it appears, is meant "male person") becomes eligible for the Parliamentary vote at the age of 21, and he may qualify during the last six months of his minority. The qualification is six months' residence or occupation.

Voters will retain their votes if they remove from one house to another in the same constituency; if they remove to another constituency they will retain their votes in the old constituency for six months, by which time they will have qualified in the new one.

Town Clerks in boroughs and clerks of county councils in county constituencies will have the duty of preparing the register.

The districts are to be canvassed by overseers every year to make sure that all qualified persons are on the list and disputed claims are to be decided by the County Courts.

University representation is abolished, and if the Home Rule Bill is passed this will bring the Members of Imperial Parliament to the number of 600. Plural voting is abolished.

Peers may vote but are not eligible for election.

The £10 occupation qualification is retained for the municipal vote.

The Bill is to come into force on June 1st, 1914, or earlier by Order in Council.

It is estimated that 574,614 existing electors will be disfranchised and 2,500,000 new electors put on the roll, giving a total of 9,909,986 male electors; it is estimated that if women were given the vote on the same terms as men there would be 10,500,000 female electors—that is to say only a little over half a million more women than men voting.

Mr. Henderson and Mr. Mason and Lord Robert Cecil spoke for the women, Mr. Henderson saying that he could not understand the Liberalism that talked of government by the people and left without the rights of citizenship the great majority of the people, and he replied to Mr. Smith's criticism that there had been no popular demand by saying that this certainly could not apply in the case of the women. Speaking for himself, he would no longer support the Bill if on the third reading women were still ignored.

The Bill passed its first reading by 274 to 50.
[We hope next week to publish a fuller report.]

White Slave Traffic Bill.

DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING.

MR. ARTHUR LEE, who moved the Second Reading of this Bill on June 10th, justified the title of "White Slave Traffic" Bill and the outside agitation as having been necessary to get the Bill adopted by the Government. The Bill did not attempt to abolish prostitution but was aimed at procurers and bullies. He claimed that expert opinion, social workers, the police and the Home Office all demanded the powers it gave. With reference to Clause I. (which gives power to the police to arrest without warrant those caught in the act of "procuring"), he drew attention to the fact that such powers existed with regard to other offences such as petty larceny and poaching. He wished the Bill went further and made the offences of bullies and procurers "felonies" and not only "misdemeanours." The clauses he regarded as most important were Clause I., referred to above; Clause II. and Clause IV. (b). He agreed that Clause III. might need careful revision in committee. England, he said, was increasingly becoming a clearing-house and depot and dispatch centre of the white slave traffic and the headquarters of the foreign agents engaged in the most expensive and lucrative phase of the business; it was a clearing-house for the dispatch of marketable girls to South America and other countries. As an anti-suffragist, he felt his responsibility particularly in this matter.

MR. HANDEL BOOTH objected that the Bill had very little to do with the international traffic in commercialised vice. He did not think that it would do much to check immorality; he thought the Insurance Act would do far more; ignorance of sexual laws and poverty were the root causes. He did not believe London was the centre of the international traffic, which existed in proportion as the State and the police interfered to regulate it. Many illegal practices now passed unpunished, and it was futile to introduce fresh legislation. The work of Mr. Stead and of "that woman of priceless value, Mrs. Josephine Butler," was based on information; he advocated first the collection of much more information and then the passage of a much more thorough and drastic measure. His objection to Clause I. was that it increased the powers of the police; Clause IV. (b) he regarded as futile. The reason so many foreign bullies escaped was that magistrates would not convict unless the woman herself would give evidence and this she rarely dared do. He advocated the appointment of a special police, married men of experience and at high salaries, and he further declared that the State regulation of vice was "wrapt up in the questions embodied in this Bill." He concluded, however, with the statement that if he could have satisfactory assurances on two points he might "be able to welcome the Second Reading of this measure." He wanted to know first whether there was in the mind of the promoters or of the Government any tendency whatever to go back on the decision of the nation to be free from the horrors of the State regulation of vice, and second whether Clause I. would be open for free discussion and reasonable amendment. The Bill was recommended by Scotland Yard and by the doctors, and he regarded this conjunction of circumstances as a sinister one.

MR. BURGOYNE declared that he had moved the second reading, if not exactly a hundred times, at least not far short of that number, and since he and his supporters had discovered that they could not pass it by any "ordinary means of general assent," they had been obliged to carry on a campaign in the country. He stated that the Bill had behind it "the whole of that sex most deeply affected."

SIR F. BANBURY said that the great interest in the Bill was due to its being called the "White Slave Traffic" Bill, and that with the exception of Clause I., of which he approved, the Bill had nothing to do with this traffic. With regard to Clause II., he argued that there was no proof of the detention of girls and women against their will in London, and therefore this clause,

dealing with brothels, did not really deal with white slave traffic, nor did Clause III. He objected to the extension of the law of solicitation to men because it would provide opportunities for blackmail, and he declared that the more severe dealing with bullies had nothing to do with the traffic in women.

MR. BOWERMAN, speaking for workmen, said it was girls of their class who were in danger, and he declared that no one could travel by Atlantic steamers and not find evidence of the traffic.

SIR THOMAS ESMONDE heartily supported the Bill and thought it ought to be made stronger. The time was ripe for international agreement on the question of this traffic.

MR. WEDGWOOD did not think the Bill would do much harm except by salving people's consciences to fancy they had done something. He objected particularly to the clauses dealing with brothels which would make the lives of the unfortunate women harder than ever. "You chase them off the streets and then you chase them out of their houses." He repeated that he did not believe London was a centre of the trade. Poverty was at the bottom of prostitution, the poverty of men which prevented them marrying, the poverty of women which made them willing to sell themselves. He asked the earnest people who had supported "this tinkering measure" to "throw themselves with the same genius and enthusiasm into putting an end to poverty and exploitation."

MR. WALTER GUINNESS expressed anxiety about Clause II, which he feared would lead to imposition and blackmail.

MR. MCKENNA said that this was in effect "a simple police Bill"; it introduced no new principle, since persons could now be arrested without warrant under the Larceny Act, and he maintained that in such cases the Court would, of course, enquire very closely into the grounds of suspicion. It was very difficult to check the exportation of girls unless you could arrest on suspicion. With regard to Mr. Booth's two questions he gave "frankly and fully and without qualification" the required assurance that the Government did not intend to go

back to State regulation of vice, and he also declared that reasonable amendments would be duly considered in committee. He thought the landlord's liability in Clause III. would have to be modified to one who knowingly tolerated disorder. The Bill was a small Bill but a good one, and we could not wait for preventive measures until we had "got rid of the poor."

MR. NIELD and MR. MARSHALL supported the Bill; MR. SANDERSON suggested an amendment by which married women could be protected from husbands who lived upon their immoral earnings. MR. DUNCAN MILLER said there was a strong feeling in Scotland in support of the Bill.

MR. GREENWOOD objected to the Criminal Law Amendment Act itself, that it harried the women and sometimes "drove them into the arms of the bullies because they must live somewhere."

MR. KING advocated a much more far-reaching way of dealing with the traffic in women. MR. RAWLINSON objected to penalising a person whose offence such as brothel-keeping was "devoid of violence or fraud" and also arresting on suspicion, not that an offence had been committed but that it was likely, in the opinion of a constable, to be committed.

The Bill passed its Second Reading without a Division.

SUMMARY OF THE BILL.

The main provisions of the Bill have been summarised as under:—

Clause I.—To give power to the police to arrest "procurers" caught in the act without the delay of obtaining a warrant (as they can arrest a pickpocket).

Clause II.—To strengthen the law dealing with keepers of brothels.

Clause III.—To provide that if a house is used as a brothel, the tenancy may be terminated by the landlord, and that if he does not terminate the tenancy he shall be held liable for any future similar use of the house.

Clause IV. (a).—To amend a paragraph in the Vagrancy Act, 1868, which deals with solicitation by male persons for immoral purposes, by making it clear that it includes soliciting persons of either sex.

Clause IV. (b).—To extend the definition of cases in which a man may be presumed to be living on the earnings of immorality.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

Hon. Secretaries: President: Secretary: Hon. Treasurer: MISS K. D. COURTNEY. MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. MISS GERALDINE COOKE. MRS. AUERBACH. MISS EDITH PALLISER (Parliamentary). Hon. Secretary to the Press Committee: MISS EMILY M. LEAF. Telegrams: "Voiceless, London." Hon. Sec. to Literature Committee: MISS I. B. O'MALLEY. Telephone: 1960 Victoria. Offices: Parliament Chambers, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Literature Department.

PROPAGANDA AND MEETING POSTERS.

The National Union has issued some propaganda posters which it is hoped will prove useful to suffragists for posting on hoardings, or on sandwich-board parades. They are 30 inches long by 20 inches broad, have an attractive border in red and green, designed by Miss Lowndes and the words—

"IS A WOMAN A PERSON?"

The law says YES when she has to PAY taxes
The law says NO when she asks to VOTE
how her money shall be spent.
IS THIS FAIR?

We also have a meeting poster (30 inches long by 20 inches broad) with the same red and green border and printed as follows:—

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
Meeting
On
At
Speakers

Chair: with spaces to fill in the time and place and names of speakers.

LONDON SOCIETY OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES, LAW-ABIDING. 58, Victoria Street, S.W. NON-PARTY.
PUBLIC RECEPTION, Empress Rooms, Kensington High Street,

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 3.30 to 6.15.
Chair:—Miss EDITH DIMOCK. Speakers:—Miss K. D. COURTNEY, Hon. Secretary N.U.W.S.S. Miss EDITH PALLISER, Hon. Parliamentary Secretary. Mrs. F. T. SWANWICK, Editor "The Common Cause." DISCUSSION INVITED.
SALE OF ORIENTAL CHINA AND ANTIQUES.

weekly; editors have been called upon or written to, and excellent letters and articles have appeared as opportunity allowed.

"It has been decidedly encouraging to note, since the editor of the 'Weekly Scotsman' has been approached, the change in that paper's attitude towards the women's movement; formerly a profound silence reigned on the subject, now a column appears weekly entitled 'Women's Outlook,' containing news of both Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage work. The 'Weekly Scotsman' also published the development in the policy of our Society verbatim.

"The attitude of the two Leith papers has also been very encouraging; both have thrown open their columns to Suffrage news, and the editors have been most sympathetic, showing a great interest in the cause. A copy of the COMMON CAUSE is sent to them weekly, and each asked for Mrs. Fawcett's history of the Suffrage Movement, which was also sent. 'The Scotsman' and 'Dispatch,' while accepting letters and news, are both decidedly Anti, and hostile in tone to women generally. 'The Evening News' has for some years been a consistent supporter, readily publishing letters and news of Suffrage import, though occasionally adverse articles appear, the staff being apparently divided on the question.

"At the last by-election in Edinburgh the 'Evening News' rendered great assistance and was most friendly in tone. I regret, therefore, that in the report of the Scottish Federation, published March, 1912, it is stated that 'the attitude of the 'Evening News' is unknown.' Once a week a woman's column appears and Suffrage items are readily inserted; but at present this column leans towards other matters connected with women.

"Our reader from St. Andrews has occasionally had Suffrage news placed in the free library, others might perhaps like to follow her example."

By-Elections.

HOLMFIRTH DIVISION OF YORKSHIRE.

Candidates:—
Mr. Lunn (Labour).
Mr. Sydney Arnold (Liberal).
Mr. Geoffrey Ellis (Unionist).
National Union Committee Rooms—16, High Street, Penistone; George Street, Kirkburton.
Polling Day:—June 20th.
National Union Organizer:—Miss Clarkson.

THE GREAT FIGHT IN HOLMFIRTH.

From every point of view and particularly that of popular interest, the present campaign in the Holmfirth division is much the most interesting by-election in which the National Union has been engaged. It is the first occasion on which we have put into practice our newly developed policy, and it has been taken up with an enthusiasm unprecedented even in our ranks. Moreover, with the introduction of the Government Reform Bill, Women's Suffrage becomes the predominant issue at the election next Thursday.

The election is interesting too, because each of the three candidates has some chance of success, though in the main the struggle would seem to be between the Liberal and Labour candidates.

The National Union is sparing no effort to secure the return of Mr. Lunn, the Labour candidate, and this entails the pulling down of a very large Liberal majority. Perhaps the greatest difficulty is the assumed spiritual descent of Mr. Arnold from the late popular Liberal member, and the somewhat rudimentary state of some of the Labour organisations.

We are very fortunate in having in Mr. Lunn a candidate of transparent honesty and high principle, one who we know will be no fine-weather friend. He assures me that Women's Suffrage is the most popular plank of his platform.

The interest taken in our question is most remarkable. A Huddersfield paper describes the Suffrage speakers as "a modern type of destroying angels," since other meetings dis-



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(Miss GOLDING.)

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317, REGENT STREET, W. (Near QUEEN'S HALL.)

solve when we appear. On nomination day Mr. Arnold's crowd in Penistone market was decimated when our speakers came and Mr. Ellis the Conservative candidate fared even worse.

On Saturday evening when our car arrived at Kirkburton the crowds standing round the Anti-Socialist and Home Rule speakers immediately faced round and followed us up a side street to our committee room. Here we have a picturesque two-roomed cottage with mounting steps outside and it was an unforgettable sight to see the people come flocking up the steep, flagged street. In a very few minutes there was a crowd of eight hundred listening to Mrs. Chew. I slipped away to the two meetings below, and found that together the audiences numbered a hundred and seventy—had we been in sight probably there would have been none!

The Holmfirth division is a district of steep hill and dale, difficult of access without motors. The people are hardy types, living in small industrial and mining villages. The women look robust, and often very handsome, standing with their shawls close drawn round their heads. The number of chubby children and their universal good behaviour is most striking.

These Yorkshire people are generally non-committal, but many times they have expressed their hearty appreciation of the clear, reasoned, and moderate statements of our case; and, frequently, they tell me that they had not before understood what we were after, but now agreed with us.

FAMILIAR INITIALS AND THEIR MEANINGS.

N. U. W. S. S. (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies).—Objects,—to obtain the Parliamentary Vote for Women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. Methods.—Constitutional.

W. S. P. U. (Women's Social and Political Union).—Objects—Same as above. Methods—Militant.

T. P. W. B. (Templar Printing Works, Birmingham).—Printers for both above great Organizations (and many others) Objects.—To obtain by trading. Funds to be used exclusively for the extension of the Cause of Temperance—no personal profit-getters or shareholders. Methods.—For our employees—Trade Union Conditions for our customers.—Best work at lowest remunerative prices.

MAY WE SERVE YOU ?

We see but little of the N.L.O.W.S., although I have often set out to find them and their works. Their representatives were very ill-advised to publish in the Standard statements that have since been persistently falsified in the event. On no occasion have we been treated with disrespect, nor have we failed to secure a serious and thoughtful hearing. Speakers from the N.L.O.W.S. tried to interrupt Miss Helen Ward and Mrs. Cooper at their indoor meeting at Holmfirth, but the audience made them look very foolish.

The Holmfirth electorate has had the advantage of hearing some of our best speakers on the industrial position, and they feel the direct personal appeal and the deep human interest of our cause. The air is invigorating and the spirit of our workers is even more bracing.

One gentleman, who was once an opponent, turned and remarked: "Look at these women. How happy they should be working for their big idea."

It is indeed a privilege to see this fine phase of the long struggle for the emancipation of women.

EVA WARD.

COMMITTEE ROOM.—George Street, Kirkburton.

Workers:—Miss St. John, Miss Beaver, Miss Sheard.

This committee-room consists of a small two-roomed cottage. We took it unfurnished, hired some furniture, and two of us are sleeping in it. Our kitchen is the centre of activity in the village.

We are receiving great kindness in this part of the constituency; everywhere we go the people seem sympathetic, but it is difficult to say how far their sympathy will affect the Labour vote. The Yorkshireman's advice, "Hear all, say nowt," is taken fairly literally.

We have held fifteen meetings in this part of the constituency since we arrived—at Upper and Lower Lepton, Colne Bridge, Shelley Bank Bottom, Farnley Tyas, Brockholes, High Burton, Shepley, Rowley Hill, and several in Kirkburton. Mrs. Chew, the Rev. R. Roberts, Miss St. John, Miss Eva Ward, and I were the speakers.

We get exceedingly good and attentive audiences, and the COMMON

CAUSE and penny badges sell well. The Labour speakers greatly appreciate our efforts on their behalf.

The militant suffragists are here, too, but we have not seen the anti. E. SHEARD.

ILKESTON DIVISION.

Candidates.—Mr. Marshall Freeman (U.)

Colonel Seely (L.)

Nominations.—June 25th.

Polling.—July 1st.

Liberal majority in December, 1910—4,044.

NATIONAL UNION COMMITTEE ROOM.—47, Bath Street, Ilkeston.

I arrived here with Miss Ballantyne on Saturday, June 8th, in order to do propaganda work in the constituency of Colonel Seely, a well-known Anti-Suffragist. After one day's work we were electrified on Tuesday morning to hear we were confronted with a by-election in the Ilkeston Division. A committee-room was taken at once in the most important thoroughfare, and by Thursday we were ready for the fray, which was still uncertain. The shop, however, immediately became a centre of attraction, and we have already given away a great deal of literature. We have also opened the election campaign with an open-air meeting in the Market Place, where a large crowd listened quietly for an hour and a half; there was absolutely no disturbance. Our questions are in the hands of the two chosen candidates, and we are waiting anxiously for the decision of the Labour Party, who are uncertain as to running a candidate. In any case we have an excellent opportunity for thoroughly good propaganda, and financial or personal help, in this important by-election, will be specially valuable. As polling day is not until July 1st, a great deal of help will be needed.

C. E. COWMEADOW.

HYTHE DIVISION.

Result:—

Sir Philip Sassoon (U.) 3,722

Captain Moorhouse (L.) 2,004

Unionist majority 1,718

Sir Philip Sassoon is returned to Parliament fully pledged to the National Union to support Women's Suffrage.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Altogether acknowledged since Nov. 1st, 1912 6,894 2 3

Received from June 8th to June 14th, 1912:—

Subscriptions:—

Mrs. Oliver Strachey 0 10 0

Miss Jessie Mitchell 0 5 0

Miss Clara Bryan 5 0 0

Miss L. H. Ensor 0 10 6

Miss Muriel Douglas 0 2 0

Donations:—

Mrs. H. Weston Eve 5 0 0

Hull W.S.S. 10 0 0

Miss E. Bateson 10 0 0

Miss Thornton 10 0 0

Miss Brook 5 0 0

Scarborough W.S.S. 5 0 0

Miss Hanks 3 0 0

York W.S.S. 3 0 0

Hatfield W.S.S. 2 10 0

Filey W.S.S. 1 10 0

Malton W.S.S. 10 0 0

Per Mrs. W. E. Dowson, E. Notts

By Election

Mrs. Oliver Strachey 5 0

Miss Dowson 5 0

Mrs. Rackham 5 0

Miss Beaumont 5 0

Mrs. Daniel 5 0

Table with names and amounts: Miss Davey 5 0, Mrs. Copely Harding 5 0, Mrs. B. Coysh 5 0, Mrs. Cunliffe 5 0, Newnam College 10 0, Mrs. W. E. Dowson 5 0, Affiliation Fees: Salisbury W.S.S. 1 0 3, Weybridge W.S.S. (additional) 3 6, Walsall W.S.S. 6 6, Acorn W.S.S. 5 0, Total £6,990 5 0

London Society.

GREAT BAZAAR AND ORIENTAL FETE.

It has been decided to hold a Bazaar and Fête next December to raise funds for the London Society. The scheme is already being warmly taken up by several of the most influential of the committee. The work and permanent organisation of the Society is, happily, increasing day by day with such rapidity,

notably in the poorer parts of London, that it has become essential to look well ahead to ensure a sound financial position enabling full advantage to be taken of every opening as it occurs. The bazaar is to be organised on new lines so that it shall prove a real popular attraction, but of all this further particulars will be published in the COMMON CAUSE from time to time. In the meantime, every member is asked to decide what she can do to help, and above all, TO BEGYN DOING IT. If it is a gift of money towards expenses, to send or promise it at once; if it is the making of objects for sale, to inquire what will be most needed or to announce what she (or he) can most conveniently produce; if it is to arouse the interest of outside friends who, mayhap, know more about bazaars than they do of politics, to jot down a list and write each a persuasive letter; if it is to get up little outdoor plays or entertainments in country places during the summer to gather funds to buy materials or foreign curios, then to arrange the holiday programme accordingly; and lastly if possessed of a brilliant idea, or in doubt of

The Women's Local Government Society FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Established on a Non-Party Basis.

Founded in 1888 and formally constituted as a Society in 1893.

President - LADY STRACHEY.

Publications include: "National Insurance and Local Government," Leaflets for the Town and Metropolitan County Council Elections, 1912, etc., etc. Also for sale, "Women as Citizens" (a Sermon).

Office, 19 Tothill St., Westminster. Tel. 1903 Victoria.

AMOR VINCIT:

A Romance of the Staffordshire Moorlands.

By Mrs. R. S. GARNETT,

Member of the London Society for Women's Suffrage.

LONDON: DUCKWORTH, 6/-

The TIMES says: "It is a piece of sterling and durable work." The ATHENAEUM says: "The force and colour and cunning of the writing—the character of the landscape and the spell belonging to it are admirably rendered." The PALL MALL GAZETTE says: "The power and masculinity of the whole story are astounding, and the strongly-drawn and sharply contrasted characters—are real triumphs—a veritable epic."

THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT. MEETINGS AT QUEEN'S HALL, JUNE 19th.

Speakers:—Bishop of Oxford (Dr. Gore), Bishop of Hull, Rev. Creighton, Rev. Dr. Scott Lidgett, Mr. T. Edmund Harvey, M.P., Mrs. Radcliman, Mrs. F. E. Willey, M.D., Rev. William Temple, M.A., Miss Maude Royden.

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UNITED DEMONSTRATION OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, THE C.L.W.S., THE FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE, Saturday, June 22, 3.30 p.m.

C.L.W.S. Speakers:—Dr. LETITIA FAIRFIELD, Miss RUTH YOUNG, Rev. F. M. GREEN, Rev. G. D. ROSENTHAL.

GARDEN FETE AT WALPOLE HOUSE, CHISWICK MALL, W. (By kind permission of the Hon. Mrs. Goldman), in aid of the NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, On Saturday, June 29th, 1912. 3 to 7 p.m.

Morris Dancings, Folk Songs, Recitations, Palmistry, etc. "THE CONSTANT LOVER," By St. John Hankin.

TICKETS, 5/- including Tea. After 5 o'clock, 1/- (Children half-price). Can be obtained from Miss Wright, 8, Park Mansions, Arcade, Knightsbridge.

Federation Notes.

West Midland.

A SUMMER SCHOOL FOR SUFFRAGISTS. Who would like a holiday in Worcestershire, with the opportunity of exploring Stratford-on-Avon, Worcester, Evesham and many other delightful and interesting places and helping along the Suffrage cause at the same time? Such sensible people will have an opportunity of gratifying their tastes at the Summer School which the West Midland Federation is organising for August.

This Summer School is intended to equip volunteer workers with the technical knowledge necessary if their enthusiasm and talents are to be turned to fullest account. The course will last a week, and will afford training both practical and theoretical. The theoretical part will consist of three courses of lectures, occupying the forenoon. There will be a speakers' class, a course on organisation, and a course aiming at supplying data for canvassers and others. The course on organisation will include lectures on the organisation, constitution and policy of the National Union; hints on how to canvass, how to spread literature, how to keep interest in Suffrage alive, how to do Press work and so on. The third course will consist of lectures supplying the suffragist with facts about the history of the movement, about the legal disabilities of women, about women in the labour market, about the vote in other countries, and facts suitable for conveying information and at urging the claims of Suffrage, and therefore will not overlap the work already carried on by pamphlets.

Then, as to the practical side of the work, we intend to carry on the school in the county constituency of North Worcestershire where we have not yet done any work. The students will have opportunities of learning how to work up meetings, and of speaking at them in the villages of the district.

A third of the day, either afternoon or evening, will be left free for the enjoyment of the beauties of the district.

We hope to secure a large house or school in a central position, where we can all be sheltered under the care of Mrs. Meyer, one of the organisers for the Federation.

Further particulars will be made public later. In the meantime, send in your names for the first week of August to Miss Noel Wright, Sutton Lodge, Solihull, Warwickshire.

E. J. D. MORRISON.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The first annual meeting of the West Midland Federation was held at Kidderminster on June 13th. It redounds very much to the credit of the Kidderminster Society that within four months of its formation the members were able to invite the Federation to meet in their town. All the arrangements were perfect, and special praise is due to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. Ellis Talbot, who spared no pains in making the meeting a complete success. Mrs. Langley Browne presided, and a very full and varied report was read by Miss Noel Wright, Hon. Sec., showing how very much the Federation had expanded during the past year; nine new Societies have been formed within the area, and the smaller of the existing Societies have been strengthened. It is confidently hoped that in the course of the next year there will be a Society in every constituency within the Federation. Miss Wright spoke in glowing terms of the efficiency and zeal of the two organisers, Miss Morrison and Miss Coyle. Mrs. Harley, Hon. Treasurer, read the financial report. Three hundred pounds had been raised during the year to carry on the work of the Federation. Mrs. Harley, while thanking most heartily all those who had helped to raise that sum, stated that a still larger amount would be needed to meet the expenses of the increased work, and she felt confident it would be forthcoming. These reports were duly adopted, and a vote of thanks to the retiring officers was passed with acclamation. Then came the election of officers, the result of which is as follows:—Chairman, Mrs. Harley; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Ellis Talbot; Hon. Secretary, Miss Noel Wright; Press Secretary and COMMON CAUSE Correspondent, Mrs. Harley. A resolution was proposed and carried unanimously that Herefordshire should be brought into the Federation. At the close of the proceedings Lady Frances Balfour gave an address on the new policy of the National Union, which was listened to most attentively and the resolution adopting the policy was carried, with only one dissentient. The Federation is deeply indebted to the Hon. Sec., Miss Noel Wright, who has worked untiringly and with so much ability during the past year, and we are indeed fortunate to have obtained her services again.

(Signed) "THE COACHMAN."

P.S.—Donors need not stop short at paint, boilerette and boots. Offers of contributions towards the store-locker would be thankfully received by:— (a) Mrs. E. E. Kellett, Hon. Sec. E. Counties Federation, 4, Belvoir Terrace, Cambridge (for July). (b) Miss J. Beavan, Hon. Sec. W. Lancs. Federation, 12, Ullett Road, Liverpool (for first half of August). (c) Miss V. Collum (Coachman-cook), 128, Cheyne Walk, S.W. (for July and August).

LICHFIELD. After a week's work culminating in a public meeting addressed by Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson, the LICHFIELD SOCIETY has got a good start in its work of educating the Lichfield constituency. On Saturday, the 8th of June, I addressed a very large meeting in the Market Square, and on Monday, the 10th, Mrs. Meyer and I visited the Lichfield stone works in the dinner-hour, whence we went to Mrs.

Norman's rummage sale, where I gave another address. On Tuesday Mrs. Meyer and I went out to Hammerwich, and though everyone assured us we should never get a meeting there, we managed after only a few hours' work to get together an audience of over fifty, who seemed much interested and at the end asked questions. During Wednesday and Thursday I was absent on Federation business, but Mrs. Meyer canvassed a miraculously large number of houses with the success that always attends her. Our meeting on Friday, with Councillor Raby in the chair, was one of the largest meetings ever held in Lichfield. The resolution was carried with only three youthful dissentients, all the COMMON CAUSES were sold, also a great deal of literature. We followed this up on Saturday, with a meeting for members, at which I explained the new policy, and still another open-air meeting in the Market Square, when I explained our policy to a large audience, mostly men. We hope to follow up our work in Lichfield with a campaign in Cannock Chase.

E. J. D. MORRISON.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

BREAKING NEW GROUND.

A pioneer meeting was held at WADHURST, Sussex, on June 13th. Mrs. Charles Berry took the chair. Considering that fresh ground was being broken the meeting was a great success. Mrs. Lyall Dempster made a clear and interesting speech dealing with the main aspects of the question. The audience of 25 to 30, both men and women, were keenly interested in Mrs. Dempster's convincing address and after the meeting 12 joined the National Union and there is little doubt that the numbers necessary to form a local Society will soon be found, and that the Society will affiliate to the Surrey, Sussex and Hants Federation.

Propaganda work has been done during the past ten days round Hailsham and Pevensey, and a meeting was held on Thursday, June 13th, on the lawn of Boynton Hailsham (through the kind permission of Mrs. Kent). A fair number attended, and addresses from Mrs. Strickland of Hastings and Miss Norah O'Shea, Cosham, were listened to with great interest.

Mrs. Channa of St. Michael's House, Hanksam, very kindly arranged a lawn meeting for Saturday afternoon, June 15th, when Miss Gatliff took the chair, and an address was given by Mrs. Lyall Dempster, followed by discussion. The Eastbourne Society gave valuable help in the work of distributing bills, etc.

North Western.

A NEW SOCIETY.

As a result of my work in Carnforth last week a new society full of enthusiasm has been started.

On Thursday, Miss Willis gave a drawing-room meeting at Ormrod House, when twenty-one members joined. On Friday, Mrs. Barton had a garden meeting at Red Court, when more members joined, and a Committee was formed and officers elected. Miss Barton as President, Mrs. Barton vice-president, Miss E. Slinger treasurer, Miss Willis hon. secretary. Plans for carrying on the work were immediately set in order. The officers are supported by an excellent Committee, and there is every prospect of the Carnforth Society having a most useful and successful career.

I was most grateful to Mrs. Barton and Miss Willis for the help they gave.

M. NORMA-SMITH.

Eastern Counties.

CRUMER.—In spite of a threatened thunder-storm, the lecture hall was well filled on Thursday last, June 13th, when Dr. Mary Bell spoke on the economic position of women. It was the second public meeting of the Crumer branch, and proves that Crumer does not mean to be left out in fighting for the Cause of women. The well known names of some on the committee show the keen interest that is being taken, and there is no doubt that Crumer will be one of the keenest societies in the union.

The resolution which was carried with only two dissentients was sent up to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Noel Buxton and Mr. King (unionist candidate).

Kentish.

TRUBRIDGE WELLS.—On May 23rd, Mrs. Mackintosh gave an "At Home" at the Suffrage Shop, when Mrs. Stanbury, a member of the National Union Executive, gave an address, explanatory to those unacquainted with the movement, and full of encouragement to those working for it.

The committee at their last meeting passed a resolution supporting the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which was forwarded to the local M.P.'s. Both Captains Spender Clay and Mr. G. L. Courthope, in their replies, expressed their intention of supporting the measure.

In the last Kentish report (May 23rd) there were two mistakes in the Trubridge Wells notice: The speaker at the monthly meeting for working women on April 17th was Mrs. Mackintosh, not Miss Mackintosh, and the meeting given as held at Padlock Wood and presided over by the Rev. G. B. Charles, was held at Pembury.

ASHFORD.—Early in May Miss Dutton, organiser for the Kentish Federation, visited Ashford to revive the branch that was formed a year ago. Owing to the removal of the original secretary from the town, the work had unavoidably suffered. After Miss Dutton and Mrs. W. Streeter had visited and distributed literature a meeting was held in the old grammar school on May 9th, which was well attended. Dr. Annie Brunyate presided, and Mrs. Deane Stratfield, president of the Kentish Federation, gave an address on "Why Women Want the Vote."

Miss Dutton had addressed the members of the Ashford P.S.A., the members of the South Ashford Women's Adult School and aroused much interest.

On May 18th, a members' meeting was held and new officers were elected, a committee formed and arrangements made for a garden meeting to be held during the summer.

SEVENOAKS.—On June 11th a meeting of the Sevenoaks branch was held at which Mrs. Auerbach gave an interesting address on the present outlook of the National Union. A Suffrage Shop has now been opened in Sevenoaks.

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Other Societies.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.
8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (Opposite Knightsbridge Tube Station).
PRESIDENT: Mrs. OCEIL CHAPMAN.
On June 25th our garden fete will take place at Walpole House, Chiswick Mall, from 3 to 7 p.m. by kind permission of the Hon. Mrs. Goldman. There will be Morris dancing, performed by children and arranged by Miss Plaskitt, a performance of "The Masque of Pau," also acted by children. Mrs. George Young and Mr. F. C. Meyer will appear in the "Constant Lover," and Miss Gwendoline Logan will recite to music. The "Mascotte" Ladies Band will play during the afternoon. There will be several palmists (including Mrs. Cecil Crofts) and a hoop-la, arranged by the Men's Political Union. The Men's Society for Women's Suffrage is also providing a side show, the details of which will be published later.
Walpole House is a charming old Jacobean residence, containing a fine collection of Burne-Jones pictures, and is in itself well worth a visit. The garden is charming, and no more pleasant spot could be found near London on a June afternoon.
The New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, which has always tried to promote unity among suffrage societies by joining with them whenever possible, hopes to welcome suffragists belonging to all societies on this festive occasion. Tickets, including tea, 5s. (children half price), after 5 o'clock 1s., can be obtained from Miss Wright, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.
HON. TREAS.: Miss MONICA WHEATLEY.
HON. SEC.: Miss G. JEFFERY.
21, Blandford Street, Baker Street, W.
The fourth of the series of lectures at 55, Russell Square, W.C., will be given on Thursday, June 27th, at 8 p.m., when Miss Christine O'Connor will read a paper entitled "The Suffrage in Italy." This lecture is open to all Catholics, and members are particularly asked to bring their friends.

HEALTH SOUTHALLS' Towels
POSSESS MANY GREAT ADVANTAGES:-
Their elasticity gives comfort to the wearer.
Their complete absorbency promotes cleanliness and gives security.
Their unique softness gives warmth and ease.
Their thorough antisepticity is the greatest safeguard of health.

WARNING. Do not ask for Sanitary Towels—ask specially for Southalls'. Other makes lack the many advantages which distinguish Southalls'.

Sold at Ladies' Counters in all Drapers, Chemists, etc., in silver packets of one dozen at 6d., 1/1, 1/6 and 2/-. A FREE SAMPLE can be obtained by writing to THE LADY MANAGER, 17, Bull Street, Birmingham.

Will friends please note that the joint demonstration of the church leagues takes place next Saturday, June 22nd, in Trafalgar Square, at 3.30 p.m. The Catholic speakers will be Miss Abadam, Mr. Joseph Clayton, and Miss K. Fitzgerald, B.A. Every Catholic suffragist within reach of London is earnestly requested to come and support our platform, and to make the demonstration widely known.
The secretary is anxious to hear at once from anyone willing to give a drawing-room meeting in or near London.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.
Speakers for the united demonstration of the three religious leagues, on Saturday 22nd inst., in Trafalgar Square, include Rev. Dr. Clifford, Miss Mary MacArthur, Rev. Evan Williams, Rev. C. Fleming Williams, time 3.30. On July 2nd, at 5.30, "At Home" at Warrare, Blackheath. Speakers: Mrs. Strickland, Rev. E. J. Barson, Rev. W. W. Chynoweth Pope.

Forthcoming Meetings.

ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.

(The meetings are given only a fortnight in advance.)

- JUNE 20. Knebworth—Knebworth House—Mr. Laurence Housman, Lord Lytton (chair) 3.30
- Hastings—The Misses Woodgate's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Lyall Dempster 3.30
- JUNE 21. Swadlincote—Gresley Common—open-air meeting—Mrs. A. Lambrick 7.0
- Hastings—Mrs. Strickland's meeting—Mrs. Lyall Dempster 3.30
- Llangollen—Council Chamber, Town Hall—women's meeting—Miss McPherson 5.30
- JUNE 22. Manchester—Platt Fields, Rusholme—open-air demonstration—P. D. Acland, Esq., M.P., Councillor Margaret Ashton, Miss Nina Boyle and others 3.30
- Bolton—Percnolough—Garden Fete and Sale of work 3-7
- Rochester—Satis House—Mrs. J. J. Foord's garden meeting—Mrs. Nott Bower, Miss Helen Ward, Mr. F. S. Cooper (chair) 3.30
- Tiverton—Parochial Room—Miss Frances Sterling 8.0
- JUNE 24. Croydon—Office, Arcade, High Street—"Suffragist Stooktaking"—G. Ledger, Esq. 3.30
- Tunbridge Wells—in garden at "Hillgarth"—Mrs. Tillard's meeting—Mrs. Corbett Ashby 3.30
- JUNE 25. Oxford—Botley—Open-air meeting near Mission Hall 7.30
- Hastings—Rev. D. Monro's meeting—Mrs. Lyall Dempster 3.0
- Exeter—"The Landens"—Mrs. Williams' garden meeting—Miss Frances Sterling 4.30
- Bramhall—Mrs. Pilkington Turner's drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Barnes (chair) 3.30
- West Bromwich—Library Lecture Room—Miss Margaret Robertson, Councillor Sydney Bache (chair) 8.0
- JUNE 26. Oxford—The Principal's garden, Jesus College—The Committee "At Home" 4-5.30
- Birmingham—Botanical Gardens, Edgbaston—garden party for members—Miss Margaret Robertson 5.0
- Hastings—21, Boscebel Road—Mrs. Lyall Dempster 3.0
- Leeds 9, Park Lane—"At Home"—"The Insurance Bill" 3.30
- JUNE 27. Exmouth—All Saints Institute—Miss Frances Sterling 3.30
- Birmingham—43, Frederick Road—Miss Kirby's garden meeting 8.0
- Sutton Coldfield Society—Little Aston Park, Streetly—Garden meeting—Miss Robertson, Mrs. Carol Ring 3.0
- JUNE 28. Weston-super-Mare—Mrs. Thorpe's garden party—Dr. Sloan Chessan (Gloucester) 3.0
- Bletchingley—The Square—Mrs. Dempster, J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., Mrs. James Powell (chair) 8.15
- JULY 1. Croydon—Office, Arcade, High Street—"Women's Vote and Foreign Politics"—Miss Elliott 3.30
- Birmingham—Rubery—Mrs. Suffer's meeting 3.30
- Holywell—Monreible—Garden meeting—Miss O'Shea, Mrs. Auerbach (chair) 3.30
- Oxford—New Marston—Open-air meeting 7.30
- JULY 3. Oxford—The Warden's garden, Wadham College—The Committee "At Home" 4-5.30
- Croydon—Mrs. Hall's "At Home"—Miss A. Maude Royden 3.30

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Conducts Appeals before the Commissioners.
Advices on Investments with regard to Income-tax.

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FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

- JUNE 20. LONDON.
Y.M.C.A. Rooms, 17, Camden Rd., N.—North London "At Home"—Miss Corbett, M.A., R. F. Cholmeley, Esq., Miss H. D. Cooke (chair) 3.30
- JUNE 21. West Southwark—corner of Friar St. and Gt. Suffolk St.—open-air meeting—Miss W. A. Elkin, Miss Goddard 7.45
- N. Kensington—Horbury Rooms, Ludbroke Rd.—Miss A. Maude Royden, Mrs. Sackville Caldwell, Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., The Lady Frances Balfour (chair) 8.30
- JUNE 24. Hackney—The Cedars, Upper Clapton Road—Sir Walter Johnson's garden meeting—Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., The Rt. Rev. Bishop Powell (chair)—Recitation, Mr. E. N. Farnell 4.0
- Islington—Sunnyside, 100, Hornsey Lane—Miss McGrigor's garden meeting—Miss Helen Ward, R. F. Cholmeley, Esq., Miss Stobhr 4.0
- West Southwark—St. George's Church and Borough Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Janet Thomson, M.A., Mrs. Garrett Jones, Miss Stobhr 7.45
- Hampstead—Town Hall—The Hon. Mrs. John Bailey, Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., Mrs. Henry Fawcett (chair) 8.30
- JUNE 25. Watworth—Browning Hall, Grosvenor Park, S.E.—Mrs. Richardson 2.30
- Kensington—Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel—London Society's "At Home"—Miss K. D. Courtney, Miss Palliser, Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, Miss E. Dimock (chair) 3.30
- Fulham—69, Gowan Avenue, Fulham Palace Road—drawing-room meeting—Mrs. Rogers 4.0
- Northwood—Church Hall, Church Road—Miss Helen Ward 8.15
- N. Kensington—Aroher Street Fountain—Open-air meeting—Mrs. Rogers, Miss H. D. Cooke 8.30
- JUNE 26. Wandsworth—Lecture Hall, Primitive Methodist Church Hall, Church Road—Miss Helen Ward 8.15
- Wandsworth and Putney—Lecture Hall, Primitive Methodist Chapel, High Street, Wandsworth—"Working women and the Vote"—Miss I. O. Ford 2.30
- West Southwark—Corner of Broadwell Street and Stamford Street—Open-air meeting—Miss W. G. Jameson, Miss W. A. Elkin 7.45
- Blackheath—Corner of Stookwell Street and London Street—Miss C. Corbett, M.A., Miss M. E. Hewitt, Mrs. Long (chair) 8.0
- JUNE 27. Y.M.C.A. Rooms, 17, Camden Road, N.—North London "At Home"—Miss A. Maude Royden, Mrs. F. T. Swanwick, M.A., Miss Helen Ward (chair) 3.30
- Wimbledon—Corner of Quick's Road—Open-air meeting—Miss Corbett, M.A., Mr. Walter Hogg, Mr. H. M. Ellis (chair) 8.0
- JUNE 28. Norwood—Suffrage Offices—Franchise Fair—Miss Abadam 3.30
- JUNE 29. Norwood—Suffrage Offices—Franchise Fair 3.30

- SCOTLAND.
- JUNE 20. Mid Calder—The Institute—Miss Alice Low, Miss Lindsay Jardine (chair) 8.0
- Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"The Milk Supply of Great Cities"—Mrs. Turnbull (President, British Dairymaid Association), Mrs. Guyer (chair) evening.
- JUNE 22. Falkirk—Old Welsh Manse—Garden party—Miss Cottrell 4-5.30
- JUNE 24. Bo'ness—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa Gordon, Miss Hilda Cottrell 8.0
- JUNE 25. Bo'ness—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa Gordon, Miss Hilda Cottrell 8.0
- Dundee—12, Meadowside—Miss Chrystal Macmillan, M.A., M.Sc., Miss Alice Compton, M.A.
- JUNE 26. Eskbank—Drawing-room meeting afternoon
- JUNE 27. Linlithgow—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa Gordon, Miss Alice Low 8.0
- JUNE 28. Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Miss M. C. Lees 4.30
- JUNE 29. Bo'ness—Open-air meeting—Miss Lisa M. Gordon, Miss Alice Low 8.0

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Platt Fields, Rusholme, MANCHESTER,
On SATURDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1912, at 3.30.

THREE PLATFORMS.

- PLATFORM 1 - - Chairman : W. ROYLE, Esq. SPEAKERS: F. D. ACLAND, Esq., M.P.
(Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs),
COUNC. MARGARET ASHTON, M.A. MRS. DICKENSON.
- PLATFORM 2 - - Chairman: L. W. ZIMMERMAN, Esq. SPEAKERS: MISS MARGARET
ROBERTSON, B.A., MISS GORE-BOOTH, and others.
- PLATFORM 3 - - Chairman: Rev. A. E. CORNIBER, M.A. SPEAKERS: MISS NINA BOYLE,
MRS. COOPER, and others.

IF WET, THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE RUSHOLME PUBLIC HALL, AT 3.30.

A MEMORIAL MASS MEETING

will be held
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1912,
AT 8 p.m. AT QUEEN'S HALL,
(Sole lessees Messrs. Chappell & Co.).

in memory of the late **W.T. STEAD** (who lost his life on the "Titanic.")

A Resolution with regard to the WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC BILL now before Parliament will be put to the meeting.

SPEAKERS.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| NOEL BUXTON, M.P. | J. RAMSAY McDONALD, M.P. |
| W. L. GEORGE. | Miss MARY McMILLAN. |
| Mr. HAWKINS. | Mr. MILHOLLAND. |
| Dr. HORTON. | HARRY SNELL. |
| G. LANSBURY, M.P. | Mr. HERBERT STEAD, M.A. |
| Mr. STANLEY LEE. | Lady STOUT. |
| Miss LIND-ALF-HAGEBY. | J. WEDGWOOD, M.P. |

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P.S.—As the Shop organizing this meeting has no Society behind it it calls upon all men and women in sympathy to help. Please call at 15, Adam Street.



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To the Secretary _____

Society for Women's Suffrage

Or the Secretary National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

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