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#### Notice to Subscribers and Contributors.

Weekly Numbers, 1½d. a week post free. Quarterly Subscriptions, 1s. 8d.; half-yearly, 3s. 3d.; yearly, 6s. 6d. All Subscriptions must be paid in advance. Back Numbers can still be obtained at the Office.

Articles containing information on the subject of Women's Suffrage should be addressed to the Editor, who will return those not considered suitable as soon as possible if a stamped addressed envelope is sent with the MS. As the paper is on a voluntary basis, and all profits go to help the cause, no payments are made for contributions.

The General Editor gives the widest possible latitude to each of the Societies represented in this Paper, and is only responsible for unsigned matter occurring in the pages devoted to general items.

'Women's Franchise,'
Editorial and Publishing Office,
13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

#### Notes.

66 UNITED we stand," seems to be the motto of the Hampstead Suffragists for their meeting at the Hampstead Town Hall, on February 17th.

With a view to showing that, however different their methods, all societies for Women's Suffrage are united in aim and scope, members of seven societies will support the resolution, "That the Parliamentary Franchise should be granted to women on the same terms as it is, or may be granted to men."

All workers for the suffrage are urged to help to make this meeting a success, and to organize meetings on similar lines in other districts, so as to draw attention, rather to the likeness in aim than to the unlikeness in method of the various Suffrage Societies.

A PROPOSAL has been made that on Sunday, February 14th, all Suffragists, wearing their badges, should attend the service at St. Paul's Cathedral at 3.30. Arrangements have been made with the authorities who are advised to expect members. Rev. Mr. Campbell, Mr. Sylvester Horne, and other Nonconformist preachers are to be invited also to preach Suffrage sermons on that day.

In this issue we cannot do more than foretell an enthusiastic reception for Mrs. Pankhurst at a crowded meeting at the Dome, Brighton, on the night of our going to press. The ground has been splendidly prepared by Miss Ogston, who has won golden opinions throughout the borough for the way in which she has met the none too delicate desire of many to have an explanation of the incident with which her name is connected. We can but hope that the fulfilment of her task will mean that all conveners of public meetings will in future pay special attention in the choosing of their stewards.

M. FORBES-ROBERTSON was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union at the Queen's Hall last Monday. He strongly asserted

of space does not permit us to give even a short précis of his eloquent speech.

AT Bow Street Police Court last Monday, five members of the Women's Social and Political Union were charged with obstructing the police in Downing Street last week, and were ordered to be bound over to keep the peace. Four of them refused to be bound over, and were sentenced to a month's imprisonment in the second division.

COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. SUTTON is to preside at a public meeting, convened by the Reading Women's Suffrage Society, to be held in the Large Town Hall to-morrow (Friday) evening, the speakers being Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Philip Snowden.

MISS JANET CASE'S Committee Room on the polling day for the Hampstead Borough Council (Friday, February 5th) will be at 58, Flask Walk, Hampstead (five minutes from the Hampstead Tube Station). Help will be specially welcome between 10.30 to 1 o'clock, and 5 to 8 P.M. Miss Case's candidature is arousing much enthusiasm among all classes. Among the speakers on her behalf have been the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, Miss Bathwick, and Mr. John Russell.

A MEETING in support of Woman Suffrage was held last week at the Paddington Town Hall under the auspices of the local committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage. Dr. J. A. Angus, who stated that he was a recent convert to the cause, was in the chair. Mrs. Eltham Mylne proposed, and Mr. Walter McLaren seconded, a resolution that the time had come when duly qualified women should be admitted to the Parliamentary Franchise. Mr. R. F. Cholmeley supported the resolution, which was carried unamimously.

WE were strongly tempted to enlarge this issue in order to make room for many interesting articles, but feel that very moderate counsels must prevail until our plans for the future are better guaranteed against failure for want of money.

WE have received from Mrs. Hermon one guinea towards the publishing expenses of this paper, and seven shillings

#### The Suffrage in Other Lands.

RUSSIA.—Full reports of the Women's Congress held at St. Petersburg in December are now to hand, and from these I am quoting extracts. Madame Mirovitch writes in Jus Suffragii:

The most crowded section of the Congress was the third on Women's Political Rights (this question was allowed to be discussed in sectional meetings). Unfortunately from the very first the members of this section were divided in two parties. The majority stood for the International Women's Suffrage Alliance's policy of uniting women of all classes and parties into a general movement for political rights. The minority, most of them being Social Democrats, declared that the democratic elements cannot work together with the 'bourgeoises women; that the classes must stand apart in the strife for liberty and justice. Some were even against any separate organization of women, and put all their hopes in a general democratic movement....Miss Furuhjelm gave us a fine report, which went to prove that Finland got her liberty not through one party, but through the combined action of all parties and all classes in Finland. It was to be feared that the want of mutual understanding between the two parties would bring the Congress to evil, that it would give the Administration a pre- This leaves a present deficit of 84l. 5s. Those who sympathize text for closing it, and thus stop the whole work. Happily both with the legal action are asked to send donations to the Secretary parties, the Social Democrats and the non-partisan defenders at Corstorphine Hill House, by Murrayfield, Midlothian. of women's rights, finally came to an understanding. The Social

the right of women to the suffrage, and declared it to be the greatest reform of modern times. We greatly regret that lack of space does not permit us to give even a short precis of his

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On the whole the Congress gave a very full and very tragical picture of the position of women of different classes and professions in Russia. All the reports clearly proved the necessity of changing the laws and customs which deprive women of liberty and impose on them the chains of subjection.'

In the same number Madame Gontscharoff writes:—

I prefer to give here a small account of the grand impression of the Congress, of the active life that animated it, and which made it possible to unite in such a dark reactionary time more than 800 women from different parts of the country, from Siberia, Caucasus, Finland, Poland, &c. The Congress embraced all questions most widely, awakened the attention and interest of all those women and men until now indifferent to the problems of social and political life; yet it excluded the question of political and social life for women.

After dwelling on the difference of opinion between the Socialists and the middle-class women, she goes on :-

"The question of forming a National Council of Women in Russia, affiliating to the National Council of Women, was brought before the Congress by our oldest pioneer of the woman's movement, Mrs. Philosophoff, and called forth again the declaration of a difference of tendency and of the impossibility of uniting all women. Except the delegates of the Labour Party women, the majority of the Congress accepted the plan of forming a National Council of Women, affiliating to the International Council of Women.'

Mr. F. D. Byrne has kindly sent us an account of the Congress taken from the Frankfurter Zeitung, from which I quote the

"The first section engaged itself with the consideration of women's activity in the field of benovolence and education; the second with that of women's work in the country and the workshop, and also with the question of prostitution; the third section dealt with the question of civil and political rights; and the fourth with that of a common education for boys and girls. The meetings of the second section threw much light on the life led by the Russian peasant women. They work much more than the men: for besides the work in the fields, which is often left entirely to them while the men go into the towns in quest of work, they have the whole management of the house and children left on their shoulders....The lot of the factory workers is not much better, as they have the full care of the household in addition to their wearing handiwork.

'The general tone of the sittings was dignified, but at the same time enthusiastic, and the thanks of the Congress were returned to the protagonist of the women's movement in Russia, Madame Philosophoff, and to the organizer of the Congress,
Madame Schabanoff, M.D."

A. ZIMMERN

#### House of Lords-Scottish Women Graduates' Appeal.

Donations towards deficit of 150l.

				£ s.	d.
Already acknowledged				58 0	6
Anonymous				0 2	6
Dr. Lilian Powell	1000			0 5	0
Mrs. Ernest Harrington	age to make			0 5	0
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CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN, Hon. Sec.

#### Woman, The Eternal Question.

BY JEANETTE CADWALLADER.

From the Women's Journal, Boston, June 13th, 1908.

O WOMAN, young or old or new, The world is never tired of you! You are the eternal question still, Though answers come from every quill.

We're often told by writers bold That long ago in days of old, When woman had no views to hold. And seldom ventured from the fold.

Woman was the ideal then. They long for those good days again: Yet there are others-not a few-Who really love the woman new.

The wise ones squander many a ream On Woman—the exhaustless theme; Volumes written, volumes read, And still the last word is unsaid.

Why is the last word yet unsaid, And lovely woman still ahead i The last word, bless you! can't be said Till all the women folks are dead.

#### The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and 'Women's Franchise.'

THOUGH the subject aroused much interest at the Council meeting on the 27th ult., and many variously divergent views were expressed, the situation practically remains the same as when we last went to press. Some speakers openly expressed their opinion that the Executive should not have taken the step it did without first consulting the Council; others suggested that the official news to Women's Franchise should be continued: and others again suggested a special committee to further consider the matter, but the majority supported the action of the Exe-

As only a very few of the members of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies were present at the meeting, and as many of the delegates who were present did not fully understand the situation, we feel it incumbent on us to say one last word concerning the agreement entered into in July, 1907, by the National Union.

The Executive gave the proprietor no invitation to be present when the subject was discussed. Had they done so several matters might have been made more clear. His wife, who has been in co-operation with him throughout, was present, and was able, as proxy delegate for Birkenhead, to speak in support of Women's Franchise, but naturally, though conversant the principles involved, she had not the same knowledge of business details as her husband. Mrs. Fawcett charged Mr. Francis with omitting from his statement the fact that the Union had allowed him £150. But she did not make it clear that that sum was not paid to him as Editor, but as part of the expenses connected with the printing and publishing of the paper, and that it had no bearing whatever on the causes of the final rupture, which is the only point which it behoves us to make clear. Mrs. Fawcett also read a letter she had sent him on Jan. 20th, with regard to a paragraph appearing in our issue of January 14th, concerning a new publication — The Woman and the Hour. Mrs. Fawcett did not, however, read our reply, which was sent on Jan. 21st, which reply has been held by those who have seen it to show clearly that an impossible meaning has been attached to our words.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies long since felt the need of a weekly organ; had indeed thought of one for themselves, but on the founding of Women's Franchise enfranchisement of women,

agreed to combine forces, thus saving expenses. From the first it was openly shared by the Militant Section, and there has been no change of policy on our side.

It may also be pointed out that the National Union for more than eighteen months has been enabled to publish their news and advertise their publications at the extremely low cost above mentioned. It is now intended that the proposed new Suffrage paper shall not start until it is assured of at least £2,000, or more than thirteen times the amount given to the present publication. The nonfulfillment of the Agreement is all and entirely on the side of the Executive of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, who assert that it is impossible to share the paper with a militant society since the issue of the National Union manifesto to the members of Parliament. We have adhered rigidly to all in the Agreement. Though to mention one point it is some time since the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies ceased to place Women's Franchise on its literature stalls, or take any means of pushing the sale. although Clause eight of our agreement says "That the National Union will use their best endeavours to increase the circulation of the said journal," and moreover the clause continues "and so long as the copyright of the said journal is vested in the said J. E. Francis, the National Union will not publish or be in any way interested in publishing any journal devoted to the question of Women's Suffrage."

In spite of the foregoing it is widely known that before counsel's opinion was taken on the subject, it was intended to have another paper. Even now, after taking counsel's opinion, they, the National Union, spent a long time at the Annual Meeting in discussing the affairs of a paper to emanate from Manchester. It is difficult to see how this could concern the National Union, except through their having an "interest" in it.

We have nothing to say against the scheme of this proposed paper; it promises well; but we do say that diverting their members from adherence to Women's Franchise is a further non-

fufilment of their agreement. As to the request of the Executive that we should hand over the paper to the National Union we can only say we have other societies to consider, those who have loyally stood by us; we have other interests to consider, wider than those of any one society, those of the great Cause itself; and we consider at present that the Cause will be best served by our continuance in the field. Therefore we call upon our friends and supporters to help us, so far as possible, by encouraging sales. All the more so at present, as by the action of the Executive, it has left the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, for the time being, without an official organ, though we are still willing, mindful of the fact that Women's Franchise was started with the object of furnishing Suffrage news irrespective of any particular society or league, to insert any announcements sent to us officially or non-officially.

The present subject is not one on which we think we Suffragists can be congratulated, and therefore we feel ourselves obliged to refrain from pushing the sale to the general public of issues in which the matter is alluded to, as we have no wish to give the enemy cause to jeer. We shall therefore endeavour not to allude to the matter again in our pages, though quite willing to discuss and to lay all correspondence (including the Agreement) before those who, by reason of former help or promises for the future, have a right to ask for the same. A more pleasant duty will be to show any of our helpers the letters of high commendation and praise received by us, recognizing as we do that the same are addressed more to them (our helpers) than to us, who have had and have the inestimable privilege of being the connecting link between our writers and readers.

We thank those friends who have already offered to guarantee us, in varying sums, against loss should we decide to follow our inclination of launching out into greater activities, and we ask others to spur us on by similar offers. In conclusion, we would assure our readers that, not being subject to the same peculiar influences as many individuals (including certain members of Parliament), no action, however disadvantageous to us personally, will make any difference in the sincerity of our belief in, and our desire to work for, the most pressing need of our day-the

#### Annual Council Meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

BRIGHTON was exceptionally fortunate during its entertainment of the delegates of the various Suffrage societies last week in having ideally glorious winter weather, and the local press gave full accounts of all the proceedings, in particular the Sussex Daily News. The local committee, as well as the weather, deserved cordial recognition from their visitors. They secured hospitality for all who desired it, and welcomed all to a charming reception in the Pavilion in beautifully adorned rooms. The banners—which had been designed by the Artists' Franchise League, and borne in the historical procession of June 13th last -were never displayed to better advantage than in the Hove

In the afternoon of Tuesday, the 26th, the exhibition was opened by a speech delivered by Lady Frances Balfour, who, in her witty way, discoursed on the charms of the banners, their beautiful effect in a procession, and the inner meaning of these signs of the times. Miss Frances Sterling, hon. secretary, also gave a short address, and musical performances took place at intervals. Tea was provided, and a good literature

stall kept up a brisk sale.

In the Reception Room, during the afternoon of the 27th, Mrs. Brownlow read a thoughtful paper on 'The Industrial Position of Women.' During the past fifteen years, she explained, a great change had come over the public mind. Economists of the old school regarded industrial questions solely in relation to the family as the economic unit, personified by the man, who was supposed to keep the family by his earnings. A man's wages, consequently, were supposed to be calculated on a basis which would keep a family; while if a woman's work were considered separately, her wage was based on the supposition that she had a roof over her head and some amount of support from "the head of the family." At the present day the family had long ceased to be the unit. Even to theorists it was obvious that the individual had to be considered; but it was not yet generally admitted that the industrial unit was female as well as male, and that both sexes, being human, were subject to similar conditions with respect to the ordinary needs of food, clothing, and shelter. The industrial woman was only now starting out on the road which the middle-class woman trod forty years ago in her struggle for higher education. Like the latter, she was hampered by being given not what she wanted, but what other people thought would be good for her. Not until woman was man's equal as a citizen would she get fair play in education, wages, or position. Status was more far-reaching in its influence than was realized. Make a person legally inferior and the consequences were unavoidable. To help woman to help herself she must have the franchise.

The same afternoon there was also a banner display; and Mrs. Philip Snowden, fresh from the experiences of her American tour, gave a detailed refutation of Mrs. Humphry Ward's declaration that the Women's Suffrage movement in the United States was dead. A five months' tour, in which she visited eighteen States and spoke in the principal cities of each, and at twenty universities and colleges, convinced her that there was a very strong, earnest, and growing movement in favour of Woman Suffrage. Even in New York, with all its cold indifference to social and political reform, she took part in a meeting which crowded the largest hall to overflowing, and so great was the interest that more than a thousand applicants for tickets had to be turned away. That meeting was most enthusiastic in favour of the Suffrage, and unanimously passed a resolution of sympathy with the women of England in their demand for the vote. Moreover, in New York the fashionable women were coming into the movement, and masses of the working women were actively interesting themselves in it. Mrs. Snowden further pointed out that the decent men of America were now determined to cleanse the political life of their country from corruption, and they were everywhere seeking the help of women in their task to lift the nation above the scorn of the world.

Mrs. Snowden was followed by Mrs. Stopes. The latter, having attended the whole Council Meeting, was unable to reach the large hall until a comparatively late hour. She had, therefore, to curtail her intended speech. Glancing round at the banners, many of which were remembrances of pioneers in this great world movement, she reminded her audience that many alive had also been working for forty years for the cause. They had helped by all the differing means in their power to urge on the enfranchisement of women, and had not yet attained their desire. which should have required no effort on their part, had men but understood the principles of justice and liberty. While we should not relax our efforts for a moment, but should rather redouble them, the speaker thought she might offer some consolation in an aspect of the case rarely considered. "Sweet are the uses of adversity." Had women received their vote forty years ago, through the natural and statutory working out of the Reform Bill of 1867, many of them might not have duly valued it, might not have exercised it, or might have misused it; but now the long toil, the strain, the effort, the self-sacrifice, the suffering which we have spent, and the counter-efforts of our opponents to delay our success, have taught us to appreciate it at its true value, so that we shall really receive a greater gift when we get it (as we shall do soon) than if we had got it more easily long ago. We have been educated to know what the vote really means, to estimate it at its full value, and prepared for the use of it.

Another thing that the delay has done for us must never forgotten. It has not mattered what great or good things women might have done, or how noble they might have been. The best and brightest of us have been classed by successive Governments along with the meanest and the worst, all in one great class, the greatest class, that of the unrepresented. And thereby we have been taught a great mystery. Men used to say scornfully of women, "lunatics and women can never combine." But this indiscriminate classification of women has taught us to combine, to do it splendidly. It has given a unity in aim to a whole sex; women have been shown the solidarity womanhood, and they have fought shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, and learnt much more of each other's needs through their common exclusion from justice than they would have done through any form of easily-effected inclusion in its benefits. It has opened our eyes to the sisterhood of humanity. We may now take it for granted that every sympathetic nature who works for women must become a Suffragist, as soon as she has been educated up to the meaning and the power of the We have had a far harder apprenticeship than the Israelites of old, because they left the House of Bondage behind them when they went out into the desert; but we have had to march for our forty years, carrying our house of bondage on our backs. We have learnt how much more has been exacted of us by men than was ever exacted by or from any of themselves; but through the exactions, the united efforts during the toilsome march of years, our mental and bodily sinews have been strengthened. We have eaten angels' food; the Promised Land is near. Timid doubters cannot deter us now; we follow Joshua, and his cry "Be strong and of good courage, and the Lord will strengthen your heart"; for we have learnt that the guidance has been of the Lord, and the work is His, and that He will surely bring it to pass. And then, through the freedom of women, we shall be able to do His work to bless humanity and to work against the forces of evil. I could say much more, said Mrs. Stopes, for my heart is very full, but the time for talking is over. Let us all try to think out what we can do to help on this great missionary work.

The evening meeting—public, by payment—at Hove Town Hall was fairly well attended, though many of the delegates themselves, after their arduous day, were unable to be present.

The Rev. Canon Bond, who presided, said that he felt it to be his duty to support this Women's Suffrage movement, and to plead with others also to support it. All the opposition to Women's Suffrage seems to be based on the idea that women are not equal to men. Canon Bond denounced this as "the survival of an inhuman heresy." Speaking as a Christian man and as a patriot, he claimed the right of women to work with men for the good of our country.

Mrs. Fawcett chiefly directed her speech to demolishing the arguments that are used against the Franchise being extended

Lady Frances Balfour claimed that the condition of women in all classes throughout the country is ripe for the question of the Suffrage to be settled once and for all. She thought the Primrose League was the first political organization that put men and women upon an equal footing in that organization: and Lady Frances pointed out that the vote for the enfranchisement of women could come only through the votes of men. The men voters must be converted: they must be made to insist that the candidates they support shall support Women's Suffrage

in Parliament.

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from Finland, stood up to speak the meeting rose in a body. The Baroness began with an apology for her English: but it was not needed, for it was only a certain accent that betrayed the foreigner. She spoke with enthusiasm of the effect of the vote in her country—" in that new world; for is not a country where women have equal rights with men a new world?" Women there have not ceased to be women because of the vote; they are marrying, cooking, tending to their children as much as before they simply are leading a larger life. Do they use the vote? Yes; at the last election, though precise statistics were wanting, it is believed that more women voted than men. One saw them helping their invalid mothers to the poll, bringing their wives in on sleighs. Mistresses helped servants to vote, though knowing that the servants would probably vote against the mistresses political parties have put on their programmes equal legal rights for men and women, and put women on their list as Parliamentary candidates. At the first election nineteen women were returned, at the second twenty-six. Already women have brought in measures for reforms affecting them and children. As to women being ignorant, "why," cried the Baroness, suddenly raising her voice to an emphatic delivery, "there are numerous male members of Parliament who are quite as ignorant as we women are. The only difference is that they never admit that it is so." (Loud applause and laughter.) The fact that the vote worked so well in Finland under various difficulties proved its inherent justice. The Baroness's advice to her English sisters was: Educate, educate, educate. Educate women to want the vote, and educate them how to use it for the good of their

A good effect was made by Miss Sterling with some extracts from Lord Cromer's book on Egypt, in which he said that it was hopeless to expect to civilize Egypt until women are educated and elevated. The extracts she claimed as an overwhelming argument in favour of Women's Suffrage. (Applause.) But here was the bewildering fact—Lord Cromer is President of the Anti-Suffrage League! How can one explain the amazing twists that the human mind is capable of? Proportionately there was not so much difference between the Egyptian woman confined to her harem and the Englishwoman confined to her home. Why release one and not the other? Women want to do their duty to their country, and the most potent means of doing it is denied them. They claimed that means in the name of common-sense and of justice.

A brilliant finale was provided by the speech of Mrs. Philip Snowden, who appealed powerfully to the enthusiasm of her hearers; stirred them up to "a divine impatience," assuring them that the balance of opinion was in suspension, and only required one last strong effort to make it turn. "Strong in the righteousness of our cause, we will press on until-until there

comes a statelier Eden back to man.

BOURNEMOUTH (N.U.W.S.S.)—On the evening of Saturday, the 23rd inst, at the Princes Hall, Bournemouth, there was enacted the closing scene of the well-organized "Campaign" of the Bournemouth Branch of the N.U.W.S.S.

Throughout the week this movement had attracted the interest, sympathy, and support of large numbers of people. A public meeting was held each evening, and several drawing-room meetings during the afternoons, and whether at Boscombe, Westbourne, Winton, Parkstone, or in Bournemouth proper,

crowded and attentive audiences listened to a clear, able exposition of the case in favour of Votes for Women, Miss Robertson, B.A., of London University, master of her subject, gave a series of brilliant speeches, well calculated to impress all who were present. Eloquence, logic, and the moderation that convinces, winged her arguments to reach the goal-a fair hearing from the open minded.

On Friday last, at the residence of the President, Mrs. Rowe, St. Anne's, Surrey Road, a branch of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage was inaugurated with a good rôle of

influential and well-qualified members.

An "Information Bureau" at 198, Old Christchurch Road, When the Baroness Alexandra Gripenberg, a lady voter attracted great numbers of people. There "inquirers" found a welcome, and there the "classics" and much of the current

literature on Women's Suffrage was on sale.

The meeting on Saturday night at the Prince's Hall crowned the unbroken success of the week. The room was full when, at 7.30 P.M., Mr. R. H. Harvey took the chair, opening the proceedings with a few well-chosen remarks on the matter on hand. A varied programme, including a speech from Miss Robertson, setting forth the self-contradicting statements made to her by the Anti-Suffragists, a powerful recitation by Miss Hayman, and songs by Miss Molly Hamley Clifford, who has just returned from a tour with Mr. Boris Hambourg, the famous 'cellist, and whose kind service to the cause, and rendering of Eltherbert Morris's fine song, 'The Rosery,' won grateful applause and delighted the audience. Humorous and exceptionally clever recitations by Miss Ridd and other pleasant items contributed to the general enjoyment, while Miss Oxenford, an expert in palmistry, read many hands, prophesying, doubtless, numerous recruits for Women's Suffrage. During an interval refreshments were provided. Not the least interesting event of the evening was the presentation to Miss Robertson, by Mrs. Wheatherley's charming little daughter (on behalf of the band of workers), of a piece of art jewellery, in remembrance of the yeoman service Miss Robertson had rendered to the Cause in Bournemouth. Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Warren, President and Secretary respectively, accepted not only handsome bouquets, in which both flowers and ribbons bore the Suffrage colours, but also autograph books to record the names of fellow-workers. Miss Kemp Furner, whose devoted labours for temperance and other essential reforms are well known, also received an autograph book. The enthusiastic singing of "She's a jolly good fellow" for the secretary Mrs. Warren, ended this charming scene, in which good fellowship and earnest cooperation were markedly evident.

After this meeting, and indeed all through the week, new members were added in large numbers, while handsome collections, expressions of goodwill, and many an earnest "God bless and speed you!" cheered those who spare no effort to achieve "Votes for Women," believing the passing of that measure to be not only expedient, desirable, and necessary, but also a great and urgent ethical reform.

NEW FOREST, Hants (N.U.W.S.S.) .- Our Society has just held a series of six meetings in our division of Hampshire, which comprises the whole of the New Forest, and the towns of Ringwood, Lymington, and Lyndhurst. We were fortunate enough to secure the services of Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A. (Organizer of the N.U.W.S.S.), and of Miss Reddish (of the Lancashire and Cheshire Women Textile Workers Representative Committee), who very kindly came all the way from Bolton to help in the week's work. Mrs. Heitland also came from Cambridge to speak at two of our meetings.

Our campaign opened on Monday, January 25th, with a very pleasant drawing-room meeting held at Battramsley Lodge, Boldre, by the kind permission of General and Mrs. Burrows. The room was well filled, and though it was our first effort in this neighbourhood, the audience was distinctly sympa-

#### VOTES FOR WOMEN.

### Women's Freedom League.

Telephone: 15143 CENTRAL.

SCOTTISH OFFICE: 30, GORDON STREET, GLASGOW.

NATIONAL OFFICES: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. How Martyn, B.Sc., A.R.C.S. Hon. Treasurer: Miss Benett. Hon. Organising Secretary: Mrs. Billington-Greig.

President : MRS. DESPARD.

Telegrams: "Tactics, London."

audience at the beginning. At the close of the meeting the whole of the rest of the audience enrolled themselves en masse Organising Secretary: MISS ANNA MUNRO. Hon. Treasurer: MRS, WOOD.

FEBRUARY 4, 1909

man should be alone.

rocks the cradle rules the world."

the evil will pass—the good will endure.

ing for her children.

Cambridge, Open-Air Meet-ing, Parker's Piece
Hull, Annual Meeting of Mem-bers, Oddfellows' Hall, Charlotte Street
Leeds, Meeting for Women only Speaker, Miss Abadam Leeds, Meeting for Women only
Levening Public Meeting, Albert Hall
London, Chelsea, Meeting
Polytechnic Literary and Debating Society, Manresa Road
Cambridge, Drawing-Room
Meeting at Mrs. Alan Gray's
Cambridge, Meeting of the Co-operative Women's Guild,
Burleigh Street Hall
Edinburgh, "At Home,"
Café Oak Hall, Princes Street
Café Oak Hall, Princes Street

Speaker, Miss Abadam
Speaker, Miss Frances
Sterling
Speakers, Miss Gill, and others

Miss J. A. Scott (New Zealand), and others Speakers, Mackenzie Bell, 8 Esq., and others

Speaker, Prof. S. J. 7.30-9.30 Chapman Reading, Public Meeting,

Speakers, Lady Frances 8
Balfour, Mrs. Philip
Snowden
Chair, Dr. Handcock ing, Londesborough Theatre ing, Londesborough Theatre Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, 8 LI\_LD, Lady Gibb, Rev. A. N. Cooper, Ald. Valentine Fowler, J.P. Worcester, Public Meeting Char, The Very Rev. 8 the Dean Speaker, Miss Abadam

Speaker, Miss Abadam 8. Newcastle - on - Tyne,

Fleet, Public Meeting London, Kensington, "At Home," 57, Bedford Gardens, Home," 57 Studio 1A

London, Wandsworth, Drawing-room Meeting, 31, Spencer Park

Fleet, Meeting for Women Speaker, Miss Abadam 11 A.M. only, The Garth

ing, 85, Deangate Areade

Newcastle, Debate, Assembly
Rooms, Jesmond
Uxbridge, Address on
Women's Suffrage, Rocking-Women's ham Hall

18. Hull, "At Home," Memorial Hostess, Miss Annie Church Schoolroom

22. Newcastle, Public Meeting, Speaker, David Adams,

Speaker, Mrs. Eva McLaren

only, The Garth

London, Highgate, "At Hostess, Mrs. Rogers 3 and 8

Reakers, Miss Jenner, J.

Malcolm Mitchell, Esq.

Malcolm Mitchell, Esq.

Summary of General 8

Position of Woman and

Position of Woman and

Position of Woman and

Position of Consoit,"

These matters cannot be fairly judged by those whose lives have fallen in pleasant places. We all have our ideals, but they do not feed us, and we must either work or starve. We believe that marriage is the perfect state; there are those among us who believe it to be a state so spiritual and so holy that they refuse to be driven into it as a means of livelihood, through years of privation and suffering they have kept their ideal and,

God helping them, will do so till the end. That the outcry about the declining birth-rate comes chiefly from men—particularly bachelor clerics—is significant and unconvincing. While understanding and appreciating their

point of view, we advise them to turn their attention to the men of the country—teach them the sanctity and responsibilities of marriage, and let us hear less of the cry—"The woman Thou

gavest me. The man with eight children works no harder than the man with two-it is the mother who suffers, for a woman has no legal right to a penny of her husband's income, and a married

woman is not her own child's legal parent.

Until men are taught to take a higher view of marriage than they do at present, until they are taught that it is a blessing to be attained only by years of hard work and self-denial, the best women will become less and less inclined to marry. A woman who is worth working for will wait five, ten, aye or twenty years for a man who is worth waiting for.

The number of destitute widows and orphans in the country is truly appalling, nor can we hope for better things until the duties and responsibilities of marriage and parenthood are more definitely taught in the home and the Churches.

The fact that we do not carry arms and fight for our country is often used as an argument against granting us the

In answer I will venture to take a liberty with a poem by Elizabeth Browning and say :-

"Ay, but easy for men to die scorning The death-stroke, who fought side by side-One Union Jack, floating above them; Struck down 'mid triumphant acclaims Of an Empire rescued to love them And blazon the brass with their names. But we-without witness or honour....

Those who visited the War Office during the South African War and watched the worn and haggard wives and mothers, anxious sweethearts and sisters feverishly scanning the list of casualties, realized in its intensity that—" They also serve who and to have practical power we must have a voice in the making only stand and wait."

The present demand for a vote is only part of a general movement for the emancipation of women which is not a modern craze or the passing fancy of an idle moment. It is the offspring of woman's heart and mind and soul, conceived in suffering and brought forth in tears. It is the cry of thousands of destitute widows and orphans, it is the cry of working women from all parts of the Empire, it is the cry of centuries of injustice, suppression and neglect. We do not think because of our reinstatement that all crime and poverty will cease, all the sick be healed, all tears be wiped away. But we do believe that when we are raised to where we were first placed by our Creator that all these evils will be tremendously lessened, that we shall be better wives and mothers, and that the whole race will consequently be strengthened, purified, and uplifted.

BLANCHE OLIVER.

#### SPECIAL EFFORT WEEK.

THE Committee of the Women's Freedom League makes an urgent, earnest appeal to every member of the League and to every sympathizer with the active campaign for "Votes for Women" to raise money during the Special Effort Week, February 20th to 27th.

The opening or reopening of Parliament is marked in this way by the Women's Freedom League to emphasize the fact that money, in large and small sums, is needed to carry on this political agitation, and a good financial backing is required

thetic, and evidently much interested in the excellent speeches ont quite so largely attended as these meetings are in Windsor given by our three speakers, so much so that several followed us to as a rule. This no doubt was owing to the fact that there was Lymington, where we held a public meeting in the evening in the Literary Institute. Here Mr. Henry St. Barbe very kindly presided for us, and opened the proceedings with an eloquent and imaginative address, speaking of the improvement which would come over the atmosphere of politics with the enfranchisement of women, and contrasting the position which woman occupied in the ancient and modern world of romance with her actual position at the present day in the world of reality. Mrs. Heitland and Miss Reddish afterwards addressed a large and somewhat hostile audience, dealing with the need of the vote for professional and working women. The ability and sincerity of the speakers enabled them to get a good hearing with little difficulty, and the humour of Miss Robertson's brilliant argument against the Anti-Suffrage Manifesto evidently pleased

and amused her hearers. The next night we held a public village meeting at Sway Schools. The Rev. A. Leigh-Barker, vicar of Sway, presided. The room was well filled, and several joined our society.

On Wednesday we went outside our own district to hold an afternoon public meeting at Wimborne. Mrs. Rowe very kindly came over from Bournemouth to take the chair at this gathering. Here again we had a large and attentive audience, and we hope that the result of our effort will be the formation of a branch society for Wimborne and East Dorset.

On Thursday night we held a public meeting at Ringwood, perhaps the most successful of our series. The audience seemed entirely sympathetic and all the points were well taken up. Mr. C. D. Lacey, in the chair, made an able speech and throughout conducted the meeting in the most tactful manner. Miss Reddish here, as on previous occasions, dealt in a masterly manner with the vote in its relation to working women, particularly factory workers and members of trade unions. In a brief historical sketch of the rise of trade unions both in town and country she showed how the vote had helped men, and passing from that she showed how trade union or labour questions tended more and more to become political or Parliamentary questions.

Her racy stories of personal experiences were much appreciated by an audience which appeared to have had some education in political matters. She concluded by an eloquent appeal for freedom for women in the labour market and the political world; two things which in her opinion are being daily more closely linked together. A number of questions were asked, and these were brilliantly dealt with by Miss Robertson. On Friday evening, our last meeting of the series was held at Burley Parish Room. The Rev. W. Esdaile, in the chair, spoke sympathetically of the enfranchisement of duly qualified women, and asked on behalf of the audience for a clear statement of our demands. This, he afterwards acknowledged, they received from Miss Margaret Robertson, who dealt with the whole case, for and against Women's Suffrage, in a most clear and convincing manner. Here, again, Miss Reddish's account of the industrial conditions of men and women in crowded centres, and her view and experience of the power of the vote, interested and convinced her hearers.

Looking back at our week's work, undertaken with some misgivings, we may honestly say it has been an unqualified success. Everywhere our meetings were absolutely public, everywhere we had large audiences, and nowhere did we meet with serious opposition, even in places where the question had never before been touched. We are most grateful to those of our Committee and members who contributed in many ways towards the success of the campaign, and the comfort of those engaged in it. And above all our Society wish to express their thanks to Miss Reddish and Miss Robertson for their magnificent services as speakers.

WINDSOR (N.U.W.S.S.) .- By the kind permission of Miss Street a drawing-room meeting was held on Tuesday, Mar. 2. Tunbridge Wells, January 26th, at Trehaitha, Francis Road, Windsor, It was

Woman's Place in the Empire.

BY A WORKING WOMAN.

tion and unrest. But we believe we have reached a great crisis

and that we are on the eve of a new and better era in the

history of our Empire. And why? Because of the emancipation of its women. Owing to the splendid determination and

untiring energy of cultured women for some time past in pro-

moting the education of their less fortunate sisters, followed by

the more forcible—but no doubt necessary—efforts of a few

courageous women who have bravely sacrificed much in the

defence of a great principle, woman is at last being raised to her rightful place by the side of man, whose sorrows and

anxieties she has always been allowed to share as an undisputed

thropists may give, and judges may condemn, but they will not

alleviate the suffering, poverty, crime, and injustice, so long as

they ignore the Divine decision, it is not good that the

us in our struggle against ill-paid work and unjust laws. We

are in no sense men's opponents, but we believe that men

alone cannot legislate for us, because they do not understand

which is precisely the thing that enfranchisement will help us to

do. To properly feed, clothe, and train up the children to be

useful citizens of the Empire we must have education in its

fullest sense. To have education we must have practical power,

of our country's laws. Practical power also means higher wages,

and higher wages mean less immorality throughout the country.

Legislation is the only means by which we can reach the

asses of the people. The various societies and clubs organized

by benevolent and well-meaning persons only touch the fringe of the population. Educated and sheltered women can form no

idea of the trials and difficulties of working women who are

without means or influence, under present conditions. We are

told that "Woman's place is the home," and "The hand that

To hurl these hackneyed phrases at single women is both cruel and unjust. We cannot all be wives and mothers. Some

have one vocation and some another, and in many cases it opens

up old wounds and past griefs they are trying to forget. There is nothing so pathetic in the world as the cry of Rachel mourn-

We are told that this movement is death to the ideal! But

Churches may teach, politicians may legislate, philan-

We working women believe that enfranchisement will help

We are told that we must first set our own house in order.

WE, as a nation, are passing through a time of dissatisfac-

Meetings of the N.U.W.S.S.

an attempt to break entirely new ground. Miss Abadam

spoke eloquently and persuasively, and the result was most

cheering. There were only two members present in the

London, S. Kensington, Drawing-room Meeting, 19, Red-cliffe Street, S.W. Manchester, Weekly Meet-

Scarborough, Public Meet-

6. Leamington, Drawing-Room

12. Manchester, Weekly Meet-Speaker, Miss Maud 7.30—9.30

Drawing-room Café
Nottingham, Discussion,

Speaker, Miss Abadam "At Hostess, Miss Luxmore ardens, Speakers, Miss Clementina Black, J. Malcolm Black, J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq. Hostesses, Mrs. Shilling ton and the Misses

Sutton, Drawing-room Meeting, Umballa, Worcester Park Information of Meeting Fleet, Meeting for Women Speaker, Miss Abadam Information of Meeting Information of

Esq. Chair, Mrs. Ben Dowson 3.30 Tea as required
Hostess, Madame Sarah Grand

d. Miss Matters

artyn, A.R.C.S.

r. Mrs. Nevinson

rd, Mrs. Holmes

ampbell, M.A.

d, Mrs. Holmes

rd, Mrs. Hicks

McCabe Marie Lawson

ng Miss Schofield

Matters, Miss 8

artyn, A.R.C.S.

Miss Amy Otter, Mrs. Beith Mr. Joseph Clayton

Mrs. Ethel Snowden 8 Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Billing- 8

Rev. J. E. Manning, M.A. 7.30

Miss Sidley, Miss Munro

ton-Greig, Mrs. Holmes Miss Muriel Matters

Mrs. Billington-Greig Mrs. Francis

Miss Cicely Hamilton Mrs. Billington-Greig Miss Muriel Matters

Mrs. Despard Mrs. Sanderson

Miss Chrystal Macmillan

Miss Eunice Murray

increasing responsibilities, the need for spreading a network roughly representative of some of the males in the country of branches over Great Britain and Ireland, the fresh opporto that other House of "artful dodgers," as Mr. Churchill says, tunities for expansion of the work, make it imperatively necessary that each individual should do her best to see that larger funds are forthcoming immediately and in the future.

During the past year the Women's Freedom League

Militant Protests.—The doorstep protests in January, a protest at 10, Downing Street in May, and the famous "Grille protest in October, all of which involved imprisonment of some of our fellow-members.

Peaceful Protests.—An attempt was made to present a for Women flags were displayed along the route of the procession.

A peaceful rally was held in Parliament Square to hear the result of a second reading of the Women's Enfranchisement ment. Bill. Proclamations setting forth the reasons why the Women's Freedom League demands Votes for Women this session were posted up in the early hours of the opening day of the Autumn Session in London, and many towns in England and Scotland.

Educational Work.—Along educational and constitutional of the League.

The first Suffrage caravan toured in Surrey, Sussex, and Kent for nearly five months.

Twenty-three new branches of the League were formed. An active part was taken in twelve by-elections, and a

special campaign undertaken in East Fife. A Resistance to Taxation movement was begun, and the goods of members in different parts of the country were sold

by public auction. About 2.000 public meetings were held

The first Suffrage Bazaar was held, and the public given the chance of seeing an exact model of a Holloway cell.

The most important Suffrage event of this to the present, was the tour, in this country, of Dr. Hultin, a Finnish Member of Parliament, and Madame Malmberg, arranged by the League.

Future Events.—In the event of Women's Suffrage not being included in the King's Speech, preparations are being made for a protest which will be the largest and most representative that has yet been organized by the League, and at a meeting in St. James's Hall on February 19th, what the Women's Freedom League thinks of the King's Speech will be explained to the

A "Green, White, and Gold Fair" will be held in the middle promised their valuable help.

first Woman Suffragist in Holloway, has been chosen as our a happy reign of democracy Annual Suffrage Day—this year the public celebration of it will be on June 19th, and the Albert Hall has been booked. The use of the hall is only permitted provided that we do not invite a Cabinet Minister to speak on the platform.

We venture to think that such a record of work done, and such a full programme of work to be done, fully justifies the National Executive Committee in asking for increased supplies.

A few women only are privileged to take an active part in this movement, but it is the duty as well as the privilege of every woman to help with money, so that there shall be no slackening of the agitation until women are enfranchised.

Will you help? Will you subscribe to the National Fund? If you are a subscriber already, Will you increase your subscription? Will you write and tell us what you are prepared to do during the Special Effort Week, February 20th to February 27th? EDITH HOW MARTYN.

#### Immediate Dissolution in a Few Years' Time.

It is extremely painful for a Liberal to take his seat in the House of Lords just now, and Capt. Sinclair is to be congratulated upon having pocketed his pride and allowed himself, for the good was carried unanimously.

to make the best use of our voluntary workers. The constantly of Scotland, to be transferred from the House which is so thowho have been further and well described by Mr. Lloyd George as "dusty, muddy, and sour," who represent nobody but themselves, who are to be "thrown on the scrap-heap." whose tyranny is worse than that of Charles I., and who are not going to be stood a moment longer by a Liberal Government—after the next General Election. Capt. Sinclair, with the rest of the Lords, is to be ended or mended immediately in a few years' time. He is now an archaic remains of a barbaric past, an obsolete survival, a stumbling-block in the way of democracy. The House of Lords is an unrepresentative oligarchy, which ensures that the will petition to the King on his way to open Parliament, while Votes of the people shall not prevail, and which in itself embodies a principle utterly opposed to true Liberalism. That is why Capt. Sinclair has been created a peer by a Liberal Govern-

And let there be no mistaking the temper of the Government. When Mr. Asquith says the Licensing Bill was destroyed by the Lords and lies strangled on the threshold, he means the same thing as Mr. Churchill, who says that the Bill was premature, and perished because it was in advance of public opinion. Mr. lines an immense amount of work was done under the auspices Asquith says there is to be no filling up of the cup which is already overflowing. Insults have been endured from an unrepresentative House long enough. Mr. Winston Churchill echoes him when he informs us that there is no cup to fill, no hurry about the House of Lords, and that the Liberals are not attacking its unrepresentative character, but its Tory composition. Messrs. Asquith and Churchill may appear to be contradicting each other, but they both mean what Mr. Winston Churchill says.

Meanwhile the abolition of the veto of the House of Lords is to be the "dominant issue" during a session entirely devoted to social reform. A Liberal Government having showered blessings upon the old in the form of pensions, and on the young in the form of imprisoned mothers and problematic orangeboxes, cannot dissolve with honour without doing something for the Workers. A beginning will be made by closing workrooms, and turning women out of factories. A woman's place is at home, and if she has no home she has no place. If she protests, not having the patriotism and British pluck to starve quietly in the British streets, then she must understand that a Liberal Government is strong enough to array its whole forces against her, and clap her into gaol. Prison is woman's place during the next session, let that be understood.

When this beneficent Government has crowned its labours by taking all paid work away from women and giving it to men -a process which will take some years to perform-then, and of April at the Caxton Hall. The Holloway Cell will be again then only, will it be prepared for that immediate dissolution, exhibited, and the Actresses' Franchise League has already and that reform of the House of Lords which cannot be put off a moment longer, and which is to result in the throwing of Lans-June 21st, the anniversary of the imprisonment of the downe House on the scrap-heap, a Liberal House of Lords, and

B. W. W. (Parliamentary Correspondent).

#### Branch Notes.

Central Branch.-Will all working members attend on February 4th at 7 o'clock for bill distributing and other work connexion with our public meeting at Essex Hall on the 11th?

Tottenham Branch.—The first of the series of King's Speech meetings was held at the residence of Mrs. Harbord, Mount Pleasant Road, on Wednesday, January 27th. Mrs. How Martyn presided. A telegram was received from the Countess Russell regretting her inability to be present through indisposition.

In a comprehensive and telling speech Mrs. How Martyn outlined the present attitude of the Government with regard to Votes for Women, and pointed out the necessity for a Government measure dealing exclusively with Women's Suffrage.

The now well-known King's Speech resolution was seconded by Miss Cowen, who, from personal experience as a health visitor, gave illustrations clearly demonstrating the absurdity of the present one-sided legislation. Mrs. Pracey of the Women's Co-operative Guild, spoke in support of the resolution, which

Owing to the prevalence of a dense fog, the attendance was somewhat small, but the paucity in numbers was amply compensated for by the keen interest displayed throughout the proceedings, at the close of which six members voluntered to attend the meeting on February 17th as delegates from the M. S. RIDLER, Hon. Sec.

East Edinburgh Branch.—A most successful inaugural meeting was held in the Gardiners' Institute on Friday, January Miss Miln Chapman very kindly took the chair, and Mrs. Donaldson gave a short but inspiring address. Miss Muriel Matters was the principal speaker, and the audience were deeply moved by her wonderful eloquence and touching earnestness. About fifty ladies have joined the branch. A. C. S.

#### Cash Receipts, January 14th to 30th.

Previously acknowledged		£ s. 379 5	d.	Brought forward		£ s.	
Allwork, Miss D. B		0 5	0	Lees, Miss G. M		0 1	
Anderson, Miss		1 1	0	Liebich, Mrs. F		0 3	
Arnold, Miss		0 1	0	Livingstone, Mrs. A		0 2	
Dolron Mina		0 1	0	Mabson, Mrs		0 2 0 2	
Barrington, Miss M. A		0 1	ő	Meyer, Mrs. J		0 2	
Doith Man D		0 1	Õ	Mills, Mrs. E		0 2	
Dovon Mag	1	2 2	0	Munro, Miss E. G		1 10	
Birnstingl, Miss Ethel		0 2	6	Murray, Miss Eunice		0 10	
Boileau, Miss L. M		1 1	0	Murray, Miss S		0 10	
Boorman, Miss J. M		0 1	0	Maclean, Miss E		0 10	
Duothorton Montin		0 0	6	Naylor, Mrs. M. S		0 1	
Brown, Mrs. K. K.		0 5	0	Nickalls, Miss N		0 1	
Cale, Miss M. L.		0 6	0	Norris, Mrs. A		0 10	
Cartar, Mrs. E. F		0 10	0	Scott, Mrs. Jean		0 5	
Coates, Miss M		0 5	0	Scottish Council		2 10	
Defries, Miss N. M		0 5-	0	Scruby, Miss M		0 1	
Dickeson, Miss F		0 1	0	Sheppard, Miss M		0 2	
Edinburgh Branch	- ::	5 0	0	Smith, Miss A		1 10	
Fagan, Mrs. C. F		0 1	0	Smith, Mrs. F. E		0 1	
Foreshew, Miss B. A		0 1	0	Smith, Mrs. Gardiner		0 2	
Francis, Miss I		0 1	0	Snow, Mrs. J. E		2 0	
Gilbert, Miss B		0 1	0	Stainer, Miss M		0 1	
Green, Miss C. I	- ::	1 1	0	Stewart, B.Sc., Miss I. M.		0 2	
Hunt, Miss E		0 2	6	Swiney, Mrs. Frances		0 2	
Hunter, Miss F		0 3	6	Walker, Miss L		0 1	
Ingram, Mrs. Gordon, and S		1 1	0	Washbourne, Miss E. C		0 2	
Taller Miller A TA CI		0 1	0	Weir, Miss E		0 1	
		1 0	0	Winterne, Mrs. A		0 2	
Towns Miss D T	••	0 5	0	Collections		16 3	
T. 1.1 37 T	**	0 1	в	Rent-Central Branch		1 5	
F 3. 3. 5. 5.		0 10	6	Ct 1 cm' 1 - 4		19 18	
7 3 312 31		1 0	0	Sundry		1 11	
Drutt. 1 Mr. Jane	••	0 5	0		100	1 11	
Kubier, Madame	"	0 8	_	Total		£446 17	
Carried forward	3	£396 9	9	1000		~110 11	

#### Special Notices.

Horticultural Hall, Westminster, February 10th, 8 P.M. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d. More helpers required to distribute leaflets and sell tickets. Apply at the W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi.

London Council.-Next meeting, February 24th. Portman Rooms (Baker Street), February 17th.—Special King's Speech meeting at 8 P.M. for members only. Members Fr

Prize Competition in connexion with "The Green, White, and Gold Fair," on April 16th and 17th. The Committee of the Central Branch offers a prize of one guinea for the best shirtblouse, and one guinea for the best trimmed blouse received for the sale. The blouses must be of white or cream material. design, fabric, and trimmings left to the choice of the competitors;

The competition closes on March 31st; blouses to be forwarded on or before that date to Dr. O. Lewin, 25, Wimpole

For full particulars apply to Miss Marie Lawson, W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. Caxton Hall—On Thursday, in spite of the fog, the "At

Home" was very well attended, and a very pleasant and profitable afternoon was spent. Mlle. Kramers from Holland, the editor of Jus Suffragii, spoke from the platform, and her presence made all realize how world-wide the women's emancipation movement is. Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Mabson, and Mrs. How Martyn gave stirring addresses, and Mrs. Railton as hostess provided not only tea, but also delightful music.

Social Evening.—On Monday, February 15th, 6.30 to 10 P.M. to be held at Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road. Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Mrs. Billington-Grieg and Miss Amy Otter and Mrs. Beith have promised to speak, and Mr. Joseph Clayton will take the chair.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan's name is of world-wide fame, for she it was who spoke to the House of Lords, and pleaded there for the rights of women.

#### PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS. February 4th to February 19th.

Thurs. 4. Caxton Hall, Westminster Countess Russell

		Carron Lan, 1, commission	Mrs. Despard, Miss Matte
			Miss Isabel Logan
		Highbury, Northampton House,	Miss Cicely Hamilton
		St. Paul's Road, King's	Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Mabson
		Speech Meeting Lecture Room, Free Library,	Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.
		Lecture Room, Free Library,	Miss Underwood
		Lavender Hill, Battersea,	Mrs. Duval
		King's Speech Meeting	Miss FitzHerbert
i.	5.	Lewisham Annual Meeting, 62,	Members
		Inchmery Road, Catford, S.E.	
		Members and Friends King's	Miss Isabel Logan
		Speech Meeting Burton-on-Trent, Boot's Café	Mrs. Manson
		Burton-on-Trent, Boot's Café	
		Cheltenham, 32, Cambray Place	
n.	7.	Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour	Mrs. Arneliff Sennett
		Street	Mrs. B. Drysdale
			Mrs. B. Drysdale Miss I. Miller, Mrs. Nevi
			Miss Lawson
		Kingston Humanitarian	Mrs. Holmes
		Society, Fife Road	Into Homes
		Birmingham, Tiverton Road	Mrs. Despard
		Baths, Selly Oak	Miss Schofield
on.	8	Birmingham, Selly Oak	
011,	0,	Institute Seny Oak	Mrs. Despard
			Man Dansand
		Bourneville Co-op. Guild	Mrs. Despard
		Manchester, 302, Upper	Miss Mallon
		Brook Street	M: 0-1-6-14
	0	West Bromwich Library Tunbridge Wells, Great Hall,	Miss Schofield
ies.	9.	Tunoridge Wells, Great Hall,	Countess Russell
		King's Speech Meeting	Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Holm
	10	Burton-on-Trent	Miss Schofield
ed.	10.	Horticultural Hall,	Rev. R. J. Campbell, M.A.
		Vincent Square,	Countess Russell
		Westminster	Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Holm
		Manchester, King's Speech	Miss Matters
		Meeting	25. 01.011
		Moseley	Miss Schofield
		Dulwich	Mrs. Beith
nurs	. 11.	Caxton Hall, Westminster	Mrs. How Martyn
			Mr. Joseph McCabe
			Mr. O'Dell
		Woking, King's Speech Meeting	Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Hick
			Miss Sedley
		Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand	Countess Russell
		King's Speech Meeting	Mrs. Marian Holmes
			Mr. Joseph McCabe
			Chair, Miss Marie Lawson
		Finchley, King's Speech Meeting	Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett
			Mrs. Nevinson
		Burton-on-Trent Y.M.C.A. Hall	Miss Muriel Matters
		King's Speech Meeting	Miss Manning Miss Schot
		Cheltenham, Fintray, College Re	d.
ri.	12.	Harringay, Mattison Road	Miss Muriel Matters, Mi
		Cheltenham, Fintray, College Ro Harringay, Mattison Road School, King's Speech Meeting	Isabel Logan, Mr. G. O'D
		. 0 1	Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.
		Peckham, King's Speech Meeting	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
		Eastbourne, King's Speech	Mrs. Holmes
		Meeting	
it.	13.	Midhurst, King's Speech Meet-	Countess Russell
		ing	Earl Russell
on.	15.	Croydon, King's Speech Meeting	Countess Russell
	Till	, 8 - Freeze Mooting	Miss Muriel Matters
			Miss Isabel Logan
		Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road,	Mrs. Billington-Greig
		"At Home"	Miss Chrystal Macmillan
		220 1101110	Miss Amy Otter Mrs Re

Manchester, 47, Mosley Street Thurs. 18. Caxton Hall, Westminster

ing
Tues. 16. Edinburgh, Oddfellows Hall

Manchester, 302, Upper Brook St. Miss Banner Glasgow, King's Speech Meet- Miss Sidley, 1

Fri. 19. St. James's Hall

Wed. 17. Portman Rooms

### Men's League for Momen's Suffrage.

OFFICE: 38, MUSEUM STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: 9953 CENTRAL.

Chairman of Executive Committee : HERBERT JACOBS. Hon. Secretary: J. MALCOLM MITCHELI

Hon. Treasurers: GOLDFINCH BATE, H. G. CHANCELLOR. Hon. Literature Secretary : A. I. G. JAYNE.

#### Notes and Comments.

Our thanks are due to those ladies, members of all the other Suffrage societies, who helped in the sale of tickets for the Queen's Hall meeting, and acted as stewards on the night. There was also a fair muster of Men's League stewards, more than fifty being engaged in various parts of the hall. Most valuable help was also given by several members, who gave a number of evenings to clerical work at the office.

Will the centleman who handed a signed membership form and a subscription of 2s. 6d. to the Hon. Secretary during the Queen's Hall meeting, kindly send in his name? The form was, unfortunately, so mutilated in the midst of a mass of documents, that only a portion of the signature and address remains.

Mr. Joseph Clayton is taking the chair at a meeting of the Women's Freedom League in the Holborn Hall on Monday, February 15th, and will also speak in the Hampstead Town Hall on Wednesday, February 17th. This latter meeting is of special interest, inasmuch as no less than seven Suffrage societies will be represented on the platform. Mrs. Carmichael Stopes is in the chair, and the other speakers are Mrs. Pember Reeves (N.U.W.S.S.), Miss G. Brackenbury (N.W.S.P.U.), Miss Cicely Hamilton (W.F.L.), Miss Cicely Corbett (Forward League), Mrs. Percy Boulnois (Conservative and Unionist Women's Suffrage Association), and a member of thenew Actresses' Franchise League. We shall do well to draw all possible attention to this meeting, as it illustrates the fundamental unity which is behind all the superficial differences between Suffragists.

We have received an advance copy of the first number of *The Englishwoman*, a periodical of the monthly review order, devoted to the furthering of the Suffrage cause. It is managed by a committee consisting of Lady Frances Balfour, Lady Strachey Miss Cicely Hamilton, Miss Lowndes, and Mrs. Grant Richards, the ast of whom is the actual editor. The cost is 1s. monthly. Review next week.

#### Stewards' Corps.

STEWARDS are invited to attend at the following meetings. To-day (February 4th), at Northampton House, St. Paul's Road, two minutes from Highbury Corner (Women's Freedom League Meeting). Arrive 7.30.

Stewards should send in their names, if time permits, to Miss T. Arklay, 10, Highbury Hill, N., or apply at Northampton House before 7.30.

February 10th, Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster (Rev. R. J. Campbell on 'Economic Aspects of the Women's Movement'). Arrive 7.30.

February 26th, Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock Place (debate between Mrs. Fawcett and Mrs. Humphry Ward). Arrive 7.45. Tickets will be sent.

### Report of Oueen's Hall Meeting, Jan. 26th.

The CHAIRMAN, Mr. Herbert Jacobs, founder of the League and Chairman of the Executive Committee, took the chair at the same basis as men: that only propertied women, or only 8 o'clock, supported by the speakers and a number of well-known Suffragists. In the course of a brief introductory speech he

begin in the London parks early in March. He emphasized the non-party character of the Society, and laid stress on the fact that men of all shades of political belief are joining, irrespective of their particular views on national questions. He alluded briefly to the newly formed Men's League for opposing Women's Suffrage, and announced that the publication of a list of names of prominent members of that society would shortly be met by a similar list of male supporters of the Cause. He concluded his remarks with a small selection of letters addressed to him in connexion with the meeting, reading communications from Lord Robert Cecil, the Bishop of Hereford, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. P. W. Wilson, as well as telegrams from the Finnish ladies (Dr. Tekla Hultin and Madame Aino Malmberg), who have recently been the guests of the Women's Freedom League and from the Dutch Men's League for Women's Suffrage, which was founded on our own lines after the International Conference at Amsterdam. He then called upon Sir John Cockburn, late Premier of South Australia, who introduced the first Women's Franchise Bill in Australia, to move the Resolution: "That the exclusion of women from the Parliamentary Franchise is both unjust to women and detrimental to the best interests of

SIR JOHN COCKBURN, in expressing his pleasure atmoving the Resolution, described the Women's Suffrage Cause as the greatest movement since the historical age of the world began. The new age is to be one in which men and women must meet on equal terms to co-operate for the general welfare of the world and of society. (Applause.) Those who support the movement merely because they imagine that its success will benefit this or that party are in the wrong. The Cause is one above the fog of party, belonging to the sphere of justice and reason. Speaking of his own experience of Women's Suffrage in Australia and New Zealand, he told how every one of the pessimistic prophecies of opponents have been falsified. True, the conditions f these countries are not the same as those which obtain in an old-established country like the British Isles. None the less in respect of the problems in relation to which the demand for Women's Suffrage is made the conditions are the same in all British-speaking lands. The peacefulness of home life has not suffered through women's enfranchisement; husband and wife are still as amicable as they were. Women discharge their ordinary domestic duties as faithfully as before, and since elections are triennial in Australia, the half hour or so which it takes a woman to record her vote occurs about twice as often as it would normally occur in this country. "We have not found that the home has suffered in any way whatever: in fact we think the home has benefited, because, after all, the home has an environment.... In order to make the home healthy and happy, the environment must be happy also. So in order that the woman's roper sphere should be duly administered by her she must have some voice in the surrounding of the home." (Applause). It is part of the woman's sphere, in defence of that home, to lessen and mitigate the evils that surround it. Nor has woman lost chivalry in gaining votes, but rather, if anything, she has gained in this very respect.

Rapid results from the enfranchisement of women must not be expected. All great influences work slowly, and there is no doubt that the influence of women upon the election of members of Parliament has in Australia had good results upon certain important branches of legislation, e.g. temperance.

It has been said that women should not be enfranchised on

\* As the speeches will be published verbatim, only the briefest summary indicated the nature of the work the League is doing, instancing specially the formation of branches, e.g. at Edinburgh, Manchester, Liverpool, and Bristol, and the Open-Air Campaign, which is to many it is desirable to order.

\*As the speeches will be published verbatim, only the briefest summary is here given. Those desirous of purchasing the pamphlet will greatly help by ordering in advance, in order that the Literature Secretary may know how many it is desirable to order.

women who have passed the age of twenty-five should be enfurther proposal that married women should be excluded is "the that he felt his part in the movement was "deeds not words. most unstatesmanlike proposal ever made, because matrimony He had, however, consulted some of the leading women in the getting rid of this little proposal by saying I would not be a at a men's meeting. (Laughter.) Prominent politicians held party to woman losing her vote at the altar and only re-acquiring that the House of Lords or Tariff Reform must be the dominant t when she returned from the funeral of her husband."

In conclusion, the speaker described the present age as one synthesis and construction. "Every physiologist," he said, will tell you that woman's essential function is that of construction....Woman is synthetic-what they call anabolic by constitution....so in a constructive age woman has to come to the front because the lessons of that age are specially suited to her temperament, The great forces of the world are with you, the right must be done. There is only one thing necessary, and that is to keep the question alive, for the result will be achieved—as in the case of the miner who shakes his dish filled with mud—by agitation. (Applause.)

various paths by which people arrive at the conclusion that ment of practical affairs: others from seeing in the social sphere how the "industrial value of women is considerably diminished simply because they have no political representation. (Applause.) They see....that the sweater has his greatest opportunity when he is dealing with voteless victims." Others, from observing how the position of men in the labour market is imperilled by the presence of a large mass of ill-organized or non-organized and men and women, but the increased co-operation between men and women. (Applause.) Every class of the community should be able to stand before the State, not to supplicate its charity, but to demand its justice." (Applause.) The speaker proceeded to explain his own position, saying that the enfranchisement of women is involved in his whole theory of government, that government rests upon the consent of the governed. "No one with the meanest intellect can deny that women are amongst the governed in this country." (Laughter.) Women have as much at stake in the good government of this country as men have. They are deeply interested in sound education, the limitation of child labour, the protection of child life, the providing of dwelling-houses that are fit to live in, and the reducing of the sources of temptation in the way of men and women. "If government rests on the consent of the governed, it is a shame and a mockery that women should have no voice and no vote." Government of the people, by the people, for the people? But under present conditions there is an ambiguity in the uses of the word "people." In the first case it includes women; why not in the second? We use political phrases without analyzing their full meaning.

Rousseau's ideal of the promotion of human happiness by means of the unity of the people has a poor chance of being realized if we exclude the majority of human beings. The Spectator bids us remember that government rests upon force: and even as it is written in the ancient Scriptures that if a man will not work, neither shall he eat, so it is written in the latest scriptures of The Spectator that if a woman will not fight, neither shall she vote." (Laughter and applause.) In so far as this is true, the same should apply to municipal affairs for which there is no sex distinction. Besides, what about people who will not fight? Does Mr. Strachey propose to rob the country of the magnificent political influence represented by the Quakers—by John Bright, by Sir John Ellis? A new age is dawning, when force will be progressively less prominent in human affairs. men and women unite together in a noble federation to establish that new State whose basis is to be the nobler equality that is to subsist between them, then, and not till then, "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" will have become a magnificent reality, and we shall have gone a long step nearer to the fulfilment of our noblest hopes. (Loud applause.)

MR. H. W. NEYINSON, whose long record of earnest work franchised. Such ideas were laughed to scorn in Australia. The for the cause met with a splendid reception, began by saying and motherhood are the crowns of a woman's life . . . . I remember movement, and they had told him he could not do much harm issue at the next election; he felt, looking back over the extraordinary progress made by the women's cause in the last few years, that the chief subject would be "Votes for Women." He told how his attention was first called to the subject by hearing when in Moscow that Mrs. Cobden Sanderson was in gaol for demanding the vote. Since that time he had heard the cause advocated by many great Suffragists, Mr. Zangwill, Mr. Snowden. Mr. Keir Hardie, his friend Mr. Stanger; and amongst women by Mrs. Despard, Miss Robins, Miss Cicely Hamilton, Miss Evleyn Sharpe, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Pankhurst. But his convictions had been most firmly rooted by the arguments of the Anti-Suffragists, not of "countesses and women of culture who live in a kind of secluded and sheltered atmosphere, and THE REY. C. SILVESTER HORNE described himself as therefore cannot know anything really of the genuine realities making a maiden speech on the question. He discussed the of existence," but of "clever people who ought to know, the people whom we pay to know....We give the Poet Laureate a pipe Women's Suffrage is necessary. Some arrive by experience of the splendid capacity displayed by women in the manageasks, "Are stormy passions to rage upon the domestic hearth?" A Parliamentary election comes about every four or five years. and, "to judge from the experience of my married friends. I should think it is a happy hearth on which a stormy passion rages only once in four years." (Laughter.) Nor does experience in the countries which have already enfranchised their women corroborate the Poet Laureate's solemn foreboding. The editors of The Times and The Spectator talk about war. very ill-paid women's labour....who have come to the conclusion that the only hope lies, not in the increased competition between that the only hope lies, not in the increased competition between the conclusion had seen every kind of warfare in all parts of the world, and he knew that the sufferings of men in war time "cannot compare with the sufferings of women." "The argument is absurd. Supposing there was a war for which we men voted...do you suppose the editor of The Times, the editor of The Spectator. Prof. Dicey, and the Poet Laureate would form fours and go off to the field of carnage?...Then why do they not give up their votes now? They have no right to vote if they are not able to fight." Women have always been ready to die for their country, just as men are, but that is not their normal function, that is not their claim to a vote. "They have the claim of motherhood, and you will allow me to say that that service to the State is both more frequent, more dangerous, and more useful than going to war. (Applause.) Moreover, as regards sailors and soldiers they lose the vote just because they are such.

"Prof. Dicey, in the current Quarterly, says the negroes of the Southern States have not benefited by enfranchisement. That is a comparative argument which may well be passed by. He says many women will regard votes as an intolerable burden. Which of us men regards the vote as an intolerable burden? .I vote steadily for a fraction of a man who is never returned and yet do you suppose I would give up my vote? Not at all. A vote....is the sign of the dignity of existence, and, as long as women have not that, they will be regarded as socially and economically inferior." The economic position of women demands that they should be enfranchised. Women are advised to form trade unions, but it is a commonplace of history that a trade union of voteless persons is comparatively useless. lation affecting women is continual, and women should have a fair share in making it. When the House of Commons were discussing the Children's Bill a woman appeared on the scene; instead of suddenly realizing that their deliberations needed the expert knowledge of woman, "they talked about the wrong done to the dignity of the House."

In conclusion the speaker congratulated women "who are devoting themselves heart and soul to the great cause. There is no greater joy, no greater happiness on earth, hieve me, than comradeship in a great cause, being yourself absolutely in devotion to a great cause." (Applause.)

(To be continued next week.)

# HAMPSTEAD TOWN HALL

(Opposite the Belsize Park Tube Station).

## A MEETING

WILL BE HELD ON

# WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1909,

At 8 o'elock p.m.

Members of Seven Societies for Women's Suffrage will unite in supporting the following Resolution:—

"That in the opinion of this Meeting, the Parliamentary Franchise should be granted to women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men."

CHAIRMAN:

### Mrs. CARMICHAEL STOPES.

SPEAKERS:

Mrs. PEMBER REEVES

Miss G. BRACKENBURY

Mr. JOSEPH CLAYTON

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

Miss CICELY HAMILTON

Women's Freedom League.

Miss CICELY CORBETT

Forward Union within the Women's Liberal Federation.

Mrs. PERCY BOULNOIS

Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.

A MEMBER

Actresses Franchise League.

### Doors open 7.30. Tickets 2s. 6d. (numbered and reserved), Is., 6d.

Tickets may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary, Miss Beatrice E. Thomson, 22, Lyndhurst Road; Mrs. J. M. Bull, 21, Lambolle Road; Mrs. Exley, 16, Heath Mansions; Mrs. Garrod, 72, Compayne Gardens; Mrs. Hartley, 168, Adelaide Road; Mrs. Hicks, 7, Ornan Mansions; Mrs. J. T. Osler, 4, Akenside Road; also at "Bookshops," Swiss Cottage; and at the Town Hall.