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upon for
see page 8.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE THE COMMON CAUSE OF HUMANITY.

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"Hearts of youth,
 High-beating, ardent, quick in hope and truth,
 And noble anger, O wherever now
 You dedicate your uncorrupted vow
 To be an energy of Light, a sword
 Of the ever-living Will, amid abhorred

Din of reeking street and populous den
 Where under great stars blind lusts of men
 War on each other.
 O scattered, silent, hidden and unknown,
 Be lifted up, for you are not alone!"
 —LAWRENCE BINYON.

**ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES
 (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 483).**

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 52,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 483 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They utterly repudiate methods of violence and rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 24.)

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Notes and Comments.

Mr. Asquith in East Fife.

It is a disappointment that after all there will be no contest in E. Fife; but in spite of this, a vigorous Suffrage campaign is being carried on. Miss Crompton reports that she has splendid workers and speakers, but wants still more, and wants funds to make a tremendous splash. Meanwhile, though Mr. Asquith is to have a walk-over, we gather from his Ladybank speech on April 4th, that he is by no means easy about the situation with regard to elections generally. He finds it "a melancholy thing" that the repeated splitting of "the forces of progress" should result in a loss of seats to the Government. He adds: "It is time that that state of things came to an end." We urge the Prime Minister most strongly not to try to evade the real difficulties of the situation by describing the differences between Liberalism and Labour as "comparatively trivial." They are not so. One of them is the franchise itself—the enfranchisement of women. Will not Mr. Asquith consider whether this is to him a "comparatively trivial" matter? If it is, he may surely yield the point! If it is not, why ignore it? We report his speech, and Mr. Barnes' reply to it, elsewhere.

The Hyde Park Demonstration.

The handbills issued by Mr. Burdett-Coutts to the people living in his constituency of Westminster, to come and "support loyal Ulster," in Hyde Park last Saturday, addressed "men and women" alike, "whether on the register of electors or not." At the demonstration, however, only supporters of Ulster might demonstrate their willingness to "take any means that may be effective" to achieve their end. The W.S.P.U., who, to do them justice, do not go these lengths, were not allowed to demonstrate anything but the remarkable attitude of the Government towards men who are only anxious as to how and where they shall be represented, and women, who are not represented at all. Mr. Burdett-Coutts, author of the impassioned appeal to "all patriotic men and women," is a stout Anti-suffragist, and has voted against every Suffrage Bill that he could. Why, then, does he now appeal to women?

Scottish Local Government.

We are glad to be able to announce that the Secretary for Scotland has promised that the Government measure making residence a qualification for eligibility to Town and County Councils in Scotland will contain a similar provision for Parish Councils. This Bill will have the effect of very much increasing the number of women eligible to stand for election to these local councils. At present, wives, sisters, and daughters, living in houses taken in the name of their male relatives, have no vote, and are, therefore, not entitled to stand for election. The Parish Council in Scotland combines the duties of Parish Council and Board of Guardians in England.

"No Discussion."

We noticed in a recent issue the significant fact that the refusal to discuss Women's Suffrage always came from the Opposition. In apt illustration of this comes Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Advisory Council," which is to discuss many political questions, but *not Women's Suffrage*. Mrs. Ward herself explains, in the course of a lively correspondence with Mrs. Swanwick in the *Manchester Guardian*, that Anti-suffragists abandoned the National Union of Women Workers because it would discuss the dreadful question ("wrangle about it" was, we regret to say, her phrase), and they feel they simply must have some place where they are secure from it. This sounds reasonable enough, if a little comic; but Mrs. Swanwick is right when she points out the real hopelessness of the attempt. You can, as Mrs. Ward pleads, agree to omit one reform and talk about others, but you can hardly talk about any reform and omit the instrument with which it is to be won. Consider a discussion on gardening which should be all about roses and violets, but a heavy *tabu* rested on the dreadful subject of spades! Will those who think spades really necessary for digging be able to contain their impatience when plans are laid on the determined assumption that nothing better than fingers has ever been so much as thought of?

Women's Suffrage and the Free Churches.

The Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, in the course of a brilliant speech at a Suffrage meeting in Swindon last week, told his audience that a special committee had been appointed by the Free Church

League and the Baptist Union Council of Great Britain and Ireland, "whose instructions are to examine the Women's Suffrage movement, especially in regard to its spiritual aims, and report as soon as possible to one of the great yearly assemblies of the Baptist Union." This will be rather a blow to the authors of the extraordinary manifesto against "female suffrage," which was issued to Free Church ministers recently, imploring them not to discuss anything so horrid. We admit that female suffrage does sound horrid. Why not call it Women's Suffrage? Perhaps just because it sounds better? After all, we do not ask for votes because we are "female," but because we are human beings.

The Instinct of Self-Preservation.

We are almost inclined to think that some admirer of "Votes and Wages" must be writing to the *Times* about the Bill for admitting women to the practice of the law. Pretending to be very angry indeed, anonymous gentlemen keep writing to say that their "bread and butter" must be defended. Could there be a better illustration of the Suffrage case? Will anyone (but these angry solicitors) contend that it is really fair to leave legislation about women's professions *wholly* in the hands of those who will have to compete with them for work if the legislation passes? Could anyone see quite straight in such a case? For our part we freely admit to feeling uncertain. We would rather not be made judges in our own case. It would be enough for us to be allowed to put it. But men are judges and defendants both, and will not let women even plead their own case. And this they call "the instinct of self-preservation."

Breaking the Law.

One writer, it is true, bases his objection to the Bill on another ground. He says that women must not be admitted to the practice of the law because women break the law. What women? The most searching inquiry into the past history of Miss Bebb, Miss Costello, Miss Nettlefold, and Miss Ingram, fails to reveal even one crime between the four. Does Mr. John C. Holmes really propose to punish Miss Bebb because Mrs. Pankhurst breaks the law? That is a very curious development of the doctrine of vicarious punishment, and might carry one far. After all, there are seven or eight men in prison now, to one woman. Mr. John C. Holmes is a man. Ought he to be admitted to practice at law?

Scarcity of Nurses.

We are not surprised to learn that there is a serious decrease in the supply of fever nurses. The *Daily News* gives the following figures of their salaries:—

Office.	Present Salary.
Sister	£38 to £44
Staff Nurse	(a) £30 to £34
	(b) £26 to £30
Probationer	£30 to £32
Assistant Nurse (Cl. II.)	£18 to £20
	£20 to £22

It is amazing that women have been found to do work so hard, so skilled, so responsible, and so dangerous, for such preposterous rates. Of course, the nurse's "keep" is thrown in; but even so, what salaries for such a skilled profession! It is now proposed to make some additions to the scale, for the shortage is getting alarming, and "other occupations are proving more attractive." The census of 1911 shows an increase of 80,922 in the numbers of women engaged in various forms of clerical work over those so engaged in 1901. It is clear that progress in the matter of raising the wages and status of women's work must be by the opening of more and more professions and industries to them.

The Girl-Guide Movement.

The Girl-Guide movement is spreading rapidly, and, like the Boy Scouts, the Guides are international. A number of German girls have been visiting London this week, welcomed and "guided" by their English sisters. There need be no fear of "militarism" in a movement which makes for better understanding between us all, and the Girl-Guide movement is one on which all who work for the advancement of women should look with sympathetic eyes.

The Leader of the Constitutional Suffrage Movement. MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, President of the N.U.W.S.S.

Like most other Englishwomen who have taken a leading part in movements for reform, Mrs. Fawcett was drawn into active public life by a strong sense of duty and responsibility. As a young girl, she was of rather a dreamy and contemplative disposition, with a fondness for study and the peaceful occupations provided by a happy home-life in a large domestic circle. An interested observer of the leading political events at home and abroad, her early sympathies were always on the side of

Mr. Fawcett urged him not to allow his wife to speak on Women's Suffrage, on the ground that it would injuriously affect his position in the constituency. He listened quietly to all their objections, and then replied: "My wife shall do as she wishes."

Had Mrs. Fawcett consulted her own inclinations, she would have preferred to remain an observer and interested student of affairs. The public platform had no attraction for her, and



Look here upon this picture—
"THE REAL THING."

(Portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett by Ford Madox Brown. Photo by Mr. Emery Walker.)

nations and individuals struggling towards freedom and higher ideals of life. At the age of nineteen, she was married to Mr. Henry Fawcett, then newly-elected member for Brighton, and entered the larger world of politics and affairs. An accident in his youth had deprived Mr. Fawcett of his eyesight, and to him Mrs. Fawcett became the main source of his happiness and success in his career. He encouraged her in the great work to which she has devoted so large a part of her life—the promotion of the political enfranchisement of women—and in every other movement for raising the economic and moral position of women. When Mrs. Fawcett was invited to speak on women's enfranchisement at Brighton, well-meaning friends and supporters of

public speaking was, and has always remained for her, a task requiring a determined effort to carry out. Once, when asked by an interviewer whether she liked speaking, she replied: "No, I do not like it at all. I never like speaking; what I would like to do would be to sit down all day with my books."

To her only child, Philippa, Mrs. Fawcett became the faithful companion and adviser, as she was all through his life to her husband. Mother and daughter were friends in the truest sense of the word; they did everything together, in recreation as well as in work, travelled together, read together, and had friends in common. When Philippa Fawcett grew out of girlhood, her mother taught her to be self-reliant, and imbued her with her

own sense of responsibility; when Philippa was old enough to go about London by herself, her mother said to her, "Now, remember—nobody gets run over except foolish people."

Happy in her domestic life, devoted to her home, with a natural shrinking from taking a prominent part in public work, it needed some great moving spiritual force to make Mrs. Fawcett come forward as an advocate for reform upon the public platform; but contact with the realities of life, knowledge of evils which required to be combated, and the realisation of the fact that she, to whom so much had been given (love and devotion of husband and child, the affection of a large circle of friends, together with a certain amount of leisure), must also give much to the service of those whose circumstances render them less capable of fighting for themselves. Once the resolution made, Mrs. Fawcett never swerved from the work she had embarked upon.

Senior Wrangler, for it was in 1870, when Philippa Fawcett was only two years old, that her mother spoke at a meeting held at her house in Cambridge in support of a scheme for the higher education of women, which resulted in the founding of Newnham College. It was as a student of Newnham College that Miss Fawcett had entered for the examination.

In all the work for the uplifting of womanhood, Mrs. Fawcett has never lost sight of the fact that if women are to fulfil their proper duties to the race and to the nation, they must be taught self-reliance, and that they are not to be regarded as helpless objects of compassion and maudlin sentiment, but that every effort should be made to build up in women the feeling of personal responsibility. That Mrs. Fawcett has been able to accomplish so much work in various directions is always a matter of surprise to those who do not know the orderliness and method which reigns in her well ordered home. In spite of the busy life



—and on That!

"THE ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS' IDEA."

(Reproduced by kind permission of the proprietors of Punch. "An Ugly Rush"; Punch, May 28th, 1870, after division on the "Woman's Vote Bill.")

By the death of Henry Fawcett, Mrs. Fawcett was deprived of that noble companionship which had halved her troubles and doubled her joys. There remained the consolation gained from the knowledge that his kindness and gentleness, courage in the face of adversity, had won for him the respect and esteem even of those who did not share his political views and ideals. It was once said of Mr. Fawcett by some of his political opponents during an election contest, that he was "the friend of women," using this expression as a term of contempt. Referring to this, Mrs. Fawcett said she felt proud that they should speak of him by such a title, and if she might aspire to the same title, it would be the proudest moment of her life.

Mrs. Fawcett had the deep satisfaction of sharing in the triumph of her daughter in 1890, when she won the highest place in the Mathematical Tripos of that year by coming out above the

she leads, she always has time to visit her friends, and to keep in close personal touch with her fellow workers. She has a very keen sense of humour, and, with all her great powers, has a very modest estimate of her own capacities. Someone once asked her if she had not been often told by some members of her audience, after making a speech, that she had changed the whole course of their lives. "No, never," was the prompt reply.

Mrs. Fawcett does not approve of methods of violence in political propaganda. She believes that such methods are wrong in themselves, and injurious to the Cause. These words express, perhaps, her view of the spirit in which the Cause should be advocated:—

"No good is certain but the steadfast mind,
The undivided will to seek the good
Is that compels the elements and wrings
A human music from the indifferent air."

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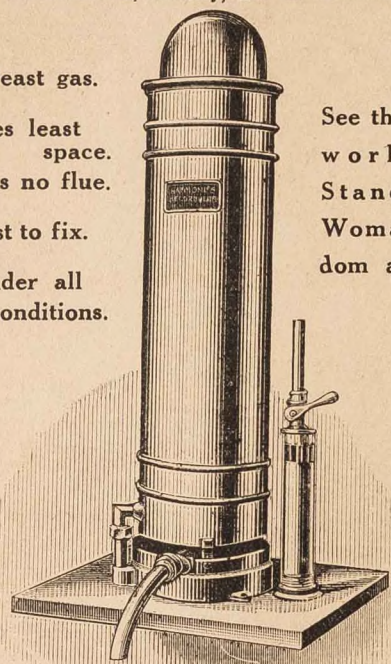
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MORE HELPERS NEEDED.

Many more stewards, sellers, and section-assistants are still wanted for the Woman's Kingdom Exhibition, especially for **Easter Saturday and Monday**. Will those who, at the last moment, find they can come, even for a few hours, but have not time to let the organisers know, just come to the exhibition and offer their services to Miss E. L. E. Kelsall (Hon. Sec. of the Commissionaires' Corps)? There will be great need of catalogue sellers during the first days, and this is work which casual comers could very well take on for a few hours at a time. Help is also wanted in various other ways. All through the exhibition it is for the second shift (4—10 p.m.) that help is particularly needed. Volunteers should apply at the Stewards' Office, "Woman's Kingdom," in the gallery of the exhibition.

SOME NEW FEATURES.

Most of the attractions of WOMAN'S KINGDOM have already been touched upon in THE COMMON CAUSE. Among others which have recently been added may be mentioned a monoplane shown by Mrs. Maurice Hewlett, of the firm of Hewlett and Blondeau. Mrs. Hewlett did much of the manufacture of this machine herself, including the covering and belting. She is a teacher of aviation, and also an expert in beaten leather work and wood carving, the frame of Mr. Holman Hunt's famous "Light of the World" in St. Paul's Cathedral being made by her.

The machine shown at WOMAN'S KINGDOM has kindly been lent by its designer, Mr. Dyott, who has won several prizes with it. He did very well in two races at Hendon, and has just returned from America, where he has been doing some exhibition flying with this machine.

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Miss C. Griff, who has taken Stall 138/139, is the pioneer of a new profession for women, being prepared to give expert advice on house lighting, farm machinery, stationary plant, automobiles, etc., etc. This is work for which women are particularly fitted, as they naturally understand the needs of household comfort better than men. Miss Griff has had long and varied engineering experience, having worked in commercial traction, etc.; and she holds certificates of the Examining Boards of London for mechanical, electrical, and automobile engineering. She will be pleased to meet lady motorists, farmers, and others at her stall during the exhibition.

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Excellent dramatic entertainments are being provided by Miss Edith Craig and the Actresses' Franchise League; and a varied and interesting programme of lectures has been arranged. Members of the N.U. are specially asked to support these.

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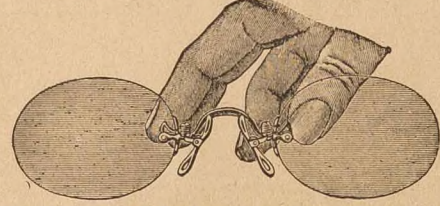
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Election Work of the N.U.

EAST FIFE BY-ELECTION.

*Committee Rooms—Forth Street, Leven,
 Lady Wynd, Cupar,
 Near Station, Tayport.*

This is emphatically a Women's Campaign, and although
 there is no contest, we are intending to have a great series of
 meetings. To this end twenty halls have been secured, and
 open-air meetings are planned for each day and evening. This
 week will see our platforms well staffed. Miss Lumsden, LL.D.,
 Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Chew, Dr. Elsie Inglis, and Miss
 Stuart Paterson are to be with us, and we hope for many more.
 To-day two of us were at Ladybank, distributing sound doctrine
 to the masses of Liberals assembled to welcome the ex-member
 for East Fife. I was fortunately able to make a speech, but
 only a very short one, to the big and friendly crowd assembled
 outside the hall where Mr. Asquith was discoursing. Then, in
 response to a message sent out from the hall, the good-natured
 Superintendent of the masses of police had to request a "move-
 on!" The Militants are making a tremendous show.
 Whether or not ours can be as good depends entirely on the
 amount of money and personal service sent to our aid. Prices
 of halls and committee-rooms have gone up by leaps and bounds;
 the train service is notoriously bad, even for a rural country
 constituency, and motor cars are absolutely essential if the
 ground is to be covered.

We have plenty of ammunition for our speeches in the resolu-
 tion in support of our cause, carried by the National Liberal
 Federation at Northampton, on April 3rd, and in the repeated
 resolutions in our favour by organised labour. What we want
 is money—the "sinews of war"—that we may make a really
 effective demonstration of the strength of public opinion on our
 side, not only in the country as a whole, but in East Fife in
 particular. We beg all readers to help according to their
 means.

ALICE CROMPTON.

Suffrage Committee Rooms, Forth Street, Leven, Fife.

A FIGHT IN VIEW FOR MR. PEASE.

The Labour Party in Rotherham have selected their candi-
 date, and work for the General Election now begins in earnest.
 Their choice is Alderman Grundy, the nominee of the miners, a
 checkweighman of the Rotherham Main Colliery. Unreserved
 admission of his ability and of his probable strength as a
 candidate is made by the local papers, both Liberal and Con-
 servative. The *Rotherham Advertiser* (Lib.) says: "An abler
 man is not to be found among the thousands engaged in the
 mining industry, and his public work is a striking tribute to his
 ability and sincerity," and it alludes in particular to his work on
 the old School Board and on the Health Committee of the Cor-
 poration (of which he is Chairman), and in the demolition of
 insanitary dwellings. The article ends with the words, "Alder-
 man Grundy will make a strong candidate—a fact which no
 opposing party or candidate can afford to ignore." The Con-
 servative paper (*Rotherham Express*) also says that "in Alder-
 man Grundy the Labour Party could not have a better exponent,
 nor one who, by reason of his local knowledge and associations,
 would be more likely to be successful at the poll," and declares
 that if the Unionists could also find a local candidate, "the big
 Liberal majorities would come down with a rush, even if they
 were not wiped out altogether, and it would be no longer
 expedient for any candidate to present to the people such
 threadbare election addresses as were sent out by Mr. Pease
 in 1910." Mrs. Pearson has already questioned the Labour
 candidate on his Suffrage views, and received very satisfactory
 replies.

The E.F.F. has been at work in this constituency for well
 over a year now. Miss Hilston had done some work there for
 the West Riding, but Mrs. Townley was the first organiser to
 break ground for the Fighting Fund. Her work was so success-
 ful that a very striking deputation of delegates from Trade
 Unions went voluntarily up to London to interview Mr. Pease.
 Under the able leadership of Mr. Hutchison (General Secretary
 of the National Union of Stove Grate Workers) this deputation
 distinguished itself greatly by the way in which it drove Mr.
 Pease from cover to cover, and, finally, drew from him the

amazing admission that his "main reason for opposing
 Women's Suffrage was that he was afraid that if women got
 votes some day a woman might get into Parliament, and he did
 not think that women were strong enough to stand the physical
 strain of life in the House of Commons."

There is no doubt that Suffrage feeling is very strong indeed
 in Rotherham, especially in some of the mining districts, and our
 work now is to organise that support, and make it effective in
 the promotion of Mr. Grundy's candidature. It will be an
 immense spur and encouragement to our work to have a Labour
 candidate actually in the field, and we hope soon, through the
 Club, to organise ward committees of women who will be pre-
 pared to canvass and work in the election.

TEACHERS AND THE SUFFRAGE.

We have received the following appeal from Mrs. Fawcett to members of the N.U.T.:

"There are at the present moment 40,000 women members of
 this great organisation, and all of them pay exactly the same amount
 as the men members each year towards direct Parliamentary rep-
 resentation. The position, however, is at present inconsistent with the
 idea of democratic Government, which demands that a representative
 should be only responsible to voters. At present these women are not
 voters, and the men cannot express the woman's point of view. Surely
 it is quite obvious that women should be consulted as to the best way
 of dealing with such subjects as school clinics, the teaching of cookery
 and housecraft, the feeding of school children, the after-care of girls,
 with special reference to the White Slave Traffic. It is essentially
 their interests which are concerned, and it is amongst them that
 we should expect to find the experts who will furnish the necessary
 experience."

"Because the resolution was not considered 'legitimate business,'
 the National Union of Teachers refused to pass a resolution in favour
 of giving votes to women—yet it is considered 'legitimate' to spend
 £6,000 of the National Union's funds each year on direct Parlia-
 mentary representation—the greater portion of which is subscribed
 by the women members. It must also be remembered that in 1903,
 the Union money was used for the lawsuit through which schoolmasters
 living in school-houses won the right to vote. The political claims of
 men have been pushed at the expense of the National Union of
 Teachers—how, then, can the political claims of women be beyond
 the scope of the National Union of Teachers? It would seem that the
 fact has been overlooked that every vote is a source of political
 strength to the Union."

THE LOWESTOFT CONFERENCE: EASTER PLANS.

The N.U.W.S.S. has taken a shop in the heart of the
 town, and to defray the cost of it, tea-rooms are being started
 on the first floor. Cake makers and sweet makers of the N.U.,
 please note. Contributions in kind will be thankfully received
 at the Suffrage Shop, 11, London Road, Lowestoft. They ought
 to be sent not later than April 11th.

The demonstration is to take the form of a procession, start-
 ing on the Royal Plain, which will march to a mass meeting at
 the Marina Theatre. Here Sir V. Horsley is to take the chair,
 and Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Rackham, and Miss Muriel Matters are
 to be speakers. In the evening the local society is to hold a
 reception. More banners are wanted for the procession, and
 ought to be sent to the same address as the cakes and sweets.

A FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER FOR THE ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN.

We are asked to announce the formation of a Fellowship of Prayer for the Enfranchisement of Women.

The object of the Fellowship is to unite in intercession for the
 Woman's Movement those who believe that prayer is work, and that all
 work should be done in the spirit of prayer.
 Membership will be open to all Christian people who are Suffragists,
 and whose faith in their cause is so assured that they neither use nor
 approve any methods of advancing it other than those of reason and
 justice. By this it is understood that every member aims at convincing
 public opinion, and definitely rejects all attempts to coerce it, as out of
 harmony with the spirit in which Our Lord appealed to the consciences
 of men.

The Fellowship will be interdenominational and will, for practical
 purposes, be united in several groups. Each group will have its own
 secretary, and these secretaries acting together will form a Committee
 to which other members may be added.
 No subscription will be asked from members, nor is there any intention
 of undertaking work which is already being done by the secular Societies.
 The Fellowship exists for devotional purposes only. Members who can
 afford it will be asked to give something towards the expenses of printing
 and postage as the need arises, but the amount will in any case be small.

All who are interested are asked to communicate with the
pro tem. Hon. Secretary, Miss A. Maude Royden (Frankby Hall,
 Birkenhead), who will give further information about the Fellow-
 ship. A devotional meeting will be held at the Collegium House,
 92, St. George's Square, S.W., on April 27th, at 8.30 p.m., to
 which all who care to come will be welcome. Delegates to the
 N.U. Council are especially invited.

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SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton Street, W. Subscription, One Guinea. Luncheons 1s. 3d., Dinners 1s. 6d. The Club possesses an excellent Library. All particulars, Secretary.

L EAGUE OF JUSTICE—22, South Molton-st., W. A Feminist League. Join it and strengthen the New Militancy (law-abiding) for the Cause.

N EW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. Tuesday, April 21st, at 3 p.m. New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. "Woman as Citizen." Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser, Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

S UFFRAGE SONG for Meetings, &c. Ask for "The City of Beautiful Light." Dignified, melodious, and stirring. Music by Frank Elton.—Publishers, West & Co., 24, Rathbone-pl., Oxford-st., W.

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C OOK-GENERAL wanted; thoroughly trustworthy. Superior woman, over 30; family; 4; 2 servants and nursemaid; last cook stayed years; wages £22-£30. Mrs. Marvin, The Dyke, Berkhamsted, Herts.

L EAGUE OF JUSTICE.—Home Workers' Bureau (licensed L.C.C.), 22, South Molton-st., W. Ladies wanting servants should apply Hon. Sec., Monday, Wednesday, 2.0-4.0, Friday, 2.0-5.30. The only Suffragist Bureau.

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