

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

EDITOR: MARTINA G. KRAMERS, 92 KRUISKADE, ROTTERDAM.

FOURTH YEAR No. 9.

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Der Mann schuf durch Unterdrückung der Frau den Kampf der Geschlechter... Er wird durch Erfahrung lernen, dass auch Entsagen „männlich“ Handeln „weiblich“ und alles „Vorrecht“ hassenswert ist. Frauenbewegung bedeutet eben auch Männererziehung.

DR. KÄTHE SCHIRMACHER.



No one idea has done more to retard the progress of the human race than the exaltation of *submission* into a high and noble virtue... *submission* is not inherently beautiful — it is generally cowardly and frequently morally wrong.

FREDERICK W. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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## Announcements.

The cause of the delay of this number of "Jus Suffragii" is the absence of the editor occasioned by the **World's Congress of International Associations** held at Brussels on May 9, 10 and 11, at which she represented the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

At the opening session, which, but for the official court-mourning would have been attended by the King of Belgium, there were present some 200 illustrious men of science and international repute, among whom were a dozen of women, besides some ambassadors of foreign nations, France, Russia, Persia, Austria, the Netherlands, Brazil, United States, Turkey, China; and at the Board were seated the President, the Minister of State Beernaert, Mrss. Lejeune, Ernest Solvay, Carton de Wiart, La Fontaine, Roland Bonaparte, van Overbergh, General Sebert, Ostwald and Otlet. In his opening remarks Mr. Beernaert said: "We have invited the international associations to contribute their experience gained, with a view to regulate and co-ordinate their efforts to attain in a better and surer way the aim of their institution. And our call has been obeyed, since 125 associations, and not the least important ones, are represented here". During the sectional meetings, the representative of the International Council of Women got a woman placed on one of the sectional boards and the delegate of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance called attention to the rights of mothers, married women and self-supporting women as a topic for investigation and discussion in societies working for international jurisprudence. In the United Session at the close of the congress Miss Kramers proposed on behalf of the I. W. S. Alliance the following resolution, which was read to the meeting after the other conclusions:

"The congress is of opinion that it is desirable that an international code of parliamentary rules be drafted, which may take the place of the national parliamentary usages, national differences of procedure giving often rise to confusion and embarrassment for the delegates".

The accompanying argument was that in inter-

national conventions, where important decisions are voted and obligations for federated societies undertaken, the task of the president is very difficult for lack of rules known by all the delegates and generally approved. In this way the experience gained by the I. W. S. All. in its three last conventions may be made useful and considered an asset by the Central Office of International Associations, which issued the call for the successful Brussels congress.

The other conclusions referred to the obtaining of civil rights for international associations, the introduction of a universal system of weights and measures and scientific nomenclature, and to the documentation of the development of international societies.

An **International Women's Franchise Club** was founded at 66, Russell Square, London W.C. When the International Women's Suffrage Alliance Meetings of 1909 were over, one of the impressions left in the minds of many English Suffragists was the need of some place that might serve as a meeting ground for Suffragists of all creeds and all nations.

The idea was taken up by men and women interested in the movement and eventually materialised in the form of a Suffrage Club, — the first to be founded in England.

It is hoped that the Club will be recognised on all future occasions as the common rendezvous in London of Suffragists of all nations. It has already served a similar purpose as far as visitors from the English provinces are concerned.

But the main purpose of the club is indicated by the title "International". A large Foreign membership (£ 1-1-0 annual fee) is desirable then in the interests of the Club, to preserve for it the character which was the aim of its founders. A temporary membership, (fee 5 sh.) has also been instituted in order to provide accommodation for foreigners who may be temporarily stopping in London.

Having no information as to tours of *Lecturers*, we insert this communication from Miss C. D. Corbett, which may help to serve some of the same purposes.



## Great Britain.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies states that there is at present a feeling of hopefulness in the mind of those who are most closely identified with the Women's Suffrage movement in the United Kingdom. The chief political parties in this country are too closely matched at this moment for either of them to be willing to ignore the possibility of help coming from the votes of women; and therefore we find members of Parliament and candidates inclined to give heed in a practical way to the arguments for treating women as fully qualified and responsible members of the State.

Those women who are—so far as under existing circumstances women can be—strong party politicians are showing a greatly quickened interest in their own emancipation. The formation and rapid development of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association which is holding crowded and even brilliant meetings; the large part on the agenda of the forthcoming Council meeting of the Women's Liberal Federation which Women's Suffrage is to play:—both these are instances to show that not only those who, like ourselves, are working politically for representation alone, but the most fervent believers in existing parties cannot rest content with the position which women now occupy. The more closely the ties are drawn between us in these islands and our compatriots in ampler Britains beyond seas, the more vividly we realise the similarities between our lives and theirs, the more anomalous must seem the difference between our place and theirs in the nation's life. While women friends and relatives in Australia and New Zealand exercise their votes honourably and intelligently and we at home are assured from time to time that however we voted we should bring our country to ruin, we cannot but feel ashamed of living in a land where the machinery of thought can be so wilfully clogged and rusted.

The formation in the House of Commons of a "Conciliation Committee" is one of the noteworthy events which have lately occurred. The object of this Committee (which has the Earl of Lytton for its chairman and members of all the parties among its number) is to propound a scheme of women's enfranchisement which is likely to be carried by the House of Commons. The Committee consists of earnest supporters of women's suffrage and it is working with the manifest determination to obtain for women admission to the ranks of the British electorate.

A lifelong worker for the cause of women's enfranchisement has lately re-entered Parliamentary life in the person of Mr. W. S. B. McLaren who successfully contested Crewe at a by-election. During his electoral campaign the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (of whose Executive Committee he is a member) gave him hearty support. The National Union opened a Committee Room at Crewe; and Miss Edith Palliser, Miss Margery Corbett, Miss Helga Gill and others addressed meetings at which they commended him to the constituency.

The National Union is further pledged to run Women's Suffrage candidates for Parliament in suitable constituencies, selecting those preferably where the majority has been a narrow one and the sitting member is an opponent of the cause. An obvious constituency of this kind exists in South Salford, a large working-class district of Manchester at present represented in Parliament

by Mr. Hilaire Belloc whose opposition to our movement has been unmistakable. It is anticipated that at the next election Mr. Belloc's seat will be contested by Mr. Joseph Clayton, a member of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage; and the National Union has approved the adoption of this gentleman as prospective candidate.

Besides closely watching the course of events in the constituencies in order to take advantage of every by-election, the National Union, through its societies has held many meetings and has everywhere made its law-abiding yet resolute policy understood and appreciated. To strengthen its organisation it is now urging the societies to band themselves together in "District Federations", in order that every part of the country may be thoroughly worked and that societies may stimulate each other by co-operation. Already a good beginning has been made. The greater number of the societies in Scotland are linking together, and definite groups of societies to work specified areas in England are also in the course of formation.

MARGARET HEITLAND,  
member of the Executive N. U. W. S. S.

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In accordance with the spirit of the Resolution passed by the London Convention (Report p. 52) the reforms advocated in Lady McLaren's "Woman's Charter" of which the chief was the grant of the Parliamentary Franchise to women, were embodied in nine Bills and introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Charles McLaren early in the present Session. These Bills have excited unprecedented interest both in Parliament and in the Press throughout the country. Wherever attention has been attracted to the legal wrongs of women, due directly to sex disabilities, the need of the Parliamentary franchise has been advertized.

The educational value of such a Charter is now fully recognized, and its success undisputed by disinterested people. It is urged that the other nations of the Alliance should at the first possible moment avail themselves of this excellent way of advancing the universal cause of the Freedom of Women by a combined attack on their respective legislatures.

(Communication from Miss C. D. Corbett.)

The summer campaign of the Women's Social and Political Union is in full swing. "Votes for Women" week and Self-Denial week did excellent work and all meetings are now being directed to the object of raising money and speakers for the great June Demonstration; the last two in London, at the Queen's Hall and at the Scala Theatre, have resulted in the raising of some hundreds of pounds towards the 40 bands that are to inspire and marshal the women. The ready answer to the leaders' appeals at so early a date argue well for the general success of the undertaking.

The Union issues the following call to women: "Women of all nations! A wonderful and unique army will march out on June 18th, side by side, animated with one great principle, that of the Vindication of the Rights of Womanhood. It is the dawn of a new *Weltgeist*, rising to show the world that women as well as men love liberty and recognise it for the true heritage of every single human being. As such every woman will make every possible effort to take her place in it.

American and French women already dearly love the Liberty won at such cost by their forefathers and foremothers. The daughters of great revolutionists could not hold back from the peace-

ful revolution of women against the old shackles of centuries. America's daughters have even joined in the noble army of martyrs.

The women of Russia will of course come forward, for their women compatriots have shed their blood with the men for freedom.

The women of Finland and Norway, Australia and New Zealand will walk side by side with those women who are waging a determined war for freedom, as an encouragement from those whose battle is already won.

The women of Germany and Belgium have already shewn their English sisters how their heart beats in unison with those who fight the battle, by sending dignified remonstrances to the Premier of England against the ill-treatment of English women political prisoners, and they of course will not hold back from showing their advanced attitude on Women's Enfranchisement by joining in the march.

Women of Austria, Holland, Denmark and Sweden will send their quota to this splendid band, for they too love progress. The women of Serbia, Italy, in fact of every nationality are coming.

Arrangements are being made for the contingents from all the great countries of the world to have a notable place in the vast International Pageant of Women! O sisters of every clime! Come and join us in this great Army of Humanity! A warm welcome awaits each one. Names are pouring in, for there is not a woman who would be away on this glorious day in the annals of Womanhood.

Women of all nations! Come and feel the joyous beat of the one great Woman-heart!"

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Parallel with the unceasing efforts of the Suffragettes for their cause, comes the Parliamentary Whitsuntide Recess. Women, although supposed by some to be the interiors of men, never relax their efforts for one moment. The hon. Members of the legislation of this country therefore, wearied out with ineffective struggles, have a breathing space and also, consequently, a time for reflection. The Women's Social and Political Union hope that they will conscientiously use this time to consider the women's demand and to be wise before the event. The truce is still on from the militant sections and affords a splendid excuse to those who do not wish to bow their dignity to other methods. And it is their last chance, for if they do not take advantage of this favourable opportunity, other measures will once more have to be taken up and carried out to their ultimate object, however far that may lead them.

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The latest proof of the extension of the movement is the opening out of new premises at 156, Charing Cross Road for the Woman's Press the trading part of the Women's Social and Political Union. It has increased its turnover by one hundred in three years, the actual figures being about £ 1000 a month or £ 12,000 a year.

EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.  
London, May 1910.

During April the Women's Freedom League has concentrated its activities on branch organization and local work with a most gratifying strengthening of its position. Special efforts have

\* Readers, whether resident in their own countries, or in England, who purpose taking part, are requested to send in their names to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, 4, Clement's Inn, Strand, London.

been directed to the development of open air propaganda work and it is hoped to hold over a hundred meetings a week throughout the summer months.

The W. F. L. is also taking part in the monster procession and demonstration organized by the N. W. S. and P. Union. B. BORRMANN WELLS.  
London, May 1910.

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On the evening of May 5th at the Queen's Hall the W. F. L. were at home to their kindly friends and champions the Men's League; and they added to the women's indebtedness to them by speaking for them on that occasion also. Mrs. Hicks took the chair, and introduced the speakers in happy vein. There were on the platform Mr. Herbert Jacobs, Mr. H. P. Chancellor, M.P., Mr. Goldfinch Bate, Mr. Joseph Clayton, and some others. Mr. Joseph Clayton, who has been chosen Women's Suffrage candidate for South Salford, Mr. Hilaire Belloc's constituency, observed that he was going to convert Mr. Belloc by turning him out, and gave altogether a most energetic address.

("The Vote", May 14th, 1910.)

## France.

The direct action of the French W. S. Association by addressing itself to the Members of Parliament themselves was necessarily interrupted by the elections, which began on April 24 and ended on Sunday May 8th.

Yet the F. W. S. A. has not kept aloof entirely from this important political event: its President and the Secretary of the Propaganda Committee, Mrs. C. L. Brunschvieg, availed themselves of the opportunity of entering into some meetings of electors. The spoke there and distributed leaflets and circulars, and found not only a total absence of hostile feeling, but on the contrary a certain amount of sympathy for the ideas they advocated. The candidates whom they questioned did not hesitate to give formal pledges before the electorate, promising to reintroduce and support by their vote the bill Dussaussoy-Buisson, which grants Frenchwomen votes and eligibility for Municipal, District and General Councils. These pledges undertaken publicly, together with many more made privately to several members of the W. S. A. by elected M. P.s, give us hope that in France women may have the vote for the next municipal elections.

Except these incursions into the electoral domain, the Propaganda Committee organised a number of meetings. One of these was a gathering of teachers in provincial girls' lycées who had come to Paris for the Easter holidays, which had for immediate result a desire to found local branches of the French Woman Suffrage Association in different parts of the country. Evidently a general wave of enthusiasm, due to the energetic action of the Propaganda Committee of the W. S. A., is rising in several regions of France. Local Branches are in course of formation nearly everywhere. Bordeaux, Marseille, Nice, Nîmes, Poitiers, etc. begin to organise and muster their forces for the woman suffrage campaign. One of these sections called "The Riviera Group" promises to be one of the most active suffrage societies. The President, Madame Turchini-Thaüst, herself a teacher at the Girls' Lyceum at Nizza has already succeeded in forming a committee of prominent people there. The principal papers of the Southern French coast have published favor-



able comments on the occasion of the formation of this affiliated group of the Union Française (F. W. S. A.) We have great confidence in these provincial sections for the spreading of the suffragist movement and the extension of the membership of our union, and we hope that within short our supporters in the Chamber may be able to claim woman suffrage on behalf of an imposing number of organised suffragists.

At present the F. W. S. A. (Union française p.l. suffrage féminin) numbers a thousand adherents and the membership is daily increasing.

The general movement has been slow to originate, but it promises now to become powerful, and it is greatly advanced by the meetings organised by the Propaganda Committee. Another of these meetings is to take place in the end of May at Montmartre, intended this time for popular propaganda. Several M. Ps., advocates of our cause, have promised to speak on the occasion, and some prominent women too will address the meeting.

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The Union (W.S.A.) had a manifestation recently, as pretty as it was impressive. The Dowager Countess d'Uzés, our Vice-President, gave in her house a reception to the Executive and the Propaganda Committee in honour of Mrs. Stanton Coit, member of the Committee of the English W. S. Association and Hon. Treasurer of the I. W. S. Alliance. The President, Mme Schmahl, remarked in an elegantly worded address that this brilliant gathering was a visible proof that the suffrage idea had made headway in circles which had been the most hostile to it. Mrs. Stanton Coit made a gracious answer, which won general sympathy. Another reception was offered her by the club "La Française".

Communication from the F. W. S. A.

### Finland.

Im ganzen Lande waren in den letzten Wochen alle Gedanken auf die einzige grosse Frage gespannt — die Antwort die der Landtag hinsichtlich der Vorschläge der russischen Regierung abgeben würde. Heute wurde diese Antwort formuliert, und lautet: „Der Landtag kann eine Aeusserung über den in der gen. Proposition enthaltenen Vorschlag zum Gesetz nicht abgeben, weil in diesem eine durchgehende Aenderung der Grundgesetze Finnlands einbegriffen ist und der Landtag nicht auf das demselben in solcher Hinsicht zugehörige Recht zu beschliessen verzichten kann.“ Diese Kundgebung wurde vollkommen einstimmig angenommen. Hinter dem Landtage stehen also jetzt alle unsere politische Parteien — unser ganzes Volk. Was diese Antwort für eine Wirkung haben wird — darüber macht man sich keine überschwinglichen Hoffnungen. Jede andere Antwort aber wäre eine Lüge gegen die Rechtsbegriffe der gesammten Bevölkerungsschichten gewesen. Die Presse citirt die Worte Luthers: Hier stehe ich und kann nicht anders. Es fällt einem schwer zu glauben dass die junge russische Duma, die doch ihre eignen konstitutionellen Rechte standhaft behauptet, so ganz ohne Konsequenz dabei sein würde die klar dargelegten Rechte eines andern Volkes zertreten zu helfen; und an der Duma hängt jetzt die Entscheidung.

Als eine nicht gering zu schätzende Stütze für uns halten wir die von fast ganz Europa ausgesprochene Meinung über unsere Rechte und die Vergewaltigung derselben. Den finnländischen Frauen sind bis jetzt Sympathieresolutionen ein-

gegangen aus Bremen, Genf, Hamburg und München. [Rom sandte seine Resolution an „Jus Suffragii“.] Da diese an mich adressiert waren, habe ich als Schriftführerin des Frauenbundes Unionen es am geeignetsten gehalten, die Schreiben in diesem Vereine, der ja als Mitglied des I.W.S.A. gewissermassen die finnländischen Frauen nach auswärts vertritt, aufzulesen. Selbstverständlich wurden dieselben mit grossem und dankbarem Beifall begrüsst und Dankschreiben den Absenderinnen zugesandt.

In fortschrittlichen Frauenkreisen hat ein neuerdings erfolgter Vorfall grosse Entrüstung hervorgerufen. Der Senat hat nämlich ein Komitee einberufen um Verbesserungen in den Arbeitsverhältnissen der Geschäftsgehilfen vorzuschlagen. Da die Geschäftsgehilfen bei uns fast überwiegend weiblichen Geschlechts sind, wäre wohl nichts natürlicher gewesen als dass wenigstens einige Mitglieder des Komitees Frauen sein sollten. Sowa ist aber unserem wohlweisen Senat nicht eingefallen, sondern besteht das Komitee ausschliesslich aus Männern. Frauen in verschiedenen Städten haben es versucht eine Aenderung zu bewirken, aber vergebens. Der Frauenbund Unionen hat in den Tageblättern einen scharfen Protest veröffentlicht.

ANNA LUNDSTRÖM.

Helsingfors, den 7. Mai 1910.

### Norway.

The Constitution Committee of the Storting (Parliament of Norway) *unanimously* proposes, that the bill concerning universal municipal suffrage for women shall be carried. The members of the committee are Bryggesaa, Grivi, Höstmark, Tradal (Left), Hans Hansen (Centrum), Thallaug and Suhrke (Right). The Committee says, that now we have 8 years' experience of women's suffrage, and this experience has by no means proved deterring. On the contrary, women's partaking in municipal work has in many respects been useful and beneficial for the municipalities. The committee points out the injustice of the existing law, that excludes nearly half the number of women from 25 years of age upwards from voting, and which leads to many absurdities.

A majority of the Constitution Committee also proposes an amendment to the Constitution providing universal political suffrage for women. Stenkjaer, May 3, 1910. Dr. LOUISE QVAM.

A letter from Miss Mörck adds to this communication some information on the Committee's recommendation of political suffrage too. A majority suggested that the proposition moved in 1907 by the N. W. S. A. and put before the Storting by the deputy Havig, should now be carried. It runs as follows:— "§ 50 of the Constitution shall read: All Norwegian citizens, *men and women*, who have accomplished 25 years and have been residents in the country for five years, shall have the vote". — The adverse minority of the Committee consisted of two members, who thought it too soon to extend the political suffrage to all women, since the now enfranchised women had only taken part in one election in 1909.

"Under these circumstances" says Miss Mörck, "I expect that all Norwegian women will soon be in possession of the municipal vote, but I do not think we shall so soon get universal parliamentary suffrage, because for this a two-thirds' majority is required." M. G. K.

Even the unanimous proposition of the Committee may be lost. It is not in our power to warrant the issue, the bill passed the Odelsting by 71 to 10 votes on May 13, but we have not forgotten the disappointment the Lagting gave us last year. (See "Jus Suffragii" III 12, p. 96.) Yet surely we may take heart now.

Pride goes before destruction, they say. But is it too much pride if we rejoice a little now? Noticing how during the elections women who dared advocate the introduction of universal suffrage this Session were ridiculed in some press-organs, their claims being called inopportune impossible, hysterical even, — and noticing that now the same papers lay down arms before the unanimous proposal of the Committee; then surely we feel justified in waving the flag for the whole Committee on Constitution, but particularly for its President, Mr. Bryggesaa, who also was the leader of the suffragists in 1907.

(Nylaende, May 1910.)

### Denmark.

#### DANSKE KVINDEFORENINGERS VALGRETS-FORBUND.

On the 15th of April an amendment was passed in our Folketing proposing the right to vote for the Folketing to every man *and woman* 25 years of age; the voter must reside in the constituency at the time of election and only persons who have been supported by the public funds and have not paid such sums back are excluded. Likewise persons who are out of command of their estate; only this latter provision does not affect wives whose husband is the legal manager of the joint estate. Every person who has the right to vote is also eligible for the Folketing. The debate showed different views; but as to the women's vote and eligibility to the Folketing there has been no real contest, and if only the amendment comes to be read in the Landsting, we have reason to believe that no battle will be fought on account of our cause. One of the conservative members of the Upper House, Prof. Matzen, formerly our keenest opponent, has long ago declared himself in favour of women's enfranchisement. The mere fact that the parties are agreed seems to have made the women patient, and though they are getting interested, they remain passive in political affairs. The Rigsdag was dissolved in April on account of the question of the construction of the Landsting, and new elections will take place on the 20th inst. (The burning question is however still the settlement of the national defence.)

The national group of our Union, the *Dansk Kvindesamfund*, has made such arrangements that at every polling-place the question "with us or against us?" will be placed before the candidates, while large posters on the walls object against the expression "universal suffrage" as long as the women are left outside. In many cases we knew the answer beforehand but that was no reason to leave off questioning. From various places in the country it is reported that women are following the D. K.'s appeal and are attending the meetings of the parties—in some cases as *speakers* and in many places as listeners.

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*Press-bureau.* In order to comply with the resolution of the London Convention of the I. W. S. A. about distributing pamphlets on the women's question we have tried to do this in the cheapest and, at

the same time, farthest reaching manner. We have entered into connection with several Bureaus, to which we are sending small reports about the work in other countries, eminent opinions on the question by famous men and women &c. The bureaus then forwards these to all the papers with which they are connected and thus they are read by many more people than any pamphlet would be. The well-known expression by *Mr. Roosevelt*, who lately visited our country, was met with great interest when we managed to let it appear as soon as his coming here was a fact. We began working in this way in the spring. The start has been encouraging. Mrs. Nörlund (former pres. of the *Valgretsforbundet*) is doing the translations and clerical work and distributing the articles, which are selected by the Union.

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On the 3, 4, 5th of June the *Dansk Kvindesamfund* will hold its annual Congress in a small town in Jutland. The 5th of June being the anniversary of our Constitution, an outdoor-meeting will be held on the top of the beautiful "Himmelbjerget" (the mountain of heaven). The political parties which generally celebrate this day are known to drop their usual meeting on "Himmelbjerget" for the benefit of the D. K. S. meeting. In "Jus Suffragii" for June we shall report about this Congress.

On behalf of the Valgretsforbund  
TH. DAUGAARD, Intern. Secretary.  
Copenhagen, May, the 4th 1910.

The work of *Kristelig Kvindevalgrets-Forening* (K. K. F.) goes on slowly, but steadily. In April the eloquent and able speaker, Mrs. Marie Michelet from Norway, lectured in several of our branches as well in Jutland as on the islands. Of all her themes for lectures the majority wished to have discussed: "Is there a danger for the personal christian life in taking part in public life?" As a christian woman who for years has taken part in public life, Mrs. Michelet was able to answer our doubts and questions. She told us, how much the christian influence was needed in public life and that the dangers there certainly differed from, but were not greater than those in our Church and in our daily life. This lecture, which wherever it was delivered made a deep impression, will now be printed and spread by K. K. F.

Our annual meeting will be held in Esbjerg on the 6th of July. It will begin with celebration of the holy communion in the church. In the afternoon and the evening public meetings will take place in the great mission house, where woman's suffrage and christian women's participation in public life will be discussed. The next day an excursion to Fanö on the North-Sea is planned.

With regard to the coming election we have decided only to interpellate the candidates in those places where Dansk Kvindesamfund or Landsforbundet should have no Branch to do it. These two societies have a lot of Branches throughout the whole country, and we know that this work for our cause will be well done by them. An interpellation on the same question by three different societies would be of no use and only tedious for the candidates.

JOHANNA BLAUFELD.

Körop, May 7th 1910.

#### LANDSFORBUND FOR KVINDERS VALGRET.

The Landsforbund is glad to communicate, that now it counts 150 local branches with 11.000 members.



During the debate in the Folketing on the revision of the Constitution the speakers of the four political parties expressed their opinions as follows:

Mr. Rode (Radical, mover of the amendment): "The motion before you proposes to extend the suffrage to women. Their participation in municipal life has made it natural, that their participation in political life should also become the order of the day. From *all* sides it is recognized as impossible to keep them outside, and from *most* sides it is recognized a great gain to have them partake in public life."

Mr. Borghjerg (Social-Democrat): "Our programme is well known. It is a full accomplishment of the principles of universal suffrage. Our programme claims: universal, equal and direct electoral rights by ballot to all official duties for men and women from the age of 21 years."

Mr. Hammerich (Conservative): "Concerning the motion to extend the suffrage to women the members will know, that there are different opinions inside the party. There are some members, who lay particular stress on the arguments *against* woman suffrage; but there are others—and I suppose those are in majority—who understand, that there are more things which speak *for* than against it. . . . As it is, however, I believe that there are not a few among the Conservatives, who might be inclined to show their sympathy with this motion."

Mr. Neergaard (Delegation: Moderates and Liberals): "I shall repeat my words of last summer, when I expressed my sympathy with the wish of extending the suffrage to women. . . ."

After the debate the "Delegation" moved to only alter the §§ 30—31 (concerning voting and eligibility) of the Constitution, without touching upon the question of an amendment of the Landsting (Upper House), which latter had been moved by the Radicals together with an amendment of the Constitution. The motion of the Delegation was carried by the majority, whereupon the bill was sent to the Landsting.

As it stands now the speakers of all four political parties have spoken in favour of woman suffrage. But this reform cannot be carried through without dissolving the whole Rigsdag (Upper and Lower House together), and, as I have mentioned before: then comes the difficulty of settling, whether the 12 members of the Landsting, nominated for lifetime by the crown, are soluble or not? The answer lies with the Cabinet. Our cause therefore depends upon what cabinet we are going to have after the new elections that are to take place on the 20th of May.

CLINNY DREYER.

Ringsted, May 4th 1910.

## Sweden.

In the beginning of April the N. W. S. A. issued the annual report of its Central Board and of its local branches. This report is a volume of 38 pages and contains a great many interesting facts concerning the suffrage movement in Sweden and its progression during the last year. The most important of these facts are already known to the readers of "Jus Suffragii", but some figures might perhaps be of interest.

At the end of 1909 the N. W. S. A. had 157 local branches and 11,339 members, of which 116 were men. Its Central Board consisted of 231 members. In the local W. S. A. 111 different speakers, mostly women, have held 310 lectures

on social and political subjects. About half of these lectures were given at public meetings, arranged by the W. S. A. 266 members of the N. W. S. A. are also members of different municipal and political organisations.

These figures are naturally not quite exact, because many associations have not sent in full particulars on these subjects, but still they give a good idea of the growing social and political interest among Swedish women.

In 1909 the N. W. S. A. issued 10 leaflets and 9 circulating articles, the total edition of which amounts to about 300,000 copies. As Sweden, notwithstanding its great extension, has a population of little above 5 millions, this makes one copy for every 17th inhabitant.

There can be no doubt about the increasing interest in the suffrage movement in our country, and since the beginning of this year the N. W. S. A. has got 8 new local branches and about 300 new members.

In the next report I hope to be able to give the results of the elections to the "landsting" for which the socially interested women are working with all their might all over the country.

Stockholm, May 1910.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.

## Austrian Empire.

Vienna. On April 14, after a long adjournment, Parliament has again begun its session. It was said that the Committee on change of Constitution would take up in this session the amendment of the Law on Assemblies, and women of different parties believed the time had now come to bring their claims again before the Deputies. On the evening of April 13th, the Socialist women held a big protest meeting against § 30, which excludes women from participation in political meetings. Mrs. Adelheid Popp and Dr. Pernerstorfer M.P. spoke and roused the women to go and demonstrate before the House of Parliament to give additional weight to the women's demands. Natural as this indignation is, yet in Austria we need not hold a Minister's verdict "impossible" a very serious thing, especially because Ministers are very shortlived and then because, as shown in the last electoral reform and lately by the conduct of the Minister of Finance, they are not wanting in self-denial and will often give up their former convictions.

Also on the evening of the 13th, at Brünn in Moravia, the non-socialist women had called a crowded meeting to protest against § 30, in which Mrs. Daisy Minor of the Vienna W. S. Committee gave an address. The meeting resolved to prepare the foundation of a W. S. Committee in Brünn.

On the evening of the 14th of April the Vienna W. S. Committee called a meeting in the big hall of the Savoy Hotel, which was well attended. The first speaker was Mrs. Fürth, who called attention to the contradiction between the State Constitution, which proclaims complete equality of all citizens, and the Law on Assemblies which assimilates women to minors and foreigners. After her spoke a lady who is at the head of a public school for girls on behalf of the teachers, a lady in postal service on behalf of the state officers, a lady student on behalf of her female colleagues at the University, and a lady chief of a joiner's work shop on behalf of women in trade. All declared their agreement with the agitation which aims at obtaining for women their political rights, and promised their support to the committee. The Socialist deputy Mr. Glöckel also gave the

women assurance of his party's help. Grateful as we may be for help from whatever quarter it comes, still we non-socialist women cannot refrain from feeling disappointed that it should always be promised us by representatives of the Socialdemocrats or from non-partisan M.P.s, whilst the deputies of our most congenial German and non-socialist parties do not show the least interest for our agitation. This gives us little hope of success in Parliament. The Socialists (86) will surely vote for the abolition of § 30, but among 516 Deputies they are but a minority. Probably they will get the support of the progressive Czechs and the Poles. All Conservative, Clerical and Agrarian M.P.s are certainly opposed to women's enfranchisement and they form a compact majority in Parliament. So practically the decision rests with the German non-socialist deputies,—will they befriend or oppose the women's cause at the decisive moment? . . . We fear for the latter alternative, and time will show whether we are right in this conjecture.

HENRIETTE HERZFELDER.

Vienna, April 1910.

## Hungary.

The greatest event of this year, the date of which, the 29th of April, will be marked with red in the calendar of Hungarian suffragists, is the formation of the Hungarian Men's League for woman suffrage. Dr. Dirner, professor of the university in Budapest, member of the committee of the Feministák Egyesülete, whose energy and zeal realised in some weeks the plans cherished for many years by the Hungarian suffragists, gathered nearly 200 members at the formation. The enthusiasm of the secretary, Mr. Demyeny, seized the numerous audience; most of the ladies present joined the League as supporting members. The general members are mostly gentlemen of the highest intelligence, professors of universities and colleges, lawyers, physicians, judges, engineers, government clerks etc., and the Committee counts several gentlemen who were M.P.s before and are candidates for the next parliament. The next policy is to take lively part in the elections. All the papers brought long articles on the meeting, after having announced it well beforehand.

The papers bring also the news of candidates declaring themselves as being in favour of woman suffrage; in the capital, several of the candidates are believed to be in favour of it, but they do not seem to wish to confess their convictions upon this point to their electors. They are willing to give private declarations, to write private lettres, but do not include woman suffrage in their speeches, and when suffragists ask for the permission to speak, the meeting is brought suddenly to a close and then follow apologies. Mr. Lendl, professor at a university, one of the members of the committee of the Men's League, who stands as candidate for the second district of Budapest is a laudable exception. He invited the members of the Feministák Egyesülete to control his programm-speech, in which he will speak largely of woman suffrage, and asked for some of our flags to decorate the hall in which he is to speak.

In 1905, when the plan of a universal suffrage reform bill turned up first in Hungary, a National League for Universal Suffrage was formed. The leaders then rejected the proposition of the Feministák Egyesülete of joining the League on condition of including woman suffrage in its platform,

saying they did not wish to provoke ridicule. The League was newly organised last month, and the Feministák Egyesülete asked them again to include woman suffrage in their programme and resolutions. The committee of the League used another excuse this time, which is, that they do not want to be theoretic, they mean to remain on a practical basis. In consequence they did not accept women speakers and the ladies present at their great meeting could only demonstrate for their rights by distributing leaflets.

On the 29th of April the Hungarian government and the Banus of Croatia discussed in a council of the ministers the new Croatian suffrage reform bill, which will be submitted to the previous sanction of the King. This is another proof of the constitutional sense men have—and women lack. We do not know any reliable details of the bill.

MRS. EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER.  
Budapest, the 2nd of May 1910.

## Bosnia-Hercegovina.\*)

On the 28th of May will take place the first elections for the Bosnian parliament for which women have suffrage. Of the 402,164 citizen voters there are but some hundred women; most of these are of mohamedan faith. Amongst the women voters of the district of Serajevo for instance, ten are mussulman and but one of the Greek-Eastern (christian) Church; the same proportion obtains between the women voters of the other 52 districts. The mohamedan women landed proprietors are without one exception analphabets, wear veils and are entirely without culture. The peculiar logic of politics is that these women have political rights, whereas the Bosnian women doctors of high rank and practising physicians are excluded from these rights.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest, May 1910.

\*) By agreement of our Hungarian and Australian Auxiliaries, on political and historical grounds Bosnia-Hercegovina is to have a separate heading.

## Italy.

The Roman Suffragists have expressed their sympathy with Finland in the following resolution, which was sent to the Russian Embassy on April 17:—

"The general meeting of the National Women Suffrage Association, having read the touching appeal of the Finnish women for their country's autonomy; considering that this generous nation was the first to grant political equality to women, which would disappear with the annexation of Finland by Russia,—expresses its urgent desire that the autonomy of Finland and the rights so nobly and equitably granted to women, may remain intact".

The Lombardian Committee for Woman Suffrage resolved in its session of March 19 to reaffirm the claim of political equality for men and women as to political and municipal suffrage, and to support Mr. Gallini's bill by requesting the press of every political party to advocate it and the deputies to vote for it, when it shall have been reintroduced into parliament. On April 10 they arranged a meeting together with the Unione nazionale femminile and the Lega tutela interessi



femminili, in which Mr. Gallini M. P. gave an address on The social and legal condition of women.

There was a controversy in the paper "Avanti" on the attitude of the Socialdemocratic party with regard to woman suffrage between Anna Kuliscioff and Filippo Turati M. P., who, although both socialists, hold widely different views as to the expediency of the enfranchisement of women. The different articles were collected in the Biblioteca Sociale and the pamphlet was spread by the Comitato Lombardo, being a good piece of propaganda. The earnestness of Anna Kuliscioff and the weight of her arguments contrasts greatly with Turati's now authoritative now flippant statements, and she finally shows that the socialist cause would be best served by the speedy introduction of woman suffrage.

M. G. K.

### Germany.

The Badenian Diet is now at work to revise the municipal law. The woman suffrage associations have begun a lively agitation for equal municipal rights and petitioned the Diet together with many other women's societies in Baden. There was a long debate in the Committee of the Diet, yet finally the total enfranchisement of women was lost by 10 to 5 votes, and the municipal vote by 8 to 7 votes. But the women gained a point in so far as § 19 of the new Municipal Rules makes obligatory the appointment of women on Charity and Educational Boards.

In the Principality of Anhalt the Government itself took the initiative to procure women full equality of rights in municipal charity-boards, and all the parties in the Diet hastened to adopt the reform.

The second Congress for Juvenile Courts is going to be held at Munich from Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, and the German Association for this aim, urgently invites participation.

On April 22 at Hamburg the G. W. S. A. and two of its Local Sections held an important meeting, in which Dr. Heinz Potthoff, M.P. advocated votes and eligibility for women not only in some but in all Imperial Societies of Insurance. A resolution was adopted urging the deputies to carry this minimum of equality for women in the Reichstag.

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The German W. S. A. and its Local Branches at Hamburg and Munich adopted the following resolution on the autonomy of Finland:—

"Die Versammlung spricht ihre schmerzliche Sympathie mit dem heldenmütigen Verzweilungskampfe des finnischen Volkes für seine Freiheit und Verfassung aus.

Möchte es diesem einmütigen Kampfe und der einhelligen Empörung aller zivilisierten Völker gelingen, über die zarische Gewaltpolitik zu triumphieren, damit die eigenartige reiche Kultur Finnlands vor dem Erstickungstode in halbasiatische Barbarei gerettet wird und Finnlands politische Unabhängigkeit vor russischem Despotismus bewahrt bleibt".

(Zeitschrift f. Frauenstimmr. 1 Mai 1910).

The W. S. A. for Western Germany (Frauenstimmrechtsverband für Westdeutschland) and the Rhenish-Westphalian Women's League sent a petition to the Prussian Diet to demand votes for women on the same terms as for men in the election of municipal officers. They give as ar-

guments the growing number of professional women and the right of municipal suffrage enjoyed—though on a limited scale—by the women of some German States.

(Centralblatt d. Bundes d. Frauenver. 1 Mai 1910)

### Switzerland.

On April 24 1910 the women of Lausanne exercised for the first time their right to vote on Church affairs, which was conceded them by the Great Council (Grand Conseil) in November 1908, on the occasion of the election of churchwardens (conseillers de paroisse) in the National Evangelical Church of the Canton of Vaud. In the six town-parishes the women had to claim their registration as electors personally, by presenting their extract from the Birth Register or their marriage-certificate in order to get their ballot-paper. 1020 ballot-papers were claimed and 757 women polled their votes. So the majority voted. All went on in a dignified and calm way, as we expected. The elections of churchwardens took place in the whole Canton of Vaud, and the papers say that everywhere they went on correctly, the women being nearly always in majority.

The National Protestant Church at Geneva has at last granted the vote to women. Of 13000 registered electors, 3600 polled their votes. Women Suffrage was passed by 2152 against 1349 votes. It was a hard struggle for our friends at Geneva. Lausanne, April 26, 1910. A. GIRARDET VIELLE.

The Synod of the Independent Church of Neuchatel has granted the vote to women with 76 votes against 25, after a debate which lasted four hours. It is said that the antis contributed much to this victory, against their will of course.

(Frauenbestrebungen, 1 Mai 1910).

The Cantonal Council of Zurich has decided that women should be eligible for the Trade Board (Gewerbegericht). The Socialists proposed to admit women to juries, but although this was supported by other politicians too, the motion was rejected by 119 to 21 votes. Yet the Council unanimously adopted this clause: "The law shall decide in which cases women shall be electors and eligible". So *in principle* the Canton of Zurich has now enfranchised its women, but the application of the principle will probably demand some efforts still.

(Die Gleichheit, 9 Mai 1910).

### Belgium.

In March the two Local Branches of the Belgian W. S. A. of Brussels and Ghent sent to the Prime Minister of Great Britain a letter of protest against the treatment of the imprisoned suffragettes, of which the receipt was duly acknowledged.

On April 21 the B. W. S. A. devoted a meeting to the discussion of Mr. Buisson's excellent report on the Bill Dussaussoy which recommended the French Chamber to give women the municipal and political franchise.

The Belgian Senate has adopted the law which grants votes and eligibility to women for the Trade Boards called "Conseils de Prud'hommes".

M. G. K.

*N.B. On peut échanger ce numéro contre l'édition française en le renvoyant à la rédactrice.*