

THE COMMON CAUSE, SEPTEMBER 28, 1911.

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The Common Cause,

The Organ of the National Union of

Women's Suffrage

Societies.

VOL. III. No. 129.

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SEPTEMBER 28, 1911.

ONE PENNY.



THE LADY BEATRICE KEMP.

Notes and Comments.

Kilmarnock By-Election.

The results of the polling at Kilmarnock will be known to our readers before this is in their hands. In spite of the heavy strain put upon the Scottish Federation by the numerous by-elections occurring lately within its area, the Suffrage campaign has been carried on with splendid energy, and—whatever the result of the poll—with success. For such work cannot fail to make a deep and lasting impression. The fact that a hall in Kilmarnock holding over 3,000 people should have been crammed to overflowing, on the eve of an election, to hear about Women's Suffrage, is proof in itself of the interest that has been awakened.

If Mr. McKerrell should be returned, we shall have another staunch friend in the House of Commons: if Mr. Gladstone, one whose unsatisfactory attitude towards Women's Suffrage is amenable to just that kind of pressure that Suffragists have been bringing to bear at this election.

We have been asked why it should be "impossible for any British woman to work for" Sir John Rees. We reply, because of his record in India. He opposed with all his power the raising of the marriage age for Indian boys and girls, supporting both child marriage and child maternity. He attacked, both at home and abroad, British "interference" with "national customs" of this kind.

We English may or may not have a right to be in India; but if we have a right it is on our own power to put an end to shameful and hideous abuse of the otherwise wholly defenceless, that our right rests. No woman should be willing to put power over other women into the hands of a man who publicly defends its abuse.

The Pit-Brow Women.

We call the attention of our readers to the fact that the question of the employment of women on the pit-brow will come before the House of Commons for decision on or about the 2nd of November. It is of the first importance that all who have influence should bring it to bear on members of Parliament before that date. Mr. Masterman admits the justice of the women's claim, but those members who disagree with him will have thousands of votes behind them, and the women—have none.

The Church Congress.

The Church Congress meets at Stoke from October 2nd to 6th, and the Church League for Women's Suffrage has taken Committee-rooms, and is organizing many meetings. A letter in our correspondence columns points out the very large number of women who are engaged in different kinds of Church work, and who are at present quite untouched by the Suffrage movement. We believe the fact that such men as the Bishop of Lincoln, Canon Scott-Holland, Dean Kitchen, Canon Wilson, and others, are convinced Suffragists may persuade them that its appeal is at least worth listening to; and if that is so, we can have no doubt of the result. No women have more chance of seeing the havoc that is wrought by terrible economic conditions, bad housing, and unjust legislation, than those engaged in church work.

The Wells-Johnson Match.

It is difficult to see how the proposed "boxing match" between Wells and Johnson differs in essentials from a prize fight. We rejoice to know that the Home Secretary is taking action on the question. It is interesting to suffragists to learn from correspondence in the press on this subject, that though the question of "colour" does not enter into the case here in England, it is of the first importance in other parts of the Empire. Less civilized, more ignorant, more brutal people (it is said), may actually attach some meaning to the defeat by brute force of a white man by a black. Here we know better: but we must remember the weaker brethren, who because they are not so civilized as we, will be shaken in their allegiance if Johnson should win.

Are they so much more civilized? Or are there some of them here, in disguise? Only a few weeks ago, a

Suffrage speaker was told by an Englishman:—"The reason why I can vote and you can't is because if we had a difference of opinion, I could knock you down."

Head Mistresses in Council.

One of the most interesting of the resolutions passed by the head mistresses' Conference at Wakefield, is described by a member as "an old friend," which "for several years has been urged with all the force of which the Association is capable." Yet it is so important and so urgent that it accounts—among many other things—for the unanimous desire of the head-mistresses to obtain some measure of political power, without which resolutions passed by the most expert and influential bodies, remain—"old friends."

It is to the effect that the physical development of girls should not be stunted or warped by the over-strain of public examinations, at its most critical period. It is a plea that the whole course of school life should be fitted to the needs of the girls, and not the girls pressed and strained to the demands of a cast-iron curriculum. It is bad enough for the boys, but it is worse for the girls, about whom current ideas are more "cast-iron" and less adapted to their needs even than in the case of boys.

"Organised Playgrounds" for Children.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward's letter to the "Times" describing the work of the "Play Centre Committee," is very interesting reading. It is good to be able to agree with a lady with whom we disagree so profoundly on many points, and undoubtedly the opening of so many school playgrounds all over London during the holidays, must have been an unspeakable boon to harassed mothers, as well as to the fortunate children. The play was superintended by trained teachers; the County Council lent furniture; the Play Centre Committee supplied materials for games. No wonder the "grounds . . . were almost stormed in the first days," and arrangements had to be made for the orderly admission of the children.

When one comes to a description of the "play" itself, it is impossible not to feel a slight disappointment. In the boys' quarter, all is cricket, tennis, and jumping; in the girls', "all kinds of quiet occupations" reign—with one exception—the care and tending of babies, which (generally) is not "quiet," but can hardly be called play. The boys are learning "loyalty and esprit de corps" at their cricket; the girls—well, the girls presumably will be criticised for having none when they grow up. The boys have a choice of quiet or athletic occupations apparently; but the girls none. Yet we have known girls who loved to run and jump as much as any boy ever loved to sit still and read a book.

Our Portrait.

This being Eccles "Common Cause week," we present our readers with a portrait of Lady Beatrice Kemp, who is so well known and popular in that neighbourhood. Lady Beatrice works for Women's Suffrage wherever she happens to be,—at Rochdale, in the Lakes, in Manchester, or in London. During a great campaign held in Manchester by the Suffrage Society, she "kept shop" in a crowded thoroughfare and was immensely popular with all sorts and conditions. It was a great delight to suffragists when her husband, Sir George Kemp, got in for North West Manchester, and still more when the luck of the ballot placed in his hands the Conciliation Bill of 1911. Sir George set the excellent example of coming into his own constituency last April and addressing a special meeting upon the Bill which he was introducing and a resolution in favour of the Bill was passed at this meeting with only four or five dissentients.

A Recent Portrait.

We much regret that, by an oversight, acknowledgment was not made in our issue of September 14th to Lafayette, Ltd., for their kindness in allowing us to reproduce the photograph of Mr. C. P. Scott.

The A. B. C. of Women's Suffrage.

Some people are finding fault with the Conciliation Bill for Women's Suffrage, because they say it will only give the vote to

A FEW SPINSTERS,

and leave out all the married women. They say married women know more about life and more about children than unmarried women do. And when we claim that Votes for Women means better conditions for babies, and better education, and

A BETTER CHANCE FOR CHILDREN

to grow up healthy, they say "Votes for old maids won't do any of these things!"

We say this wouldn't be true even if the Conciliation Bill did leave out all the married women, because nearly all women know more about children than men do; and nearly all women have the charge of children some time or other of their lives. But as a matter of fact the Bill

DOESN'T LEAVE OUT THE MARRIED WOMEN

by any means. Remember what its principle is—the political vote for those women who have the municipal vote already. Who are they? Are they all spinsters?

TURN UP THE MUNICIPAL REGISTER

and you will see that of the women's names registered there,

THE MAJORITY ARE WIDOWS.

Are widows not married women? Some men seem to think they're not! They seem to think they forget all they ever knew about children, and lose all the good qualities they had! But we know they are just the same women they were before they lost their husbands. If they knew more about babies then, and were altogether wiser and better than their sisters (as men say), they don't forget all this when they become widows. They are

JUST THE SAME WOMEN

as before, with just the same good qualities and just the same experience. To hear some politicians talk, you would suppose they buried all the children in the same grave with their husband, and forgot all about them!

As a matter of fact

THERE IS ONLY ONE DIFFERENCE,

but that is a difference men seem inclined to forget. It is that a widow has to

DO DOUBLE DUTY

all the time. She has to be father and mother both to her children. She must look after them and keep them fed and clean; and she has to earn a living for them, too. And that is

MORE THAN ANY MAN WILL TRY TO DO.

We hold that if there is any class in the community which deserves what protection the vote can give, it is just those married women who have lost their husbands and have children to support. At present, all the "protection" they get is a wage

LESS THAN HALF A MAN GETS,

and if they can't support the children on that, they can let the relieving officer take them.

Then there are the

WIVES OF SEAMEN

too. They can get the vote, and so can any woman whose husband is generally away at election times—if their husbands really want them to. They can register the house in the wife's name, and

SHE CAN VOTE INSTEAD.

There are a great many men who are nearly always unable to vote because of their long absences from home, and if they choose they can give their votes to their wives in this way.

Remember, then, when you hear the Conciliation Bill attacked, that it actually gives MORE votes to married women than to spinsters; and though most of these married women will be widows, they haven't lost the qualities or the knowledge our critics say women voters ought to have.

THIS WEEK'S STORY.

AN AMERICAN SUFFRAGE SPEAKER: "I get tired answering silly lies. I'm going to answer this one so it'll STAY ANSWERED."

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

After Thursday, September 28, 1911, the address of The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., will be

2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

On and after October 5, 1911, "The Common Cause" will be published at this address.

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

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

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

Contents.

	Page
Portrait: The Lady Beatrice Kemp	421
Notes and Comments	422
The A.B.C. of Women's Suffrage	423
Advance all along the Line	424
The Order of Universal Co-Freemasonry	425
Farwell, Manchester	426
The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies:—	
From Headquarters	426
Treasurer's Notes	426
Press Department	427
The Common Cause	427
Eccles Society	427
By-Election	428
Federation Notes	429
Foreign News	430
Letters to the Editor	430
Work of Societies in the Union	432
Forthcoming Meetings	434

Advance all Along the Line.

The National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society is organizing a large meeting in Manchester on October 3rd to protest against the abolition of the work of women on the pit-brow. We have already dealt with this question at some length, but we have to remind our readers that it is still unsettled, and there is still need for work. Criticisms and objections compel a restatement of the fact that it is useless to discuss whether sorting coal is a particularly delightful and richly paid kind of work. It is not. But women are not asked to choose their work on such grounds. We have only a few markets to which to bring our labour, and not one of them is, as people seem to think, altogether perfect. What most of us have to consider is, not what work we should like, but what work we can get; not which work is the most likely to keep our hands white and faces clean, but which of two or three hard jobs is likely to give us most chance of keeping fit enough to go on doing it.

Miss King-May, who will be one of the speakers on October 3rd, spent her holiday once among the pit-brow girls. She did not keep her hands and face clean all the time, and she saw no immediate prospect of making a fortune; but if she had to choose between the pit-brow and the factory, she would choose the former as the more tolerable of the two. The work is hard, but it is healthy. The workers have black faces for some hours of the day, but they have strong healthy bodies. The wage is about

11s. a week, but eleven shillings is better than seven* by exactly four shillings.

The facts have to be repeated because the attack is always based on a pretence—the pretence that women need not do any of the hard and disagreeable work that they are doing, and Parliament has nothing on earth to do but forbid them to touch it; when they will instantly take up something pleasant and easy—fancy work, perhaps, or sketching—for which some imaginary employer will be eager to pay them. All the attempts that have been made to turn out of employment women-florists, barmaids, acrobats, printers, or others, have been justified on the grounds that the occupations in question were not ideal; and it is left to one to suppose that women have a wide and varied choice of more suitable and agreeable occupations, which only a most determined perversity prevented them from choosing in the first instance.

This has all been said over again, and many people have been misled into supposing that the question of the pit-brow women had been settled one way or the other. This is not the case. The Bill of which the clause closing the work to women forms a part, has passed through committee; but it has now to be reported to the House, and the House can, if it chooses, still strike out the clause. The deputation of women who went up to London to protest against the threatened prohibition, was favourably received by Mr. Masterman, and he has promised to support their claim.

We however are bound to do all in our power also, to support these women. Those who oppose them count thousands of votes in the country, and that means scores of votes in the House of Commons. We must do what we can without votes—and Suffragists know what that means!—but all we can do, whether by resolutions passed at meetings and forwarded to Mr. Masterman or the local Member of Parliament, or by private letters, or by any other means in our power, should be done at once. The clause will come up for decision on November 2nd, or soon after, and the time must be well used.

The struggle to keep open the already terribly restricted field of work for women, is an anxious one, and for two reasons.

Firstly, because even when we have the vote, it will always be much harder to get into a trade than to keep in it. When women are outside, all the weight of custom and prejudice, so strong in human nature, and doubly strong where women are concerned, goes to keep them out. The thing becomes "not women's work," and the proof that it is, lies with the women who are forbidden to try! When they are inside, they have at least that sacred thing the "vested interest" to appeal to. It is not much, in the case of women, and is generally met with the assurance that no individual worker shall lose her place: still, it is something. There is moreover the proof that women are able to do the work (since they are doing it), even if politicians think they ought not to be able.

And secondly it is important because in a movement like ours, advance must be all along the line. The "Common Cause" is the organ of far more than a political movement, just as the N.U.W.S.S. is representative of far more than a demand for the political vote. And the woman's movement has this great difficulty to cope with, that—while rightly concentrated on the immediate object, freedom—it cannot afford to leave the line of advance undefended at any point.

Accademically considered, every hardship inflicted on women is another argument for our claim. If we could do what we cannot do, and put aside for a moment the thought of the suffering inflicted on individuals whose means of livelihood is taken from them, it might seem that every injustice would make our demand for a share in our own government more overwhelming.

But practically it is not so; and experience in Suffrage work convinces most of us that it is not. The injury inflicted may in theory be an argument to uphold one's claim; but in practice, it is a bludgeon to knock one down. You cannot argue with a bludgeon. At least

* The average weekly wage of women in England.

you need not: it is not profitable. A woman who has lost her work is a woman knocked down. She is out of the battle—a non-combatant—for the future she will give and she can give no help to those who are fighting her battle, for she is trying to keep alive, and it takes all her time to do that. Every time women are turned out of a trade, the economic position of all women is made more insecure; and the worse their economic position, the more hopeless is the struggle for advance of any kind. It will never be from the sweated worker that the cry for freedom comes—never from those who need it most. The extremity of their need makes them helpless. It is among the factory women of Lancashire that the revolt is strongest—not among the sweated worker in the slums.

The longer we work in this movement of ours, the more we realize that "to him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." Women have been more subject than they are now. They could point to grievances heavier and more numerous in the days of Mrs. Norton, than we can now; but they were not more but less likely to get the vote. The attitude of mind in men which could inflict such wrongs was not the attitude of those likely to share power which they abused. It is the gradual advance, the realization of injustice, the desire to be no more unjust, which is now making men willing to put it out of their own power to be unjust.

In many ways it would have been well for women if economic independence had been won first. It would certainly have made the political battle a much easier and a shorter one. But that is now impossible. Circumstances have made economic advance impossible without political power. The arena of economic strife, though still sometimes outside politics, is more often within, and the position of the voteless worker is hopelessly insecure. Someone with a vote may always think her work should be taken away, and voters are always right!

The necessity of winning our freedom first through politics, however, makes the more essential the support of women wherever their economic position is threatened—wherever what has been already won is in danger.

The Order of Universal Co-Free-Masonry.

In 1881, Mlle. Maria Deraismes, a well-known French author and feminist, was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Masonry by a lodge acting up to its name of "Les Libres Penseurs," belonging to "La Grande Loge Symbolique Ecossaise de France." This departure from masonic custom naturally brought down on the greatly daring Lodge a decree of suspension from its Masonic Superiors, but the seed had been sown. Dr. Georges Martin, a French mason of high rank, the Father of Universal Co-Freemasonry, hereafter devoted himself to promoting an Order of Freemasonry in which men and women should work in masonry on terms of perfect equality. In 1893 a Constitution was drawn up and the first Co-Masonic body in France came into existence under the title "Grande Loge Symbolique Ecossaise," its motto being "Le Droit Humain" (Rights of Humanity). The Order at first only conferred the three Craft degrees, but later, to further the movement in foreign countries, the series of thirty-three degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was adopted. A Supreme Council of Universal Co-Freemasonry was formed with jurisdiction over all Co-Masonic bodies throughout the world, a procedure analogous to that of all other Supreme Councils.

Universal Co-Freemasonry was introduced into Great Britain in 1902, largely owing to the initiative of Mrs. Annie Besant, President of the Theosophical Society, and Miss Francesca Arundale, a French mason of long standing, and now principal of the Girls' Central Hindu College at Benares. The first English lodge was consecrated on September 26th, 1902, in Albemarle Street, London, a deputation from France attending for the purpose, and named "The Human Duty Lodge, No. 6, London." "Le Droit Humain."

French Masonry is regarded with disfavour in English masonic circles because of its materialistic attitude. But, recognising that different methods are required in different countries, the Supreme Council granted a British Constitution which asserts:

(1) In accordance with the ancient declarations of Freemasonry the existence of a Creative Principle under the title of "The Great Architect of the Universe."

(2) It maintains the open "Volumes of the Sacred Lore" in every Lodge duly formed for masonic working,

(3) It repudiates clandestine meetings for masonic purposes or lodges not holding a proper charter.

(4) Co-Masonry of Great Britain is open to men and women of all nationalities, of all creeds and of all races.

(5) The aim of Co-Masonry is to combat ignorance in all its forms, it imposes no restrictions on the free search after truth, and in order to secure that freedom, exacts the fullest tolerance from all its members.

(6) Co-Masonry exacts a pledge from its members of obedience to the laws of the country, loyalty to the Sovereign, the upholding of justice, absolute silence with regard to masonic secrets and those of its members, a high standard of honour, a kindly feeling to all, and a ceaseless endeavour to promote the welfare of humanity.

(7) Every Freemason belonging to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite is bound faithfully to observe the decision of the Supreme Council, to which he owes allegiance.

In order to secure the above objects, Co-Masonry exercises the greatest care with regard to all persons who become members, whether by initiation or application."

Co-Masonry is now a successful and firmly established activity, with many Lodges, working not only the three Crafts, but the higher degrees in London, Edinburgh, the Provinces, the Continent, the United States, and in India. Such is the awakening of women, even in the East, that the Order numbers among the Indian members Parsi and Hindu ladies. The Order has faced and overcome the inevitable initial difficulties.

Its literary organ in England is the quarterly "Co-Mason," a magazine "devoted to the investigation of Freemasonry and its Concordant Orders," obtainable from the Editor, 13, Blomfield Road, Paddington, London, W.

The Co-Masonic Order made its first public appearance in London in the Women's Suffrage Procession of June 17th when members of all degrees, wearing full masonic regalia and carrying the banners of their respective Lodges took part in the Procession, headed by the chief English Co-Masonic official, the very Illustrious Brother, Annie Besant, Vice President Grand Master of the Supreme Council of Universal Co-Freemasonry.

It is unusual for Freemasons in this country to take part in political movements, but Mrs. Besant, as she explained at the time, regards the Woman's movement as a matter of national concern and not of party politics and so sanctioned the wearing of Masonic Regalia.

And surely it was fitting that an Order pledged "to ceaseless endeavour to promote the welfare of humanity" should play a part in aiding women, who view the exercise of the franchise as an opportunity for greater service to their country, to secure political justice for their sex.

The huge crowds, in holiday mood, who watched the passing of the Procession in a setting gay with Coronation decorations, were much interested in the women masons and greeted Mrs. Besant with an enthusiasm and a respect that testified to the wonderful hold she obtained over their affections in the many busy years of her London activity. The welcome the Albert Hall audience also gave Mrs. Besant showed how they appreciated her participation in the Women's movement and her speech was universally acknowledged to be the most inspiring and eloquent of the evening's many inspiring and eloquent addresses.

On Sunday September 8th the Co-Masonic Order again claimed public attention. A ceremony, quite unique, I imagine, in the annals of Freemasonry was then performed, when the foundation stone of the new Theosophical Headquarters was laid at Tavistock Place, London, W.C., by Mrs. Besant with full masonic

ceremonial. Never before has a woman played such a part on such an occasion, and naturally the proceedings attracted a good deal of attention both in the surrounding area (enlivening, as one paper remarked, a dreary Bloomsbury Sunday), and in the daily Press, the illustrated papers publishing quite good sketches of the proceedings, including portraits of Mrs. Besant in her masonic regalia.

Co-Masonry bases its right to admit women to masonry on the fact that it places the origin of speculative Freemasonry, that very debatable masonic question on which a whole literature exists, in the Ancient Mysteries of Egypt, India, Greece and Rome in which women freely joined and were, in most, initiated in the same manner as the men. Most masonic bodies, particularly in England, refuse to admit women to their Lodges.

The first record of the admission of a woman into Freemasonry proper is that of the Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger, initiated about 1713, whose story is well known. It is supposed curiosity led her to witness the ceremony of initiation. She was detected, and herself initiated to secure her silence. In Germany in 1776 "The Association of Mopses," Freemasonry under another name, admitted women to that Order. Cagliostro also admitted women to the Rite of Egyptian masonry he started, with however different rites for the two sexes. The Grand Orient of France in 1774 instituted "Loges of Adoption" for women, but members of such Lodges were not duly qualified masons, nor are at the present day the members of the "Order of the Eastern Star" in Armenia; an Order with a huge membership to which only near relations of masons are admitted. In Miss Una Birch's interesting "Secret Societies and the French Revolution" it is stated that "at the lowest there were seven hundred Masonic Lodges in France before the revolution and a very large proportion of them had acknowledged 'Lodges of Adoption' for Women." It remained for the close of the twentieth century to see women in the Order of Universal Co-Freemasonry, as she should be everywhere, man's co-worker and co-partner and on terms of perfect masonic equality with man. For no organization can be representative of humanity unless it includes both sexes. Brotherhood, the main principle of Freemasonry, must include, if it is to deserve the name, the relation of man and woman and their co-operation in life and work. And Freemasonry should also play an important part in promoting the Brotherhood of nations, its members acting as a nucleus of Brotherhood in every nation, purifying, verifying the organ each country is of the whole

body of humanity, and helping to unite the whole. That women have won their way to perfect equality in Freemasonry, for centuries exclusively a masculine activity, is a very striking sign of the times, and is surely a favourable omen of their final victory in the only field they have still to conquer, that of political equality with men, as regards the representation of their country in its Parliament, or legislative Assembly.

ELISABETH SEVERS.

Farewell, Manchester!

Farewell, Manchester! Noble town, farewell!
Here with loyalty ev'ry breast can swell:
Where'er I roam,
Here as in a home,
Ever dear
Lancashire
My heart shall dwell.

This is the last number to be issued in Manchester and next week will see "The Common Cause" in London. The decision to move was made after much anxious thought, because it was felt that in many ways it would be an advantage to the paper to be issued from London. We have no doubt whatever about the wisdom of the decision and we know we can rely upon the hearty co-operation of suffragists and friends in London to make this big venture a success. For it always must be a big venture to remove a paper.

Looking forward with hope and confidence, we look back too with gratitude and affection to those who helped the paper into being. It was fitting that this should be in Manchester, where the first suffrage society was started more than forty-four years ago, and where the movement for the emancipation of women has always been unusually strong. Miss Ashton's generosity gave the first impulse; help and advice came from local journalists, solicitors, accountants, from the members of the suffrage society and from the printers with whom we were so fortunate as to be associated. Our appeal was not only national, it was world-wide, and our list of shareholders and of regular subscribers shows the world-wide response to this appeal; for this reason it is best to make our permanent home in the greatest city of the world; but no one, least of all a citizen of that great city, will wish us to forget that our origin was in the North, whose men and women of grit and character are found among the pioneers of all great movements.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

OBJECT: To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
METHODS: (a) The promotion of the claim of women to the Parliamentary vote by united action in Parliament and by all constitutional methods of agitation in this country. (b) The organisation of Women's Suffrage Societies on a non-party basis.

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From Headquarters.

Three new societies have been admitted to the Union since August,—Wrexham, Criccieth, and Banbury. Now that the work of organization is being actively carried on again, we hope for a large number of new societies, and shall not be satisfied until there is at least one strong society in every constituency. The next few months will be of vital importance to the success of the Conciliation Bill, and we wish to remind the Federations of the necessity of concentrating their work on consolidating our majority in the House of Commons. All efforts in the constituencies must be directed towards obtaining a pledge from the member to support the Conciliation Bill. Discussion on this subject will be useful at the forthcoming Provincial Council, when representatives of the Federations will have an opportunity of meeting each other, and of planning the winter's work.

Treasurer's Notes.

I wish I could express the gratitude I feel to those members who never seem to tire of showing their devotion to the cause of women's enfranchisement and who miss no opportunity of sending us help whenever it can be of the greatest service. These staunch friends respond with an equally ready generosity, whether we are appealing for any special emergency such as an election or a demonstration or a great procession, or for general pur-

poses such as an increase in the number of our hard-worked organisers, and it is primarily to the support of these members that we owe the immense progress that the last few years have witnessed.

I want our new members to realise now that it is 'up to them' to show a like determination and to give proof of their power and willingness to contribute their share also of the cost of this great campaign.

We heartily wish that so elementary a measure of justice for women as the Conciliation Bill could be obtained without the spending of so much money and so many valuable lives, but the struggle is none of our choosing and we have learnt by bitter experience that there is no other way.

HELENA AUERBACH.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GENERAL FUND.

September 14th to September 21st, 1911.	
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Mrs. Sidney Vatcher.....	1 1 0
Donations—	
Mrs. Pilcher	5 0 0
Miss M. E. Bridge.....	2 2 0
The Misses Gardner	1 1 0
Affiliation Fees—	
Rotherfield and Mark Cross W.S.S.	0 7 9
Stratford-on-Avon W.S.S.	0 5 0
Burnham	0 10 6
	£1,698 2 4½

FOR THE KILMARNOCK BURGHS BY-ELECTION.

	£ s. d.
Miss Ellen McKee	1 1 0
Miss H. Dawson	5 0 0
Miss Rose M. Paul	0 5 0
Lady Scott-Moncrieff	3 0 0
Miss Finke	0 5 0
	£9 11 0

ANNUAL RECEIPTS OF SOCIETIES, AS PER ANNUAL REPORTS.

	£ s. d.
Altrincham	59 0 2
Bridlington and District	45 16 4
Cambridge	184 0 1
Bristol	464 17 5
Edinburgh	1,014 8 0
Filey	27 11 4
Godalming	50 1 9
Leith Hill	90 6 9
Newcastle-on-Tyne	190 9 5
Nottingham	318 19 3
Three Towns and District	56 0 0
Sheffield	34 10 5

Press Department.

One of the most striking features that we have to report this week in connection with the Press, is its reflection of the wide-spread interest connected with the attitude of the Suffragists and the work they are doing at the Kilmarnock Burghs Election. The activities of the National Union and other Suffrage bodies have been prominently described in the "Greenock Telegraph," "Scotsman," "Aberdeen Free Press," "Dundee Advertiser," "Glasgow Herald," and the "Edinburgh Evening News." The demand for Suffrage news is greatly increasing, and appeals reach us from places as remote as the Shetland Islands.

It has been thought advisable to take advantage of the meeting of the Provincial Council on October 6th, to arrange an informal discussion on matters connected with the Press; Miss C. Marshall, who will be at Scarborough, has kindly consented to be present, and it is hoped that Press Secretaries, if not there themselves, will ask their representatives to act for them.

The "Salisbury Times" gave a long account of the recent suffrage campaign in Wiltshire, and is always most sympathetic to the cause.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are able this week to make an announcement which will be of interest to every reader of "The Common Cause."

We are informed that the "Standard" is about to give a lead to the daily newspapers of the Metropolis, in the matter of "logical recognition of the interests and activities of the larger half of the population." Our

information is that on Tuesday next, October 3rd, the "Standard" will begin the daily publication of a page, of which the whole aim and object will be, "the provision of a free and open platform in the daily press for women workers and thinkers," suffragists and anti-suffragists alike. In the first issues will appear contributions from Mrs. H. Fawcett, Lady Jersey, Lady Selbourne, Lady Betty Balfour, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lord Cromer, Mrs. Despard, and others. The undertaking is to be "strictly impartial and absolutely non-party-political." The amount of space it is to occupy must necessarily depend upon the varying pressure of news touching women's interests. Its opening, in next Tuesday's "Standard," will probably fill two whole pages of that journal; and "one page will regularly be at the service of all thinking women, and the interests of the Women's Movement."

It will be for those concerned in the movement to decide of how much use this opportunity will be. Rightly used, it should be of inestimable value. It is to be hoped that all working for progress amongst women will heartily welcome the proposal, and endeavour to co-operate, not only by making it known amongst supporters, but, in addition, amongst the indifferent and unconverted; and also by furnishing for publication all items of intelligence calculated to help the Women's Cause. The National Union, through the Press Department, desires to work heartily with the "Standard" in the matter of facilitating the circulation of news in the pages devoted to the Women's Movement, and records of the activities of the Union will be found there as they arise from day to day. We are also informed that the "Standard" hopes to be in a position to furnish verbatim reports of speeches delivered in the House of Commons on the subject of Women's Suffrage.

"The Common Cause."

To-day we are moving the offices of this paper from Manchester to London. We shall no longer have an office in Manchester, and we hope our new address,

2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.,

will be easily remembered by our readers. All orders for the paper, all reports of societies, all notices of forthcoming meetings and all correspondence whatsoever should from to-day be sent to London.

Even two years ago we had outgrown our present offices, and the Manchester Society have generously given us a corner of their large room for the manager's office, and storage room for our back numbers. For this valuable help we are most grateful. In our new offices there will be plenty of space, light and air, for a time at least. They are on the ground floor of the building, and being half-way between the City and Westminster, will be equally convenient for the Editor and the Manager.

The National Union Organizer for "The Common Cause," Mrs. Darlington, is this week working in the Eccles Division. The Eccles Society are having a "Common Cause Week," and we give elsewhere an account of this society and its activities. Next Monday Mrs. Darlington will begin work in Glasgow. The Glasgow "Common Cause Week" will coincide with the Conference of the National Union of Women Workers in that city, and the Glasgow Society intend to introduce "The Common Cause" to those Women Workers who do not know it already. At the Church Congress in Stoke next week, the Church League have promised to keep our paper well to the fore.

Eccles Division Society for Women's Suffrage.

President: Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A.
Hon. Sec.: Mrs. R. A. Norbury, West Leigh, Broad Oak Park, Worsley.
Hon. Treas.: F. J. A. Matthews, Esq., Holmfield, Ellesmere Park, Eccles.
"Press" and "Common Cause" Sec.: Mrs. Tom Johnson, 180, Parrin Lane, Winton, Patricroft.

The first appearance of the National Union in this Division was in November and December, 1909, when drawing-room

meetings were held in the Vicarage, Eccles, and at West Leigh, Broad Oak Park. The election, 1910, was close at hand, and Miss Robertson speaking at both these meetings left in the Secretary's hands the responsibility of collecting signatures to the Electors' Petition, that was sent up to Parliament asking for the enfranchisement of women. Help was very difficult to obtain, and only 700 signatures were secured, which did not really represent the number of electors in favour of giving votes to women. Miss Haslam, the secretary of the Bolton Society, came in her motor, and in this way much work was done which otherwise would have been impossible. However, it was a beginning, and it was next decided to hold a week's campaign, and the following meetings were held:—

April 19th.—Urmston. Speakers: Miss Robertson, B.A., Miss Courtney, and the Rev. Mander Anderton.
April 20th.—Eccles Town Hall. Speakers: Councillor Grindle, Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., and Miss Robertson, B.A.
April 21st.—Moorside Liberal Club. Miss Robertson, B.A.
April 22nd.—Roe Green Young Liberals. Miss Robertson, B.A.
April 23rd.—An Inaugural Meeting in Burgon's Hall.

At this last meeting a Society was formed, and officers appointed. Our first year's Committee meetings were all held at our Treasurer's house, Mrs. Matthews very kindly putting her dining-room at our disposal whenever it was wanted. For this help we were all very grateful, as all expense for rooms was saved.

The Society was represented at the White City, June 18, 1910; Bristol, July 1, 1910; Trafalgar Square, July 9, 1910; Free Trade Hall, Manchester, October 25, 1910. The Society itself was invited to a drawing-room meeting at Miss Atkins, and held a public meeting in Walkden Co-operative Hall, October 19, when Miss Abadam spoke, and a resolution was sent to Sir G. Pollard.

A very successful meeting was held in the Eccles Town Hall, March 31, 1911, in support of the Conciliation Bill, when Mrs. Snowden, Miss Ashton, and W. Field-Till, Esq., spoke; Councillor Lightfoot in the chair. Miss Sarah Potts, M.A., and the Secretary attended the National Convention in Portman Rooms, May 3, and signed the resolution to the Prime Minister.

Sir George Pollard, the member, is an adult Suffragist, but voted for the Conciliation Bill, May 5.

Messrs. Tillotson and Sons give very full reports of our meetings in the Press, for which we must thank them, as it is always difficult to get Press reports on the Suffrage question. Messrs. Bogg and Sons also report fully.

The Secretary of the Freedom League has always worked with the National Union Secretary as much as possible, thereby strengthening the Cause. The Freedom League got resolutions through the Urmston and Flixton Councils.

Mrs. Tom Johnson is the "Common Cause" Secretary, and has done good work for the paper.

Following is the syllabus for the work during the winter:

Syllabus for 1911-1912.

September 25th.—Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson. "Should Married Women be Wage-earners?"
October 23rd.—Social. Miss Robertson.
November 27.—J. H. Hudson, Esq., M.A. "The Progress of the Elementary School."
December —.—Entertainment.
January 22nd.—Miss Thurza Potts, M.A.
February 26th.—Miss A. Maude Royden. Church League for Women's Suffrage.
March 25th.—Mrs. R. A. Norbury. Sandebridge Home for the Feeble-minded.
April 22nd.—To be announced later.
May 27th.—Annual Meeting. Discussion invited.

By-election.

KILMARNOCK BURGHS.

Candidates: William G. C. Gladstone (Liberal).
Thomas McKerrill (Labour).
Sir John D. Rees (Unionist).

Liberal majority, Dec., 1910, 3,088. Electorate (1910), 16,467.
Polling Day: Tuesday, 26th September.

Committee Rooms: 25, Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock.

The struggle is waxing fast and furious now! The prophets are at sea, though the most acute predict a very good show for our Labour candidate. Three generous responses to my appeal last week have reached me, and in consequence I have been able to issue a manifesto to the electors, tellingly printed on bright green paper. The Labour agent greatly approves of this piece of propaganda. Big posters "Support McKerrill and the Conciliation Bill" also adorn the hoardings of the five burghs, amidst the usual Free Trade, Tariff Reform, and other appeals. The outstanding feature of our campaign has certainly been the great meeting in the Agricultural Hall, Kilmarnock, on 18th September. It was timed for 8 p.m., but at 7.15 the hall was nearly full, and at 7.55 the doors had to be closed. As it accommodates over 3,000 people we were well satisfied with our crowd, especially

as it turned out as satisfactory in sympathy as in numbers. Our speakers were Dr. Mary Nannetti (treasurer of the local Society) in the chair, Miss Clementina Gordon, Miss A. Stuart Paterson (of Glasgow), Mrs. Cooper and I. The local paper, "The Standard," in its special election edition reported our speeches verbatim almost in their entirety. Another satisfactory effort was the joint demonstrations held with the Social and Political Union and the Freedom League in Kilmarnock and Dumbarton. Representatives of each Society spoke for ten minutes, a Labour man blessed us from the chair, and Mr. George Lansbury, M.P. for Bow, roused even the most speech-hardened of us with his earnest and eloquent appeal for Labour and for women. The platform was formed of three luries, each decked with the colours of its Society. Ours in the middle bore a green, white and red inscription mentioning that we were founded in 1867. The date aroused interest and surprise.

Miss Clementina Gordon has for a week had the valuable help of her sister, Miss Lisa Gordon, kindly spared to us from the Edinburgh Society. From Glasgow came Miss A. Stuart Paterson. Mrs. Cooper and the Misses Gordon had to leave the Burghs on the 23rd, so polling day and its 21 stations to staff will be a hard struggle.

On the 23rd I received calls from representatives of "The Times" and the "Manchester Guardian." It looks as if our Press Department's efforts were bearing good fruit.

Mr. McKerrill has been speaking for us on his platforms, and in the polling card issued by his party one of the eight reasons given for asking electors to support him is "Because McKerrill stands for Justice to the Women of this Country."

The Labour agents in Kilmarnock and Dumbarton as well as the head agent in Glasgow have been kindness itself to us, and their local knowledge and experience is of course of priceless value to us.

Next week I hope to be able to report a successful issue to our fight. McKerrill is winning golden opinions all round, and will undoubtedly secure a good number of votes if he does not head the poll. But Scotland is conservative in its Radicalism and the experience of five by-elections this year makes me fear that Gladstone will get in—the man who cannot conscientiously say that he is in favour of Women's Suffrage though he recognises that it might be inadvisable to withhold the franchise from them if it could be proved that the majority of women desired it!

The anti-suffragists are on the warpath, but of them I must write next week.

ALICE CROMPTON.



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AFTERNOON COAT (as sketch) in the best quality silk finished velveteen, bound with cord and revers faced with contrasting shades of chiffon velvet.

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Organisation.

East Dorset.

Thanks to Mrs. Bentinck's kind offer of her drawing-room we were able to hold a meeting in the village of Corfe Castle on Wednesday 20th. About fifty women were addressed by Mrs. Bentinck, Miss Lowndes and myself. Some of those present were municipal voters and they signed the petition to Captain the Hon. Fredk. Guest, the member for this division. One promised to become a member if a society were formed and several others wished to "think it over." I feel very grateful for the help given by all concerned and am delighted to hear that Mrs. Bentinck considered the meeting a "great success."

The only big towns in the constituency, Poole, Parkstone and Branksome, have members in our Bournemouth Society, and the remaining suffragists, of whom there are not many, are absorbed by the Church League, Catholic Society and the Conservative Association. So that the prospect of forming an East Dorset branch seems very remote at present.

An opportunity presented itself of addressing a meeting of working men on Poole Quay. A member of the I.L.P. volunteered as chairman on the spot, and I found myself surrounded by about a hundred men. They gave me a most attentive hearing for fifty minutes. Questions then followed, which betrayed the interest which was obviously felt. No objections to the cause were raised. Later I went among them and had an intimate talk with a few of them. One young man said: "My mother has been a widow for seventeen years and I do hope she'll have the vote before she dies." They unanimously agreed to sign the electors' petition if I brought it to their homes during the tea-time.

G. M. DAVENPORT.

Federation Notes.

West of England.

THE WILTON DIVISION OF WILTSHIRE.

Working in this division is like breaking new ground in many districts, while in other places anti-suffragists are in great force.

A week's work in Mere, almost on the Dorset border, opened with little encouragement. A few supporters who had been attracted by Miss Baretti's speech a few weeks ago were away, and it seemed impossible to rouse anything like enthusiasm. A small meeting of sympathisers decided that Mere was not yet ripe for a suffrage society of its own, but would welcome the opportunity of joining the South Wilts Society, and some volunteers were found for the distribution of literature during the autumn. Day by day interest in our movement increased, and it became easier to get signatures to a petition from the women of the division, as well as to one for male voters only. A copy of the latter headed by the signatures of president and vice-president, is placed in the Liberal Club, and the secretary of the Conservative Club has promised to endeavour to gain the consent of his committee to do the same. Individual members of the Conservative party have also promised to interview Mr. Bathurst (the sitting member) and express their views in favour of the Conciliation Bill. The Women's Liberal Association are arranging for a meeting in the early autumn.

The astonishing difference in the attitude of many at the end of the week was encouraging, and one felt that a few enthusiasts would soon work wonders. Local help is needed especially for petition work. Perhaps some Dorset workers could step over the border.

C. E. COWMEADOW.

North-Western.

FORMATION OF TWO NEW SOCIETIES.

Miss Sharp (Ambleside) and I have been organising in the Barrow-in-Furness and North Longdale constituencies during the last fortnight and have succeeded in forming two new societies, one at Barrow and one at Ulverston.

A most successful afternoon meeting was arranged in Barrow through the energetic help of Mrs. Warwick-Bell. In spite of the torrents of rain we had quite a good attendance. Representatives of the Primrose League, the Women's Liberal Federation, the Women's Co-operative Guild and the Labour women were present. A small society was formed and Mrs. Warwick-Bell was elected hon. secretary.

In Ulverston we were most grateful for the enthusiastic assistance given by the Misses Stirling and Miss Haines. We were given sad accounts of the apathy of Ulverston women and went down to one afternoon meeting feeling very dubious as to the result. Great was our surprise and delight to see people trooping in until the room was almost full. Nearly sixty people were present. Miss Sharp presided and appealed to those present to work actively during the coming winter. The audience listened to me for forty-five minutes and at the close when I appealed for members over twenty names were at once given in and the society was formed with Miss Stirling and Miss Sawth as co-secretaries.

I must say how much we appreciated the beautiful basket of red and white roses which Miss Stirling so kindly brought to decorate our otherwise dreary platform. It just gave a delightful touch.

Both these new societies are busily preparing for Miss Margaret Ashton's visit on October 10th and 11th.

I am more than grateful for the splendid help Miss Sharp has given during the fortnight. She has worked with an enthusiasm and a cheeriness that has made her a delightful Suffrage companion. The generosity of the Ambleside members has enabled these societies to be formed, and they are the first new societies since the formation of the Federation, so Ambleside is to be congratulated.

M. NORMA-SMITH.

West Midland.

Our energetic organizer Miss Morrison has done great things in West Stafford, and though leaving this week to take up work in another part of the Federation, she has made arrangements to return there at the end of October to hold a large public meeting in Stafford and to form the new society, the future members of which are now busily engaged in organising the meeting. There are great hopes that Mr. George Lloyd, the member for West Stafford, will become a friend to suffrage, and several prominent Unionists have promised to urge him to support the Conciliation Bill.

Surrey, Sussex and Hants.

The Woking Branch sustained a very great loss on Saturday, September 16th, by the death of Mrs. Stables, who has been a member of the committee since she came to Woking in 1910. Mrs. Stables and her family have always been ready to give every sort of help to the Suffrage cause, and the Society owe a great deal to their unflinching sympathy and assistance.

A Rustic Suffrage Meeting.

A most enthusiastic and interesting meeting took place on Saturday, September 16th, on the shady lawns of Rustington House. In spite of its attractive seclusion and old-world atmosphere, Rustington is fully alive to all questions of the day, specially that far-reaching and vitally significant one of Women's Suffrage.

Every class was represented, and every shade of political opinion. Lady Maud Parry was in the chair and gave one of her delightful speeches, full of stirring enthusiasm, touched with an irresistible humour.

Mrs. Dempster, the speaker sent down to represent the National Union, made a powerful appeal to the reason and reasonableness of her audience, and convinced all those who came with open minds prepared to listen, of the justice and right of her cause. Dr. Walsh, the third speaker, gave a most interesting account of his experience of the effect of the woman's vote in Australia.

Several people in the neighbourhood unavoidably absent sent messages of hearty sympathy with the cause, amongst others Sir Harry and Lady Johnston, Sir Hubert Parry, and Prof. Flinders Petre, who during his wife's absence had stayed at home to mind the baby. A vote in favour of the Conciliation Bill was carried enthusiastically at the end of the meeting with only two dissentients. Many members of the audience came forward and enrolled themselves there and then as members of the National Union.

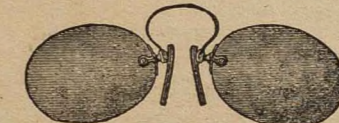
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Foreign News.

FRANCE.

The following Press-cutting from a local French newspaper, "La dépêche d'Eure et Loir" may be of interest to readers of the Common Cause, as showing that the movement for women's suffrage has reached the remote country districts of France.

The passage occurs in a speech made last month by M. Gaston Laurent, Professor at the Collège Chaptal in Paris, when distributing the prizes to the children of the elementary schools of Châteauneuf-en-Thimerais. M. and Mme. Laurent are prominent members of the *Union pour le Suffrage des Femmes*, whose president is Mme. Brunschvieg. The efforts of this Society are at present concentrated on obtaining the municipal franchise for women, and it is hoped that with M. Brisson's support this object may soon be attained.

"Je regarde les petites filles et je pense tout bas: "Voilà des petites qui sont, ma foi, assez gentilles. . . . Oui, mais ce n'est pas tout, Mesdames! . . . Je pense aussi que vous êtes soigneuses, ordonnées; que vous savez vous laver et vous peigner toutes seules et vous raccommodez; que vous aidez votre maman dans le ménage et que vous savez très bien veiller sur le petit frère et la petite sœur, qui sont les poupées vivantes, mais pas toujours faciles. En classe je suis sûr que vous écoutez bien, que vous faites vos devoirs avec goût et que vous cherchez à contenter votre maîtresse. . . . Et j'espère que vous serez un jour de bonnes ménagères, des femmes gracieuses, des mères tendres et peut-être aussi des électeurs excellents quand nous aurons réparé l'iniquité qui vous prive encore du droit de voter, alors que nous vous laissons généreusement le droit de payer les impôts. . . ."

F. G. STEWART.

Tours, September 20, 1911.

The International Suffrage Shop.

A debate on Women's Suffrage will take place at the Queen's Hall on Friday evening, September 29, between Miss Pott, of the Anti-Suffrage League, and Mrs. Teresa Billington Greig, whose recently published books and articles on the militant movement have caused so much excitement in Suffrage circles.

The International Suffrage Shop of Adam Street, Strand (who were responsible for the memorable debate between Cicely Hamilton and G. K. Chesterton) are arranging this debate, and have been particularly fortunate in obtaining Mr. A. G. Gardiner, editor of "The Daily News," as chairman.

Letters to the Editor.

Correspondents are requested to send their names and addresses, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for any statement made in the correspondence column.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only.

"LIGHT."

It was most courteous of you to insert my letter at such short notice in your last issue, but owing to the omission of my final paragraph (no doubt through pressure of space) I fear that I may have been misunderstood by your readers. I should not dream of discussing the ethics or efficacy of militant tactics in your paper which is frankly opposed to them, but as one of your articles professed to state the case of the militants from their own point of view I wished to make clear where this supposed attitude differed from the reality. The points (1) and (2) raised in the editorial footnote to my letter show again a certain misunderstanding of our case. Explanations are easy to offer. I think, however, that debates of this nature among fellow-workers are unprofitable. The Editor assumes I had stated that the W.S.P.U. "has held meetings" more numerous than those of any other society. I quite agree that such a contention would be "positively fantastic." The W.S.P.U. is barely six years old. The N.U.W.S.S. has been an active organisation for many years. Obviously, in the course of their existence, they must have held many more meetings than we have. My reference was to the number of meetings now held by the various societies. Exact returns are not published, but the

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which is ground to a most marvellous fineness by a patent process. It makes good bone, blood, and muscle, and prevents constipation, the forerunner of cancer, appendicitis, etc.

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West Heath School, HAMPSTEAD.

For Boys and Girls between the ages of six and eighteen.

[ESTABLISHED 1897.]

The school is happily situated, and attention should be drawn to its special advantages in this respect. It is no doubt considered ideal for a school to be in the country, but in the part of Hampstead where West Heath School stands, many advantages of the country are present, while those of the town, which can be turned to good use for children, are at hand.

The school has a large playing field; good well-treed gardens; is near to a quiet part of the heath, and itself faces across open country towards the Harrow Weald. It thus finds a freedom which many schools actually in the country cannot compass in these days of golf, motor-cars, and game-preserving. At the same time, the advantages of having the British Museum, the Zoological Gardens, the Natural History Museum, historical buildings, beautiful pictures and sculpture (to mention only part of what is available), within easy access for the visits of a class, are of incalculable value in the education of the children.

Particulars from the Principal.

Reference is allowed to THE REV. CANON SCOTT-HOLLAND, D.D., CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD; and DR. JANE WALKER, 122, HARLEY STREET, W.

lists in "The Common Cause" and "Votes for Women" are, I suppose, the most reliable evidence available. In the issues of last week I find the number of prospective meetings announced are as follows:—"Common Cause," Sept. 21st: London, 5; elsewhere, 32; total, 37. "Votes for Women," Sept. 22nd: London and district, 36; elsewhere, 44; total, 80. That proportion seems to be fairly typical. Our Union is reputed to hold on an average 50 meetings per week in holiday time to 300 or 400 a week in the busiest times. If N.U.W.S.S. meetings exceed that number I am delighted to hear it and to acknowledge my mistake in giving the proportion as I did. My object in first writing to you was only to correct mis-statements of facts. Opinion with regard to them is another matter. I have no wish to criticise or belittle the work of the N.U.W.S.S. It seems to me in many respects magnificent. Meetings are not the only test of propaganda. Their literature is the best and most complete that I know. Their organisation through membership in scattered country districts is of great value and spreads the vote demand in many places which we have not touched. I take two copies of "The Common Cause" and subscribe to it on behalf of several friends. I think it an excellent paper and read it with the greatest interest. The difference of policy between militants and non-militants is obvious. Nothing is to be gained by attempting to unite them under a false similarity. But the variety of tactics is insignificant when compared with the unity of our aim. While rejoicing in the number and variety of societies now working for the vote, we can leave criticism of the differing methods of attainment to our common foes.

CONSTANCE LYTON.

[We regret that the last paragraph of Lady Constance Lytton's letter had to be omitted, owing to lack of space, and that the dots indicating the lacuna were, by a printer's error, omitted also. We have pleasure in printing her courteous statement this week.]

No record exists of the meetings held by the N.U.W.S.S. The list given in this paper contains not one tithe of them. We regret it, since it necessarily gives a wrong impression; but the fact remains that many busy secretaries cannot be persuaded of the importance of this part of their work. The N.U., however, now covers the country with a completeness which no other Society can attempt to claim. The official programme published by the W.S.P.U. for the June 17th procession shows this. And all the local societies are holding meetings, in and out-door, continuously. They must run into many hundreds a week, but those who speak at them know how very rarely any record is kept of their number.—Ed. "C. C."]

SUFFRAGE AND DIVORCE.

The "Anti-Suffrage Review" quotes Dr. Lee de Forest as saying that his matrimonial troubles have been due to his wife's interest in women's suffrage. This statement was telegraphed broadcast, but Dr. de Forest has since denied it emphatically. He and his wife are both of them believers in women's franchise. Their disagreement was on wholly different grounds.

This is only one of many false telegraphic despatches originating with the opponents of equal rights for women.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL, President New England Woman's Suffrage Association.

Dorchester, Massachusetts.

THE RELIGIOUS LEAGUES FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

It will be seen from the South-Western report that we have just formed a branch of the Free Church League in

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Well-appointed and commodious TEMPERANCE HOTEL, offering all the conveniences and advantages of the larger modern Licensed Hotels at moderate charges.

Telegraphic Address:—"BOOKCRAFT, LONDON."

Plymouth and intend forming one of the Church of England League, and as the considerations which have induced members of the N.U.W.S.S. to pursue this policy here would apply to most towns of equal size, I venture to submit them to you. I write now only from the point of view of National Union policy without reference to the specifically religious reasons which will readily occur to all ardent Suffragists.

We find that women's political organisations touch only a small proportion of the population—e.g., a Women's Liberal Association of 400 members in a town of 40,000 inhabitants would be exceptionally strong, and I suppose the Primrose Leagues are not much more numerous. And Suffragists find the same difficulty in extending their membership. Yet when we look at the churches and chapels we find that they draw support from an enormous proportion of the population of women. It is not only that women form the congregations of listeners—they form the committees of workers. Women are, in fact, more used to working together on religious lines than on political. Why not follow the line of least resistance and through the religious leagues extend the area of our work?

Further, we must admit that, admirable and necessary as it is, the non-party policy has its difficulties. However loyal to it a committee may be, they will be accused of leaning to the one side or the other—probably both! I suppose other societies share our experience of having to cross off many names from the Members' Roll with the record, "Resigned on account of election policy." Such deserters might join the religious leagues and be strengthened in their suffragism. Finally, the population that can be reached by any one committee is limited, because much must always depend on personal work. In a small town it would be unwise to multiply societies, but in a large one there may be much advantage in setting another group of individuals to work.

MAUD SLATER.

[It is undoubtedly a fact that the Church and Free Church League can get hold of people who will not even listen to the appeal made by other organizations. This is especially true of women engaged in religious and philanthropic work.]

We believe, however, that it is the wise policy of the specifically religious Suffrage Leagues to urge their members whenever possible to join some secular society as well.—Ed. "C. C."]

"WOMANLINESS" AND THE VOTE.

How is it that so many people imagine that suffrage women want to be men? Even militancy can only be described, when misunderstood, as unwomanly, surely not as manly. I am constantly asked, "Do women want to be men?" So may I just briefly explain.

Suffrage women have such a high idea of what women may become under improved conditions, that it would be quite impossible for them even to dream of wishing to become men; true womanhood is what they glory in, and womanliness as absolutely distinct from manliness is what they desire to possess. Men and women stand or fall together, and the nation stands or falls with them, but both have attributes entirely different, which are necessary to both, making both equal, not one subordinate to the other. If women are left out of State and municipal legislation, the State and municipality stand to lose in just as serious a way as the home

F. LUDICKE,

LADIES' HAIRDRESSER AND SPECIALIST IN ARTISTIC HAIR WORK, COLOURING AND TREATMENT OF THE HAIR. FACE MASSAGE AND MANICURE.

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without the mother. What is home without the mother? How fares the State and town divorced from the mother?

It is this fact that women realize, and which makes them so anxious to take their place side by side with the men, in the government of the people to-day.

The vote is a symbol of equal partnership, and will bring with it great responsibilities; responsibilities which their long struggle for freedom has enabled the women to look in the face without flinching, knowing that the future holds brighter things in store when

"Woman is free, as the winds of heaven,
And marches abreast with man."
MARGARET NORBURY, Hon. Sec. Eccles Society.

PROFESSOR DICEY'S ATTACK ON WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS.

I see in the "Anti-Suffrage Review" for September that Professor Dicey is reported to have said: "The Suffrage agitation is not a decent agitation, it is not a respectable agitation, it is not an agitation a good man or woman would carry on." Would it not be possible to bring some thirty thousand libel suits against Professor Dicey and also the "Anti-Suffrage Review"? Even if the damages were but 30s. in each case, the total would not be unacceptable to the treasurer of the National Union. I do not know what is the legal definition of a libel, but surely if that is not one it ought to be.

RAY STRACHEY.
[Professor Dicey has since explained that his remarks, taken in their context, referred only to militant suffragists. This does not of course affect the fact that they are infamously untrue; but it prevents members of the N.U. from taking the action that Mrs. Strachey suggests. Unfortunately also English law does not make a man liable for merely telling lies in public about people of the highest personal character, many of them with a magnificent record of public service behind them. Actual damage has to be proved. It would be hard to prove—or to believe—that Professor Dicey's attack had injured anyone but himself and the cause he serves.—Ed. "C. C."]

BAHAISM.

May I make a few remarks on the subject of Bahaism, which is beginning to occupy an all too prominent part in suffrage circles, owing to the elusive bait of "equality of the sexes" dangled by the leaders. The work and the fate of the beautiful and devoted poet, Kurret ul Aime, must appeal to all women, and anything that will rouse Mahomedan women from their submission is undoubtedly to be welcomed; but that is no reason for raising Abbas Effendi to the position that many foolish enthusiasts in the West claim for him. Let us not forget that equality of the sexes is no new theory in the East; it is in practice that it always fails. It was taught by Mahomet as by Christ, by Hinduism as by Theosophy; it is as old as Adam and just as much despised. And in the hands of the Baha it is likely to "pan out" just as little to the advantage of women as, let us say, in the hands of the Adult Suffragists who oppose our Bill because we are not first asking for votes for all men.

The Bahai movement, *vide* the "Standard" of a few days ago, is more than suspected of being involved in the political upheavals which have simmered in Persia for the last sixty years. It is this which gives it what cohesion it has; but it has nevertheless ever since its inception been rent by fierce internal splits and dissensions and unseemly struggles for place and power. Several schisms have occurred. "Baha ullah," who declared himself the Messiah, was denounced as a traitor and usurper by the faithful Babis—followers of the first "prophet," who certainly never gave that gentleman any encouragement to pose as his successor! Abbas Effendi, son of "Baha ullah," has a rival in his own brother, and all these sections are at violent odds with each other. All are equally persecuted by the Persian Government, quite as much because the movement is regarded as political and revolutionary, as because of its heresies.

As for the equality of the sexes, a penn'orth of practice is worth pounds of theory. From statements made by European visitors, I gather that in Abbas Effendi's own home, his women do not feed at his own table, nor do they go out freely, nor are they unveiled. They do the patient household work in cooking, etc., and preparing incessant accommodation and entertainment for his innumerable worshippers. It is the old story, the women serve and work and the men reap the rewards. It will be time enough for women suffragists to reverence a new creed when its prophets appear as women. Meanwhile our obvious course is to keep ourselves free from any more entanglements in movements founded to serve men's purposes, especially when so strongly flavoured with politics as the Babi and Baha.

I trust you will allow me to sound this note of warning in your columns in the hope that it may save some women at least from a rude awakening in the not distant future.

NINA BOYLE.
Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi.

[We gladly print Miss Boyle's letter, but she appears to miss understand our motive in publishing accounts of various

movements such as Bahaism, or (as this week) Co-Freemasonry. The Women's Movement is world-wide, Suffragists are helped and inspired by the knowledge that this is so, and naturally interested in all its manifestations. We do not, however, anticipate that our readers will become Bahaists from reading Miss Norma-Smith's article; nor do we know in what other movements they have become "entangled." But we strongly deprecate the attitude of mind which considers whether teaching comes from a man or a woman, or will receive it only from the latter.—Ed. "C. C."]

DOMESTIC SERVICE.

In your issue of August 24th Mrs. Davidson points out the advantages domestic servants have over the factory girl. Now I have lived in service for twenty years, and I do not see the advantages are very great; nor do I think their wages very good; they are very fair for a young person, but the woman getting on has very little prospects. I am thirty-five years of age and I have quite a struggle to get a wage of £26 per annum. For the years I have been in service I think I ought to be getting at least £30, but such salaries are as rare as £100 prize in a competition, and the employers are bombarded with applications in spite of the complaint that they cannot get servants. The factory girl does not have a uniform to buy, and this is a considerable expense; the factory girl can wear her best clothes out at work and it costs her less for dress than it does a servant, because she has to keep two sets of clothes. . . . I think it savours somewhat of cheek to expect a woman to pay for her uniform when men have theirs provided in service. And again: if a factory girl does not like her work she has her evenings free and she has the opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of something else, with the advantages the evening classes offer. . . . If I had gone to factory work I should have improved my position, or aspired to at any rate, as there would have been more scope; but domestic service is simply stagnation to the intelligent mind, and the conditions under which servants work are detrimental to their nervous system. I read once a doctor said there is not a class suffers more from nervous diseases and hysteria than the domestic servant. . . . Things are not what they seem, and it sounds very well to say she gets good money, good food, and a good bed, but I wonder how women getting much better salaries would like to be boxed up in uncongenial surroundings and to be unable to choose their friends. . . . We want legislature to come to our aid so that we can retain our own characters instead of being "given" one by people whose own will not bear inspection very often.

A GREENWICH DOMESTIC.

Work of Societies in the Union.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE FEDERATION.

The Federation promises to be very busy this autumn, but will try not to overwork Miss Fraser, to whose visit we are looking forward so much.

CARDIFF held its first gathering last week, in the form of a drawing-room meeting given by Mrs. Owen Owen, at which Miss Fawcett, of Aberystwith, gave an address on the working of the vote in Australia. Our special thanks are due to Miss Fawcett for giving this address at such short notice.

PENARTH has spent the summer in accumulating energy. We hope to see the outcome during the winter, and hear plans for a sale of work, public and drawing-room meetings, and also hear of many new members.

MERTHYR TYDFIL will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, September 27th, when Miss Janet Price will speak on the Conciliation Bill. The officers of this new society are Mrs. Norman Hanky (president), Mrs. Musgrove (treasurer), and Mrs. J. Williams (secretary).

No news has been received from Pontypridd and Newport. May we again appeal to all those interested in South Wales to send subscriptions to the treasurer of the Federation—Mrs. Roberts-Rosser, 3, The Grove, Pontypridd?

SOUTH-WESTERN FEDERATION.

CORNWALL.—After leaving Redruth, Miss Hatty Baker spent nearly a week in Newquay—a much more responsive sphere of work. Meetings were held on the beach and in the centre of the town, where a good number gathered to listen. Many calls were made on residents, and if only a secretary would come forward a strong branch might be formed. At Launceston, the last Cornish visit, all the meetings were most successful—in drawing-room, market square and hall. The business of forming a branch was postponed for the present, owing to the sudden bereavement of the lady who was expected to take the post of secretary. Four dozen "Common Causes" have been sold in each week of Miss Baker's tour, except the first, when six dozen were sold at Penzance, and a permanent arrangement made for two dozen weekly.

PLYMOUTH.—Returning through Devonshire, Miss Hatty Baker kindly gave us three meetings in our large and scattered district. The first, at Tavistock, in the Town Hall, with Dr. Mabel Ramsay in the chair, was somewhat disturbed, first by a small dog which set up a loud barking in answer to the question, "What does Mr.

Lloyd George say?" and then by a large party of boys and youths, who only departed at the magic word "Collection." The attendance was disappointing, Tavistock suffering from lack of local workers. The meeting next day at Plymouth was well attended, and Miss Baker's lucid explanation and criticism of the Insurance Bill was followed with close attention. The stock of "Common Causes" was cleared and a good collection taken.

Before leaving the West, Miss Baker gave us another valuable piece of work in starting a branch of the Free Church League. Church of England Suffragists who were present intend to follow suit and form a branch of the Church League, and we expect these two societies to prove a valuable adjunct to the National Union work. Rather late in the season we have begun to hold "Suffrage picnics" jointly with the W.S.P.U. A Saturday afternoon picnic is arranged, ending with tea at some village tea-house, followed by an open-air meeting, and papers are sold. They have been much enjoyed, and will no doubt be continued early next summer. Our thanks are due to Miss Gloyd, who during a holiday in Plymouth secured six regular subscribers to "The Common Cause."

EAST MIDLAND FEDERATION.

CARAVAN TOUR.—The caravan tour of the East Midland Federation was brought to a close on Wednesday, September 6th. The work has lain almost entirely in the South Derbyshire and Mid-Northants constituencies, both of which are represented by Liberal Anti-Suffragists. The reception met with in all the villages, and the tone adopted (by the men in particular) after our meetings, indicate the success of the tour for propaganda purposes. It is always difficult, at the moment, to gauge how far an expensive outlay repays itself. That a caravan tour is an expensive way of working there is no doubt. It is certainly most important that the outlying country places should be worked, and the only question is whether this cannot be done at less expense. In Mid-Northants both men and women are keenly political, and, as such, well worth winning to our point of view. With a little further work we think it would be possible to bring pressure to bear on Mr. Mansfield through his electors. The clergy, on the whole, we found favourable, or, at all events, seldom distinctly Anti. It is well worth while to approach the clergyman with a call on entering a village. The chances are very much against our finding him an active enemy; and if he is in our favour a very distinct point is gained. It is very important to call from house to house in the afternoon with a bill advertising the meeting to be held in the evening. We were told in one place that advertisement the day before would greatly increase an audience, by giving the outlying people more time to arrange to come. It is well worth while to call at the better-class houses. "Common Causes" sold well, and we had not always enough for the demand. Very simple leaflets are most necessary, especially those bearing on the general points of the question, rather than on the political situation of the moment. Caravan or other similar work should be done in those constituencies in which it is proposed to work at election times. The thanks of the Federation are due to those workers who have given their time and energy to the success of the tour.

MANSFIELD.—At a large committee meeting, held at Edenbank on September 13th, plans were made for a vigorous winter campaign. It was decided to hold monthly "At Homes," which it is hoped will be well attended by members and their friends. The East Midland Federation organiser is to be asked to visit the district as early as possible. Mrs. Nesbitt offered to arrange for meetings in connection with the various churches in Sutton-in-Ashfield to be addressed by Suffrage speakers.

LEICESTER.—The Leicester Society have suffered a severe loss in the death of Mrs. J. Ramsay Macdonald, who was a member of their committee, and for many years had taken a practical interest in their work. She was a devoted worker for the elevation of women, and will be missed by fellow-workers in many fields.

LONDON SOCIETY.

CAMBERWELL (DULWICH).—The autumn campaign of open-air meetings has already begun in this district. We have held two very good meetings: one on the spot selected by the Anti-Suffragists for their forthrightly out-of-door meetings, speakers, Miss Lockwood and Miss Gloyd; and one at Goose Green on September 19th, addressed by Miss Ward, Miss Gloyd and Miss Goddard. "Common Causes" sold well at both meetings, and the name of the local newsagent who stocks them was announced to the crowd. The coming into the open of the Anti-Suffragists has greatly cheered our local committee. The branch has made a new departure in arranging a monthly evening meeting for members and friends. Mrs. Hutchinson, of 38, The Gardens, has kindly lent her drawing-room for the purpose, and we also hope members will sometimes meet in the shop taken by the London Society in Southwark. The first of these meetings was held on September 12th, and was very successful. Some members of the executive have promised to come to these meetings, and thus we hope our members will be drawn into closer and more cordial relations with headquarters and the more prominent workers.

EPSOM.—The Epsom branch has been decidedly active this summer. On May 19th Miss Abadam gave a much-appreciated address at Mrs. Bethell's drawing-room meeting; Miss Watson in the chair. On June 20th Miss I. O. Ford spoke of the hardships of the working women, particularly in Yorkshire. For this meeting Mrs. Radford kindly lent her garden, and Mrs. Garrido took the chair. In June and July six open-air meetings were held at the Clock Tower on Thursday evenings, the speakers being Miss C. Corbett, Miss A. Maude Royden, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Stanbury, Miss Ford, Mrs. Rackham, Mr. Mackinlay, and Mr. Gugenheim. On Sunday, July 30th, Mrs. Mayor addressed an enthusiastic P.S.A. meeting on Epsom Common, the chair being taken by Lieutenant Chamberlain. WATWORTH.—For the first time in its history the Men's Adult School held at Crossway Mission Hostel, New Kent Road, had on Sunday, August 13th, a lady speaker—Mrs. Richardson—to address them. The subject, "Is it Just and Wise to Give Women the Vote?" aroused a good deal of discussion, but no opposition to the principle. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the desire expressed by the men that their wives should have an opportunity to hear Suffrage views expressed. Monday, August 21st, was a

very wet evening, which damped the ardour of about half the usual number of women who attend Monday evening at Crossway Mission Hall. Considering the poverty of the people, the audience of two hundred was a good one. The quiet attention and approval showed that these poor workers realised the injustice of being shut out from their share of the voting power of their country. Mrs. Richardson's appeal to them as mothers to interest themselves in the legislation affecting women and children aroused much interest.

WOOLWICH.—On September 14th Miss Helen Ward addressed the Herbert Road branch of the Women's Co-operative Guild on "The Prospects and Scope of the Conciliation Bill"; Mrs. Smith, president, in the chair. A most interesting discussion followed, and a resolution in support of the Conciliation Bill was passed unanimously and forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. William Crooks, Member of Parliament for Woolwich. It was suggested by a leading member of the audience that the other branches of the Guild in the neighbourhood be invited to receive a speaker on the Bill, and one of these has since sent in an application.

SCARBOROUGH SOCIETY.—The procession announced to take place at Scarborough has been abandoned.

Other Societies.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The programme for the grand matinee which is to be held in the Lyceum Theatre on October 27th is now almost complete. It will include a prologue, especially written by Israel Zangwill; a new play by Laurence Housman, entitled "Alice in Ganderland"; and scenes from "A Doll's House," in which Miss Cecelia Loftus will appear. Amongst those who have consented to take part are Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Lottie Venne, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Eva Moore, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Maud Hoffman, Miss Nancy Price, Mr. Nigel Playfair, etc. Tickets may be obtained from the offices of the League, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

The Actresses' Franchise League will be "At Home" to members and friends at the offices in Robert Street on Friday, September 29th, at 3 p.m. Miss Adeline Bourne will speak, and plans for the autumn and winter will be made known. The first public "At Home" will be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, October 6th, at 3 p.m. Invitation cards may be obtained from Miss Conolan.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

A most interesting, though small, drawing-room meeting was held at St. Leonards, by kind permission of Miss O'Grandy, at which six new members joined and many took away cards. The chair was taken by Miss Isabel Willis, who had organised the meeting, and the principal speaker was Miss O'Sullivan, who very kindly came down on purpose from London to explain the objects of the Society.

Members are asked to note that a public meeting is going to be held at the small Queen's Hall on Thursday, October 26th, at 8 p.m., and offers of help to make this known are especially requested. Communications to be addressed to the hon. treasurer, Miss Monica



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Whately, 75, Harcourt Terrace, The Boltons, London, S.W. It is most important to have voluntary help for bill-distributing, etc., as the committee are unable to do everything alone.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Offices: 11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W. Sept. 28.—E. Ham: St. Barnabas' Parish Hall, Rosebery Avenue, 3 p.m. Miss Haslam, Rev. C. Hinscliff. Sept. 29.—Chorley Wood: Mrs. Findlay's Garden Meeting, "Roanoke," Station Road, 3-15. Mrs. Robinson (Watford), Rev. C. Hinscliff. Oct. 2-6.—Church Congress Campaign, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. Offices in Masonic Hall (near Town Hall), Hanley, and open daily 10 a.m.—7 p.m. Organiser: Mrs. Hinscliff, Bowden Hotel, Stoke. Oct. 3.—Hanley: Temperance Hall, High Street, 8 p.m. Hon. Mrs. Henley, Miss Frances Sterling, Mrs. Louis Fagan, Rev. G. D. Rosenthal (Birmingham); Rev. J. Carnegie Mullin (Milton, Stoke), chairman. Oct. 5.—Hanley: Temperance Hall, High Street, 8 p.m. Earl of Lytton, Bishop of Lincoln, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Rev. C. Hinscliff; Mayor Cecil Wedgewood, D.S.O. (Mayor of Stoke), chairman. Oct. 7.—Woking: Miss Wight and Miss Tyrell's "At Home," "St. Katherine's," Hook Heath, 4.0 Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Rev. A. E. N. Simms (Grayshott), Rev. C. Hinscliff.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Organising Secretaries (pro tem): Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, N. Hon. Corresponding Secretary: Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

The public meeting on Friday, October 13th, at 8 p.m., at Caxton Hall, needs advertising in our churches. Will those willing to distribute handbills write and ask for them from hon. organising secretaries at above address? Speakers: Lady Spicer, Rev. C. Fleming Williams, Miss Winifred Cullis, D.Sc. Members are asked to attend a special business meeting previously at 7.35, at same place, to elect an organising secretary in place of Rev. E. Clark (resigned). On Monday, October 16th, there will be an open debate at the Highgate Congregational Church at 8 p.m. Chairman: Rev. D. MacFadyen, M.A. Opener: J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

We are glad to announce that Mr. Arthur A. Baumann (late M.P. for Peckham) has consented to debate with Miss Ogston at Hythe on Wednesday, September 27th. Also that a meeting has been arranged to take place at the Institute, Hythe, on Wednesday evening, November 1st. Lady Brassey will preside, and Mrs. Cecil Chapman will speak.

THE TUESDAY OFFICE "AT HOMES" will begin again on October 10th. The committee beg members to attend in large numbers to hear and discuss plans for the autumn—including campaigns in Dorsetshire and in Sussex.

A Christmas sale is being organised, and a jumble sale will be held in the immediate future.

Advertisement for Southalls' Sanitary Towels. Text: 'SOUTHALLS' THE WISE WAY Sanitary TOWELS Always ready for use—Instantly adjusted—Perfect in Shape. Obtainable in all sizes in packets which cost less than washing. Southalls' should not be confused with substitute brands. Users should insist upon the genuine Southalls' Towels, thus securing their advantages. Sold at ladies' Counters in all Drapers, Chemists, etc., in silver packets containing one dozen at 6d., 1/-, 1/6 & 2/-. A sample packet of Towels (varying in size) will be sent post free for 6 penny stamps by writing to THE LADY MANAGER, 17, Bull St., Birmingham.

Advertisement for The Labour Leader. Text: 'The LABOUR LEADER should be read by every person INTERESTED IN THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT.'

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Forthcoming Meetings.

- SEPTEMBER 28. Leeds—Beverley Street Council School—Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Renton, Miss Davenport. 7.30 Tuddington Park—Mrs. Mercer's Drawing-room Meeting—The Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Dorothy Edwards, Col. Mercer (chair). 3.30 SEPTEMBER 29. Leeds—Armley Temperance Hall, Wesley Road—Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Renton, Miss Davenport. 7.30 Birmingham—10, Easy Row—Franchise Club. 5.30 Barnard Castle—Witham Hall—Miss Helen Fraser. 7.30 Sheffield—Gleadless Road Infant School—Meeting of Women Teachers—Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Beeny. 7.30 SEPTEMBER 30. Letchworth.—Howard Park—Joint Demonstration—N.U. Speakers: Miss Abadam, J. Clayton, Esq., and others. 3.30 Birmingham—Smetwick Town Hall—Miss A. Maude Royden, Mrs. Ring, Fred Hughes, Esq. (chair). 8.0 Solihull Society—Norfolk House, Dorridge—Mrs. Snushall's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden. 3.0 Hove—Miss Bryan's Drawing-room Meeting to Hove Council Teachers—Miss M. F. Basden, E. Hackforth, Esq. Afternoon OCTOBER 2. Bournemouth—Prince's Hall (Grand Hotel)—The Lady Frances Balfour. 4.30 Colwyn Bay—Café Royal—Miss Macpherson, Dr. Lilian Blake (chair). 8.0 Sheffield—Montgomery Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden, Dr. Helen Wilson (chair). 8.0 Uckfield—Public Hall—Lecture on Woman Suffrage—Lyon Blease, Esq., Lady Brassey (chair). 8.0 Manchester Society—5, Parkfield Road, Didsbury—Mrs. Herford's American Tea (in aid of funds). 3.30-6.0 Birmingham—Women's Adult School, George Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Priestman)—Mrs. Ring. 7.30-10.0 Uxbridge—Brookfield Restaurant—Social Evening. 7.30-10.0 Berkhamstead—Progress Hall—Mrs. Rackham. 3.30 OCTOBER 3. Gorton—Town Hall—Public Meeting. 7.30 Central Sussex—St. John's Institute, Burgess Hill—Lord Robert Cecil, K.C., The Countess Brassey (chair). 8.15 OCTOBER 4. Bristol—46, College Road—Working Party. 3.0 Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Teachers' "At Home." 8.0 West Bromwich—Town Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden, The Mayor (chair). 7.30 Sudbury, Suffolk—Town Hall—Mr. Murrells, Miss Eva Ward, Mrs. Salmon (chair). 3.30 OCTOBER 5. Bristol—5, Berkeley Square—Cake, Jam and Sweet Sale. 11-1.30 and 3-8 Leamington—Birch's Music Rooms—Warwick and Leamington Franchise Club. 3.0 Stockfield—Mrs. Farnley Graham's Meeting—Mrs. Lewis. 3.0 OCTOBER 6. Birmingham—St. Mary's Vicarage, Bearwood—Mrs. Wynne's Drawing-room meeting—Miss L. R. Taylor, Mrs. Ring. 4.0 OCTOBER 7. Birmingham—Warley Woods Men's Liberal Association—Council Schools, Barclay Road—Mrs. Osler. 8.0 OCTOBER 9. Birmingham—Midland Institute, Paradise Street—H. N. Brailsford, Esq., Councillor Freeman (chair). (In conjunction with the W.S.P.U.). 8.0 Solihull and District—Henley-in-Arden Institute—Miss Frances Sterling, Miss Morrison, Lady Willoughby de Broke (chair). 8.0 Uckfield—Public Hall—Lecture on Woman Suffrage—Miss Abadam, F. Buxton, Esq. (chair). 8.0 OCTOBER 10. Newcastle-on-Tyne—27, Ridley Place—Speakers' Class—Miss C. M. Gordon. 8.0 Solihull—Public Hall—Miss Frances Sterling, Mrs. Osler, The Hon. Mrs. Basil Hanbury (chair). 8.0 OCTOBER 11. Solihull and District—Hampton-in-Arden—Mrs. Nash's Drawing-room Meeting—Miss Sterling, Miss Morrison. 3.0 Solihull and District—Shirley Institute—Miss Burd's "At Home"—Miss Frances Sterling. Recitations by Miss Ruth Nightingale. 8.0 Bristol—7, Osborne Road—Working Party. 3.0

LONDON.

- September 28: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Sydney Keith. 7.0 September 30: Highgate, At Tufnell Park Tube Station, Open-air Meeting, Mrs. Rogers and others. 8.0 October 2: Lambeth, Alford House, Invitation Meeting, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Helen Ward (chair). 3.30 Kingsland, Enfield Road School, Debate, Mrs. Gimmingham. Evening October 3: Central Hackney, Mrs. Corby's Drawing-room Meeting, Miss C. Corbett, B.A., Mrs. L. Challis (chair). 4.0 October 4: Streatham, Elizabeth Parker Society, W.S. Meeting, Miss A. H. Ward. 3.0 Wandsworth, Adult School, Friends' Evening Meeting House. Evening Islington, Barnsbury Hall, L.L.P. Women's Suffrage Meeting. 8.30 October 6: N. Islington, League of Young Liberals, 734, Holloway Road, Debate, Mrs. Holman. Evening Highgate, At Tufnell Park Tube Station, Open-air Meeting, Mrs. Garnett and others. 8.0 October 7: Norwood, Suffrage Offices, Miss Maude Royden, Miss Abadam. 8.0 October 12: Peckham, Collyer Memorial Hall, W.L.A. Women's Suffrage Meeting, Miss Janet Thomson. 8.0 S. Paddington, Ethical Hall, Bayswater, Lecture, "The Disabilities of Educated Women," Miss A. Maude Royden. 8.0

SCOTLAND.

- September 30: Glencorne, Liberal Association, Miss C. Macmillan. 8.0 October 6: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, Miss Alice Low. 4.30 October 13: Edinburgh, 40, Shandwick Place, Dr. Elsie Inglis. 4.30

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