

# JUS SUFFRAGII,

MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

SEVENTH YEAR No. 5.

JANUARY 15, 1913

If we are to help forward the great movement of our time towards political and industrial democracy and sex-equality, we must work together to produce a scheme that shall combine the widest measure of personal freedom and initiative with the maximum of democratic control.

SIDNEY WEBB.



Human life is like iron: if you use it it remains bright and shining, if you leave it unused it is corroded by rust that eats into it.

H. MÜLLER.

PRICE PER YEAR 2 DUTCH FLORINS (= 3 Sh. 6 d. = 0.82 § = 3 Kr. = 4.25 Frs. = 3½ Mk.)

## Announcements.

### CALL TO THE SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

On June 15th, 1913, the Seventh Conference of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will convene in Budapest, Hungary, continuing five days thereafter.

The affiliated National Woman Suffrage Associations of the following twenty-three countries will each be entitled to twelve Delegates: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bohemia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Servia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Applications for affiliations with the Alliance will be received from National Suffrage Associations in Poland, Roumania, Galicia and China.

All Countries where women now vote including American States will be invited to send Official Delegates to the Congress. Many National Associations of various Countries in sympathy with the Woman Suffrage movement, will be represented by Fraternal Delegates.

Especially invited Delegates are expected from Egypt, India, Burmah, China, Japan and The Philippines. For the first time in the woman movement, it is expected that Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Mohammedan, Jewish and Christian women will sit together in a Congress uniting their voices in a common plea for the liberation of their sex from those artificial discriminations which every political and religious system has directed against them.

The rapid strides taken by the Woman Suffrage Movement within the past few years have placed it in the lead of the great reform of the World. So rapidly has the theory of woman Suffrage been transformed into established fact that at each of the previous six International Conferences there have been victories to celebrate. The gain of four American States since the last Congress, and as significant triumphs of the cause in several European Countries will furnish subject for further rejoicing at Budapest.

Verily, Justice has listened to the plea of Woman and is touching the intelligence of the World with

understanding! The Congress at Budapest, linking together the chain of organizations which now encircle the Earth, will be a milestone in the Progress of the woman movement, pointing to certain emancipation of the women of the entire world.

*Carrie Chapman Catt*, U. S. A.,  
President.

*Millicent Garrett Fawcett*, Gt. Britain,  
1st Vice-President.

*Annie Furuhjelm*, Finland, 2nd Vice-  
President.

*Martina Kramers*, The Netherlands,  
Secretary.

*Anna Lindemann*, Germany, Secretary.

*Signe Bergman*, Sweden, Secretary.

*Adela Stanton Coit*, Gt. Britain, Treas-  
urer.

Direct local inquiries to:

*Miss Rosika Schwimmer*, Istvan ut 67, Budapest,  
Hungary. — Cable address: Suffragium.

Helsingfors, Finland, Dec. 30, 1912.

Dear Editor,

I should feel much obliged to you if you will kindly allow me to announce through the medium of „Jus Suffragii”, that I do not wish to stand for re-election as 2nd Vice-President.

Believe me,

Yours truly  
ANNIE FURUHJELM.

The address of the *Czechish Committee on Woman Suffrage* is neither Mrs. Moravcova Stepankova nor Miss Plaminkova. All correspondence should be addressed as follows: *Vybor pro volebni pravo zen Prague II, Jungmannova 7.*

The *auxiliary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland* gives notice of the following Amendments to the Constitution of the I. W. S. A. to be placed on the Agenda of the Meeting of the Convention in Budapest.

1. *Article V.*

To substitute for the present title „Officers” the title „Executive Board of Officers”.

2. *Article V, Section 1.*

To substitute for the words „two Vice-Presidents at large” the words „five Vice-Presidents”; and to substitute for the words „three Secretaries” the words „an Honorary Corresponding Secretary and an Honorary Recording Secretary”; so that the Section shall read:  
„The Officers of the Alliance shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, an Honorary Corresponding Secretary, an Honorary Recording Secretary and a Treasurer”.

3. *Article V, Section 2.*

For Section 2 substitute the following:  
„These nine Officers shall constitute the „Executive Board of Officers which shall conduct the business of the Alliance in the interim of Conventions”.

4. *Article VI.*

For Article IV substitute the following:  
„The Advisory Committee”.  
„The Executive Board of Officers together with the Presidents of National Auxiliaries shall constitute the Advisory Committee”.

5. *Article IX.*

For the word „President” substitute the words „Honorary Corresponding Secretary”.  
For the words „ex officio Vice-Presidents” substitute the words „Presidents of the National Auxiliaries”.  
For the words „officers” substitute the words „Honorary Corresponding Secretary”.

The following resolutions are also to be put on the agenda of the International W. S. A. meetings at Buda-Pest:—

- That the Alliance publish an interim Report in the year between the Conventions.
  - That the Annual Reports of the Alliance be published not only in English but in French and in German.
- The Committee also came to the following decision, that in the letter to Mrs. Chapman Catt enclosing the Resolutions there be a strong recommendation that in drawing up the programme for the Convention no time be given to Greetings from Fraternal Delegates and that Hungary be notified that such a recommendation had been sent. This recommendation is to be accompanied by a statement that the enormous growth of the suffrage movement and the increase in the number of Auxiliary Associations makes it advisable to reserve more time for more important discussions.
- The above recommendations were approved and the sub-Committee was authorised to try to secure new Hon. Associate Members of the I. W. S. A.

Great Britain wishes to bring forward the following resolutions:—

- That one Session of the Buda-Pest Convention be devoted to a discussion of the possibility of establishing an International Press Bureau run by the International Woman suffrage Alliance, and to the consideration of any schemes which the Auxiliary Societies may then submit.
- That a small committee of representatives of Auxiliaries submitting schemes for an International Press Bureau be appointed to meet before the Convention to consider the schemes submitted and to

report on these schemes at the Session of the Convention devoted to this subject.  
Hon. Sec. International sub-Committee.  
M. SHEEPSHANKS,

Dear Correspondents and Readers,

With my good wishes for the new year and usual appeal to your help I have to submit to you the statistics of the number of readers in our different countries. In 26 countries we have 1115 paying subscribers.  
And then I want to ask you whether you can suggest some means of keeping up the English and the French edition of our organ and its size of ten pages. If you do not augment the number of paying readers, we cannot go on as we do. Yet now that we have hardly terminated the discussion of one general subject, the entrance of women into political parties, the new subjects relative to the approaching Budapest Convention are fast pouring in. We want ten pages at least if we would publish in our organ the suggestions that Auxiliaries or Officers would submit to the assembled suffragists of the world.  
I hope the different international press schemes may lead to the continuance of our organ and to a third edition in German, for which an editor has offered herself.

And please let me have your reports before the 6th. This month three arrived so late that we have to give 12 pages this time, which involves new costs for the I. W. S. A.

Believe me yours sincerely,

MARTINA G. KRAMERS,  
Editor „Jus Suffragii”.

LITERATURE.

*Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony* by Ida Husted Harper, the last 200 sets of three vol. to be had at \$ 5.00 from the author, 245 West 51st Street, New York City.

This occasion to procure so valuable a reference-book and so interesting a life-story should not be lost by suffrage clubs and libraries. In these beautifully bound volumes we find not only 70 portraits and 140 autographs of noted people, but a well documented historical survey of the whole suffrage movement in America, since the great leader and her experiences form the center of all the efforts made in the United States for the obtention of the vote and the awakening of women to a sense of duty and responsibility towards the community as well as to personal prouder feelings of independence. We see here a detailed account of the ever widening range of Miss Anthony's work for the women of her own generation and the future, we follow her through her experiences as a school teacher, reformer and suffrage leader, from her childhood among the Friends to the crowning glory of Berlin where she saw the bond of Union laid between the suffragists of the world.

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*California Women under Laws of 1912* by Alice Park, and *What New Laws do California Women Want?* by Alice Park, 2 cents each, 611 Gilman Street, Palo Alto, Cal.

The first of these leaflets was composed in July 1912 to show Californian women exactly what their legal position is, how they can register as voters and what their rights on children and property are. The second shows the new status of women now that they are enfranchised in many of the States of the Union, and how national laws control citizenship.

Convention Arrangements.

The shortest travelling routes between the principal towns of Europe and Budapest.

	Departure	Arrival at Budapest	Time of the journey in hours	1st Class	2nd Class
Amsterdam	6.45	1.40	31	Frs 161.70	105.30
Bazel	7.10	1.40	30	„ 138.30	78.45
Belgrado	5.41	1.—	13	„ 38.20	24.75
Berlin	4.39	9.40	17	M 79.60	50.—
Brussels	5.45	1.40	32	Frs 168.60	104.30
Bucarest	5.05	1.25	20	„ 63.26	42.95
Constantinople	8.23	1.—	41	„ 123.80	83.95
Cologne o/R.	11.27	1.40	25	M 116.50	72.90
Christiania	5.45	12.50	43	„ 170.20	112.30
Dresden	11.53	1.40	14	„ 75.30	48.70
Frankfort o/M.	4.36	1.40	21	„ 99.70	62.70
The Hague	6.20	1.40	31	„ 138.30	88.80
Hanover	3.34	1.40	22	„ 102.—	63.30
Helsingfors 1)	11.25	9.40	58	K 178.— <sup>3)</sup>	117.—
Helsingfors 2)	2.40	9.40	67	M 182.90 <sup>4)</sup>	129.60
Copenhagen	5.40	12.50	31	„ 117.—	79.90
Leipsic	8.40	1.40	16	„ 81.20	52.20
Lisbon	11.30	1.40	72	Frs 467.—	325.—
London	9.—	1.40	40	„ 213.90	136.30
Madrid	8.—	1.40	63	„ 361.—	246.—
Milan 5)	9.45	10.15	25	„ 90.50	61.15
Moscow	2.—	9.40	44	K 152.10	102.20
Munich	11.40	1.40	14	M 78.60	49.50
Paris	9.05	1.40	40	Frs 193.60	123.35
Rome 6)	11.50	10.15	35	„ 93.60	63.30
Sofia	5.40	1.—	25	„ 85.10	59.—
Stockholm	8.30	12.50	40	M 151.50	101.—
St. Petersburg	6.45	9.40	39	K 145.80	97.90
Warsaw	3.52	9.40	18	„ 88.10	57.80
Zurich	11.15	1.40	26	Frs 129.85	83.75

1) Via St. Petersburg. — 2) Via Stockholm-Berlin. — 3) Including an 8 hours stay in Berlin. — 4) Including an 9 hours stay in St. Petersburg. — 5) By steamer from Venice to Fiume. — 6) By steamer from Ancona to Fiume.

The above normal prices are valid as far as Budapest; from them will be deducted the amount of reduction granted by the Railway companies.

According to the above calculations the best fast trains, but not luxus trains, are to be used.

Detailed time-tables and all information respecting interruption of longer journeys and III class fares can be obtained in the Congress Office. Rooms at reduced prices, reserved for night and day use in towns in which journeys must be broken off will be provided on application for members of the congress.

Should any alterations in the above mentioned travelling arrangements take place after the appearance of this time-table separate communications thereof will be sent.

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HOTELS AND PENSIONS.

Rooms can be provided in first class pensions and the following first class hotels: Ritz, Hungaria, Bristol, Queen of England, Jägerhorn, Continental, Magyar Király, Pannonia, Royal, Isle of Margit. The prices are—including breakfast—as follow:

Single room:

Looking towards street: 8—13 Kronen; looking towards court: 6—9 Kr. (Per person.)

Double bedded room:

Looking towards street: 5—8 Kronen; looking towards court 4—6 Kr. (Per person.)

Prices in the following second class hotels: Queen Elisabeth, Palace, Fiume, Savoy, Metropole, Central, Archiduc Joseph, King Stephen, Méran, Budapest, are—including breakfast:

Single room:

Looking towards street: 5—9 Kronen; looking towards court: 4—6 Kr. (Per person.)

Double bedded room:

Looking towards street: 4—6 Kronen; looking towards court 3—5 Kr. (Per person.)

N.B. The Executive Committee offers full hospitality for two delegates of each affiliated country.

United States.

I am writing this letter the day after Christmas and I am sure the readers of „Jus Suffragii” will be interested in a little personal word of the delightful dinner which I had last evening in Mrs. Catt's handsome apartment overlooking Central Park. It illustrates so well the wonderful versatility of the president of the International Alliance, who has just returned from a twenty months' tour, „organizing the world for woman suffrage”, that the marketing and planning for this dinner, with its fine turkey, and the preparing of salad and dessert, all were done by her. And then, with a stenographer and typewriter at work the whole of every day, she found time to put a miniature Santa Claus in the middle of the table and pile up around his feet the dainty gifts for every guest, with some little „jokes” concealed among them, all tied up in tissue paper with pretty ribbons.

I wished, as I have many times before, that all those benighted persons who say that the suffragists are wholly without the domestic instincts, could visit this well-ordered home, and those of the many other leading suffragists in various countries, and see how foolish and mistaken are such ideas. Then after the dinner was over we forgot the domestic role and spent several hours discussing the approaching Congress in Budapest and the suffrage movement in all countries. How much we wished that to all of them the New-Year was bringing as much hope and joy as it is to the United States! Here we know beyond any doubt that the hardest of our battle is over; that, while there are still much work and waiting and disappointment ahead of us, the press and the intelligent people of the entire country concede that suffrage for women in every State is now only a question of time, and not of a very long time.

Let me give one or two illustrations: One of the largest press associations in New York, which sends out matter to thousands of papers, has issued an order that anything special about woman suffrage is to be treated as important news! A very distinguished United States Senator, who will be a candidate for re-election within the next two years, has notified the political leaders in his State that before the time comes for this he wants the women enfranchised! The most vital question just now to New York women is whether the Legislature which convenes next week will pass the bill to submit a constitutional amendment to the voters. All of the five political parties in the State have a demand for this in their platform, and the leaders in the Legislature have given absolute pledges that this shall be done, but the women will not feel sure of it till the votes are actually counted. In order to keep the question alive in the newspapers and create public sentiment half-a-dozen brave women decided to walk the 140 miles from New York City to Albany, the capital, and present the desired bill to the new Governor.

There never was a more clever advertising scheme. They started December 17, an immense crowd gathering to see them off and a large number of suffragists marching with them to their first stopping place. Thirty photographers also made the first part of the journey with them and others have met them at each stage of it. Every large paper in New York has sent a special correspondent with them and has contained from one to two columns every day with many pictures. These have been syndicated and are appearing in all the papers in the country. An automobile accompanies them carrying their luggage and an immense amount of literature which is distributed all along the route. At each town the suffragists come out to meet them bringing refreshments and marching with them for several miles. They arrange to stop over night in some large place and here very often the Mayor welcomes them, public meetings are held and sometimes a banquet. Even the schools are dismissed in order that the pupils may see them, and at noon and night crowds of working people gather to cheer them. The marchers are unaccustomed to walking and it is amazing how they have kept steadily on sometimes, through mud and rain and snow that reached to their knees. It has given the public great respect for women's endurance and they will arrive in Albany several days ahead of their schedule, where they will receive a great ovation.

I hope that in my next letter I can say that the bill has passed and the first step has been gained; then a State wide campaign will be commenced to create a public sentiment which will secure its passage through a second Legislature in 1915, when it will then be submitted to the voters. It is by no means an easy task that confronts the women of New York but they undertake it with courage and faith. I hope also that I can tell of what is of more immediate importance, namely that the bill has passed the second Nevada Legislature. It had a good majority in the one of 1911 and the suffragists have the promise of more than enough votes to carry it again. Then they must begin their educational work among the electors and they feel sure that in the very near future the ballot will be theirs. There is every reason also to believe that Montana is almost ready to enfranchise its women.

The one cloud on the horizon at this holiday season is the situation in Michigan. The first returns from the election gave several thousand majority for the amendment and, although several cities held back their figures, it was not supposed there was any doubt. So surely was it accepted that a saloon-keeper and a pool room-keeper, acting for the liquor interests, brought suit to have the vote of five counties which gave majorities thrown out because of some small mistake in printing. The Supreme Court decided against them and then all of a sudden the election officers of Detroit and one or two other cities announced that their official count showed enough votes against the amendment to overcome the majority of all the rest of the State! From that time there has been a general uproar. Every newspaper of consequence in the State has declared that there has been gross fraud, and the Governor has denounced it and ordered a recount of the votes. The national chairman of the Progressive party, which carried Michigan for Roosevelt, has ordered that everything possible shall be done to discover and punish the guilty. The Republican leaders have met and declared that if necessary the amendment will be at once submitted again. Nothing can be done till the recount is finished, and, while the women are praying that they may not have to make another campaign, they are very happy over

the splendid way in which the most prominent men of the State have come to their support.

I cannot close this already too long letter without a word as to the welcome extended to Mrs. Catt by the citizens of New York. This was entirely distinct from the welcome under the auspices of the Woman Suffrage Party in the great mass meeting at Carnegie Hall up town referred to last month. The second took place under the management of the People's Institute in the Democratic Cooper Union down town, and she was greeted by its president; by the Controller of the City, speaking for the Mayor, and by the eminent lawyer, Mr. Ivins, for the people of New York. Mrs. Catt responded in a magnificent address entitled, *The Awakening of Women Around the World*.

Dear Suffragists everywhere, we ask you at the beginning of this New-Year to share in the happiness of the women of the United States.

New York, Dec. 1912. IDA HUSTED HARPER.

### Great Britain.

The *National Union of Women's Societies* writes: The decision, which the House of Commons will make, within the ensuing weeks, upon the question of women's enfranchisement will be the most momentous yet recorded in the history of this long struggle.

Although at the time of writing, the Prime Minister has been unable to state the date at which the Committee Stage of the Franchise Bill will begin, consensus of opinion points to the 2nd or 3rd week in January as approximately the time; and on Jan. 3 Mr. Mc Kenna announced that the Committee-stage will begin after Jan. 20. There are, certain salient features in the political situation which merit attention. The action of the Irish Nationalists will be the determining factor. In the present government which is a coalition of Liberals, Labour men and Irish Nationalists, it is the last-named party, numbering 67 members, which holds the balance of power. It will be remembered that it was the sudden defection from the ranks of the supporters of Woman's Suffrage of the Irish Party, which caused the defeat of the Conciliation Bill last March. It may not have been generally recognised, out of England, that the loss of the Irish vote on that occasion was not consequent upon a change of individual opinion on the merits of Women's Suffrage, but was due to the fear that the introduction of so contentious a measure into the Government programme, already overloaded with projected legislation of first class importance, would be detrimental to the success of the Home Rule Bill.

How far this fear will again be operative is the question which dominates the mind of every Suffragist at the present juncture.

Since last March political forces have been to a certain degree readjusted. The allegiance of many Liberal Churchmen has been tried by the drastic proposals for the disestablishment of the Welsh Church, the prestige of Mr. Lloyd George has been shaken by the refusal of the British Medical Association to comply with the terms of the Insurance Act and the lack of homogeneity in the ranks of Liberal M.P.s, has been once or twice made strikingly manifest. The tension between Liberalism and Labour has been aggravated by the reciprocal "poaching on each others preserves", at recent by-elections, when seats hitherto allotted to Liberals have been contested by Labour men and vice versa. Further alienation by the Government of the Labour Party, which number 42 members would tend to

render Mr. Asquith's position insecure. To maintain him in office for the three sessions, which under the Parliament Act is essential if Home Rule is to be placed on the Statute Book, is the paramount consideration of the Irish Nationalists. In these circumstances it is hoped that they may see fit to adopt a more conciliatory attitude on the Women's Suffrage question, to the support of which the Labour Party and a large number of Liberals stand pledged.

Mr. John Redmond, the leader of the Irish Party, announced on the occasion of the motion to give Irish women voting power for the new Dublin Parliament, that, when the Franchise Bill came before the House, the members of his Party would be left as free to vote in accordance with their opinions as the Liberal Party had been left by the Government.

The question of the inclusion of women will come up on the discussion of the first line of the Franchise Bill which runs thus:— "Every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a parliamentary elector..."

Suffragists are concentrating their forces upon the effort to delete the word male, for without the omission of this word it is unlikely that any subsequent proposal to include women can be discussed. An amendment for the purpose will be moved by Sir Edward Grey, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who will be supported by members of each political party. The passing of this amendment will signify the acceptance by the House of Commons of the principle of Women's Suffrage, but will not in itself ensure that any women will be enfranchised, judges in this country having ruled that for the purpose of exercising the Parliamentary Franchise the term "person" cannot be held to include women. If a perfectly free vote of the House is recorded on this amendment Sir Edward Grey should have no difficulty in carrying it, since the Suffrage majority stands well over 130.

When this preliminary amendment has been passed the following three alternative proposals will be brought forward to define the classes of women which shall be enfranchised:—

1) The Adult Suffrage Amendment which would give votes to women on the same terms as men.

2) The Household Suffrage (Norwegian) amendment, which would give votes to women over 25 years of age, who are inhabitant occupiers and to the wives of electors. Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey are believed to be in favour of this amendment, and this is an asset in the Parliamentary sense.

3) The Conciliation Bill amendment. This amendment would, roughly speaking, enfranchise those women who are in possession of a Local Government qualification.

It is expected that these amendments will be moved in the above order, so that, should the two wider proposals fail, there will be an opportunity for Suffragists of all shades of opinion to unite in support of the minimum provided by amendment 3.

N. S. B. ATKINSON,  
Secr. N. U. W. S. S.

London, Jan. 1913.

There is little to add to the information given by the *Women's Social and Political Union* in our last report on the Suffrage movement. It is, in fact, still revolving in the "pledge" of the Anti-Suffragist Asquith, who will not be annoyed by any "free" display of honesty on the part of the House of Commons, for with very few exceptions the

ordinary Member of Parliament is too concerned with his own prospect of making a living of sorts out of political conditions as they are to show any desire to complicate them by the observance of justice towards the women, who help to pay his salary!

Let us briefly note the chances of any Amendment to the Franchise Bill being carried by a "free" House of Commons.

The Government is dependent on three political parties, the Nationalists who intend to wreck any Woman Suffrage amendment during this Parliament for fear that the Government should break up in the first place, and in the second because Mr. Redmond objects to a Woman Suffrage measure being sent to the House of Lords before Home Rule is in the Statute Book; for the Lords might pass it, the Unionists might demand a General Election, and the Home Rule Bill be submitted to the votes of women, a state of things Mr. Redmond evidently fears as well as Mr. Asquith. Also Mr. Redmond desires that the question of Votes for Women may be settled by an Irish Parliament. Also the Nationalists not only desire to keep Mr. Asquith in office, and under the obligation of helping him to cheat the women out of the real fulfilment of his "pledge". Mr. Redmond trusts to the Labour Party and others claiming to be Suffragists refusing to fight the Government on Woman Suffrage. The Labour Party is in bondage to the Liberal Party. They refuse to do what they could do, vote against the Government until it takes up Woman Suffrage as a Government measure, so as they were directly responsible before for the defeat of the Conciliation Bill, they will be again responsible for the sham fight on a sham pledge.

As for the Liberals themselves, who will consider they are "free"? The Prime Minister has with a shameless effrontery given them their lead, in his brazen declaration that he is sure they will not reverse the decision carried out in the Conciliation Bill. And the Liberals are worthy of their leader—but are they worthy of their hire?

Meanwhile, the W. S. P. U. is actively working up the deputation of working women under the leadership of Mrs. Drummond to demand audience of that Mahatma-like being, the anti-Prime Minister and his double, Mr. Lloyd George. Only as this latter gentleman sails under a pirate flag, he is able to claim that he is "in" with all parties to the question!

Thus we see him in the Cabinet leading the Suffragists and playing the clumsier game of Mr. Asquith for him with the finesse of a village Machiavelli. Unfortunately for himself, he is read and estimated at his true value by the W. S. P. U.—wich society is continuing its militant warning against the Government with unceasing energy in the pages of the official organ "The Suffragette". London, Jan 1st 1913. *The Secretary W. S. P. U.*

The *Women's Freedom League* closed its offices from Dec. 21st until Dec. 30th to insure the possibility of a brief rest for its workers so that they should be the better able to face the strenuous campaign in the early part of the year for women's political enfranchisement. We were fortunate in securing Abdul Baha, the distinguished Persian prophet, to speak at our first meeting, January 2nd, on the Equality of Women with Men. We begin our Wednesday afternoon Public Meetings at Caxton Hall Jan. 15th when Mrs. Despard will take the Chair for our two staunch supporters Mr. H. D. Harben and Mrs. Nevinson. For Saturday afternoon, January 18, we are organising a woman suffrage

demonstration in Trafalgar Square. It is expected that the woman suffrage amendments to the Reform Bill will be considered by the House of Commons in the week beginning Jan. 20, and on each afternoon of that week we shall have a poster parade of women in Parliament Square, and each evening that the Amendments are being considered we shall hold a public indoor meeting in Westminster. In the meantime we are steadily refusing to comply with the regulations of the Insurance Act because we object to taxation without representation, and refuse to assist in carrying out legislation which is passed over our heads without our consent.

Whether British women gain their political enfranchisement this year or not The Women's Freedom League is confident of ultimate victory, and sends its heartiest greetings and warmest sympathy to all suffragists beyond the seas.

London, Jan. 1913. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

At the beginning of a new year the *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association* naturally looks back and takes a brief review of the past and the intensely hard work and many disappointments which have been the lot of all Suffrage workers, but in spite of the discouragements we have received, it is with renewed hope and steadfastness of purpose that we look forward to 1913.

This Association was started at the end of 1908 for the purpose of attracting Conservative men and women who would not join a non-party society, and in this, the fifth year of its inception, it is indeed encouraging to us to look through our roll of members and to see the names of so many influential men and women. Several of these have helped us very materially—by speaking at our meetings, organising branches, undertaking personal interviews with Members of Parliament, and again, by lending their drawing-rooms for afternoon receptions.

Our work during December was, naturally, interrupted by the Christmas holidays, when the office was closed for five days, but during the early part of that month letters were sent to all Unionist M.P.s with regard to their support of the Dickinson and Conciliation amendments to the Reform Bill, and our most grateful thanks are due to Lord Robert Cecil and Lord Wolmer for all their personal interest and help in this matter.

Meetings under the auspices of this Association have been held during December in Blackpool, Bournemouth, Clifton (Bristol), Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Burnside (Glasgow), Hampstead, Preston, Merrow (Surrey); and Lantern Lectures were given at Bedford, Carlisle, Cokermouth, Cheltenham, Gateshead, High Wycombe, Hull, Oldham, Shipton-on-Stour, Streatham (London), Warwick and Windsor.

A most successful drawing-room meeting was held by permission of Sir Harry and Lady Wilson at Lennox House, Ovington Square. Lady Muir Mackenzie took the Chair, and Miss Lowndes and Miss Abadam were the speakers; and on the 10th—despite the inclemency of the weather—our meeting at the Knightsbridge Hotel was well attended. Dr. Florence Willey and Mr. C. S. Goldman, M.P. made excellent speeches on this occasion.

In our last report we announced that a public meeting for Conservative men and women would be held by this Association at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on February 6th, when Lord Selborne would be the chief speaker. The arrangements for this meeting are now in full swing, and from the fact that over half the seating accommodation was sold before the tickets were printed, we are anticipating a really enthusiastic meeting. Several Unionist M.P.s have signified their intention of

being present, and the Viscountess Castlereagh has kindly consented to preside. The price of tickets range from sixpence to five shillings, and some of our London friends have most generously offered hospitality to country members, who otherwise on account of hotel expenses, would be unable to attend the meeting.

The January number of the *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Review* was published on the first of the month, and contains interesting articles by Lady Chance, the Hon. Mrs. John Baily, Miss Vida Goldstein, Miss Chadwick and Miss Olga Hartley, and the „Political Outlook” has been written by Lady Selborne. The „Review” also contains a varied amount of information about women's work throughout the Empire and in other lands, and the Frontispiece is a portrait of Mrs. Sidgwick, one of the first Vice-Presidents of the Association. Copies, price 2d, will be sent post free to any address.

LOUISE GILBERT SAMUEL

London, January 1913.

### Hungary.

Lately we compared our situation to a pleasant dream, now we feel like in a bad dream. Ten days after the death of our deeply deplored vice-president we had to face the incredible fact that the most ardent men-worker for W. S. in Hungary, Prof. Dr. Gustav Dirner, member of our Board and founder and president of our Men's League has also passed away. As he had worked with us until his last days we could hardly believe the dreadful news and are not yet fully able to realise that these two deaths are facts. While Dr. Márkus was an immeasurable help for the feministic movement in general, Prof. Dirner was entirely devoted to the suffrage movement, which feels his death as a perfectly irreparable loss. We are sure there will be found very prominent and justice-loving men to fill the offices of Prof. Dirner, but we are also sure that we shall hardly get another man-helper for the suffrage movement uniting all those unique qualities which distinguished Prof. Dirner, who worked for W. S. as intensively as only women use to work for their own cause. To have lost both our greatest men within 10 days in the midst of the historically most critical time of the suffrage movement, both of them at an age which seemed to warrant that they would live to enjoy the results of their work for decades more—we always cherished the idea of electing them both into the Parliament as soon as we would get the vote—is really like a piece of a sensational novel in which all the heroes die just at the moment when they are wanted most. Our society honours the memory of Márkus and Dirner by a scholarship giving two prizes of 200 crowns each every year to young people of the University promoting Feminism (resp. Women's Suffrage) with their work. The Men's League set apart another 200 crowns prize per year in memory of Prof. Dirner.

But though terribly shaken by these blows, we know our duty and are continuing on our daily work, which is now very exciting in every respect.

Besides the communications about the Congress published in another part of this number of „Jus Suffragii”, we have to make here also some remarks.

The war-question was pending over us all the time and is still pending. It is believed by some people that we still may get into war trouble. Though not believing in this possibility, we wish to face it, to be sure to have settled the whole question. If war should be declared, no fight would be fought in

Hungary itself, so that there is no danger of coming into a fighting country. Therefore, expressing again our strong belief that there will not be war between us and the Balcan states, we wish all our readers to decide to come in as great crowds as possible to the Congress, even if Hungary would be engaged in a war, because just if that terrible event could happen, it would be the strongest necessity for all peace-loving women of the world to unite to show that we are helpless in view of these matters of peace and war, of life and death, that our wish to become a factor in deciding these questions is our strongest desire and the need of the world.

But once more: we do not believe in the possibility of this war. We have another request. It would be a great help for us to know as soon as possible, who intends to come from the several countries in order to get some material for propaganda from abroad. There are several affiliated societies which did not answer to the questionnaire we sent them in June 1912. Will these countries be so kind as to give us as soon as possible a detailed answer to all our questions?

As to the program: We are communicating about this matter with Mrs. Chapman Catt. As soon as we have fixed the necessary things we shall hasten to send a detailed program.

Our movement has reached its most critical stage on December 31st when the Prime Minister had called a formal meeting of the House to introduce his Reform bill. The opposition parties, which boycott the House since June 4th, were absent, the galleries of the House were nearly empty (the entrance-tickets were said to be distributed, but it was not true). Without a solemn word of introduction the Prime Minister laid down the Bill on the table of the House. No more than three minutes were taken up by the most important parliamentary event of modern Hungary. The contents of the bill were known already a week before its publication, because „Népszava”, the central organ of the Socialdemocratic party had got a copy of the bill which was stolen from the Government's printing office. The social-democratic organ published the text in its own wording, using the expression „entitled to vote is everyone who, etc.”. This would mean in our language women as well as men. It was intended to be a stratagem to make us believe that we were included, as we and most people in Hungary believed that we should be. But as they published also the statistics which were only concerned with men, we knew that the extension of the franchise was for one sex only. Though we knew now that we were dropped, we were not so afraid as we would have been otherwise, because the whole bill is such nonsense, that the entire public opinion turned against it. Its provisions for the men's vote are so complicated that it would be perfectly impossible to manage them practically; ways for every sort of corruption would be open. It is pure nonsense. One Cabinet Minister resigned and several prominent members of the Government party left the party. Such M.P.s of the Opposition as had not yet joined the united Opposition parties in the struggle against the Government's bill, and even such papers as were and are most devoted to the Government are now joining hands to oppose the bill.

The Government's bill begins by stating clearly that „the vote is to granted to every male citizen, who, etc. etc.”, and the explanation printed with the bill gives two full pages of a quarto volume explaining that women are perfectly fit for the vote, that their services are indispensable in the state as well as in society, that in the struggle for life they have a double burden, etc. etc. Really it is the nicest

article in favour of woman's suffrage. But, says the explanation it was impossible to propose w. s. now because we could not find the just measure for it. To give it to the educated women would exclude the women of the lower classes and would thus hurt them, and to give it to the women of the lower classes is impossible because they are not educated enough. It would bring class-animosity between women, who are not yet touched by this feeling. And so on and so on, in admirable logic and statesmanlike knowledge of sociological facts.

One fact must be admitted: the declaration of the Government in regard to women's suffrage is a great advance in this sort of documents. We had the Reform bill of Kristóffy, the Radical Minister in 1905 which devoted only 3 lines to the question of w. s., stating laconically that this question was not to be dealt with seriously, as it had not been treated in any parliament until then and as woman's sphere was the home.

The same words were used by count Andrassy in his Reform bill of 1908, and after this the apologising excuse of the present Prime Minister is a mighty step forward. And as this bill will surely not become law, we are perfectly sure that our efforts will succeed in forcing w. s. into the Reform bill.

Now the situation stands so: either the whole bill will be withdrawn (for which there is much probability) or it will be very much changed, or it will be adopted in its present form without changes. The first case opens many opportunities for us. For the second we are preparing by urging the constitution of the Conciliation Committee. As the Government's excuse for dropping w. s. is based on the want of a „just census” the chances of an appropriate scheme of a Conciliation Committee are very good. If the Opposition parties should continue to boycott the parliament, so that the bill passes unchanged, public opinion will go on urging a parliamentary reform which will give us a favourable position.

Very characteristic is the fact that at the first demonstration against the Government's bill arranged by the Radical bourgeois and the Socialdemocrats, the Socialdemocrats howled down our speaker, who was admitted to the floor by the president but could not speak a single word because the Socialdemocrats made an incredible noise to prevent her speaking. The president had to close the meeting.

Of the other facts of our present work I will only briefly mention that we founded a suffrage club, called „Feministák Clubja”, which will be constituted about March. The Christmas-press contained again a good deal of suffrage matter in favour of our cause. At the annual meeting of the Petöfi, a literary society, the „Pageant of great Women” written after the English original by countess Teleki, was read by our great actress Marie Jászai with the greatest success.

Be sure, dear fellow-workers, that we are working unceasingly to prepare victory for our cause. Do help us by coming in great numbers to the Congress.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Budapest, Jan 1913.

### Denmark.

The second reading of the Government's Bill for the revision of the Constitution took place on Dec. 10th. Most of the M.P.s were present. The Conservative Mr. Schovelin said: „The proposed bill does not extend the right of suffrage, only that of voting. It gives votes to the poor, long neglected women, but it shuts them up in geographical demarc-

ations which render their vote useless." The amendments proposed by the majority of the Commission were unanimously carried with 93 votes whilst the Conservatives and one member of the Government party abstained from voting.

The third reading took place on Dec. 12th and the Government's proposals with the amendments of the majority of the Commission were carried by 95 votes against 12 from the Conservatives, 3 members of the Moderate Progressives abstaining from voting and 2 M.P.s being absent.

The Bill was then sent to the Landsting.  
(from: *Kvindevalgret.*)

#### DANSKE KVINDEFÖRENINGERS VALGRETSFORBUND.

The important Bill of Amendment of our Constitution including W. S.—about which I reported in my latest letter to „Jus”—was carried by a majority of about 100—14 in the Lower House and then sent „upstairs". Yesterday the Upper House re-assembled after Xmas and the Reform Bill had its first reading in this House. Those that had expected on this occasion to become any the wiser as to the exact wishes of the Conservative party in its opposition against the bill must feel very disappointed. It is not possible to get any clear impression about the real ideas of this Party; they keep on repeating that the Bill is the most reckless thing ever seen and that that Reform—which they admit is necessary—ought to be quite different from what is proposed here, but *how* it ought to be they have not been able to explain in such a way that common people can understand it.

At the 3rd reading in the Lower House one of the Conservative politicians declared that woman suffrage was not altogether popular for instance in those American States where they had got it. One of our groups, *Dansk Kvindesamtund*, is going to fight and if possible kill this ever returning ghost. It is known that several prominent men and women have been invited and are expected to speak.

About 120 representatives from local branches will be present. We also look forward to the visit of the famous *Miss Jessie Ackerman* F.R.S.G.S. who will be here at the time of the meeting and there will be called upon to explain her feelings as to W. S. in those countries where she personally has studied the effects of this reform.

Miss Ackerman is the special and highly welcome guest of the „Danske Kvindeforeningers Valgretsforbund", which is busy arranging meetings and festivals for her.—She will remain there one week and then leave for Sweden.

TH. DAUGAARD,  
Copenhagen, January 9th 1913. Int.-Secr.

Looking back upon the past year *the Landsforbund* has every reason to be content; it has brought us even more than we dared to expect in the beginning of the year.

According to the rules our local branches generally have three meetings every winter-season. But many of our local presidents are so interested and energetic, that they arrange to have monthly or fortnightly meetings during the winter-season, and in some places they also have a series of political and social lectures, attended both by members and „outsiders", and moreover they have large public open-air meetings in the summer.

At our annual congress in 1912 we had a far larger host of delegates than in any previous year, and during this congress our speakers also had the pleasure to address the hitherto largest audience at any of our public meetings, that is: 5000 men

and women gathered in „Skibelund Krat", in Jutland.

In the middle of October our annual lectures in sociology were held at Ollerup highschool in Fünen. Pupils from all parts of the country met here for three days and listened to the different topics with great interest.

During November and December the well-known and sympathetic speaker Miss Fr. Mörck from Kristiania has been giving us great help by travelling all over Denmark giving lectures in 40 of our local branches. This extra piece of work has been very welcome and of great effect, as people are specially interested in listening to a lady-speaker belonging to a country, where the women are already enfranchised.

Concerning the political prospect the matter stands so, that the Constitutional Reform-bill—including woman suffrage—was adopted by the Lower House on the 12th of December with 95 votes against 12. But those twelve votes against were not given in opposition to woman suffrage, but in opposition to certain constitutional principles. Shortly before Christmas the bill was sent to the Upper House, where it will be dealt with when parliament is again going to sit after New-Year.

CLINNY DREYER.  
Copenhagen, January 1913.

#### Sweden.

By a misunderstanding the meaning of Mrs. Boheman's letter of last month was not correctly reported in „Jus Suffragii".

She had little news to give and preferred to wait with a report until after the Executive meeting in January, that much is true, but *not* that the coming year was the closing year of the Government's term of office. Mrs. B. said that the principal subject for discussion would be a demonstration to the session of Parliament in 1914, which is the last year of the present parliamentary period.

I am sorry that I have thus brought an incorrectness into Mrs. B.'s communications from Sweden.  
M. G. KRAMERS.

The elections for the Town-Councils are now completed and through these elections Sweden has got 18 new women Town-Councillors. All in all we now have 62, which perhaps does not seem such an overwhelming number, but must be reckoned as a very good beginning, this being only the second election since the women have been eligible as Town-Councillors. It certainly is no easy thing for the women to get a foot-hold in this new department as it must not be easy for the men, who have hitherto reigned alone, to make room for the women.

Of the 18 new-elected women 11 have been elected by the Liberals, 1 by the Liberals and the Socialdemocrats together, 1 by the Socialdemocrats, 2 by the Conservatives and 3 by the women, who have separated themselves from the parties and gone to election with their own list. This method has shown itself to be a good means of getting in a woman, when the women did not succeed in getting a good place for their candidate on the party-lists.

It is of interest to observe the proportion between the women, elected by the three different parties. The Liberals stand out prominently and have done so from the beginning, the Socialdemocrats have not so many places to dispose of in the Town-Councils, and the Conservatives have shown themselves more interested in making use of the women as electors than in helping to get them elected.

Most of the new women Town-Councillors are prominent suffragists and no less than 9 are Presid-

ents of different W. S. A. As a whole it may be said that the women have shown much interest and worked a good deal for the elections, though in many places they still do not understand to organize their work effectually. But in time they will have learnt by their failures and the result will show itself in a good many new and capable women Town-Councillors.

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Our suffrage paper „Votes for Women" (Röst-rätt för Kvinnor) has now begun its second year, and the suffragists have every reason to be proud and happy of its first year. The number of subscribers now amounts to about 3,500, a very good result in our country and for a paper which treats only one subject—women's suffrage. The paper has been very kindly treated in the press, not opposed to woman suffrage, and our greatest liberal paper „Daily News" (Dagens Nyheter) has just expressed itself in very flattering terms about its first year and prophesied that its next will be as good. With the beginning of this year the paper has got a new editor, Mrs. Ester Brisman, the former editor, Miss Krey being so overwhelmed with other work, that she could not stay. Mrs. Brisman, daughter of Mrs. Frigga Carlberg, one of our best-known suffragists, is herself an ardent suffragist and alternate in the Executive Committee of the N. W. S. A. Miss Signe Bergman still acts as deputy of the Executive Committee in all things that concern the paper and a better could not be found. So it looks as if our paper should begin the new year under the best auspices.

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Some days before Xmas I went to Uppsala, about one hour and a half from Stockholm. I arrived at the old university-town, that some of my readers have seen in summergreen and sunshine, in a thundering snow-storm and was met at the station by some kind university girls, who showed me the way to the Xmas-shop of the Uppsala W. S. A., the aim of my travel. In the shop, which was open only three days, were sold all sort of sweets and other things for the Xmas tree, suffrage literature, cards, etc. The sellers—mostly university girls and among them some of those who acted as pages at the congress in Stockholm—did their work so well that on the evening of the second day everything was sold out. But they did not lose courage, they worked the whole night and when the morning came the shelves were re-furnished. The income went to the suffrage agitation-fund. It is a very good idea to have these Xmas shops, because people—especially here in Sweden—are never so open-handed and so kind-hearted as just before Xmas.

EZALINE BOHEMAN.  
Stockholm in January 1913.

#### Austrian Empire.

##### VIENNA.

The old year has closed with a pleasant surprise. Literally in the last hour of its session, on Dec. 30th, the House of Representatives has adopted the new Law on Assemblies. We may not speak of a genuine parliamentary discussion of this bill, for owing to the preceding lengthy sessions and to the late hour of the night the House was so tired that there was no debate at all and the bill passed quickly without any amendment. The most important clause for the women is the one which excludes foreigners and minors from participating in political associations without mentioning women, which shows that the prohibition of § 31 is now abolished. To be sure

we have not yet won, for the bill has to obtain the consent of the Upper House in order to become law. Now there is little danger that the Upper House will resist the admission of women into political associations, but there are other clauses in the law which may meet with opposition. Any change which the Lords might make would entail the referring of the Bill back to the House for a new reading until entire agreement would be reached between the two Houses. Under the rule of our parliamentary customs the perfect completion of the law might thus indefinitely postponed. We hope for the best meanwhile, and we expect that we may attend the Budapest Convention no longer as a Committee but as a duly constituted association. Before the convention at Budapest we hope to receive its international visitors here in Vienna, in as great a number as possible. We have on our programme a great public meeting at which we should like to have addresses from the most eminent suffragists of all countries, a festive reception and a promenade through Vienna. For these plans we have yet to ask the approval of the international President, Mrs. Chapman Catt. We are already taking up the necessary preparations and we will do all that lies in our power not to be entirely beaten by Budapest in the friendly strife of hospitality.

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During some weeks Vienna had the honour of the sojourn of an interesting guest, Dr. Ethel Smyth, compositor and militant suffragette, who came here for her musical studies. Dr. Smyth spoke several times in public on the suffragette movement, once also, as speaker for the Committee, on woman suffrage. She tried to convince her hearers that the militant movement was amply justified by circumstances in England, and even if she did not succeed in gaining her point, she gave at all events the impression that the suffragettes act from profound inner conviction and from ardent enthusiasm for a just cause, and this knowledge is apt to reconcile people to much which otherwise they could not put up with.

HENRIETTE HERZFELDER.  
Vienna, December 1912.

##### GALICIA.

In Leopold (Lemberg) the electoral campaign has begun. There was never yet so much interest among women. The Polish W. S. A. takes the lead of the propaganda for the women's cause and is trying to educate women politically and socially. For this end the League organised a series of lectures and meetings in all the districts of the capital. The appointed lecturers, Mrs. Melanie Berson, Mrs. Krajewoska, Mrs. Marie Gerzabek, addressed always increasing audiences and tried to urge the women to exert themselves to obtain the ballot. Experience shows that the political vote in the hands of women brings efficacious legislation against the evil of drink and lifts political and social life up to a higher moral plane. In Finland, in New Zealand and in all enfranchised countries the women are active in bringing about protective legislation for children, for mothers and for factory-work. Our meetings and the accounts given there by the lecturers on the women's question from several points of view have awakened the interest of women and roused them to intellectual pursuits.

The Polish W. S. A. has also been active in founding a new local section at Stanislawów, an important town of oriental Galicia. A meeting was held which attracted a numerous audience. The lecturer of the League, Mrs. M. Gerzabek, was followed with

interest as she explained that women's influence through the ballot will make for all reforms on humanitarian lines. After a lively discussion it was decided to organise a local section of the Polish Suffrage League. This new triumph is a mighty incentive for our energy and proves that the Lemberg League shows increasing activity.

MARIE GERZABEK.

Stanislawów, January 1913.

### Germany.

Although the result of the deliberations in the Prussian Parliament on the subject of several petitions in favour of municipal suffrage for women was again a negative one, it is a remarkable fact that this time the subject was much more discussed and that much more attention was paid to it than on former occasions. The mere fact that not less than 40 petitions had been proposed also proves that the number of those, who are busily engaged in this action within the German Woman Movement is increasing more and more. There were 19 of these petitions, that claimed municipal suffrage for women on the same terms as for male inhabitants; 18 of them asked personal voting for those women proprietors, who have suffrage in a part of the Prussian country towns but who are obliged to have it exercised by a proxy. Two petitions of the Prussian Woman Suffrage Association asked that women should be eligible as town councillors and also that suffrage should be granted on the basis of general, equal, secret and direct suffrage. Finally a petition of the Catholic Women's Association asked not more than eligibility for women to the School Boards. The last mentioned petition only was referred to the Government for "consideration", all the others were given "for reference", which here has the same meaning as for the waste-paper-basket.

This decision however was preceded, as we mentioned already, by a rather long deliberation, in which the representant of the Socialists expressed completely the feminist standpoint. In the same time he pointed to the beneficial action of women in municipal service. It is well known that some women for many years already have been active as municipal Guardians of the Poor and of the Orphans, partly with the same qualifications as the male guardians. Also the representants of the Liberal party approved the granting of municipal suffrage to the women. On the contrary great objections were uttered from the Conservative side, where, according to old traditions, there was a fear that women's special qualities should be lost if "women were dragged into the midst of the dangers and battles of Public Life". A middle position was taken by the representative of the Catholic party; this member acknowledged, it is true, the right of women to be interested in public life, but didn't think the time had come yet to grant them municipal suffrage. In the meantime a communication from the Prussian Minister has appeared, which praises women's activity in the School Boards and recommends appointment of more women teachers.

ADELHEID VON WELCZECK.

Dresden, January 3rd, 1913.

### France.

The Report of Mr. Ferdinand Buisson on Mr. Dussaussoy's bill, which was taken up again by the Universal Suffrage Committee, will surely be presented to the Chamber immediately after the Easter

holidays. It is in favour of universal municipal suffrage for women.

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The Congress of the Renaissance Républicaine organised by the young Radico-Socialists was held on Dec. 29 and 30 at Paris. In the morning session of Dec. 30, which was presided over by Mr. Réveil-land, Senator of Charente-Inférieure, at the proposal of Mme. Léon Brunschvieg, Gen. Secretary of the French W. S. A. the following resolutions were passed:

"This Congress, considering that the vote is the first right of the citizen in every free country,—that women obey the laws and pay the taxes like the men and are citizens like them,—that suffrage will not be really universal before all citizens will be qualified to vote, approves the claim of Frenchwomen to the vote in general, and especially to the municipal franchise, and adopts the following resolutions:

„that Mr. Dussaussoy's bill introduced by Mr. Buisson be discussed as soon as possible,

„that the progressive parties (gauche) take up woman suffrage into their platform and admit forthwith women in their parties."

A third resolution proposed by Mr. Saincerne was passed as well. It was in these terms:

"This congress expresses its most cordial sympathy to all French women workers, especially to the 4.200.000 employees in industry, trade, agriculture and the State. It recognises the expediency of women's enfranchisement and of immediate action to bring about the application of the Republican saying: Equal pay for equal work."

These resolutions were carried with great sympathy and nearly unanimous applause. The second one is of special interest to us for up to now only the Socialist party admits women in its ranks and this encouragement to other parties means a step forward, which will permit us to urge our demands in the next congress of the Radicals.

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The women's claims are now very popular in Paris owing to a play by M. Brieux, member of the French Academy, called „La Femme Seule". The author shows us a woman left alone to gain her livelihood who has to face at every turn either the sexual instincts of the men or their hostility against the underselling of women the eternal blacklegs. Mr. Brieux energetically denounces this state of things, and his play does us the immense of setting people to think of the questions that occupy our life. Mrs. Séverine, a French writer well-known by her admirable articles and her eloquence, which she always uses in the service of the noblest causes, has written a beautiful article in the „Matin". She draws from Mr. Brieux' play the conclusion that only the possession of the long-denied political rights will give women the power to defend themselves and enforce respect of their social position.

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The Congrès Permanent du Féminisme International, the league La Française, the French W. S. Association and the Union Fraternelle des Femmes are organising a series of conferences and visits to all the social institutions of Paris. The first of these took place on Dec. 13 in the Museum of Hygiene and there was an interesting address by Mr. Guittérat, Conservator of the Museum and head of the Hygiene Service of the city of Paris.

Foreigners wishing to take part in these direct studies of social life, can give their address to Mme Orka, secretary of the Congrès Permanent, 36 rue de Penthièvre or to La Française, 64 rue de Richelieu.

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The Bulletin of the French W. S. A. for 1912 has just appeared: it contains an account of the general meeting of March 2nd 1912, election of the Executive, reports from Committees, the campaign during the General Elections in 1912, the international suffrage movement, a list of groups, sections and delegates of the French W. S. A., and communications. The Committee of the French W. S. A. will send this bulletin to the Auxiliaries of the I. W. S. Alliance on application to the Secretariate of the French W. S. A., 53 rue Scheffer, Paris.

(Communications from the French W. S. A.)

The French Parliament has had to deal with the unmarried father's liability, a question which was introduced long ago by Mr. Gustave Rivet and was only discussed in November last.

In the end of 1911 the Senate has passed a bill which admits the suing of the unmarried father in certain cases, but with this understanding that the mother should address her claim to the Civil Court (tribunal civil) under the risk of being condemned to a fine of 3,000 francs, five years' imprisonment and five years' banishment in case her claim should be proved unfounded and treacherous. This meant a profound modification of the principles of French legislation. Indeed no text allows the Civil Courts to give a sentence of condemnation, and this is the easier understood since the procedure followed by these Courts is essentially different from the rules of penal jurisdiction.

Yet in January 1912 the law was passed by the Chamber of Deputies, without discussion to be sure. The Reporter, Mr. Maurice Violette, had the vote taken in a morning session when there were only few deputies present. And the „Journal Officiel" shows clearly that no remarks whatever were made.

As soon as the news became known to the feminist groups they decided upon a campaign to have this law amended. This was possible, for Mr. Violette had asked the Chamber to pass a rider of great importance, according to the Local Colonial Powers the right to decree that the law would not apply to native women, which would deprive half-caste children from the benefits of the law. So the bill had to go back to the Senate.

The French League for Women's Rights in collaboration with the League for Men's Rights sent a deputation to Mr. Guillier, the Reporter in the Senate. It obtained that two amendments were introduced by Mr. Paul Strauss and Mr. Louis Martin and communicated with a number of feminist groups and Freemasons' Lodges of men and women in the provinces, who sent up resolutions of protest to the Senators for their Departments.

The juridical Committee on Legislation, which has its seat at the Palais de Justice in Paris, took up the question at the request of Mr. Lhermite, Vice-president of the League for Women's Rights. Another member of this Committee, Mr. Milliard, ex-Minister of Justice, also promised his intervention.

Now on Nov. 8 the Senate passed the bill in the form in which it had come back from the Chamber, thus maintaining the menaces against unmarried mothers which practically make the law inapplicable and suffer half-caste children to be excluded from the benefits of the law, if the Colonial Government so desires.

Yet we may state that this time there was a lively debate in the Senate in which the speakers

alluded so the protestations of the women's societies. The Minister of Justice, Mr. Briand, was obliged to recognise that, to say the least, the law was incomplete, and he promised to supplement it by a circular. This half-way measure cannot satisfy those who protested against this iniquitous law, unprecedented in the whole French legislation.

So the campaign is going to be undertaken again with new ardour. Already several meetings have been held, e.g. at Lyons, where Mr. Louis Martin spoke. The aim is the introduction into the Chamber of a bill to amend the new law by abolishing the menaced punishment of those unfortunate women who claim a decent living for their children, and to enact the fact that there are no inferior races and that human creatures, black, yellow and white alike, have a right to the same legal protection.

This blunder of the Parliament is an advantage to the suffrage cause, for it shows better than much reasoning that women's interests will always be sacrificed as long as their political rights will not be recognised.

Secr. French League for Women's Rights.

MARIA VÉRONE,

Paris, December 1912.

### Russia.

„And still it moves!" We may repeat Galileo's famous words in spite of all kinds of sad events and obstacles to women's rights in Russia. The progress of our work is especially conspicuous in St. Petersburg. The Russian League for Women's Rights in St. Petersburg is organizing a most important congress on Women's Education in Russia. And the fact that we have obtained the permission to hold this congress is a great victory in itself,—most of men's progressive congresses being, as a rule, forbidden in Russia just now.

The congress of Women's Education which is beginning on the 8th of January (from 8 to 16 January), is sure to attract the educational workers from all parts of Russia. Many conspicuous social and educational men-workers are going to join with us and give their reports at the congress. Our other work in the women's cause has been going on as before. The Russian League for W. R. in St. Petersburg and several other societies are keeping an eye on all that is going on in the Douma, never losing an opportunity to send petitions to those M.P.s, who sympathize with women's rights. The smaller women's societies in St. Petersburg are also doing each its work. A very interesting and useful one has been lately initiated by the club of the Women's Progressive Party.

Within the last six weeks it has organized two big public meetings for the propaganda of women's suffrage with women suffragists and several M.P.s as speakers. Such numbers of people came to the first meeting on November 21st, that hundreds could not be admitted and the police was quite startled.

The second meeting, on December 24th, attracted quite as many people and took place in the big Town Hall. The speakers were: Mmes Wachtine, Blandoff, Pokrovsky, Shepkine, Koulikovsky and Mirovitch; also two M.P.s Mr. Shingareff and Mr. Beresine. Most of the speeches excited great interest and enthusiasm in the audience. Mr. Shingareff made a short, but very interesting report on the woman's question in the late 3rd Douma. He pointed to the remarkable fact that, in spite of the 3rd Douma being very reactionary, several most important measures were passed with regard to women's rights: suffrage rights in the village local

administration, equal rights of inheritance with regard to movable property, equal rights of teaching in all the classes of Secondary and High Schools, the right of passing State examinations in Universities etc. Mr. Shingareff concluded by stating, that Russia, where woman has always been the companion and co-worker of man, is more willing than any other country in the world, to give women equal political, economic and other rights.

I gave, at the same meeting, a report on the women's movement in England, which is so terribly misrepresented by the press in Russia and many other countries. The audience showed great interest and sympathy with what I said; and many people asked me to give a lecture on the women's movement in Great Britain. This awakening of interest in the public with regard to the women's question is a good omen for our cause in Russia.

ZÉNÉIDE MIROVITCH.

Moscow, December 30, 1912.

#### POLAND.

The suffragist review „Ster”, which was founded 7 years ago by the pioneer of the suffrage movement in Poland, Mrs. Kuczalska and her devoted fellow-worker Miss Bojanowska, has offered to its subscribers a supplement containing a review of the international feminist movement.

The last number of „Ster” gives the results of an inquiry addressed to the Polish deputies in the Douma. The delegates of the Polish group (the deputies Pasczewski and Swiezynski) received with sympathy most of the feminist claims. The woman suffrage association was asked to collect documents concerning the results of the Juvenile Courts, the measures that have been taken in different countries against the white slave traffic and the reforms in the regulation of women's labour.

The „Ster” correspondent of Rosnanie (Prussian Poland) mentions an important meeting, that was organized by the Polish women in order to protest against the operation of the expropriation law, which expels the proprietors from their seats in favour of the German colonization.

Women of all classes met in a common effort of solidarity and resistance to protect the national patrimony.

The meeting was presided by countess Lacka and a woman from Urbanek gave an address, as delegate from the peasant women. All agreed on the necessity of incessant action to increase the intellectual and economic forces of the country. Boycotting foreign products and protecting the national trade are put on the program of women's social work. Another great task undertaken by the Union of Women's Leagues is the education of the people in a national spirit by enlightening the people.

An analogous national economic movement is developing nowadays in the Kingdom of Poland. The feminist review in Warsaw „Blusozu”, which is edited by Miss Seidler is conducting a campaign in favour of the cooperative movement. The Warsaw suffragists, under the presidency of Mrs. Kuczalska and Mrs. Zastzebska, are assisting these efforts.

Cooperation is an effective means of social education, because it prepares the collaboration of the two sexes on a more extended political basis.

I. ORKA,

General Secretary of the permanent  
Congress for international feminism.

## Servia.

### THE ACTIVITY OF SERVIAN WOMEN DURING THE BALKAN WAR.

It is already a long time since I have sent news from Servia about the work of women, but I think every one will understand that the feminist movement was at the background for the last months, and that its work was absolutely impossible by the late Balkan events. But still, as the Servian soldiers fought heroically and showed that they possess marvellous courage so in the same way the Servian women nurse the wounded with extra-ordinary skill and wonderful love and sacrifice. Never did Servian women show so much activity as during this war. Indeed every Servian who considers what the women are doing at the present moment, although being an adversary to women's rights must have become if not a partisan at least a moderate and restrained anti-feminist.

A large number of Ladies' Societies have organized hospitals which are maintained and superintended by them. There is another institution which has founded the nurse-courses which have proved wonderfully useful to the country. By their initiative all the hospitals all over Servia and in many other places on the Balkans are supplied with Servian volunteer-nurses. The women have not limited their work only to hospital organizations; they have founded at stations some sort of tea-rooms where the wounded, while being transported from one place to another, can get all kinds of hot drinks. There is a number of organized sewing-places all over Servia, where the Servian women sew linen for the wounded soldiers.

Many ladies from different philanthropic societies went on a tour to the recently liberated Servia, in order to distribute money, clothes, linen, blankets, church requirements and all sort of necessary and useful things to the poor families.

At this moment the Servian press is writing wonderfully well about the activity and the indefatigable labours of Servian women. It is worth mentioning how many articles appeared in the official paper „Samoupravu” full of praise for lady nurses.

A school mistress has made a girls' boarding school into a kind of boarding house where are received all Foreign Missions of the Red Cross. This enterprising lady is maintaining and superintending at present the whole institution.

The Servian women may be proud of having had in their war a brave and wonderfully courageous young girl named Sofie Yovanavitch who took part in a few battles as comitadji against the Albanians and the regular Turkish Army. The late father of the girl made her promise on his deathbed to go and fight the enemy instead of him when the country was at war. The young woman after many difficulties succeeded in enrolling herself as comitadji and executed her father's last wish. She was dressed like a soldier, equipped as all other warriors and she could never be taken for a woman. Her companions called her Sofronic, they say she fought with marvellous intrepidity, and encouraged them at every step. This young girl may be named the Servian Jeanne D'Arc, or the Jeanne D'Arc of the twentieth century, who can be esteemed as the heroine of the present times and the pride of womankind. Let us hope that a nation which is able to produce such a heroine as this wonderful woman, will come in the nearest future to the most brilliant results in the women's movement.

Belgrade, Jan. 1913

HELEN S. LOSANITCH.