

Societies.

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Notes and Comments.

The Council of The National Union.

By the time these lines are in the hands of our readers, the Council of the National Union will be in the midst of its session. Council of the National Union will be in the midst of its session. Events of great importance have occurred since the Manchester meeting six months ago, and the whole future prospect has undergone a change. An alteration of tactics is consequently recommended by the Executive Committee, and comes up for discussion. The responsibility of the delegates, always great, is therefore, on this occasion, greater even than usual. Upon one point of progress, amid many disappointments, members of the Union can assuredly congratulate themselves

members of the Union can assuredly congratulate themselves. The conspiracy of silence in the Press has broken down, and Women's Suffrage has been, since the beginning of this year, the most prominent of political questions.

Sabotage and Militancy.

The Labour Leader of February 20th contains an article by Robert Hunter upon sabotage which can hardly be read without a recollection of "militancy." "The term," says the author, "came gradually to include any action on the part of dissatisfied workmen to break the machines, spoil the produce of the machines, and render the conduct of industry unprofitable, if not actually impossible. Finally, sabotage ranged all the way from machine obstruction or destruction to dynamiting, train wrecking, and arson. . . . Sabotage is a product of despair. Turning from organised and co-operative effort, the advocates of sabotage believe that a minority of desperate and determined men can do by violence what the open efforts of democracy have failed to accomplish. Sabotage is a return to the individual methods of the anarchists."

The use of such methods should, Mr. Hunter holds, be, like insurrection, the last resort. Moreover, the legitimacy of sabotage must depend upon the lengths to which it is carried. In a slight form it may be little more than a piquant method of advertisement. But when it involves the useless expenditure of advertisement. But when it involves the useless expenditure of large sums of money; when it injures persons not responsible for the evil at which it is aimed; above all, when it endangers human life, it can be justified only by the existence of a tyranny which closes all avenues of peaceful agitation. Now, in this country, at the present day, it cannot be said that any such tyranny exists, and the public condemnation of recent violence rests upon the knowledge that it does not. Under such a system of government as prevails in Russia the judgment might be different. different.

The Candour of Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

The Irish Citizen has very usefully called attention to an article by Mr. T. P. O'Connor which appeared in the Chicage It deals with the situation as it was just after the Tribune. Speaker had given his ruling, and is full of enlightenment as to the "freedom" of the Irish vote which was promised, and as to the probabilities of how it will be cast when the private Member's Suffrage Bill comes up next Session. The following passages are worthy to be pondered attentively :---

"A movement against the acceptance of Grey's amendment started even among the Liberals, who are pledged to Woman Suffrage, and still more among the Irish. This movement was mainly inspired by the feeling that Premier Asquith is the greatest asset of the Liberal Party, and the most powerful and trustworthy friend of the Irish cause, and that any amendment which would force on him acceptance of Woman Suffrage in view of his well-known hostility would be bound to humiliate and weaken him.

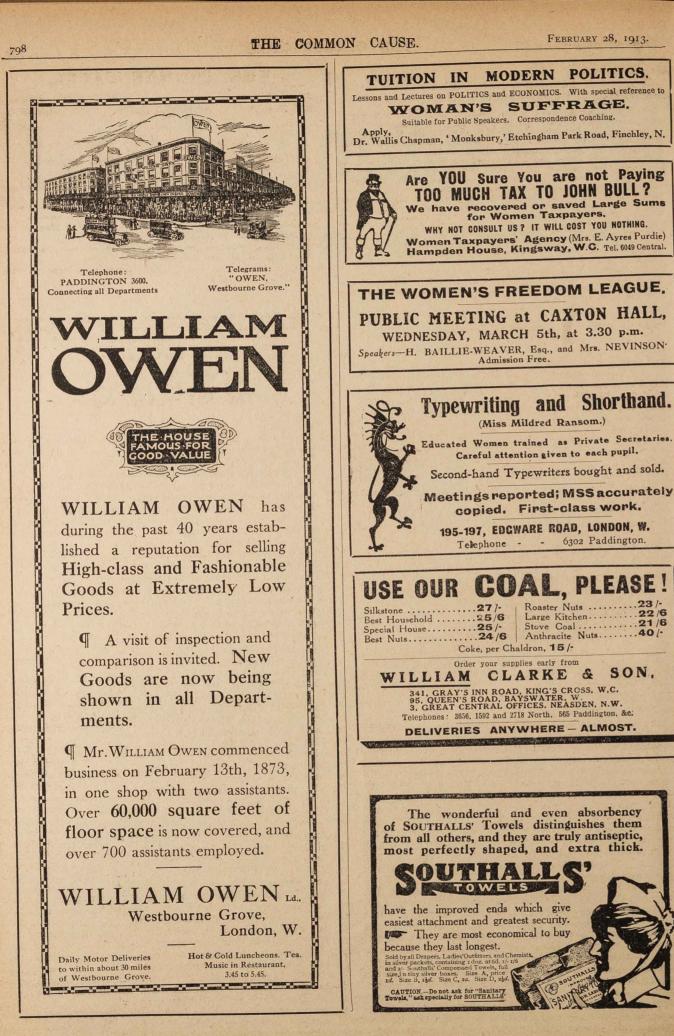
" Throughout this whole crisis the situation of the Irish Party was most difficult. All parties threw on them the chief responsi-bility for the fate of the Bill. Even some suffragist members who were unable, through public pledges, to oppose Woman Suffrage, begged them to vote against the Bill, with a view of saving the Government and Home Rule.

" John Redmond was placed in a position of peculiar difficulty by a public pledge that every Irish member would be released by the Party and be left free to vote for or against the Bill. But Redmond, Dillon, and nearly every other member of the Party agreed in the opinion that the Women's Bill would be Party agreed in the opinion that the Women's Bill would be discrediting to the Cabinet and especially Asquith, and would imperil, if not wreck, Home Rule. Realising this danger, only four or five felt bound to support the women." Suffragists should be greatly obliged to Mr. O'Connor for assuring the public that his party voted and was prepared to

vote against Women's Suffrage without any regard to the merits of the case. Can any person suppose that the Irish members intend to alter their chosen course next time?

The Federated Council of Suffrage Societies.

A correspondent finds in the absolutely colourless note pub-lished last week about the Federated Council of Suffrage Societies some infusion of ill-will which certainly was not in the Societies some infusion of ill-will which certainly was not in the mind of its writer. The existence of an advisory council able to focus and guide the group of specialised societies—whose energies have sometimes seemed in danger of being too muck scattered—can but be of advantage, if judiciously directed, to the general cause of Women's Suffrage. The National Union would, of course, welcome the establishment of such a body. If, on the other hand, the new council were to countenance methods of law-breaking and violence. its influence would, in the opinion of the Union, be harmful. The tone of the Oueen's Hall meeting, to which Mrs. Dickinson The tone of the Queen's Hall meeting, to which Mrs. Dickinson Berry referred in her letter of last week, was such as to arouse serious forebodings; but the temper of an audience does not always reflect that of the persons who called it together, and we earnestly hope that the Federated Council of Suffrage Societies will prove to be a valuable ally to the constitutional forces of Women's Suffrage.



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FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

Mr. McKenna.

We reprint the following, without comment, from the London correspondence of the Birmingham Post of February 24th :--

The Home Secretary is not likely to give more than formal account even to the most intimate among his colleagues of the audience he had with the King yesterday. His Majesty has a habit of plain speech with his Ministers regarding any subject upon which he feels strongly, and the steadily growing audacity of the suffragist outrages had moved him deeply. Both the King and Queen have at least thrice had the matter brought with marked unpleasantness close to them, and once in the presence of the Home Secretary himself; and their Majesties naturally desire to be assured how far the present policy of encouragement to conthe Home Secretary himself; and their Majesties naturally desire to be assured how far the present policy of encouragement to con-victed perpetrators of outrage by prompt extension of leniency can be justified by its author. Mr. McKenna's personal, as well as political, position has gravely been shaken by the incidents of the past week; and it is fortunate for him that Parliament is not sitting. He has long been the most urpopular Minister among members on his own side—with the possible exception of Mr. McKinnon Wood—of any in the Cabinet; and he has the distinction of having failed in three positions therein—as Minister of of having failed in three positions therein—as Minister of Education, First Lord of the Admiralty, and now as Home Secretary, a record which is unique among the prominent politicians of to-day.

What is Amiss with Evening Schools?

A report upon technical and continuation schools has just been issued by the Education Committee of the London County Council, and is commented upon in The Manchester Guardian of February 22nd : "Mr. S. E. Bray, one of the divisional inspectors, says that the greatest need of the evening schools is stability of attendance. In no schools, taking the session as a whole, is the attendance regarded as satisfactory. Those students who attend regularly work longer hours than formerly, but the total number of students has fallen from 199,109 in the year 1904-5 to 176,617 in 1910-11." The officials think that the irregularity is generally the fault of the student, whose purpose weakens and whose interest slackens and of the indifference of employers who seldom take active interest in the evening instruction of their workers. These observations, if we may venture to say so, are superficial. The real question is why the student's interest slackens, and the true answer is revealing itself to those women who devote themselves to the invaluable work of fostering clubs for working girls. Two days after the publication of the paragraph quoted above appeared one in the Daily Citizen, which set forth the nature of an inquiry undertaken by the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs, acting in co-operation with the National Union of Women Workers. leaders of girls' clubs-in many of which evening classes are carried on-find that at the close of a long day's work their members have not energy enough for study, or even, some-times, for amusement. Work so prolonged as to leave young people unfit to use their leisure, is evidently too much prolonged, and the inquiry now undertaken is intended to obtain a mass of information as to the precise length of working hours. Inquiry forms may be obtained from the Girls' Club News, 118, Great Titchfield Street, W. All information received will be regarded as strictly private and confidential.

In this investigation lies the germ of a real improvement in attendance at evening classes. It ought, of course, to be supplemented by a similar inquiry among boys' clubs. The body of information so collected, together with an appendix by experienced medical practitioners, would probably reveal the effort to teach young lads and girls in the late evening hours as actually injurious; and the demand for a shorter working day would become overwhelming. The case for shortening hours of immature workers stands upon an altogether different basis from that of adult men and women. It is significant that women with their habit of detailed and individual observation have taken the first step.

The Aged Poor.

The figures of an official return of persons in receipt of old age pensions in London were published in last Monday's Daily News and Leader. It appears that more than 51 per cent. of all the persons over 70 were receiving pensions, the percentage rising to over 77 in Bermondsey, and falling to 29.4 in Hampstead. As women are both longer lived and worse paid than men-as well as slightly more numerous-it is safe to assume that of the 64,000 London pensioners, at least 35,000 are women. The economic conditions that leave no less than 35,000 old women in the richest city in the world dependent upon five shillings a week from the State would seem to be in need of improvement. Perhaps the number would be lessened if women had more power over the making and the administering of law.

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The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The Referendum Again.

Proposals for the introduction of the Referendum into British political machinery have been made during various crises, since 1894; and its adoption has been advocated by both Liberals and Conservatives as a solution of their party difficulties.

Some Liberals thought that they discerned in the Referendum a weapon capable of being used to defeat the Veto of the House of Lords; Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Asquith and Lord Morley, however, viewed the idea unfavourably and nothing came of the suggestion. In 1895 the Conservatives placed the Referendum upon their party programme. In 1909 its application to the Budget was discussed; in 1910 it was put forward as a means of solving the Tariff Reform difficulty, and in 1912 was again withdrawn from the field of practical Recently, however, those who had discarded the politics. Referendum in regard to questions wherein they were themselves interested have discovered its peculiar fitness for deciding for or against Women's Suffrage. The reasons alleged for this suitability are: (1) that Women's Suffrage would be a great constitutional change; (2) that the question has never been submitted, as a single issue, to the electorate; (3) that Women's Suffrage cuts across all party divisions.

Any objection to the Referendum expressed by supporters of Women's Suffrage is met by the easy, but fallacious, retort that if suffragists really believed the majority of the electors to be favourable to them they would be anxious to see the question submitted to a Referendum. To the accusation thus implied, suffragists reply that they express no opinion as to whether it would or would not be well to adopt the Referendum as a constitutional means of ascertaining the popular opinion upon legislative proposals; but they do strongly object to the insidious selection of their particular question for an experiment never tried before in this country. Such a departure from the ordinary procedure would be a constitutional change more revolutionary in character than the admission of women to the Parliamentary franchise. Why should suffragists be expected to show a confidence in this novel method which has never been shown by either of the great parties, neither of whom, in spite of the votes behind them and the electoral machinery at their disposal, have hitherto ventured to put any question prominent on their own programmes to the test of the Referendum?

Behind this unwillingness on their own account and this eager offer to the suffragists lies the secret conviction of every practical politician that any proposed change whatsoever would be negatived nine times in ten by a British Referendum. In this country, at any rate, the majority of citizens are so constituted that they will shirk the responsibility of saying "Yes" to any alteration of things as they are. Yet the very persons who would write "No" on their Referendum-paper will accept a whole group of alterations together in the programme of the party to which they have attached themselves, and will support men at the ballot-box when they would hesitate to support in cold blood the measures avowedly advocated by those men. The attitude of mind is curious and not wholly creditable,

Englishman will deny that it is common.

Agitations for the reform of the franchise have always been initiated by a minority; and possessors of electoral power have never shown any eagerness to share their possession with outsiders still beyond the pale. There has always been a middle group of the indifferent and a minority of the actively hostile. do hate it, when used by women-do we not also hate it when Eventually the reform has been carried by the weight of one of the political parties; and adoption by either has mainly depended upon a belief that the party would be strengthened by the enlargement of the electorate. In regard to Women's Suffrage, party leaders on both sides fear that the women's vote might be a gain to their opponents; and this doubt inclines them to favour any method by which the question might be decently There may even be some Members on both sides of the shelved. House who really believe that an adverse decision by a Referendum would dispose of the question once for all. Of course, this would not be the case.

The fact that a fundamental change had been made in the constitution merely to meet a temporary difficulty would create a bad impression and would detract from the authority of the verdict of a Referendum. That verdict would be challenged; the fight would go on, and the whole expense and trouble of the experiment would be mere waste.

Moreover, all the suggestions thrown out for a Referendum upon Women's Suffrage are vague and conflicting. It is not even clear whether the present Government is expected to estab-lish the precedent, or whether the experiment is to wait for the advent of a Conservative Cabinet. Possibly some third plan may be contemplated, and it may be intended to hand over to some person or persons yet unknown the authority for imposing a Referendum upon the people of Great Britain.

Experience has shown that in this country a considerable number of vears must elapse before a proposal emerges from the academic clouds of debate into the clear field of practical politics. The enfranchisement of women has become the question of the day; and suffragists would be unwise indeed if, instead of keeping their own attention and the attention of the public upon that question they should allow themselves to fall into the trap prepared for them, and be drawn into the whirlpool of discussion about the principle and the applicability of the Referendum. For suffragists, their own field of propaganda is large enough; they need not go forth to help advocates of the Referendum in the thorny questions of whether and how to establish a new procedure. That there should be a desire to alter the rules by which all previous agitations for enfranchisement have been governed testifies to the seriousness of the difficulty from which party politicians and the Government are seeking an escape, and proves the strength of the suffragist Now that Women's Suffrage has come to the foreposition. front of politics, the duty of its advocates is to maintain its position as the dominant issue. The fruits of a long agitation are ripening fast and cannot fail to be reaped in their season. The only real danger lies in some false step or some slackness of discouragement among ourselves; and a false step it would assuredly be if we suffered ourselves to be drawn aside by the Referendum jack-o'-lantern.

Militancy and the Responsibility of the Government.

By Mrs. Henry Fawcett.

During last week, when the bomb outrage at Walton Heath, the damage to the orchid house at Kew, and the destruction by fire of the refreshment pavilion in the gardens, followed one another in rapid succession, the National Union office was perpetually rung up by newspapers asking our opinion of these performances. One eminent journal published a letter expressing wonder and regret that the law-abiding suffragists had never protested against these and similar outrages. A foreign journalist, representing a leading Continental paper, called on me and asked why the National Union had never protested against so-called "militancy."

It is therefore necessary to repeat once more what we have said so many times: that the National Union and other lawabiding Suffrage Societies have again and again protested against every form of violence; that these protests have been constantly repeated at our meetings, and have been published times without number in the Press. Only those can be unaware of these facts who are entirely ignorant of the whole suffrage movement. No doubt there are many who are so, and for this Acts are now being made by Liberals quite as freely as by

but no one who has studied the psychology of the average reason it continues to be necessary to say, definitely and plainly and as often as these outrages take place, that we regard the appeal to physical violence as absolutely unjustifiable; that it injures our cause; is deeply deplored by our friends, while it is hailed by anti-suffragists with open exultation and joy.

But to say this is not to say all. If we hate violence-and we suffered by women? To this there can be only one answer. The outrages upon the women at Llanystumdwy by a gang of roughs cannot be forgotten. No one was punished ; it was months after the events before any one was even brought before a magistrate. Similar scenes of brutal and disgusting violence were witnessed in London a year ago on the occasion of one of the so-called deputations to the House of Commons. I quote from a letter received at the time from an eye witness, an athletic young man who is a suffragist, but strongly, even bitterly, opposed to militancy :-

"I watched many cases and in all the same thing happened. A woman came along who may or may not have been a suffragette, followed by a booing, howling mob of two to four hundred men. ... When she could get no further there was a pack and a scrimmage, then a swaying to and fro, and finally a rush in one or other direction, the woman being carried along in the middle, till at last the police became involved and the woman was 'run in.' In many cases arrest certainly saved her from serious injury. This was not horse-play, but a desire to pay out the breakers of windows. The cause of the breaking of the stone balustrade outside the Scotch Education Office in Whitehall was just one of these rushes. An oldish, grey-haired woman—hatless—was in the middle of it, swept about by a booing, howling mob of at least 500 men. She was hustled from one side to the other of Whitehall—a long way—and back again. Then in the middle of the road, the crowd decided to push her to one of the policemen and get her arrested. I managed to get near her, and as they came down off the crown of the road to get near her, and as they came down off the crown of the road to the foctpath, they gained pace. When they reached the police-man, ten yards of the stone wall broke off like matchwood, and the policeman, the old lady and seven others fell with the balustrade six feet down into an area. I know this is correct because I was the next man, and only just avoided falling in; also I helped to pull

There is a great deal more in this letter of the same kind. The mob of roughs here and at Llanystumdwy were out for vengeance and retaliation. It was a scene of disgusting and brutal violence. It was a negation of everything that civilisation stands for. One is almost tempted to quote Mr. Gladstone's famous phrase about the Neapolitan prisons in 1837, and say it was "a negation of God."

Yet men who wish to be thought statesmen do nothing. They look on at these scenes of barbarism with apparent indifference. If they are anti-suffragists they appear to look upon. them with satisfaction because they are injurious to the cause while if they are suffragists, they say that of course they can do nothing to promote women's enfranchisement while these scenes of violence continue. The Observer of last Sunday urges, as a safe and certain cure for militant outrages, that the advocates of suffrage on both sides of the House of Commons, "responsible statesmen of both front benches," should make a public declaration that they will not even consider the question of votes for women while militancy continues. Can any advice be more extraordinarily inept? If "responsible statesmen of both front benches" swear a solemn oath not even to think about the question of votes for women, they will probably be the only responsible statesmen in the civilised world who are in that position. Responsible statesmen have got to think about it and are thinking about it.

This is not the first time in the history of the world that political discontent has led to social disorder. The Irish Nationalist and agrarian movement, the unrest in India, the strike riots in South Wales are fairly recent instances which will at once occur to everyone. These social and political upheavals were accompanied by murders, accidental loss of life, arson and other outrages, compared with which the destruction of orchids, the bursting of a bomb in an unoccupied house, and the burning of an empty refreshment pavilion are the veriest bagatelles. But did responsible statesmen, in face of the Irish and Indian problems, sit down and complacently say "You are naughty children, and we will not even consider whether you have any genuine grievances until you are perfectly quiet and orderly." We know, of course, that they did nothing of the sort. They sought the causes of the disaffection and rebellion against the law, and endeavoured to mitigate or remove them.

I have said again and again, and I repeat now, that the suffragette" disorders are symptoms of a social and political Responsible statesmen may and should punish the disease. offenders; but mere punishment does not affect the causes of the disease. All kinds of proposals for what are virtually Coercion

Conservatives. Have they forgotten a phrase that was once continually upon their lips, "Force is no remedy." Statesmen are the physicians of the body politic, and a wise physician will treat not only the symptom, but its root and cause.

The unrest in India was accompanied by a series of terrible crimes, which have almost, although unhappily, not entirely ceased since that wise physician Lord Morley dealt with In response to a widely expressed desire it has been decided its causes by admitting the natives of India to a more to raise a fund to create a permanent memorial to the late Miss generous share in the management and government of their Emma Cons. own country. He was not deterred by fanatical crimes such as There are few women who have left so important a mark on the murder of Sir Curzon Wyllie and an Indian gentleman at the social history of her times. She was one of the prime movers the Imperial Institute on the very eve of the introduction of his in the foundation of the Samuel Morley Memorial College for reat scheme of reform into the House of Lords. What did working men and women; she rendered great assistance to the Lord Morley then say? -

"We are, in India, in the presence of a living movement, and a movement for what? For objects which we ourselves have taught them to think are desirable objects; and unless we can somehow reconcile order with the satisfaction of those ideas and aspirations, the fault will not be theirs—it will be ours; it will be the breakdown of British statesmanship.

Every word of the foregoing applies with absolute accuracy to the Women's Suffrage movement. If Sir Edward The work, however, by which she will probably be best Grey, Lord Morley, Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Haldane, Mr. remembered was in connection with the Royal Victoria Hall. Runciman and other suffragist Members of the Cabinet had, after the definite and solemn (but unfulfilled) pledges that were By her efforts $\pounds_{33,000}$ was raised with which the freehold was purchased, and the hall transformed from a theatre of somewhat given to us by Mr. Asquith in November, 1911, come boldly out doubtful reputation into a centre for entertainments of a high tone and healthy influence. It has provided during the thirtybefore the country urging with all the force and eloquence at their command, not merely once or twice, but again and again two years of its existence for audiences numbering between 600 in all their utterances on public affairs, the absolute necessity and 1,000, a weekly lecture delivered by some of the leading for dealing promptly with the claim of women to some share in authorities on Science, Art and Travel; selections from wellknown Operas: first-class concerts and variety entertainments, the management of their own affairs, militantism would have been absolutely killed. They had not the courage to take this all at the lowest popular prices. course, and militantism has gone on from bad to worse. At a meeting of Miss Cons' friends and co-workers, after Another aggravating cause has been Mr. Asquith's failure to careful consideration, it was unanimously decided that no more keep his promises and his obvious desire almost directly he had made them, to render their fulfilment an impossibility; I refer appropriate means of perpetuating her memory, or one more in accordance with her wishes, could be found than by raising a to his speech made within a few weeks of his promises to us fund to assist the Victoria Hall, by which its usefulness could when he referred to Women's Suffrage "as a political mistake of be continued and even extended. The need of such a form of a disastrous kind"; also to his speech in July, on the second entertainment and recreation is just as urgent as when the movereading of his abortive Reform Bill, when he said, referring ment was initiated. It is also proposed to allocate some portion to the Women's Suffrage amendments, that he dismissed as altogether improbable the hypothesis that the House of of the sum raised to a personal memorial to be affixed to the exterior of the building. Commons was likely to stultify itself by reversing in the same Donations towards the fund will be gratefully received by the session the considered judgment at which it had arrived. Hon. Treasurer, Lady Morrish, 5, Montagu Mansions, Portman After these two samples of Mr. Asquith's mind on the Square, W.

subject, it became evident that his reiterated assurances that The following gracious letter has been received from Their free vote" would be allowed in the House on Women's Majesties the King and Queen, approving of the form the Suffrage were mere wind and waste paper. Mr. Asquith and Memorial will take :his Government have utterly mishandled the Women's Suffrage question. They have failed to understand it or to grasp its "York Cottage, Sandringham, Norfolk. significance. They have bungled and muddled; and their past " DEAR LADY FREDERICK CAVENDISH,-I have laid before the can create no confidence in their future : they will probably bungle and muddle to the end.

King and Queen your letter of the 14th January, in which you mention that the Memorial to Miss Cons will take the form of a Fund to be devoted to the benefit of the Royal Victoria Hall. There is a passage in one of Disraeli's political novels in which Sidonia speaks of the emancipation of the Jews, and he Their Majesties share the feeling of the Committee as to the asks politicians to consider whether it is the path of statesmanappropriateness of this decision. A few years ago, as Prince ship to convert a considerable section of the population, gifted and Princess of Wales, they had the pleasure of attending an some natural intelligence, industrious, instinctively entertainment at the Hall, and were impressed with the perpacific, loyal and law-abiding, into rebels and virtually to force sonality of Miss Cons, whose whole life seemed to be centred in her excellent work.-Believe me, Yours very truly, them to recruit the dangerous forces of disorder. This is what Mr. Asquith and his Government are doing to-day to women; (Signed) STAMFORDHAM." and Lord Morley's words come back : "Unless we can somehow reconcile order with the satisfaction of these ideas and aspirations [towards political liberty] the fault will not be theirs, it will be ours; it will be the breakdown of British statesmanship."

Spiritual Militancy at the Abbey.

The Spiritual Militancy League sends the following communication :--

A band of Spiritual Militants will attend the three o'clock service at Westminster Abbey next Sunday afternoon. Women of all suffragist parties are co-operating in this new manifestation of faith. It is not necessary to belong to the Spiritual Militancy League in order to take part in its demonstrations. Those taking part are simply asked to wear dark clothes, and to borrow for the occasion (or buy at cost price, 1s. 1od.) a flaming orange-coloured silk scarf, by application to the Chairman of the League, Mrs. Stanton Coit, 30, Hyde Park Gate, S.W.

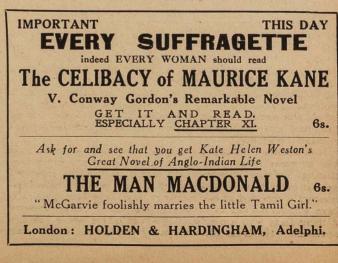
THE COMMON CAUSE.

Emma Cons Memorial.

Sot

We have received the following communication from the organisers of the Emma Cons Memorial, of which Lady Frederick Cavendish is chair-man and Sir R. Melvill Beachcroft vice-chairman : —

Swanley Horticultural College for Women, and was a pioneer in the attempts to provide better housing for the working classes, besides interesting herself in a thoroughly practical manner in numerous other movements for the advancement and happiness of the people, including the care of the feeble-minded. Her unselfish devotion to these causes was recognised by her election as an Alderman of the first London County Council.



THE COMMON CAUSE.

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

"Reclamation Road,"

802

The crusade in Colombo against the infamous houses tolerated, and even protected, by the police and the Governor, is over. The scandal could not long survive the publicity given to it by the local Vigilance Society; and the presence of two ladies actually residing in the sinister thoroughfare evidently gave the finishing stroke. A letter just received from Mrs. Human, one of these ladies, gives some particulars. On January 10th the police issued an order that the foreign women were to quit the island by the 31st of that month. On February 5th they were not, she writes, all gone. "However, the 'American' house and the Greek house are both empty and closed." The house of Chara, the most infamous of all these traders, was still open, but its closing was expected in a few days. The Vigilance Society was preparing to trace any women and girls who may remain in Colombo, and to offer them the opportunity of living decently

Readers who recall the refusal of the authorities to help Mrs. Human in her efforts to get speech with the very young Sinhalese girls who were literally held imprisoned by Chara, will be glad to hear that, in spite of that refusal, and in spite also of the gaoler's precautions and threats, she and a Salvationist did succeed in giving to these wronged children the tracts in Sinhalese which she had prepared for them, and which doubtless told them that there were friends at hand anxious to help them. The value of this communication, now that the girls must be released by their tyrant, will be great.

The vigilance workers propose to turn their attention to other places in Ceylon, where there are still "permitted" houses. How far they will find the same obstacles in these lesser towns remains to be seen. These devoted men and women have been doing (in spite of opposition, open and underhand, from the official guardians of Great Britain's honour) an inestimable service to the good name of their country. How could decent Sinhalese people respect a Government which protected such as Chara? How could they believe in the justice of a system which allowed him and his like to kidnap their children with impunity? How could they, if they had one spark of spirit, fail to desire the overthrow and destruction of such a Government? If Ceylon becomes, now, a country in which the inhabitants can feel their children safe under British rule, the credit for that condition lies at the door, not of the Governor nor of the Head Inspector of the Police, but of those humble persons whom these authorities have done their best to browbeat and to discredit.

Penal Reform.

The quarterly Record of the Penal Reform League contains an account of the First Annual Meeting of the League, at which one of the resolutions carried unanimously was that "some of the higher posts among prison officers should be assigned to women, especially in the case of doctors, also that the governor of a women's prison should be a woman, and that women should find a place on the Prison Commission." An account is given in this issue of a Swiss enterprise, a Home for Discharged Prisoners at Winkeln, near St. Gallen; and there is a most useful section devoted to notices of books which deal with such subjects as Prisons, Prisoners, Education, and Heredity.

The Booth Steamship Line have again issued an attractive calendar, The Booth Steamship Line have again issued an attractive entrative and each monthly date card bears at the top a picture of some attractive place served by the fine steamers of this well-known line. Any reader who is thinking of taking a trip should send for one of these calendars, which will be sent free to anyone mentioning THE COMMON CAUSE.

Women and the County Council.

Mrs. St. Clair Stobart.

Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, who is standing as a Progressive candidate for the London County Council, is well-known as the founder of the Women's Sick and Wounded Convoys Corps, which has just rendered such splendid international service during the war in the Balkans.

After such an arduous campaign-for it must be remembered that Mrs. Stobart had first to prove to the authorities that attendance of the wounded in this emergency was work "fitted for women," and then to proceed to do the work-it seems surprising that immediate service in the municipal field should be considered a possibility; but this candidate is of intrepid courage.

"One must keep the flag flying," she said to me the other day, and as I was approached immediately on my return from the Front to take my part in this work, which I approve so heartily, could hardly refuse the call.

Out at the emergency hospital at Kirk-Kilisse, where Mrs. St. Clair Stobart and her gallant corps received the weary wounded. and doctored and nursed, and cleaned and cooked for these Turkish and Bulgarian soldiers, the patients soon learned the value of women's work. When, after the lapse of seven weeks, they were told they must be removed to another hospital, where they would be as well tended, they shook their heads, and said : No, we shall only be looked after by fathers; you are mothers, and that is much better."

At home, the public, too, are beginning to realise that the women who courageously offer them service, are "mothers," and that sometimes, even here, " that is much better." This is the underlying reason why Mrs. Stobart and other practical dreamers of her sex accept the call to work in the municipality. even at a time when their personal inclination would lure them to take their ease at home.

"Look," said Mrs. Stobart, handing me an election leaflet; 'look at the 'interests' that the London County Councillor must perforce supervise."

A hurried glance at the head-lines showed the inclusion of "Education and the provision of adequate class-room space; the establishment of school clinics and children's playgrounds; classes in cooking and laundry and sewing for girls; lodging houses for working women; feeding of necessitous school children; a minimum wage for unskilled labour for men and

women; the better housing of the working classes." "Surely," she continued, "these are all subjects in which a woman is as competent a judge as a man, and matters in which, indeed, she usually has a deep concern.'

Mrs. Stobart is, of course, even more intimate that many women with such subjects; the training and discipline necessary for her duty as Commandant of a Sick and Wounded Convoy Corps has given her exceptional opportunities to become the Compleat County Councillor.'

There are other women offering themselves for election next week whose knowledge and training also fits them admirably for similar tasks, and Mrs. Stobart laid stress upon the fact that her claims to public duty were merely typical of those of her sister candidates.

" It is the necessity for the inclusion of the woman's point of view in public service that is of import," she remarked in conclusion, " and wherever there is a good woman candidate for the coming elections, the women electors should sink other considerations and use their vote and influence to send the woman to take her share of the public burden." I.



FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

Some New Books.

THE TRAINING OF THE CHILD : A PARENT'S MANUAL. By G. Spiller. (T. C. and E. C. Jack, 6d. net.)

The chief merit of this manual seems to lie in the fact that the advice and hints to parents so carefully set down are obviously no mere theory of childhood evolved by an arm-chair scientist. but the essence of years of observation and practical dealing with the growing child. The subsidiary merits of the book are many, but perhaps the most noticeable is the extreme lucidity with which the system of education is expounded. It is not possible in the compass of this notice to expound the author's method as to the upbringing of children, for it covers the whole period of the parents' care of their offspring; but the dominant note is the need for the inculcation of rightful habit by the way of love, sympathy and example, rather by the road of authority and severity.

But the removal of discipline is by no means advocated; indeed, one might even question whether the average parent in dealing with the average child would be able to maintain the rigorous rule of life here insisted upon. Curiously enough, the one fact evidently essential to the success of this educational system-which the writer obviously possesses-is not mentioned definitely in the volume, i.e., the necessity that the parent-educator should retain a vivid recollection of the emotions of childhood as experienced by himself, or herself. It is true that sympathy with the child and geniality and cheerfulness of manner in the educator are noted as supreme qualities; but we doubt if the most conscientious parent, adopting the methods and rules suggested, would achieve the desired results if this one quality of the understanding of child-life from within were omitted from the scheme.

The admirable orderliness of thought and exposition of this book is, unfortunately, marred here and there by an unusual use of words which have meanings accepted by the general public; for example, the employment of the term "secondary " education in a general sense, may lead to confusion in the mind of the average reader. The manual is, however, rich with suggestion, which modern parents would do well to consider in the same spirit of earnestness with which it is offered.

THE EVERYDAY PUDDING BOOK (Second Edition). THE EVERY-DAY SAVOURY BOOK. (Stanley Paul. 1s. net, each.)

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These little volumes are much more sensible than their catchpenny covers would suggest. Many of the puddings seem likely to be valuable additions to the family book of recipes, and the present writer is longing to try "Raisin Sponge, "Summer Rice Pudding," and "Macaroon Blancmange." London readers may be apt to demur at the frequent appearance of cream, and to surmise that the author must inhabit some district where its price is less. In some households the flavours of rum and of lemon which appear in many puddings may be disliked, but other essences may easily be employed instead.

In preparing the savouries it would be well, on the first occasion, to diminish the amount of onion, which strikes us as excessive. Melted butter is more easily and smoothly made by mixing the flour and butter in the saucepan and then adding the water heated than the complicated method described; and the batter for omelets should not be put into the pan "when the butter begins to froth," but when it begins to cease from bubbling-that is at a higher degree of heat. Otherwise the omelet will probably stick to the pan. But in spite of these little points the book will be of great use in many households.

*

HEARTS ADRIFT. By George Raffalovich. (Francis Griffiths,

*

"Hearts Adrift," as the title denotes, is a work dealing with certain emotional experiences of life when the course of love does not run smooth. The tale deals in the main with the mating of two sisters and a brother belonging to a respectable English family, the Huddlestones of Hastings, but, unfor-

THE COMMON CAUSE.

tunately, the only attachment which is founded on a love that is dictated by reason and affection is made so desperately dull in the telling that the reader's attention becomes concentrated on the episodes connected with the more reckless courtships of the remaining brother and sister, and more especially on the hazardous experiment of the young man. As might be expected, Henry Huddlestone's "affaire du cœur" finds its suitable environment in Paris, where the reader is introduced-albeit with a certain restraint on the author's part-to the brilliance, excitement and temptations of life in the "gay city."

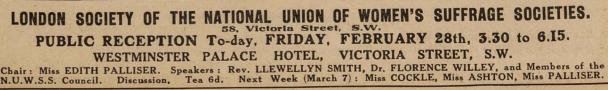
Tragedy and the death of the young wife are the results of this marriage; betrayal and the suicide of the betrayer is the outcome of the one sister's first romance, while days of colourless insipidity are the lot of the sister who, we are led to believe, has chosen her partner aright. We have failed to discover the "rhyme or reason" for this novel, of which the chief merit is the terse expression of an occasional flash of insight into human character.

In spite of the apotheosis to the English language in the preface, the much-admired flow of " clear, musical and expressively rhythmical English" is not to be found in these pages, yet for all its demerits the book, if not taken "au grand sérieux," will he found a lively companion through a spare hour by the fireside.

Books Received.

- THE CHEAP COTTAGE AND SMALL HOUSE: A MANUAL OF ECONOMICAL BUILDING. By J. Gordon Allen. (Garden City Press, 1s. 6d. net.)
- THE TRAINING OF THE CHILD: A PARENT'S MANUAL. By G. Spiller. (T. C. and E. C. Jack, 6d. net.)
- THE MILK QUESTION. By M. J. Rosenau. (Constable, 7s. 6d. net)
- NAN AND OTHER PIONEER WOMEN OF THE WEST. By Frances E. Herring. (Francis Griffiths, 3s. 6d. net.) HILARY'S CAREER. By Parry Truscott. (T. Werner Laurie,
- THE EVERYDAY PUDDING BOOK. By F. K. (Stanley Paul, 15.
- net.) THE EVERYDAY SAVOURY BOOK. By Marie Worth. (Stanley
- Paul. 1s. net.) NEW WINE IN OLD BOTTLES. By Constance Smedley. (T. Fisher Unwin, 6s.)
- HEARTS ADRIFT. By George Raffalovich. (Francis Griffiths, 35. 6d.)
- OF SIX MEDLÆVAL WOMEN. With a Note on Mediæval Gardens. By Alice Kemp-Welch. (Macmillan, 8s. 6d. net.)
- WHY WE DEMAND WOMAN SUFFRAGE. By A. de Morsier. (New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage.)
- FABIAN TRACT NO. 168: JOHN STUART MILL. By Julius West. (Fabian Society, 2d.)
- A TURKISH WOMAN'S EUROPEAN IMPRESSIONS. (Seeley, Service, 6s. net.)
- THE SUFFRAGE ANNUAL AND WOMEN'S WHO'S WHO. (Stanley Paul. 6s. net.)
- THE VINEYARD (February). (A. C. Fifield, 6d. net.)

MISS L. B. EVETTS, R.H.S. and MISS F. H. GARLICK, R.H.S. Care of Gardens from 5/- per day. Gardens designed & laid out. A D V I S O R Y W O R K. SPECIALITY made of Pruning: the laying out of herbaceous borders rock and wall gardens, etc., etc.



THE COMMON CAUSE.

Correspondence.

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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.

REDRESSING THE BALANCE.

I have just been debating the principle of Women's Suffrage with Mrs. Gladstone Solomon at the Hatcham Liberal Club. and her conduct of the debate and the response of a section of the audience were both so typical of the present state of affairs that I should like to be allowed to describe them.

I had met Mrs. Solomon once before, at Northwood, where the conditions laid down by the N.L.O.W.S. were that the speakers should speak an equal number of times and their speeches be alternate. This results in the unusual condition that the opener shall not conclude. I unwillingly accepted it, and as I was the opener on that occasion Mrs. Solomon concluded. In her concluding speech she did not pursue the usual course of summing up the arguments advanced during the debate, but introduced completely new matter which she treated in such a way as to leave an impression on the audience which I should certainly have endeavoured to remove had she attempted it in her earlier speech. With this experience in my vivid recollection, I decided to ask that she should open the debate at Hatcham on the 23rd, in order that she might not have the opportunity of repeating her manœuvre. Judge of my amazement when, on arriving at the Hall, I found she was quite willing to open the debate, but on this occasion insisted the "usual procedure" of winding up! So again she had "the last word" and again she used it to introduce entirely new matter, in this case "militant" outrages, with which to confuse the issue. I recommend any suffragist who may be going to have a debate with Mrs. Solomon to insist that she shall not make the concluding speech, since she is evidently incapable of maintaining the essentials of fairness in debate.

But now I come to the effect on the audience. Some of them were so incensed by her conduct that they would not allow her to proceed. An appeal was made to the Chairman on the point of order, and he refused to rule her out of order. Under those circumstances, the only proper course for the audience would have been to abide by the Chairman's ruling and allow the audience to judge by Mrs. Solomon's conduct. They did not do so, but by disorderly cries and appeals gradually redressed the balance, so that, not only was the question of Women's Suffrage obscured by the question of militancy (as it always is), but the disorderly protests of the militants present gave Mrs. Solomon an advantage she would not have had if they had shown their sentiments by listening with cold disapproval.

The sympathies of the majority had been plainly shown in the course of the meeting by the tone of the applause and of the questions. By intolerance and disorder, the militant suffragists converted some of this sympathy into the reverse. H. M. SWANWICK.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Will you allow me to correct an error in your issue of the **21**st inst. in the paragraph under the title ^{*d*} London County Council Elections"? The proposal, which was before the L.C.C. on Nov. 26th last, was that "Women (including married women) should be entitled to exercise the franchise at local government elections on the same terms as men." This did not imply "qualification by marriage in certain cases," as did what was known as the "Dickinson" amendment to the defunct Franchise Bill

The object of the recommendation carried in the L.C.C. was to place women electors for the purposes of local government in the same position as men in England and Wales-not to create a franchise at present unknown in the United Kingdom.

ANNIE LEIGH BROWNE (Hon. Sec. Women's Local Government Society).

WOMEN AND HOTELS.

May I point out, in reference to the paragraph "Women and Hotels" about Miss Ashton's experiences, that the thing to do under those circumstances is to go to the nearest police station. No licensed hotel can legally refuse a traveller if there is any room, and a policeman will almost invariably get you in. On one occasion, at a by-election some of us lost a last train, and were refused rooms at the hotels, but we went and got a policeman to come with us and he got us into one in a few minutes.

If there is really no room in hotels, you must be given shelter, if you ask it, at a police station, and I find policemen are practically always kind and helpful under these circumstances.

I was much interested by your account of Miss Margaret Ashton being refused admittance to a Manchester hotel at 1.30 a.m. in a fog-a man getting the preference. Should not the name of the hotel in such a case be freely published, so that censure may fall where it is due, and such occurrences thereby be made less frequent? M. I. B.

BJÖRNSON'S "A GAUNTLET."

You protest fairly; "except I" is not English, but I wrote "except me" in my translation.

R. FARQUHARSON SHARP.

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

Foreign News.

The United States.

Once again we may cheer our own drooping spirits by looking across the Atlantic and realising that if our prospects here are gloomy indeed, "In the west the land is bright." News of victories achieved and expected is coming in fast. In South Dakota the Women's Suffrage amendment has passed the Legislature. The votes were 41 to 2 in the Senate and 70 to 30 in the House. This was the first measure passed by the new Legislature. The amendment will be submitted to the voters next year

On January 20th the New York Assembly passed the concurrent resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution permitting women to vote. It was carried by 123 to 7. "The next step is a state-wide campaign to create a public sentiment which shall secure its passage through a second legislature in 1915, when it will then be submitted to the voters." Such a campaign in New York State will indeed tax to the uttermost the energies of American Suffragists, but we cannot doubt they will prove equal to the task. A victory in New York State would surely be the herald of complete victory everywhere, and the mere possibility of this being achieved in two years' time enables us to realise the enormous advance made in the last few years.

On January 30th the Suffrage amendment for Nevada passed the Senate by a vote of 19 to 3, having been previously adopted by the Assembly. It has now passed two successive legisla-tures and will be submitted at the next election. In Montana, too, the amendment has passed both Houses. As in this State a second passing does not seem to be necessary, the amendment may go to the voters before the end of this year.

We learn that the women of Michigan have had definitely to give up the contest and await the resubmission of their amendment. The Legislature has offered to submit it again and has left to the State Suffrage Association the choice of the date. They have decided on April. The new Governor is strongly in favour and he promises to see to it that there is an honest election.

An interesting programme has been drawn up by Mrs. Dennett, showing the earliest date when the different States can give the vote to women if the legislatures and the voters are willing. In 1913, Michigan, Nevada and Maine; in 1914, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin; in 1915, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Penn-sylvania, Virginia; in 1916, Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, North Carolina, West Virginia; in 1920, Vermont.

Two women have been elected to the Washington Legislature, Mrs. Croake and Mrs. Axtell. It appears that the Speaker of the House was at first a little puzzled as to the terms in which he should speak of the lady members. But he soon learnt to speak of the "lady from Pierce" instead of the "gentleman from Pierce," and the difficulty, like other similar imaginary ones, soon disappeared. The complete returns from three of the victorious States are now to hand. Arizona led with a vote of 13,452 to 6,202, more than two to one. In Oregon the votes were 61,265 to 57,104; in Kansas 175,276 to 159,197. [Owing to pressure on our space, further news from abroad now to hand must be reserved until next week.-ED. "C.C."]

FEBRUARY 28. 1913.

CANDIDATES T.⁵W. Richardson (Unionist). Tom Wing (Liberal). Alderman W. House (Labour).

Houghton-55, Sunderland Street; Mrs. Streeter in charge Hetton Downs-35, Market Street; Mrs. Tozer in charge. Ryhope-86, Ryhope Street; Miss Beaver in charge. Seaham-Bell (Butcher), New Seaham; Mrs. Aldersley in charge.

Societies have been in the division for the past ten days, making preparations for an extensive campaign. They have taken committee rooms in Sunderland, Houghton, Hatton Downs, Ryhope and Seaham, and have booked halls for 40 or 50 about the constituency, collected during meetings. They have waited to open their campaign till all which will immensely lighten our work three candidates were adopted.

Since the adoption of the Liberal and Labour candidates on Saturday last, the following statement of the National Union's position has been issued :-

In accordance with its usual olicy in three - cornered policy in three - cornered elections, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is actively supporting the Labour candidate in Hougtone-Spring. The claim of the Labour party, as the only Suffragist party in the House of Commons, to suffragist support has been strengthened their decision at the January Conference to "oppose any franchise Bill which does not include women " whilst the failure of the Government to fulfil its pledges to the women has intensified the contrast between he attitude of the Liberal and Labour parties. The organisation of the campaign is in the hands of Miss C. M. Gordon, the organising secre-tary of the North-Eastern Federation, and Miss Margaret Robertson, chief or-ganiser to the Election Fightng Fund of the National Union. Many speakers and workers are arriving in the division during the next few days, amongst them Mrs. Annot Robertson, Mrs. Nield Chew, Mrs. Abbott, Miss Muriel Matters, Miss Alice Low, Mrs. Aldersley, and many others.

Alderman House is, and always has been, a staunch advocate of Women's Suff-

advance the women's cause. Much work has been done during fulfilled, and an utterly worthless offer has been made in the past few months by the non-militant suffragists in the exchange for this broken pledge. Houghton division, and the uniformly cordial reception with which they have met, especially amongst the miners, leads them to anticipate a very successful campaign. It is satisfactory to to anticipate a very successful campaign. It is satisfactory to note that at the meeting at which Alderman House was adopted by the Durham miners, both his proposer and himself mentioned his attitude and the attitude of the Labour party on Women's Suffrage as one of the reasons why it was necessary to have a Labour as well as a Liberal candidate, and it is even more gratifying to know that these statements were greeted with rounds of applause. It has, of course, been impossible until all the candidates were in the field to open a campaign, but the time has been well spent by Miss Gordon and her assistants, Miss Sheard, Miss Dring, Miss Beaver, and Miss Entwistle, in bookng halls and committee rooms, taking lodgings, and making all the needs of the worker and of the worker's wife, and strike a

THE COMMON CAUSE.

Houghton-le-Spring By-Election.

OFFICE.

31. The Avenue, Sunderland,

COMMITTEE ROOMS.

Representatives of the National Union of Women's Suffrage necessary arrangements. The coldness of the weather makes it necessary to have a great many indoor meetings, and we have booked two, three, or four halls for every evening Miss Gordon has also a great deal of valuable information

about the constituency, collected during the past few months,

NATIONAL UNION'S ADDRESS TO ELECTORS.

Gentlemen,

As representatives of the great non-militant Suffrage organisation, with branches in four hundred constituencies and nearly forty-thousand annual subscribers, we venture to appeal to you, in casting your votes at this election, to consider the claims of the voteless working woman. We ask you to remember that women, like men, are taxedwomen, like men, are subject to the laws-women, like men, are controlled in their industries and in their homes by legislation. Remember, too, that many of the most urgent problems of to-day come home even more closely to women than to men. From bad housing conditions, who suffers most? Who pays the price for all the wasted baby lives? Who knows best the killing anxiety of trying to make both ends meet-meet on an insufficient weekly wage? If the working women had votes, would they not help to send men to Parliament who would make a determined effort to change these things?

There is only one way in which you can help the women now. That is, by returning to Parliament the representatives of the Labour party-the one party which is united in its support of the women's claims. The Liberal Government has betrayed the women. It has led them on by fair promises

back his party in the strongest action they may take in order to which Mr. Asquith gave them fourteen months ago has not been advance the women's cause. Much work has been does doing to which Mr. Asquith gave them fourteen months ago has not been

But with the Labour party the women have found sincerity, honour, and the spirit of unselfish comradeship. The Labour men have caid: "Let us tell the other parties: 'You are not prepared to keep your word, we are prepared to go one better than our word '"; and they have met the Government's betrayal of the women by the fine declaration that they refuse to " sneak more votes for men at the expense of the women's agitation." They will stand by the women, and accept no more benefits which the women do not share.

We, therefore, appeal to you, gentlemen, as in strikes, in poverty and hard times the women have stood by you, to stand by them now. Use your votes to strengthen the honest party, the courageous party, the only party which truly understands

Labour Candidate, Houghton-le-Spring By-Election.

ALDERMAN HOUSE.

ORGANISERS IN CHARGE. Miss C. M. Gordon (North-Eastern Federation). Miss Margaret Robertson (E.F.F.)



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THE COMMON CAUSE.

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We

blow at the forces of privilege and monopoly, whether of class or sex, by returning the Labour candidate to the House of Fri. Commons

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully, C. M. GORDON (Organising Secretary to the N.E. Federation).

MARGARET ROBERTSON

(Chief Election Organiser).

APPEAL FOR MOTOR CARS, FUNDS, AND OTHER HELP. We have not at present been obliged to hire a motor car, as Tue

Dr. Ethel Williams has most generously lent us hers for the whole election, which means that she will have to spend much time and energy in walking and cycling on her enormous rounds. Indeed, we do not know how to be sufficiently grate-The hire of motors is a very expensive matter here, but as we shall probably be obliged to have a second car before the election is over, may we make a special appeal for donations in order to make this possible? We want also already to begin to appeal for motor cars for polling day, as it is again a county division where for many voters a vehicle is an absolute necessity. May we ask any suffragists who possess a motor to hire for their own use on polling day, whenever it may be, and send their own to us? The sooner we can have promises the better, as arrangements have to be made accordingly.

Any workers who can pay their own expenses, and a limited number of those who need their expenses paid, will be welcome. Mo We should be grateful if any one who can spare a few days would write to us as soon as possible. The election is bound to Tues. (18).. be a very expensive one, as it will probably last more than a month, and it has been necessary to take so many halls. Special donations will, therefore, be particularly needed.

THE ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS.

The anti-suffragists have opened a committee room in Sunderland, well out of the constituency, where a petition is offered to all and sundry to sign. Mr. Samuels is in charge. Their proposed object is to prevent any of the candidates from pledging themselves to support Women's Suffrage, but as all are already deeply pledged to support it, it seems almost unnecessary for them to take part in the election.

MEETINGS AL	READY ARRANGED BY THE N.U. :-	
DATE.	PLACE AND HALL. TIME.	SPEAKERS.
Mon., Feb. 24	Houghton-Open Air7Miss	
		G. D. Biltcliffe.
Tues. (25)	E. Herrington-Miners' Hall 7 Miss	
	Shiney Row—Free Church	Aldersley.
"	Shiney Row—Free Church Schools	Nield Chew.
	Miss	Flinor Sheard.
,,	Houghton-Miners' Hall Mrs.	Annot Robinson,
	Miss	Margaret Robertson.
Wed. (26) .	Philadelphia—Miners' Hall 7 Miss	I. S. A. Beaver,
	New Silksworth-Miners' Hall7Mrs	Muriel Matters. Streeter
33	Miss	Margaret Robertson.
Thurs. (27) .	.East Rainton-Open Air6Mrs.	Aldersley,
	Mrs.	Biltcliffe.
,,	West Rainton Open Air 7 Mrs.	Streeter,
T : (-0)	Muss. Newbottle.—Wesleyan Schools Mrs.	Margaret Robertson.
FII. (28)	. Newbottle Wesleyall Schools Miss	Rowlette.
,,	HyltonShipwrights' Hall 7 Miss	
	Mrs.	Aldersley.
,,	DubmuirMiss	Rowlette.
	Chilton Moor-Dubmiur Club 7. Miss	s Margaret Robertson.
Mon., Mar. 3.	. Newbottle-Council Schools 7 Miss	Annot Robinson.
	Moorsley-Open Air7. Mrs.	Chew:
	Great Lunley-Open Air 7 Miss	I. S. Beaver,
A State State		
,,	Bournmoor—Open Air7. Miss	Alice Low,
Trees (1)	. Seaham Colliery—Miners' Hall 7 Miss	Aldersley. Muriel Matters
1 ues. (4)	. Seanam Confery—Millers Hall 7 Miss	Annot Robinson.
"	Ryhope-Miners' Hall 7 Miss	
	Mrs	Chew
Wed. (5)	.Murton-Miners' Hall	Margaret Robertson
	Fulwell—Miners' Hall	C. M. Gordon.
**	, Old Schools Dr.	Ethel Williams.
	Houghton-Miners' Hall	Chew.
27	Miss	Alice Low.
"	Easington Lane-Miners'Hall 7 Mrs.	Annot Robinson,
		Aldersley.
Thurs. (6)	.E. Herrington-Miners' Hall 6Mrs.	C. M. Gordon.
	Philadelphia-Miners' Hall 8 Mrs.	Annot Robinson.
33	Miss	Alice Low.
**	Hetton-Miners' Hall7 Miss	Margaret Robertson
	Miss	Muriel Matters.
Fr1. (7)	.Shiney Row-Free Church	Annot Robinson
	SCHOOIS 7 MIS	Annot Robinson, S. C. M. Gordon.
	1113.	

DATE.	PLACE AND HALL. T	IME.	SPEAKERS.
, Mar. 7.	Newbottle—Wesleyan School	s Miss	Margaret Roberts
S. C. S. C.		Mrs.	Aldersley.
,,,	Hylton-Shipwrights' Hall .		
			G. D. Biltcliffe.
1. (10)	Leamside-The School	Miss	I. S. A. Beaver,
	THE DE DIA	MIS.	Chew.
	Hetton Downs-Eppleton	- 16-0	Abbott
	Girls' School		C. M. Gordon.
	Ryhope-Miners' Hall		
	Kynope—Miners Han		Annot Robinson.
(TT) 2	.Murton-Miners' Hall		
S. (11)		Miss	Alice Low.
30. 42.4 2.	SeahamColliery-Miners'Hall	17Mrs.	Abbott,
and the second	The second state of the state of the	Miss	Margaret Roberts
,,	Hetton-Miners' Hall	.7Mrs.	Chew.
d. (12)	Philadelphia-Miners' Hall.	.7Miss	C. I A. Beaver,
			Abbott,
			Ethel Williams.
	Shiney Row-Free Church	1.	Decelar Smith
	Schools	.7. Miss	Pressley Smith, Alice Crompton.
	Easington Lane-Miners' Ha		
"	Easington Lane—Miners IIa	Miss	Margaret Robert
	Houghton-Miners' Hall		
	Trougaton stands transition	Miss	Margaret Mein.
urs. (13) .	.Fulwell-Old School	.7	
. (14)	. Hylton-Shipwrights' Hall .	.7	
. (15)	.Hetton Downs-Eppleton		
	Girls' School	.7	
n. (17) .	.Murton-Miners' Hall	.7	
	Seaham Colliery-Miners' Ha	117	

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

son,

.Ryhope—Miners' Hall Hetton—Miners' Hall .

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

In the E.F.F. page of THE COMMON CAUSE of February 14th, mistake occurred in the Treasurer's Statement.

The figures as corrected are :- Total receipts, £5,293; total expenditure, £2,349.

Ear-marked for work in six specially important constituencies at next election, £2,000.

This leaves only £944 (not £1,944) for any work, including byelections, in addition to that already undertaken and in progress. The Houghton-le-Spring by-election will be a costly one, lasting probably for several weeks. A very small balance will be left when that is over. Contributions to the Fighting Fund are urgently needed at once, and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurers N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster



There is every indication that Whipcord Suiting will be in great demand for Spring and Early Summer Tailor-mades. Last year diagonal Whipcords were all the rage, but for the make of Whipcord has been produced. These new shot-

Street Suit (as sketch), made in new shot-check Whipcord, collar of corded silk to tone. Coat lined with silk to match. Per-fectly cut and tailored.

Debenham & Freebody Wigmore Street. Covendish Square) London.W.

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

Notes from Headquarters The National Union of Woman's Suff-

		on a Duilli	age Docie	LICD.
President : M	IRS. HENE	Y FAWCETT,	LL.D.	
Ion. Secretaries : MISS K. D. COUBTNEY	(Parlia-	MISS I. B. Hon. Treasur MRS. AUER Secretary : MISS GERA	O'MALLEY (er : BACH.	G in
fices : Parliament Chambers, 14	4, Great Sn			

Press Department.

The press reports from the 13 Federations which have set them in are distinctly encouraging. In striking contrast to t dearth of Suffrage news which is apparent in those areas when no attention is paid to the matter, they show unmistakah the excellent results of the work of energetic Press Secretarie and the good effect on the local press where the business furnishing news and correspondence is efficiently organised the Federation Press Secretary. It has been impossible nention in detail in the Annual Report the work done and t methods adopted in the most successful Federations. We have to have an opportunity of discussing the matter more fully the meeting of Press Secretaries which will take place on t termination of the Council at the Holborn Hall on February 28

There are many indications that the press is veering rou to Woman's Suffrage both in London and the country; demand for information increases, and the offer for fuller spa in the papers entails more work, more organisation, and mo adaptability to the needs of the moment. Contact with newspapers is the best possible antidote to any tendency routine, and with the prospect of by-elections constantly bef is, and the likelihood of a general election at no very dista date, preparation on every side is necessary, and the efficient volunteers, who give regular help in the press work, ncreasingly needed.

During the coming year it is to be hoped that the Federat committees will co-operate in every way possible with Federation Press Secretaries in pushing forward the work furnishing the necessary funds for carrying it on. There the friendly press is one of our most valuable and power allies in bringing recruits to the Union, and in promoting

In addition to our appreciation of the admirable work of many Press Secretaries—work often undertaken under gr difficulty and with insufficient equipment—we should like express our thanks for the excellent contributions furnished express our thanks for the excellent contributions furnished the London and provincial papers by the following member of the National Union — Miss M. Allen, Mr. F. Marsha Dr. Drysdale, Mrs. F. Marshall, Mrs. Hecht, Miss Lownde Miss H. Ward, Miss Jones, Miss M. Robertson, Miss Maso Miss Macadam, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Chew, Mi Stanger, Miss Wortham, Miss Wilkinson, and many other At present the demand for material exceeds the supply. shall be glad, therefore, to receive contributions on Wome Suffrage from members of the Union who are accustomed write for the press.

EMILY M. LEAF

Literature Department.

A new edition of Miss Margaret Robertson's "Working M and Women's Suffrage," with a Special Postscript (price 10 will be on sale at the Council. The National Union h also reprinted Mr. Snowden's excellent article on the suffra situation from the *Christian Commonwealth*, "The Domina Issue" (price 1d) Issue" (price 1/2d.).

I. B. O'MALLEY

Treasurer's Notes.

This week it will be noticed that the "Contributions to General Fund " are almost entirely made up of Affiliation Fe The length of this list gives great pleasure to the Treasurer a all who work in the Finance Department, because it shows a only that new societies are affiliating and that old societies a increasing their membership, but also that all the societies a realising more and more the great importance of prompt punctual payment.

Last year the amount received in Affiliation Fees from Nov ber 1st, 1911, to the end of February, 1912, was £273 3s. 6 this year, to February 24th, it is £421 1s. 9d., the different representing fees paid on 11,833 members. F. M. Sterling.

(Treasurer pro tem.

806

THE COMMON CAUSE.

Contributions to the General Fund.

Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1912 ... 1,119 2 5 Received February 17th to 24th :---

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Correction, February 21st. Miss Earp 10s., should be Miss Earp 5s., Miss Dougall 5s

Election Fighting Fund.					
	;	5	s.	d.	
Already acknowledged	4,3	50	0	7	
Received since February 17th :					
Miss C. Churchill		I	0	0	
Miss G. M. Clayton		0	6	0	
Miss M. G. Carter		I	1	0	
Dr. Edith E. Goodrich (2nd donation)		3	0	0	
Miss R. Saint		0	5	0	
"A Suffragist " (1st instalment)		0	5	0	
Mrs. Wolverley Fordham		I	I	0	
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Buda Pesth Conference.

Further news has been received from Buda-Pesth setting forth some of the features of the forthcoming convention. The Lord Mayor of Buda-Pesth, Dr. Stephen de Bárczy, has drawn attention to the importance of the movement in a public declaration, in which he states that "the élite of the intellectual world takes part in the Women's Suffrage movement." Other municipalities and the Hungarian Board of Trade have also contributed to the Congress funds.

A reduction of fares has been secured on Hungarian Railways and on others and on steamers. Excursions have been arranged on the Danube, to the Tatra and Lake Balaton.

English, French and German are to be the only languages spoken at the Congress. Several hundred interpreters will be at the service of visitors, and an information bureau will give them every assistance.

Among the new Associate members of the International Alliance are :- Princess Catherine Dhuleep Singh, Viscountess Dillon, Lady Chance, Mrs. Harley, Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Lake, Mrs. George, Mrs. Henry Weston Eve, Miss B. A. Clough, Mrs. Zoppé, Mrs. Badcock, Miss M. Lees (Oldham) and Miss E. M. L. Atkinson.

"Public Support of Women's Suffrage."

In the article thus headed in the issue of COMMON CAUSE for February 14th, the names Scarborough Board of Guardians, and Scarborough Conservative Association should not have appeared in the lists.

THE COMMON	CAUSE. FEBRUARY 28, 1913.
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(Kensington High Street),

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7th, at 8.30 p.m.

CHAIR : MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D. SPEAKERS : MRS. F. T. SWANWICK, M.A. MISS A. M. ROYDEN, THE EARL OF LYTTON, AND MR. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.

Tickets: Reserved Seats, 5/-, I/-, and 6d., on application to Miss P. Strachey, London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

ADMISSION FREE.

A COLLECTION will be taken towards Funds for EFFECTIVELY CARRYING OUT THE POLICY.

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

London Society.

RECEPTION.—On February 14th, when Miss Sterling as in the chair, speeches of great importance were ade by Miss Courtney and Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P. iss Courtney, characterising the way in which the overnment had mismanaged the situation as con-emptible, indicated the probable line which the National nptible, indicated the probable line which the National ion would adopt in order to utilise our great much in the country to the best advantage. Mr. wden, who received a great ovation, gave a brilliant lysis of the present position, and in advocating work a Government measure, adopted a striking optimis-tone, and showed incidentally how such work, nised by the National Union in the country at large, ld strengthen rather than weaken the position of friends in the House, who would do what they d for the proposed private Bill.

HACKNEY (SOUTH).—On February 12th a meeting ras held of this Branch of the B.W.T.A., and was addressed to Miss Charlotte Elkin, and some of the sembers were enrolled as "Friends." Mrs Matthews, who is a keen supporter of the Cause, was in the chair.

OXTON.—On February 10th Miss Goddard addressed women's meeting at the Maurice Hostel Institute, ny "Friends" and one member were gained, and Suffragists were asked to come again.

he Suffragists were asked to come again. ISLINGTON.—The Branch Committee had a successful atertainment on February 15th, arranged by Mrs. (adril), one of the Committee. This was to form the oleas of a tea fund, when it was thought desirable to are entertainment for poorer members. The concert as highly successful in spite of a day of darkness and ain, and though the tickets were only sixpence each, for £2 was made. Most of the performers belonged to be London Society, and it is impossible to be grateful nongh to Mr. and Mrs. Hadrill for their management what was a charming evening. The concert was held t 11, Loraine Road, Holloway.

KENSINGTON (S).—On February 13th Mrs. Arthur avory held a successful meeting at 31, Bramham Gardens, S.W. She took the chair herself and Mrs. Rackham spoke. Dealing with some objections to Women's Suffrage she said there was only one sphere for women.—where she can make the best use of her opportunities—there should be no artificial barrier. Some uestions were asked; about 40 were present and three new members joined.

USWELL HILL.—The second annual meeting of this iety was held at the Athenaeum on the 7th inst., on the Lady Frances Balfour presided. The speakers e Miss Abadam and Mr. T. J. Kennedy. Mr. J. ch Edwards, M.P., had promised to be present but i unavoidably prevented. In spite of most unfavour-sweather there was a large attendance. The meeting ned with a very enjoyable musical programme anged by Mr. W. K. Fuller, in which Miss Edith re, Miss Doris Fuller, Mr. Cownie and Mr. Fuller k part.

Miss Doris Fuller, Mr. Cownie and Mr. Fuller part. by Frances Balfour pointed out that women are et to all the disabilities but enjoy few of the eges of male citizens, in fact the tax collector is, thing, more exacting in the case of women than it of men, as she knew from personal experience. a Abadam, in an eloquent speech, dealt with led superstitions, and reminded the audience that bolition of slarery was quite as difficult a task as firanchisement of women was promising to be. She forstold that the usefulness of the recent Criminal Amendment Act would break down like its prede-uless woman's position as a responsible citizen sognised. Mr. Kennedy roused some protest and applause by maintaining that Mr. Asquith had guilty of gross neglect of duty. The resolution t this meeting profoundly regrets the inability of rime Minister to redeem his word to the women a country, and emphatically asserts its demand for ernment measure," which was proposed by Miss am and seconded by Mr. Kennedy, was carried with lissentients

e dissentients. NORTHWOOD.—This Society held its monthly drawing-om meeting on February 11th at "Harlaw," Eastbury renue, by invitation of Mrs. Waterston, who took te chair. The speaker was Miss Winifred Elkin, who alt with the question of women and economics. Several estions were asked. A hearty vote of thanks was ren to Miss Elkin, proposed by Mrs. Haythornthwaite d seconded by Mrs. Abbott. Miss Phillips gave a oft report of the Society and asked the members to ork for the "Friends of Women's Suffrage" in North-bol. A report of the meeting appears in the Ruislip-orthwood Courier for February 14th. The next meeting ll be a public one on March 11th, when it is hoped get a large audience to hear Miss Maude Royden. ofessor Waterston will take the chair.

Professor Waterston will take the chair. Professor Waterston will take the chair. PADDINGTON.-Mrs. Henry Fawcett presided over a rowded and enthusiastic meeting of the London Society st Paddington Town Hall on January 28th. The prin-ipal speakers were the chairman, Mr. F. D. Acland, M.P. (Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs), Sir William Dance. Mr. Malcolm Mitchell (Men's League), and Douncillor Miss Mary Beeton. Mrs. Fawcett said that although they had received blow from the Parliamentary point of view, she did to think that recent events in Parliament would affect heir position in the country. She added that a Govern-ent Bill was the only measure which would satisfy hem now, and that to work for a private Member's Bill could be waste of time and energy. A resolution had een drawn up, but in courtesy to Mr. Acland, it had een drawn up, but in courtesy to Mr. Acland, it had een drawn as he preferred no resolution at all to watered-down notice. Mr. Acland's speech was listened to with especial herest, on account of his request to be allowed to kplain his own and the attitude of other Parliamentary uffragits. The most striking part of his utterance as the concluding declaration of his intention not to ke any further part in Liberal propaganda until the vond reading of a Woman's Franchise Bill had been wried. Sir William Chance, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell and Miss

d. William Chance, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell and Miss Becton also gave addresses, dealing with other s of interest.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

News from the Societies and Federations.

ROTHERHITHE.—A meeting of the B.W.T.A. was addressed by Miss M. Goddard at the Memorial Hall on February 13th. Several of the members spoke in sup-port of suffrage and a large proportion became "Friends."

SUTION.-A very successful drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Martin's. The chair was taken by Mrs. Ballantyne, and Mrs. Rackham was the speaker. There were over 30 present, including a fair number of men, and a most animated discussion followed the address. The collection amounted to 12s., and three new members joined the local Society.

The Federations.

North-Eastern.

North-Lastern. CONSETT, BLACKHILL, AND SHOTLEY-BRIDGE.— These Societies, being all small and in a rather scattered country district, have decided to form a joint committee with one general fund, but separate officers. Miss Bury has been in the district for a week and arranged a drawing-room meeting at Mrs. Howlitson's, with Miss Peile in the Chair. The meeting was most successful; and at a second one at Mrs. Jamieson's, of Blackhill, the business of forming the joint committee was com-pleted. New members were also obtained.

pleted. New members were also obtained. DARLINGTON.-A well-attended meeting was held in the Temperance Institute Dealington, on February particular the Vote." Mrs. R. L. Pratt presided and proposed the following resolution:---- "That this meeting believing that in the interests of Temperance Reform the Parliamentary Franchise should be extended to women shall include women." Mrs. Bonwich said women to day struggle and training of life. She did not stand there in the great work of Temperance. Many social questions of temperature and other questions. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Herald were present.
MORPETH.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held on January 29th at St. James's Institute, lent by Canon Davies, the rector of Morpeth. Miss Hopper kindly provided tea. There were 30 ladies present. Miss Gordon reviewed the political history of the Suffrage movement during the past two years, and summouly — "That this meeting calls upon the Government to introduce a Government of the Resolution Mrs. Abbott urged upon her hearers the need for greater loyalty than ever to the leaders of our movement at this crisis. The meeting subout the laders the need for greater loyalty than ever to the leaders of our movement at this orging the total of Morpeth members were enrolled, bringing the total of Morpeth and a more successful.
NEWCASTLE — This Society had a more successful.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—This Society has had to be re-organised, the members having become very indifferent. Under Miss Bury's guidance the Society is again active with several new members and subscribers.

with several new memoers and encentering SUNDERLAND.—A meeting was held in the Subscrip-tion Library Hall, which was very well attended. Dr. Ethel Williams was in the Chair, and the speaker, Mrs. Swan-wick, in a brilliant speech, supported the Resolution to urge the Government to incorporate Women's Franchise in a Government measure. The Resolution was carried unanimously. Several local gentlemen occupied seats on the platform, and musical items were contributed by Messrs. Bacon, Dagg and Curle. A forth-coming performance of "Press Cuttings" by some of the younger members of the Society was announced, and an "At Home" in the house of the Honorary Secretary.

Mrs. Arthur Johnson. The Society is much indebted to the ladies who undertook the handbilling of the meeting. Miss Mauchlen, representative of the Women's Liberal Federation, is actively at work in Sunderland, and there seems a chance of a Liberal Suffragiet meeting in

the near future. The Sunderland Boho has stated that a section of Suffragist Liberals have it under consideration to remove their support from Mr. Hamar Greenwood, and to run a sound Suffragist at the next general election.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.-The thanks of this Society are due to Miss Bury for the active work done during the past month. She addressed two meetings; one of the Hartlepool's Wommer's Liberal Association, which sent Resolutions to Mr. Stephen Furness and to Mr. Evan Hayward; and another of High School teachers, after which 26 new members joined.

Manchester and District.

Manchester and District. BACUP,--On February 12th, an invitation meeting was held in the Natural History Rooms. Mrs. Nield Chew addressed the meeting on "The present Position of Women's Suffrage." At the close, the "Bacup and Distriot" branch was formerly inaugurated; Mr. E. Ainsworth was appointed secretary and Mr. Mellor became treasurer. The president is still to seek, but will be forthcoming by the time the next report is out. This branch is remarkable for the large proportion of men who have become members. Mr. Harcourt's attitude on Women's Suffrage is having an educative effect on his men who have become members. Mr. Harcourt's attit on Women's Suffrage is having an educative effect on constituents.

BLACKBURN. - Following on the Suffrage Week organised in Blackburn by the local Branch of the ILP, and the Women's Suffrage Society, an "At-Home" was held in the Criterion Café on February 17th. The Rev. Mr. Peck was in the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. Miter Wilson and Mrs. Annot E. Robinson. A considerable number of new members joined, and an organisation committee was arranged which will meet at an early date to consider plans for future work. The audience was sympathetic, and during tea time discussed with much interest the points raised by the speakers.

by the speakers. BUXTON.—A successful meeting was held on February lith at the Town Hall. The first annual report and balance sheet were presented and adopted. Mr. T. Arthur Cooke took the chair. Miss Abadam gave an address, and moved the following Resolution which was seconded by Mrs. Vickery, and carried unanimously:— "That this meeting, being of opinion that a non-official measure for Women's Suffrage is not an adequate substitute for Mr. Asquith's pledge, calls upon the Government to take responsibility for a measure for-Women's Suffrage this session."

BuxTON.—A successful meeting was held on February fith at the Town Hall. The first annual report and balance sheet were presented and adopted. Mr. T. Arthur Cooke took the chair. Miss Abadam gave an address, and more the following Resolution which was econded by Kr. Successful meeting, being of opinion that a non-official diverse rest.
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 Miss Beaver gave an excellent address on the present by Mitch at sesolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was need by Mr. Cunlife, seconded by Mr. Suilies, successful meeting, being of opinion is favour of giving vote. Uking was more by Mr. Cunlife, seconded by Mrs. Successful meeting, being of the Harkam Morepres.
 Moreperth.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held on the Merkaw More Marking was more by Mr. Cunlife, seconded by Mr. Stanley, supported by Mrs. Suiltaker and Watson, and passed with only one dissentiat.

Mayor of Hasinguel, one of Ar. Haloutts supplicas. KNUTSFORD.—The Hall Bank Room, Mobberley, was-well filled on January 23rd, when Mrs. F. T. Swawick was chief speaker. Mr. E. G. Leycester was advertised: a Chairman, but was unable to attend the meeting, and Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson replaced him. Miss Winnie-Caldwell seconded the Resolution, which was passed unanimously. Lady Rochdale was the chief speaker at a meeting held in the Public Hall, Alderley Edge, on February Irth. The resolution, deolaring that a private Member's Bill, even if special facilities were granted, could not be accepted as fully redeeming Mr. Asquith's pledge of inclusion in the Government's Franchise Bill, was seconded by Mr. Redfern and carried with very few dissentients. Mr. I. Arnold Thompson was in the chair.

chair. MACCLESFIELD AND DISTRICT.—The Macclesfield and District W.S.S. held a public meeting in the Town Half on January 21st, which proved to be the best Suffrage meeting ever held in the town. There was a hard and deeply interested addience. In the ebsence, through illness, of the Rev. R. E. Broughton, M.A., view of Prestbury and Rural Dean, the chair was occu-heivered an excellent address on the political situation and Councillor H. G. Barclay followed with a speech of prest variety and interest. A Resolution calling upon the Liberal principles into practice and vote for the Women's Amendments, was passed with one dissentient. WINGERETE On The Members from voters in the store.

ANUSION. MANCHESTER.—On February 6th a successful whist-drive, organised by the Whalley Range Committee in aid of the funds of the Manohester Society, was held by permission of Mrs. Hiller at Oakholme, Alexandra Park South. The evening was much enjoyed, and the sum of 210 was given to the Manohester Society. Two interesting lectures have been given at the fort-nightly meetings for members, which are held in the offices. On February 4th Miss Leat, of London, Hon. Press Secretary of the National Union, gave a most interesting address on National Union Press work, which

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as thoroughly enjoyed by the members present, most whom are Press workers in the Federation. On bruary 18th Miss Helen Ward, of London, lectured the "Friends of Woman's Sufrage Scheme." This February 18th Miss Heien Ward, of London, lecoured on the "Friends of Women's Suffrage Scheme." This subject was most interesting to many members of the Society who are organising the Scheme locally. The Hulme and Salford Suffrage Clubs have held their fort-nightly meetings, which have been well attended, the speakers being Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Muter Wilson, and Mr. Kennish Brown. A successful and well-attended dramatic performance in aid of the funds of the Man-chester Society was arranged by the staff of the Man-chester and District Federation, and took place on February 22nd in the Milton Hall. The play, a farce, "The Fortunes of Fan," by H. M. Paull, was very entertaining and was well acted by Mr. Leslie L. Lang-ford, Miss Florrie Hicks, Mr. J. W. Lowarch, Miss Gooper, Miss Angels Lopez, Miss Schlaginweit, Miss Borrett, Mr. T. G. Darlington and Mr. F. A. M. Lopez.

NORTHWICH.—A social evening for members and friends of the Northwich Society was held on February 4th by invitation of Mrs. Frankenburg and the com-mittee. The chair was taken by Mrs. Cooke, and Mrs. Mitter Wilson, of the Manchester Society, gave an interesting address on the present political situation. There was a good attendance, and several new members joined the Society.

SALE.—A Public Meeting was held in the Sale Free Library on February 10th. Councillor Ernest Jones took the chair and the speakers were Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A. and Mrs. Annot Robinson. There was a very good attendance, and the Resolution was carried by a large majority.

STOCKPORT.--A successful meeting of the Stockport Branch of the N.U.W.S.S. was held on the 28th inst., at which excellent speeches were made by Mrs. Aldersley and Mr. I. R. Tomlinson. A Resolution, which was cowride unanimously, was put to the meeting, urging Mr. Asquith to do the utmost possible to bring in at an early date a measure giving enfranchisement to women.

audience and asked for questions and several were put. EXETER.—A Public Meeting was held at the Barnfield hal on January 27th, when Mr. T. Levan, J.P., took the obair. Mrs. T. Pring, on behalf of the Committee, presented the Hon. Scoretary, Mrs. Frank Pletcher, with a handsome bouquet in acknowledgment of her valuable services to the Scoiety. The Chairman announced him-self as a recent convert to Women's Suffrage. Mr. Holman, J.P., candidate for Mid. Devon division, spoke in censure of the Speaker for his recent ruling. Miss A. P. Willcocks, the novelist, moved "That the meeting, seeing the great injustice done to women by the present Parliamentary situation, calls on Mr. Asquith to fulfil his piedge given to the N.U.W.S.S. in November, 1911." The Speaker's ruling had not only surprised ignorant people, but had been declared by Lord Courtney, a mateler mas handed to the Hon. Secretary annoucing the decision of the National Union to be content with nothing less than a Government Bill. At the conclusion Miss Willcocks' speech, Mr. Walter King seconded the Resolution, which was carried with two or three dissentients.

PAIGNTON.—A well-attended meeting was held at Dellar's Café, on January 27th, just over 100 being present. The Resolution, "That this meeting is in favour of the Enfranchisement of Womea and asks Colonel Burn to support the Bills which come before Parlia-ment," was carried with no dissentients. Miss Walford spoke for about three-quarters of an hour, and a branch was formed with 40 members.

TEIGNMOUTH.—The Annual Meeting took place in the schoolroom on January 30th, Miss Clodd presiding, and after a short business meeting, Miss Walford addressed the meeting. Her speech was received with enthusiasm.

TORQUAY.—Owing to the kindness of Lady Acland, Mr. and Mrs. Luxmoore and Miss Skirron, a well-attended meeting was held at the Museum Hall. Mr. Luxmoore took the chair, and we are exceedingly grate-ful to Lady Acland and the Hon. Robert Palmer for their evcellent speeches. Miss Walford also spoke on the work of the Association, and the Resolution was carried with three dissentients. Several people joined the Asso-ciation and a branch is being formed. Miss Skirron proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers and chairman.

TOTNES.—A meeting was held at the Seymour Assembly Rooms on February 6th, when Dr. Mabel Ramsey (Plymouth) spoke and Miss Baly (Exeter) presided. The following Resolution was proposed and carried with one dissentient: "That this meeting demands that Government shall pass a measure granting the Franchise to Women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men." Copies were sent to the Member, the Prime Minister, the Chancelkor of the Exchequer and Leader of the Opposition.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

SILVERTON.-Miss Story (Exeter) had been invited to propose a Suffrage Resolution at the Debating Society, but as she was unable to attend, Miss Walford took her place. We were informed that there were only two Suffragists in Silverton and the Resolution would cer-tainly be lost. Miss Walford spoke for half an hour, and after several members had given their views, replied to questions, after which the Resolution was carried by 35 votes to 13. One person asked to join the Society, although members had not been asked for.

carried by 35 votes to the one paragraphic are sked for. Yorks: West Riding. HUDDERSFIELD.-On January 27th Miss Siddon held a reception in the Mayor's Reception Room of the Town Hall. There was a large audience, including the Mayoress Alderman Broadbent, Counciliors Beamont, Wheatley and Frances Littlewood. Miss Helen Fraser gave an excel-lent address, which was listened to with Attention. Some songs and music followed. Mr. Josiah Lockwood pre-sented a bouquet in the National Union colours to Miss Siddon, and Mrs. Studdard presented a similar one to Mrs. G. J. Dyson, one of the singers. Copies of Countor Carse were sold and 30 new members joined. A Council meeting was held on February 4th at Collinson's Café, and arrangements were made for meetings to be addressed by Mrs. Renton, the West Biding organiser.

addressed by Mrs. Renton, the West Riding organiser. GOOLE.-The Goole Women's Suffrage Society had a visit from Mrs Renton (Organising Secretary of the Vest Riding Federation) during the last week of January. Mrs. Renton addressed the Railway Women's Guild during her visit, and presided over our meeting on January 30th, at which Miss Helen Fraser was the speaker. Very bad weather was against our efforts: but we gained new members, and interest in the Suffrage curves. visit

Activity in Aberdeen.

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"Why Women's Suffrage Must Win." Mneeting was held in the Public Hall, Clevedon, on February 11th, when Mr. Laurence Housman was the speaker, and Mr. W. C. H. Cross took the chair. In spot of extremely raw and foggy weather, there was a good attendance. Mr. Housman's address on "Why Women's Suffrage Must Win" was most impressive. Referring to the increased hopefulness of the political situation he said it was the least of his reasons for the conviction expressed in his title, and proceeded to show from various aspects the strength and resistlessness of our demand. Mr. Cross also made a convincing speech, and the audience was throughout deeply interested. The resolution that "This meeting holds that the passing into law of a measure extending the Parliamentary franchise to women is just, expedient, and necessary for representative government," was carried with four dissentients.

The International Suffrage Shop.

The International Suffrage Shop is organising an and will last from 3 o'clock until midnight. The pro-gramme appears to include every conceivable kind of "side show," in addition to music and dancing.

Meeting at Stoke-on-Trent.

A meeting of the Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle Women's Suffrage Society was held in the P.S.A. room, Trent Vale, Stoke-on-Trent. The chair was taken by Dr. Myra Mackenziè, who introduced the speaker, Mr. Frank Beardmore. A discussion took place after the address, and at the close of the meeting fifteen of those present signed as "Friends of Women's Suffrage."

Women Liberals at Rotherhithe.

At a meeting of the Rotherhithe Women's Liberal Association a large number of members, including Miss Anna Martin, ex-President, and Miss Lucy Knowles, Treasurer, handed in their resignations, declaring their conviction that the events of the last three years had proved that as long as Mr. Asquith led the Liberal Party, it was hopeless for women to look to it for their enfran-chisement.

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MARCH 7. MARCH 8 FEBRUARY 28.

MARCH 3

3.0 8.0

MARCH 3. Bow-Mothers' Meeting at the Rectory. Fairfield Road, Bow-Speaker, Miss Goddard 3.0 S. Kensington-Drawing-room Meeting at 50, Lexham Gardens, S. Kensington-Hostess and Chair, Mrs. Felkin-Speaker, Miss Pickton 3.30 Islington, East-Study Circle at Mrs. Bartram's Fernlea, Kilross Road, Highbury-Opener, Miss Rosamond Smith 8.0 MARCH 4.

MARCH 5. MARCH 6

MARCH 7. London Reception-Westminster Palace Hotel-Chair, Miss H. D. Cockle-Speakers, Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., Miss Edith Palliser, Mrs. F. T. Swan-wick, M.A. East St. Pancras-Drawing-room Meeting at 23, Camden Road, N.W.-Hostesses, Mrs. Fenton and Mrs. Clements-Speaker, Miss W. Elkin 4.0 MARCH 7.

FEBRUARY 28. Crioff_Strath

1 28. hearn Institute—the Rev. Millar Patrick (Perth)—" The Women's Question from a Religious Point of View." 8.0 View."
B.0
Edinburgh-40, Shandwick Place--"At Home"-Mrs. Guyer-Chair, Mrs. Eddington
Glasgow-Office, 202, Hope Street-Hostess, Miss
Edith Stewart-Miss Alice Younger,
M.A. (Dublin)--"Labour Exchanges." MARCH 3 asgow-Blackfriars Hall, Westerngraigs-Miss Helen Waddel, Mrs. Laird 8.0 MARCH 5. berdeen-Round Room, Music Hall-The Rev. Prof. Cairns, D.D.-" Christianity and the Women's Movement" MARCH 6. Glasgow-Partick Burgh Hall-Debate-Dr. Elsie Inglis and others-Chair, Baillie Pratt 8.0 MARCH 7. Glasgow-Office, 202, Hope Street-Hostess, Miss J. Waddel-Miss Francis Melville, M.A., "Women as Educationists" 4.0 Edinburgh-40, Shandwick Place-"At Home"-Miss Lisa M. Gordon-"The Council Meeting" 4.30

Guildford-Brett's Room, High Street-Mrs. Creigh-ton 3.0 Birmingham-Saltley C.E.M.S.-Mrs. Osler

Forthcoming Meetings.

(ARRANGED BY THE NATIONAL UNION.)

FEBRUARY 28.

FEBRUARY 28, 1913.

windon-Mechanics' Institute-Miss Abadam, "The White Slave Traffic: Its Causes and

Farringdon-Town Hall-Public Meeting-Sweated Industries-Speakers, Mrs. A. Nield Chew, Mrs Robie Uniacke-Chair, Mr. F. J. K. Cross, J.P., C.C.

MARCH 1. Woking-Central Assembly Hall-Meeting-Chair, The Lady Betty Balfour-Miss Phillipa Fawcett 5.0

MARCH 3. Croydon-34a, The Arcade, Hight Street-Meeting —The Rev. W. Major South, M.A., "Woman's Suffrage and Social Welfare 3.30

York-Exhibition Hall-Women's Suffrage Demon-stration-Mr. Philip Snowden-Chair, Hon. Mrs. Wilkinson. 7.30 ton-Kineton Road Schoolroom-Miss Maude Roydon, "The Vote and the Home"

Neots-Corn Exchange-Meeting-Mr. W. Mirrlees, Mrs. Rackham-Chair, Miss Cockrane

Cookrane Preston—Assembly Room, Public Hall—Miss Evelyn Deakin, C.L.J.—Mr. Holt, M.A., L.L.B.—Mr. J. M. Cameron Grant West Bromwich—Library Lecture Hall—Miss Maude Royden. on "The Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement "-Chair, Alderman J. H. Blades, J.P. 7.45

Alderman J. H. Blades, J.F. Worcester-Public Hall-Public Meeting-Dr. C. W. Saleeby, M.D.-Miss Helen Fraser-Chair, Dr. Mabyn Read, M.O.H.

itton Coldfield-Town Hall-Public Meeting-The Lady Frances Balfour-Chair, Mrs. A. C. Osler 8.0

A. C. Osler Worthing-Literary Institute-Miss Abadam. "From the Women's Watch Tower" --Chair, Councillor Ellen Chapman Literary Institute-Chair, Dr. Den-sham-Speaker, Miss Abadam

helmsford—The Corn Exchange—Wrs. R. Cavendish Bentinck and Mr. Horace E. Crauturd— Chair, Mr. O. C. Collinge overcourt—Co-operative Hall—Social Evening 8.0 8.0

MARCH 4

MARCH 6

 MARCH 4.

 Stourbridge-Music
 Rooms-Public
 Meeting-Speaker, The Lady Frances Balfour-Chair, Dr. McCrombie (Birmingham University)
 8.0

 Guildford-Village Hall, Cranleigh-Speakers, Mrs. Sterling and Mrs. Nolan-Slaney-Chair, Mrs. Drew
 8.0

 Reading-Assembly Rooms, Bridge Street-Miss Irene Cox on "Industrial Law"
 3.0

 Dorridge-Forest Hotel-Miss A. Maude Royden Hastinga-Town Hall-Public Meeting-Miss Abadam and Mr. Harben
 8.0

 Lincoln-I. L. P. Hall-Branch Meeting-Chair, Mr. W. Hill-Speaker, Miss M. Norma Smith
 8.0

Hereford-The Percival Hall-Public meeting-Miss Hereford—The Percival Hall—Public meeting—Miss Watson 8.0 Scarborough—Office meeting for new members 3.30 Tea 4.0

Smith Smith 8.0
 Shildon-Dean Street School-Suffrage Fair, opened by Mrs. A. F. Pease-Chair, Mr. G. E. Markham 3. Miss M. Robinson 8.0
 Birmingham-Ruskin Hall, Bournville-Mrs. Rackham, Mr. G. H. Wood-Chair, Miss Newcombe-Suffrage songs 0.5
 Soxford-Assembly Room, Town Hall-Chair, the Rev. Canon H. Scott Holland-Speakers, Miss I. O. Ford, Professor Gilbert Murray 8.15.
 Worthing-Office of W.S.S.-Miss Coasts' "At Home "-Mrs. Mayson --"Gleanings from Thirty Years' Slum Work" 4.30

MARCH 4.



THE COMMON CAUSE.

 Huddersfield—Executive meeting
 3.0

 "Bradley Lodge—Hostess, The Mayoress, Mrs. Joseph Blamires
 3.30

 "Collinson's Calé—Host, Mr. John Sugden, J.P.
 7.30

 Chesterfield—The Settlement—Miss St. John Basingstoke—Town Hall—Speakers, Mrs. Basset, the Rev. Llewelyn Smith—Chair, Mrs. Dempster
 2.45

Newnham Severn-Church Institute-Meeting-Chair, Dr. Eliza Sloane Chesser-Miss Helen Fraser 7.30

Worthing—Mitchell's Restaurant—Annual meeting —Miss Philippa Fawcett 7.30

LONDON.

FEBRUARY 25. London Reception-Westminster Palace Hotel-Chair, Miss Edith Palliser-Speakers, The Rev. Llewelyn Smith, Dr. Florence Willey, Members of the N.U.W.S.S. Council 3.30-6.15 Corner of Exmouth Street and Tysoe Street-Mrs. Annot Robinson and others-Chair, -Miss P. Fawcett 8.0

MARCH 4. 8.0 East St. Pancras-Women's Liberal Association-Meeting at 23, Camden Road, N.W.-Hostess, Mrs. Fenton-Speaker, Miss Rinder, "Is the British Government Representative"

Walthamstow-Lecture Hall, Shernhall Institute-Debate-Women's Liberal Association 8.0

8.0 Brockley-Drawing-room Meeting at 7, Foxberry Road-Hostess, Mrs. Whitfield-Speaker, Miss Janet Thomson, M.A. 8 15

SCOTLAND.

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNION.

Brighton-"King and Queen" Assembly Rooms-I.L.P. meeting-Miss I. O. Ford 7.30

Worcester-Mrs. Attlee on "The White Slave Traffic."

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(in full.)

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A PARTMENTS.-Mrs. Crittall, 4, Surrey Prospect, Pilmer Road, Crowborough, Sussex.

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PAYING GUESTS received by two ladies. Charming house; every convenience; excellent cooking, Large garden, croquet lawn; lovely moorland country, bracing. Good cycling, sketching centre. Terms 30s.— Leslie Carrington, Verwood, Dorset.