

Martina G. Kramers



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Es gibt zwei Arten geistiger Gesetze, eins im Manne und ein ganz anderes im Weibe. Sie verstehen einander nicht; aber das Weib wird im praktischen Leben nach dem Gesetz des Mannes beurteilt, alsob sie nicht ein Weib sondern ein Mann wäre.

Aus IBSEN'S Nachlass.



I believe that when God created head and heart for the human race, He divided them equally and gave man his part and woman hers; and both have kept their own all the way down the centuries.

Rev. ANNA H. SHAW.

PRICE 2 DUTCH FLORINS PER YEAR.

Editorial Announcements.

List of Woman Suffrage Papers in different countries, with address and price per annum.

U.S. America, *The Woman's Journal*, \$ 1,50, 3 Park Street, Boston.

—, *Progress*, N.A.W.S.A. Headquarters, Warren, Ohio.

Belgium, *De Stem der Vrouw*, $\frac{3}{4}$ franc, Ons Huis, Gent.

France, *Le Journal des Femmes*, 5 francs, 31 rue Francoeur, Paris.

Denmark, *Kvindestemmerets bladet*, 2 Kroner, 34 Bredgade Kopenhagen.

—, *Kvinden og Samfundet*, 3,10 Kroner, Kongens Lyngby 5.

Finland, *Nutid*, 6 Mark, 21 Alexandersgatan, Helsingfors.

Netherlands, *Maandblad voor Vrouwenkiesrecht*, i l.—, 43 Linnaeusstraat, Amsterdam.

Norway, *Nylaende*, 4,70 Kroner, 3 Edvard Stormsgade, Kristiania.

Sweden, *Dagny*, 5 Kroner, 54 Drottninggatan, Stockholm.

—, *Morgonbris*, 50 Öre, Folkets Hus, Stockholm.

—, *Svenska Folket*, 2 Kroner, 36 Vasagatan, Stockholm.

Germany, *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht*, 2 Mark, Post Ebenhausen, Ober Bayern.

Hungary, *A Nő és a Társadalom*, 41 Nefeletjs u. Budapest VII.

Austria, *Der Bund*, 2 Kronen, 7 Rochusgasse, Wien III.

Iceland, *Kvennabladid*, 2 Kroner, Briet Bjarnehé-dinsdóttir, Reikjavik.

Italy, *La Vita*, 37 Lire, 87 Via S. Claudio, Roma.

Great Britain, *Women & Progress*, weekly 1 d. 18 Buckingham Street, Strand London.

—, *The Tribune*, daily 1 d., Bouverie Street, Fleet Street, London E.C.

Switzerland, *Frauenbestrebungen*, 3 irs., Zürichbergstr. 10, Zürich V.

Poland, *Ster*, Boduena 2, Warsaw.

Dear Correspondents, Subscribers and Readers!

I have to thank you all for having brought the number of subscriptions up to 430, so the I. W. S. All. is enabled to continue „Jus Suffragii” in this form; but if we get more copies sold, we may enlarge the size. So I am ordering now 600 copies from the printer, in order to send sample-numbers on request, in case you could interest friends by showing them the paper. If so, you will oblige me by ordering some samples.

May I request those that have not yet paid their subscription to send me a post-order of *two Dutch florins* (guilders) or 3 Shillings 6 d, or 0,82 Dollar, or 4,15 Francs, or 3 Scandinavian Kroner, or 4 Hungarian Kronen, etc. New subscribers must be generous, and consent to receive only those back numbers that are still available, for it is easy to see that we could not print great quantities of the first numbers, as the bulletin's fortunes were then yet uncertain.

And as for the news, I ask you again to send me reports from all quarters of the world, true and reliable and as interesting as can be; and to send them *in time*, please. Letters or marked newspapers are welcome, but I beg you to remember that I do not understand Polish, Czechish, Hungarian, Russian or Greek.

May I call your attention to Rosika Schwimmer's wish that we should each report about the attitude of the press in our country respecting the Finnish elections?

To my regret lack of space obliges me to keep for June much news from the United States, Iceland, Denmark, Switzerland, Russia and Bohemia.

Yours sincerely
MARTINA G. KRAMERS.

The international badge, which should be worn by every woman believing in woman suffrage, is to be ordered from **Mrs. J. PEDERSEN-DAN, Griffenfeldtsgade 39, Copenhagen.** 50 bronze badges 22 sh. 6 d., postage prepaid. Reduction in price for orders exceeding that number.

Sweden.

In order to support the Womens' Suffrage Bills, six in number, which had been introduced into both Chambers by members of all parties during the present parliamentary Session, the Stockholm Woman Suffrage Association held a mass-meeting open to the public on the 5th of May. This meeting was the first of its kind in this country, i. e. the first meeting which has had a demonstrative character and which has been planned on the same scale as the large political meetings arranged in order to support the programme of the different political parties of men.

Long before the appointed time the vast hall of the Circus in Djurgården, the largest hall in Stockholm, was crammed with an audience composed of representatives of all sorts and conditions of men and women in the true sense of the word. Thousands and thousands of people had to go back without being able to enter the building.

The original programme included speeches by one member of the First Chamber, Mr. Wieselgren and three members of the Second viz: Baron Adelswård, conservative, Mr. Lindhagen, radical, and Mr. Branting, leader of the Labour Party. Unfortunately Mr. Wieselgren was prevented from attending by illness at the last moment.

The meeting was opened by Doctor Lydia Wahlström, president of the Stockholm W. S. A., and speeches were also delivered by Miss Anna Whitlock, president of the National W. S. A., Mrs. Ellen Hagen, president of the Uppsala W. S. A. and Mrs. Ruth Gustafsson, member of the mantle-maker's trade-union. Between the speeches national songs were sung. All the speeches were animated by a fervent belief in the justice and the final victory of the great cause. Baron Adelswård spoke with indignation of the injustice in denying suffrage to highly educated women, when every man was to be enfranchised. Miss Whitlock warned against the consequences of a prolonged struggle, which so easily turns into bitterness between the sexes. Mr. Lindhagen, the great champion for womens' rights, was received by a thunder of applause. "I will not speak of womens' suffrage", he said "but of its two mighty supporters, justice and truth"; and he blamed the governments, both liberal and conservative, for excluding women from their Suffrage Bills. When he terminated with a "hurrah for Womens' Suffrage", which was accompanied by tremendous cheers from the audience, the applause would never cease. Mr. Branting spoke in high terms of the energetic work accomplished by the Swedish women for the obtention of their suffrage, and encouraged them to continue till the goal be reached. Mrs. Gustafsson spoke for the women of the working classes and Mrs. Hagen asked how long Swedish women would be denied civil rights? What crime had they committed? Doctor Wahlström pointed to the advantage for a small nation to count a large number of citizens.

The overwhelming attendance at the meeting, the enthusiasm with which the speeches were received, the favourable attitude of the press the day after, all tend to prove how quickly the question of womens' suffrage is gaining ground among the public. All papers, irrespective of political colour, paid their tribute of admiration for the meeting, which was unanimously termed one of the most impressive meetings ever held in this country.

The suffrage question will most probably be treated by the parliament on the 10th of May.

SIGNE BERGMAN.

Norway.

The Parliamentary Committee of nine members, which was mentioned in our March-number, has now made known to the press some of the different views of its members. Mrss. Berner, Bryggesaa, Thallaug, Naess and Ruberg are in favour of limited suffrage; Mrss. Grivi, Chr. H. Knudsen, Bryggesaa and Ruberg will also give their support to universal suffrage; Mrss. Grivi and Høstmark forbear to declare their views on the question of limited suffrage, and Mr. Høstmark declines to utter an opinion on the franchise at all, whilst Mr. Malm is opposed to any form of votes for women. Mr. Bryggesaa, the Reporter, will write the Committee's proposals, and it is said that Mr. Malm will add an extensive memorial to explain his standpoint.

The Norwegian Women's Union, together with the N. W. S. A. are going to hold a big meeting for woman suffrage. Of the speakers we can name Mr. Ullmann and Councillor Stang Lund.

Russia.

This last month the „Russian Union for Women's Rights" and several women's societies have been collecting signatures under petitions for women's equal rights, which are going to be presented to the Imperial Douma. The Russian U. f. W. R. has collected in a very short time more than 11,000 signatures under the following petition to the Douma:

"In the name of the welfare of the whole country, in the name of the great principles of liberty, justice and social equality, we, women of Russia, appeal to you, citizens, members of the Imperial Douma. In order to realize these principles and to introduce into life liberal, democratic elements, it is necessary to establish by law the political and civil equality of women with men. We firmly believe that the Imperial Douma will acknowledge the importance of that principle, and will introduce it into the new law on parliamentary and municipal elections, and into the law on the equality of all citizens."

The workmen in St. Petersburg applied to the R. U. W. R. begging to issue an address to their fellow-workers on the equality of women's rights. Accordingly the following address was issued by the Central Bureau of the R. U. W. R.:

"Brothers! give your signatures to the petition of women, which is to be presented to the Imperial Douma. The time has come to show that you stand not only in words but in deeds for justice and for the rights of the whole nation, men and women alike."

An eloquent address on women's equal rights was also sent by the R. U. W. R. to the peasant electors. Next month, if our Douma is not dissolved, the great question of universal suffrage for men and women is going to be discussed by the Parliament. There is very little chance of the new election-law being sanctioned by the Government. The only reform with regard to women's elective rights which is likely to pass, is the municipal franchise. But the discussions which are probably going to take place in the Douma on the question of women's rights will be most important for the propaganda of our cause.

Before I close my little report, I must state, in the interest of truth, that Mrs. Gardner's notice in "Jus Suffragii" of last month was not historically correct. Mrs. Gardner writes that the idea of founding a woman suffrage society originated in a circle of women in St. Petersburg, which first met in February 1905. She further says that „the nucleus of women suffragists developed during the summer of 1906 into a large Union for Equal-Rights." As I stated in my report given at the congress of the I. W. S. All. in Copenhagen (August 1906), the idea of founding a Russian Union for Women's Rights originated in a small circle of women social workers in Moscow in February 1905. This circle sent an address to the women of St. Petersburg, as well as to those of the whole country, inviting all women in Russia to join the Union in Moscow and organise one big national union.

The „Russian Union for Women's Rights," founded in May 1905 is the only large organization, which includes the women of the whole country. The societies mentioned by Mrs. Gardner (The Women's Progressive Party, The Women's League of Equal Rights) and several others which she does not name, are very helpful to the women's cause. But they are comparatively very small organizations, and they do not belong to the „Russian Union for Women's Rights" which embraces the whole country, and, as a national society, has joined the Int. W. S. Alliance.

Z. MIROVITCH.

Moscow, 3 May 1907.

Great Britain.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies has addressed the following appeal to all supporters of Women's Suffrage on May 2nd:

"It has this morning been decided by the Executive Committee of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to contest the election of Mr. Chaplin for the Wimbledon vacancy. The Hon. Bertrand Russell has consented to stand as the candidate of the Union. He is a Free Trade Liberal, and will support that party, giving, however, precedence, in every case to Women's Suffrage.

This is the first opportunity which has offered itself to the National Union for bringing forward a Parliamentary Candidate pledged first and foremost to support Women's Suffrage. We, therefore, call upon all our supporters to come forward immediately with money and personal help, to show what they are prepared to do, what sacrifices they are prepared to make in furtherance of the principle which is at stake. The other candidate is a well-known opponent of Women's Suffrage of long standing; our cause could not be better served than by publicly protesting against his again entering the House of Commons. Do not lose this golden opportunity.

An Election Fund of at least £ 1,000 must be raised within a week."

(Signed) M. G. FAWCETT, President.

" BERTHA MASON, Treasurer.

" FRANCES HARDCASTLE, Hon. Sec.

" FRANCES STIRLING, Hon. Sec.

The contest is fought with the usual election machinery. Committee rooms are established throughout the division, where helpers of all shades of political opinion will be welcomed, and a house-to-house canvass of voters was instantly instituted. Mr. Russell and Miss Edith Palliser, the Parliamentary secretary of the Union, spent several hours in the constituency.

"I am standing primarily as a supporter of women's suffrage," explained Mr. Russell. "I am the official candidate of the National Union, of whose executive committee I am a member. Of course, I place women's suffrage paramount, and if returned, I shall support the extension of the franchise to women above all other questions."

At the moment of going to press the issue of the contest is not yet known. Only we hear of very rough methods; the adversaries were not ashamed to let rats loose in the hall where Mr. Russell made a speech and they bombarded Mrs. Russell with bad eggs. Possibly these expedients may have scared away all decent people from the side of such opponents.

The effect on the suffrage movement of an organized revolt on the part of women against the payment of direct taxes was carefully considered at the quarterly council meetings of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, held on 27 April at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Mrs. Fawcett, the president of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, presided, and there was a full attendance of delegates from various parts of England and Scotland.

Lady Steele (Edinburgh), who has already had her goods sold for the non-payment of her taxes, pointed out that while only a few hundred people could be induced to attend suffrage meetings in Edinburgh, over 5,000 came to see her furniture sold. It was certainly the very best thing for spreading a knowledge of the women's suffrage question. Women who took this course, however, must make up their minds to their men friends being against it.

Miss Margaret Ashton (sister-in-law of Mr. Bryce, the British Ambassador to the United States) representing Manchester, said she paid her taxes like a man and got nothing in return; that is to say, she got the government of the country as men thought it should be governed. She paid house duty on armorial bearing and on menservants, but, being one of the drones, she had no earned income. It was the position of women with earned incomes, perhaps paid by men, that was most difficult; and women like herself, who were free to act, could strengthen the hands of the women workers. "I urge very strongly", she said, "that we should consider whether we cannot organize such a revolt".

The following resolution was carried, with three dissentients:

"That the question of the non-payment of taxes by women be referred to the executive committee for consideration and report".

A further resolution, moved by Mrs. Stopes and seconded by Mrs. Renold (Manchester), was also carried:

"That the executive of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies be asked to take into consideration the desirability of members applying before August to the registration agents, appealing to be put upon the Parliamentary register, basing their claims upon Lord Brougham's Representation of the People Act of 1867.

From the Women's Social and Political Union we receive the following report. —

"The cause of woman suffrage is making excellent progress and is gradually but no less surely winning its way into every party and every class. The month of April, although without startling incidents, has shown many interesting developments and a steady advance all along the line."

On 14th April the public meetings on Sundays in Hyde Park, London, were recommenced. Thousands of people attend, and although some opposition is usually present Miss Christabel Pankhurst's effective oratory invariably holds the audience and compels attention. Public meetings are also being held at Victoria Park, London, and elsewhere.

On the 16th April an active agitation was commenced in the constituencies of certain members of Parliament who had identified themselves as opponents of Woman Suffrage by the rather mean expedient of prolonging debate with the avowed sole object of preventing a vote in the House on Woman Suffrage being taken. Among these members are Mr. J. Bertram, M.P. for Hitchin, Mr. S. T. Evans, M.P. for Mid Glamorgan, Mr. Levy Lever, M.P. for Harwich. The last named succeeded in preventing the discussion of a very important resolution of Sir C. B. Mac Laren, M.P., a brilliant advocator of the Cause.

Up to the present, interest has principally centred at Hitchin, where the campaign of education was opened by Miss Mary Gawthorpe. The opposition encountered was at first considerable and the Suffragists' meetings were interfered with and some even broken up. At once reinforcements arrived including Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Despard, and finally the sense of justice and fair play seemed to have conquered. Numerous converts to the Cause have been made, and Hitchin promises to become an important centre. Among the ingenious methods adopted was the opening of a market stall for the distribution and sale of suffrage literature and this in charge of Miss Gawthorpe with her charming personality and quick wit proved a most successful means of interesting the country people.

The Conservative Member for the Stepney division of Tower Hamlets E. having resigned, the W. S. & P. U., in accordance with its settled policy of attacking every Government Candidate so long as the franchise is refused, is taking part in the Bye-Election and there is every prospect in this case of defeating the Liberal Nominee and increasing the majority of his opponent. Local premises have been taken and an active house to house canvass of all the 6,000 voters is to be made.

At a second Bye-Election in Wimbledon, Surrey, the National Suffrage Association have adopted other tactics and are running their own candidate, the Hon. Bertrand Russell, in opposition to the Conservative nominee Mr. Chaplin who has been minister of Agriculture and who is greatly opposed to Woman Suffrage. This represents a new and highly interesting development. The National Association are providing an election fund of a £ 1,000 and are displaying considerable energy.

One of the most interesting and suggestive events of the month has been the production at the Court Theatre, London of Miss Elizabeth Robins' play, "Votes for Women". The title has no merit save that of directness but the play is amazingly clever and has wrung praise even from the most rabid opponents of the movement. One scene in particular of an open air meeting in Trafalgar Square, London, has been universally acclaimed as the cleverest and wittiest "mob" scene put on the stage during the last ten years.

B. BORRMANN WELLS.

Doubtless many readers have been astonished at the number of signatures and the rapidity of

obtaining them, which distinguished the anti-woman suffrage petition, presented to Parliament by Mr. Evans and Mr. Massie. Having examined the documents presented to the House, Mr. J. M. Robertson M. P. writes as follows:—

"Whole batches of signatures are written in by single hands—not all by one hand, but separate batches by separate hands, as if the petition had been got up wholesale in this fashion. And the same description holds of the second and still larger petition presented the other day. The batch-work begins on the very first sheets. As it happens, both petitions are ruled out as 'informal' save for the first few signatures (three in one case), because the succeeding sheets have been pasted on without any indication of the 'prayer'. Of all these forty or fifty thousand signatures, therefore, not a dozen will be reckoned valid."

Hungary.

Die letzte Zeit brachte wieder etwas An- und Aufregung in unsere Wahlrechtsbewegung. Die Blätter, speziell die sozialdemokratischen, brachten wieder Anti-Artikel. „Ngószava“, das sozialdemokratische Zentralorgan, schrieb im April, die Feministen kämpften nur für das Damenwahlrecht, darum müssten sie durchaus Stellung dagegen nehmen, weil das Damenwahlrecht den Machtgewinn des Proletariats, den es durch die Einführung des allgemeinen Wahlrecht erwartet, verringern würde. Gleichzeitig erachtet es die Sozialdemokratie für durchaus *unzeitgemäss* jetzt das allgemeine Frauenwahlrecht anzustreben.

Der Feministenverein gab in der Mainnummer seines Organs „Anő és Tarsadalom“ eine bündige Erklärung ab, in der er energisch betont, dass die Wahlrechtsaktion *stets für alle erwachsene Frauen*, wie für alle erwachsene Männer geführt wurde und in Zukunft geführt wird. Durch diese Erklärung wird den Verleumdungen der radikalen Parteien ein Riegel vorgeschoben. Die proletarischen Frauen, die die Wahlrechtsaktion des Feministenvereins durch das Auge der tendenziös verdrehenden Männer geschaut haben, müssen nun sehen, wer wirklich für ihre Interessen kämpft. Der Verein hofft durch diese Erklärung die Sozialdemokratie zu zwingen, ihrem Programm gemäss für das Frauenstimmrecht einzutreten.

Mit alle Kraft sträubt sich auch der Bund ungarischer Frauenvereine (National Council) gegen das Frauenstimmrecht. Die Vertreterin des Hungarian Council im politischen Komitee des International Council verlangte Gelegenheit in den zum Council gehörigen Vereinen über die politischen Frauenbestrebungen reden zu dürfen, doch lehnte der Vorstand des Councils ab, das Verlangen seiner Vertreterin, den angeschlossenen Vereinen mitzuteilen. Also nicht einmal reden darf man über diese Frage. Es ist recht, recht traurig!

Doch sind auch erfreulichere Momente zu verzeichnen. So hielt unlängst ein Schriftsteller, Kornel Szelkolai, einen Vorirag, in dem er auch das Frauenstimmrecht warm befürwortete, trotzdem er ein halbes Jahr zuvor in einem Werk über die Parlementsreform die Frauen ganz ausgeschlossen hatte.

Auch erschien neuerdings ein Buch über die Parlementsreform von Dr. Adolf Kriszhaber, das ebenfalls für das Frauenstimmrecht plaidiert. Wenn all diese Befürworter auch nicht ganz unsren radikalen Standpunkt einnehmen, sind sie doch wertvolle Stützen unserer Bewegung.

Eine Beobachtung möchte ich noch erwähnen.

Die historisch hochbedeutsame Wahl in Finnland wurde in der Presse durchwegs mit einem knappen Telegramm des Inhalts, dass 20 Frauen gewählt sind, erledigt. All' die Blätter, die über die erste Pariser Kutscherin wochenlang spaltenlang schrieben, die jede Demonstration der englischen Suffragettes spaltenlang gegen uns ausnützen, widmeten dem *historischen Ereigniss* nicht eine einzige Reflexion.

Ich fände es sehr interessant, wenn die Bericht-erstatte(r)innen der übrigen Länder uns im „Jus Suffragii“ mitteilen wollten, wie sich ihre Presse verhalten hat.

ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

Austria.

Three important meetings of women in Vienna claim our attention this month. On 17 April the Woman Suffrage Committee had invited the liberal women of Vienna to take counsel together as to their attitude on the occasion of the parliamentary elections.

Frau Glöckel presided and Frau Schmiel gave an address to show what services women could render the progressive parties, and why these were more worthy of the women's support than the others, especially the Christian-Social party (Christlichsozialen). There was great applause, some debate, and finally a resolve to unite efforts and support the progressive candidates.

The next day the meeting announced in our April-number took place, in which the question: What can women expect from the coming Parliament? was discussed by those parliamentary candidates as had complied with the W. S. C.'s request. They were mostly of the progressive parties. Frau von Fürth was in the chair, Frau Glöckel introduced the subject, showing the justice of women's enfranchisement and the expediency of the abolition of § 30. Then one candidate declared that he had often heard women speak better than men, and that he was quite ready to support the women's claims in Parliament. Another said that woman suffrage was far from being opportune, but that, as § 30 prevented the women from being politically educated, he would advocate its abolition. Then Dr. Ofner said he thought it highly improbable that, after the long debates on the extension of the franchise, which the country had just gone through, there would soon come a proposal of woman suffrage. Still it was necessary to begin with giving to women the same freedom of political discussion as to men; after that they might be given a vote for the Landtag (Diet), and finally also for the Parliament. Only then Austria might justly be termed a free state. In short, all the speakers expressed their conviction that the women's claims were just, and promised to advocate them in case they should be elected, especially with respect to the abolition of § 30. So this crowded meeting was a success not only, but it promises to bear fruit in the future.

On April 28th Mrs. Nini von Fürth presided another meeting, called by the W. S. Committee in order to give the women of Vienna an opportunity to hear Dr. Ofner speak on the duties of women towards the community. The future deputy showed how much the women's care was needed for the protection of old age and youth, for boards of guardians and foundling-hospitals, etc. and urged them not to neglect the study of great economical and political problems. Frau Hainisch pointed to the fact that Dr. Ofner had been the best supporter of women's rights in the late Parliament, and the president announced that a

women's Election Committee had been formed to promote Dr. Ofner's return to the Reichstag.

H. H.

Am 28. April 1907 manifestierten die böhmischen Frauen in einer Riesenversammlung, an der 3000 Personen teilnahmen, zu Gunsten des Frauenwahlrechtes in den Reichsrat, das ist, in das wiener Centralparlament; und für ihr politisches Versammlungsrecht. Es war eine ähnliche Versammlung, wie sie die wiener, brünner u. troppauer Frauen abgehalten haben.

Vor dieser Versammlung haben die böhmischen Frauen ungefähr 100 Anfragen an die Kandidaten aller Parteien verschickt, in welchen diesen nachstehende Fragen vorgelegt wurden:

1. Wie sieht die *Partei* des Kandidaten das Frauenwahlrecht an?

2. Wie wird er sich (*also seine Person*) zu der überreichten Petition für das Frauenwahlrecht verhalten?

3. Ob er sich für die Erstreckung des politischen Versammlungsrechtes auf die Frauen einsetzen wird?

Die Antworten wurden in die obenerwähnte Versammlung erbeten, wo sie vorgelesen werden sollten, denn es konnte nicht erwartet werden, dass jetzt, in der Zeit des Wahlkampfes, die Kandidaten persönlich in der Versammlung erscheinen könnten. Mit dem Resultate dieser Aktion sind wir voll zufrieden; in der Versammlung erhielten wir 54 zustimmende Briefe, — einige waren allerdings sehr politisch aufgesetzt; ausserdem haben die einzelnen politischen Parteien ihre offiziellen Vertreter in die Versammlung entsendet, die sich durchwegs zu Gunsten unserer Forderungen ausgesprochen haben, und schliesslich sandten uns 2 politische Parteien ihre zustimmende, bindende Erklärung schriftlich.

Die Fragebogen-Aktion wurde auch noch nach der Versammlung fortgesetzt. Auf Grund derselben wurde vor den Wahlen eine Aufforderung an die Frauen in allen Tageblättern erlassen, in der wir sie ersuchten die Männer ihrer Bekanntenkreisen mit einer richtigen Erklärung von der Wichtigkeit des Frauenwahlrechtes zu überzeugen, ihnen die Ungerechtigkeit, welche das Gesetz an den Frauen dadurch übt, dass es ihnen ihre Rechte abspricht, klarzulegen, und die Männer dahin zu bringen, dass sie den Frauen ihr Recht verschaffen, indem sie nur jenen Kandidaten ihre Stimmen geben, welche versprochen haben, sich für die Forderungen der Frauen einzusetzen. Die Namen dieser Kandidaten haben wir gleichzeitig in diesem Aufrufe publiciert.

Und wird auch das Resultat dieser Arbeit nicht gleich ein positives sein, so muss dennoch zugestanden werden, dass wir durch diese Arbeit ein sehr reges Interesse für unsere Sache — ebenso bei den Frauen wie bei den Männern — erweckt haben, und dass wir von Manchen die schriftliche Garantie besitzen, laut welcher sie sich verpflichtet, für die gerechte Forderung der Frauen zu arbeiten. F. PLANNINKOVÁ, Prague.

Italy.

Recently some women's societies in Milan united for the purpose of holding a public meeting on woman suffrage. A resolution in favour of votes for women was unanimously adopted. The "Unione femminile nazionale" of Milan, which had presented the resolution, gave it the form of a petition, for which in April they had already collected 1380 signatures, especially of factory-women. In order to gain understanding and sympathy among the working

people, and convinced that it is necessary to awaken the attention of the women of the working classes, the "Unione femminile nazionale" sent out a well-known speaker, who is a factory-woman, for making personal propaganda in the country. This delegate has now accomplished her task in three different regions of the north of Italy: Piedmont, Lombardy & Liguria. She says however that the Italian factory-women have not yet a clear conception of the value of social & political rights for women.

And in the South the suffragists are not idle neither. At Naples, during the municipal elections, they addressed an eloquent appeal, by means of big posters all over the town, to all women citizens, urging them to use their influence against bribery and for conscientious use of the ballot by their male relations, calling attention to their own want of rights and asking adhesion to the Woman Suffrage Association. The appeal was signed by the Municipal Employees' Association as well.

We have received the following account of Italian parliamentary procedure, showing how bills become law in Italy:

Art. 10 of the State Constitution says that the right of proposing laws belongs to the King and to the Parliament; so bills may be originated either by the King, and hence by Government or the Ministers, or by the Deputies or the Senators. Then follows discussion either by Sections (Uffici) or by a three-readings-system. The former is the most usual proceeding, the latter more exceptional. For this end, at the beginning of each parliamentary session the Chamber and the Senate appoint the Sections (Uffici) to the number of nine, having each a certain number of Deputies as members. Here bills are examined for the first time; and a majority in these committees approves or rejects, after which they each appoint a Reporter. The nine Reporters in their turn constitute another committee, which elects one Reporter who has to present the bill to the Chamber. Here follows a general discussion, from which results approval, rejection or modification. When a bill has been approved by the Chamber of Deputies, it is passed on to the Senate, where it undergoes the same process, and is approved, rejected or modified. In the latter case, it goes back to the Chamber for a vote on the modifications. The law-project having been approved and its text established, the King gives his assent by publishing it with his sanction, and so it becomes a law of the state.

On the other hand the King has the right of *veto*, i.e. refusing his signature; and then arises a conflict between Crown and Parliament, which necessitates new general elections. However our kings have never yet availed themselves of the right of *veto*.

Bills may be indifferently first presented either to the Chamber or to the Senate, except those of a financial character, which need the Chamber's approbation first. The three-readings-system consists of a first reading, in which the general project is communicated by way of information to the Chamber, not to the Sectional Committees (Uffici). In the second reading there is discussion of each of the different articles of the bill, and in the third the whole is adopted or rejected. Each reading is concluded by taking votes, and the next one is not proceeded with, unless a majority has been obtained. All laws come into force throughout the state on the fifteenth day after their publication.

Finland.

In expectation of the great things which we hope to report of the women members of the Finnish Parliament, when it shall have begun its session on May 22nd, we publish now a complete list of their names,*) birthdays, avocations and numbers of votes.

Of the Swedish Party:

Miss Dagmar Neovius, born 21 May 1867, head-teacher in a preparatory school, 4,509 votes.

Of the Young-Finnish Party:

Miss Lucina Hagman, born 5 June 1853, principal of a mixed lyceum, 6,085 votes.

Miss Alli Nissinen, born 26 December 1866, head-teacher in a preparatory school, 5,220 votes.

Of the Agrarian Party:

Miss Hilma Räsänen, born 1877, teacher in an elementary school, 5,608 votes.

Of the Finnish Party:

Baroness Alexandra Gripenberg, born 30 August 1857, editor, 27,585 votes.

Mrs. E. elina Ala-Kulju, born 27 October 1867, wife of a peasant, 6,942 votes.

Mrs. Hedvig Gebhard, born 14 December 1867, the only M. P. who was elected with her husband, 4,859 votes.

Mrs. Liisi Kivioja, born 10 January 1857, wife of a minister.

Miss Hilda Maria Kakikoski, born 30 January 1864, teacher in a lyceum, 20,411 votes.

Miss Ida Wemmelpuu, born 10 February 1868, principal of a popular high school.

Of the Socialdemocratic Party:

Miss Ida Aalle, born 6 May 1875, agitator (propagandist), 6,869 votes.

Mrs. Anna Maria Huotari, born 13 June 1868, officer of the S. D. Women's Club, 11,685 votes.

Mrs. Mimmi Kanervo, born 26 May 1870, wife of a workman.

Mrs. Jenny Maria Kilpiäinen, born 20 January 1882, textile worker, 4,628 votes.

Mrs. Maria Luine, born 13 February 1868, wife of a workman, 5,593 votes.

Mrs. Hilja Pärssinen, born 3 July 1876, teacher and editor of the S. D. Women's paper, 29,276 votes.

Mrs. Maria Raunio, born 26 May 1872, agitator (propagandist) 11,042 votes.

Miss Alexandra Reinholdsson, born 1 July 1873, dressmaker and propagandist for the trade-union, 14,969 votes.

Miss Miina Sillanpää, born 4 June 1866, editor and president of the servants' trade-union, 20,484 votes.

*) Two names were missing in the April-issue.

Australia.

The work for the State-elections in Victoria is now in full swing, as the elections are fixed for the end of April. The reader will remember that Victoria is the only one of the six federated states in which women do not possess the state suffrage.

In February the United Council for State Suffrage and the Women's Political Association issued an appeal to the men of Victoria, urging that the Council (Senate) should no longer be suffered to counteract the demand of woman suffrage, so

often made by the Assembly (House of Representatives), in which they say:

"Friends, On the eve of the State Elections we beg to remind you of the following facts about Woman Suffrage:—

1. Victoria was the first Australian Colony to have an organised Woman Suffrage movement.
2. The Victorian Parliament was the first in Australia to introduce a Woman Suffrage Bill.
3. The women of Victoria vote for School Boards, Municipal Councils, and the Federal Parliament.
4. The women of Victoria are the only women in the Commonwealth who do not possess the State Suffrage, which is the most important form of suffrage, as it touches the social, domestic, and industrial rights of the people more closely than the other three combined.
5. Woman Suffrage has been a leading question at five general elections; two-thirds of the candidates returned at these elections have been pledged to the reform; a Woman Suffrage measure, as the following record shows, has been before the Legislative Assembly 17 times in 15 years:—
6. There are 144,668 women breadwinners in Victoria, over 24 per cent of our women—50,982—are employed in country pursuits alone. Women breadwinners are as closely affected as men by every piece of industrial legislation placed on the Statute-book; yet they have no say about it.
7. The Conference of Premiers in Hobart, the Electoral Commission, and the recent Inter-State Conference declared in favour of uniform electoral machinery in the interests of economy, &c. The Commission reported that such uniformity would mean a saving of £ 76,000 per annum.

Men of Victoria!

Urge the Government to introduce a Woman Suffrage Bill without delay.

Are you Men satisfied that the Council should thus flout the Assembly?"

On 18 March a meeting of 36 representatives from 18 societies specially interested in securing woman suffrage was held at the W. C. T. U. headquarters; Miss Vida Goldstein presiding. It was decided to form a woman suffrage declaration committee, which shall confine itself to working for woman suffrage. Mrs. M. Hobbs was elected chairman, and Miss Vida Goldstein hon. sec. A lengthy discussion took place on the proposal put forward by the Women's Political Association that a woman should refuse to pay income tax, on the historic and constitutional grounds that "taxation without representation is tyranny," and so call public attention to the fact that the penalties of citizenship are forced on women, though the compensating privileges and rights are withheld from them. Owing to pressure of business the discussion was adjourned.

Great pleasure was expressed at the increased interest manifested in woman suffrage during the State elections, and the following resolution was passed unanimously—

"That this meeting directs the attention of the Cabinet and of anti-suffrage members of the Legislative Council to the significant facts that at the recent elections for the people's House 88 of the 116 candidates supported woman suffrage, and that every candidate who made his first appeal for Parliamentary honors was in favor of the reform,

with the exception of three, two of whom were brewers."

It was also resolved to ask the men and women who are in earnest about woman suffrage, who are not content to let the reform drift, because "it is bound to come," to make a declaration to the effect that they wish woman suffrage made a Government measure and passed into law without delay. And accordingly the Declaration Committee issued declaration forms, on which they requested people to sign with their full names, that the Christian names might make it possible to enumerate men and women supporters separately. These declarations were accompanied by a leaflet stating the arguments for the cause, some of which run thus:

"*Separate representation for men* roused the indignation of every democratic man and woman in Victoria. This injustice has been remedied. Is it not time that the greater injustice of *no representation for women* was remedied also?"

Anti-Suffragist members of Parliament advocate a Woman Suffrage Referendum. This is only a flimsy excuse for delaying Woman Suffrage indefinitely, as the Legislative Council has already rejected the proposal. The insincerity of those who make it was clearly shown by Mr. A. R. Robertson, M.L.A., on August 15th, 1906, in the Assembly, when he moved that a Woman Suffrage Referendum be taken, and said: "Whilst I am an absolute opponent of the referendum in all its forms, I know perfectly well that this will never go to a referendum, and consequently I am quite safe in moving that a referendum be taken on this question."—Vide "Hansard," No. 8, p. 936.

Four-fifths of those members who oppose Woman Suffrage are in favour of making it compulsory for men to vote. Is it consistent, is it wise, to compel men without a shred of public spirit to vote, while the privilege is denied to the public-spirited women who do want it?

Anti-Suffragists profess to believe that women do not want the vote. What *Constitutional means* have the women left untried to prove they want the vote?

The working of Woman Suffrage in New Zealand, in all the other Australian States, in the Commonwealth, has falsified every argument that was used against it. Its educative value is undeniable—at every election the women show increased public spirit, and cast a heavier vote; its practical value is undeniable—the women of the other States have won reforms for which the women of Victoria have worked 15 years in vain." We are most anxious to see the result of the vigorous action of our Victorian sisters.

Germany.

A bill, which was just issued by the government of *Württemberg*, concerning a *board of agriculture*, grants suffrage to female land-owners, though eligibility is still excluded.

Next autumn assembles the International Social-Democratic Congress in *Stuttgart*. The *German social-democratic women* brought in a motion, to treat universal suffrage for both sexes in the conferences.

The *law-suit* of Dr. Anita Augspurg is lost; her appeal to the supreme court was rejected. For "double offence of the police of Hamburg" she is sentenced to a fine of 200 M., a sum so diminutive, that it almost acknowledges the offending newspaper articles to be true. But besides, the offender has to pay the cost of the law-suit, which is cal-

culated to amount to several thousands. There is no alternative in Germany between paying the fine or going to prison, else Dr. A. would surely have chosen the latter. But only in case of insolvency, which has to be proved by oath, a fine is changed into prison. Dr. Augspurg being the owner of a cottage of course cannot plead insolvency.

The *National Union* for Women's Suffrage pushed its organisation into another German state, the Grandduchy of *Hessen*, by forming a local society in Worms. Besides a new local society was constituted in *Karlsruhe*, the capital of *Badenia*, and in *Heilbronn* (*Wurtemberg*) famous as the scenery of a play, glorifying female submissiveness in the utmost degree, "Kätchen von Heilbronn". Now we hope Heilbronn to become a place, where upright women are estimated in a modern sense. The German vice-president, Lida Gustava Heymann performed all these new foundations besides lecturing in a series of other places.

In *Munich* a large crowded meeting was held, 3rd of May, by the National Union in order to inaugurate the campaign for the Bavarian elections, on the 31st of May. The hall was filled with men and women to the last place of gallery, vestibule & even into the court. The vice-president was in the chair; the president Dr. Anita Augspurg held the leading speech & several candidates of the liberal party responded, declaring their readiness to promote women's interests in the future legislative period and their gratefulness for the women's support of their candidature. A great number of new members as well as of assistants for the campaign inscribed their names into the registers.

Dr. ANITA AUGSPURG, President.

The Women's Liberal League, mentioned in *Jus Suffragii* of March and of April, cannot fail to interest our readers. The League has not so much to fear from the police, who quietly assisted at its foundation, as from those German suffragists who either have different political opinions or hold that woman suffrage should be the first object to be kept in view, whilst party differences can be attended to after women shall have secured the ballot. The German women's papers are full of contending articles presenting these views, and we think it important to give here the League's program (platform). Meanwhile in April, at a national convention of Liberals, the Berlin Section and the N.W.S.A. presented a resolution to pledge the Liberal group in the Parliament to present a woman suffrage bill, but action in this matter was deferred. This is small proof of gratitude to the women, who so unreservedly adopted the Liberal party program.

Programm der liberalen Frauenpartei.

Angenommen am 31. Jan. '07.

I. Nationale Wehrkraft.

Eine Armee und eine Flotte, welche Deutschland befähigen, seine Weltmachtstellung aufrecht zu erhalten.

II. Wirtschaftspolitik.

- Energische Bodenreform.
- Schutz der nationalen Arbeit durch Handelsverträge.
- Unterstützung aller Massnahmen, welche eine gesunde und billige Volksernährung gewährleisten.
- Allmähliche Übernahme des Bergbaus in Staatsbetrieb.
- Beschleunigter Bahnbau in unseren Kolonien.

III. Schulfragen.

- Die allgemeine Volksschule als Grundlage des gesamten deutschen Bildungswesens.

- Unentgeltlichkeit des höheren Schulwesens und Stipendien an begabte Kinder unbemittelter Eltern.
- Gemeinsame Erziehung von Knaben und Mädchen in allen Schulen.
- Kampf gegen jede Herrschaft der Kirche auf dem Gebiete der Schule. (Abschaffung der Konfessionsschulen und der geistlichen Schulinspektion).
- Umwandlung der Schulen in Erziehungsheime durch Schöpfungen sozialpädagogischer Art.

IV. Arbeiterfrage.

- Gesetzliche Einführung des 8stündigen Arbeitstages.
- Allgemeine Mutterschaftsversicherung.
- Grundsätzliche Reform der Heimarbeit.
- Koalitionsrecht für die Landarbeiter und Dienstboten.
- Arbeitskammern mit gleichem Wahlrecht für Mann und Frau.

V. Wahlrecht.

- Das allgemeine, gleiche, direkte und geheime Wahlrecht zum Reichstage und zu den Landtagen für Männer und Frauen.
- Das Wahlrecht der Frau zu den Handelsgerichten und Gewerbegerichten.

VI. Andere Rechtsfragen.

- Ein freies Vereins- und Versammlungsrecht.
- Gezetzliche Abschaffung der Reglementierung der Prostitution.
- Aufhebung des Cölibats der beamteten Frauen.
- Reform der Ehegesetzgebung.
- Erweiterung der Rechte des unehelichen Kindes.

VII. Friedensbestrebungen.

Soweit als angängig internationale Schlichtung von Streitigkeiten durch ein weiter ausgebauten Schiedsgericht.

Maria Lischnewska.

Agnes Leonhardi.

M. Nörenberg v. Prossnitz.

Renetta Brandt.

Belgium.

The ministerial crisis and its result have not the least importance for the women's cause. A more interesting fact is the discussion in the Senate on the rights of natural children, in which the women's opinion was duly asked and taken into account. The socialist Senator Edmond Picard has consulted Miss van den Plas, a well-known philanthropist, Mme Gilain, the president of the W. S. A., and Miss Parent, a valiant promotor of the anti-alcohol movement; they all three declared in favour of assigning the child to the mother's care with financial support from the father, and Mr. Picard defended their views in the Senate.

The Labour Party too has thought opportune to consult the women as well as the men in a referendum on higher salary and 10-hours'-day. Among 37.335 voters, 15.393 were women, and they decidedly gave the lie to the oft-expressed fear that the women's vote would always be on the conservative side; for on counting, there were found 37.196 votes *for*, only 76 *against*, and 63 non-valid papers; among the number were 15.393 votes from women.

France.

On 28 April in the German Evangelical Church at Paris took place the first assembly of the congregation in which the women members voted. The first petition for this right had been presented by Dr. Käthe Schirmacher in the name of the suffragists in the meeting of 8 June 1906; after this a petition of church women had expressed the same desire, and finally the new statute of the congregation has conceded the desired suffrage.