

the cabinet, citing former members who resigned for that reason; but a little later made her demand ludicrous by admitting that Mr. Asquith, the premier, was anti-suffrage, he announcing that a majority of his cabinet were opposed to him! She forgot to cite a case where the majority of a cabinet resigned, instead of a minority. Another Suffrage Association, whose members seem not so anxious to perpetuate easy incomes, say that "to obstruct or bully the only man in the Government who can effectively oppose such enactment, because he is not doing it exactly your way, would be to be obsessed by a sense of your own importance and omniscience to an extent that is ludicrous."

Americans wonder why Mr. Asquith's suggestion to allow a member to amend his suffrage bill so as to include women, is unsatisfactory. The United States Cabinet is entirely apart from the house, the legislative body. The British cabinet sits in the House of Commons and leads most debates, and submits new bills. It is as though our president and cabinet should sit in the House and take the leading part in legislation. Therefore, when the Premier refuses to frame a bill or measure, leaving it to amendments, such measure has a bad start, and the party in power is almost sure to vote as the leader thus indicates. This is why the suffragists want their demand made "a party measure."—C. F. HUNT, London, England.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

HON. GEORGE FOWLDS NARROWLY DEFEATED FOR GREY LYNN.

Geo. Fowlds has been defeated as Parliamentary representative for Grey Lynn from which he was elected in 1902, 1905 and 1908. The first ballot taken early in Dec. resulted as follows:

Hon. G. Fowlds (G).....	3081
J. Payne (Lab).....	2183
W. H. Murray (O).....	1565

Under the New Zealand system this

made a new ballot necessary, which a week later resulted as follows:

J. Payne (L).....	3454
Hon. G. Fowlds (G).....	3423

Majority for Payne..... 31

Mr. Fowlds says, with the same hopeful courage which has sustained him for so many years in victory and defeat:

"Personally, I am neither sad nor downheartened at the result of my own election contest, or at the result of the elections generally. I intend to join at once with others in organizing a real Labor-Liberal party on the democratic basis of a bare majority."

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

During August, a bill to amend and consolidate the District Council Acts was introduced into the House of Assembly. The chief feature of the bill, so far as our league was concerned, was the clause giving power to raise revenue by a tax on the unimproved value of the land. With a view to strengthening the movement for reform, a circular letter was drafted, and this, with a petition form, was sent to every District Council in the State, 144 in all, asking that signatures be secured for same, and the petition be presented to the Legislative Council praying them to pass the clause giving power to rate on land values. Many satisfactory replies were received, and it now rests with the Council to decide the fate of the clause.

On September 23rd, a poll of the rate-payers of Norwood and Kensington was taken on the question of rating on land values. The Council of the League did all in their power to make the poll a success. Literature explaining the principle was freely circulated throughout the district, willing workers went through the tentative assessment and picked out all whose rates would be reduced, and post cards were sent to each of these. Meetings were held in every part of the municipality, but although a big majority of those going to the poll recorded their votes in favor of the principle, the 25% affirmative votes