

Pethick Lawrence Resignation

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

AL/3472

*Committee
Dec. 26th*

The National Women's Social and Political Union.

OFFICE: 4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Committee.

Auditor: A. G. SAYERS,

Chartered Accountant,

19, Hanover Square, W.

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Founder & Hon. Sec.

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.
Hon. Treasurer.

MRS. TUKE, Joint Hon. Sec.

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MISS ELIZABETH ROBINS.

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*All Communications,
unless marked "private" will be opened
by one of the Hon. Secretaries.*

November 20th, 1908.

Miss McKee,
25, Victoria Street,
Westminster, S. W.

Dear Miss McKee:-

I have remained a member hitherto of the Central Society, feeling that I could at least give this small sign of my good will towards the older Society, but I note in a reprint of Mrs Fawcett's speech that she says that she does not want the name or money of those who belong to another Society and therefore there is nothing for me to do but to now withdraw my membership and subscription. But let me say that while a member of the older Society I have never taken ^{action} or encouraged in any way action to be taken which would tend to complicate the situation for Mrs Fawcett or the members of the older Society. I fancy from hearsay, though I have no sure ground for believing it, that there is an impression that the discussion which took place at the Annual Meeting at Caxton Hall was instigated or influenced by the Officials of the W.S.P.U. I only want to say that there is not the smallest foundation for

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for any such impression. Not only did the Officials refuse to hear anything about it, but they definitely restrained anyone connected by relationship or by any sort of official capacity from attending the meeting even when they had the right to do so as members of long standing of the Central Society.

I cannot but be glad to think that the Women's Social & Political Union has shown the example of sex loyalty and of honour to opponents that I think all other Societies would do well ~~to~~ scrupulously to observe. We repudiate no women who are fighting for this greatest of all Causes neither do we attempt by public speech, by newspaper correspondence or in any other way to encourage the defection of women from the leaders whom they have chosen to follow.

I shall be glad if you will bring the matter of my letter to the attention of Mrs Fawcett and the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence