

AL/636

TELEGRAMS: CHECKENDON.

STATION: READING. 7½ MILES.

11 Swan Place  
Regent's Park N.W.

HEATH END,  
CHECKENDON,  
READING.

5 October 1909

Dear Mr. Sawcutt,

You probably know  
that it is arranged that I  
should speak after you, Miss  
Frances Sterling and (possibly  
Councillor Margaret Ashton of  
Manchester at the Cannon  
Street Hotel on the 19<sup>th</sup> inst.

I hope that at that  
meeting no one will denounce  
or even criticise the tactics  
of the militant supporters of  
our great cause, even though



some deem them unwise.

The speakers who in my opinion call the attention of the City audience to the arguments in favour of granting the Suffrage, the illogical position of those who refuse, the disadvantages arising from the present position of affairs and the advantages to men as well as to women of recognizing the full citizenship of the latter -

If questions are asked any



one can assure that she, or  
he, does not adopt militant  
methods; but I should  
not feel comfortable in  
sitting on the platform at a  
meeting at which an earnest  
and self-sacrificing group of  
suffragists is in any way  
attacked.

Probably there is no  
reason to think that any  
thing of the kind will be  
said; but I think it  
necessary to write owing  
to Miss Arnold's recent  
letter in the Times and  
your letter on behalf of the



National Union of Women's  
Suffrage Societies -

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Edward H. Bask

Rawcett Library  
27 Wilfred Street  
London S.W.1.

~~6854 @1~~







A-1638 8 Oct /09.

LANDHURST WOOD,  
HARTFIELD,  
SUSSEX.

My dear Mrs Fawcett,

I certainly have no desire to  
'denounce' individuals, & would of course make a general  
Innate speech as well and amply as I knew how, but I  
cannot accept Sir E. Buxton's conditions. I can never  
again consent to have my hands tied as to the subject of  
what he calls 'facts' (but which I consider to be fundamental  
principles deeper & more important even than the immediate  
attainment of the franchise) // This being the case I think  
it wd. be better that I should not be at the



Fawcett Library  
27 Wilfred Street  
London S.W. 1.

6854(6)

Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> - it might lead to complications  
I put you or the Society into an awkward position.  
Perhaps you will tell them at the office - I don't  
know who is working with you in arranging the  
meeting as Edith just asked me informally one  
day in July to "keep the 19<sup>th</sup>" for a city meeting.

I am glad to hear that some good work was done  
at Cardiff - The League with Water Resolutions  
which appeared in the Times have spread little short of dismay in several breasts!  
Ever yr affectionate daughter, M. Sterling.



London Society for Women's Suffrage.

Hitherto known as

THE CENTRAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

AL/639

Fawcett MS

Telephone: 3119 VICTORIA.

Telegrams: "VOICELESS," LONDON

President:—

THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR.

25, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER

(Entrance, Orchard Street).

Secretary:—

MISS P. STRACHEY.

LONDON, S.W.

2 Gower Street, Oct 10

My dear Mr Ward,

The enclosed correspondence explains itself. I replied to Sir E. Bask that I am definitely explained the position of the N.A. and of the London Society towards acts of violence. I did not feel called upon to "denounce" or criticise the W.S. & P.A. at the City



meeting. I don't see how I can

help Sterling and you will see she  
will do as her promise & speak as

she likes. But I have strongly

urged her & reconsider this &

we need not take any steps

& fill her place unless you

hear from her.

I am going

away early tomorrow, and speak  
& discuss at a different place every

night till the end of the week;

so please put this letter through



the best way you can. You will have  
me for the chair & Sir E. Buxton  
any how. But ~~still~~ please note  
that if Miss Sterling speaks  
she is to follow Sir E. Buxton

Yours very truly

W. G. Barrett