

E. Knight.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

REPORT

OF THE

*Women's Freedom
League*

From April 1924 to April 1925.

AND OF THE

EIGHTEENTH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 25, 1925.

Price Threepence

PUBLISHED BY THE

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

144, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.1.

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CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC
FAWCETT COLLECTION

Calcutta House
Old Castle Street
London E1 7NT

39000 65087

324.62306041

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

List of Officers.

President:

MISS ANNA MUNRO.

Hon. Treasurer:

DR. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary:

MRS. WHETTON.

Hon. Head of Literature Department:

MRS. PIEROTTI.

General Secretary:

MISS F. A. UNDERWOOD.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.1.

Telegrams: Despard, Museum 1429. *Telephone, Museum,* 1429.

COLOURS : GREEN, GOLD AND WHITE.

Weekly Paper : "The Vote."

Auditors:

HOMERSHAM & WATTS,
Incorporated Accountants.

106, St. Clement's House, Clement's Lane, E.C. 4.

Bank:

BARCLAY'S BANK, Ltd. (Strand Branch.)

CONSTITUTION.

OBJECTS.—To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the powers already obtained to elect women in Parliament, and upon other public bodies, for the purpose of establishing equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

MEMBERSHIP.—To be open to Women and Men who approve the objects and policy of the League, and who pay a yearly subscription, the minimum annual subscription being One Shilling.

COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS.—The National Executive Committee shall consist of a President, an Honorary Treasurer and 12 members to be nominated by the Branches and elected by the Annual Conference, the Committee to have power to appoint its General Secretary (who shall be paid if necessary) and Heads of Departments.

The National Executive Committee to meet from 6 to 10 times in the year for the transaction of business; and the final power of the League to be vested in the Annual Conference, to which branches shall send their delegates, one delegate representing from 12 to 50 members.

METHODS.—The objects of the League shall be promoted by:—

1. Action entirely independent of all political parties.
2. Support of suitable women candidates, approved by Headquarters and our local Branch, for local bodies and for Parliament.
3. Education of public opinion in sex equality—women to have equal voting power with men, equal right to hold all high Offices of State, to be included in International Councils, to form one-half of all Reconstruction Committees, to have equal pay and equal opportunities in all professions and trades, and in all Government Offices. Women also to share equally in the administration of the law: the Prison Commissioners to consist equally of women and men and women to form one-half of every Jury Panel.
4. Co-operation in forming Associations of Women Voters to discuss public questions and to watch the proceedings of persons elected to local bodies and to Parliament. Further, to investigate the proceedings in local Police Courts in the interests of women.
5. Vigorous agitation to insist upon the recognition of equal morality for men and women, and to oppose any sex legislation which may operate unfairly between men and women.

Report of the EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

Saturday, April 25th, 1925,

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., was in the Chair. Delegates were present from Mid-London, Minerva Club, Thames Valley, Ashford, Bexhill, Hastings, Middlesbrough, Portsmouth, Wallasey, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Montgomery Boroughs, Swansea.

All members of the retiring National Executive Committee were present with the exception of Mrs. Dexter (through illness), Miss Spriggs, Miss Jessie Stephen and Miss Jane Thomson.

Miss Anna Munro was elected President, Dr. Knight was re-elected Hon. Treasurer and the following were elected to form the National Executive Committee: Miss Alix M. Clark, Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., Mrs. Dexter, Miss Haugh, B.Sc., Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P., Dr. Octavia Lewin, Mrs. Foster Lumb, Miss Morton, M.B.E., Miss C. Neal, Miss M. I. Neal, Mrs. Strickland, and Miss Harvey, Mrs. Fiskin, Miss Spriggs, Miss C. L. Thomson, B.A. (Scottish Alternates).

After the Chairman's Address, the Reports of the Honorary Treasurer, General Secretary, the Political Department, Honorary Organising Secretary, and the Honorary Heads of the Literature and "Vote" Sales Departments and of the Minerva Publishing Company were adopted.

Emergency Resolutions were passed calling upon the Home Secretary when framing his Factories Bill to see that no further restrictions are imposed on women workers which are not also imposed on men workers, and protesting against the differentiation in pay and increment as between the sexes in the recent Burnham Award.

Congratulations were sent to Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., on her appointment as assessor to the Advisory Commission on Traffic in Women and Protection of Children in the League of Nations.

The principal resolutions passed were:

Chief Objects of the League Reaffirmed.

This Conference reaffirms the position of the Women's Freedom League in regard to (1) equal suffrage; (2) equal opportunities and equal pay for women and men throughout all branches of our national life; (3) equal guardianship of children; (4) women's unemployment; (5) women prison commissioners, women governors and women deputy-governors, and women medical officers in all women's prisons and women's sections of prisons; (6) women police; (7) raising the Age of Consent.

Political.

This Conference regrets that the King's Speech contained no reference to women's franchise, and expresses its extreme indignation at the attitude taken up by the Government in moving an Amendment which secured the defeat of Mr. Whiteley's Equal Franchise Bill; and reiterates its demand for a Government measure, to be introduced and carried into law at the earliest possible date next Session, which will enfranchise women at the age of twenty-one, on a short residential qualification. In the opinion of the Women's Freedom League the suggested Conference is not only unnecessary but mischievous.

Cash Statement

Jan 1 to Dec 31 1925

<p>Subscriptions, Donations etc as per list 533.0.0</p> <p>Branches etc. " <u>143.17.8</u></p> <p>Tickets 38.1.8</p> <p>Collections 30.12.1</p> <p>Spring Sale 50.17.7</p> <p>G.W. & G. Fair 289.10.3</p> <p>Sundries 164.18.7</p> <p>Interest 4.19.10</p> <p>Cash at Bank Jan 1 '25</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">on Dep. 250.0.0</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Current 226.1.0</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">In hand 1.0</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>476.2.0</p>	<p>675.17.8</p> <p>38.1.8</p> <p>30.12.1</p> <p>50.17.7</p> <p>289.10.3</p> <p>164.18.7</p> <p>4.19.10</p> <p>476.2.0</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>1730.19.8</p>	<p>Office Expenses 211.6.3</p> <p>Hire of Halls 61.3.9</p> <p>Stationery 31.6.9</p> <p>Printing & Advtg 73.11.6</p> <p>Postage 62.11.3</p> <p>Salaries 700.16.3</p> <p>Travelling 121.5.2</p> <p>Voluntary W. Exp. 67.8.8</p> <p>affn to G.W.S.A. 1.0.0</p> <p>" - C.W.S. 2.0.0</p> <p>" - Br. Comm. League 1.1.0</p> <p>" - N.C.W. & Ticket fund 1.17.0+</p> <p>" - Council Rep. W. League of Nations 1.1.0</p> <p>Cash at Bank Dec 31 '25</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Dep £25.0.0.0</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Current 145.4.3</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">In hand 2.10</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>395.7.1</p>	<p>211.6.3</p> <p>61.3.9</p> <p>31.6.9</p> <p>73.11.6</p> <p>62.11.3</p> <p>700.16.3</p> <p>121.5.2</p> <p>67.8.8</p> <p>1.0.0</p> <p>2.0.0</p> <p>1.1.0</p> <p>1.17.0+</p> <p>1.1.0</p> <p>395.7.1</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>1730.19.8</p>
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This Conference calls upon the Government immediately to put into force the provisions of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, especially in regard to the employment of married women.

Election Policy.

That in the event of another General Election, the Women's Freedom League should, if possible, run a Women's Freedom League candidate.

Equality of Opportunity for Women.

This Conference calls upon the Government to remove the injustice of differentiating between the payment of men and women doing similar work, and of denying women full opportunity for promotion in the various branches of the State.

Propaganda.

In view of the ignorance on women's questions which was brought out during the last General Election, this Conference urges the National Executive Committee and Branches to formulate a scheme for further propaganda work:—(a) By making a great effort to increase the circulation of *The Vote*; (b) By writing to the Press on women's questions; (c) By street oratory; (d) By distributing pamphlets and leaflets which show the disabilities under which women suffer by our laws as at present constituted.

The Vote.

In order to stimulate local interest in THE VOTE, this Conference calls upon all Branch Secretaries and members of the Women's Freedom League to send regular reports of their Branch activities to THE VOTE, noting in them any local press correspondence concerning the aims or work of the Women's Freedom League, also any items of interest concerning the achievements of our members, or local women, or local conditions of women's work likely to be of interest to our readers.

Women and Children.

This Conference demands that the laws shall be so altered that both parents have equal rights in respect of their children, and that the mother be given equal rights with the father in claiming exemption from vaccination.

This Conference urges the Government to introduce and expedite a Bill to enable British women to retain their nationality on marriage without waiting for the sanction of any Imperial Conference.

That the law be amended as regards husband and wife—that it be impossible for a man to leave his wife penniless, that she be entitled to at least one-third of his estate.

Income Tax.

This Conference demands that the Income Tax for husband and wife be separately assessed and separately taxed.

Education.

This Conference demands that the school-leaving age be raised to 16 years at once with provision for maintenance where necessary, and that the 1918 Act be put into operation without further delay.

Housing.

This Conference calls upon the Government to make it compulsory for local authorities to build more houses for letting, and to appoint women as rent collectors and supervisors of property, protests against the lowering of the standard of Housing by the present Minister of Health, and considers that no more one-roomed houses should be built, as these are below the minimum of accommodation suitable for human beings, and demands that, where unfurnished houses are left unoccupied for more than a certain period, the owners should be compelled to let them.

Widows' Pensions.

This Conference demands that the Government put into operation at once a non-contributory scheme of pensions for widows with dependent children, protests against the suggestion that widows' pensions should be contributory, and urges that these pensions should be paid through a State department, and not through Approved Societies.

Railway Carriages Reserved for Women.

This Conference calls upon the Government to bring forward and carry into law a Bill requiring all trains to include compartments for women only, that a fairer proportion should be non-smoking, and that we take steps to approach the various railway companies with a view to making it compulsory that trains always be lit up in tunnels.

Penal Reform.

This Conference demands that Capital Punishment should be abolished.

This Conference protests strongly against the attempts being made to exclude women from Courts of Justice and Inquiry which by law and custom are open to the public.

This Conference demands that provision shall be made so that no child shall be born in prison.

This Conference demands that every Bench shall have women magistrates in equal numbers with men.

This Conference is gratified to learn that there has been an increase in the number of women police, and urges a still further increase for uniformed women police.

This Conference urges all public authorities, in the interests of the public, to employ women as park-keepers in all our public parks.

General.

This Conference urges the Government to reduce the age for old age pensions to 65.

That, in addition to the provision of nurses and health visitors, municipal authorities should also employ a staff of home helpers, to assist women in their own homes in times of sickness.

This Conference calls upon the Government to stop the traffic in worn-out horses.

Chairman's Address.

Again I have the honour and pleasure of bidding the delegates to Conference a hearty welcome on behalf of the members of the National Executive Committee. This is the 18th Conference of the Women's Freedom League, and we are still working for our earliest object—the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as men.

Year after year our hopes have been high that before the next Conference our first object would be realised, and perhaps our hopes were never higher than last year when a Labour Government, entirely pledged to this reform, was in power. Delays, which destroyed the confidence of many supporters in that Government, caused the non-realisation of our hopes. An election occurring placed another party in power, and we fear that much more self-denying work is necessary before our object will be achieved.

This year our demand was embodied in a Bill introduced by Mr. Whiteley of the Labour Party, but a Government Amendment promising a conference on the subject caused its defeat. A conference for considering whether women should have votes on the same terms as men is absolutely unnecessary at this time of day. The principle has been accepted numerous times by Parliament in the passing of the First and Second Readings of Franchise Bills, and we can only think that the proposed Conference is designed to hinder rather than to help. It means much unnecessary talk, and we fear

an insidious attempt will be made to discover some means of withholding justice from women.

Sex prejudice is still strong, and men are unwilling to be fair as far as women are concerned. We ask a fair field and no favour. Given equal opportunities with men, women will be able to serve the community better than they do now, whether in the intellectual or industrial field. As it is, much of their energy is spent in attempts to remove the barriers which prevent them giving of their best. They are compelled to fight hard for every step forward, but the cause—the complete emancipation of womanhood—is so just that, given courage and determination, they must progress.

None know this better than the women who have grown old in the movement which they joined in their youth. Despite rebuffs so much has been won that the young woman of to-day finds it difficult to believe that much of what she accepts as her right, women, less than 15 years ago, were suffering ridicule and going to prison to obtain, some even giving their lives. Courage and determination of such a kind cannot miss achieving their object.

We have won the vote, even though limited. We have women doctors, lawyers, magistrates, jurors, Members of Parliament, a woman second only to the President in the Department of Education—and we must not rest. Instead, it is necessary to be more vigilant, or we begin to lose what we have won. Take the case of the teachers. At one time the organ of the National Union of Teachers used to publish a scale of salaries equal for men and women as their object. To-day, the National Union of Teachers accept the new Burnham Scale which differentiates between the sexes, and the women are the losers. The committee which agreed upon the Scale was overwhelmingly composed of men, and the results make it very patent that women must have fair representation on all bodies which deal with matters concerning their sex. Unfortunately, some public authorities are attempting to use the findings of the Burnham Committee as a means of lowering women's salaries in other professions. Women doctors are amongst the first to suffer from the attack. Women councillors and guardians need to be very watchful, and should offer strenuous opposition to any attempts which are made to standardise women's pay at less than men's. It will be hard for them to succeed owing to the preponderance of men members on the various bodies, and these men members are so often a generation behind in their ideas concerning women. Protests will arouse public interest, and we must be ready to direct public opinion. One very great help will be the election of many more women to our local administrative bodies.

A year ago we were rejoicing in having eight women Members of Parliament. To-day we have only half that number, the women candidates sharing the fate of their parties, and also having the handicap, in most cases, of fighting exceedingly difficult seats. Men are not yet ready to give the women candidates of their party the contests that seem likely to result in victory. Money controls, to a very great extent, the choice of candidate, and women suffer a disability in this respect.

A new woman Member, however, was elected in the town where your present President lives, and the Middlesbrough Branch are proud that their many years of work have largely contributed to the success of the candidature of Miss Ellen Wilkinson, a keen suffragist, and believer in the equality of the sexes.

We are met still another year under the dark cloud of unemployment. Industrially, conditions are not so good as they were last year in many respects, and the numbers of unemployed are higher. Those who work amongst the families of the unemployed can see the general deterioration which is going on. Food is dear, and many families do not get enough to eat. It is distressing to read the budgets drawn up by pinched and careful housewives who are trying to maintain families on the unemployment insurance benefit, relief from the guardians, or the small wages now being paid.

Our school-children are showing the marks of privation, and we are compelled to resort to feeding them at school if they are to benefit by their instruction.

The war is being paid for heavily now by suffering in working-class homes. The comfortable classes who govern need to speed up negotiations

for a real world peace or they will receive a violent shock. Mothers of suffering families are not as meek as they used to be, and they will make their protest felt. They are better able to express themselves, and they are no longer believers that men alone can manage the affairs of the world for the good of mankind. The world war and its results are opening women's eyes to the fact that they must share with men the responsibility of making a world fit for their children to live in. There is something that men have missed in their long period of rule, and where they have failed it is quite possible that the full co-operation of women may mean success.

In every part of the world the emancipation of women is making headway. In all the colonies, with the exception of South Africa, the franchise, complete or partial, has been won. In Northern Europe equal franchise is general, and women cabinet ministers are not now a novelty. In the Latin countries, women's status and share in governing are advancing, and it is quite probable that at the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress in Paris, next year, we shall celebrate the extension of the franchise in some of those countries.

The recent elections in Egypt have shown that women there are taking a greater share in affairs, and the news from India and other Eastern countries is most encouraging.

Perhaps the least satisfactory feature of our work is the position of the married woman as mother and worker. She is still not recognised as the parent of her child with powers equal to those of the father. Concessions have been made, but with irritating reservations, and we shall not rest content with anything less than equality.

Despite the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919, women who marry are debarred from following professions for which they have been trained. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in the number of authorities penalising women in this respect, and we ask all women elected to local bodies to oppose strenuously the dismissal of women because of their marriage.

Progress is slow in the direction of the Reform of the Law concerning nationality of married women. We appreciate Major Harvey's resolution, but we are not content that the British Parliament should wait for the consent of our Colonies before proceeding to allow British women the same freedom as men in changing or retaining their nationality.

The longer one lives and works in the Women's Movement, the more one wonders at the time men have spent in legislating to put restrictions on the freedom of women. They could have better employed their time, and an atonement long overdue is a measure giving women equal citizen rights with men.

I must not close without drawing attention to the reports before you. They are a record of work which must be very pleasing to the members of the League. Money has not been plentiful, but enthusiasm has overcome that very real difficulty, and we are fortunate in having officials who do not spare themselves in any way. This Conference is your opportunity to criticise these records where you think necessary, and also in your discussions you should indicate what you wish done in the future. Your Committee is anxious that you should pool your ideas, and that, whatever is decided upon, the branches should in their different districts do their utmost to support.

If we wish to move the Government, we must not spare ourselves.

Hon. Treasurer's Report.

The year 1924 was slightly better financially than the previous year, our income rising from £1,278 to £1,373.

The Birthday Fund reached £345, an increase of £12. Mrs. Despard came back to us from Ireland to celebrate her birthday in the League, and we had a delightful Party on July 4, and rejoiced to welcome a great crowd of members and old friends, many suffragists from all parts of the Dominions, and our Woman Member of the Government, Miss Margaret Bondfield, who made a charming little speech of congratulation to our First-President.

Our "Green, White and Gold" Fair, held on Nov. 28 & 29 at Central Hall, Westminster, was opened by Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P. and Miss Susan Lawrence. In spite of the reaction after the General Election on October 29, it was very successful; we had 18 of our own stalls and let 17 others to Societies, &c., bringing in altogether £303, an increase of £62.

We must aim at a steady increase of takings, every branch should provide its own stall. Our London members support the "Fair," well; they nearly all come and try to make all their necessary purchases at it; what we want on the stalls is more goods of a useful and necessary nature and more buyers outside our own ranks. We ask all who rent stalls to bring in their own supporters and so help in the general success.

The Spring Sale held in her drawing room, by the kindness of Dr. Lewin, made over £50.

In the Autumn the General Election Fund for helping Women into Parliament reached only £30, we expended £37 and with this small sum and much voluntary help, gave great assistance by means of organisers, canvassers, workers, motors and special literature to no fewer than 16 women Parliamentary candidates, and this help was greatly appreciated.

On the other hand our expenditure has fallen by £56, chiefly in the item of salaries, so that on December 31 last we had increased our bank balance to £476, a profit on the year's working of £86.

Support from Branches, though growing, is still very poor; Montgomery Boroughs and Wallasey have increased their contributions and the Minerva Club and Thames Valley are new and vigorous branches.

Realising that our branches were in need of an organiser's help, we have sent Miss Lenton to Brighton, Glasgow and Edinburgh, and are glad to say that Glasgow is now enthusiastically re-started on its useful, and successful career. We hope to help other branches in the same way, and must call on all our members to do their part in a healthy rivalry in building up their own branches and giving that increased support to headquarters which we need to make our work effective. However difficult it may be for a branch, it is absolutely necessary that a special money-making piece of work, jumble sale, social, competition, &c., should be carried through for Headquarters by each branch at least once a year.

Warmest thanks must be given to Mrs. Fisher and the Minerva Café and to the Minerva Club for their unfailing kindness and support, and to Miss Berry for her unselfish labours to which the success of the "Fair" is largely due, and it must be understood that the work of the League could not be carried on at all under present conditions without the splendid help of our voluntary organisers and workers, and of our General Secretary and small Office Staff.

We again have with sorrow to record the deaths of several old colleagues and friends; Mrs. Duval, a National Executive Committee member in 1908, Dr. Patch an original member of the League and always an enthusiastic colleague, Dr. Lillias Hamilton who spoke so eloquently through the Clyde Coast Campaign of 1923, Mrs. Thomas, who came to London from Swansea Branch, a member of our "Fair" Committee, Mrs. Grace Goodall who always assisted by character delineations at "Fairs" and Sales, Miss Clara Lee, Hon. Secretary for many years of our Letchworth Branch, and Miss Bisset Smith, both original members of the League, and Miss Colley, Hon. Treasurer of our Mid-London Branch.

Secretary's Report.

At the last Annual Conference held at Caxton Hall, April 5th, 1924, Dr. Knight was returned unopposed as the Hon. Treasurer, and members of the Committee elected in the following order:—Miss Anna Munro, Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., Miss C. Neal, Mrs. Whetton, Dr. Lewin, Scottish delegate (to be shared by Miss Spriggs, Mrs. Jackson and Miss J. Thomson), Miss Alix M. Clark, Miss M. I. Neal, Mrs. Dexter, Miss Harver-son, LL.B., Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P. and Mrs. Strickland.

At that Conference a resolution was passed without opposition, that a President be appointed annually. Mrs. Schofield Coates was asked to accept the Presidency of the Women's Freedom League and she consented to do so subject to ratification by the Branches. At the National Executive Committee meeting held May 10th it was reported that the Branches had done this, and Miss Jessie Stephen was invited, as the next one in order on list of candidates for election, on to the Committee. When the letter reached her she was in Canada. She said she would be pleased to do so, but she could not return for a Committee meeting before November 29th.

Your Committee has met 8 times.

Appointments: Mrs. Whetton was appointed Hon. Organising Secretary of the Women's Freedom League; Mrs. Pierotti and Miss Harver-son, Joint Heads of the Literature Department; and Miss Alix M. Clark, Hon. Head Vote Sales Department. Mr. Gush was asked to continue as Hon. Solicitor to the Women's Freedom League, and Miss Homersham was re-appointed Auditor.

Branches: It has been a pleasure to have a record of the regular meet-ings, among them public meetings as well as social meetings, held by several of our Branches. There has also been ample evidence that Branches take note of what is happening locally, and deal with those happenings on the spot. Montgomery Boroughs has attacked Poor Law mismanagement in its district; Wallasey has dealt with the Milk Question, and some of its members protested vigorously against the exclusion of women by the Birken-head Coroner from the Rock Ferry Murder Case inquest; while one of its members, Mrs. Graham, J.P. made one of the finest defences in the Press of the employment of a married woman doctor; and Thames Valley has per-sistently, and with success, pursued the subject of women magistrates in the district. The Branches which have been active throughout the year, and have recorded their activities in "THE VOTE" are Ashford, Bexhill, Edinburgh, Hampstead, Hastings, Middlesbrough, Minerva Club, Mid-London, Montgomery Boroughs, Portsmouth, Swansea, Thames Valley, Wallasey. Brighton, Glasgow and Letchworth under special difficulties, have been active.

London Meetings: On May 30th last Headquarters organised a very successful Reception to Overseas suffragists at the Minerva Club; on May 10th we joined with the National Union of Women Teachers in a Trafalgar Square meeting to demand equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status; on July 5th we co-operated with the Six Point Group, the National Union of Women Teachers, and the Actresses Franchise League in the organisation of a Trafalgar Square protest against the Government's Guardianship of Infants Bill because it did not give mothers equal rights and responsibilities with fathers over their children. The Chair was taken by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and the speakers included Mrs. Despard, Lady Rhondda, Mrs. Drummond, Miss Agnes Dawson and Miss Adeline Bourne. On October 10th, we organised an Indignation Meeting at Essex Hall, Strand. Twenty-four women's organisations were represented and the speakers were: Miss Elliott (National Union of General and Municipal Workers) Miss E. Fitzgerald (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance); Miss Hardy (National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship); Miss Ellen Crosby (National Union of Women Teachers); Miss Enid Lapthorne (Women's National Liberal Federation); Miss Anna Munro, Mrs. Mustard and Dr. Lewin (Women's Freedom League) and Mrs. White (Federation of Women Civil Servants). Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates was in the Chair. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That this meeting of representatives of twenty-four organisations, wholly or mainly consisting of women, expresses deep indignation that British women are for the fourth time since their partial enfranchisement having to face a General Election with unequal voting powers with men, there being now nearly five million voteless women over the age of 21 in this Country. It therefore calls upon the heads of all political parties to make a definite statement without delay that they will make the removal of this injustice to women one of their first legislative measures, should they come into office." On Sunday afternoon,

November 30th, the day after our Green, White and Gold Fair, we had a Rally of members at the Minerva Club and informal speeches were made by Mrs. Juson Kerr, Miss Hall, Miss Pearson, Miss Spriggs, Miss Reeves, Miss Underwood and others; Dr. Knight being in the Chair. On Thursday evening, November 27th, we had a dinner at the Minerva Club at which the guest of honour was Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P. Mrs. Schofield Coates was in the Chair; Miss Wilkinson was the chief speaker, and short speeches of welcome were made by Dr. Knight, Mrs. Crawford (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance); Mrs. White (Federation of Women Civil Servants); Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson; Miss Horan (National Union of General and Municipal Workers) Miss Mayo (Six Point Group); Miss Evans (Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries) and Miss Underwood. On the evening of April 25th, Miss Emily Phipps was our guest of honour at a dinner at the Minerva Club. The most cordial thanks of Headquarters are offered to Miss Reeves, residents of the Minerva Club, and its staff, for making the functions at the Club so attractive.

Visits to Branches: In June last Miss Alix M. Clark spent a few days in Letchworth and was successful in re-forming that Branch. A drawing-room meeting was held there by the very kind permission of Mrs. Lynn, Mrs. Mustard and Miss Clark being the speakers. Miss Clark also visited Edinburgh and Glasgow branches when in Scotland making arrangements for the Clyde Coast Campaign. Dr. Lewin spoke at meetings arranged by our Hampstead, Bexhill and Hastings branches, Miss Munro at meetings arranged by Bexhill and Hastings Branches as well as at meetings of our Edinburgh and Glasgow Branches early this year. Miss M. I. Neal spoke at a meeting arranged by our Ashford Branch; Miss Jessie Stephen at a meeting arranged by our Portsmouth Branch, Mrs. Juson Kerr and Mrs. Mustard at meetings arranged by Thames Valley Branch.

Outside Societies: Mrs. Mustard has spoken at a meeting arranged by the Hornsey Conservative and Unionist Association on "Women of To-day." Mrs. Whetton to the National Union of Women Teachers on "Women in Public Life," Miss Underwood to the Teddington Women Citizens Association on "Equal Franchise", to the Kingston-on-Thames Church of Humanity on the "Need for Women Magistrates" and to the Alexandra Park Women's Local Government Association on "Penal Reform."

Clyde Coast Campaign. This campaign was again organised by Miss Alix M. Clark, with Miss Lilian Lenton as speaker, from Rothesay as its Headquarters. Splendid nightly meetings were held for four weeks at Rothesay, and good afternoon meetings at Largs, Dunoon, Milport and Helensburgh. Six thousand copies of "THE VOTE" were sold, and 1,650 pamphlets, chiefly our "British Women M.P.s."

International Woman Suffrage Alliance. We heard from Mrs. Hubback that the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship agreed to our former representation on this Alliance—two full delegates and two alternates. The Women's Freedom League will be properly recognised as an affiliated organisation at the next I.W.S.A. Congress. We agreed to Miss Helen Fraser's appointment to the Equal Pay and Right to Work (now the "Equal Conditions for Men and Women") Committee of this Alliance. We sent two resolutions to the Board Meeting asking that women should be put on the Slavery Commission and that another woman should be added to the Mandates Commission. In connection with the I.W.S.A. is the British Overseas Committee, the meetings of which have throughout the year been attended by Dr. Knight and Mrs. Hanscomb. It arranged various Conferences with suffragists in the British Dominions, and Mrs. Hanscomb has been appointed to represent this Committee on the Anti-Slavery League. It also erected and organised a Pavilion at Wembley Exhibition and the Women's Freedom League took charge of two regular days each week, in that Pavilion, among those helping in that work being Mrs. Hanscomb, Mrs. Ewen, Miss Lyndon, Mrs. Harvey James, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Delbanco, Miss Stella Wolfe Murray, Miss Warriner, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. Bevill, Miss Bergman.

Prevention of Causes of War Conference: Mrs. Ewen represented the Women's Freedom League at this Conference held at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, and organised by the International Council of Women. Mrs. Ewen also represented us at the Fourth Annual International Democratic Congress for Peace. Mrs. Ewen also acted on this Congress's Arrangements Committee and kindly gave hospitality to foreign delegates.

National Council of Women. Dr Lewin was nominated as our delegate to the Council's Annual Meetings at Brighton, October 6th to 11th, and also to its Executive Committee, to which she was subsequently elected. The following resolution was sent by us and carried:—"That the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland urges the Government to introduce the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work, which operates among Members of Parliament, for all employees in the service of the State, irrespective of sex." We also agreed to second or support an Equal Franchise resolution, proposed by the N.U.S.E.C., Widows' Pensions Resolution (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance); Women Police (Hornsey Branch of N.C.W.); and the following resolution proposed by the Association for Social and Moral Hygiene: "That this Council urges upon all its Branches and Affiliated Societies to consider what steps should be taken to secure the loyal adherence of young people to a high and equal moral standard and, in particular, to study how the reasons for good morals and good citizenship may best be presented to them."

Consultative Committee. We have two delegates on this Committee. Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Dexter, Mrs. Pierotti and Miss Underwood have attended the meetings, and taken part in Conferences regarding the Guardianship of Infants Bill, on Questionnaires, etc., upholding the Women's Freedom League point of view on all the questions which came before it. Mrs. Mustard and Mrs. Dexter attended its Annual Meeting as our delegates. Among other subjects brought forward by us was that of carriages reserved for women on all trains.

Lady Astor's Receptions. The Women's Freedom League very warmly thank Lady Astor for so kindly holding her invaluable political receptions, to which she has invited Members of the Committee to meet and consult with members of both Houses of Parliament, representatives of other Women's Organisations and distinguished women workers.

Conference on the Unmarried Mother and her Child. Mrs. Mustard attended this Conference as our representative. It was organised by the Six Point Group.

Women's Advisory Council on the League of Nations Union: Mrs. Dexter has represented the Women's Freedom League at the meetings of this Council and upheld our view against restrictive measures on women industrial workers.

Meeting of Mrs. Swanwick and representative Women's Organisations: This was a meeting convened by the Women's International League before Mrs. Swanwick's departure to Geneva as substitute delegate at the Fifth Assembly. Miss Underwood represented the Women's Freedom League and secured Mrs. Swanwick's approval and promise to uphold our views if opportunity arose on the various matters dealt with at the Assembly.

St. Mary's Hospital: Miss Underwood represented the League at the Conference of Women's Organisations convened by the Six Point Group to discuss the refusal of this Hospital to continue taking women medical students. She gave the Women's Freedom League signature to a telegram of protest to its Board of Management and also to a letter sent round to the General Press.

Guardianship of Infants: Dr. Knight represented the Women's Freedom League at a Conference convened by the Six Point Group to protest against the Labour Government's refusal to incorporate a Clause in its Bill conferring real equality of rights for mothers with fathers in the guardianship of their children.

Luncheon to Lady Astor at Hyde Park Hotel and those M.P.'s who constitute the White List of the Six Point Group. Mrs. Northcroft represented the Women's Freedom League at this Luncheon.

Time and Tide: Dr. Knight, Miss Underwood and Mrs. Northcroft represented the League and "THE VOTE" at a Reception given by Lady Rhondda and the Directors of Time and Tide at the Waldorf Hotel.

London County Council and Married Women: Miss Underwood represented the Women's Freedom League at a Conference of Women's Organisations convened by the Six Point Group. A letter was sent to every candidate standing for the Council asking them to do their utmost to reverse the present policy of the Council in refusing to employ women after they married and to rescind the Standing Order under which they provided for this.

Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations: Dr. Knight and Mrs. Dexter represented the Women's Freedom League at the Annual Meeting of this Council. Dr. Knight, Miss Underwood and Mrs. Northcroft have been elected on to its Executive Committee.

The Women's Freedom League sent its cordial congratulations to Miss Phipps, B.A., on passing her final law Examination, to Mrs. Swanwick on being sent to Geneva as substitute delegate to the Fifth Assembly, but expressing the view that she ought to have been a fully accredited delegate; to Mrs. Fawcett, J.P., LL.D., Miss Ellen Terry and Dr. Aldrich Blake on receiving the G.B.E., although regretting that they did not receive a higher honour.

Thanks to Workers: Our most cordial thanks are offered to Miss Alix Clark for her successful campaign on the Clyde Coast; to Miss Berry for so successfully carrying through all the arrangements for our Green, White and Gold Fair; to Miss A. M. Pierotti for organising our Spring Sale; to Mrs. Evans and Miss Barton for regular and much appreciated work in our offices.

Political Report.

Last year we rejoiced that our many years of political work had resulted in the return of eight women to Parliament and that we had one woman in the Government. This year we have only four women in Parliament, and one woman in the Government. We have had a serious set-back in regard to Equal Franchise, this question being practically shelved for some time to come in the House of Commons, in view of the proposed Conference on the subject. So far, there is no improvement to report during the year in women's political position in this country; the Government has no intention of giving equal rights to mothers and fathers of legitimate children; married women are still barred from appointments in the Civil Service at home; and it is the custom not to employ married women in positions under local governing authorities; all women are debarred because of their sex from appointments in our Civil Service abroad; the Government still persists in refusing to give the same rate of pay to women Civil Servants as it gives to its men employees on the ground that the State cannot afford to do so. For the same reason, apparently, women teachers receive smaller salaries than men teachers of the same professional status and the incomes of married women continue to be added to their husbands', the assessment being made on the joint income of husband and wife. All these matters—there are many others—point to the fact that the work of the Women's Freedom League is now more than ever necessary, and that the stalwarts in our branches must be relied upon to carry it out.

Equal Franchise: Throughout the year our chief work has been in connection with equal franchise. Mr. Adamson's Bill, the chief object of which was to confer the franchise on women at the same age and on the same terms as men passed its Second Reading in the House of Commons last year on February 29th by a majority of 216. It was a long time getting to its Committee Stage; and in April last Mrs. Wintringham asked the Prime Minister, Mr.

Ramsay McDonald, if the Government would either introduce an equal franchise Bill of its own or expedite Mr. Adamson's Bill. He replied that he was in entire sympathy with the principle of equal franchise, but the pressure of public business prevented the Government from bringing in such a measure; and he had nothing to say about the Franchise Bill before Parliament. We protested against this answer and in "THE VOTE" of May 2nd, we wrote an Open Letter to the Prime Minister on this and other subjects in which we were interested. We sent him and other Heads of Government Departments copies of that number, together with a covering letter, and we duly received their acknowledgments. We wrote to all the members of the Standing Committee asking them to do their utmost to secure that only the Equal Franchise Clauses should remain, and Mr. Adamson and the promoters of the Bill agreed to this. Mr. Adamson's Bill passed through its Committee Stage on July 19th, when we again urged the Prime Minister and other Heads of Government Departments to give facilities for the further stages of this Bill. It was not through the Commons before the summer recess and only evasive replies were given in the House of Commons to questions about its further progress. Curiously enough Mr. Stephen Walsh, at that time Minister of War, speaking at Durham in September during that Recess, said that in a few weeks the Government would introduce a franchise measure which would remove once for all the electoral inequality between the sexes, and provide that men of 21 and women of 21 should have an equal voice in the Nation's affairs. At the time we pointed out that it was not clear what the Government's intentions were on this subject, but, as we all know, in a few weeks they were out of office. On October 10th just about the time of the Dissolution of Parliament we had our Indignation Meeting at Essex Hall. We wrote to all the Heads of political parties asking them to include equal franchise in their party's election programmes; but this question was ignored in all their Manifestoes. When Mr. Baldwin was returned to power we wrote urging him to put equal franchise in the King's Speech; afterwards because he did not do so, we asked him to receive a deputation from the Women's Freedom League to lay before him our reasons for asking for the equal enfranchisement of women with men; and when Mr. Whiteley's Bill for equal franchise was introduced, we wrote to all Members of the Liberal and Labour Parties, and to all our known friends among the Conservative and Unionist Party asking them to be in their place, to vote for and give every possible support at its Second Reading on Friday, February 20th. We all know that this Bill was defeated at its Second Reading by 220 votes to 153 by the Government's Amendment that "a considered scheme of franchise reform should be brought before the House at a suitable opportunity within the lifetime of the present Parliament."

Proportional Representation: Last April we had a letter from Mr. Humphreys, Secretary of the Proportional Representation Society, asking for our support of Mr. Rendall's P.R. Bill in the Commons. We wrote to our friends in the House of Commons asking them to be present and support its Second Reading, but the Bill was rejected on May 2nd by 238 votes to 144.

Equal Pay: We supported the Equal Pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status Demonstration in Trafalgar Square on May 10th, organised by the National Union of Women Teachers; and we strongly protested against the Chancellor of the Exchequer's (Mr. Snowden's) reply to Lady Astor, that the Government, after full consideration, had decided that the state of the Country's finances was still such as to make it impossible to justify the enormous increase in expenditure that would be involved if women Civil Servants received the same rate of pay as men Civil Servants. Mr. Foot elicited a reply from the Chancellor at a later date that the "enormous increase involved" would be about £3,000,000. A similar reply in regard to the State not being able to afford paying the same rate to women as to men Civil Servants was given by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Churchill) to Major Clifton Brown, on March 5th.

Guardianship of Infants Bill: Members will remember that Mrs. Wintringham's Bill giving equal rights to mothers of legitimate children with fathers in regard to the guardianship, custody, and upbringing of their chil-

dren passed the House of Commons without a division on April 4th last year. That Bill was turned down by the Government and ever since that time the Women's Freedom League has put up an increasing fight against the previous and the present Government's refusal to give equal rights to mothers and fathers in this respect. Dr. Knight began that fight by attending a Protest Meeting and Conference of women's organisations, arranged by the Six Point Group on April 15th last year, at which the following resolution was passed and circulated to the Press:

"That the representatives of Societies here present call upon the Government to carry out the pledge made in their Election Manifesto to give equal rights and privileges in parenthood to men and women by including in their projected Bill for Guardianship of Infants a Clause granting to the mother of every legitimate infant the guardianship and custody jointly with the father, and equal authority, rights and responsibility with regard to such infant."

Your committee at its meeting on May 10th decided that we should offer uncompromising opposition to anything less than that contained in Mrs. Wintringham's Bill. We continued our opposition by acquainting the Lord Chancellor (who had charge of the Bill in the House of Lords), and all the Lords who took part in Debate on the Bill, with our views on it. We co-operated with the Six Point Group, the National Union of Women Teachers and the Actresses Franchise League in a Protest Meeting against the Bill in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, July 5th. As soon as the present Government brought a similar Bill into the House of Commons, we protested again that a Clause should be inserted giving mothers equal rights with fathers in the home in the matter of guardianship, etc.

Children Born in Prison: We tried to get the former Home Secretary (Mr. Henderson) to release Ivy Cusden so that her child might be born out of prison. Lady Terrington helped to press this matter. 50,000 signatures to a Petition asking for her temporary release were sent to him; but Mr. Henderson said he had no power under the law to release her. Later in the year we tried to get the present Home Secretary (Sir Wm. Joynson Hicks) to release Iris Howe temporarily for the birth of her child, and suggested that if he held the view that he had no power to do so, he should ask Parliament to give him power. He replied that he took the same view as his predecessor in office and could not release her temporarily.

Reserved Carriages for Women on all Trains: We secured the passing of a resolution on the Need for Reserved Carriages for Women on all trains at a meeting of the Consultative Committee. We have corresponded with the former and the present Minister of Transport asking them to initiate legislation on this subject; but neither of them saw any need for legislation. Mrs. Wintringham, at our request, asked a question in the House of Commons on this subject, but with no satisfactory result. We asked the previous Minister of Transport (Mr. Gosling) to receive a deputation to place our views before him, but he did not think it was necessary. We have sent a similar request to the present Minister, Mr. Wilfrid Ashley, but with no better result. We wrote to the Secretary of the Railway and Canals Commission, but he cannot help us. We have also written to the different sections of the various railway companies, urging them to see that carriages reserved for women are on all trains, but have secured little satisfaction from them. For some time past we have reported any case which came to our notice, of assault or annoyance to a woman or girl in a train in "THE VOTE," and we have circulated the Press on this matter on more than one occasion.

Women Justices of the Peace: During the year we have again written the Lord Chancellor and the various Clerks to the Advisory Committees recommending for the Commission of the Peace various suitable women among our members. The Thames Valley Branch has been active in the interests of women magistrates in Kingston-on-Thames, and has had frequent letters in the Press. A woman, Mrs. J. Waters, has recently been appointed to the Kingston Bench, in spite of the fact that this same Bench only a month previously passed a resolution, expressing the hope that no woman would be

appointed to the Bench they occupied. However, they welcomed the lady very politely when she took her seat in March.

Peeresses Bill: By a majority of 268 Mr. Briant secured leave to bring in a Peeresses Bill in the House of Commons on March 25th last year, but the Government refused to give facilities for it. Later in the year Lord Astor brought in a similar Bill in the House of Lords and we wrote to several of the Members there asking them to support this Bill.

Women and the League of Nations: We were glad the Government sent Miss Bondfield as a fully accredited delegate to the International Labour Conference at Geneva. We urged on the Prime Minister and Mr. Clynes that a woman should be sent as a fully accredited Government delegate to the Fifth Assembly, and Capt. Benn asked a question for us on this matter in the House of Commons. Mrs. Swanwick, however, was only a substitute delegate.

In conjunction with other women's organisations we urged that a woman assessor should be appointed to the newly reconstituted League of Nations Commission on the Traffic in Women and Children, and we rejoiced when Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., President of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship was appointed as assessor last month. We are continuing to urge that a woman should be appointed to the Slavery Commission; and we wrote the Prime Minister and the Minister of Labour asking that a woman be sent from this Country as a fully accredited delegate to the forthcoming International Labour Conference in May, and that a woman or women should be among the technical advisers.

Delegation to Canada: We were glad that Miss Bondfield was sent as Chairman of the delegation to Canada to inquire into the placing of children in that Dominion.

Honours Lists: We protested when the Birthday Honours List was issued that no women received adequate honours; and we again protested when Mr. Baldwin's recent list was issued that women had such poor recognition. We congratulated Dame Millicent Fawcett, Dame Ellen Terry and Dame Aldrich Blake on the honours they received, but we made it quite clear to them, to Mr. Baldwin and to the Press, that the Honours bestowed upon these distinguished women were entirely inadequate.

Exclusion of Women from Courts of Justice: We protested from Headquarters and members of our Wallasey Branch protested locally against the exclusion of women from the Coroner's Court at Birkenhead when the adjourned inquest was being held on the child Nellie Clark. We protested against the exclusion of women by the Chief Constable from the Court at Southport when a case of assault on two girls of 12 years old was being tried. We wrote to the Home Secretary in regard to both these cases; and asked him to receive a deputation of women's societies, organised by the Women's Freedom League to discuss with him the whole question of the exclusion of women from Courts of Justice.

Child Assault: We congratulated the Duchess of Atholl on her persistent questions on this subject in the House of Commons which led after some months to the appointment of a Committee on Child Assault in Scotland. We noted with great satisfaction that three women and three men were appointed to this Committee, with the addition of the Chairman, and that one of the women members is a medical woman.

Woman Medical Inspector of Prisons: Early in May Dr. Norwood East, Medical Officer of Brixton Prison was appointed Medical Inspector of H.M. Prisons. We again wrote to the Home Secretary asking that a woman should be appointed as Medical Inspector of Prisons, and when Sir Wm. Joynson Hicks was appointed Home Secretary we wrote urging him to consider the appointment of a woman as a member of the Prison Commission, women as Governors and Deputy Governors of all women's prisons and women's sections of prisons, a woman as Medical Inspector and women as Inspectors of Prisons and women Medical Officers in all women's prisons. We further urged upon him the necessity for more women police.

The Women's Freedom League Part in the General Election: Your Committee at its meeting on October 10th decided on a few alterations in the Questionnaires to be sent to men candidates. This Questionnaire appeared in "THE VOTE," October 17th, and we secured, mostly through our Branches, quite a creditable number of replies. Your Committee discussed chiefly what help we could give to women candidates. It was agreed that Headquarters should at any rate help Mrs. Corbett Ashby at Watford, Miss Susan Lawrence at East Ham, Dr. Ethel Bentham at Islington. Mrs. Strickland and our Hastings Branch would help Mrs. Muriel Matters Porter at Hastings; Mrs. Schofield Coates and our Middlesbrough Branch, Miss Ellen Wilkinson; and Mrs. Whetton and our Portsmouth Branch, Miss Jessie Stephen. Miss Munro would be speaking for Mrs. Corner at Farnham, and Mrs. Fisher would also help Mrs. Corner. Wherever we had Branches or members and a woman candidate was standing, the Committee agreed that they should be urged to support that woman, irrespective of the political party for which she stood, if the woman candidate would work inside and outside the House of Commons (if elected) for our women's equality programme. The London members of the Executive Committee were formed into an Election Committee to direct work from London, and Mrs Tanner was invited to join that Committee. Miss Lenton, if no woman was standing for any Glasgow constituency, was to be retained in London to give what help was possible to any of the women candidates standing for constituencies in and around London. At its meeting on October 14th, the Election Committee considered a leaflet issued by the Women's Freedom League last year on behalf of women Parliamentary candidates, revised it, and decided to get copies printed at the earliest possible moment and send a sample copy to each woman standing, offering to supply her with as many copies as she wanted. We had 60,000 printed, they were gratefully taken by nearly half the women candidates, the whole being distributed to them, at their request. At that same meeting a Women's Freedom League Manifesto was drafted and sent to the Press, securing wide publicity.

At the last General Election there were 41 women candidates—12 Unionist, 6 Liberal, 22 Labour and one Independent. We communicated with them all and wished them all success. Miss Alix Clark went to Watford and worked for a full week there on behalf of Mrs. Corbett Ashby. She secured the loan of a car through the kindness of Mrs. Elias, for which Mrs. Corbett Ashby and her agent expressed grateful thanks. Mrs. Mustard spoke at Watford and Miss Hunt and Mrs. Flowers both helped on polling day.

Dr. Knight, Mrs. Clifford Jones and Miss Lenton helped Miss Susan Lawrence at East Ham, and Mrs. Preece worked continuously there for three weeks; Mrs. Ewen, Dr. Knight and Miss Lenton helped Dr. Bentham. Miss Lenton also helped Mrs. Elias at Southwark, Miss Sayle at Hemel Hempstead and Miss Mary Richardson at Acton. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes of Hackney helped Dr. Stella Churchill, Miss Barton gave valuable clerical work. Our Middlesbrough, Portsmouth and Hastings Branches, led by members of our Executive Committee who lived in these districts, did yeoman service for Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Miss Jessie Stephen and Mrs. Muriel Matters Porter. After the Election we sent our warmest congratulations to the four women returned and our very sincere regrets to Miss Bondfield, Miss Jewson, Miss Susan Lawrence, Lady Terrington and Mrs. Wintringham that they were not returned. Immediately after the Election, on October 31st the Women's Freedom League Election Committee issued a statement to the Press, which after congratulating the successful candidates and drawing attention to the fact that Miss Wilkinson had gained a seat from another party, and regretting the defeat of other women candidates, expressed the view that women candidates generally had polled splendidly in this very difficult election and that those who were defeated were defeated not because they were women but because they shared with the men the chances of the party to which they belonged.

St. Mary's Hospital: At the end of September the Board of Management of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, considered the exclusion of women students from the Hospital. Lady Rhondda convened a meeting of women's Societies attended by our delegate to consider this matter, and a well

reasoned protest was made in the Press against it, and signed among other organisations by the Women's Freedom League.

Food Prices Commission: As soon as it was rumoured that a Food Prices Commission was to be appointed, we urged the Prime Minister to consider the appointment of an equal number of women with men to this Commission. We also asked that Mrs. Juson Kerr should be one of its members, but the reply was that its personnel was complete. When Mrs. Snowden and Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan were appointed we again pressed that more women should be added. Mrs. Juson Kerr regularly attended these meetings of the Commission, and at her request we wrote to 37 women's organisations urging them to appoint representatives to attend the meetings of that Commission. This was successful. Mrs. Juson Kerr has spoken at meetings arranged by our Thames Valley and Portsmouth Branches on this subject.

Royal Commission on Lunacy. We strongly urged that an adequate number of women should be appointed to this Commission. Only two women were appointed and we have persistently urged that at least another woman—and that a medical woman—should be added; but all without success.

County Council Elections: We urged our Branches in and out of London to put the two following questions to all candidates for the County Councils:

- (1) Will you, if elected, do all in your power to secure that women and men employed by the Council shall have equal treatment in regard to opportunities and payment?
- (2) Will you, if elected, work actively against the policy of dismissing women employed by the Council solely on account of their marriage, or asking them to resign on marriage?

We joined with other women's organisations in a Conference convened by the Six Point Group to make a special protest against the policy of dismissing married women employed under the L.C.C., and the Women's Freedom League and "THE VOTE" were represented by Miss A. M. Pierotti and Miss Underwood at a Reception given by Lady Rhondda at Chelsea Court to distinguished people, representatives of the Press and of women's organisations, in order to ventilate this matter.

British Women's Nationality: We strongly supported Major Harvey's resolution in the House of Commons that a British woman should not automatically lose her nationality on marriage with an alien, and we thanked Major Harvey cordially for the way he presented his case.

Congratulations and thanks to our M.P. friends: At the dissolution we warmly thanked those M.P.s—men and women—who had consistently helped our cause, and after the General Election we sent our very special regrets to those of our friends—men and women—who had not been returned to Parliament; and our cordial congratulations to those of our friends who were returned. We also sent a special letter of thanks to Lady Astor and to those members of her Party who voted against the Government and for Mr. Whiteley's Equal Franchise Bill.

The Press. We have secured a very good press for our work throughout the year. This work is growing.

"THE VOTE," the official organ of the Women's Freedom League, has during the time Parliament is in Session, been almost completely monopolised for our political work. Whenever women have a grievance, or whenever we consider an injustice has been perpetrated, we record the matter in "THE VOTE," and our great regret is that it is not big enough for us to report, record, criticise and praise all that we should like and in the manner we think would be most effective. The opinions of "THE VOTE" are frequently quoted in the Press at home and abroad.

Hon. Organising Secretary's Report.

The Organisation Sub-Committee has held meetings on most of the Friday evenings before the National Executive Committee meetings.

ORGANISERS.

In London, Miss Warriner worked for us for three weeks, organising an Equal Suffrage public meeting at Essex Hall on March 27th. Many Societies supported this meeting which was addressed by Lady Terrington, M.P., Miss Ursula Williams, Dr. Hanson, Miss Munro and others. Mrs. Mustard was in the Chair and a resolution was unanimously passed calling upon the Government to give facilities to Mr. Adamson's Equal Franchise Bill.

Miss White is our organiser in the South Eastern district, and is responsible for the work of the Branches at Ashford, Bexhill and Hastings. She has worked steadily throughout the year and has succeeded in gaining an increase in membership in all three Branches. Regular branch meetings have been held and public meetings as often as possible; the speakers at these meetings were Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, Superintendent Goldingham, Dr. Octavia Lewin, Princess Katadja, Miss Munro and others. In the summer garden meetings were held and to raise funds a Thé Chantant was held at Leonards and Ashford, and a Thé Dansant at Bexhill. Successful Whist Drives have been held at Ashford and Bexhill. The South Eastern Branches sent a stall to the Green, White and Gold Fair, Miss White being in charge. At the general election the Hastings branch helped Mrs. Muriel Matters Porter, the Labour candidate for Hastings.

Glasgow: Miss Lenton has been working in Glasgow since September and has greatly strengthened the Glasgow Branch. She has roused enthusiasm in old members in the work of the Women's Freedom League, and interested others, so that many new members have been made.

Members' meetings have been held, and one big public meeting. This was held at the McLellan Galleries, with Miss Munro and Baillie Bell as principal speakers. It was very successful and a number of new members was made. Miss Lenton has sold the "Vote" regularly in Glasgow. To raise funds for the branch a Whist Drive has been held.

Miss Lenton spent a fortnight last January in helping the Brighton branch.

Literature Report.

We are glad to be able to report an increase in the Receipts during the year. £23 13s. 4d. was received from Miss Alix Clark for literature sold at the Clyde Coast Campaign where Miss Clark, assisted by Miss Lilian Lenton disposed of 1,650 pamphlets. Our grateful thanks are due to these energetic workers.

We still feel that we should be able to depend on more support from our Branches. We should like to suggest that our members should give the Literature Department of the League the opportunity to get any books they require. We should have to ask them to pay the postage on the transaction, but they would be willing to do this to help the Department and incidentally the League.

During the year we published a new pamphlet "The British Women M.P.s." We have disposed of a large number of this pamphlet (1,350 having been sold at the Clyde Coast Campaign) and after the General Election it was brought up to date by the insertion of a sketch and portrait of our new M.P., Miss Ellen Wilkinson. The pamphlet now includes all women who have sat in the House.

Last year's loss of £50 9s. 8d. has been replaced this year by a profit of £22 18s. 1½d., this is principally due to the good sales of our new pamphlet "British Women M.P.s." and to the value of the large stock of this pamphlet

which we still hold. We call on all branches to help us in disposing of this as quickly as possible.

The Literature Department was again responsible for the publication of the Women's Freedom League Diary; this year we had an additional page setting forth what we are working for. We sold all the Diaries in a short time.

We are just bringing out a new pamphlet "What We Have and What We Want" by Muriel Pierotti, price 3d., which will be on sale by July.

The Women's Freedom League literature was on show at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, both at our own Suffrage Pavilion and at the Pavilion run by the International Council of Women. A fair amount of literature was sold in this way.

In conclusion we should like to offer our best thanks to the loyal members who never miss an opportunity to support us and without whose co-operation the Department could not continue.

"Vote" Report.

It is with mingled feelings of pleasure and appreciation that we present the "Vote" Report.

In spite of the fact that for the greater part of the year we have been without a regular "Vote" seller, we have not only maintained our sales, but we are glad to record that "The Vote" sales for the year show an increase in nearly every branch of our work.

Miss Clark had a wonderful result on the Clyde this year, selling 6,000 "Votes" during the thirty-two days of the Campaign. We would thank those volunteers who have helped with the selling of "The Vote" at meetings in London, and also Miss Gibson for taking three dozen copies each week during the summer months, to sell amongst visitors to the Caister Camp.

"The Vote" was on sale at the British Overseas Committee Pavilion at Wembley during the time of the Exhibition, many being sold during this period.

The Letchworth and Middlesbrough Branches have increased their weekly number. We should like to thank the Middlesbrough, Portsmouth, and Swansea Branches for selling extra copies during the Election of November last.

The Thames Valley, Mid-London, Wallasey and Edinburgh Branches have helped during the year by selling "Votes" at meetings that have been held in their respective districts. We should like to ask all Branch delegates when making their Report at their next Branch meeting to convey to their members our desire that each Branch will as speedily as possible try to arrange for one of their members to take on the work of "Vote" Secretary. This office is as important as any. We shall be grateful, therefore, if delegates will kindly urge their members to give this matter their immediate consideration.

At intervals throughout the year we have received very kind messages of praise and appreciation from readers in all spheres of public life, both in this Country and from Africa, America, Australia, Austria, Germany, Japan, New Zealand and Switzerland.

"The Vote" is the most progressive of all papers issued to establish the principles of Equality between women and men, and we feel sure that there are many women who would be pleased to have it brought before their notice.

Our band of sellers needs strengthening, and our advertisers need more support. This most of us can do and we would call upon all present at this Conference to help us in some way or other. Will some pledge themselves to take an extra copy of "The Vote" each week, or volunteer to sell "the Vote" at a meeting once a month or perhaps get a local newsagent to have a few copies each week. These are a few suggestions. Others may present themselves to you. In whatever way you can, PLEASE help.

Finally we appeal to all members to take some part in the coming year to help on the Women's cause through the medium of "The Vote."

Branches.

HAMPSTEAD.

The Branch records its warm thanks for the continual and generous support which it has received from its many friends interested in its local work. During the year five members meetings have been held, The Misses Berry, Dr. Knight, Miss Goodliffe, Miss Vibert and Miss Lyndon kindly giving the use of their houses for these meetings. We are glad to report that since our last Annual Meeting there has been a steady increase in the membership of the Branch.

On May 14th the Branch gave an At-Home at the Isis Club (by the kindness of Mrs. Harverson) in aid of the Pavilion at the Empire Exhibition organised by the British Overseas Committee, Mrs. Corbett Ashby (President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance) gave an account of the work done at Wembley, Mrs. Sadd Brown, presided, and there were songs and recitations.

A Social Gathering for members and friends of the Branch was held at the Isis Club (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson) on January 28th. Dr. Octavia Lewin spoke on "Married Women's Right to Work." Mrs. Sadd Brown presided, and Mrs. Harvey James gave recitations.

On April 22nd, a meeting on Housing was organised by the Branch at the Friends' Meeting House, when a resolution calling upon the Hampstead Borough Council to provide additional accommodation for Working Class Families at a moderate rent was unanimously adopted. Miss Biggs, of the "Westminster Housing Association" and Miss Upcott, of the "Women House Property-Managers Association," Miss Homfray, and Councillor Mrs. Maddox were the speakers. Lady Smith, J.P., presided, and the Women Guardians were represented on the platform by Miss Viner. As a result of this meeting, the Hampstead Council of Social Welfare at the request of the Borough Council sent invitations for six representatives of the Branch to be present at a meeting at the Council Chamber when Councillor Captain Townroe spoke on the Local Housing Conditions, those representing the Branch were, Miss Armstrong, Miss E. Berry, Dr. Knight, Miss Lyndon, Councillor Mrs. Maddox and Miss Homfray.

The Branch contributed towards Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party Fund and undertook the Handkerchief and White Elephant Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair, at the Central Hall, on November 28th and 29th. The Branch is much indebted to Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon and Miss Vibert for being in charge of the Stall and all the work they did in connection with it.

The League's questionnaire was sent to the two Candidates at the General Election, and also the League's questions to the candidates standing for the London County Council Election.

Resolutions on equal Franchise have been sent to the Prime Minister, the local member (Mr. G. Balfour), and members of the Cabinet.

Letters re Women Police for Hampstead and Women Park Keepers for the Heath have been sent to the Home Secretary and the Chairman of the London County Council.

Owing to the work of the Branch the private baths at the Baths and Washhouses at Flask Walk and Palmerston Road have been opened for the use of women on two days in the week, instead of one as an experiment for two months.

The Branch hopes throughout the coming year to increase in numbers and to do much good work in the neighbourhood, and thus help forward the women's movement in general, and especially the Women's Freedom League.

MID-LONDON.

During the year the Branch has held four meetings.

On Tuesday, June 24th, a Pound Tea was held at 25, Wimpole Street (by kind permission of Dr. Lewin). Friends brought a variety of gifts, the sale of which swelled the Branch Contribution to the Birthday Fund. During the afternoon Miss K. Raleigh gave a short talk on Mrs. Despard's career and recalled the days when Mrs. Despard and other suffrage pioneers

took part in the strenuous fight to obtain Votes for Women. Miss Underwood and Dr. Knight also spoke and urged the members of the Branch to band together and to work with renewed force to secure for women the Vote on the same terms as men, and also to get more women elected to Parliament. After the speeches we were entertained most delightfully by recitations from Mrs. Weedon, humorous stories from Mrs. Harvey James and songs from Mrs. Cunningham, and Miss Sutherwood.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of our Treasurer in November last. Mrs. Crawford had been the Branch Treasurer for some years and we should like to place on record our appreciation of her work and help which was always so willingly given. Miss Hunt has kindly consented to take over the Treasuryship.

The Women's Freedom League Questionnaire to Candidates standing for the L.C.C. elections was submitted by a number of our members to Candidates standing in their respective districts. Help was also given by several members to women L.C.C. Candidates.

Towards the latter part of the year we have added considerably to our membership so we are therefore looking forward to the coming year with hope and confidence, trusting that our enthusiasm and added strength will help forward the work of our League.

MINERVA CLUB.

The Minerva Club branch was inaugurated on July 1st, 1924. The opening meeting was well attended and enthusiastic, and Mrs. Despard, who was present, agreed to the great joy of the members, to become President of the branch.

The first business meeting was held a week later, when officers were elected, and during the year seven business meetings have been held. The branch has also held three successful Whist Drives, but unfortunately the public meeting arranged for October had to be abandoned owing to the General Election.

Members of the branch helped to canvass for women members at the general election.

Contributions were made to the Shilling Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair, and nearly all the members of the branch helped with the refreshments at the Fair, either as waitresses or in the kitchen.

The branch has perhaps chiefly justified its existence by support it has been able to give headquarters. Its members are always glad to help in any work undertaken by the League.

On Sunday November the 10th a Rally of London members was held at the Club to discuss political work, and tea was provided by the branch. Also the branch invited the Conference delegates and friends to tea on the Sunday following the Conference.

A questionnaire with reference to the dismissal of Married Women was sent to all Candidates at the L.C.C. election.

There are at present 50 members, and all branch meetings are well attended, and the members show a keen interest in the work of the League.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

During the year we have held seven members' meetings, and several public meetings, as follows:—

April 25th 1924, Speaker, Inspector Champneys on "The Need for Women Police." October 3rd, Speaker, Mrs. Aldridge on "How to use to the Best Advantage the Powers given under the Housing Act, 1924." January 26th, 1925, Public Debate on "An Imperial Preference Policy," Speakers, (for) Mrs. Costello (Conservative and Unionist Association), (against) Mrs. Furley Smith (Women's National Liberal Federation), Chairman, The Viscountess Rhondda, J.P. February 26th, Speaker: Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P. on "How to Form a Housewives' Union and Bring Down the Prices of Food." July 2nd, Miss Anna Munro on "Is the Modern Girl Decadent?" Members also, at the invitation of Mrs. Foster Lumb, co-operated in a Garden Meeting which Dr. Octavia Lewin addressed on "Breathing and Children's Health." All the above meetings (with the exception of the Public Debate on Imperial Preference which took place at

Elleray Hall), were held at "Holmwood," Waldegrave Road, Teddington, by the kind permission of our Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Foster Lumb, to whom the Branch offers its most cordial thanks. The Branch supported Miss Underwood in her Overalls, Aprons, and Children's Clothing Stall, at the Green, White and Gold Fair last November, and made a special collection at the meeting on July 2nd for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. Throughout the year members have initiated varied correspondence in the local press, and we are glad to record that, after ventilating the matter in season and out of season, we have now a woman on the local Magistrates' Bench. We have corresponded with the Local M.P.s. and with Heads of Government Departments on matters suggested by Headquarters.

ASHFORD.

Mrs. Northcroft visited Ashford, April 25th; the meeting was a successful one. On June 23rd, a meeting was held in Mrs. Kither's garden and the Princess Karadja kindly gave an address, which was much appreciated. Twelve new members were enrolled. This being the Annual Meeting the Committee were re-elected and Mrs. Kither was unanimously elected President. A Thé Chantant was held on August 29th, which was much enjoyed, a Members' Meeting on September 26th, and on October 10th we enjoyed a visit from Miss M. I. Neal, of Manchester, who spoke on the Political Situation, we had a good meeting and several new members and new "Vote" subscribers. Mrs. Miles, Organiser of East Kent Handicrafts, spoke for us on October 31st and on November 29th we had a Members' Meeting.

BEXHILL.

This Branch has done well throughout the year. Meetings have been held frequently, with London Speakers to address them. New members have joined the League and we are glad to find our work strengthened by the valuable help they have given us.

Miss Skinner has been invaluable in placing the Albany Hotel at our disposal. We have had several tea whist drives, which have brought in a nice little sum of money.

We had a delightful entertainment during the winter when members and friends helped us with music, etc. We also contributed to the S.E. Branches Stall at the Green, White, and Gold, Fair at the Caxton Hall.

HASTINGS.

Monthly Meetings have been held throughout the year, these have been addressed by Mrs. Muriel Matters-Porter, Princess Karadja, Mrs. Darent Harrison, Miss Anna Munro, Mrs. Seiviking, Superintendent Goldingham, etc.

Several Whist Drives have been held and at the invitation of the President, Mrs. Darent Harrison, two very enjoyable "Thés Chantants" were held at 1, St. Paul's Place, St. Leonards.

This Branch contributed towards a wreath which was sent by the Local Branch of the Fellowship of Women as a token of respect to a well-known local Suffragist, Miss Thomas, who was run over and killed by a motor car.

This Branch also helped considerably in providing articles for the S.E. Branches Stall at the Green, White, and Gold Fair and we also sent up our child dancer, Margery Dunhill to dance at the Fair.

LETCHWORTH.

A Drawing Room Meeting was held in June by kind permission of Mrs. Lynn, when Mrs. Mustard spoke.

Members sent flowers to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party where the Secretary represented the Branch.

In September the Branch took an official part in the local No-More-War Demonstration, carrying the League's banners and selling a good number of "Votes."

The Branch furnished and managed a very charming and successful Lavender Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair, several members of the Branch came to the "Fair" and helped. Goods were also sold locally

afterwards and the proceeds sent to Headquarters to be added to the "Fair" profits.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

In January a model election instructed by Miss Elsie Morton proved very educational. 14 Resolutions were sent from the Branch for the Agenda of the Annual Conference. In March a display of eurythmic dancing, reciting, etc. was given to members of the Branch and their friends by some of the Newport Road children, under the training of Miss K. Bowen of that school, who does much to brighten the lives of these little ones by her play centres at the Newport district of Middlesbrough. Delegates have attended conferences held in London, Sunderland and Gateshead and have duly given reports of the same. A concert was held on behalf of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. A Garden Party was held during the summer, money being raised by this means to provide for the Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair. A sewing circle made up the material. Our thanks are due to all the workers who gave time and labour and money, and a good display of goods were sent to the stall. Two delegates attended the Green, White and Gold Fair held in London.

Resolutions have been sent to the Prime Minister, also to the local M.P.s *re* Women Police, Equal Franchise, and reserved carriages for women only on railway trains.

PORTSMOUTH,

The work of the branch has gone on steadily throughout the year. New members have been made, but owing to various reasons others have fallen out so that the membership remains practically the same as last year.

The branch had the opportunity of working for a woman candidate at the General Election, and did effective work in poster parading and delivering leaflets on the need for Women in Parliament.

During the autumn, winter and spring, monthly public meetings were held and on the whole were well attended and well reported in the local press.

Business meetings and work parties were held, the latter to make articles for the Portsmouth Stall at the Green, White, and Gold Fair. Three of our members took charge of the stall. The Branch was represented at the Conference by Mrs. Brading.

To raise funds several Whist Drives were held, but it has been very difficult to get money.

Resolutions have been passed and sent to the Government and the Local M.P.s., also resolutions to the Town Council. The usual three dozen copies of "The Vote" have been taken weekly.

WALLASEY.

Monthly Whist Drives have been held, and regular public meetings throughout the year. At the Council and Municipal Elections we have pressed the claims of the unemployed men and *women* to staff the Polling Booths. We have done our utmost to secure women police for Wallasey, and have tried, so far without success, to persuade the Watch Committee to receive a deputation of representatives of women's and other local organisations on this subject. The speakers at public meetings have been Miss S. Blackburn on "The Disinherited Family"; Mr. Wilson, F.L.A., on "Books and Life"; Miss F. Isabel Taylor on "The Law Relating to Factories and Workshops"; Miss N. H. Cowlin on "Women Police and the Protection of Child Life." At the Annual meeting Mrs. Graham, J.P., gave an address on "The Work of a Woman Magistrate"; and members of the Branch strongly protested against the exclusion of women from the Coroner's Court at the inquest on a little girl who had been brutally murdered.

EDINBURGH.

We have held monthly meetings and passed Resolutions on matters affecting women and children and sent them to Ministers and local M.P.s. We also took part in local and other elections and tried to keep the women's point of view before the people of Edinburgh.

Miss Lenton held a very good open-air meeting at the Mound and visited

a great many people and was able to get four new members.

GLASGOW.

Miss Lenton spent some months in Glasgow reorganising the branch, calling on members and introducing the League to many new friends, the branch has been greatly strengthened by her work.

Public meetings were arranged in November and February, the speakers at the former being Miss Isabel Hamilton and Mrs. Hunter, Lady Wilson presiding. Miss Mary Dixon's Ladies' Choir sang Scotch songs. A number of new members was enrolled and a good collection taken. The speakers at the second meeting were Baillie Mary Bell and Miss Anna Munro, the chair being taken by Miss Margery Gullan, three of whose students gave a demonstration of her wonderful "Poetry Speaking." A good collection was taken and 100 "Votes" and a quantity of literature was sold. Resolutions at both meetings were passed "calling upon the Government to bring in a Bill giving votes to women on the same terms as men and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure to women equality of opportunity with men in all respects."

In addition to these public meetings several Branch and Committee meetings and a Whist Drive to raise funds were held.

The Branch worked in support of the candidature of its League Members, Miss Isabel Hamilton and Miss Jane Thomson for the Glasgow Education Authority—one open air meeting being held. Miss Hamilton was returned.

A good donation in money was sent to the Green, White and Gold Fair.

It is hoped to hold open air meetings, a regular monthly branch meeting and more frequent Committee meetings, with as many public meetings as can be arranged.

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHES.

The Branch sent up a Stall of Welsh Produce to the Spring Sale and to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party. It also sent a donation to the Birthday Fund.

It decided to withdraw its subscription to the Infirmary as a protest against no women being on the Board of Administration of that Institution.

In October Mrs. Despard visited the Branch and spoke at a crowded meeting and an overflow meeting was held outside. Councillor Giles was in the Chair. The meeting was held as a protest against the action of Newtown and Llanidloes Board of Guardians in withholding 14 comfortable arm chairs from the inmates at Caersws Poor Law Institution, which were given from the result of a concert held by the Branch in March. Resolutions were carried demanding that the Guardians should place the chairs in the wards at once for the comfort of the inmates. The protest meeting had the desired effect and the old folk now have the chairs.

The Branch sent up two stalls for the Green, White and Gold Fair, Welsh Produce and General.

SWANSEA.

The number of members for the year was 112. Several new members have joined the Branch, but the number of members shows no increase, as several members have either left the town or allowed their membership to lapse.

During the year three General Meetings and two Committee Meetings were held. In addition several social gatherings have been held. In May a Jumble Sale was held to augment the Branch Funds; in June Mrs. Dawson very kindly held a Garden Party for the Branch at "Cwm Garw," and in November a Display of Goods for the November Fair was held by kind permission of Mrs. Hutton at 9, Sketty Road. During the winter season two Whist Drives were held, one by the invitation of Miss Kirkland at "Caledon" and the other by the invitation of Mrs. Hutton at 9, Sketty Road.

The Women's Freedom League Questionnaire was sent to all Parliamentary candidates at the last election and various resolutions on women's suffrage and kindred subjects have been sent to the proper quarter.

Miss Neal was again elected to serve on the National Executive Committee.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st Dec., 1924.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Rent, Fire, Light and Office Expenses	265	6	10	By Subscriptions and Donations as per List ..	714	15	1
„ Hire of Halls and Decorations	66	8	3	„ Tickets	40	12	9
„ Stationery	36	15	5	„ Collections	73	11	6
„ Printing and Advertising	50	11	10	„ Green, White & Gold Fair	303	0	5
„ Postage and Telegrams	55	15	0	„ Spring Sale	53	17	10
„ Salaries	574	0	0	„ Sundry Receipts:			
„ Travelling Expenses	119	14	10	General	27	13	7
„ Voluntary Workers' Expenses	78	8	4	Literature Dept.	34	5	0
„ General Election Expenses	37	8	6	Lettings of Office	32	0	0
„ Affiliation Fee to Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations	2	0	0	Minerva Café	50	7	7
„ Do. National Council of Women	1	1	0	Sale of Refreshments	39	4	9
„ Balance, Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year 1924 carried to Balance Sheet ..	85	12	9	„ Interest received	3	14	3
	<u>£1,373</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>£1,373</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>

General Balance Sheet 31st December 1924.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<i>Creditor</i> —Rent to Christmas, 1924			27 10 0	<i>General Funds</i> —			
<i>Income and Expenditure Account</i> —				Presentation Plate as per last Account	10	0	0
Balance per last account	456	9	9	Office Furniture and Fittings, do.	47	12	11
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure for year 1924 per attached account	85	12	9	Cash at Bank and in Hand Current account	226	2	0
	<u>542</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	Cash on Deposit	250	0	0
Add: Profit for year 1924—Literature Department	22	18	1	<u>533</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	
			<u>565 0 7</u>	<i>Literature Department</i> —			
			<u>£592 10 7</u>	Balance, being Excess of Assets over Liabilities at 31st December, 1924, per Literature Department Balance Sheet			58 15 8
							<u>£592 10 7</u>

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and the accompanying Income and Expenditure Account, with the Books and Vouchers of the Women's Freedom League and find them to be in accordance therewith.

E. KNIGHT, Hon. Treasurer.
April, 1925.

HOMERSHAM & WATTS, Incorporated Accountants,
106, St. Clement's House, Clement's Lane,
Lombard Street, E.C.4.

Women's Freedom League.

Branch and District Funds, 1924.

	£	s.	d.
Hampstead	27	15	7
Mid London	12	14	8
Minerva Club	10	15	6
Thames Valley	5	14	7
Ashford	5	15	8
Bexhill	8	11	11
Hastings	5	16	9
Hull	12	13	6
Portsmouth	17	14	8
Edinburgh	4	16	8
Glasgow	32	13	7
Montgomery Boroughs.. .. .	40	0	0
Swansea	20	17	3
Headquarters Funds	206	0	4
	..1849	4	9
Total Funds, 1924	£2055	5	1

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I bequeath to the Honorary Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being of the Women's Freedom League the sum of*

(free of legacy duty) to be applied for the general purposes of the said Women's Freedom League, free of all deductions whatever, the receipt of the said Honorary Treasurer or Treasurers to be an effectual discharge of the same.

Signature _____

**The sum to be written in full.*

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. Literature Department.

Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December, 1924.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Rent	8	0	0			
„ Salary	28	17	6			
„ Audit Fee	2	2	0			
„ Postage		13	9			
„ Carriage	1	13	9			
„ Office Sundries	16	3	3			
	42	3	3			
„ Bad Debts		9	4	9		
„ Net Profit, carried to Balance Sheet..		22	18	1		
	£74	6	1			
						£74 6 1

Balance Sheet, 31st December 1924.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Sundry Creditors—</i>						
Trade	40	11	4			
Audit Fee	2	2	0			
Rent	6	0	0			
Sales	6					
	48	13	10			
<i>Profit and Loss Account—</i>						
Balance, 1st Jan., 1924	35	17	7			
Add: Net Profit for year 1924 per Profit and Loss Account	22	18	1			
	58	15	8			
	£107	9	6			
						£107 9 6
<i>Stock on Hand—</i>						
Valuation at 31st Dec., 1924 ..		66	7	10		
<i>Sundry Debtors—</i>						
Branches		17	10	8		
<i>Cash at Bank and in Hand—</i>						
At Bank	22	19	2			
In hand		11	10			
		23	11	0		
						£107 9 6

27

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and the accompanying Profit and Loss Account with the Books and Vouchers of the Literature Department of the Women's Freedom League, and find them to be in accordance therewith.

106, St. Clement's House,
Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.4.

HOMERSHAM AND WATTS,
Incorporated Accountants.

Lady Rhoades

Mrs. Fawcett

Mrs. Cullett Ashby

Mrs. Lind. of. Hopeday

Hon. Mrs. Franklin

Sec. Com. Com. Wainhope, Mrs.

Mrs. Delia Gidm

Lady Astor Mrs. Wintipharm, Mrs. Welfinsen

Mrs. Jewson, Athol, Queli, Mrs. Phelps

Mrs. Homealiam, Mrs. delian Barker,

Prof. Win: Curtis, Lady Cummett,

Mrs. Beetha Mason

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

SUBSCRIBERS' LIST, 1924.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Abbott, Mrs. M. M.	1 0 0	Hampstead..	5 15 0
Acheson, Miss V. V. J.	2 6	Hull	2 6 9
Adams, Miss Elsie M.	1 0	Letchworth ..	1 6 5
A Friend	32 10 0	Manchester ..	1 0 0
Aldridge, Mrs. O. M.	5 6	Middlesbrough ..	1 0 0
Allum, Mrs. and Miss M. Seymour	2 6	Mid London ..	5 10 0
Allwork, Miss D. B.	7 6	Minerva Club ..	1 0 0
Ambrose, Miss P...	2 0	Montgomery Boroughs	65 10 0
Amrah, Madame Eveline	11 4	Portsmouth ..	3 0 0
Angold, Mrs.	12 0	Swansea	8 15 0
Anonymous	100 0 0	Thames Valley ..	1 1 0
Ashby, Mrs. M. Corbett	6 9	Wallasey	1 1 0
Askew, Miss M. E.	1 0	Bremner, Misses J. & C. S.	1 1 0
Atkinson, Mrs. A. Udny	2 10 0	Brewer, Mrs.	5 0
Ayling, Mrs.	2 6	Brouneau, Miss ..	5 0
Ayres, Mrs.	2 6	Brown, Mrs. Sadd	3 2 0
Bacon, E. R., Esq.	6 6	Brown, Mrs. E. Stewart	1 0 0
Baker, Mrs. A. E. M.	2 6	Browne, Miss Katherine	1 0
Ball, Miss A.	7 6	Bryant, Mrs. C. ..	10 6
Barlow, Mrs. Ada ..	2 0	Buchanan, Mrs. ..	2 2 0
Barnett, Miss	4 6	Budd, Mr. & Mrs.	1 10 0
Barrow, Miss	7 0	Bullen, Miss Elsie	2 0
Barton, Miss Kate ..	2 6	Burgess, Misses M. & D. G.	2 0
Beardsley, Mrs.	1 0	Burton, Miss A. E.	2 0
Beck, Miss Ellen ..	12 0 0	Burton, Miss J. ..	5 0
Bell, Mrs. M. E. ..	1 0	Cadbury, Mrs. George, J.P.	10 0
Bennett, Mrs. E...	2 6	Campbell, Miss E. ..	2 0
Bentinck, Mrs. Cavendish	5 0 0	Candlin, Miss N. F.	2 2
Bergman, Miss S...	5 6	Carlile, Miss J. E.	10 0
Berry, Miss E.	5 0	Carpenter, Mrs. R. ..	6 0
Birt, Miss Evelyn & Miss A. W. Lance	4 14 0	Carter, Miss E. ..	10 0
Bisdee, Miss M. ..	2 12 0	Carter, Miss M. D.	2 6
Black, Miss E.	1 0	Cather, Miss M. E.	5 0
Bland, Miss V. A. ..	10 6	Catmur, Mrs.	2 0 0
Booth, Miss M. Owston	1 1 0	Chancellor, H. G., Esq.	10 0
Boswell, Miss L. E.	2 6	Charles, Miss Louisa	2 0
Bourne, Miss E. T. Fox	5 0	Chatterton, Mrs. ..	2 6
Bourne, Mrs. E. D. Fox	10 0	Clark, per Miss Alix.	64 4 3
Boyce, Mrs. Emma, J.P.	3 6	Clark, Mrs. S. Bancroft	1 0 0
Brace, Miss F. H...	5 0	Clarke, Miss M. ..	2 6
BRANCHES.		Clarke, Mrs. G. M.	2 6
Delegates' Expenses	9 9 0	Clayton, Edwy G., Esq.	3 6
Capitation Fees ..	18 1 6	Coates, Councillor Schofield, J.P.	26 0 0
Brighton	11 3	Cobb, Mrs. Cecil ..	2 6
Edinburgh.. ..	3 0 0	Cockerill, Miss L...	1 0
Glasgow	18 4 7	Cole, Miss D. M. L.	1 0
		Colt, Miss Helen ..	2 0
		Conway, Miss Rose ..	8 6
		Cooper, Miss Kate J.	3 1

Nat. Un., Lond: Soc^y, & point Mrs Philippa Strachey

SUBSCRIPTION LIST—continued.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Cox, Miss R. F. ..	10 0	Gulland, Miss J. ..	10 0
Craig, Miss Evelyn ..	5 0	Hall, Mr. E. Stokes ..	3 0
Davies, Miss Ida ..	12 6	Hamilton, Mrs. ..	10 0
Dawson, Miss	2 6	Hannant, Mrs. A. ..	2 0
Dawson, Miss Ballard ..	5 0	Hardy, Mrs. K. ..	5 0
Deane, Mr. C.	1 0	Harris, Mrs. C. ..	1 6
Deeley, Miss May ..	1 0	Harris, Mr. James ..	1 0
Delbanco, Mrs.	12 0	Harverson, Miss, LL.B...	2 6
Dexter, Mrs.	15 0	Harverson, Mrs. ..	13 0
Dickson, Mrs. D. ...	7 0	Hatfield, Councillor Mary	6 6
Dodge, Miss	5 0 0	Heathcote, Mrs. Dudley ..	1 0
Duckett, Miss C. A. ..	5 0	Hemans, Mrs. L. ..	5 0
Dyson, Miss Phyllis M. ..	1 0	Henry, Miss A. L. ..	2 0
"E. & G."	5 0	Hillier, Miss A. ..	1 0
Eamonson, Miss R. ..	1 0 0	Hindmarsh, Miss Nora ..	1 0
"Edinburgh"	2 6	Hindshaw, Miss M. ..	1 0
Edwards, Mrs. J. ...	1 12 2	Hodgson, Misses E. L., F. E., & G. M. ...	4 6
Ellis, Mrs. Fitzgerald ..	5 0	Holford, Miss J. ..	2 6
Elvin, Mrs.	6 0	Holiday, Henry, Esq. ..	1 1 0
Evans, Mrs.	10 0	Holland, Miss M. ...	4 0
Ewen, Mrs.	1 0 0	Holmes, Miss Marian ..	1 0
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