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## NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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Sec: MISS MARGERY I. CORBETT, B.A., 25, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

The bill of which the Hon. Geoffrey Howard has given notice confers the Parliamentary franchise on all men over the age of 21, on a 3 months' residential qualification, previous to the 15th. July, and abolishes plural voting.

A further clause makes the foregoing applicable to women. The bill comes in for second reading on Friday, March 19th.

The following resolutions were passed in reference to this bill at the Executive Committee held on Thursday, February 18th. An expression of the views of your Committee in time for the next Executive Meeting on March 4th. will be valued.

We regret that owing to the illness of the Secretary there has been a delay in the forwarding of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting.

Yours faithfully,

EDITH DIMOCK.

FRANCES STERLING.

- 1. That this Committee sees no adequate reason why at the present time and in the alleged interest of Women's Suffrage, a Bill should be introduced widely extending the Franchise to men; it holds that this difficulty would be best met when a Bill is introduced by the Government.
- 2. That this Committee deprecates in the strongest manner the introduction of the Draft Bill which was discussed at the joint meeting with the Committee of Members of Parliament on the 16th. inst., on the grounds, among others, that it will seriously complicate the position, alienate many supporters, goes far beyond any demand in the country and is not asked for by any organized body of women who have worked for the Suffrage.
- 3. That so far as the National Union is concerned, it is fully satisfied with the Bill introduced by Mr. Stanger last Session, and it desires to point out that every other Organisation working for Women's Suffrage has cordially accepted that Bill.
- 4. That while this Committee advises that Mr. Stanger's Bill should be reintroduced, nevertheless, in consequence of the statements made by the Members of Parliament at the joint meeting on the 16th. inst., to the effect that some Bill on wider lines should be introduced to meet the views of the present House of Commons, especially having the object of securing a wider enfranchisement of married women, this Committee suggests that a clause might be adopted as follows:-

"Where any house or lodgings shall be jointly occupied by more persons than one, each of such joint occupiers shall be entitled to be and shall be registered as aforesaid; provided that for the purposes of this Act a Husband and Wife living together shall be deemed to be joint occupiers where either of them would otherwise be the sole occupier".