

Stanger, N. P., H. Y.

Ans
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ack. J
6.10.09



AL/628

Oct. 5. 09

Dear Miss Stacey.

I am very sorry that I was not able to be present at the meeting of the Executive yesterday. I was obliged to be away from town, & did not get the notice till to-day. I am glad the Committee are proposing to send a resolution condemning violence to the Cardiff meeting, & I am heartily in favour of ~~the~~ the one suggested. At the same time, there is one passage in the proposed letter



which I cannot support, & which
I should have proposed to alter
if I had been present. It is the
sentence at the end of the 2nd
para. which seems to imply
that the Government are to
blame as well as the militant
suffragists for what we are
condemning. I am not prepared
to blame the Government, & even if
on this point I were in a
minority I think our sole
object just now in publishing
such a letter is to condemn violence
& dissociate ourselves in the
clearest & strongest manner
from those who practise it

advocate it; and the passage that I
do not like might ~~be~~ suggest that in our view the
militant force to some extent justified by the action of
the Gov^t. I should condemn these

methods of violence even if they
did us harm to our cause;
that they are most seriously
imperilling it is an additional
reason for condemnation

I am

Very truly yours

H. G. Stanger

Stanger, R. C. M. P., N. Y.

A2/629

October 8th, 1909.

Dear Mr Stanger,

I found your letter when I came back from Cardiff yesterday. The letter of which a draft was sent to you, was considerably amended by our Executive and the sentence to which you take exception was deleted by them. At the Council Meeting however, the question of the letter was dropped as it appeared impossible for such a large body to come to an agreement in the exact wording of the letter and it is left open to the Societies to do what they think best.

The following resolutions were passed with ^{very little} ~~practically~~ ~~no~~ opposition :-

1. "That the Council of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies strongly condemns the use of violence in political propaganda and being convinced that the true way of advancing the cause of Women's Suffrage is by energetic law-abiding propoganda, reaffirms its adherence to constitutional principles and instructs the Executive Committee and the Societies to communicate this resolution to the press."

2. "That while condemning methods of violence, the Council of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies also protests most earnestly against the manner in which the whole Suffrage agitation has been handled by the responsible Government."

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cont

I fear you will not like the second resolution but
Mr Asquith's attitude towards the constitutional suffragists
has aroused bitter feelings amongst ^{some of} them.

I am afraid that we shall not see you at our
Urgency Committee tomorrow on the subject of Bermondsey Bye-
election, as no doubt you will be taking a week-end holiday.
We could not put it off till Monday as we need authority to
take instant steps about securing a Committee Room etc.,

Yours very truly,

P.S.

London S.W.1
11, Whitehall
R. Webb

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