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**National Union of Women's
Suffrage Societies.**



**West Lancashire, West Cheshire,
AND
North Wales Federation.**



THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the Annual Meeting, held

10th October, 1913.



LIVERPOOL :

LEE AND NIGHTINGALE, PRINTERS, 15, NORTH JOHN STREET.

—
1913.

WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE,
and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :

Chairman : Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.A., C.C., Greenbank, Liverpool.

Hon. Treasurer : Miss JULIET CROSFIELD, 11, Greenheys Road, Liverpool.

Hon. Secretary : Miss JESSIE BEAVAN, 12, Ullet Road, Liverpool.

Hon. Secretaries to Welsh Organisation Sub-Committee : Mrs. PRICE WHITE, Rockleigh,
Bangor.

Miss LAMPORT, Hafod Lon,
Menai Bridge.

Hon. Press Secretaries : for Lancashire and Cheshire : Miss C. LEADLEY BROWN,
Victoria Settlement, 294, Netherfield Road N., Liverpool.

for North Wales : Miss WITTON DAVIES, Bryn Haul, Bangor.

"Common Cause" Correspondent : Miss E. F. MCPHERSON, 16, Newland Drive, Liscard.

Bangor Mrs. PRICE WHITE.

Birkenhead Mrs. ROLAND NEW and Miss WYSE.

Blackpool Mrs. EDWARDS.

Chester Miss A. ADAMS.

Chorley Mrs. BUTLER.

Colwyn Bay Miss SPENCER.

Frodsham and Eddisbury ... Miss M. BURGESS.

Liverpool Miss C. LEADLEY BROWN, Miss JAPP, and Miss CHUBB.

Llandudno Miss F. H. WRIGHT.

Llangollen Miss B. STEWART.

Newton-le-Willows Miss WATKINS.

Preston Mrs. TODD.

Rhyl Mrs. JOHN WILLIAMS.

Seaforth Mrs. BELL and Mrs. NORMAN THOMAS.

Southport Miss RIGBY and Miss SHAWE.

St. Helens Miss C. PILKINGTON.

Wallasey... .. Miss E. F. MCPHERSON and Miss WARD PLATT

Warrington Mrs. R. D. PEMBERTON.

Wrexham Miss PRICE.

Organisers to Federation : Miss ESKRIGGE and Miss THOMPSON.

Assistant Organiser : Miss J. COLQUITT.

WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES :

Society.	Hon. Secretary.
Bangor	Mrs. PRICE WHITE, Rockleigh, Bangor.
Birkenhead	Miss WYSE, 4, Mather Road, Oxton.
Blackpool	Mrs. BAMFORD TOMLINSON, 16, Clevedon Road, Blackpool.
Carnarvon	Miss PIERCE, 412, Lytham Road, South Shore, Blackpool.
	Mrs. D. O. EVANS, Bryn Afon, Carnarvon.
Chester	Miss RYLE DAVIES, Cartrefle, Segontium Road S., Carnarvon.
	Miss A. ADAMS, Shirley House, Liverpool Road, Chester.
Colwyn Bay	Miss M. SPENCER, Farlands, Penrhyn Bay, nr. Llandudno.
Chorley	Miss STONE, Adeath House, Ashfield Road, Chorley.
Criccieth	Mrs. WALTER JONES, Emu, Criccieth.
Dolgelley... ..	Mrs. Dr. JOHN JONES, Dolgelley
Frodsham and Eddisbury ...	Miss LEWIS, Dr. William's School, Dolgelley.
	Miss M. BURGESS, Beaconhurst, Frodsham.
Liverpool	Miss E. F. RATHBONE, Greenbank, Liverpool.
Llandudno	Miss OLIVIA JAPP, 24, Prince's Park Terrace, Liverpool.
	Miss F. H. WRIGHT, Preswylfa, Abbey Road, Llandudno.
Llangollen	Miss B. STEWART, Hafod-y-Coed, Llangollen.
Newton-le-Willows	Miss WATKINS, Kirkby, Newton-le-Willows.
Penmaenmawr	Miss A. M. HARKER, Fernbrook Road, Penmaenmawr.
Preston	Mrs. TODD, Penwortham House, near Preston.
Pwllheli	
Rhyl	Mrs. JOHN WILLIAMS, The Studio, High Street, Rhyl.
Seaforth	Mrs. BELL, Lyndhurst, Norma Road, Waterloo.
Southport	Miss EDITH CRAMPTON 59, Belmont Street, Southport.
St. Helens	Miss C. PILKINGTON, The Hazels, Prescott.
Wallasey... ..	Miss E. F. MCPHERSON, 16, Newland Drive, Liscard.
	Miss J. WARD PLATT, Warrendene, Mount Road, New Brighton.
Warrington	Mrs. R. D. PEMBERTON, Bentley, Ellesmere Road, Warrington.
Wrexham	Miss L. PRICE, 76, Beechley Road, Wrexham.

NON-AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Society.	Hon. Secretary.
Holyhead (branch of Bangor W.S.S.)	Miss A. B. JOHNS, Bahama House, Holyhead. (Correspondent.)
Mold (branch of Chester W.S.S.) ...	Miss LEWIS, 1, Charles Street, Mold.
Portmadoc... ..	Mrs. DODD, 38, Madoc Street, Portmadoc.
Lytham (branch of Blackpool) ...	Miss A. SEFTON, Sunnyside, Ansdell Road N., Lytham.
	Miss M. Smith, 142, Warton Street, Lytham.

Provisional Committees have been formed at

Fleetwood	Hon. Sec. : Mrs. COOZE, The Anchorage, Fleetwood.
Blaenau Festiniog	Hon. Sec. : Mrs. GRIFFITH, 2, Bonar View, Blaenau Festiniog.

RULES.

1.—The name of the Federation shall be “THE WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, AND NORTH WALES FEDERATION.”

2.—The area of the Federation shall consist of the following Constituencies :—

LANCASHIRE :

Blackpool.	Liverpool.
Bootle.	Ormskirk.
Chorley.	St. Helens.
Newton.	Southport.
Preston.	Warrington.
	Widnes.

CHESHIRE :

Birkenhead.	Eddisbury.
Chester.	Wirral.

And all the constituencies contained in the six counties of North Wales, viz., Denbighshire, Flintshire, Carnarvonshire, Anglesey, Merionethshire, Montgomeryshire.

3.—There shall be a Committee consisting of one member of the Executive of the National Union, and of representatives of all Women's Suffrage Societies contained within the Federation area and affiliated to the National Union.

4.—The representative members shall be chosen by the Societies within the Federation area, on the following basis :—

Societies with from 25 to 100 members shall be entitled to one representative.

Societies with from 100 to 200 members shall be entitled to two representatives.

Societies with over 300 members shall be entitled to three representatives.

5.—Representative members shall be appointed for one year. If a representative is prevented from attending a meeting by any serious cause, such as illness or prolonged absence from home, the Society she represents may choose a proxy delegate to attend the meeting, the name of the delegate being sent to the Hon. Secretary beforehand.

6.—The Committee shall appoint from their number, a Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer.

7.—The ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be held quarterly in Liverpool, on the second Wednesday of each quarter.

8.—Extraordinary meetings may be summoned at the discretion of the three Officers, or at the request of the representatives of any three Societies.

9.—Each Society shall pay to the funds of the Federation a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of its Annual Subscriptions.

10.—The Financial Year shall begin on September 1st.

11.—The work of the Federation shall be :—

- (a) To promote the formation of new Societies in its area.
- (b) To perfect existing organisation.
- (c) To arrange joint meetings, and generally to secure co-operation among Societies in its area.

WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

**REPORT FROM SEPTEMBER, 1912, TO SEPTEMBER,
1913.**

PARLIAMENTARY REPORT.

On November 5th, 1912, Mr. Philip Snowden's Amendment to the Home Rule Bill was defeated in the House of Commons by a majority of 173. This Amendment proposed to base the franchise on the Local Government Register, and thereby qualify women to vote for the Irish Parliament. The defeat of the Amendment was not, however, a defeat on the principle of Women's Suffrage—the Government whips were put on against it, and its defeat was therefore inevitable. It is satisfactory to know that no less than thirty Liberals were sufficiently keen on the question of Women's Suffrage to go into the Lobby against the Government, and also that, with the exception of five, the Labour party proved itself staunch.

The debate on the Women's Suffrage Amendments to the Reform Bill was dated to begin on Friday, January 24th. On Thursday, January 23rd, in reply to a question from Mr. Bonar Law, the Speaker indicated that he would probably rule that a Bill so amended would be a new Bill, and would have to be withdrawn and re-introduced. This ruling he confirmed on Monday,

January 27th, in reply to a question from Mr. Asquith. Thus the promise made by Mr. Asquith in November, 1911, to the deputation of Women's Suffrage Societies, and repeated at intervals ever since, was rendered null and void. The Officers of the National Union, while they did not believe that Mr. Asquith in any way connived at the Speaker's ruling, considered that they should have been consulted as to what Suffragists would consider the best available equivalent for what they had been promised. The Prime Minister, however, declined to see our Officers, and offered us only the discredited resource of facilities for a Private Member's Bill. The National Union realised that a Private Member's Bill, which would have to run the hazards of three years with no official protection in the House of Commons, had no chance of passing into law. At a Council Meeting held in London in February, the Prime Minister's offer was repudiated, and the National Union decided by a large majority that while it would place no obstacle in the way of a Private Member's Bill, it would waste neither time nor money in working for it. It was then decided that as the Cabinet, as at present constituted, is the chief obstacle to the passage of a Women's Suffrage measure, support must be withheld from a Government which is represented by so illiberal a Cabinet.

The Bill in question came up for its Second Reading on May 5th, and was defeated by a majority of 47. It was introduced by a group of Liberals, and had been framed without consultation with, or any attempt to meet the views of Conservative Suffragists, and was therefore foredoomed to failure. The National Union is now concentrating on work for a Government measure for Women's Suffrage.

WORK OF THE FEDERATION.

The energies of the Federation during the past year have been centred mainly on three definite objects:— (1) Bringing pressure to bear on Members of Parliament in preparation for the Reform Bill Amendments ; (2) Testing the opinion of the organised working men in the area, on the question of Women's Suffrage, by obtaining resolutions from Trades Unions ; (3) The organisation of the Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage in the area of the Federation. In these three directions much has been achieved, and it has therefore been impossible to devote much time and labour to the breaking up of fresh ground, and the formation of new societies. Two new branches only have been formed during the year ; one at Lytham, affiliated to the Blackpool Society, and one at Mold, affiliated to the Chester Society. In place of the Society formed two years ago at Holyhead, and which had since lapsed, a Holyhead group has been formed, affiliated to the Bangor Society.

In the year which lies before us, which will in all probability be free from political crises, it is hoped that much educational and propaganda work may be accomplished.

The North Wales Sub-Committee, under the direction of its Honorary Secretaries, Mrs. Price White and Miss Lamport, continues to do excellent work in North Wales, and relieves the Federation of a considerable amount of responsibility.

In November, 1912, the Liverpool Society took an office at 18, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, towards which your Committee decided to contribute one-third of the rent. The office has proved an inestimable boon to the officials, organisers, and voluntary workers, especially

during the strenuous time before the Reform Bill Amendments were due to come on, and during the organisation of the Pilgrimage. The expenses of the upkeep place an additional burden on the funds of the Federation, and on that ground we appeal to our supporters to help us even more generously than they have done in the past. We feel sure that many of those who are debarred from active work themselves, will be glad of an opportunity of adding to the comfort of those whose labours are at times extremely heavy.

In March a most generous gift, in the shape of a motor car, was received by the Federation from Miss Truda Crosfield. The car accompanied the Pilgrims all the way to London, and was invaluable, not only for carrying luggage, etc., but also for giving lifts to those who grew weary on the long marches.

Your Committee has to announce with great regret the resignation of Miss E. F. McPherson, who, since the inauguration of the Federation in September, 1910, has filled the anxious and arduous post of Honorary Treasurer. Miss McPherson has done excellent work, and given her time and energy without stint to the service of the Federation, but her duties as Treasurer, in addition to her labours as Honorary Secretary of the Wallasey Women's Suffrage Society have entailed too great an expenditure of strength, and it is on account of ill-health that Miss McPherson has tendered her resignation. We are very grateful to her for the splendid work she has done and deeply regret her loss.

We are glad to be able to announce that Miss Juliet Crosfield, who has done such good work for the Liverpool Society, has kindly consented to accept the post of Hon. Treasurer in place of Miss McPherson.

Your Committee has also to record the loss of Miss Evelyn Deakin who left Liverpool in April, and will therefore be unable to work any longer for the Federation. Her exceptional gifts as a speaker, her keen enthusiasm, and her never-failing readiness to help will be greatly missed, and her place will be hard to fill.

We should like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to all those who have helped forward the work during the past year. First of all to our organisers, Miss Eskrigge and Miss Thompson, whose devoted labours are the mainstay of the Federation; to Mrs. Price White, and Miss Lamport, for their invaluable aid in North Wales; to Miss Stewart, Miss McPherson, Miss Truda Crosfield, and Miss Colquitt, for their help in organising; and to Miss Leadley Brown, Miss Deakin, Miss Cherry, Miss Wyse, and Miss Bickett for their aid in speaking.

THE NORTH WALES SUB-COMMITTEE, 1912-13.

The North Wales Sub-Committee has met twice during the year; at Bangor in January, and at Penmaenmawr in June. The fact that the Federation Meetings were held twice in North Wales during the year—at Llandudno and Colwyn Bay—made it unnecessary to call special meetings of the Sub-Committee.

The Societies represented were Bangor, Carnarvon, Criccieth, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, and Penmaenmawr. It is a matter for regret that Rhyl, Portmadoc, Pwllheli, and Holyhead, have not sent representatives to the meetings this year. Of the Societies within the area, Bangor, Colwyn Bay, Criccieth, Llandudno, and Penmaenmawr have reported steady growth and excellent work accomplished. Carnarvon, Portmadoc, Pwllheli, and

Rhyl, have each experienced difficulty in keeping up with the work, mainly because of frequent and unavoidable changes of Secretary. Holyhead, after a period of quiescence, owing to the Secretary's illness, is now firmly re-established, and is doing good work.

Successful series of meetings were arranged within our area for Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. Sproson, and Miss Cherry (*re* White Slave Traffic Bill), and for Fru Anker.

Several of the Societies report having raised considerable funds by means of Garden Fêtes, Rummage Sales, Cake, and Apron Sales, etc.

The North Wales Committee is to be congratulated on the success of the North Wales Pilgrimage. The arrangements decided upon at the June meeting were carried through without a hitch, all the Societies on the route taking up the work in the most willing spirit.

Considerable interest was taken in the Tal-y-cafn Summer School, the North Wales Societies being well represented.

The Press Work for the area was successfully managed by Miss Wortham. In addition to ordinary suffrage news a spirited debate was carried on between our Press Secretary and the Editor of the Anti-Suffrage Review, for many weeks, in the "North Wales Chronicle."

Work for Trades Union Resolutions was fully explained at the June meeting of the Committee. The theory has been put into practice during the last month by a few of the North Wales Societies.

Resolutions in support of Women's Suffrage have been passed by eight of the leading Trade Unions in the Bangor District, including a strongly worded resolution from the Carnarvonshire Labour Council to its affiliated

branches, recommending these to support Women's Suffrage.

I. WORK IN PREPARATION FOR THE REFORM BILL AMENDMENTS.

Between September and the end of January, when the Reform Bill Amendments were due to come on, a very vigorous campaign was carried on in certain selected Constituencies, where the attitude of the M.P. was considered unsatisfactory. The constituencies selected were Ormskirk, Blackpool, Chorley, West Toxteth, Birkenhead, and Widnes.

Ormskirk.—A post card canvass on an extensive scale was organised, and a campaign of open-air meetings was held in October. Signatures to an influential Memorial from representative persons to Mr. Stanley were collected by Miss Thompson, a petition from the women parochial electors of Litherland was worked by Miss Colquitt, and a petition from seamen's wives in Seaforth and Waterloo by Mrs. Bell and Miss Colquitt. A public meeting was held at Prescot in November, and another at Ormskirk in January. During the second week in January, a shop was opened at 131, Bridge Road, Litherland. Miss E. F. McPherson was in charge, and Mrs. Bell, Hon. Secretary of the Seaforth Women's Suffrage Society, and Miss Colquitt, rendered valuable assistance. A large facsimile post card was pasted on the shop window, with an invitation to men and women to come inside and sign. Open-air meetings by the railway bridge were addressed by Miss Muriel Matters, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, and Miss Chubb, and meetings in the shop were addressed by Miss McPherson. A large number

of post cards were signed in the shop, and at the open-air meetings. As a result of this campaign a large number of leading Conservatives expressed their intention of writing to Mr. Stanley, asking him to support the Women's Suffrage Amendments.

Blackpool.—A vigorous post card campaign was carried on in the Blackpool constituency, organised by the Blackpool Women's Suffrage Society and the Federation. Public meetings were held in Blackpool, Lytham, and Poulton, and a series of open-air meetings were held at the end of October. Here also the educational work done resulted, we believe, in a good many leading Conservatives writing personally to Mr. Ashley to ask for his support.

Chorley.—The plan decided upon by your Committee of opening a shop in Chorley, could not be carried out as, unfortunately, it proved impossible to find a suitable shop. A campaign of open-air meetings was therefore held in the constituency, over 200 post cards were signed, and many personal letters were written to Lord Balcarres.

West Toxteth.—Open-air meetings, and a post card canvass were organised in West Toxteth; a shop was also opened for a week, which did excellent work; but the record of this belongs to the Liverpool Society, who were responsible for the work.

In **Birkenhead** a post card canvass was organised, and a very large number of Conservatives, including members of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association, were so much interested that they stated their intention of writing a personal letter to Mr. Bigland. Very valuable help in this campaign was given by Miss Lamport.

In **Widnes** a memorial from the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association was worked, and presented to Colonel Hall Walker. Personal letters were also written.

II. TRADES UNION WORK.

After the withdrawal of the Reform Bill your Committee decided that the next piece of work undertaken by the Federation should be an attempt to test the feeling of the organised working men in its area by obtaining resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage from Trades Unions. Work was started at once in the Liverpool district by Miss Eskrigge and Miss Thompson. The methods adopted by them were to interview Secretaries, and if necessary, other officials of the Unions, lay before them alternative resolutions, and request them to get either or both passed at their next meeting, and then to forward copies of the resolution passed to the Prime Minister, the Chief Whips, and the M.P. for the constituency. The results exceeded your Committee's most sanguine expectations, and constitute the most striking evidence of the support given to women in their demand for enfranchisement by the working men of the country. The officials who submitted the resolutions were by no means always of the Labour party, but represented every shade of political opinion. The organisers received several invitations to address Trades Unions branches, and on every occasion their speeches were listened to with intense interest, and the resolution passed—in many cases unanimously.

The Committee consider this as one of the most valuable pieces of propaganda ever undertaken by the Federation. The work is much more easy than the representative memorials, and therefore within the reach

of less experienced workers, and it affords an unequalled opportunity of getting into touch with the working people in the neighbourhood. By far the greater part of the Trades Union work in the area has been done by Miss Thompson, assisted in some cases by the local Secretary. Your Committee, realising how valuable Miss Thompson's experience would be in pioneering the work in other Federations, agreed at the request of the N.U. Executive, to lend her services to them for three months, from the beginning of October. Her work will be greatly missed in our Federation, but it is hoped that those societies in whose district Trades Union work has not been done, will undertake it themselves as soon as possible, for, as has already been stated, the work is within the reach of the average Suffrage worker.

Below is given a list of those constituencies in which T.U. work has been done, with the number of branches which have passed resolutions :—

Liverpool : Trades and Labour Council, Garston Trades and Labour Council, Railway Clerks' Association, Lithographic Artists and Designers, National Union Life Assurance Agents, Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants (Garston), National Union Ships' Stewards, Organ Builders' Trade Society, Bootmakers, Amalgamated Society Lithographic Printers, Amalgamated Society Engineers (Executive Committee), Shipwrights (Bootle Branch), Prudential Agents (Bootle Branch), Tanners' Union (Liverpool and District), National Amalgamated Society Painters and Decorators, Liverpool and District Council Shop Assistants' Union, Amalgamated Society Railway Servants (No. 2 Branch), Blind, Basket and Brush Makers, Liverpool District Operative Stone Masons, Amalgamated Union Decorative Glass Workers, Transport

Workers, Dock Labourers, Meeting of National Union Dock Labourers held in Liverpool, Tailors' Amalgamated Hebrew Branch, Amalgamated Society Carpenters and Joiners (Tuebrook branch), Amalgamated Society Carpenters and Joiners (Wavertree branch), National Amalgamated Society House and Ship Painters (Branch No. 2), Café Workers and Waitresses, Amalgamated Society Loco. Engineers and Firemen (Wavertree branch), Society Stone Masons (Liverpool Central), Shop Assistants (Toxteth Branch), Amalgamated Union of Clothiers, Amalgamated Society Engineers (Branch No. 2, Bootle), Shop Assistants (Rotunda Branch), Amalgamated Union Operative Bakers and Confectioners (Liverpool and District), Iron and Steel Dressers Trade Society, Printers' Warehousemen and Cutters, National Amalgamated Union Shop Assistants' Warehousemen, Clerks (City Branch), Labour Representation Committee, Amalgamated Union Upholsterers, Navvies and Builders' Labourers and General Labourers' Union.

Preston : Preston Trades and Labour Council, Prov. Association Operative Cotton Spinners, Postmen's Federation Executive Committee (Preston and District Branch), National Amalgamated Society Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, Saddle and Harness Makers' Association, North Lancashire Card and Blowing Room Association, Amalgamated Society Engineers (3rd Branch), Preston and District Textile Trades Federation, Postmen's Federation (General Meeting, Preston and District Branch), Powerloom Overlookers' Association.

Ormskirk : Shop Assistants' Union, Insurance Agents, National Union Railwaymen.

St. Helens : Life Assurance Agents, Glass Bottle Makers, Trade Association (Executive Committee, Lancashire and District), Ashton Green Branch of Miners, Pilkington Branch of Miners, Havannah and Southport Branch of Miners, National Union of Railwaymen, St. Helens Trades and Labour Council, Haydock Branch of Miners.

Southport : Trades and Labour Council, Shop Assistants' Union, Amalgamated Union Railway Servants, Amalgamated Union Joiners and Carpenters, Amalgamated Union Tram and Vehicle Workers.

Runcorn : Trades and Labour Council, Engine and Crane Men.

Widnes : Trades and Labour Council.

Mold (Flint Boroughs) : Bakers, Tin Plate Workers, Society Railway Servants.

Bangor, Carnarvon, and District (Carnarvon Boroughs and Carnarvon N.) : Carnarvonshire Labour Council (Executive Committee), Carnarvonshire Labour Council also passed resolution urging affiliated Unions to support Women's Suffrage, National Union Railway Servants (Bangor Branch), Postmen's Union (Bangor Branch), North Wales Quarrymen's Union (Executive Committee), Engine Drivers and Firemen (Bangor Branch), Railway Clerks' Association (Carnarvon), National Union Railwaymen (Holyhead).

III. THE PILGRIMAGE.

The heaviest piece of work undertaken during the year 1913 has been the Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage, which took place in June and July, and culminated in the great Demonstration in Hyde Park on July 26th. The

idea was suggested to the Executive Committee by Mrs. Harley, Chairman of the West Midland Federation, and also, we believe, almost simultaneously by Miss Evelyn Deakin, and the project was taken up enthusiastically at Headquarters, and by all the Federations, on which the immense work of organisation entirely devolved. The aim of the Pilgrimage, as outlined by Mrs. Fawcett, was threefold. In the first place it meant the renewal of a dedication to a great cause ; secondly, it was intended to demonstrate to the country the strength and volume of the non-militant movement ; and the third object was to break up tracts of fallow ground, and to preach the gospel of Women's Enfranchisement to audiences who had not been reached before.

No scheme ever undertaken by the N.U. has ever justified itself more triumphantly. Our appeal to reason and justice met with a magnificent response. In most places the Pilgrims were warmly welcomed, and in places where they met with opposition, the opposition was organised by hooligans, who probably knew nothing whatever of the merits of the subject. When the fact that the Pilgrims were entirely opposed to militancy was once firmly grasped, there was practically no real opposition to the principle of Women's Suffrage.

Owing to the absence of the Hon. Secretary, the work of organisation in our own area fell entirely upon Miss Eskrigge, and to her energy and efficiency its success was mainly due. About 450 members of our Federation joined the Pilgrimage for part or all of the march. The largest number on the road at any one time in our area was in Liverpool, when about 240 took part in the procession. Members of the North-Western Federation entered our area on June 28th, at GARSTANG,

where they were welcomed by the Preston Women's Suffrage Society, who marched to meet the travellers, and a meeting was held. The Pilgrims then proceeded to PRESTON, where the two most successful meetings recorded in our own area took place. There were about 1,500 people present at the afternoon meeting, and 2,000 at the evening meeting, and at both 462 F.W.S. cards were signed. The members of the I.L.P. gave splendid help, and the Preston Suffrage Society maintained its high reputation for work. A contingent from Lytham and Blackpool reinforced the Pilgrims at Preston. At SOUTHPORT the local society turned out in large numbers to greet the travellers, and the conditions under which the meeting there was held were so favourable that it will be long remembered by those who took part in it. Special permission had been granted by the Council for the meeting to be held in the North Marine Park, where high banks kept out the noise of the traffic, and speaking was almost as easy as in a hall. About 250 F.W.S. cards were signed, and a large collection taken. On the road to Ormskirk the Pilgrims met a band of agricultural labourers out on strike, and a meeting was held, at which practically every man present signed a card. Many of them went on to ORMSKIRK, and swelled the crowd at the large meeting held there in the evening.

Another excellent meeting was held at PRESCOT, and the travellers then proceeded to LIVERPOOL. On the following day, Saturday, June 5th, the procession assembled at the Office, and headed by a band marched through the town to the Exchange Flags, where a meeting was held, addressed by Mr. Keir Hardie, Alderman Meade-King, Councillor Eleanor Rathbone, and others. At the same time another meeting was in progress in

Preeson's Row. The procession then marched to the landing stage, where it was joined by the Wallasey contingent, and the numbers then exceeded 300, but not all crossed the river, so there were fewer to march through BIRKENHEAD.

As Chester had to be reached by six, four motors, kindly lent for the purpose, took one party of pilgrims, while others went on bicycles. In CHESTER another procession was formed, including a contingent from Wrexham, and those who had come from the North Wales route. The audience at the meeting in Chester Market Square must have numbered about 5,000, and in addition to the two platforms originally planned, two others had to be improvised, motor cars being commandeered for the purpose.

From Chester the Pilgrims marched through rich agricultural country to TARPORLEY, where a surprisingly large crowd, considering the size of the place, gathered for the evening meeting. The audience was most sympathetic, and 120 F.W.S. cards were signed. This was the last meeting held in our Federation, as the Pilgrims then entered the area of the Manchester Federation.

The Federation owes a debt of gratitude to Miss Leadley Brown for her excellent work during the Pilgrimage. Not only did she act as "chauffeur" to the motor car, but every day during the three weeks, she spoke at one, and generally at two meetings. Needless to say, her speeches were always full of vigour and fire, and were listened to with intense interest and appreciation. We realise that performing double duty in this way must have placed considerable strain on her, and are glad to know that she seems none the worse for it.

NORTH WALES PILGRIMAGE.

In spite of fears and misgivings beforehand, as to the possibility of carrying through the scheme, the Pilgrimage along the North Wales Coast, was an undoubted success. Of the Societies concerned in the work of organising the Pilgrimage, Penmaenmawr and Colwyn Bay deserve special commendation for the enthusiastic and thoroughly effective way in which they carried through their work.

Though Pilgrims came from Criccieth and Carnarvon, no meetings were held in those towns. The first send-off meeting was held at the "REFORMERS' TREE," BANGOR. A large and sympathetic audience, of which a remarkable number were men, attended. After the meeting 25 members and friends of Suffrage made the journey by brake and cycle to Penmaenmawr.

Two miles outside Penmaenmawr the Pilgrimage proper began. The Bangor company were met by the brave little band from Penmaenmawr, and all, making a procession of 40, marched with banners and pennants flying through the town, attracting extraordinary interest by the way.

Processions.—Of the processions arranged, that of Colwyn Bay was the largest, and most imposing. The pilgrims were met outside the town by many members of the Society, the town band, a decorated advertisement van, and two decorated motor cars. On the march through the town many friends, men and women, fell into the ranks, cyclists formed up behind, and a gay procession, numbering 150 odd, marched through streets lined with interested and, to judge by the absence of jeering, sympathetic spectators.

Meetings.—A good procession proves an excellent advertisement, for of the meetings held at BANGOR, PENMAENMAWR, CONWAY, COLWYN BAY, ABERGELE, and RHYL, those of PENMAENMAWR, COLWYN BAY, and RHYL were huge; the size of the crowd at Colwyn Bay necessitating three platforms.

The meeting held at CONWAY, mid-day, July 3rd, deserves notice, as being the first completely successful Suffrage meeting ever held in that town.

At Conway the Llandudno contingent joined on, bringing with them Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Haslam, of Dublin, perhaps the oldest living suffragists, a picturesque couple of 88 and 85 years of age, whom the reporters present besieged for items of interest from their long record of suffrage work.

Another successful mid-day meeting was that of Abergele, where the Pilgrims found a large company of Altrincham "Mothers" on holiday, waiting to give them a welcome and to help at the meeting.

Press.—The space given in the local papers to movements and doings of the Pilgrims bore testimony to the interest aroused. The "North Wales Chronicle" gave several columns of space in two issues, and the reports in every case gave a good record of the speeches.

There was no organised opposition anywhere on the route, any interruptions that took place coming from the usual band of young "larrikins" out to amuse themselves, if they could, at the expense of the Suffragists, but in the case of the North Wales meetings the women had the crowd on their side every time.

The speaker for the route was Mrs. Earp (of Rotherham). Others who took part were:—Mrs. Price White (Bangor),

Miss M. Spencer (Colwyn Bay), Dr. Jenkins (Penmaenmawr), and Mr. Thomas Haslam (Dublin).

To Miss Elias, our capable and efficient organiser (lent by the N.U.), much of the success of the North Wales Pilgrimage is due.

GENERAL ORGANISATION.

(a). In Wales.

In September, 1912, Miss Eskrigge went to MERIONETHSHIRE, to canvass members of the Merioneth Liberal Association, and as a result of her visit a resolution in favour of the C.B. Amendment to the Reform Bill was passed by a large majority, on September 25th. A village meeting was held at LLANDRILLO; which aroused considerable interest. Miss Eskrigge organised a small meeting in MOLD, at the end of September, which was not so successful as had been anticipated, owing to the hostile feeling which had been aroused by the Llanystumdwy incident.

In October Miss Lamport and Miss Stewart went to S. Carnarvon and conducted a most successful post card canvass at CRICCIETH, PWLLHELLI, and PORTMADOC. Much interest and enthusiasm was aroused, the bad impression made by the militants was counteracted, and the effects of the Anti-Suffragists' Campaign destroyed. At the end of October a most successful campaign of open-air meetings, organised by Miss Price, Hon. Sec. of the Wrexham Women's Suffrage Society, was held at WREXHAM. Meetings were held in different parts of the town, and at RHOS, a mining centre with a reputation for rowdyism and implacable hatred of the militants.

The meeting, however, was excellent. Mrs. Cooper and Miss C. Leadley Brown were the speakers. During the week 250 post cards were signed and sent to the M.P.

In December meetings organised by Miss Lamport were held at PWLLHELLI, PORTMADOC, and CRICCIETH. These meetings were addressed by Miss Eleanor Rathbone, and were very successful.

In January, 1913, a by-election took place in FLINT BOROUGH, and a great deal of work was done in the constituency, by Miss Eskrigge and Miss Kearns, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

On March 12th, a public meeting, organised by Miss Kearns, was held at MOLD, and was addressed by Miss Matters, who made an excellent impression. Those interested were summoned to a private meeting next day, at which Miss Adams, Hon. Secretary of the Chester Women's Suffrage Society was present. A Mold "group" of about 25 members was formed, with Miss Lewis as Correspondent, and Miss Adams undertook on behalf of Chester, to accept the Mold group as members of the Chester Women's Suffrage Society, and to superintend them.

At the end of March Miss Stewart organised a most successful meeting in CHIRK. Mrs. Harley was the principal speaker, and the meeting aroused much enthusiasm in the district.

In May Miss Eskrigge went to BANGOR, where she organised a canvass of women ratepayers, and started Trade Union work. She then, accompanied by Miss Lamport, went to HOLYHEAD, where the Society had practically lapsed. Two small meetings were held, at which several new members joined, and in place of the

old society, a Holyhead group was formed, attached to the Bangor Society, with Miss Johns as Correspondent. Miss Eskrigge and Miss Lamport also did some preliminary Trade Union work in Holyhead. BETHESDA was also visited, and a good deal of canvassing done, and it is hoped that there also, in place of the old Society, a group may shortly be formed.

(b). In Cheshire.

In September Miss Eskrigge, assisted by Miss Stewart and Miss Burgess, held a week's open-air meetings at RUNCORN. These meetings were addressed by Mrs. Annot Robinson, Miss Leadley Brown, Miss Eskrigge, and Miss Stewart. The audiences were attentive and friendly, and many post cards were signed. Among the working people more support than had been anticipated was found, especially among the women, but the upper class people were indifferent and apathetic.

Miss Burgess organised a small meeting at HELSBY at the end of September, which was addressed by Miss Eskrigge and Miss Stewart, and a considerable amount of private visiting was done.

(c). In Lancashire.

In October Miss Eskrigge, accompanied by Miss Meikle, who was sent by the N.U. to be trained under Miss Eskrigge, worked in the ORMSKIRK constituency. Meetings were held in UPHOLLAND, SKELMERSDALE (two meetings), SEAFORTH, LITHERLAND, and ORMSKIRK. On October 21st Miss Truda Crosfield, bringing her car, joined Miss Eskrigge, and two open-air meetings were held at PRESCOT, and a particularly successful meeting at KIRKBY. A good deal of canvassing was also done.

The car then went into the BLACKPOOL constituency. Meetings were held in POULTON, WESHAM, and KIRKHAM; also at PENWORTHAM, near Preston. At all these meetings a large number of post cards were signed.

On November 12th and 13th, very successful meetings, organised by Miss Meikle and Miss Colquitt, were held at PRESCOT and POULTON. Both meetings were addressed by Miss E. F. Rathbone, and on each occasion a large number of post cards were signed.

On December 3rd a meeting, organised by Miss Colquitt, helped by Miss Roberts of Poulton, was held at LYTHAM. Miss Rathbone addressed the meeting, and the audience was interested and sympathetic. Miss Eskrigge, who had spent the previous week paying individual calls, and preparing the ground for the formation of a new society, called a meeting at the Hydro, Lytham, on December 5th, and a LYTHAM group was formed, to be affiliated to the Blackpool Women's Suffrage Society. A Lytham Committee was formed for the control of local business, with three representatives from the Blackpool Society on it.

In January a campaign of open-air meetings was held at CHORLEY, with a view to getting letters and post cards to Lord Balcarres signed. The meetings were addressed by Miss Eskrigge and Miss C. Leadley Brown, and resulted in several personal letters being written to the M.P., and 200 post cards signed.

In February a by-election took place in the Chorley constituency, and Miss Eskrigge was in charge of the organisation, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

On April 17th a small but successful meeting was held at PRESCOT, when Rev. E. Baguley, Mr. Hughes, and Miss Eskrigge were the speakers. Twelve people

gave in their names as willing to join a branch, and it is hoped that a Prescott group may shortly be formed.

In June a campaign of open-air meetings, organised by Miss McPherson, and addressed by Mrs. Earp, was held in Lancashire. Meetings were held at WATERLOO, ELLESMERE PORT, and PRESCOT, in each case with excellent results.

SPEAKERS' TOURS.

Mrs. COOPER. October 28th-November 2nd. Open-air campaign at Wrexham.

Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY. October 29th-November 1st. Warrington, Wallasey, Heswall, Seaforth.

Miss MATTERS. December 2nd-5th. Liverpool Exchange Flags (three meetings), Liverpool Society, Rossett, Hoylake.

Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY. December 10th-13th. Bangor, Llandudno, Llandegfan (two meetings).

Miss MATTERS. March 10th-14th. Penmaenmawr, Mold, Bangor, Wrexham.

Mrs. EARP. June 2nd-14th. Waterloo, Southport, Ellesmere Port (two meetings), New Brighton, Wallasey, Liverpool (three meetings).

FRU ANKER. June 24th-26th. Llandudno, Penmaenmawr, Bangor, Holyhead.

Mrs. EARP. June 30th-July 12th. Pilgrimage meetings in North Wales.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

A small summer school was held at Talybont, in North Wales, during the last week in August. The scheme was promoted by Miss Eskrigge, in order to give a little training in organisation and speaking to some of

the workers in the Federation, who might be prohibited by the expensive railway journey and higher fees, from attending the N.U. Schools at Oxford and St. Andrews. The Oxford, Bucks, and Berks Federation kindly set Miss Dora Mason at liberty to take charge of the School, and Miss Eskrigge acted as housekeeper. During the week twelve students attended, but five of these were day students. Each day's programme included a short lecture on organisation, a speaker's class and practice, individual reading and discussion on the following subjects:—Equal pay for equal work; the sweated worker; the legal inequality of parents; separation and maintenance orders; divorce; restrictions on women's work (factory legislation and the employment of married women); Anti-Suffrage arguments, and the case for and against a minimum wage. Besides speeches on general suffrage, the students prepared short speeches adapted to special audiences, such as a Branch of the B.W.T.A., a Branch of a Trades Union, factory girls, etc. Towards the end of the week three meetings were held, and the students discovered that even a few days of study, practice, and criticism had helped them considerably. The strong point of the school was the discussions and debates. Each student seemed to contribute an individual point of view, often backed by personal experience, so that the discussions never flagged.

Miss Eskrigge is much to be congratulated on the success of her scheme, and it is hoped that the experiment may be repeated next year. Your Committee would like to express their gratitude to the Oxford, Bucks, and Berks Federation for so kindly lending Miss Mason's services for the School. Her powers as a teacher were one of the chief factors of its success, and the value of

her kind help and friendly criticism cannot be overestimated.

PARLIAMENTARY WORK.

Deputations and Interviews.

Representatives from the Federation, the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, and the North Wales Sub-Committee interviewed Colonel E. PRYCE-JONES, M.P. for Montgomery, in the House of Commons, in November, 1912. Colonel Pryce-Jones promised to vote for the "omit male" and "Conciliation Bill" amendments to the Reform Bill, and with regard to the Dickinson Amendment stated that he would follow Lord Robert Cecil's lead.

Mr. MARSHALL HALL, M.P. for East Toxteth (Liverpool), was interviewed in the House of Commons in November by representatives from the Federation and the C. & U. W. F. A. He expressed his intention of voting for the "omit male" and the C.B. amendments, and of not voting against the Dickinson amendment. He expressed himself as averse to the enfranchisement of married women.

Mr. ASHLEY, M.P. for Blackpool, was interviewed in November at the House of Commons by representatives from the Federation, and the Blackpool Women's Suffrage Society. He would give no definite reply to the requests made to him, but had evidently been turned against Women's Suffrage by militancy. The interview was unsatisfactory.

Representatives from the Federation, the C. & U. W. F. A., and the Seaforth Women's Suffrage Society, saw the Hon. ARTHUR STANLEY, M.P. for Ormskirk, in

Liverpool, on December 28th. Mr. Stanley refused to pledge himself, but it was gathered that he did not intend to vote against the Women's Suffrage Amendments.

On December 27th a deputation of representatives from the Federation, the C. & U. W. F. A., and the St. Helens Women's Suffrage Society, waited on Mr. RIGBY SWIFT, M.P. for St. Helens. Mr. Swift undertook to carry out his promise to vote for the C.B. Amendment, and also to vote for the "omit male" amendment.

Mr. YERBURGH, M.P. for Chester, was interviewed on December 20th, by representatives from the Federation and the Chester Women's Suffrage Society. He promised to vote for the "omit male" and C.B. amendments, and he seemed favourably impressed by the Dickinson Amendment, which was new to him.

Major WHITE, M.P. for Southport, was interviewed in the House of Commons, in December, by representatives from the Federation, and the C. & U. W. F. A. He promised to vote for the "omit male" and C.B. Amendments, and undertook not to vote against the Dickinson Amendment. It was understood that he would probably vote for it.

A deputation of representatives from the Federation, the Wallasey and Wirral Women's Suffrage Society, and the constituency, waited on Mr. GERSHOM STEWART, M.P. for Wirral, on October 26th, to ask for his support to Mr. Snowden's Amendment to the Home Rule Bill. Mr. Stewart stated that it would not be possible for him to support the Amendment, but that he would consider the representations which had been made to him, and might abstain from voting. In the event Mr. Stewart abstained.

In January, representatives from the Federation and the North Wales Sub-Committee interviewed Sir Herbert Roberts, M.P. for West Denbigh, Mr. Herbert Lewis, M.P. for Flintshire, Mr. Ellis Griffith, M.P. for Anglesey, and Mr. William Jones, M.P. for Arfon (North Carnarvon), in the House of Commons.

Sir HERBERT ROBERTS, M.P. for West Denbigh, said that he objected to give pledges or indications of any kind as to how he would vote.

Mr. HERBERT LEWIS, M.P. for Flintshire, would not pledge himself, but it was gathered that he would support the "omit male" and Dickinson Amendments.

Mr. ELLIS GRIFFITH, M.P. for Anglesey, was believed likely to vote for the "omit male," Dickinson, and C.B. Amendments.

Mr. WILLIAM JONES, M.P. for Arfon (North Carnarvon), was believed likely to support the "omit male" and Dickinson Amendments, and also probably the Adult Amendment.

POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS RESOLUTIONS.

On September 25th, a resolution in favour of the C.B. amendment to the Reform Bill was passed by the MERIONETH COUNTY LIBERAL ASSOCIATION by a large majority. It was hoped that the resolution would have included the Dickinson Amendment, as most of the members who were canvassed were quite willing for the wider measure. Its omission was due to the influence of one or two leading men who were opposed to it.

On October 30th, the Executive Committee of the PORTMADOC LIBERAL CLUB passed two resolutions; the first urging Mr. Ellis Davies to vote for the Snowden Amendment to the Home Rule Bill, and the second,

urging him to vote for the "omit male" and C.B. Amendments to the Reform Bill, and reminding him of his pledge to support the Dickinson Amendment.

On January 6th, 1913, the LLANGOLLEN LIBERAL ASSOCIATION unanimously passed a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage.

On January 25th, a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was passed by the LLANGOLLEN CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

MEMORIALS.

Memorials signed by representative people of weight and influence in the constituency have been presented to the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P. for Ormskirk, and Mr. Yerburgh, M.P. for Chester.

Ormskirk.

The Memorial was signed by:—

41 members of the Urban District Councils of Litherland, Prescot, Ormskirk, and Skelmersdale. (Refusals 4; not seen 6).

78 members of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Associations of Skelmersdale, Burscough, Prescot, Ormskirk, Seaforth, Orrell, and Litherland. (Refusals 13; not seen 10).

16 Doctors. (Refusals 3).

22 Clergy and Ministers. (Refusals 7).

8 Solicitors. (No refusals).

Chester.

Of the members of the Town Council 31 signed. (5 refused; 4 not seen).

Of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association 17 signed (excluding Town Councillors). None refused.

Of the Executive Committee of the Liberal Association 34 signed.

The signatures also included those of 45 Clergy and Ministers of Religion, 17 Doctors and Clerks, 13 Solicitors, the President and Ex-President of the Trades and Labour Council, and 24 prominent political workers (men and women).

A Memorial from SEAMEN'S WIVES in SEAFORTH AND WATERLOO was presented to the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P. for Ormskirk.

A Memorial from the WOMEN PAROCHIAL ELECTORS OF LITHERLAND was also presented to the Hon. Arthur Stanley. Out of 53 women seen, 39 signed, and 14 refused.

A Memorial signed by members of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association was presented to Colonel HALL WALKER, M.P. for Widnes.

BY-ELECTIONS.

Flint Boroughs.

Owing to the death of Mr. J. W. Summers, in whom the N.U. lost an old and tried friend, a by-election took place in the Flint Boroughs constituency in January, 1913. Mr. Roberts, the Conservative candidate was in favour of Women's Suffrage on the C.B. basis only. Mr. Parry, the Liberal candidate, answered all the N.U. questions (except that opposing any further extension of the franchise to men) in the affirmative. Therefore propaganda work only was done. A Committee Room was taken in Mold of which Miss Kearns was in charge, and did excellent work. Meetings were held every night in the Mold Market Hall, and in Flint Town Hall on one night, and open-air meetings were held in Flint,

Caergwrle, Holywell, and Bagyllt. Miss Eskrigge was in charge of the organisation in the constituency. Miss Helga Gill was sent by the N.U. to help with the speaking, and Miss Ashton, Miss Deakin, and Miss Leadley Brown also gave valuable assistance at different meetings. The by-election resulted in the return to Parliament of Mr. Parry, the Liberal candidate.

The chief gain of the by-election work was the excellent impression made in Mold, which resulted in the formation of a Mold group later on in the year.

Chorley.

Owing to the elevation to the Upper House of Lord Balcarras, M.P. for Chorley, a by-election took place in the Chorley constituency in February. The Conservative candidate, Sir Henry Hibbert, an Anti-Suffragist, refused to answer any questions, or to receive a deputation. Mr. Jackson, the Liberal candidate, answered every question in the affirmative. Nevertheless, in view of the proposed forthcoming change in its election policy, the Executive of the N.U. directed the Federation to do propaganda only. As a result of this decision, practically every Liberal member left the Chorley Society. On the other hand, eight out of ten Conservative members of the Society refused to work for Sir Henry Hibbert. An office and a market stall for the display of posters were taken in Chorley. Miss Gill (sent by the N.U.) and Miss Stewart helped with the organising and speaking. Miss Deakin, Mrs. Muter Wilson, Mr. Richard Evans, and Mrs. Todd, of Preston, also helped with speaking on different occasions. Meetings were held at ST. GEORGE'S STREET, CHORLEY, TALBOT MILL; COPPUL, COWLING MILL; WHEELTON, BRINSCOLL; Y.W.C.A. AT WHEELTON,

LAWRENCE'S MILL, CROSTON, CATTLE MARKET, CHORLEY, FRIDAY STREET MILL; ADLINGTON; PUBLIC HALL, LEYLAND; CROFT MILL; and NORTH STREET MILL. The meetings in outlying villages were very large and orderly; those in Chorley rather less satisfactory. A Committee Room was opened by the Anti-Suffragists, which did a good deal of harm, but their meetings were not successful, and on one occasion when they tried to speak at the same time as the Suffragists they had to abandon their meeting.

During the election a meeting which had been arranged some time beforehand, was held at the Church Institute, and addressed by Miss Royden. This meeting was most successful.

The election resulted in the return to Parliament of Sir Henry Hibbert, Conservative.

PRESS WORK DURING 1913.

The Press Work in our Federation has gone steadily forward, and it is increasingly easier to get Suffrage matter into the local papers. The Pilgrimage has undoubtedly done a good deal to convince Editors of the importance of the Non-militant Suffrage agitation, and the space devoted to the Pilgrims as they passed through the various towns of West Lancashire and Cheshire was quite satisfactory, whilst the tone was almost always sympathetic.

Our good friends the Editors of the "Southport Guardian," "Southport Visiter," "Formby Times," "Waterloo and Crosby Herald," "Widnes News," "Warrington and St. Helens Newspaper," and "St. Helens Reporter," still make a special feature of the weekly Suffrage notes, which are supplied to them by

various members within the Federation, and the "Birkenhead News" and "Wallasey News" are as generous as ever in the allocation of space to Suffrage news.

A new friend has come forward in the shape of the Editor of the "Chester Chronicle," and the "Birkenhead Advertiser" and "Wallasey Chronicle" have been increasingly sympathetic.

The Liverpool papers still leave much to be desired. A deputation of well-known Liverpool Liberals waited on Sir Edward Russell, and expressed their dissatisfaction at the tone the paper took up with regard to Women's Suffrage, and since then a rather more favourable tone has been observed. On October 4th the "Daily Post" published a pro-Suffrage article by Canon Talbot of Bristol. The "Echo" contained one or two quite favourable special articles at the time of the Reform Bill, but both it and the other Liverpool papers continue to give undue prominence to militancy.

The only really Anti-Suffrage papers in our area appear to be the "Cheshire Observer" and the "Preston Herald," and they will no doubt come into line if the right pressure is applied.

The "Preston Guardian" and the "Lancashire Daily Post" are both favourable, and the former publishes Suffragist matter sent by the Local Press Secretary when space allows.

The best thanks of the Federation are due to the Press Secretaries, and the special contributors, who are doing so much towards making the Press work a success. In the two years that this work has been organised, the progress has been quite remarkable, and the change in

the tone of our own papers is only an indication of what has happened all over England.

North Wales.

There are no defections during the year to be reported, and one notable accession, that of the "North Wales Observer." This paper was formerly markedly Anti-Suffrage in tone, but since last December has published a regular weekly Suffrage column, often in one of the best positions in the paper, and has spoken warmly of the justice of the cause of the law-abiding Suffragists in its leading articles. The "North Wales Chronicle" remains firm in its loyalty to our cause, and it may now be said that no English paper in North Wales has been left untouched.

Work yet remains to be done among the Welsh papers, with whom the difficulty is not unwillingness to accept matter, but lack of matter translated into Welsh. There is room here for more workers.

It is hoped that next year will see an increase in industry in the supplying of regular material by local societies, and in this connection the importance of appointing a local Press Secretary by every Society must once more be urged. Some improvement has been shown in this direction during the year, but much remains to be done.

It is obviously impossible for the Federation Press Secretary to watch every North Wales paper, in order to be sure that every Society is doing its work. Local Societies are reminded, moreover, that an ample supply of matter suitable for insertion may always be had from the Federation Press Secretary for the asking.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The expenditure this year has been almost double what it was last year, but the income has not increased in the same proportion, and it is only owing to the large balance from last year that there is not a deficit to report, and to the fact that the National Union entirely financed the Chorley By-Election, and gave a large grant to the Flint Boroughs.

Your Committee ask the representatives of the Societies to make a more earnest endeavour to interest their members as well as Committees in the work of the Federation. Increased interest means an increased income, and judging by past experience a larger income will be needed in the year 1913-14. Federation work largely consists of missionary work, which is of general benefit to the Societies, and help to the Federation rarely if ever means decrease of interest in local work.

If the Pilgrimage has shown us what an amount of work is needed, it has also shown what a large harvest in the country is waiting only to be gathered. But this means work, and work means money, and your Committee make an earnest appeal to you to find the necessary money to carry out the work.

One interesting feature of the Pilgrimage Fund has been that by far the greater part of it has been subscribed in small amounts.

We feel convinced that if the work of the Federation were a little more understood among the general body of members, the number of donations and subscriptions would be largely increased.

The most cordial thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. Ward Platt for his kindness in auditing the accounts of the Federation.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S
WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE,
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE,

INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1912-13	...	216	1	10			
„ Donations from Members	...	148	15	8			
„ „ Societies	...	15	11	5			
„ Subscriptions from Members	...	7	3	6			
					171	10	7
„ Affiliation Fees	...	19	13	4			
„ Collections	...	60	9	4			
„ Share of Pilgrimage Fund	...	230	14	6			
„ Grants from N.U. ^{a/c} By-Elections	...	42	2	7			
„ „ for Scholarships	...	5	0	0			
„ Expenses returned	...	51	14	7			
„ Donations ^{a/c} Motor Car Expenses	...	5	12	6			
„ Sale of Literature	...	3	5	3			
„ „ Badges	...	5	3	4			
„ Bank Interest	...	1	19	0			

£813 6 10

Audited and found correct,
 NEW BRIGHTON, 22nd October, 1913.

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.
AND NORTH WALES FEDERATION.
31st AUGUST, 1912, to 31st AUGUST, 1913.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By CENTRAL EXPENSES :—							
Travelling Expenses and Board	...	27	11	11			
Printing and Postages	...	56	0	2			
Stationery and Sundries	...	20	4	5			
Hire of Rooms, Van, and Insurance	...	8	8	9			
					112	5	3
„ MEETINGS :—							
Hire of Halls and Carriages	...	20	18	9			
Speakers' Expenses	...	4	16	7			
Printing and Postages	...	17	12	2			
Sundries	...	17	4	11			
					60	12	5
„ ORGANISING EXPENSES :—							
Fees to Organisers	...	194	16	5			
Travelling Expenses and Board	...	154	12	9			
Literature	...	17	11	1			
Postages and Sundries	...	33	15	0			
Speakers' Expenses and Scholarships	...	7	5	2			
					408	0	5
„ OFFICE EXPENSES :—							
Rent and Telephone	...	16	15	10			
Furniture, Decorations, and Gas	...	12	7	9			
					29	3	7
„ Motor Car Expenses	...	34	12	9			
„ Grants to Pilgrims	...	17	17	2			
„ "Common Cause" Shares	...	45	0	0			
„ BALANCE TO 1913-14 :—							
Cash in Bank	...	102	11	6			
Advanced to Organisers	...	3	3	9			
					105	15	3
					£813	6	10

ELEANOR F. McPHERSON, Hon. Treasurer.

W. WARD PLATT, Chartered Accountant.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Donations.		Subscriptions.		£ s. d.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
BANGOR.					
Society	1	0 0			
Miss Carter			0	2 6	
Miss Davies	10	0 0			
Miss M. Rathbone	50	0 0	5	0 0	
	<u>£61</u>	<u>0 0</u>	<u>£5</u>	<u>2 6</u>	66 2 6
BIRKENHEAD.					
Society	3	0 0			
		1 16 5			
Mrs. New	0	10 0	0	5 0	
Miss Dalby	10	0 0			
	<u>£15</u>	<u>6 5</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>5 0</u>	15 11 5
BLACKPOOL.					
Society	1	1 0			1 1 0
CHESTER.					
Society	2	2 0			
Mrs. Noel Humphreys	0	5 0			
Mr. and Mrs. N. Humphreys .			1	1 0	
Mrs. Raleigh	0	2 6	0	2 6	
Miss Tomkinson	0	10 0	0	10 0	
	<u>£2</u>	<u>19 6</u>	<u>£1</u>	<u>13 6</u>	4 13 0
CRICCIETH.					
Mrs. Thomas	1	1 0			1 1 0
EDDISBURY.					
Mrs. Dutton			0	2 6	
The Hon. Mrs. Brookes.....	0	10 0			
	<u>£0</u>	<u>10 0</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>2 6</u>	0 12 6

	Donations.		£ s. d.
	£	s. d.	
LIVERPOOL.			
Miss Colquitt.....	0	10 0	
Miss C. Leadley Brown	0	10 0	
Mrs. D'Aeth.....	0	10 0	
Miss Meade King	1	0 0	
Mrs. Hugh Rathbone.....	1	0 0	
Miss E. F. Rathbone	18	4 8	
Miss Elizabeth Rathbone	50	0 0	
	<u>71</u>	<u>14 8</u>	71 14 8
PRESTON.			
Mrs. Todd	1	0 0	
Per Mrs. Todd	0	10 0	
	<u>1</u>	<u>10 0</u>	1 10 0
ST. HELENS.			
Dowager Lady Gamble	0	15 0	0 15 0
SOUTHPORT.			
Society	6	0 0	
Miss Peel	5	0 0	
	<u>11</u>	<u>0 0</u>	11 0 0
WARRINGTON			
Miss Haye Shuttleworth	0	12 0	0 12 0
Mrs. John Mahler			0 10 0
Mrs. John Mahler			0 10 0
Van Tour (Donation).....	1	10 0	1 10 0

**LIST OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN THE FEDERATION AREA, AND ACTION TAKEN BY THEM
ON THE SECOND READING OF THE CONCILIATION BILL, MAY 5th, 1911, AND MARCH 28th, 1912,
ON THE SNOWDEN AMENDMENT, NOVEMBER 5th, 1912, AND THE DICKINSON BILL, MAY 6th, 1913.**

(1). In West Lancashire.

Constituency.	Member.	Conciliation Bill, 1911.	Conciliation Bill, 1912.	Snowden Amendment, Nov. 5th, 1912.	Dickinson Bill, May 6th, 1913.
Blackpool.....	W. W. Ashley	Abstained	Voted against...	Abstained	Abstained
Bootle	A. Bonar Law	Paired for	Voted for	Voted for	Abstained
Chorley.....	Lord Balcarras	Abstained	Voted against...	—	Abstained
	Sir H. Hibbert				—
LIVERPOOL :					
Abercromby	Col. Chaloner	Voted against...	Voted against...	Voted against...	Voted against
East Toxteth	Marshall Hall, K.C.	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Paired for
Everton	Sir J. S. Harwood	Banner Voted for	Paired for	Voted for	Voted for
Exchange.....	Leslie Scott, K.C.	Paired against	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against
Kirkdale.....	Col. Kyffin Taylor	Paired for	Paired for	Abstained	Abstained
Scotland.....	T. P. O'Connor	Abstained	Abstained	Voted against...	Voted against
Waltton	F. E. Smith, K.C.	Abstained	Voted against...	Voted against...	Voted against
West Derby	W. Watson Rutherford	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for
West Toxteth	R. P. Houston	Abstained	Abstained	Abstained	Paired against
Newton	Viscount Wolmer	Paired for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Ormskirk	Hon. A. Stanley	Paired for	Paired against	Abstained	Voted against
Preston.....	Major Hon. A. Stanley	Abstained	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against
	A. A. Tobin, K.C.	Paired against	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against
Southport	Major G. D. White	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Abstained
St. Helens	R. P. W. Swift, K.C.	Voted for	Voted for	Abstained	Abstained
Warrington	Harold Smith	Abstained	Voted against...	Voted against...	Voted against
Widnes	Col. Hall Walker	Abstained	Paired against	Abstained	Voted against

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Constituency.

Member.

Conciliation
Bill, 1911.

Conciliation
Bill, 1912.

Snowden
Amendment,
Nov. 5th, 1912.

Dickinson Bill,
May 6th, 1913.

(2). In West Cheshire.

Birkenhead	A. Bigland	Voted against.	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against
Chester	R. Yerburgh	Paired for	Abstained	Voted for	Paired for
Eddisbury	H. Barnston	Paired against	Voted against...	Voted against...	Voted against
Wirral	G. Stewart	Abstained	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against

(3). In North Wales.

Anglesey	Ellis Griffith, K.C.	Voted for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Carnarvon (Arfon)	W. Jones	Paired for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
(Eifon)	Ellis Davies	Abstained	Abstained	Voted against...	Voted for
Carnarvon Boroughs	D. Lloyd George	Voted for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Denbighshire (West)	Sir J. H. Roberts	Voted for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Do. (East)	E. T. John	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for
Denbigh Boroughs	Hon. W. Ormesby-Gore	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Paired for
Flintshire	J. H. Lewis	Voted for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Flint Boroughs	T. H. Parry	—	—	—	Paired for
Merionethshire	H. Jones	Paired for	Voted for	Voted against...	Voted for
Montgomeryshire	D. Davies	Abstained	Voted against...	Abstained	Voted against
Montgomery Boroughs.....	Col. E. Pryce-Jones	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for	Voted for

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