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*AL/358*

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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Central Society for Women's Suffrage.

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*President:*  
THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR.

*Secretary:*  
MISS EDITH PALLISER.

*Miss P. P. Tracey*

25, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER,  
LONDON, S.W.

November 19th 1907.

Dear Madam,

Your letter of Nov. 13th to Miss Sterling was handed to me with its enclosure for which I thank you very much.

There are a number of Women's Suffrage Societies in different parts of Great Britain - in Bristol, Manchester, Cambridge, Edinburgh etc., and the Society which has its head quarters in London has hitherto been called by the name of the "Central Society".

In the year 1897 these different Societies combined together in a federation, in order to increase their weight, especially in dealing with Parliamentary business, and this Federation took the name of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. It is governed by an executive Committee elected by delegates from the Societies, and this Committee is guided by a Council of Delegates from the Societies who meet quarterly in different towns to discuss the general policy of the Union.

From this you will see that individuals become members of the Societies, and that Societies become members of the Union.

The regular income of the National Union is drawn from the Societies who pay an affiliation fee of 3d for each of their members,

but this amounts to a very insufficient sum and they rely therefore upon donations from supporters to supply them with their Campaign Funds.

The work done by the Societies is to increase knowledge and organize support within their own areas; the work done by the Union is of a more general nature, they voice the wishes of the Societies as a whole, and they have the entire responsibility of the Parliamentary work. They are charged also in co-operation with the particular Society which may be interested with the work at elections, and by increasing the vigour of this work it is hoped that much good will be done for the cause.

I hope this sufficiently explains the difference between us. It is certainly a confusing state of things, (until it has been explained) and especially as the leaders of our Society are to a large extent also the leaders of the Union. In hopes of doing something to clear up the confusion, it was decided, at our Annual Meeting held on the 6th of this month, that we should give up our old name of Central, and take instead the name of London Society for Women's Suffrage.

I hope that if there are still any perplexities unexplained, we may perhaps have the pleasure of seeing you at our "At Home" on the 28th. If that date is not convenient, it would always give me pleasure to see you at our offices.

Believe me,

Yours truly.